



ADAS ISRAEL CONGREGATION

Chronicle

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HAPPY HANUKKAH!



דובר אמת Dover Emet Speaking the Truth

Rabbi Gil Steinlauf

Most of us are aware of the fact that on Hanukkah we celebrate the miracle of our small Jewish numbers overcoming the Syrian-Greeks and the power of Hellenistic idolatry in the Land of Israel. But there's a lesser known, or at least oft misunderstood, aspect of Hanukkah that I would like to lift up and celebrate this year: *Pirumei Nisa*. This phrase, which literally translates as "publicizing the miracle," constitutes one of the core halakhic observances of Hanukkah--along with the lighting of the menorah and the reciting of the *Al Hanissim* prayer in the *'Amidah*. In our time and culture, people misinterpret *Pirumei Nisa* as large, sometimes garish public Hanukkah displays: giant menorahs in major public squares, for example. But our ancient rabbis are very clear about what *Pirumei Nisa* is and is not. It is not about giant menorahs (which, of course, echo

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Elinor Yudin Sachse Juried Photography Exhibit: Purim-Pesach Text-Inspired Photography from Our Members and the Unjuried "Selfie" Portrait of Our Community



Thanks to a generous contribution from long-time Adas member Harry Sachse, the congregation is launching an exciting photographic exhibit, featuring juried photography submissions by Adas members,

mounted in the Mendelson Family Gallery of the synagogue lobby. The exhibit will be unveiled during the week of *Purim* and will remain up through Passover. Photographic submissions by members interested in participating are due by Friday, January 23.

Elinor Yudin Sachse (z"l) was not only a lifelong committed Adas Israel member, officer, committee chair, and member of our Board, she was also an inspired and avid photographer. Together with her family, we are honoring her memory by announcing this juried text-inspired photography exhibit as well as our very own "a.i. selfie installation."

The community will be asked to capture images and photography inspired by the two clergy-selected texts below. You may choose from either of these texts to inspire your

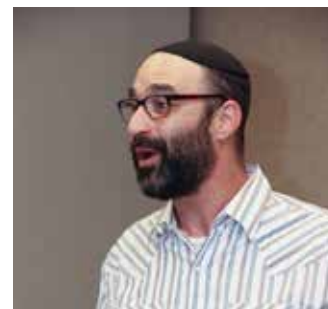
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Rabbi Aaron Alexander Tuesday, December 9 @ 7:30 pm Innovation Month @ MakomDC

At the giving of the Torah at Sinai, we entered into a relationship with God. How do we continue to honor that sacred relationship, while growing outward with our ever-changing and evolving world? December at *MakomDC* is all about unraveling the connections between tradition and innovation. Rabbi Aaron Alexander is the associate dean

of the Ziegler School and lecturer in rabbinics and Jewish law. He is a *mashgiach* (kosher supervisor) certified by the Conservative Movement's Rav Hamachshir program, and currently serves on its Committee for Jewish Law and Standards. We hope to see the entire community join us for this evening of conversation.

Free and open to the



community; register at adasisrael.org.

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Clergy Corner



Rabbi Gil Steinlauf

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giant public Christmas trees). It is about how we publicize the miracles in our own homes. We are to light the menorah and place the lights in a window so that others can see the light of the miracle emerging from within the place of our families, from our personal lives. The Talmud (Shabbat 23a) even goes so far as to say that if we are travelling during Hanukkah,

better we should have someone light the menorah in our homes for us, even though we're not actually there.

Why such an emphasis on our homes? Firstly, it is in our own homes where Judaism is most important--more important than synagogues or any other public place. The home is where we live our most authentic lives, in our primary relationships, where our impact on others is the strongest. Second, we want to publicize the light of the Hanukkah miracle out to the world as a statement of strength, bravery and faith in the way the Maccabees bravely stood up for Judaism. On Hanukkah, we shine lights from our private space out into the world--bravely demonstrating that the lives we lead reflect a yearning for a better, more just world.

This Hanukkah, we can still see much darkness in our world. The events of last summer laid bare the continued reality of global anti-Semitism. The challenges that face Israel's security still seem overwhelming. This year, perhaps more than in many years, we must live the wisdom of *Pirumei Nisa*. We must

remind our neighbors, our society, and our world who we are as a Jewish people, and what we really stand for: a world where all people can live in peace, where no one power seeks to oppress or terrorize or persecute another. We must demand that the world take notice that Israel and the Jewish people are a living reminder of the miracles that happen when we put faith in our potential to overcome hatred and oppression.

Most importantly, we are the people who, through sheer force of our historical memory, attest to the truth that no one should ever despair. The light of our menorahs represent, as Rabbi Nachman of Bratzlov taught, "*Ain Ye'ush ba'olam klal*," "There is no despair in the world." By this he means that any darkness we encounter always can be driven away. With the light that we possess--through our heritage and our values--we can show the whole world that there is always an alternative to hatred and fear and corruption. And that light begins in our "homes:" in our own choices, day by day, to live the wisdom and insights borne of our teachings and our Torah.

So if it's at all possible this year, try to position your *Chanukiot* (Hanukkah menorahs) in a window that shines out to the outside. And as you do that, remember the gift of what being a Jew can mean to the world. Remember that what we really are doing is rekindling the light of hope and justice--a light that can drive away the darkness of all the despair we know
Happy Hanukkah! ○

Kay Hall Renovation Construction to Begin Early April 2015 Design Committee Selects Firm



Jack (Z"l) and Barbara Kay, visionaries behind the upcoming Kay Hall renovation, whose lifelong commitment to Adas Israel and to the Jewish community continue to inspire us.

Thanks to a meaningful and significant contribution from beloved Adas member Jack Kay (Z"l), plans for a renovation and upgrade of Adas's Kay Hall, Gildenhorn Foyer, and Wasserman Hall are successfully under way. The Kay Hall Renovation Design Committee, chaired by Ross Eisenman, solicited proposals from several architectural firms and conducted in-depth interviews with three finalists. The committee unanimously selected **Ritter Norton Architects** to design the renovation of these important synagogue spaces.

Kay Hall and the adjoining spaces are multifunctional and heavily used. Over the years, the spaces have become well worn and need some fundamental mechanical and aesthetic improvements.

Having recently completed the transformational renovation of our prayer and public entry-level spaces, the congregation is excited to update these other critical spaces to meet the needs

of the community, and to create a gathering, social, and worship environment that befits Jack Kay's *Shem Tov* (good name).

Construction is scheduled to begin in early April 2015, and will continue through the summer. A plan is in place to impact our congregational activities and programming minimally during the construction phase. Generally speaking, the congregational *kiddushim* and other receptions will take place in Cohen Hall (Gan Space) during the spring, with such events usually slowing down during June, July, and August.

At this time, we encourage you to participate in the survey now posted on www.adasisrael.org/kayhall to contribute your thoughts, suggestions, wishes, and dreams for the space.

Design committee members include Ross Eisenman (chair), Laurie Aladjem, Morris Chalick, Marcia Feuerstein, Steve Klein-



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From the President



Arnie Podgorsky

The Cantor's Sermon

Did you listen to the Cantor's sermon during the High Holy Days? I did, because I didn't.

It was *Shabbat Shuva*, the single *Shabbat* between *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*.

Greeting congregants at the door, schmoozing, taking delight in the warmth of *Shabbos* hugs, a gentle bell rang in the background.

It rang again. On, off, on, off, as I talked, hugged, and was so into my own distracted head. So wrapped in my own desires to greet well, so narrowly channeled, I missed Cantor Ari Brown's increasingly frantic pleas—with her children no less—to be released from a stuck elevator. Don't worry, she's fine (now, but not so much then) and the elevator was fixed promptly. Me? I remain stuck. How could I have been so deaf? How could I not hear this mother's pleas for help? How could I have left Ari and her children in fear?

Am I equally deaf other times? What else do I fail to hear? My wife often tells me that I don't hear her. Do I not hear my friends too? Does the gauze of my own perspectives filter their words so I hear only a portion of what they say? Does my self-absorption deaden their sound, flattening it, muffling it?

Here's Rabbi Lazer Gurkow, writing in the *Jerusalem Post* on "Active Listening." He writes, "Rabbi Dov Ber Shneuri, the second Rebbe of Chabad, was once asked why chatting with Hassidim

exhausted him. He explained that when a hassid speaks to him, he must shed his own garments and don the hassid's garments so as to listen well. When he considers the problem, he must shed the hassid's garments and don his own so that he understands well. When he shares his advice, he must once again shed his own garments and don the hassid's garments so that he communicates well. It is no wonder that he is exhausted after changing garments three times in a single audience."

How many of us even think about listening this way? What do we miss?

We talk about *tikkun olam*, but do I hear the needy, or does the gauze of ideological political leanings replace the action of generous *zedakah*? I've given up political arguments as mostly self-gratifying. It matters only that I give, often and generously, and regularly read words of Torah about charity so that it has a reserved place within my mind.

Do I don the garments of the emotionally or physically challenged, pausing to absorb their realities and challenges? Am I humble, slowing my walk or crossing to the other side of the street to avoid emphasizing differences in our physical strengths?

Do we hear, really hear, the Torah? In some services at Adas Israel we read a third of the *parsha* each *Shabbat*. The entire *parsha* would be too long? We could use the time to read the portion ourselves with the annotations. We could think about

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Associate Rabbi Search Corner

Your Monthly Chronicle Update from the Associate Rabbi Search Committee:

The Associate Rabbi Search Committee, chaired by Jamie Butler, is in full swing! The required documents have been submitted to the Joint Placement Committee of the Rabbinic Assembly, and the search committee already has received several applications for review. We are tremendously excited to embark on this important search process as we set out to secure a loving, compassionate and inspiring new Rabbi for our large and diverse congregation. Some of you already have contacted us, sharing the qualities and skills you would like in a new Rabbi. At this time, we encourage each of you to participate in the search process by submitting your comments, suggestions, thoughts, wishes, and concerns to our dedicated rabbi search email at rabbisearch@adasisrael.org. All communications will be kept confidential.

The Associate Rabbi's major responsibilities will include utilizing his or her sophisticated synagogue skills in pastoral care, leading services, reading Torah, teaching, lifecycle events, participating in *tikkun olam* projects, working with other clergy and staff on synagogue programs and curricula, working with synagogue committees and groups, supervising key ritual staff, representing the congregation in the community, participating in the congregation's religious life, and

other important tasks that will likely develop over time. The Associate Rabbi also will have major responsibility for the daily minyan and synagogue ritual, including supervision of other staff under the Senior Rabbi's oversight.

Synagogue leadership shared the vision and description of this clergy position and committee members discussed the search process, which will be similar to the one the congregation experienced for its successful senior rabbi search. It will certainly include many opportunities for all members of our community to meet and talk with the various final candidates. Committee members are chair Jamie Butler, Rhoda Baruch, Sandra Eskin, Jeffrey Goodell, Andrew Herman, Steven Himmelfarb, Harriet Isack, Alan Roth, Rae Grad, and Judith Krones. Ex Officio members include Ricki Gerger, Herlene Nagler, Arnold Podgorsky, David Polonsky, and Rabbi Gil Steinlauf. Look for updates on the Adas website, in this corner of the Chronicle, and in our regular congregational emails. The committee will invite finalists for a Shabbat weekend sometime in the late winter and/or early spring of 2015, and the committee will solicit feedback from the congregation after each of these visits. Your questions and comments can be directed to rabbisearch@adasisrael.org, or feel free to reach out to Jamie Butler (butler364@aol.com), Rabbi Steinlauf (rbbi.steinlauf@adasisrael.org), Arnie Podgorsky (apodgirsky@verizon.net), or David Polonsky (david.polonsky@adasisrael.org) at any time. We look forward to a very successful search process and our new rabbi joining us in July 2015. ○

Thank You to All Who Supported Us

The Adas Fund High Holy Day Appeal 2014/5775

From Toni & David Bickart, Adas Fund Co-Chairs

From the bottom of our hearts, we thank all of you who supported our wonderful community during this year's Adas Fund drive. Adas Israel has been our home for more than 35 years—it is our community, our neighborhood. Thanks to all of the generous and invested members like you, we are confident about the next 35! For those of you who have not yet made your contribution, it's not too late. Your donation of any size will make a big difference to this community. To make your important contribution, please contact the synagogue office, 202-362-4433, or visit www.adasisrael.org/the-adas-fund.



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Holidays

Happy Hanukkah



Why Do We Celebrate Hanukkah?

The festival of *Hanukkah* commemorates the successful struggle for religious liberty, led by the priest Mattathias and, later, by his son, the brave Judah Maccabee, against the Syrian oppressors in the year 167 BCE. That effort culminated in victory for the Jewish people and in recapturing the Temple in Jerusalem. The Temple was cleansed and rededicated to the service of God with lights rekindled in the

sanctuary. The festival is known in Hebrew as *Hanukkah*, which literally means "Dedication." It is also called the Feast of Lights, because the *Hanukkah* candles are lit

on each of eight successive nights. We celebrate the "miracle of the oil," the rededication of the Temple and the first rebellion for religious freedom.

When Is Hanukkah Observed?

Hanukkah begins on the 25th day of the Hebrew month, *Kislev*, the day on which the Temple was reconsecrated to the worship of God. The festival is observed for eight days, and, according to our tradition, the day officially begins at sundown on the evening that precedes it. Hence the first candle is lit on the evening that ushers in the 25th of *Kislev*. On each succeeding night of *Hanukkah*, we light an



additional candle, totaling eight in all. **This year, Hanukkah begins on Tuesday evening, December 16.**

Hanukkah Practices

Each Jewish home should have a *Hanukkah menorah*. The Ruth & Simon Albert Sisterhood Gift Shop has a wide range of *hanukkiyot* (*Hanukkah menorah*) and other *Hanukkah* items available for purchase.

Place the *Hanukkah menorah* in a conspicuous place in your home. The lights should be kindled as soon as possible after nightfall with all members of the family present. Any members of the family, including children, may kindle the *Hanukkah* lights.

A famous symbol of *Hanukkah* is the *dreidel*, a four-faced

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Hanukkah Calendar Highlights

Sunday, December 14, 11 am

Dan Kaufman Memorial *Latke* Party, starting with a spirited sing-along in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary

Sunday, December 14, 1:30 pm

Sisterhood *Hanukkah* event

Tuesday, December 16, and

Wednesday, December 17

Religious School helps with community *menorah* lighting

Wednesday, December 17, 7:00 pm

Young Professional event

Friday, December 19

Latke and *sufganiyot oneg* after *Kabbalat Shabbat* service

Saturday, December 20, 5:30 pm

Community *Havdalah* service and *menorah* lighting followed by Zoolights at the National Zoo

Blessings for Lighting the Menorah

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו במצוותיו, וצונו להדליק נר של חנוכה.

Baruch ata Adonai Elohainu mehlech haolam asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu l'hadlik ner shel Hanukkah. Blessed are You, O Lord our God, Ruler of the World, who has sanctified us by His commandments and commanded us to kindle the *Hanukkah* lights.

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם, שעשה נסים לאבותינו בימים ההם בזמן הזה.

Baruch ata Adonai Elohainu mehlech haolam, sheasa nisim laavoteinu bayamim hahaim baz'man hazeh. Blessed are You, O Lord our God, Ruler of the World, who did wondrous things for our ancestors, in days of old at this season.

On the first night, the following is added:

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם, שהחיינו וקיימנו ונהיגינו לזמן הזה.

Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheinu melech haolam, Shehecheyanu, v'kiy'manu, v'higianu laz'man hazeh. Blessed are You, O Lord our God, Ruler of the World, who has granted us life, sustained us, and permitted us to celebrate this joyous festival.

All join in singing Ma'oz Tzur:

Ma'oz tzur y'shuati lecha na'eh l'shabei-ah.

Tikon beit t'filati, v'sham todah n'za-bei-ah.

Leit takhin matbei-ah, mi-tzar ha'm'na-bei-ah.

Az egmor b'shir mizmor, Hanukat hamizbei-ah.

Az egmor b'shir mizmor, Hanukat hamizbei-ah.

מעוז צור ישועתי לך נאה לשבח,

תכון בית תפילתי ושם תודה נצבת,

לעת תכין מטבח מצר המנבח,

אז אגמר בשיר מזמור חנוכת המזבח.

HAPPY HANUKKAH CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

top, with one Hebrew letter on each face, as follows: Each letter is the beginning of a Hebrew word—**Nes Godol Haya Sham**—“a Great Miracle Happened There.” Various games can be played with the *dreidel*, and it is a custom among some to eat potato *latkes* at this time because they are fried in oil.

Besides being a “home” holiday, *Hanukkah* is also celebrated in the synagogue. Hallel psalms are recited, there is an additional Torah reading in honor of *Hanukkah*, and a special *haftarah* is chanted on *Shabbat Hanukkah*.

How to Light Hanukkah Candles

Light the *shamash* candle first. On the first evening of *Hanukkah*, one candle is lit and is placed on the far right of the *menorah*,

as you face it. Place a candle to its left on the second night of *Hanukkah*, and continue placing the candles toward the left on each successive night. Always light the “new” candle for that night first, and then proceed to the right in the lighting process.

On Friday, the *Hanukkah* candles are kindled before lighting the Sabbath candles. On Saturday night, the *Hanukkah* candles are kindled after *Havdalah*, which marks the conclusion of the Sabbath, has been recited.

The ceremony of the kindling of lights is the most significant aspect of the festival. The family should remain standing around the *Hanukkah menorah* as the *shamash* (the candle that is used to light the other candles) is lit. As the candle is held, the first blessing over the *Hanukkah* lights is chanted: **○**



ADAS FUND 2015 CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

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Brian Weinstein
Richard Weinstock & Laura Platt
Michael Wiesenfelder & Beth Werlin
Annette Wolpe
Peter & Linda Wylie
Razi & Linda Yitzchak
Daniel Zisenwine & Ifat Reshef **○**

Sisterhood

Sisterhood Shabbat, January 23–24



Scholar: We are thrilled to announce that the Sisterhood scholar for the weekend will be renowned researcher, award-winning author, journalist, and story teller, **Rahel Musleah**. Ms. Musleah was born in India, the seventh generation of a Calcutta Jewish family that traces its roots to 17th-century Baghdad. She is

a graduate of Columbia University and the Jewish Theological Seminary.

Throughout the weekend, we will learn about some of the unique aspects of the Baghdadi-Indian Jewish tradition. On Friday night, Ms. Musleah will lead the *Ma'ariv* service so congregants can experience the melody of Baghdadi-Indian worship. She also will present a short *d'var Torah*. Following a potluck dinner, Ms. Musleah will teach some songs from her tradition, including one whose melody will be reprised for *Ein Keloheinu*, which concludes the *Shabbat* morning service.

We will honor Ms. Musleah with an *aliyah* on Saturday morning during which she will read Torah using her traditional trope; she also will present the *d'var Torah*. Following an Indian-themed *kiddush*, she will talk further about the traditions, history, and legacy of her community. Since she will have just returned from leading a tour of Jewish India, Ms. Musleah will update us on the remnant of Jews living there today.

Sponsor: The presence of our scholar and the *kiddush* are underwritten by the *Mozelle Saltz Fund for Sisterhood Speakers* established by Adas Israel board member Donald Saltz in memory of his beloved wife. Like our scholar, Mozelle traced her roots to India and Baghdad. She was active in our Sisterhood, and on Sisterhood *Shabbat* and other occasions would *leyn* Torah with the Baghdadi-Indian trope. This *Shabbat* will bring back beautiful memories of Mozelle. Thanks go to **Linda Yitzchak**, co-chair of Sisterhood *Shabbat*, who is arranging for Ms. Musleah's appearance.

Service opportunities: Sisterhood *Shabbat* services are led by members of Sisterhood, giving them the chance to exhibit their synagogue skills. Some opportunities remain at this writing:

- To *daven* or to pray in English, contact service coordinator **Marcie Goldstein**, marcie.b.goldstein@gmail.com, for available opportunities.

- To read Torah or *haftarah* or lift, dress, or carry the Torah, please e-mail **April Rubin**, aprilrubin@aol.com, or **Betsy Strauss**, betsy.strauss@gmail.com. They encourage beginners as well as experienced Torah readers to sign up. Each reading is three or four verses. Ritual Director Naomi Malka is available to train new *leyners*.

Other Upcoming Events

Gift Wrapping at Politics and Prose, Sunday December 14:

Yes, it's that time again! Sisterhood members may gift wrap at Politics & Prose in two-hour shifts to benefit the Washington Literacy Center. To volunteer, please contact **Carol Ansell**, Carol.Ansell@adasisrael.org, or 202-362-4433. You'll enjoy this wonderful *mitzvah*, and wrappers will receive a 20% discount on same-day purchases.

Taste of Tanach, Tuesday December 16: Text study with Rabbi Steinlauf continues in the Biran *Beit Midrash* at 10:00 am.

Sisterhood Goes to the Movies: For the 25th Washington Jewish Film Festival, February 19–March 1, Sisterhood will choose one of the films to see as a group. Afterward, we will discuss the film at a reception. Venue, tickets, and film TBD. For more information and to volunteer to help, contact Chair Renee Everett, renee@breverett.com.

Torah Fund

The *mishpachah* theme will continue, encouraging us to recognize the diverse character of our families and to be welcoming and open-hearted. The Jewish family, in all its configurations, is the solid system of roots that supports our Tree of Life. Women's League for Conservative Judaism's Torah Fund Campaign helps strengthen Conservative/Masorti Judaism throughout the world.



Those donating \$36 or more will be invited to a Women's League tea on March 15, which Adas Israel Sisterhood is hosting. Those sending \$180 or more will receive the beautiful "Tree of Life" pin pictured here. Pins are now in stock. Send your donation today in any amount to TF Chair **Gerry Lezell**, 5800 Magic Mountain Dr., North Bethesda, MD 20852.

Women' League Seaboard Region Education Day

Themed "Our Journey Past, Present and Future," the event took place Sunday, November 16, at Beth El Congregation, Baltimore, MD. Presenters were Rabbi Dana Saroken, Associate Rabbi, Beth El Baltimore, and Rabbi Janet Ozur-Bass, teacher of Jewish texts at the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School. Each participant was asked to bring a family memento and discuss its significance. Four members of our Sisterhood attended: **Marcia Feuerstein**, **Myra Promisel**, **Miriam Rosenthal**, and **Joyce Stern**. Please remember that every Sisterhood member is a member of Women's League and that Seaboard Shines!

Join Sisterhood Today

It's not too late! Our membership campaign for 5775 is still in progress. To send in your dues for 5775, make your membership check payable to *Adas Israel Sisterhood* (Basic Membership=\$36; Contributor=\$54; Patron=\$72; Other=\$____) and provide your contact information. Or use the form provided in the fall mailing. Send to Treasurer **Dava Berkman**, 2475 Virginia Avenue, NW, Apt. 803, Washington, DC 20037. ○

Ruth & Simon Albert Sisterhood Gift Shop

**We light the first Hanukkah candle on
Tuesday night, December 16.**

**You won't believe how many menorahs we have in
stock, not to mention Hanukkah
decorations, candles, gelt, and gifts.**



Shop Hours

**Sunday–Monday, Wednesday–Friday, 9:30 am–12:30 pm
Tuesday, 9:30 am–3:00 pm and 6:15–8:00 pm**

202-364-2888

adasgiftshop@gmail.com

Every purchase benefits Adas Israel Congregation.

**And . . . watch this space for news of our
humongous January sale!**

FROM THE PRESIDENT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

how the portion teaches about our lives, relationships, and challenges. Some might prefer a similar triennial approach to the *haftarah* as well.

If we listen actively to Torah, what do we hear? What does the Torah sing to us? I hear a call to action—a call to perform *mitzvot*, to live a deeper, balanced, Jewish life, with love and joy, and without fear. Torah centers me, inspires me to conform my actions to my understanding, or at least try. Less on a Saturday morning might be easier, lighter, but will we come away with more? What will improve our *Shabbat* more than Torah? What would exceed the wisdom of those stories, poems, and songs?

We can hear Torah in so many beautiful ways. We can read the English translation with soft *leyning* in the background, follow the Hebrew to watch the letters and the spaces between them, read commentaries during the week, or for those blessed with the knowledge and skill, follow the trope and understand the depth of the Hebrew. No matter how we perceive, the words of Torah are extraordinary. They are the words of the Holy One. And those words inspire much more. Psalms, prayers, *d'var Torah*, and rabbinic sermons tying Torah wisdom to events of the day in the world or our individual lives.

Our Cantor and those she brings into our musical world give us Torah as inspiring, beautiful song—*shiroi*. Song rising from our sanctuary to the heavens, filling the universe with inspiration, happiness, love, and joy, crowding out depression and darkness. Showing us how to turn to light and love.

I aspire to listen to Torah more actively, more deeply, and to hear and learn from its lessons. How do I begin? By hearing the calls of others for help, even when those calls—indeed, particularly when those calls—are quietly in the background, too easily ignored like that soft elevator bell. And I think I need to do a better job hearing my wife and friends too.

All the best to you for a happy 2015.

—Arnie Podgorsky

PHOTO EXHIBIT CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

work, which will be judged on composition, clarity, interest, and relation to text:

***The Candle of God Is the Soul of Man* (Proverbs 20:27)**

***How Great Are Your Deeds, Oh God? How Deep Are Your Thoughts?* (Psalms 92:5)**

All participants can submit their photographs to Suzanne Davidson (Suzanne.Davidson@AdasIsrael.org) in the synagogue office as 72 dpi images. You also can bring them directly to the synagogue office as 4x6 prints. All selected photographs will then be printed and framed by participants, using a plain black frame with white mat. Two professionals from outside the congregation will judge the individual photographs, using a number of categories yet to be determined, and prizes will be awarded.

This moving exhibition will be a wonderful loving tribute to the loving memory of Ellie Sachse. It will also inspire beauty, variety, and meaning within our synagogue lobby space, while serving as a creative and fun experience for congregants and participants alike.

In addition to this juried display, mounted from *Purim* to *Pesach*, there will be an unjuried display of unframed “selfies” on the wall by the entry to the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary. This will serve as a dynamic, interactive, ever-evolving portrait of our community. Members, students, and guests are encouraged to take “selfies” (self-portrait photographs, typically taken with a hand-held digital camera or camera phone) somewhere in the synagogue building, to be e-mailed directly to an e-mail address we will provide, and then printed and mounted that same day on the display board.

Ellie served with distinction on the congregation's Board of Directors for many years, led the budget and finance committee, and championed this creative photographic display for several years with great success. All of Ellie's family members and friends are pleased to honor her memory with such a meaningful and beautiful community event. We look forward to seeing all of the photographic submissions and to celebrating the congregation's creativity this spring. ○

Life Cycle

B'nai Mitzvah



Sabrina Bramson, December 13

Sabrina, daughter of Nanci and Jim Bramson, is a seventh grader at the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School and a 2014 graduate of the Jewish Primary Day School of the Nation's Capital. Sabrina started her Jewish education at Gan HaYeled. For her *tzedakah* project, Sabrina is soliciting donations to Camp Ramah

in the Poconos, where she gleefully spends her summers. She shares this *simcha* with her brothers, Bennett and Elliot, and her extended family and friends.



Melanie Heller, December 20

Melanie, the daughter of Kevin and Lisa Heller, is an eighth grader at Herbert Hoover Middle School and the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School. She shares her *simcha* with her sister, Chloe; grandparents Robert and Anita Wellen; and her family and friends. Melanie is a third-generation *bat mitzvah* at Adas Israel.

For her *mitzvah* project, she is teaching ice hockey and sportsmanship to children with special needs who play for Montgomery Cheetahs Special Hockey.



Caleb Stutman-Shaw, January 3 (at 6th & I Synagogue)

Caleb, the son of Russell Shaw and Shira Stutman, is a seventh grader at Georgetown Day School and a third-generation member of Adas Israel. He shares this *simcha* with his sisters, Ma'ayan and Natalia; his grandparents, Reese and David Shaw and Suzanne Stutman and Jonathan

Wilkenfeld; and other family and friends. At this time, we remember with love Caleb's grandfather, Ned Stutman (z"l), who would have been so proud. Caleb will become *bar mitzvah* at Sixth & I Historic Synagogue, where his mother is the rabbi.

In Memoriam

We mourn the loss of synagogue members:

Leonard Burka
Sherry Sherman

We note with sorrow and mourn the passing of:

Paul Burstein, father of Ari Burstein
Milly Iris, mother of Kerry Iris
Barbara Kolbrener, mother of Meri Kolbrener
Craig Silver, husband of Jan Silver
Pearl Sobel, mother of Janet Goldman
Elaine Sherman, mother of Sandy Marks

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. For more information, visit adasisrael.org/mikvah. ◯

Spiritual Support Group: Loss and Bereavement

**Rabbi Charles Feinberg,
Carol Hausman, PhD**

Six Wednesday Evenings: December 3 & 17; January 7 & 21; February 4 & 18; March 11 & 25, 7:30–8:45 pm

This group will explore the experience of loss and bereavement of group members, and then turn to the riches of Jewish tradition for healing techniques, including text study, meditation on verses from psalms, writing new prayers, and finding ways to make the deceased person's memory a blessing.

Charles Feinberg is a rabbi at Adas Israel and has much experience teaching and leading different groups.



Carol P. Hausman, PhD, is a clinical psychologist and gerontologist in private practice in Washington, DC. She is a founder and coordinator of the Washington Jewish Healing Network and a member of the faculties of Georgetown University Medical School, the Washington School of Psychiatry, and the Osher Lifelong Learning Center.

Suggested donation for the group is \$72.

Ma Tovv

HONORING OUR LEADERS & VOLUNTEERS

Deborah Russak was interviewed by Marcy Spiro, Director of Membership Engagement

Deborah has been a dedicated member of Adas Israel since 1996. She volunteers in the library on a weekly basis, attends the senior lunch program, attends many of our lifelong learning programs, and is a joy to sit down and chat with and learn from.

Deborah, before becoming a dedicated volunteer, what was your profession?

I received my undergraduate degree in community health education from Hunter College of The City University of New York and received a master of science degree in public health with an emphasis in population and family planning from the University of Pittsburgh. In 1955 I joined the Navajo-Cornell Field Health Research Project, which, achieved eradication of tuberculosis in the Navajo Nation with the introduction of western medicine and the tuberculosis drug, isoniazid. This is where my love for both Native American and women's health began.

For 17 years, I was on the staff of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG). I was responsible for recruiting an estimated 200 assignments at Native American hospitals in Alaska, Arizona, and New Mexico. In 2000, I was honored with the ACOG Award for Excellence and received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Indian Health Service.

How long have you been a member of Adas? What brought you to this congregation?

I joined Adas Israel in 1996 and participated in the adult *bat mitzvah* class with 31 women ranging in age from 20 to 60. Preparation for the *bat mitzvah* included the study of Hebrew. I had taken two years of Hebrew in high school and even passed the New York State Hebrew regents, so that was great preparation for my *bat mitzvah*. I also

took Hebrew 3 and 4 at Adas. Truly, this *bat mitzvah* reading of *Parasha Yitro* and *haftara Isaiah* was the highlight of my life! I decided in 1997 that I had to pay Adas Israel back for my *bat mitzvah* experience, so I began volunteering in the library. Since then, each week I take responsibility for filing and arranging numerous periodicals.

What is your favorite thing about Adas Israel?

I love listening to Cantor Brown's voice. It is like my own form of meditation to close my eyes and listen to her. I also love the senior lunch program. In addition to the strength training and yoga classes, there is wonderful camaraderie among the seniors.

What is your favorite thing about being Jewish?

The food! My grandmother taught me to make the best chicken soup.

What is your favorite Jewish holiday?

I love *Hanukkah*. I like sitting in a dark room and watching the candles burn down, I love the food, and I love that it lasts for eight days.

You are very involved in the DC political scene. What got you interested in politics, and what type of volunteer work do you do?

I have a lifelong interest in the Democratic party. I worked on the campaign of Mary Cheh, Ward 3 Council Member, and I am a delegate to the Ward 3 Democratic Committee. My most important mission right now is working with a dedicated group to try to achieve District of Columbia statehood—making DC the 51st state of New Columbia and achieving full representation in the Congress of the United States.



Deborah pictured with daughter of Chee Dodge, Chief of Navajo Nation who delivered prenatal care to Navajo women in 1950's and 1960's.

Many times during the senior lunch program, some of the participants will ask me for advice on whom to vote for.

Besides politics and Judaism, what are some of your other interests?

I have been on the ushering staff of the Kennedy Center for over 30 years. For my 30th anniversary year, the Center gave me a watch, which I wear with pride. My favorite performance that I've seen there was Dustin Hoffman in *Death of a Salesman*. I have an intense interest in the Holocaust and attend numerous programs at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. My mother, Hannah Janoff, was able to leave the pogroms of the Ukraine in the early 1900s and sail to New York City. I also love cliff scenery. I've hiked almost every cliff in western Ireland over the course of 12 trips. It's a wonder that I didn't fall into the Atlantic Ocean.

What's one thing many people don't know about you?

I was a Girl Scout.

Awesome! So the obvious next question is: What's your favorite cookie?

Thin Mint.

December 2014
Kislev–Tevet 5775

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES: Please turn off cell phones and pagers before entering services.
Charles E. Smith Sanctuary: Join us for our Shabbat morning services in the renewed Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, the synagogue's largest worship space, led by our inspiring Rabbi and Cantor. The service includes a D'var Torah and sermon by the Rabbi and often includes participation by members and B'nai Mitzvah.
Traditional Egalitarian Minyan (TEM): Every Shabbat morning at 9:30 am, with the Torah service around 10:30 am. Led by laypeople with the occasional assistance of Adas clergy, the TEM is a participatory service with a full P'sukei D'Zimrah (introductory Psalms), Shacharit, and Musaf, a complete reading of the weekly Torah portion, and a d'var Torah. For more information, e-mail traditionalminyan@adasisrael.org.
Havurah Service: Lay-led, participatory service at 9:45 am. Rotating volunteers lead services, read Torah, and conduct an in-depth discussion of the weekly Torah portion. A kiddush follows the service. For additional information and to participate, e-mail havurah@adasisrael.org.

Youth Shabbat Services: Starting with Tot Shabbat for children ages 5 and under led by Menuhah Peters. Netivot, for students in grades K–3, is led by Linda Yitzchak, Allison Redisch, Rina Bardin, and/or Naomi Michaelis. Junior Congregation, for grades 4–6, is led by David Smolar and/or the Steinsaltz Ambassadors.
Shabbat Unplugged: A new musical family service for families with young children on Saturday mornings at 10:45 am. The service is designed for elementary school families and above, though older children are welcome and encouraged take on leadership roles.
'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).

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9:00 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 8 Kislev	1 9:00 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 9 Kislev	2 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Morning Awakening with Rabbi Lauren 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Introduction to Talmud 7:00 pm Conversion Course 7:00 pm Anne Frank House Board Meeting 7:30 pm JMCW Meditation Session 10 Kislev	3 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am RA Meeting 9:30 am Gan Open House 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Executive Committee Meeting 7:00 pm JSC Classes 7:00 pm YP Committee Meeting 7:30 pm Marion Usher: Interfaith Families Wksp. 7:30 pm Bereavement Support Group 7:30 pm Mussar In Action 8:00 pm JMCW Mindful Yoga Flow 8:15 pm JSC Classes 11 Kislev	4 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Professional Development Day (Gan Closed) 9:00 am Gan Parent-Tot Playgroup 10:00 am Cantors Assembly Meeting 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 12 Kislev	5 7:30 am Morning Minyan 10:00 am Mindful Parenting with Rabbi Lauren 11:20 am Gan Shabbat Sing 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat; D'var Torah by Rabbi Feinberg 7:30 pm Shir Delight Service; 8 pm D'var Torah by Rabbi Holtzblatt 8:30 pm Shir Delight Dinner 13 Kislev	6 PARSHAT VAYISHLACH 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service; Shem Tov & Human Rights Shabbat; Sermon by Rabbi Feinberg Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 9:30 am 9:45 am Havurah Shabbat Service 11:00 am Tot Shabbat 11:00 am Netivot 11:00 am Junior Congregation 12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush 14 Kislev 12:30 pm Havurah Shabbat Kiddush 4:30 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services 5:27 pm Havdalah 4:30 pm Havdalah PJ Party in Library with Rabbi Holtzblatt, Cantor Brown, & Sheri Brown
7 9:00 am Morning Minyan 10:00 am JMCW Yoga Stretch 10:30 am Makom DC: How to Observe Shabbat with Michael Sloan 11:00 am JMCW Mindful Yoga Flow 11:00 am Hesed Committee Meeting 1:00 pm Fiddler on the Roof at Arena Stage 1:00 pm USY Gives Back Event 1:30 pm Bodies of Water 4:00 pm TEM Meeting 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 15 Kislev	8 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am GPA Shoebox Project 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 16 Kislev	9 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Morning Awakening with Rabbi Lauren 9:00 am GPA Shoebox Project 12:00 pm Downtown Study Group (off-site) 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Anne Frank House Board Meeting 6:30 pm Introduction to Talmud 7:00 pm Conversion Course 7:00 pm Aaron Alexander Lecture 7:30 pm JMCW Meditation Session 17 Kislev	10 7:30 am Morning Minyan 10:00 am Gan Music with Robyn Helzner 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 pm DCJCC Film Screening—Film Festival 7:00 pm JSC Classes 7:00 pm YP Learning Event 7:30 pm Marion Usher: Interfaith Families Wksp. 7:30 pm Gan Open House 8:00 pm JMCW Mindful Yoga Flow 8:15 pm JSC Classes 18 Kislev	11 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Gan Parent-Tot Playgroup 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 19 Kislev	12 7:30 am Morning Minyan 10:00 am Mindful Parenting with Rabbi Lauren 11:20 am Gan Shabbat Sing 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg 6:30 pm Traditional Lay-Led Shabbat Service 6:30 pm Return Again Service with Rabbi Holtzblatt 7:00 pm Shabbat Dinner for Conversion Course 7:30 pm Return Again Dinner 20 Kislev	13 PARSHAT VAYESHEV 8:00 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service; Bat Mitzvah: Sabrina Bramson; Sermon by Rabbi Steinlauf Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 9:30 am 10:00 am Learners' Minyan with Rabbi Feinberg 11:00 am Tot Shabbat 11:00 am Netivot 12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush 21 Kislev 4:30 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services 5:28 pm Havdalah 7:00 pm Kadima Event
14 9:00 am Morning Minyan 10:00 am JMCW Yoga Stretch 10:30 am Makom DC: How to Observe Shabbat with Michael Sloan 11:00 am JMCW Mindful Yoga Flow 1:30 pm Sisterhood Chanukah Event 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 22 Kislev	15 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 23 Kislev	16 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Morning Awakening with Rabbi Lauren 10:00 am Sisterhood Taste of Tanach 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Introduction to Talmud 7:00 pm Conversion Course 7:30 pm JMCW Meditation Session EREV HANUKKAH—Light first candle 24 Kislev	17 7:30 am Morning Minyan 10:30 am Rabbi Lauren with the Gan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6:30 pm Religious Practices Committee Meeting 7:00 pm YP Hanukkah Event 7:00 pm JSC Classes 7:30 pm Marion Usher: Interfaith Families Wksp. 7:30 pm Bereavement Support Group 7:30 pm Mussar In Action 8:00 pm JMCW Mindful Yoga Flow 8:15 pm JSC Classes 25 Kislev	18 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Gan Parent-Tot Playgroup 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 26 Kislev	19 7:30 am Morning Minyan 10:00 am Mindful Parenting with Rabbi Lauren 11:20 am Gan Shabbat Sing 5:00 pm Happy Half Hour 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg 5:30 pm Young Family Shabbat Service with Rabbi Feinberg & Robyn Helzner 6:00 pm Musical Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Cantor Brown 6:30 pm Young Family Shabbat Dinner 27 Kislev	20 PARSHAT MIKETZ/SHABBAT HANUKKAH 9:15 am Shabbat Morning Service; Bat Mitzvah: Melanie Heller; Sermon by Rabbi Feinberg; Consecration (at end of service) Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 9:30 am 9:45 am Havurah Shabbat Service 11:00 am Tot Shabbat 11:00 am Netivot 11:00 am Junior Congregation 12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush 28 Kislev 12:30 pm Havurah Shabbat Kiddush 4:30 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services 5:30 pm Havdalah/Light Menorah on Connecticut Avenue Patio at 5:30 pm
21 9:00 am Morning Minyan 10:30 am Makom DC: How to Observe Shabbat with Michael Sloan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 29 Kislev	22 7:30 am Morning Minyan Rosh Chodesh Tevet Breakfast sponsored by the Goldstein Rosh Chodesh Minyan Breakfast Fund 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 30 Kislev	23 7:30 am Morning Minyan Rosh Chodesh Tevet Breakfast sponsored by the Goldstein Rosh Chodesh Minyan Breakfast Fund Morning Awakening with Rabbi Lauren 9:00 am 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 1 Tevet	24 7:30 am Morning Minyan 8:00 am Gan Ha'Yeled Winter Break Begins 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 2 Tevet	25 9:00 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 3 Tevet	26 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Community Shabbat Service at Temple Micah with Cantor Brown (Oneg Shabbat at 6 pm; Service at 6:30 pm) (NO 6 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service at Adas Israel) 4 Tevet	27 PARSHAT VAYIGASH 9:30 am Combined Smith/TEM Service; D'var Torah by Rabbi Feinberg 12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush 4:30 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services 5:34 pm Havdalah at 5:34 pm 5 Tevet
28 9:00 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 6 Tevet	29 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 7 Tevet	30 7:30 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Morning Awakening with Rabbi Lauren 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 8 Tevet	31 7:30 am Morning Minyan 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 9 Tevet	1 9:00 am Morning Minyan 9:00 am Gan Parent-Tot Playgroup 6:00 pm Evening Minyan 10 Tevet	2 7:30 am Morning Minyan 5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat; D'var Torah by Rabbi Feinberg 11 Tevet	3 PARSHAT VAYECHI 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service; D'var Torah by Rabbi Feinberg Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 9:30 am 9:45 am Havurah Shabbat Service 11:00 am Tot Shabbat 11:00 am Netivot 11:00 am Junior Congregation 12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush 12:30 pm Havurah Shabbat Kiddush 4:30 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services 12 Tevet 5:39 pm Havdalah

Youth @ AI

Shalom, Chevre!



As we enter the chilly, yet joyous winter months, Youth@AI has much to offer to keep you warm and excited during this holiday season. Join us for a brand-new, K-5th-grade family *Havdalah Seudah Shlishit* on Saturday, December 6; we'll sing, play games, bond, and eat together—don't miss it!

Kadima (grades 6-8) will get together the following Saturday, December 13, for a special *Hanukkah* event. Also,

be on the lookout for two USY events that our teen-led board will be planning for *Hanukkah*—one Social Action/*Tikkun Olam* program, and one pure *Hanukkah* celebration event!

Be on the lookout for updates on our website, or subscribe to the Education newsletter by e-mailing education@adasisrael.org or contacting Rich Dinetz, Youth Director, Rich.Dinetz@adasisrael.org, with any questions.

—L'Shalom, and see you soon! ○

YP @ AI

YP@AI kicked off the year in style with our September Shir Delight, and we haven't looked back. In addition to celebrating *Shabbat* with 300 of our closest friends in September and November (join us for the December 5 *Shir Delight*), we've enjoyed a plethora of gatherings, including our annual YP Break the Fast, a fall hike in Rock Creek Park, and a November YP *Havdalah* & Movie event.



November also marked our second ever YP *Kavanah* Experience—a two-and-a-half-hour event filled with Jewish mindfulness practices such as meditation, yoga, and learning. This month, YP@AI plans to lead *Shabbat Mincha* on December 6, followed by an outing to Zoo Lights at the National Zoo.

We'll end 2014 with a *Hanukkah* Party on December 17. Phew! If you'd like more information about YP@AI or would like to get involved, contact Young.Professionals@adasisrael.org. ○

Return Again to Shabbat Friday, December 12 @ 6:30 pm With Rabbi Lauren & Elie Greenberg

RSVP by Thursday, December 11 @ noon

Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt and Elie Greenberg will lead us in this joyful community Shabbat experience for all ages. Featuring seasoned musicians, a spirited journey through prayer and song, and a festive feast for the community. RSVP online today or call Carol Ansell, 202-362-4433. Co-sponsored by the Jewish Mindfulness Center of Washington.



Before You Head South for the Winter

Please contact Elinor Tattar in the synagogue office, 202-362-4433 or Elinor.Tattar@adasisrael.org, and let her know the date you will be heading south and the date you plan to return, so you will continue to receive your synagogue mailings. Stay Warm!

KAY HALL RENOVATION CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

rock, Bob Peck, and Herlene Nagler. Ex officio members of the committee are Arnie Podgorsky, David Polonsky, and Carole Klein.

The committee has already begun envisioning the design plans with Ritter Norton Architects, a nationally recognized architecture, interior design, and planning firm based in Alexandria, VA. Founded by James W. Ritter, FAIA, in 1974, the firm has a long-established reputation for design excellence and outstanding client service. It has successfully completed a wide range of award-winning commercial and institutional projects, including synagogues, churches, schools, libraries, and commercial interior renovations for the private sector and many local, state, and federal government agencies. The committee looks forward to working with Ritter Norton, and with the entire Adas Israel community, to create a beautiful environment for the congregation to enjoy and cherish for years to come. ○

Ongoing Learning

ONGOING
LEARNING

Ongoing Learning @Adas

For additional information or to register, go to adasisrael.org/makomdc, e-mail marcy.spiro@adasisrael.org, or call 202-362-4433, ext. 113.



Bereavement Support Group

Dec. 3, 17; Jan. 7, 21; Feb. 4, 18, 7:30–8:30 pm

The Bereavement Support Group is for people who have experienced a loss sometime during the last year.

Boker Ohr with Rabbi Feinberg

Saturday mornings, 8:00–9:15 am

Boher Ohr meets every Saturday morning at 8 am and focuses on the weekly portion.

Engaging Israel with Rabbi Holtzblatt

Tuesdays, Jan. 6, Feb. 24, March 17, 7:30 pm

The Engaging Israel: Foundations for a New Relationship video lecture series, now in use by scores of synagogues and community groups across North America and the United Kingdom, focuses on the critical questions facing world Jewry with regard to Israel. We will study original sources and historical texts and will use the Hartman Institute video lecture series to explore contemporary approaches to the most urgent challenges facing the Jewish people today.

Jewish How To Series:

Join us each month at **MakomDC** for a special speaker teaching an insightful **How To** session.

Sunday, Dec. 7, 14, 21, 10:30 am–12 noon Observing *Shabbat* in the Home w/ Michael Sloan

Sunday, Jan. 11, 25, 10:30 am–12 noon *Haftarah* Trope w/ Cantor Arianne Brown

Sunday, Feb. 1, 10:30 am–12 noon Making Torah Personal w/ Rabbi Gil Steinlauf

Sunday, Feb. 22, 10:30 am–12 noon *Mikvah*: Who/What/Where/When and (most important) WHY? w/ Naomi Malka

Downtown Study Group

Tuesdays at noon

Dec. 9, Jan. 13, Feb. 10, Mar. 10, Apr. 14,

May 12, June 9

Join this highly motivated group, taught by Rabbis Steinlauf, Feinberg, and Holtzblatt, that has been meeting monthly in a downtown conference room for more than 25 years. The Downtown Study Group meets (mostly) on the second Tuesday of the month over lunch at a convenient downtown location to study texts and grapple with powerful Jewish issues.

The intellectual level of the group ensures that every session is challenging, intellectually satisfying, and horizon-broadening. This cohesive group welcomes new members. This class is open to the community.

There is no charge for the class, but there is a fee for lunch. For more information, please contact Beryl Saltman, Beryl.Saltman@adasisrael.org.

"You Have Brought Joy to My Heart..."

The Simcha Wall Celebrates Joyous Life Cycle Events

Members and friends can commemorate joyous milestones in the lives of their friends and families. The Adas Israel *Simcha* Wall, designed by artist Arnold Schwarzbart, is a unique and beautiful porcelain work of art that includes space for special commemorative plaques. The plaques are surrounded by a creative Washington, DC, cityscape, including all three Adas Israel buildings as well as the Holy City of Jerusalem. Embossed in the porcelain are *brachot* (blessings) and quotations relating to *s'machot* in Hebrew and English. The *Simcha* Wall, donated by Diane and David (z"l) Sykes, is permanently displayed in the Gewirz Hall Lobby.

Wording is standardized on each *Simcha* plaque, which can be used for events such as *b'nai mitzvah*, weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, graduations, Confirmation, and community service.

Please contact Elinor Tattar, 202-362-4433, ext. 147, to order your plaque

Tikkun Olam

Boker Ohr 'Only One Garment' Drive Continues

The *Boker Ohr* Study Group invites all to bring donations of new socks and underwear to the Ezra Pantry box in the coat room at Adas Israel.

Every Saturday, diehard *Torah* students meet with Rabbi Feinberg at 8:00 am to study, discuss, rant, and argue about the *parasha* of the week. This new Adas initiative comes from the *Boker Ohr* study group, in honor of Rabbi Chuck Feinberg's commitment to the needs of the less fortunate in our community. The initiative was inspired by *Boker Ohr's* study of Deuteronomy (*D'varim*), *parshat Ki Tetzei*, which teaches respect for the feelings of persons who are needy. The text reminded the group that just as in ancient days, when some impoverished people had only one garment, some in our own DC community today lack basics such as socks and underwear.

These donations of socks and underwear from the entire Adas community will enable SOME's Clothing Room to distribute these essential items directly to men and women in need.

Want more information? Contact Julie Weisman (jweisman29@hotmail.com) or Nechama Masliansky (nmasliansky@some.org).

A Double Mitzvah for Christmas—Two Events for N Street Village (Luther Place)

Do we at Adas Israel celebrate Christmas? Of course, we do! In a most Jewish way, by performing a *mitzvah*, or this year two *mitzvot*. In 2014, December 25 (Christmas Day), our traditional day to wait on the guests of N Street Village at their mid-day meal, is also the fourth Thursday of the month, our traditional day to provide evening dinner for the guests of the Luther Place Night Shelter of N Street Village. So, we have a double *mitzvah*!

Christmas Day at N Street Village

Join fellow Adas Israel congregants in a wonderful annual Adas tradition on Thursday, December 25, as we bring good cheer to help the ladies at N Street Village enjoy their holiday. Every year the N Street Village guests tell us how much they appreciate the good cheer and wonderful music that we bring. Volunteers are needed from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm to set up, serve, and clean up; from 11:45 am to 2:00 pm to serve and clean up; and from 11:45 am to 2:00 pm to join the chorus. This annual event is always an enjoyable and rewarding moment for the Adas volunteers. Watch @Adas for more details.

For more information, contact Ruth Kleinrock, ruthkleinrock@gmail.com. Please put "Christmas Day Adas Israel" in the subject line.

Christmas Dinner for Luther Place (N Street Village) Shelter

In the evening that same day, Thursday, December 25, the guests of the Luther Place Shelter will sit down to a traditional

holiday meal that members of Adas have prepared and delivered to them. Adas volunteers bring food for 25–30 people that is fully prepared, ready to reheat and be enjoyed, delivered in disposable containers—for example, aluminum pans. Watch @Adas and your e-mail for further details.

For more information or to help out contact Laura Epstein, laura_epstein@hotmail.com.

Monthly Meals for Luther Place (N Street Village) Shelter

Don't wait for a special occasion; perform a *mitzvah* throughout the year. Join the cadre of Adas congregants who help provide food for this transition shelter the fourth Thursday of every month. The Adas Israel community has been providing dinners to Luther Place Women's Shelter, one of the earliest N Street Village programs, for more than 20 years. Each month Laura Epstein organizes 10 or so volunteers to contribute a meal, and Roger Nehrer delivers the food. Volunteers participate once in a while or every month. They contribute something simple like 30 apples or an entrée for 10. We can always use more volunteers.

Help out with Thanksgiving and monthly dinners for N Street Village; contact Laura Epstein, laura_epstein@hotmail.com.

"The mission of N Street Village is to 'welcome the stranger'—to be a place of traditional hospitality where all are welcome; a place that brings mutual blessing to both guest and host. The Village began in 1973, an outgrowth of ProJeCt (Protestant-Jewish-Catholic), an interfaith response to the suffering in our nation's capital. According to a 2012 District count, N Street Village was serving over 60% of DC's adult female homeless population (those unaccompanied by minor children). Adas Israel is proud to be an N Street Village partner.

Ezra Pantry Winter Clothing Drive

The Annual Winter Coat Drive to benefit SOME (So Others Might Eat) continues. Let's double our great success of the past! Bring the winter coats you are no longer wearing to Ezra Pantry. Place all your clean outgrown or no longer used winter coats in the large box in the coat room dedicated to winter coats. **Let's fill it many times over! All badly needed winter coats will be donated to SOME for those in need. Thank you!**

More information? Contact Ezra Pantry Coordinator Judith Krones, david.judith@verizon.net, for info or with ideas.

New Initiative: Legal Clinic Volunteers Needed

The Adas Israel Social Action Council is recruiting volunteers for a new initiative to provide volunteer legal assistance to individuals who are homeless and in need. Adas Israel volunteers meet with individuals at the Petey Greene Community Center on Martin Luther King Ave, SE, an hour or more each month (on Mondays, 10:00–11:00 am). Volunteers can offer time each month or once or twice a year; any amount of time is appreciated. We will partner with the Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless (WLCH).

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The legal issues presented most frequently by homeless individuals involve challenges to conditions in shelters and denial of public assistance (including disability) benefits. If needed, the lawyer-volunteer would continue to represent the individual as an advocate in an administrative or legal proceeding.

Staff at the WLCH provide all necessary training; serve as mentors to new volunteer attorneys; and assist volunteers with advice, sample forms, etc. We will arrange for training to take place at Adas. WLCH provides malpractice insurance coverage for its volunteers. In addition, there will be someone to accompany volunteers to Petey Greene and assist with intake.

The Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless was founded more than 25 years ago and now relies on nearly 200 volunteer attorneys each year to represent hundreds of homeless individuals and families. Adas member Laurie Davis was one of the founding members and is available to answer any questions you may have.

More information? Contact Laurie, lauriebdavis@gmail.com; Social Action Council Chair Joel Fischman, fischman@comcast.net; or Rabbi Feinberg, Rabbi.Feinberg@adasisrael.org.

One Congregation, One Family

Want to be part of an exciting new initiative in our community? Join fellow Adas members to become part of the first Adas Israel Mentor Team and work to help a family emerge from homelessness to hope with dignity.

The Adas Mentor Team will work with a family to promote life skills and offer the care and encouragement necessary to foster personal and economic growth as its members transition from homelessness to stable housing and an improved quality of life. We will offer help with budgeting, parenting skills, job networking, family literacy, nutrition, and links to ongoing services in the community. More importantly, we will help create

supportive relationships to enable acts of lovingkindness.

The Adas Israel Social Action Council is forming a pilot Mentor Team of five to six people to work with a family for a six-month period. The commitment is modest but could have valuable long-term benefit. Members of the team will meet with the family twice a month or more during those six months.

Interested? Want to learn more? Contact Social Action Chair Joel Fischman, fischman@comcast.net, or Rabbi Feinberg, Rabbi.Feinberg@adasisrael.org. ○

Reserve the Date: Tikkun Olam Weekend, Jan. 16-19

The 2015 Tikkun Olam Weekend (Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend) will be as filled with rewarding and enjoyable events as ever! Stay tuned for more details about the following:

- **Friday, January 16:** Congregational *Shabbat* dinner (6:30 pm) and *Shabbat* service (8:00 pm), followed by a special *Oneg Shabbat* reception
- **Saturday, January 17:** Tikkun Olam *Shabbat* with a guest speaker and panel discussion following kiddush
- **Sunday, January 18:** Sunday services at our partner congregation, Peoples Congregational United Church of Christ, 4704 13th Street NW, also featuring a guest speaker. Adas Israel clergy will take part
- **Monday, January 19:** Numerous projects for all ages as Adas Israel participates in the National Day of Service, honoring the memory of Martin Luther King Jr.

Look for more complete information in the January Chronicle, in @Adas, and on the website or contact Rabbi Feinberg at the synagogue, 202-362-4433, or Social Action Council Chair Joel Fischman, fischman@comcast.net. ○

Anne Frank House 2014 Walk to End Homelessness

Anne Frank House is grateful to the Religious School and the Adas Israel community for its fabulous support of the November 9th miniwalk. A special shout-out to Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum, Lacy LeBlanc, David Polonsky, and other members of the Adas Israel leadership and staff for making the day a big success. We were also pleased to be able to use the walk to honor Bonnie Lewin's memory and recognize one of her works on behalf of Anne Frank House.

As 2014 draws to a close, Anne Frank House wants to thank the entire Adas Israel community for its support and generosity this year.

As all of you plan your year-end contributions, please consider a contribution to Anne Frank House.

Anne Frank House, on a budget of about \$11,000 per resident per year:



ANNE FRANK HOUSE

- Houses eleven formerly homeless people in attractive apartments
- Furnishes the apartments

- Pays for medical, psychiatric and social services
- Supports the residents with phone calls, visits, holiday meals and other assistance

In this time of diminishing available financial support, we are depending on your contribution more than ever to help us maintain our program.

In these still uncertain financial times, your support is especially important. Contributions by check may be sent to Anne Frank House, c/o Adas Israel; or can

be made online at <http://www.theannefrankhouse.org/donate.html>

Please give generously. Thank you! ○

Education

Gan HaYeled Building Our Mud House

If you visit the Gan playground at Adas Israel, you will witness children immersed in imaginative outdoor play. Within the very urban environment of DC, the playground is an oasis filled

with trees, dirt, and space to explore. Our Gan educators are very aware of the importance of outdoor time and play for young children. The air, the space, the smells, the feeling of the sun and the wind rustling in the trees, are all authentic sensory experiences that connect children with the natural world.

In an effort to expand and enhance the connection between the children and the natural world, and to have a collaborative experience for the entire community, the idea of building a mud house was born. Gan teacher Noa Leman became inspired last year after attending a workshop specifically about how mud



houses enhance and deepen early childhood experiences. Noa says, "This adventure is for everyone: children, parents, and teachers. Everybody can contribute and

gain experience in building

something real with our hands, getting dirty, learning about different cultures and their homes, and applying our creative minds to solving many problems! Sure, some passion to work in mud remains in all of us, if not from our childhood, then from the time the Jews built pyramids in Egypt . . ."

From this inspiration, the building began. Each Sunday children, teachers, and parents gathered on the Gan playground



and got to work. Using their hands, lots and lots of dirt, water, rocks, sticks, and a few other materials, the mud house has taken form. The children are invested and excited, and together we are

connecting with the earth, embracing the value of *Ba'al Taschit*, not wasting and protecting creation.

The building has continued as long as the weather has allowed, with a halt in construction likely to occur once the weather turns cold (after this *Chronicle* went to press). This will give time for the house to set, for the community to reflect on the work done, and to project ahead and question: where do we go next with our mud house? This work is meaningful and intentional, and reflects strength of this Jewish early childhood community.

Open Houses

The Gan hosts a series of Open Houses for prospective students on December 3 at 9:30 am, December 10 at 7:30 pm, and January 7 at 9:30 am. If you know of someone looking for an NAEYC-accredited, exceptional preschool, please invite him or her to one of these events.

More information about the school is available on our website, www.adasisrael.org/gan. ◯

Religious School



As we enter the month of December, it seems that it is often too easy to forget the spirit of Thanksgiving—full of gratitude, family, community, and intentionality—and move quickly into the darkest month of the year. The days are short, the cold weather has arrived, and we often find ourselves surrounded by the culture of consumption that comes with the December holidays. So for us, there is no better time to remind ourselves of the community we are building here and the opportunities we have to come together.

Earlier this fall the fifth graders of the Adas community

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RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

attended a *shabbaton* at Capital Camps. They go to different types of schools, have different *Shabbat* practices, different types of families, and different connections to Judaism. But over the course of the weekend we were able to focus on what they shared—a love of learning, an openness to one another, a desire to understand Judaism's place in their lives, and a willingness to make themselves vulnerable and take risks in order to build relationships and community.

These are the things that we will carry with us into December. These are things that help us to determine our goals



and shape our vision. Our fifth graders are our example of how we can come together, learn from our differences, and create

something bigger than ourselves.

We look forward to sharing more stories that demonstrate where these values are at play within the Educa-

tion Department and would love to hear your stories as well. We have begun an installation art project in our office that is all about community. Please stop by and pick up an index card from Lacy that is yours to write on, illustrate, or decorate in a way that you think speaks to the theme of community. They will be displayed on our wall as they are submitted. We look forward to our office being filled with your visions of community!

—Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum ○



Attention: Class of 5778 Bar/Bat Mitzvah Candidates

We are in the process of organizing the *B'nai Mitzvah* Class of 5778, which includes children who will be celebrating this milestone between August 2017 and June 2018. Below is a list of children of our members who, according to our records, should celebrate becoming *b'nai mitzvah* in the Class of 5778 (which means they were born between July 2004 and July 2005).

Bar/Bat Mitzvah dates are assigned to members in good standing with children enrolled in our Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School or a Jewish day school. Members who are delinquent in their synagogue account or whose children are not enrolled in school will delay the assignment of their child's date.

If your child is missing from this list and you believe he or she should be included with this *bar/bat mitzvah* group and celebrate between August 2017 and June 2018,

OR if your child is in the fourth grade and you would like him or her to be included,

OR if you have any questions, please contact Beryl Saltman in the rabbis' office, 202-362-4433, ext. 121 or beryl.saltman@adasisrael.org, so we can add the name to the list below.

Note on your calendars **Sunday, January 25**, the 5778 *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* Parents' Meeting with Rabbi Gil Steinlauf, Cantor Arianne Brown, Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum, and Naomi Malka (coffee at 9:30 am; meeting at 10 am) to assign *bar/bat mitzvah* dates.



Elijah Ascher-DiGiacinto
Gabriel Bassat
Gabrielle Bennett
Micah Berger
Shoshana Berman
Elliott Bramson
Harry Davidson
David Diamond
Jake Drimmer
Harper Dunn
Talia Ehrenberg
Naomi Feldman
Merav Fisher Shapiro
Moses Fishman

Jason Flax
Sadie Foer
Sadie & Gabriel Ford
Jonah Frumkin
Lilah Genachowski
Oliver Goldstein
Jackson Groves
Sophie Hare
Penelope Landau
Willow Lehigh
Maxwell Lehigh
Amalia Levitin
Max Lovinger
Ruby Luzzatto

Isaac Malka
Sophie Mallen
Lola Marvin
Madeleine Miller
Zachary Pan
Courtney Pine
Erin Pollack
Charles Pomper
Sarah Porter
Aaron Ravitz
Lila Ronen
Dora & Benjamin Schulman
Samuel Shapiro
Jake Shapiro

Samuel Shapiro
Lila Singer
Elliot Smith-Chauss
John Speaks, IV
Charlie Suissa
Ana Susskind
Samuel Traubman
Gabriel Taylor
Isaac Trommer
Benjamin Weiss
Ethan Wolin
Adina Zalesne Siff
Jacob Zucker

Books, Ideas, & More

Pursuing Science in Wartime

by Robin Jacobson, Library & Literary Arts Director

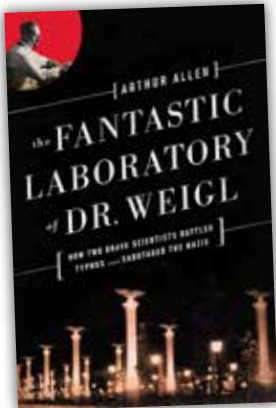
Today we worry about Ebola. During World War II, the disease to dread was typhus, which ran rampant through vulnerable populations. Anne Frank and her sister Margot were among 17,000 inmates at Bergen-Belsen who succumbed to typhus in the final weeks of the war.

Two Polish typhus researchers, one Aryan and one Jewish, deserve recognition as World War II heroes, according to science journalist Arthur Allen. The intertwined stories of Drs. Rudolf Weigl and Ludwik Fleck are the subject of Allen's latest book, *The Fantastic Laboratory of Dr. Weigl: How Two Brave Scientists Battled Typhus and Sabotaged the Nazis*.

Typhus, Lice, and Jews

Typhus is a bacterial disease spread by body lice (not head lice). Historically, such lice afflict encamped soldiers, prisoners, and others living in cramped, unsanitary conditions. Yet, in Nazi racial ideology, typhus was a "Jewish disease." As Allen writes in *The Fantastic Laboratory*, "The louse, carrier of typhus, was the symbol of the Jew . . . a filthy, parasitic, blood-sucking disease vector that had penetrated the German nation." In fact, the Nazi pseudo-scientific pretext for isolating Jews in locked ghettos was to contain typhus and prevent Jews from infecting Aryans. As the Nazis sealed the Warsaw ghetto, they pasted posters around the city showing an ugly, bearded Jew with a huge louse and the menacing caption, "Jews-Lice-Typhus."

Concentration camps took measures to prevent typhus, not out of concern for the prisoners, but to protect Germans from the disease. Guards herded incoming prisoners through disinfection rooms to be stripped, shaved, and doused in caustic chemicals intended to kill lice. Routine disinfection also provided cover for more diabolical Nazi schemes; countless prisoners dutifully undressed for "shower rooms" that were actually gas chambers.



Dr. Weigl

Rudolf Weigl (1883–1957) began studying typhus and lice while serving as a medic in the Austro-Hungarian army during World War I. Back home in Poland, he continued his research, developing the first effective vaccine in the 1930s. When World War II began, Germany courted Weigl (who was ethnically German) with offers of a university chair in Berlin, sponsorship for the Nobel Prize, and privileged status as an Aryan. Rejecting the

offers, Weigl declared his loyalty to Poland.

Adas Author Book Chat Sunday, January 11 @ 10:30 am

Meet **Professor Carmel Chiswick** of
George Washington University

As she presents her new book, *Judaism in Transition: How Economic Choices Shape Religious Tradition*, a few copies of which are available at the Ruth & Simon Albert Sisterhood Gift Shop. ○



Sifriyat Pajama Program: Hebrew Storytelling & Havdalah

with Cantor Arianne and Rabbi Randy Brown and Gan Director Sheri Brown

**Saturday, December 6, 4:30–5:30 pm,
Biran Beit Midrash**

As *Shabbat* comes to a close, cuddle up with your young children (infants to six years) for Hebrew stories and songs and enjoy a *Shabbat*-friendly art project. Register for this free program at https://www.wizevents.com/register/register_add.php?sessid=5146&id=3056. ○



Eventually, the Nazis seized Weigl's laboratory and demanded typhus vaccines for German troops. Torn between suicide and cooperation, Weigl chose cooperation, says Allen, "on his own terms." While serving the Reich, Weigl secretly smuggled thousands of doses of vaccine to desperate Jewish ghettos. Moreover, he sheltered as many as 3,000 Polish intellectuals wanted by the Nazis by employing them in his laboratory.

Dr. Fleck

As a young man, Ludwik Fleck (1896–1961) assisted Weigl with typhus research; later, the men's professional paths diverged. A philosopher of science as well as a bacteriologist, Fleck was an early pioneer of the theory that so-called scientific truths are in fact shaped by their cultural context; ironically, this theory helps explain the "groupthink" of Nazi medical authorities, who deluded themselves that Jews posed a threat to public health.

In 1942, Fleck, trapped with other Jews inside a typhus-infested Polish ghetto, developed a new method for generating typhus vaccine. Eager for more vaccine than Weigl's method could deliver, the Nazis sent Fleck to a Buchenwald research station to make typhus vaccines for the German army. Under Fleck's guidance, the laboratory slaves daringly manufactured two types of vaccines—a fake, worthless vaccine they shipped to German troops and an effective vaccine they used to secretly immunize their fellow inmates.

A fascinating tale of science in wartime, *The Fantastic Laboratory* is in our library. ○

Contributions

The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

Adas Fund

With Great Appreciation For: Haimishness of the Adas Israel Congregation by Dr. Laura Weinstock.

In Memory Of: **Hersh Muchnick and all my other beloved relatives and friends** by Charlotte Muchnick.

Bereavement Fund

In Memory Of: **Marc Romanz** by Marvin & Sandra Sugar. **Marjorie Rosenberg** by Michael & Marion Usher.

Cantor Brown Discretionary Fund

In Honor Of: **Jamie and Stuart Butler's** 30th anniversary by Manuel Schiffres & Rae Grad.

In Appreciation Of: Dail Up service by Bess & Phillip S. Lewis.

In Recognition Of: **Julia Gordon's Simchat Torah** honor by Nancy Weiss. **Rae Grad's Simchat Torah** honor by Steven & Ruth Kleinrock.

In Memory Of: **Edith Krohn** by Rae Grad.

Cantor Max Wohlberg Memorial Fund

In Recognition Of: **Rae Grad's Simchat Torah** honor by Daniel & Nancy Weiss.

Capital Fund Contributions

In Honor Of: Engagement of **Heather McWilliams & David Polonsky** by Nancy, Daniel, & Jory Weiss. **Rise & Ron Schlesinger's** anniversary by Arnie Podgorsky & Christy Larsen.

In Memory Of: **Marjorie Rosenberg** by Ross Eisenman & Shelley Tomkin.

Charles Pilzer Computer Center

In Memory Of: **Yetta B. Pilzer** by Geraldine Pilzer.

Congregational Kiddush Fund

By: Barry & Carmel Chiswick.

In Honor Of: **Ellie Rose Berman's** baby naming by Mark & Rebecca Berman.

Ally Knapp becoming a *bat mitzvah* by Bill Knapp & Jeanie Milbauer. **Adam Crausman** becoming a *bar mitzvah* by Sandra & Joel Crausman. Naming of **Hannah Rose Traster** by Benjamin & Kara Traster. Naming of **Juliana Grace Yavinsky** by William & Rachel Yavinsky. Naming of **Maya Pearl Levine** by Brant Levine & Katherine Curley.

Daily Minyan Fund

In Memory Of: **Leo Sherman** by Rennie Sherman. **Sylvia Horwitz** by Marvene Horwitz.

Dr. William and Vivienne Stark Wedding & Anniversa

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Ethel & Nat Popick Chronicle Fund

In Honor Of: **Harry Friedman's** very special birthday by David & Harriet Bubes.

In Memory Of: **Nancy Duber's mother** by Dorothy Block.

Executive Director Discretionary Fund

In Honor Of: Engagement of **Heather McWilliams and David Polonsky** by Bruce Ray & April Rubin.

Frances & Leonard Burka Social Action Endowment

In Memory Of: **Leonard Burka** by Stanley & Ellen Albert, Glenn & Cindy Easton, and David Polonsky.

Garden of the Righteous

In Memory Of: **David Zier** by Judy Strauch.

Havurah Kiddush Fund

By: Art & Edie Hessel, Ron & Rise Schlesinger, Jonathan Hammer, Barry & Carmel Chiswick, and David Polonsky.

High Holy Day Fund

In Honor Of: **Samuel & Sadie Rosenstein** by David J. Rosenstein.

In Gratitude For: Beautiful *Kever Avot* service by Betty & Frederick Roberts.

In Memory Of: **Babette Blumenthal Kaplan, Madeleine Blumental, Bessie Kaplan**, all by Marsha Kaplan.

Ida Mendelson Memorial Prayer Book Fund

In Memory Of: **Morris & Ida Cohen** by Shirley Cohen.

Jewish Mindfulness Center of Washington Fund

In Honor Of: **JMC of Washington** receiving the Slingshot Award by Robert Satloff & Jennie Litvak, and David Polonsky.

Kullen Family Fund

In Memory Of: **Joseph Robinowitz** by Dr. Shirley Kullen.

Lillian & Daniel Ezrin Fund for Ritual Objects

In Memory Of: **Lillian Ezrin** by Joel &

Rhoda Ganz.

Marilyn & Stefan Tucker Program Endowment Fund

In Honor Of: **Marilyn & Stef Tucker** by Sandy & Miriam Ain.

L'Shanah Tovah: by Bob & Anita Wellen, Lisa, Kevin, Chloe & Melanie Heller.

Martha & Joseph Mendelson Adult Education Fund

In Honor Of: **Jennifer Mendelson's** special birthday by Glenn & Cindy Easton. **Sandy Mendelson's** special birthday by Sonya Gichner, and David Polonsky.

In Memory Of: **Estelle Markowitz, Israel Mendelson, Martha Mendelson**, all by Sandy & Adina Mendelson.

Maxine & Gerald Freedman Endowment Fund

In Honor Of: **Harry Friedman's** special birthday by Maxine Freedman.

Mildred & Jess Fisher Nursery School Fund

In Honor Of: Birth of **Charles Yedwab**, Birth of **Dimitry Shevetsova** by Sheri Brown.

In Memory Of: **Paul Burstein** by Sheri Brown.

Offerings Fund

By: Dr. Penn Lupovich, Virginia Spatz.

In Honor Of: Marriage of **Jonah Richmond & David Olson** by Jason Scheff.

Engagement & forthcoming wedding of **Pamela Renee Newman & Noah Warren Trager** by Jacqueline M. Myers Edlow.

In Recognition Of: *Simchat Torah* honor of **Julia Gordon, Rae Grad, Jennie Litvak**, all by David & Toni Bickart.

With Thanks For: My *Rosh Hashanah aliyah* by Laura Apelbaum.

In Memory Of: **Craig Silver** by Eric Paisner.

Rabbi Feinberg Discretionary Fund

By: Ricki Gerger

In Honor Of: **Arthur Hessel, Debra Miller, Rabbi Feinberg**, all by Stig Trommer & Edna Friedberg.

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

Return Again service by Monica Brand and Jordan Engel.

Rabbi Stanley Rabinowitz History Fund

In Memory Of: **Charles Lerner** by Carole Lerner.

Rabbi Steinlauf Discretionary Fund

In Honor Of: **Rabbi Steinlauf** by Mathew Schutzer.

In Appreciation Of: **Rabbi Steinlauf** and his lovely wedding service for Jonah Richmond & David Olson by Anna Marie & Gary Richmond.

With Great Appreciation For: How special **Rabbi Steinlauf** made our wedding experience by David Raboy & Kelli Lafferty.

With Thanks For: The **Steinlaufs'** hospitality during *Sukkot* by Nancy, Daniel & Jory Weiss and David Polonsky.

Rhoda Goldman Memorial Religious School Endowment

In Honor Of: **Michael & Susie Gelman's** special birthdays by Joel & Rhoda Ganz, and David Polonsky.

Rose R. Freudberg Sisterhood Memorial Library Fund

In Honor Of: **Arlene Sidell's** special birthday by Harry & Judy Melamed.

In Gratitude For: Recovery of **Dr. Harry Handelsman** by Madelyn Shapiro.

Refuah Shlema To: **Elinor Tattar** by Jane Baldinger.

In Memory Of: **Sophia Hertzmark** by Elliott Hertzmark. **Terry Goldstein** by Marcie Goldstein. **Marjorie Rosenberg** by Steve & Sybil Wolin. **Thelma Elpern** by Sarah Elpern. **Sherry Sherman, Louis Bressler, Leonard Burka**, all by Elinor Tattar. **Muriel Dulberger** by Faith, Kolman & Nora Apt.

Rothstein Family Israel College Scholarship Fund

In Honor Of: **Bud Rothstein's** *Kol Nidre aliyah* and the inclusion of **Robin**

Berman, Randy Rothstein, & Ben Berman in the Court of Honor by Bud & Lorain Rothstein.

Ryna & Melvin Cohen Senior Rabbi Program Fund

In Memory Of: **Theodore Glick** by Ryna Cohen.

Sandra & Clement Alpert Fund for Family Education

In Memory Of: **Myron Madden** by Michael Madden, Alan & Dale Sorcher.

Shelley Remer Gan Haeled Enrichment Fund

In Honor Of: **Aaron Knishkowy, Annie Leder, Joe Goldberg** becoming *b'nai*

mitzvah, all by Stewart & Shelley Remer.

Sisterhood Fund

In Appreciation Of: All the love and well wishes from the **Adas Israel Sisterhood** by Rita & Ron Owens.

Social Action Fund

Refuah Shlema To: **Jamie Butler** by Jane Baldinger.

Sophie Silfen Shalom Tinok Fund

In Honor Of: Birth of **Juliana Grace**

Yavinsky by Lucy Hassell.

For The Speedy Recovery Of: **Sheldon I.**

Cohen by Bruce Ray & April Rubin.

Susan Linowes Allen Memorial Music Fund

In Recognition Of: **Rae Grad's** *Simchat Torah* honor by Lucy Hassell.

Traditional Minyan Kiddush Fund

In Honor Of: **Gabriel Wittes, Aaron Knishkowy** becoming *b'nai mitzvah* by Bill Levenson.

With Thanks To: **Bruce Lewis, Maya Bernstein, Tzvia Schweitzer, Jacob Bardin, Annette Kornblum, Patti Lieberman, Rebecca Smolar, Nechama Masliansky, Rabbi Feinberg, Marilyn Cooper**, all by Jeryl Parade.

In Memory Of: **Jerry Miller** by Bill Levenson.

Tzedakah Fund

By: Arnold Podgorsky & Christina Larsen, Janie Macklin.

In Honor Of: **Rhoda Baruch** receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award from Brooklyn College by Madelyn Shapiro.

In Memory Of: **Ruth Bernstein** by Phillip Epstein. **Albert Jack Mellinger** by Elise Mellinger, Elliott & Eitiana Wu. **Francis Luzzatto** by Benjamin Luzzatto.

Vision of Renewal Fund

In Memory Of: **Marjorie Rosenberg** by Roger & Renée Fendrich, Steven & Ruth Kleinrock.

Yizkor/Yahrzeit Fund

In Memory Of: **Adolph A. Waxman, Devorah Waxman, Malcolm David Rivkin**, all by Goldie Rivkin. **Marion Weisberg** by Ellen Malasky. **Lewis Bolotin** by Jeffrey Bolotin. **Aron Zilberbaum** by Joseph Zilberbaum. **Dorothy Adelman, Sol Adelman, Gerry Adelman** by Robert & Adele Buckhantz. **Manuel Steinberg** by Alan & Beryl Saltman. **David M.**

Schwartz by Howard & Susan Liberman. **Morton Bachrach** by Joan Slatkin. **Anna Schreiber & Morris Schreiber** by Frances Hoffman. **Feiga Zilberbaum** by Joseph Zilberbaum. **Dr. Gerald Rose** by Hannah Aurbach. **Sally Goldberg** by Robert Goldberg.

Youth Activities Fund

In Memory Of: **Marguerite Adler** by Lilliane Litton. **Morris Weiner** by Stacy Weiner. **Ruth S. Albert** by Stanley Albert. **Sondra Merachnik** by Beth Merachnik. **Celia Malasky** by Gary Malasky. **Ethel Laby** by Miriam Vinicur.

Snow Closures

The synagogue office follows the federal government's inclement weather policies. When the federal government closes, the synagogue office closes. When the federal government opens late, the synagogue office also opens late.

When in doubt, visit adasisrael.org or call the synagogue/school for a taped message. If synagogue offices are closed due to the snow, all daytime and evening programs are cancelled. If schools are closed but building/offices are open, please call the synagogue office regarding evening programs and classes. The daily *minyan* typically meets twice daily regardless of the weather, but again, please consult the website.

Follow Us on Facebook



Visit our Adas Israel Facebook Page at facebook.com/adasisraeldc to get up-to-the-minute information in your community. Just "like" our page! Our goal is 3,000 fans by *Hanukkah*. A special prize will be drawn from our first 3,000 fans. Join in the fun! ○

Tasting Torah: The Seven Species around Today's Tables

With Rabbi Lauren
Holzblatt and Susan
Barocas

**Saturday, December
13, 1:00-2:30 pm**

"For the Lord your God is bringing you into a good land... a land of wheat and barley, of vines, figs and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey." Deuteronomy 8:7-8

Food brings people together and connects us to our families, communities, the earth and, ultimately, our own spirituality. The food of the people of Israel in ancient times centered around the "seven species," the staple agricultural products of the land mentioned in the Torah. Still today, we enjoy these foods, which are considered holy with special blessings of gratitude said before eating each of them. Join us for a discussion of the meaning then and now of some of the many texts and references in the Torah that involve food and hospitality—from the Garden of Eden to Abraham to the Exodus and beyond. Enjoy a demonstration and tasting of two "seven species" recipes created especially for this program. (Recipes will be provided.) Pre-registration strongly encouraged to ensure everyone gets their tastes.

Hesed Project Update: We Need Riders & Passengers!

The Hesed Project (whose activities currently include arranging for friendly visits to congregants who are housebound and distributing gift baskets on Purim and Rosh Hashanah) is looking to augment its services to our community by helping to arrange transportation for congregants who otherwise would have a difficult time getting to religious services or other synagogue activities. To do this, we need both drivers and passengers. We hope, over the coming months to develop a workable and reliable program, but recognize that the first few steps are the most difficult, and our first goal is to develop a list of potential participants.

If you would like to help as an occasional driver (you will never be "required" to do anything), or if you could use a lift to Adas (and don't be bashful), please let Marcy Spiro, Director of Membership Engagement, at Membership@adasisrael.org. We are counting on you to help make this program a reality.

TAKE BACK THE MIKVAH!

A Progressive Response to Recent (& Ancient) Issues in Mikvah Use

- Are you a regular **Mikvah** user who would like to process recent events involving Mikvah privacy?
- Are you curious about **Mikvah** practices in a progressive, pluralist setting?
- Have you heard about **Mikvah** & want to learn more?

Join us on **Sunday, December 7, from 2-4pm**
at the **Adas Israel Community Mikvah**

Women from ALL local Jewish communities are invited to explore ideas and practices around the mitzvah of Mikvah, process recent events, and discuss Mikvah as a tool for relationship-building.

Childcare is available at no charge. This program is free & open to women & girls ages 10+ from all backgrounds. Girls ages 10-17 are invited to participate in a special session called Bodies of Water (bodies-of-water.org), which introduces the mikvah in the context of other healthy practices, like mindful eating & Jewish Yoga.

Registration is strongly encouraged for all attendees and required for Bodies of Water and for childcare. For questions or to register, visit adasisrael.org/mikvah or contact Naomi Malka at 202.841.8776 or mikvah@adasisrael.org.



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Ezra Pantry's Annual Winter Clothing Drive to Benefit SOME (So Others Might Eat)

This year we have a twofer: The Annual Winter Coat Drive and the Boker Ohr Garment Drive.

Light the Fires for Darfur! Share the light this Hanukkah with those who need it most

For the sixth year, we are partnering with Jewish World Watch to support the 2.7 million Darfuris in refugee camps. Please make this your Hanukkah gift or gift to honor others. Your \$40 gift includes two solar cookers, two pots and potholders, a year's supply of cooking bags, and manufacturing and training jobs for refugee women and girls.

Give the gift of light from your family as we again pray for those in need in Darfur, Sudan. Donate online at www.adasisrael.org or send



donations to Adas Israel, 2850 Quebec Street, NW, Washington, DC 20008. To learn more, contact Judy Herr, jorgsh2@gmail.com. ○

Upcoming Chronicle Deadlines—
February: Wednesday, December 31; March: Thursday, January 29