

Adas Israel Congregation

# CHRONICLE

**October/Tishri-Cheshvan  
Highlights:**

*Simchat Torah* Honorees 5776 3

Full *Sukkot* Service Schedule 5

The *Sukkah*: How and Why 6

HAZAK @ AI 7

MakomDC October: Hearts Wide Open 8

*Ma Tov*: Zach Stern and Jay Sher 18

*Chag Sameach* From The Adas Israel *Sukkah*!

The *Chronicle* Is Supported in Part by the Ethel and Nat Popick Endowment Fund



## From the President

By Debby Joseph



During the month of October, we celebrate the holiday of *Sukkot*. During this important harvest holiday, it is traditional to welcome guests to our *sukkot*. This Jewish value of *Hachnasat Orchim*, was first modeled by Abraham and Sarah, who invited their unexpected angel-guests into their tent. While today we do not typically invite strangers into our homes, our synagogue is frequently filled with guests. Lately, more of our visitors are choosing to join our congregation and become part of our community. We feel considerable pride in taking care of our members. While our clergy and professional staff tend to the needs of our congregants, our members themselves spend a lot of volunteer time doing so as well.

Adas Israel's Vice President for Membership and External Affairs, Steve Rabinowitz, is the liaison to three important committees that address the needs of our synagogue community. The Membership Committee provides welcome and outreach to new members. Hesed Committee members visit congregants who are unable to leave their homes due to illness or who are in need of friendly support during difficult times. These two groups of volunteers provide immeasurable time to and interest in our new and long-term members.

continued on page 6

## clergy corner



Rabbi Aaron Alexander

*You shall live in booths seven days; all citizens in Israel shall live in booths. In order that future generations may know that I made the Israelite people live in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt... (Lev. 22:42–43)*

There is something important that you should know about me: I'm a *Sukkot* Jew. Give me one *mitzvah*, one sacred Jewish tradition to bring with me to a deserted island, and that's the one I'd choose. (I know, bringing a *sukkah* would save me having to build some other kind of shelter from scratch, but you get my point.) I'm not a typically outdoorsy person (I'll go camping... just name the hotel), but I do appreciate that for eight days each year my tradition invites me to disrupt my routine, exit my permanent shelter, and experience a tapestry of city sounds that are less regularly heard in my typical day-to-day. Why? I think because *Sukkot* is, above all, about transitions (see the verse quoted above) and the way in which we all feel sheltered from and/or vulnerable to the dynamic rhythms of living life with an open heart. The *sukkah* uniquely invites us to feel nestled in something sacred, while simultaneously remaining open to the fact that we cannot control as much as we often believe.

This year *Sukkot* has additional significance for our family as the entirety of the past few months have been *Sukkot*-like, fully transitional, asking us to think intentionally about the spaces in which we have lived and how we want to craft the space we now call home, including Adas. To that end, we want to express our deep gratitude to the entire Adas community for serving as our full-time *sukkah*—our sacred shelter that is so beautifully supporting us as we discover our new lives here. I feel personally lucky to have been chosen by this community to join you, and I look forward to years of shared learning, living, growth, joy, and service.

The Jewish calendar naturally helps us with our transitions, as we will soon leave a jam-packed fall holiday season for the month of *Cheshvan*, most famous for its lack of any holidays at all. But rather than seeing this period as a break from holy time, let's use it as an invitation to seek the sweetness of getting to know each other, dreaming together, and imagining (and re-imagining) the ways in which our partnership can grow. To that end, please don't hesitate to send me an e-mail or be in touch with Marcia Miller ([marcia.miller@adasisrael.org](mailto:marcia.miller@adasisrael.org) or 202-362-4433, ext. 112) to coordinate a time for us to sit down together.

Eleanor Roosevelt once famously quipped: "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." It's grounding and affirming to be a part of a community that lives this quote—here in the present—while using the past as our compass. 🌸

## ***Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret, and Simchat Torah***

*Sukkot* begins on the 15th day of the month of *Tishri* (*Erev Sukkot* is on Sunday evening, September 27) and continues for seven days. It is known by several names, none more descriptive than *Z'man Simchataynu*, Day of Our Rejoicing. *Hag HaSukkot*, the Feast of Tabernacles, reminds us of the huts (*sukkot*) in which our ancestors dwelt in



the desert for 40 years on their way to the Promised Land. Another name for *Sukkot*, *Hag He'asif*, the Feast of the Ingathering, stresses that this is a harvest holiday, falling at a time when crops were gathered. It is one of the three harvest festivals in the Jewish year known as the *Shalosh Regalim*, the three pilgrimage festivals (the other two are *Pesach* and *Shavuot*).

The *lulav*, a palm branch composed of three myrtle twigs and two willow branches, and the *etrog*, a large citron resembling a lemon, both symbols of the harvest season, are used in keeping with the biblical commandment (*Leviticus* 23:40), "You shall take the fruit of the pleasant trees, palm branches, thick leafy boughs, and willows of the brook, and you shall rejoice. . ." Because the *brachot* (blessings) for the *lulav* and the *etrog* are recited on six of the nine days (not *Shabbat*) of this festival period, and because these harvest symbols do so much to enhance the home, many families purchase them for home use.

Attached to *Sukkot* is an eighth day known as *Shemini Atzeret*, which is a separate *yom tov*; it is technically not part of *Sukkot*. It is punctuated by two special prayers. The first is *geshem*, the prayer for rain, in which the Jewish people pray for a sufficient rainfall in *Eretz Yisrael* to make the land fruitful and the crops plentiful. This is especially meaningful since Israel has suffered years of drought. The other prayer is *Yizkor*, the memorial prayer for those we have lost, which is also recited on *Yom Kippur*, the eighth day of *Pesach*, and the second day of *Shavuot*.

The final day of this holiday season, *Simchat Torah* (which in Israel is the same day as *Shemini Atzeret*), celebrates the Festival of Rejoicing in the Torah, at which time we give thanks for the Torah by parading the scrolls around the synagogue in a joyous ceremony known as seven *hakafot*, in which men, women, and children of all ages participate. It is on this day that we complete the annual reading of the Torah and begin again with the first words of *Bereshit* (*Genesis*).

***Simchat Torah begins this year on Monday evening, October 5.*** Celebration of *Simchat Torah* at Adas Israel begins at 6:00 pm with *Mincha*, followed by *Maariv & Hakafot* at 6:30 pm.

The celebration continues on **Tuesday morning, October 6**, at 9:15 am, at which time we will recognize our *Simchat Torah* honorees: Elinor Tattar, Susan Kay, and Rabbi Herb Schwartz. Please come to honor them and the Torah. ❁

## ***Simchat Torah Honorees 5776***

**Elinor Tattar, Susan Kay, and Rabbi Herb Schwartz**

*Simchat Torah* is one of the most joyous days of the Hebrew calendar. On this day, the annual cycle of the reading of the Torah is begun anew. Each year, several congregants who have served with unusual dedication are selected to receive special honors on *Simchat Torah*. For each of them, Adas Israel is deeply entwined with their lives and those of their families. Please join us on the morning of *Simchat Torah* on Tuesday, October 6, when we will recognize this year's worthy honorees.



### **Elinor Tattar**

Elinor came to Adas Israel in May 1978, and the congregation and its members have benefitted from her devotion, passion, and goodwill

ever since. But her relationship with the synagogue didn't begin then. Her father was a bar mitzvah at 6th & Eye; two of her cousins were past Adas president Max Goldberg (z"l) and longtime member Louis Grossberg (z"l); and Rose Ruth Freudberg (z"l), for whom our library is named, was a great aunt. In addition, her aunt, Jean Title (z"l), worked at Adas for 30 years, so synagogue loyalty runs in the family. And the family's current generations are represented as well. Elinor was an adult *bat mitzvah*; both of her daughters became *b'not mitzvah*; and both of her grandchildren celebrated their *b'nai mitzvah*, all at Adas.

Elinor has worn many hats at Adas Israel, and most especially focused on High Holy Days. Elinor and her husband, Stuart (z"l), have two daughters, Nancy Chill and Beth Tattar, and two grandchildren, Stephanie and Alex Chill.



### **Susan Kay**

Susan and her husband, Sam Frumkin, have been members of Adas for 16 years. Their children, Jonah and Isaac, have both been students in

*continued on page 19*





## Simchat Torah @ Adas

### The Biggest Torah Party of 5776!

Monday, October 5 @ 6:30 pm

Non-Instrumental Service with TEM @ 7:00 pm

**Featuring The Mayer Holmes Duo, Aaron Mayer & Ben Holmes leading us in festive song & dance!**

On *Simchat Torah*, the *Torah* scrolls wish to dance—so we become their feet! The Mayer Holmes Duo—Aaron Mayer and Ben Holmes—are a young klezmer duo who will join us in leading festive music as we dance with the *Torah*. Join the Adas Israel community for an ecstatic, musical community celebration on the most joyous holiday of our holy calendar! There will also be a joyous *Simchat Torah* service with the Traditional Egalitarian *Minyan*, without instruments, at 7:00 pm. All are welcome! ✨

## 300 High Holy Day Gift Bags Delivered!

*Yasher koach* to the *Hesed* and Membership committees, and to all those who volunteered to help deliver more than 300 High Holy Day gift bags to new and veteran members before *Rosh Hashanah*. This wonderful *mitzvah* represents the absolute best in our community, and we express our deepest gratitude to those who endeavor to make Adas Israel a warm and welcoming community for all of its members.

To get involved with these committees, please contact Marcy Spiro, [Marcy.Spiro@adasisrael.org](mailto:Marcy.Spiro@adasisrael.org) or 202-362-4433, ext. 113.

holidays@adas continued

## Jewish Life and Learning

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

### The Sukkah:

#### How and Why

For 40 years, as our ancestors traversed the Sinai desert before entering the Holy Land, miraculous "clouds of glory" surrounded and hovered over them, shielding them from the dangers and discomforts of the desert. In the words of the verse (*Leviticus* 23:42–43), "For a seven-day period you shall live in booths. Every

resident among the Israelites shall live in booths, in order that your [ensuing] generations should know that I had the children of Israel live in booths when I took them out of the land of Egypt. I am the Lord, your God."

Ever since, we remember God's kindness, and reaffirm our trust in the universe, by "dwelling" in a *sukkah* for the duration of the *Sukkot* festival, from the 15th through the 22nd of the Hebrew month of *Tishri* (in Israel, through the 21st only). A *sukkah* is essentially an outdoor hut that is covered with vegetation, known as *sechach*.

#### Where Do I Build My Sukkah?

Construct your *sukkah* outdoors, ideally in a spot that's most accessible to your residence. Popular *sukkah* locations include porches, backyards, courtyards, lawns, balconies, and rooftops—basically, any location under the open sky. An important requirement is that there should be nothing between your *sukkah* and the open sky. So make sure that there are no trees, canopies, or roofs of any sort overhanging your *sukkah*.

#### Walls of the Sukkah

A *sukkah* must have four walls. If you don't have enough material to build four full walls, you can use the wall of an already existing structure such as a house to complete one side of the *sukkah*. Any material can be used to make the walls; the only requirement with regard to material is that it is strong enough to withstand a normal gust of wind and prevent a candle from being blown out. If cloth is used for the walls, it must be tied down so that it doesn't flap in the wind.

#### Size of the Sukkah

Traditionally each wall of your *sukkah* should be at least three feet tall. As a whole, the *sukkah* should be at least 26 inches long and 26 inches wide, with room enough to accommodate a table where people can comfortably eat a meal. The walls of a *sukkah* cannot be more than 30 feet tall, because the ancient rabbis felt that if a *sukkah* was too big, people might forget the purpose of the structure and view it as a regular building instead.

#### Roof of the Sukkah

The roof of your *sukkah* should be made of natural materials that grow in the ground and have been detached from it. Examples include straw, cornstalks, tree branches, and bamboo reeds. Narrow beams of wood are also permissible as long as they are no wider than 16 inches. Whatever materials

*continued on page 6*







Sukkot / Shemini Atzeret / Simchat Torah

## Full Service Schedule

### Eve 1, Erev Sukkot, Sunday, Sept. 27

9:00 am Morning Minyan  
6:00 pm Evening Minyan

### Day 1, Monday, Sept. 28

9:15 am Combined Morning Service  
11:00am Sukkot Children's Service  
12:00pm Kiddush in the Sukkah  
6:00 pm Evening Minyan

### Day 2, Tuesday, Sept. 29

9:15am Combined Morning Service  
12:00pm Kiddush in the Sukkah  
6:00pm Evening Minyan

### Day 3, Wednesday, Sept. 30

7:15 am Morning Minyan /  
Chol HaMoed Sukkot  
6:00pm Evening Minyan  
6:30pm New Member Oneg  
in the Sukkah

### Day 4, Thursday, Oct. 1

7:15 am Morning Minyan /  
Chol HaMoed Sukkot  
12:00pm HAZAK Potluck Lunch  
in the Sukkah  
6:00pm Evening Minyan

### Day 5, Friday, Oct. 2

7:15am Morning Minyan /  
Chol HaMoed Sukkot  
12:00pm Gan Snack in the Shack  
6:00pm Traditional Lay Led Service  
Led by Kanter- Goodell Family

### Day 6, Saturday Oct. 3

9:15am Return Again Shabbat  
Service/ Tinok (Baby) Shabbat  
9:15am TEM Service  
9:30 am Havurah Service  
11:00am Tot Shabbat  
11:00am Netivot  
12:00pm Kiddush in the Sukkah  
6:00pm Mincha / Maariv Services

### Day 7, Erev Shemini Atzeret, Sunday, Oct. 4

9:00am Morning Minyan /  
Hoshana Rabba Service  
6:00pm Evening Minyan

### Day 8, Erev Simchat Torah, Monday, Oct. 5

9:15am Combined Shemini Atzeret /  
Yizkor Service  
12:00pm Kiddush in the Sukkah  
6:00pm Mincha  
6:30pm Erev Simchat Torah  
Maariv & Hakafot  
7:00pm TEM Erev Simchat Torah  
Service  
8:30pm Erev Simchat Torah Reception

### Simchat Torah, Tuesday, Oct. 6

9:15 am Combined Simchat Torah  
Service  
11:00am Simchat Torah Children's  
Service  
12:00pm Simchat Torah Kiddush  
6:00pm Evening Minyan



ADAS ISRAEL  
Congregation

## From the President

continued from page 2

I would especially like to highlight the work of our Bereavement Committee. The members of this committee stand out for engaging in *chesed shel emet* (good deeds of truth). If requested, they attend to the needs of a congregant who has died and the deceased's funeral and family. Upon notification of the passing of a congregant, a *chaver* meets with the family to assist in planning for the funeral. A second group performs *tahara*, which is the most sacred of tasks. It involves the washing and purification of the body and preparation for burial. This is done with the utmost respect and dignity for the body. A third group guards the body as *shomrim*, until the deceased is brought to the funeral. Throughout the process, the *chaver* remains attentive to the family, assisting with logistics and addressing needs as they arise.

The members of this committee, as members of all *chevrot kadisha*, are truly performing the ultimate *mitzvah*, as the deed may never be repaid by the deceased. They are also demonstrating to us the respect and value our community places on attending to death, as a regular part of our life cycle, much as we celebrate births, *b'nai mitzvah*, and weddings. While our clergy provide much support, it is our community of members who takes care of each other.

These wonderful people are looking for more volunteers to assist them in their work. If a member of your family or a friend may have benefited from these services, or if you are looking for a way to make a difference for families in their time of need, please consider joining the committee. Edie Hessel is the chair and will welcome hearing from you. The Hesed Committee's founding chair, Harriet Isack, recently stepped down and a new chair will be identified shortly. Rabbi Holtzblatt is the Rabbi liaison for the Hesed Committees. Michelle Buzgon chairs the Membership Committee for which Rabbi Steinlauf is the Rabbi liaison. Please feel free to contact them, Steve Rabinowitz, or me to learn more. ✿

## Jewish Life and Learning

continued from page 4

you choose, they should not have been treated in any way (for example, you can't paint them with a waterproofing solution). They also can't be attached to your *sukkah* with metal or leather.

When building the covering for your *sukkah*, be sure to space your materials evenly and check that there are no gaps wider than 11 and a half inches between each piece. The finished roof should provide shade from the sun but allow you to see the stars at night. Rain should be able to come through the covering as well.

### Decorating Your Sukkah

Decorating a *sukkah* is one of the most anticipated *Sukkot* activities. Children especially like to help, and at synagogues, where communal *sukkot* are usually built, children from the religious school often make decorations to hang in the *sukkah*. Examples of *sukkah* decorations include drawings, colorful paper chains, wind chimes, and streamers. Many people also like to use plastic fruit or colorful plastic leaves to decorate their *sukkot*. When possible, decorations are saved and used every year.

If you decide to try this *mitzvah*, you will probably find great joy in it. Start building as soon after *Yom Kippur* as possible. One of the good things about a *sukkah* is that you should build your own. Even if you buy the "prefab variety," you should erect it yourself. Most of us live in houses or apartments built by others, and most of us eat bread baked by professionals. Like challah-baking, *sukkah*-building gives us the chance to enjoy the fruits of our own labor. And it is a great joy to sit back in the *sukkah* with friends and family, and to reflect on the fragility of all things considered "permanent" in this world. In this natural environment, we rediscover what is truly important in life, and we ultimately surrender to a much higher calling than our earthly possessions. Our willingness to leave the security of our homes and spend eight days in a flimsy outdoor hut demonstrates our faith in God and in our traditions.

May it be a joyous season for you and your loved ones, and may you enjoy the fruits and warmth of the *sukkah* experience this holiday season. ✿

## Dedication of Kay Hall, Wasserman Hall, and Gildenhorn Foyer

HAVA MELAVA WITH  
CRAIG TAUBMAN

Saturday, November 21, 5:30 pm

Join us as we dedicate our beautiful new gathering spaces with the soulful, ecstatic sounds of celebrated musician Craig Taubman in the round in Kay Hall. A chance for the entire community to join together in song and celebration! With gratitude to the immortal contribution of beloved Adas member Jack Kay (z"l).





# HAZAK@AI

## HAZAK: Community & Connection for Ages 55+ at Adas Israel

### What is HAZAK?

HAZAK is an acronym meaning Wisdom (*Hakmah*), Maturity (*Ziknah*), and Forward (*Kadima*). We are dedicated to serving this growing segment of our community through a variety of wonderful programs that include study, prayer, entertainment, and socializing.

HAZAK is about identifying interests at this time of our lives and using our well-developed skills and talents to create programs and activities—social, educational, and spiritual—and to join and support each other and provide friendship and community. Some of the events listed below are specifically for the HAZAK community, and others are events for the larger community that we think you might be interested in.

For info about HAZAK or to get on our email list, contact Marcy Spiro at [marcy.spiro@adasisrael.org](mailto:marcy.spiro@adasisrael.org).

## HAZAK HAPPENINGS:

### HAZAK SHABBAT/ HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

**HAZAK Potluck Lunch in the Sukkah with Rabbi Steinlauf**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1 @ 12:00 NOON**

Join HAZAK in the Adas sukkah for a potluck lunch. You provide the food (cold dairy only, please) and Adas will provide the drinks and the sukkah.

**HAZAK Shabbat Service and Dinner**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13 @ 6:00 PM**

**FRIDAY, MARCH 18 @ 6:00PM**

**FRIDAY, MAY 20 @ 6:00PM**

The HAZAK Steering Committee is pleased to invite you to a very special Friday night *Shabbat* dinner for members ages 55 and older, following the congregational *Kabbalat Shabbat* services. *Shabbat* is a time to lift our mood and spirit, and that is best achieved with good friends and family. So join us as we sit down to a delicious *Shabbat* dinner together, reconnect with old friends, and meet new friends.

**Community Passover Seder**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 22**

Mark your calendars for the Adas Community Passover Seder!

### LITERARY EVENTS

#### Adas Book Chat

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 @ 10:00 AM**

*The Betrayers* by David Bezmozgis, an award-winning novel about a Soviet Jewish dissident, set in contemporary Israel and the Crimea, is the topic of discussion.

Questions? Contact Robin Jacobson, [Robin.Jacobson@adasisrael.org](mailto:Robin.Jacobson@adasisrael.org).

Adas Book Chat is the second Sunday of each month at 10 am. Register for these programs at [www.adasisrael.org/hazak-55](http://www.adasisrael.org/hazak-55).

### LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

#### Makom DC Programming

**EVERY TUESDAY EVENING AT 7:30PM AND CERTAIN SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS**

MakomDC—an innovative learning and engagement center in the beautiful Biran Beit Midrash @ Adas Israel: Monthly Thematic Programming. Innovative Speakers and Topics. Warm Community Experience for All.



*Chavruta text study in the Biran Beit Midrash*



*Kosher wine tasting*



*Backstage tour at Shakespeare Theatre Company*

### CULTURAL EVENTS

**Reel Israel DC at Avalon Theatre**

**EVERY 4TH WEDNESDAY**

Dramatic, thought-provoking films from Israel, presented in partnership with the Embassy of Israel and the Washington Jewish Film Festival. Screenings are held every 4th Wednesday. If you are interested in organizing a group to attend a screening, please e-mail Marcy.

*continued on page 9*



A religious heart is meant to be ever expansive and open to the diversity of all of God's creations. Yet, it doesn't happen without first understanding that capacity, and then cultivating the ways in which we can nurture that expansiveness. This month will offer both the Jewish framework for an open heart and techniques to actualize that vision.

In our kick-off Makom DC event, Rabbis Steinlauf, Holtzblatt, and Alexander will partner to lead us in an in-depth exploration of the core Jewish texts that help us understand what it means to live with an open heart, personally and communally.

Register online or by calling Melissa Adler, 202-362-4433, ext. 146

## Additional Ongoing Learning

### Diversity Training with Sabrina Sojourner



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20 @ 7:30 PM

In this week's session we will take the values from core Jewish texts and translate them into practical real-world and pragmatic skills.

Register online or by calling Melissa Adler, 202-362-4433, ext. 146

### Post-Kiddush Halakhah Class with Rabbi Alexander: "An Open Halakhah"



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24 @ 1:00 PM

Text-focused study diving into the intersection between Jewish law and emotion and using medieval responsa as our prism.

### God's Love Story: Exploring the Zohar with Senior Rabbi Gil Steinlauf



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25 @ 10:30 AM

An in-depth learning session, using the month's theme: "Hearts Wide Open," as a catalyst to go deeper into various critical Jewish texts and concepts.

### Religious School Parents Drop-In, Drop-Off



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25 @ 10:30 AM

Once a month Religious School parents are given a space to study the month's topic with the Adas clergy over coffee. This month is in conjunction with Senior Rabbi Gil Steinlauf's class (see above).

### Beginners' Hebrew



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18 @ 10:30 AM-12:30 PM

Give yourself the gift of learning to read Hebrew. Class is \$54 for the 6-part series. To register, contact Marcia Miller, Marcia.Miller@adasisrael.org or 202-362-4433, ext. 112.

### Boker Ohr Shabbat Study



SATURDAY MORNINGS @ 8:30 AM

Boker Ohr meets Saturday mornings in the Biran Beit Midrash with the weekly portion as its focus.

OCTOBER 3, Rabbi Holtzblatt

OCTOBER 10, Rabbi Alexander

OCTOBER 17, Rabbi Holtzblatt

OCTOBER 24, Rabbi Alexander

OCTOBER 31, Rabbi Yolkut

### Friday Parsha Study with Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt



FRIDAY MORNINGS @ 10:00 AM

Study a piece of the weekly *parsha* through the eyes of the Hasidic masters. Taste a piece of their Torah and the world from which they emerged. Among the teachers we will

study: Kedushat Levi, Netivot Shalom, Rav Soloveitchik, Noam Elimelech, and the Sefat Emet.

### Intro to Judaism Course—October Dates:

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14 @ 7:30 PM: Introductions and

Genesis Intro (*Lech Lecha*) with Rabbi Aaron Alexander

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21 @ 7:30 PM:

World of the Bible with Rabbi Herb Schwartz

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28 @ 7:30 PM:

Diversity with Rabbi Aaron Alexander

Are you interested in exploring Jewish

tradition from the ground up, with master Jewish teachers? This 20-week course will give you the raw materials with which to appreciate and access the Jewish tradition. Whatever it is you may be seeking, we offer a safe space for acquiring the experiential and intellectual knowledge that allows you to deepen your own religious life. To register, contact Marcia Miller, Marcia.Miller@adasisrael.org or 202-362-4433, ext. 112.



# The Jewish Study Center

Come learn with us! The Jewish Study Center presents classes starting October 7. For more information and to register: [www.jewishstudycenter.org](http://www.jewishstudycenter.org).

## Introduction to Islam: Culture, Religion, and Spirituality

Four Wednesdays: Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28 at 7:00 pm

**Instructor: Muhammad Abdur Rahim, Howard University**

**Oct. 7:** Intro: The World of Islam—Overview, Tenets, and Theological Arguments

**Oct. 14:** History, Islamic Philosophy, and Spirituality

**Oct. 21:** Comparative Theologies: Points of Overlap with Judaism, Christianity; Points of Divergence

**Oct. 28:** Muslim Communities and the Modern World (Modernity/Terrorism, Religious Pluralism and Identity Politics)

(Class participants may also visit the Islamic Heritage Museum of D.C. if a time can be arranged.)

Full series: Adas/JSC members \$60, others \$80; single sessions \$15/\$20.

Co-sponsored with the Jewish Community Relations Council

## Additional offerings:

**Nov. 4:** Yiddish Songwriters

*Instructor: Miriam Isaac*

**Nov. 18:** Sacred Spaces: Tales of Synagogues and Study Halls

*Instructor: Norman Shore*

**Nov. 4 & 11:** Jews of Cuba and Ecuador

*Instructor: Betty Adler*

**Nov. 18:** Panel: Where Do You Go for News You Trust About Israel? A Panel Discussion moderated by Robert Satloff

## HAZAK HAPPENINGS continued from page 7

### SPIRITED PROGRAMMING

#### Yoga Stretch

EVERY SUNDAY, 10:00 – 10:45 AM

Join us for yoga rooted in Jewish spiritual concepts. Classes will invite us to “embody” Judaism and can include explorations of poses, meditation, and chant. Dress for movement; mats provided; yoga beginners welcome!



#### Meditation

EVERY TUESDAY EVENING @ 7:30 PM

Weekly Jewish meditation sessions on Tuesday evenings at 7:30 pm, led by Rabbis Gil Steinlauf, Lauren Holtzblatt, Gilah Langner, and Ben Shalva. Sessions include silent meditation and an exploration of Jewish meditation techniques, followed by refreshments. Beginners are most welcome!

#### Morning Awakening

EVERY TUESDAY MORNING @ 9:15 AM

Come join JMCW for an uplifting 45 minutes of mindful prayer and song as we start the day together. Morning Awakening is a new take on the traditional Jewish morning service. Start your Tuesday with a dose of mindfulness, only at JMCW.

continued on page 17

## Office & School Closings

### *Shemini Atzeret*

**Monday, October 5**  
Schools/Offices Closed

### *Simchat Torah*

**Tuesday, October 6**  
Schools/Offices Closed



## Simcha Wall

The congregation is invited to mark special family occasions on our Simcha Wall, which is located near the Gewirz Beit Am. We are pleased to celebrate the most recent additions to our Simcha Wall:

In Honor of  
Morton Fungler's 85th Birthday  
June 19, 2015  
Sandy and Stanley Bobb  
Judy and Richard Cohen  
Francine and Mel Levinson

In Honor of  
The Birth of Our Grandson  
Solomon Bernard Kimmel  
June 24, 2015  
By Jean and Larry Bernard

Families marking *s'machot* on our Simcha Wall may select a 2" x 4" plaque or a 4" x 4" plaque. For additional information on the Simcha Wall, please contact Jane Baldinger, 202-362-4433, ext. 126.

# Kol HaMayim: The Voice of the Waters



## Mikvah Guide Training, Oct. 14/15

Mikvah Guides support people through profound moments of personal and spiritual transitions and facilitate a connection to the holy through Jewish ritual. They offer themselves as witnesses to both quiet moments and joyous celebrations. Mikvah Guides can attest to the beauty of Jewish tradition in addressing the sanctity of the body.

This fall, the Adas Israel Community Mikvah is looking to train a fourth cadre of volunteers. This opportunity is open to women and men of all ages, from all levels of Jewish observance. No experience is necessary. A background in social work, therapy, or health care may be useful, but anyone with the right amount of sensitivity to others can be a good guide. This is a great opportunity for learning, growth and connection.

Some occasions when your guidance might be called upon include

- Life-Cycle Events
- Infertility
- Healing
- Aging
- Conversions
- Monthly Cycles

Again, you don't have to be a *mikvah* user to become a Mikvah Guide, and no minimum time commitment is required. There will be two orientations at Adas: Wednesday, October 14, 7:00–9:00 pm or Thursday, October 15, 12 noon–2 pm. If you are interested, please come to one of these sessions (not both), and then you can continue with ongoing informal training on your own schedule.

For questions or more information, or to express interest even if you can't come on October 14 or 15, please contact Naomi Malka, 202-841-8776 or [Mikvah@adasisrael.org](mailto:Mikvah@adasisrael.org). ❀

## lifecycle

### Milestones

#### Wedding

Rabbi Steinlauf officiated at the wedding of Gabriella Oken and Kirk Wilbur on Sunday, August 2, in Costa Rica.

*We wish the newlyweds and their families a hearty mazal tov.*

### B'nai Mitzvah



#### Sydney Schwalb, October 3

Sydney, daughter of Mickie Simon and Brian Schwalb, is an eighth grader at Alice Deal Middle School. She began her Jewish education at Gan HaYeled and currently attends the Ma'alot program at the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School. Sydney looks forward to sharing her *simcha* with her older sisters, Jessica and Allison, her extended

family and friends, and the Adas community.



#### Gabriel Kanter-Goodell, October 3 (TEM)

Gabriel, son of Beth Kanter and Jeffrey Goodell, is an eighth grader at the Edmund Burke School. A Jewish Primary Day School-NC graduate, he started his formal Jewish educational journey as a Chick at Gan HaYeled. He currently participates in the Ma'alot program at the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School and spends part of his summers at

Camp Ramah in New England. For his *mitzvah* project, Gabe has been volunteering with Sunflower Bakery, which serves as a work-training program for young adults with cognitive and other developmental disabilities. He looks forward to sharing this milestone with his sister, Miriam, as well as his family, his friends, and his Traditional Egalitarian Minyan community.



#### Brandon Leach, October 3 at Mincha (Park Avenue Synagogue in New York City)

Brandon, son of Susie and Rick Leach is a seventh grader at Westland Middle School. He has run a lemonade stand since age four with proceeds going toward care packages he sends to soldiers stationed overseas. He has also been gathering signatures for a petition to mark off at least a section of the D-Day

beaches in Normandy to commemorate the sacrifice of our soldiers, and he has been working on a Peace Club for Jewish and Muslim children with the dream of bringing everyone together through play. Brandon is dedicating his *bar mitzvah* in honor of his grandfather, Dr. Harry Weinrauch, and to the memory of both his grandfather Bernard Sideman and the family that perished in the Holocaust.



#### Oren Strobel, October 10

Oren, son of Gil Strobel and Janine Goodman, began his religious education at Gan HaYeled and continued at JPDS-NC, followed by Ma'alot at the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School. He is currently an eighth grader at the Edmund Burke School. For his *mitzvah* project, Oren is volunteering with So Others Might Eat (SOME), an interfaith, community-based organization

that helps the poor and homeless in Washington DC. He is also organizing a children's book drive to benefit SOME's youth programming (and will have a box at the synagogue for those interested in donating books). Oren is looking forward to sharing his *simcha* with friends and family from across the U.S. and Israel.





### Ari Rubenstein, October 17

Ari, son of Shereen and Barton Rubenstein, is a seventh grader at The Field School. He shares his *simcha* with his siblings, Benjamin and Sabrina, his grandparents, and the rest of his extended family and friends. Ari enjoys playing keyboard in a band, musical theater, karate, and just being with friends and family. For his *mitzvah* project, he is focusing

on ways to help specific homeless adults whom he sees regularly in town.



### Yoav Susskind, October 17 (TEM)

Yoav, the son of Ilana Preuss and Hadar Susskind, is an eighth grader at Takoma Park Middle School and a graduate of the Jewish Primary Day School of the Nation's Capital. He is joined in his celebration by his sister, Ana; his grandparents Ruth and Peter Preuss and Yisroel and Nava Susskind; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins. For his *mitzvah* project,

Yoav is volunteering with After-School All-Stars, which provides athletic and academic programming for underserved middle-school children across the nation. Yoav is collecting books and sports equipment for local middle schools providing ASAS programming and volunteering his time with the organization throughout the year.



### Joseph Himmelfarb, October 24

Joseph, son of Dan Himmelfarb and Carol Cardinale, is an eighth grader at Alice Deal Middle School and a student in the Ma'alot program at the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School. He celebrates his *bar mitzvah* with his siblings, Samuel and Elizabeth, and aunts, uncles, cousins, and friends.



### Miriam Shron, October 31

Miriam, daughter of Samantha and Gregory Shron, is a seventh grader at Alice Deal Middle School. She is a graduate of the Jewish Primary Day School of the Nation's Capital, where she attended pre-kindergarten through sixth grade. She spends her summers at Camp Louise in Maryland. Miriam celebrates her *bat mitzvah* with her brother, Nathaniel;

her grandparents, Paula and John Palmisano and Sonia and Van Shron; and her great grandmother, Belle Palmisano. For her *mitzvah* project, Miriam is organizing several book drives for Reading Partners, a nonprofit that provides tutoring to elementary school students who are struggling with reading. The books collected will help to build the students' home libraries.



### Mendel Socolovsky, October 31 (TEM)

Mendel, son of Petra and Jerome Socolovsky, is an eighth-grader at Alice Deal Middle School. He shares his *simcha* with his brother, Nils; his grandmother, Mary; and family from Sweden, Israel and the U.S. He thinks with love about his grandparents Alberto, Yngve and Maj-Britt (z"l). Born in Madrid, Spain, Mendel is interested in languages and cul-

tures, and his hobbies include painting and computers. For his *mitzvah* project, Mendel is volunteering to help elderly residents of Washington, DC.

## In Memoriam

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

Miriam Duberchin, aunt of Ronald Lapping  
Dr. Howard Kantor, father of Karen Winter  
Edith Schwartz, mother of Barbara Bent  
Muriel Sirken, mother of Adrienne Sirken  
Amos Turk, father of Janet Wittes

## 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.

### Bereavement Committee

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

### 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). ❄

october2015
tishri–cheshvan5776

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>27</div> <div>EREV SUKKOT</div> <div>9:00 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>6:00 pm Erev Sukkot/Evening Minyan</div> <div>14</div> <div>Tishri</div> <div>6:39 pm</div> <div></div>	<div>28</div> <div>SUKKOT DAY 1</div> <div>9:15 am Combined Smith/TEM Sukkot Service</div> <div>D'var Torah by Rabbi Steinlauf</div> <div>11:00 am Sukkot Children's Service</div> <div>12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush in the Sukkah</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>15</div> <div>Tishri</div> <div>AFTER</div> <div>7:38 pm</div> <div></div>	<div>29</div> <div>SUKKOT DAY 2</div> <div>9:15 am Combined Smith/TEM Sukkot Service</div> <div>D'var Torah by Rabbi Alexander</div> <div>12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush in the Sukkah</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>7:36 pm Havdalah</div> <div>16</div> <div>Tishri</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>30</div> <div>CHOL HAMOED SUKKOT</div> <div>7:15 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>6:30 pm New Member Oneg</div> <div>17</div> <div>Tishri</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>1</div> <div>CHOL HAMOED SUKKOT</div> <div>7:15 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>12:00 pm HAZAK Potluck Lunch in the Sukkah</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>18</div> <div>Tishri</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>2</div> <div>CHOL HAMOED SUKKOT</div> <div>7:15 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>10:00 am Parshat Hashavua Class</div> <div>6:00 pm Traditional Lay-Led Shabbat Service (Led by the Kanter-Goodell Family)</div> <div>19</div> <div>Tishri</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div>6:31 pm</div> <div></div>	<div>3</div> <div>SHABBAT CHOL HAMOED SUKKOT</div> <div>8:30 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class</div> <div>9:15 am Shabbat Morning Return Again Service &amp; Baby Shabbat w/ Rabbi Holtzblatt; Bat Mitzvah: Sydney Schwalb</div> <div>9:15 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan with Rabbi Steinlauf; Bar Mitzvah: Gabriel Kanter-Goodell</div> <div>9:30 am Havurah Shabbat Service</div> <div>11:00 am Tot Shabbat</div> <div>11:00 am Junior Congregation</div> <div>20</div> <div>Tishri</div> <div>11:00 am Netivot</div> <div>12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush</div> <div>12:30 pm Havurah Shabbat Kiddush</div> <div>6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services</div> <div>7:31 pm Havdalah</div>
<div>4</div> <div>HOSHANA RABBA</div> <div>9:00 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>10:30 am JMCW Class–Wise Aging</div> <div>6:00 pm Mincha/Erev Shemini Atzeret</div> <div>6:30 pm Erev Shemini Atzeret Reception</div> <div>21</div> <div>Tishri</div> <div>6:28 pm</div> <div></div>	<div>5</div> <div>SHEMINI ATZERET</div> <div>9:15 am Combined Smith/TEM Service</div> <div>Yizkor at 11 am</div> <div>D'var Torah by Rabbi Alexander</div> <div>12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush</div> <div>6:00 pm Mincha</div> <div>6:30 pm Erev Simchat Torah–Ma'ariv and Hakafot</div> <div>7:00 pm Traditional Egalitarian Minyan</div> <div>Erev Simchat Torah Service</div> <div>22</div> <div>Tishri</div> <div>AFTER</div> <div>7:27 pm</div> <div></div>	<div>6</div> <div>SIMCHAT TORAH</div> <div>9:15 am Simchat Torah Service in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary</div> <div>11:00 am Simchat Torah Children's Service</div> <div>12:00 pm Simchat Torah Kiddush</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>23</div> <div>Tishri</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>7</div> <div></div> <div>7:30 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>24</div> <div>Tishri</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>8</div> <div></div> <div>7:30 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>25</div> <div>Tishri</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>9</div> <div></div> <div>7:30 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>10:00 am Parshat Hashavua Class</div> <div>5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg</div> <div>6:30 pm Return Again Service with Rabbi Holtzblatt</div> <div>7:30 pm Return Again Shabbat Dinner</div> <div>26</div> <div>Tishri</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div>6:20 pm</div> <div></div>	<div>10</div> <div>PARSHAT BERESHIT</div> <div>8:30 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class</div> <div>9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service; Bar Mitzvah: Oren Strobel; D'var Torah by Rabbi Alexander</div> <div>9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan</div> <div>11:00 am Tot Shabbat</div> <div>11:00 am Netivot</div> <div>12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush</div> <div>1:15 pm HIAS Speaker–Winnie Gacheru</div> <div>27</div> <div>Tishri</div> <div>6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services</div> <div>7:20 pm Havdalah</div>
<div>11</div> <div></div> <div>9:00 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>10:00 am Adas Book Chat</div> <div>10:00 am JMCW Yoga Stretch</div> <div>10:30 am MakomDC</div> <div>11:00 am JMCW Mindful Yoga Flow</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>28</div> <div>Tishri</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>12</div> <div></div> <div>7:30 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>29</div> <div>Tishri</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>13</div> <div>ROSH CHODESH</div> <div>7:30 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan Breakfast sponsored by the Goldstein Rosh Chodesh Minyan Breakfast Fund</div> <div>9:15 am Morning Awakening w/ Rabbi Lauren</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>7:00 pm JMCW Meditation Session</div> <div>7:30 pm MakomDC Kick-Off Event–Rabbi Steinlauf, Rabbi Holtzblatt, and Rabbi Alexander</div> <div>30</div> <div>Tishri</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>14</div> <div>ROSH CHODESH</div> <div>7:30 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan Breakfast sponsored by the Goldstein Rosh Chodesh Minyan Breakfast Fund</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>1</div> <div>Cheshvan</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>15</div> <div></div> <div>7:30 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>2</div> <div>Cheshvan</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>16</div> <div></div> <div>7:30 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>10:00 am Parshat Hashavua Class</div> <div>5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg</div> <div>5:30 pm Young Family Shabbat Service</div> <div>6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat with Hazzan Goldsmith</div> <div>3</div> <div>Cheshvan</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div>6:10 pm</div> <div></div>	<div>17</div> <div>PARSHAT NOAH</div> <div>8:30 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class</div> <div>9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service; Bar Mitzvah: Ari Rubenstein; D'var Torah by Rabbi Steinlauf</div> <div>9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan with Rabbi Holtzblatt; Bar Mitzvah: Yoav Susskind</div> <div>9:45 am Havurah Shabbat Service</div> <div>11:00 am Tot Shabbat</div> <div>11:00 am Junior Congregation</div> <div>4</div> <div>Cheshvan</div> <div>11:00 am Netivot</div> <div>12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush</div> <div>12:30 pm Havurah Shabbat Kiddush</div> <div>6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services</div> <div>7:10 pm Havdalah</div>
<div>18</div> <div></div> <div>9:00 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>10:00 am JMCW Yoga Stretch</div> <div>10:30 am MakomDC</div> <div>11:00 am JMCW Mindful Yoga Flow</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>5</div> <div>Cheshvan</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>19</div> <div></div> <div>7:30 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>6</div> <div>Cheshvan</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>20</div> <div></div> <div>7:30 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>9:15 am Morning Awakening w/ Rabbi Lauren</div> <div>10:00 am Sisterhood Taste of Tanach</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>7:00 pm JMCW Meditation Session</div> <div>7:30 pm MakomDC Diversity Training w/ Sabrina Sojourner</div> <div>7</div> <div>Cheshvan</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>21</div> <div></div> <div>7:30 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>8</div> <div>Cheshvan</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>22</div> <div></div> <div>7:30 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>9</div> <div>Cheshvan</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>23</div> <div></div> <div>7:30 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>10:00 am Parshat Hashavua Class</div> <div>5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg</div> <div>6:00 pm L'Dor VaDor for 5th grade with Rabbi Steinlauf &amp; Cantor Brown</div> <div>7:00 pm L'Dor VaDor Shabbat Dinner</div> <div>10</div> <div>Cheshvan</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div>6:00 pm</div> <div></div>	<div>24</div> <div>PARSHAT LECH LECHA</div> <div>8:30 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class</div> <div>9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service; Bar Mitzvah: Joseph Himmelfarb; D'var Torah by Rabbi Steinlauf</div> <div>9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan</div> <div>11:00 am Tot Shabbat</div> <div>11:00 am Netivot</div> <div>12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush</div> <div>11</div> <div>Cheshvan</div> <div>1:15 pm MakomDC–Halakhah Class</div> <div>6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services</div> <div>7:00 pm Havdalah</div>
<div>25</div> <div></div> <div>9:00 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>10:00 am JMCW Yoga Stretch</div> <div>10:30 am MakomDC: Heart Wide Open–Class with Rabbi Steinlauf</div> <div>11:00 am Sisterhood Opening Event</div> <div>11:00 am JMCW Mindful Yoga Flow</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>12</div> <div>Cheshvan</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>26</div> <div></div> <div>7:30 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>13</div> <div>Cheshvan</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>27</div> <div></div> <div>7:30 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>9:15 am Morning Awakening w/ Rabbi Lauren</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>7:00 pm JMCW Meditation Session</div> <div>14</div> <div>Cheshvan</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>28</div> <div></div> <div>7:30 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>15</div> <div>Cheshvan</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>29</div> <div></div> <div>7:30 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>6:00 pm Evening Minyan</div> <div>16</div> <div>Cheshvan</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>30</div> <div></div> <div>7:30 am Morning Minyan</div> <div>10:00 am Parshat Hashavua Class</div> <div>5:30 pm 30-Something Shabbat Happy Hour</div> <div>5:30 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg</div> <div>6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat with Hazzan Goldsmith</div> <div>7:00 pm 30-Something Shabbat Dinner</div> <div>17</div> <div>Cheshvan</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div>5:52 pm</div> <div></div>	<div>31</div> <div>PARSHAT VAYERA</div> <div>8:30 am Boker Ohr Parashat Hashavuah Class</div> <div>9:30 am Return Again Shabbat Morning Service with Rabbi Holtzblatt; Bat Mitzvah: Miriam Shron; D'var Torah by Rabbi Alexander</div> <div>9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan with Rabbi Steinlauf; Bar Mitzvah: Mendel Socolovsky</div> <div>9:45 am Havurah Shabbat Service</div> <div>18</div> <div>Cheshvan</div> <div>11:00 am Tot Shabbat</div> <div>11:00 am Junior Congregation</div> <div>11:00 am Netivot</div> <div>12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush</div> <div>12:30 pm Havurah Shabbat Kiddush</div> <div>6:00 pm Shabbat Mincha/Maariv Services</div> <div>6:52 pm Havdalah</div> <div>TIME CHANGE “FALL BACK”</div>

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. ‘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 (lbrarian@adasisrael.org).



## October 2015 Religious School & Youth Calendar

- 3:** Tot Shabbat, Junior Congregation, Netivot  
**10:** Tot Shabbat, Parsha Shiur, Netivot, Parshat HaShavua, USY Havdalah and Laser Tag  
**11:** First Day of Religious School, Kadima Pizza Party  
**13:** First Day of Tuesday Religious School, First Day of Ma'alot  
**14:** First Day of Wednesday Religious School  
**17:** Tot Shabbat, Junior Congregation, Netivot, Parshat HaShavua  
**20:** First Day of Torah Club  
**23:** 5th-grade L'DorVaDor  
**24:** Tot Shabbat, Parsha Shiur, Netivot, Parshat HaShavua  
**25:** Machar Maccabiah  
**27:** First Israel Trip Meeting  
**31:** Tot Shabbat, Junior Congregation, Netivot, Parshat HaShavua

## 2015 Community CPR Program Held

On September 8, the Men's Club sponsored its 39th Community CPR Program. The instructor—under the leadership of program director Steven Miller—was Jeremy Gruber, Rescue One. Fourteen men and women attended the class, including Mark Lerner, Steve Miller, Ruth Ernst, Vicki Perper, Judith Hellerstein, Justin Swain, Janet Scribner, Ada Leach, Ron Schlesinger, Rise Schlesinger, Halley Miller, Karen Yairi, Kit Turen, and Ron Schwartz.

The Men's Club is grateful to the following individuals for their help in planning, setting up, or running the program: David Polonsky, Melissa Adler, Gail Mattison, Marcy Spiro, Charles Mallory, Bradley Anderson, Phil Thomas, Calvin Casey, Steve Claar, Marc Holderman, Geno Nichols, Michael Freeman, and to Sandy Mendelson, Wendy Miller, and David Polonsky for the Adas Israel Men's Club CPR Certification Cards. Special thanks go to Steven Miller for directing the program for the 39th consecutive year. 🌸

## educationupdate

### Gan HaYeled

#### A New Year at Gan HaYeled



The Gan is starting off the new school year at full speed. We're up to four 12-month classes, along with our thriving traditional school-year program. Assistant teacher Daniel continues to explore STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) in our STEAM studio, and Val and Robyn are



back providing ongoing creative movement and music enrichment for Gan students.

As the Gan incorporates into practice the latest research on early childhood learning and education, families and staff are engaged in learning along with the children. This year two important studies confirmed the importance of social-emotional development in academic and life success. At the Gan, our children develop these important life skills as they are supported across developmental domains. The deepest learning for children occurs when it happens in conjunction with observant, questioning adults. What may seem like

simple fun and games to your child are in fact techniques to encourage cognitive, social/emotional, and physical skills. The Gan is at the forefront of this and other best practices. **We encourage you to ask questions about our process** and get involved; the answers may surprise you!

Please remember, the Gan welcomes the entire Adas community at all of our school and community events. Coming up this fall are: Life After the Gan (post-preschool opportunities for children in the Metro area, Oct. 23), monthly family Shabbat dinners (first one is Oct. 16), and Shabbat Sing (Friday, 11:20–11:40 am). If you're new to the community, please join us ... and introduce yourself! 🌸

## Religious School

### From the Director of Education

By Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum



As I think about what it means to be in my second year here, I continue to be struck by all of the ways in which I feel so warmly enveloped and settled in this community and the ways in which I remember that I am still "new." One of those reminders that I have not quite acclimated to DC is the subtle change of season from the end of summer to the crisp newness of fall.

In New England, fall is in full swing by the end of September—school has

Education Update continued on page 15

## educationupdate continued

begun, scarves are out, and there is the foreboding reminder that winter is right around the corner.

But here I find the transition from one season to the next to be much more gentle, and it makes me realize that my transitions here, to this city, to this community, to this job have all actually felt incredibly gentle. It is an amazing reminder for me and my family that this opportunity to be here and serve this community is so *bashert* (meant to be) and also makes me think about how we can help to hold our students, parents, families, and community members in ways that help ease the transitions they encounter—not just through the beginning of the school year, but through the rhythm of the whole year and the unexpectedness of life.

As we continue the work of building strong educational programs, we also want to give attention to the fact that we are building community and relationships as well—a place where we can live out the ups and downs of family life, a place where we can laugh together and cry together, celebrate and mourn. While we are committed to being excellent educators, we are equally committed to creating community and being there for one another as we move through our days. As Joni Mitchell reminds us, “the seasons they go round and round . . .” We look forward to being part of your lives this year and beyond and wish everyone the most gentle of transitions as the seasons go ‘round. ✿



### Youth Update

By Rich Dinetz, Youth Director  
Shalom, Chevre!



As we embark on our journeys into the new year, Youth@AI is excited to offer full-year programming for youth and teens from grades K through 12. Try something new this year, and make new friends in a variety of events planned for *Machar* (grades K–5), *Kadima* (grades 6–8),

and AIUSY (grades 9–12). Here’s a glimpse of what’s going on this month:

**USY:** Saturday, October 10: Laser Tag

**Kadima:** Sunday, October 11: AIKadima Kick-Off Pizza Party

Friday, October 16–Sunday, October 18: Fall *Kadima Kallah* (off-site)

**Machar:** October 25: *Machar Maccabiah*

Additionally, with Religious School starting on October 11, we welcome back our *madrichim*, our 8th–12th graders who work at Adas in various capacities through an array of programs. We’re excited to get underway and show our community what we can do!

We hope you’ll join us during this exciting and busy year. For more information on what will be going on in Youth@AI throughout the year,

Youth Update continued in right column



### Youth Update continued from left column

please visit our website, [www.adasisrael.org/youth](http://www.adasisrael.org/youth), or contact Rich Dinetz, Youth Director, at [Rich.Dinetz@adasisrael.org](mailto:Rich.Dinetz@adasisrael.org) or 202-362-6295 to join our bi-weekly e-newsletter. ✿

### A New Chapter, A New Year

The *Mishnah* mentions four Jewish new years in our annual calendar: *Rosh Hashanah*, *Tu B'Shevat*, the first of *Nisan*, and the first of *Elul*. But there’s another holiday marking a new beginning that is worth noting: *Simchat Torah*. *Simchat Torah* marks the culmination of the annual cycle of Torah reading and the beginning of the new cycle. We conclude *Sefer Devarim* (*Deuteronomy*) and immediately commence *Sefer Bereshit* (*Genesis*), all the while singing and dancing around the Torah. What an incredible holiday of renewal! This year, *Simchat Torah* takes on a new meaning for our Religious School as we begin the school year right after the holiday, having just read *Parshat Bereshit* the day before our classrooms come to life. As we renew our relationship with Torah on *Simchat Torah*, we hope to renew our passion for learning at Religious School with joy as we continue moving from strength to strength.

Chazak, Chazak, V’nitchazek! Yoni Buckman ✿

### ATTENTION PARENTS OF COLLEGE STUDENTS:

We miss our high school grads! After years of growing up here at Adas through the Gan, Religious School, Youth@AI, or *b’nai mitzvah*, your “young adults” have made an impact on our community, and we’re just not ready to say goodbye. We’d love to reach out to your college students a few times throughout the year to help them celebrate holidays, keep them informed about some of the great stuff going on here at Adas, and just stay in touch. Please send us your child’s college mailing address and current e-mail address to Rich. [Dinetz@adasisrael.org](mailto:Dinetz@adasisrael.org). ✿



## Ruth & Simon Albert Sisterhood Gift Shop

Our jewelry blowout  
sale continues  
through October.



And it's not too early to think about *Hanukkah*.  
Come in and see our selection  
of beautiful *menorot*,  
*Hanukkah* candles, gifts, and children's  
books and toys.



### Gift Shop Hours:

Sunday–Monday, Wednesday–Friday  
9:30 am–12:30 pm

Tuesday, Special Extended Hours  
9:30 am–3:00 pm, 6:00–8:00 pm

*Every purchase benefits Adas Israel Congregation.*

202-364-2888

adasgiftshop@gmail.com

## sisterhoodnews

### Sisterhood Opening Event October 25

What happens when 21st-century clergy meet 21st-century women of Adas Israel Sisterhood? A very memorable Sisterhood-style event!

This year's kick-off will be Sunday, October 25, 11:30 am–1:30 pm, when we will host the newest clergy members of the Adas Israel community: Rabbi Aaron Alexander, joined by his wife Rabbi Penina Alexander, and our new Ritual Director, Hazzan Rachel Goldsmith.

Join us for a little study, a little song and a little 'drash, accompanied by delicious refreshments.

If you are a paid-up member for 2015–2016, there is no charge. Otherwise, the *couvert* is \$5. RSVP to Carol Ansell, Carol. Ansell@adasisrael.org or 202-362-4433.



Rabbis Aaron and Penina Alexander



Hazzan Rachel Goldsmith,  
Ritual Director

### It's Not Too Late to Join or Renew Your Sisterhood Membership

A few weeks ago, we completed a mailing to all women in the congregation, inviting them to join or renew their memberships for 5776. It's not too late to become involved or just to find out more about this organization that provides opportunities to learn, deepen spirituality and personal Jewish growth, do *mitzvot*, and network.

Adas Israel Sisterhood embraces women of all ages and stages of life. There is something of interest for everyone in small-group settings or in larger-scale gatherings. We welcome all new Adas members with a complimentary, one-year membership.

Go to <http://adasisrael.org/sisterhood/> or send a check, payable to Adas Israel Sisterhood, to Sisterhood Treasurer Dava Berkman, 2475 Virginia Ave., NW, Apt. 803, Washington, DC 20037. No note necessary!

Basic Membership = \$36; Contributor = \$54; Patron = \$72; New Adas Member Welcome Membership = Complimentary; Other = \$\_\_\_\_. For more details, call June Kress, Membership Chair, 202-316-3439.

### Torah Fund Campaign for 5776 has begun

The membership mailing included particulars about the Torah Fund Campaign, which is vital to the future of Conservative Judaism. Included was an envelope you can use to send in your donation. To reach our goal of \$12,000, it is critical that everyone reading this message contribute at least \$18.



New Torah Fund pin  
for 5776

Those donating \$36 or more will be invited to a Women's League luncheon for donors early next year, and those donating \$180 or more will receive the beautiful pin pictured here by way of acknowledgment.

Give what you can. Can't find the envelope? Send your donation with a note to Sisterhood Torah Fund Chair, Adas Israel Congregation, 2850 Quebec St NW, Washington, DC 20008.

continued on page 17

## SAVE THESE DATES Sisterhood Special Events

**October 25:** Opening Event with Rabbi Aaron Alexander and his wife, Rabbi Penina Alexander; and Ritual Director Hazzan Rachel Goldsmith

**November 8:** Seaboard Region Education Day at Kol Shalom in Rockville. For details, contact Myra Promisel, 202-265-0196.

**February 26–27:** Sisterhood *Shabbat* with Scholar-in-Residence Naomi Less

**June 26:** Sisterhood Closing Event

## Upcoming Events and Information

### Sisterhood Co-Sponsors First Book Chat of the New Year

The first Book Chat of this year, Sunday, October 11, at 10:00 am, will feature a discussion of *The Betrayers* by David Bezmozgis, winner of the 2014 National Jewish Book Award for Fiction. In this remarkable book, an Israeli government minister flees blackmail by escaping to the Crimea, where he confronts his past as a Soviet Jewish dissident. Please contact Robin Jacobson, [librarian@adasisrael.org](mailto:librarian@adasisrael.org), for more information about this program.

### Taste of Tanach

We meet once a month for Taste of *Tanach* with Rabbi Steinlauf, who leads the group in a lively Torah-based discussion. The meetings take place on Tuesdays at 10:00 am:

2015: October 20, November 17, December 15; 2016: January 19, February 16, March 15, April 19, May 17, and June 21.

For more information about the Taste of *Tanach*, contact Coordinator Roselle Abramson at [rosellelabramson@yahoo.com](mailto:rosellelabramson@yahoo.com). ☀

## Appreciation for Our High Holy Day Ushers

If you enjoyed High Holy Day services more this year, it just might be partially attributed to the fact that we had more ushers than ever before. For the first time, we had usher coverage in all of the various High Holy Day services.

Thanks go especially to Mark Berlin, High Holy Day Usher Coordinator, and to Marcy Spiro for her exemplary staff help. And, of course, deep thanks and appreciation go to each of our ushers, many of whom have ushered for the first time: Andrew Ackerman, Betty Adler, Irwin Ansher, Susan Barocas, Dava Berkman, Ira Berkower, Justin Berlin, Mark Berlin, Ben Buring, Rick Cantor, Leah Chanin, Leonard Chanin, Jennifer Chemel, Carmel Chiswick, Sheldon Cohen, Stan Cohen, Edith Couturier, Steven Davidson, Roz Doggett, Miriam Edelman, Mike Fingerhut, Ellen Fink, Alan Friedman, Sarah Frumkin, Elizabeth Glidden, Leah Hadad, Jack Herman, Art Hessel, Debby Joseph, David Kempler, Lisa Kleine, David Kline, David Lynn, Brian Madden, Steve Miller, Laura Milstein, Jodi Ochstein, David Olson, Edna Povich, Larry Povich, Jonah Richmond, Janice Rosen, Mark Rosenberg, Lauren Rubenstein, Ron Schlesinger, Janet Scribner, Steve Shapiro, Suzy Shapiro, Rennie Sherman, Margie Siegel, Nancy Silverman, Elizabeth Sloan, Judy Strauch, Justin Swain, Stephen Swern, Stef Tucker, Anita Wellen, James Whitman, Nicholas Whitman, Robert Yerman, and Razi Yitzchak.



## SAVE THE DATE Sunday, December 13 Adas Israel goes to *Oliver!* at Arena Stage

Charles Dickens's unforgettable characters come to life in this classic Tony Award-winning musical about an innocent orphan thrown into the dark world of double-dealing thieves and conmen of 19th-century London. Bursting with jubilant songs, including "You've Got to Pick a Pocket or Two," "Consider Yourself," "Where is Love?" and the scrumptious "Food, Glorious Food," director Molly Smith (*Fiddler on the Roof*, *Oklahoma!*) will serve up a musical feast for the eyes and ears that will have every theater-lover calling out for more! Contact Marcy Spiro at [Marcy.Spiro@adasisrael.org](mailto:Marcy.Spiro@adasisrael.org) for more information.

## Interfaith Couples and Young Families' Breakfast Meet & Greet Sunday, Oct. 25 9:30 am



Join us for bagels, coffee, and conversation on Sunday, October 25, 9:30–10:30 am in Funger Hall. We welcome interfaith couples and young families whether you're members of the congregation or not, have your children in the Gan HaYeled preschool at Adas Israel, or are simply interested in learning more about being part of the Adas community. You'll have a chance to meet other couples and families and learn more about the newly launched organization, InterfaithFamily/DC.

Taking part in the event are Rabbi Aaron Alexander; Rabbi Sarah Tasman, Director of InterFaithFamily/DC; and Dr. Marion Usher, creator of Love and Religion workshops and an Adas member.



# Ma Tovv: Zach Stern and Jay Sher

## HONORING OUR LEADERS AND VOLUNTEERS

Interviewed by Marcy Spiro, Director of Membership Engagement



Zach Stern



Jay Sher

**The two of you are co-chairs of the Young Professional committee at Adas Israel. How long have you been involved in YP@AI, why did you want to have a leadership role, and why do you think it's important for Adas and congregations all over to reach out to young professionals?**

**Zach:** I first became involved with YP@AI during my first stint in DC sometime around 2008–09. When I moved back I knew that I would find a home at Adas, and that YP@AI would be my vehicle for that. I took on a leadership role because it is important to take responsibility for one's community. Last, it's important for Adas and congregations all over to reach out to young professionals because YPs are the future of the Jewish community.

**Jay:** I have been involved with YP@AI for about two years now. I really enjoy taking a leadership role to ensure that quality programming continues and that we have a strong foundation to grow and offer new opportunities to expand and strengthen our community at Adas. Reaching out to the young professionals is important to provide them with a community as many of them move to a new city where they have limited networks. Additionally, it is important to build the foundation of a lasting connection with Adas and the broader Washington, DC, Jewish community early on, so that it can flourish for many years to come.

**Typical happy hour questions: Where are you from, how did you end up in DC, how long have you lived here, and what do you do?**

**Zach:** It depends what you mean by "where are you from," but my usual response is Manhattan. I wound up in DC my first time for law school, and the current residence is for a job I had hoped would come through for years! The first time I was here for about three and a half years, and I've been back for just over two years now. I am a Rubik's cube-solving, SCUBA diving, rock climbing, government lawyer.

**Jay:** I am originally from Plano, TX, outside of Dallas. I moved

to DC to go to GW for undergrad and graduate school and have now been here for eight years. I'm with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, when I work on regulating electricity markets.

**What are your favorite Jewish holidays? Are there any family traditions you miss now that you don't live at home?**

**Zach:** My favorite holidays are *Pesach* and *Yom Kippur*. I try to go home for most *chaggim*, but mostly I just miss family time.

**Jay:** My favorite Jewish holiday is probably Passover, even with having to deal with *matzah* for eight days. My mom's *haroset* is one of my favorite foods every year; I even had her send me some on dry ice one year in college. I really miss second-night *seder* at my friend William's house—we've been friends since fourth grade.

**For those who aren't familiar with YP@AI, can you tell them a bit about what we do: what events we hold, whom we reach out to, how many people participate, how they can find out more information?**

**Zach & Jay:** YP@AI is Adas's entry point for Jews in their 20s and 30s and provides opportunities for them to come together and engage with their peers in Jewish and non-Jewish programming. The goal of YP@AI is to create a stronger and more cohesive Jewish community. Our signature event is Shir Delight, a happy hour followed by services and *Shabbat* dinner, which draws crowds once a month of 200–300 young professionals. We also organize Saturday evening social events starting with *havdala*, outdoor activities, social action projects, and social events surrounding the holidays. For more information, look at the YP@AI website or Facebook page, sign up for the weekly newsletter for upcoming events, or reach out to one of us or Marcy Spiro.

**When you're not working or attending/organizing Jewish events, how do you spend your time in DC?**

**Zach:** Rubik's cube solving, SCUBA diving, rock climbing.

**Jay:** I love walking around and exploring the city. I spend a lot of time hiking trails in Rock Creek Park and wandering around the various neighborhoods across DC. I also enjoy trying the new restaurants that are constantly opening around the city.

**Pretend that money and logistics aren't an issue. What is the ultimate YP@AI event you wish we would host?**

**Zach:** Wow! Two options: free Shir Delight with dinner every week or a *shabbaton* in New York complete with *shul*-hopping and cultural activities.

**Jay:** I would want to provide the funding for every young professional Jew in our community to be able to host a group *Shabbat* one weekend. Everyone would get an opportunity for an intimate *Shabbat* experience to remind them of home or college, or provide them a completely new experience. ✨

## Choosing Life: Two Wartime Novels

By Robin Jacobson, Library & Literary Director

Before he died, Moses famously exhorted the Israelites, “Choose life—if you and your offspring would live.” But what does it mean to “choose life” or to make life-affirming choices? Beyond the Jewish sources, two celebrated, secular novels—*All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr and *Life After Life* by Kate Atkinson—have interesting things to say about “choosing life.” And why not look at a mainstream novel through a Jewish lens?

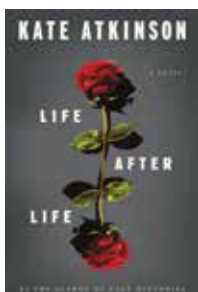


### *All the Light We Cannot See*

*All the Light We Cannot See* (winner of this year’s Pulitzer Prize for Fiction) is a dark fairy tale of two innocent children caught up in the upheaval of World War II. Doerr presents the children’s stories separately, although they eventually converge. In one story, Marie-Laure, a young blind girl, lives with her widowed father, Daniel, in Paris. Daniel is a gifted craftsman, the master locksmith for the Museum of Natural History. A devoted father who

wants his disabled daughter to be independent (i.e., he “chooses life” for her), Daniel builds for Marie-Laure a miniature scale model of Paris so she can learn her way around the city. When war erupts, Daniel and Marie-Laure flee to the home of Uncle Etienne in the beautiful walled city of Saint-Malo on the Brittany coast. Etienne is a recluse, a shell-shocked World War I veteran who avoids people, the outdoors, and danger. Nonetheless, in a “choose life” moment, his housekeeper shames him into joining the Resistance. She asks, “Don’t you want to be alive before you die?”

The second story in *All the Light* concerns Werner, a young German orphan with a precocious talent for electronics. Werner is fearful of his future; when he turns 15, his orphanage will send him to work in the same coal mines where his father died. Werner’s skill in fixing radios saves him from this fate, and an impressed German officer recommends him to an elite Nazi school. Yet Werner’s relief at escaping the mines is soon tempered by his growing distaste for the Nazis. At school, and later as a soldier responsible for tracking down Resistance radio operators, Werner witnesses horrible human abuse. He begins to question his role in the Nazi machine. Werner “chose life” by opting for the Nazis over the mines, but was it a moral life that he chose?



### *Life After Life*

The ingenious *Life After Life* (winner of the prestigious UK Costa Novel Award) opens with the protagonist, Ursula Todd, shooting Hitler in a Munich café in 1930. Author Kate Atkinson then switches to a scene of Ursula’s birth in England in 1910. Sadly, the baby girl dies instantly. But wait, if Ursula dies at birth, how can she grow up to shoot Hitler? A few pages later, we read another version of Ursula’s birth story in which the doctor arrives in time to save her. But

then, a few years later, Ursula drowns during a family beach vacation. In yet another version, an artist spots Ursula flailing in the water and rescues her.

As the novel continues through two world wars, there are more forks in Ursula’s road; some paths lead to death and others to life. Ursula retains a vague memory of her alternate lives and gropes for the course of action that will “choose life” for her or her loved ones. Nonetheless, some circumstances are outside her control—a humbling reminder that we can’t fully direct our destiny, even with good choices. ❀

## Fall Literary Events @ Adas

**Sunday, Oct. 11, 10 am:** *The Betrayers* by David Bezmozgis; first Book Chat of the new year!

**Sunday, Nov. 8, 10 am:** “One Nation Taken Out of Another”; Yiddish music & poetry with Cantor Ariane Brown and poet Zackary Sholem Berger

**Sunday, Nov. 22, 10 am:** *Zahav: A World of Israeli Cooking*; Joan Nathan interviews chef Michael Solomonov & Steven Cook on their new book

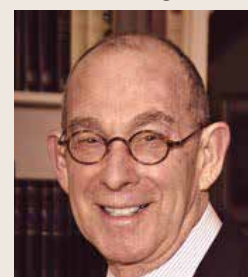
**Saturday, Dec. 5, 1 pm:** *Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis* by Robert Putnam; discussion led by Rabbi Alexander & Social Action Committee.

**Sunday, Dec. 13, 10 am:** Book Chat (book TBD at Oct. 11 event)

## Simchat Torah Honorees

continued from page 3

the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School since kindergarten. Susan has been an active lay leader in the Adas Israel community and continues to be an incredible advocate for Jewish education. Under her aegis as chair of the Religious School Committee for many years, the school has continued to grow and thrive. Her commitment to Adas Israel, her active participation in our *Shabbat* community, and her understanding of the importance of a welcoming community have made her an asset to Adas Israel and the greater Jewish community.



### Rabbi Herb Schwartz

Rabbi Herb Schwartz and his wife, Sharon, have been members of Adas since 2008. Rabbi Schwartz could be found

during the spring months co-leading *Shabbat* services with clergy, teaching Saturday morning Torah, teaching in the conversion courses, leading *Shabbat Mincha*, serving as a rabbinic presence in the office at least two or three days a week, leading funerals and *shiva minyanim*, conducting hospital visits, assisting with daily *minyanim*, and much more! We are very grateful that he agreed this past spring to come on board in an interim capacity to assist the clergy and community in meeting a wide range of rabbinic duties. ❀





## 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!

## Anne Frank House Update



### ANNE FRANK HOUSE

From Anne Frank House to the entire Adas Israel family, best wishes for a sweet and healthy new year. Our residents are doing well, and we hope to acquire a new resident in the year ahead.

We appreciate the support of many Adas members, which enables us to do our important work. Our annual Walk to End Homelessness, which will take place Sunday, November 1 (more information on page 23), at Adas Israel, is one of the ways we raise funds for Anne Frank House and build awareness of the need to help homeless people with mental illness in our community. Again this year, we are inviting the entire community to participate in the walk.

If you or your company or organization would like to be a walk corporate sponsor, let us know. Your corporate logo will be proudly displayed on the walk T-shirts. ✿



## tikkunolam

## SAVE THE DATE

### Discussion on Saturday, December 5

Rabbi Alexander and the Social Action Council (co-sponsored with the Rose Ruth Freudberg Memorial Sisterhood Library) invite you to engage in a discussion of the book, *Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis* by Robert D. Putnam. Through stories and research, Putnam explores current social issues and the gap between the lives of rich and poor kids. He portrays a disturbing picture of low-income children in America and challenges the American Dream that anyone who works hard will get a good education and will succeed in life. Look for more information in the coming months.

At its August meeting, the Social Action Council welcomed Rabbi Aaron Alexander and thanked Joel Fischman for his dedicated leadership over the past nine years at its meeting. Those present told personal stories of how they got involved in their project activities. Rabbi Alexander told us of his passion for *tikkun olam*. While in Los Angeles, he was a board member for Women Against Gun Violence and a member of the clergy caucus for LA-VOICE Pico, a local faith-based organizing network. His community organizing efforts included working for the passage of Prop 47, the Reduced Penalties for Some Crimes Initiative, which was on the November 4, 2014, ballot in California. He plans to watch, listen, learn, and participate in the council's work. So far, he sees a clear narrative for social action in housing, homelessness and poverty. ✿

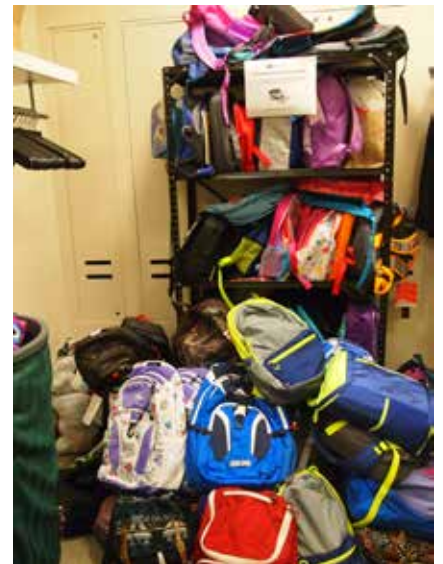
## Adas Israel's Pop-Up Summer Project— Fill a Backpack, Fuel a Dream.

### 93 Filled Backpacks for Schoolchildren in Shelters

Another new activity for Adas Israel: a summer pop-up project to "fuel a dream" for school-age children living in shelters. In late July, Adas Israel responded to a call to congregations from the District of Columbia's "One Congregation, One Family" (OCOF) office. Could we help prepare homeless children for the coming school year by filling backpacks with pencils, pens, crayons, notebooks, rulers, and other supplies? Yes we could. In two weeks, Adas Israel families purchased, filled, and donated 93 backpacks!

Adas volunteers and staff immediately got the word out to e-mail groups, through listservs, and on social media. The response was quick and generous. Some members, on vacation at the time, ordered backpacks and their contents online and had them sent to Adas. Sonya Crudup, OCOF coordinator, wrote: "Please share our heartfelt thanks with the Adas Israel family and your partners for the backpacks and school supplies they donated to the 'Fuel a Dream Fill a Backpack' drive. We are deeply touched by the outpouring of support."

And 93 more kids in shelters can walk into class on the first day of school with pride, ready to learn. ✿





We've had another wonderful and engaging spring and summer and are looking forward to a fun-filled YP@AI fall and winter!

In May we had our last Shir Delight of the season, with all of us packed into the Gan space for an intimate dinner. We benefited from good weather and good company to have another fun Jazz, Jews, and Booze event. Our hike through Rock Creek Park introduced many of us to new parts of the urban wilderness. We cooled off from the heat with some kayaking and paddle boarding at the Georgetown Waterfront. We also enjoyed some comedy with a serious twist with Second City's traveling company at the Woolly Mammoth Theater Company, and, finally, we held our first ever outdoor *Kabbalat Shabbat* service at Meridian Hill Park with over 100 attendees.



As we move into the High Holy Days, we have put together a fall/winter calendar that includes the start of our new YP@AI *Mitzvah* of the Month project helping with the *Rosh Hashanah* Bag Project, YP@AI Break the Fast, the 30-Something *Shabbat* Dinner, a hike in Rock Creek Park, and *Havdalah* and Zoolights at the National Zoo. For more information about any of these events or to get more involved with YP@AI, check out [www.adasisrael.org/yp](http://www.adasisrael.org/yp) or e-mail Marcy Spiro at [marcy.spiro@adasisrael.org](mailto:marcy.spiro@adasisrael.org). 🌸

## Upcoming YP@AI Events

**Sunday, Oct. 4:** YP@AI Fall Hike

**Friday, Oct. 30:** 30-Something *Shabbat* Dinner

**Friday, Nov. 6:** Shir Delight

**Saturday, Nov. 7:** *Havdalah* & a Movie

**Sunday, Nov. 22:** YP@AI *Mitzvah* of the Month: Everything But the Turkey

**Friday, Dec. 4:** Shir Delight

**Wednesday, Dec. 9:** YP@AI Wine and *Latke Hanukkah* Party

**Saturday, Dec. 19:** *Havdalah* & Zoolights

**Friday, Dec. 25:** YP@AI *Mitzvah* of the Month: DCJCC D25 Day of Service



## The Best Maintenance Team on Planet Earth

With the close of the Kay Hall renovation, followed up immediately by the daunting operational demands of the High Holy Days, we would like to express, with utmost gratitude, our sincere and heartfelt "thank yous" to Bradley Anderson, Steve Claar, Calvin Casey, Charles Mallory, Phillip Thomas, Marc Holderman, Mike Freeman, and Geno Nicholls for all of their incredible work serving the Adas Israel Community.

Through the countless trials arising from our Kay Hall renovation, the impressively busy programming calendar at Adas Israel, and the formidable task of preparing brand-new spaces for 5,000 High Holy Day visitors, this team has proven time and again that they simply **are** Adas Israel. Without their commitment, dedication, hard work, and support, Adas Israel just wouldn't **go**.

Every time a chair is set up in one of our worship experiences, every time the tables are dressed and prepared for one of our community dinners, every time the lights are turned on at Adas Israel—it's because one or more members of this incredible team has invested the time, energy, and impressive physical labor required to make our worship and gathering experiences a reality.

It's easy to take it for granted when things run smoothly at a synagogue, but without these precious members of the Adas Israel family, we'd have a hard time calling this place home. *Yasher koach* and thank you, guys. We simply could not do this without you—and we are eternally grateful. 🌸



# synagoguecontributions

The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

## Adas Fund

*In Honor Of:* Birth of **Solomon Bernard**

**Kimmel** by Robin Jacobson **Mary & Arnie Hammer's** 50th anniversary, **Ricki Gerger** by Robyn Helzner.

*In Memory Of:* **David Schwartz** by Robin Jacobson.

## Beit Midrash/Makom DC

*In Honor Of:* Birth of **Ada Sarah Trepel-Strauss** by Bruce Ray & April Rubin. **Marshall H. Cohen's** new book by the Prosky/Snyder family.

## Benjamin James Cecil Special Education Fund

*In Memory Of:* **Benjamin E. Friedman** by Judith Friedman.

## Bereavement Fund

*By:* Elliot Wolff.

*In Memory Of:* **David Schwartz** by Diane Abelman Wattenberg, Lee Levine & Shelley Block, Marie & Bob Wolf, Marvin Szymkowicz & Diana Savit, Rabbi Jan Caryl Kaufman.

## Beverly Bernstein Adult Bat Mitzvah Fund

*In Memory Of:* **David Schwartz** by Lois Levitan.

## Cantor Brown Discretionary Fund

*With Great Appreciation For:* **Cantor Brown's** participation in Sandra Alpert's memorial service by Dr. Clement Alpert.

*In Memory Of:* **Annette Levin Sherman** by Rennie Sherman & William Willis.

## Cantor Max Wohlberg Memorial Fund

*In Honor Of:* **Joel Fischman's** special birthday by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

## Cantor Saltzman Youth Music Endowment Fund

*In Memory Of:* **Pearl Cohen** by Sheldon S. Cohen.

## Congregational Kiddush Fund

*In Honor Of:* **Sonia Isabelle Gertsen's** naming by Alexander & Ellen Gertsen. Our upcoming wedding celebration by Drs. Deborah Hall & Alexis Light. **Susan Abravanel's** recovery & *Birkat HaGomel* by Mr. & Mrs. Allan Abravanel.

## Daily Minyan Fund

*In Honor Of:* **Arnie Podgorsky & Christie Larsen** becoming grandparents by Stuart & Jamie Butler.

*In Loving Memory Of:* **Fay G. Stern** by Alvin Stern.

*In Memory Of:* **Lila Rudnick** by Bill Levenson, Stuart & Jamie Butler. **Miriam Duberchin** by Bill Levenson, Sheri Brown. **Amos Turk** by Bill Levenson. **Lila Ment Rudnick** by Neal & Ava Gross.

## Dan Kaufman Children's Program Fund

*In Memory Of:* **Minnie Kaufman** by Minna Kaufman.

## Estelle Gelman Endowment Fund

*In Memory Of:* **David Schwartz** by Jeffrey & Judy Wohlberg.

## Esther Saks Abelman Yiddish Cultural Fund

*In Memory Of:* **Norman Abelman** by Diane Abelman Wattenberg, Jackie Abelman Cohen, Edward Cohen & Steven Abelman.

## Fund for the Future

*In Memory Of:* **Zuse Honikman** by Gerrie Dubit. **Evelyn Davis** by Marcia Feuerstein. **Ellen Schumer** by Shirley Cohen.

## Garden of the Righteous

*In Memory Of:* **David Schwartz** by Andrea Brown, Lawrence & Jean Bernard.

## Harry & Judie Linowes Youth Endowment Fund

*In Memory Of:* **David Schwartz** by Harry & Judie Linowes.

## Havurah Kiddush Fund

*In Memory Of:* **Herbert Spira** by Lynnette Spira.

## Hazzan Goldsmith Discretionary Fund

*In Honor Of:* **Hazzan Rachel Goldsmith**, welcome to Adas Israel by Ricki Gerger.

## Ida Mendelson Memorial Prayer Book Fund

*In Honor Of:* Birth of **Maya Nagler** by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

## Irvin Wolloch Memorial Endowment Fund

*In Memory Of:* **Irvin Wolloch** by Lillie Wolloch.

## Jewish Mindfulness Center of

## Washington Fund

*In Honor Of:* **Jennie Litvack** by Russell Shaw & Shira Stutman.

## Lillian & Daniel Ezrin Fund for Ritual Objects

*In Memory Of:* **Ivan Allan Ezrine** by Joel & Rhoda Ganz. **Sara Lustine** by Norbert & Doris Lustine.

## Mikvah Capital Campaign

*In Honor Of:* **Yosef Malka's** uplifting *bar mitzvah* service at Adas Israel by Robin Jacobson. Birth of **Maya Nagler** by Steve & Sybil Wolin, Steven & Lisa Himmelfarb, Yaacov & Herlene Nagler.

*In Memory Of:* **David Schwartz** by Steve & Sybil Wolin. **Nelson Goldberg & Fanny Goldberg** by Stuart & Jamie Butler.

## Mildred & Jess Fisher Nursery School Fund

*In Honor Of:* Birth of **Adela Jachimowicz, Maya Nagler** by Sheri Brown. **Sandy Bobb's** special birthday by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

## Offerings Fund

*By:* Jack & Flo Herman.

*In Memory Of:* **Michael Mindel** by Ken & Roz Doggett.

## Rabbi Alexander Discretionary Fund

*In Honor Of:* **Rabbis Aaron & Penina Alexander** & their family joining the Adas community by Andrew & Amy Herman and

David Polonsky. **Rabbi Alexander** coming to Adas Israel by Ricki Gerger.

*In Memory Of:* **Minnie Isack** by Arthur Isack.

## Rabbi Holtzblatt Discretionary Fund

*By:* Michael Scherzer.

## Rabbi Stanley Rabinowitz History Fund

*In Memory Of:* **Florence Fibus** by Carole Lerner.

## Rabbi Steinlauf Discretionary Fund

*With Great Appreciation For:* **Rabbi Steinlauf's** words at Sandra Alpert's memorial service by Dr. Clement Alpert.

*In Memory Of:* **Allan Isack** by Arthur Isack. **Lila Ment Rudnick** by Ricki Gerger.

## Rose R. Freudberg Sisterhood Memorial Library Fund

*In Memory Of:* **Dr. Alvin Sidell** by Arlene Sidell

Cohen. **Yetta Tersoff & Shirley Tersoff** by

David Margolies & Susan Tersoff. **Devorah**

**Waxman** by Goldie Rivkin. **David Schwartz** by Irv & Grace Lebow, Bo & Marky Kirsch.

## Sandra & Clement Alpert Fund for Family Education

*In Memory Of:* **Sandra Alpert** by Brian & Judy Madden.

## Shelley Remer Gan HaYeled Enrichment Fund

*In Honor Of:* Birth of **Arnie Podgorsky & Christy Larsen's** latest grandchild by Sheri Brown.

## Social Action Fund

*In Memory Of:* **David Schwartz** by Sonya Gichner.

## Sophie Silfen Shalom Tinok Fund

*In Honor Of:* Birth of **Maya Nagler** by Jean Bernard.

*In Memory Of:* **David Schwartz** by Richard & Susan Ugelow.

## Stanley & Veeda Wiener Memorial Fund

*In Memory Of:* **David Schwartz** by Harry Kempler.

## Tzedakah Fund

*By:* Madelyn Shapiro.

*In Memory Of:* **Eric Rehfeld** by Eva Rehfeld.

**Daniel Schorr** by Lisbeth Schorr. **Florence**

**Shapiro** by Mary Elizabeth Sadun. **Miriam**

**Gerger** by Ricki Gerger. **Frances Goldberg**

by Rita Segerman. **Gary F. Jonas** by Rosalyn

Jonas. **David Diamond** by Stephan Diamond.

## Yizkor/Yahrzeit Fund

*In Memory Of:* **Doris Karlin** by Arthur Karlin.

**Edna Weiner** by Barry & Shelly Naft. **Harvey**

**Rosenthal** by Cathy Miller. **David Rosenberg**

by Charlotte Teicher. **Louis Waxman** by Rep.

Henry Waxman. **Ellis Robinson** by Debra

Tracy. **Shirley P. Hardis** by Dr. Jonathan

Hardis. **Naomi Koplin Mizroch** by Dr. Stephen

Mizroch. **Bertha Teicher** by Harry Teicher.

**Philip Israel Rosen** by Judy Rosen. Cohen.

**Doris R. Sloan** by Leonard Sloan. **Samuel**

**Kresberg** by Loretta Rosenthal. **Aaron Goldman** by Paula Goldman. **Dr. Sidney Fogelman** by Rhea & Morton Mandell. **Leo Bernstein** by Richard Bernstein. **Bessie Feldman** by Rose Burka. **Etta Cohen** by Sheldon I. Cohen.

#### Youth Activities Fund

*In Memory Of:* **Leo M. Bernstein** by Amb. Stuart Bernstein, Richard Bernstein, Mary Jane Bernstein. **Stephen Chiswick** by Barry Chiswick. **Anna Walder** by Dee Ellison. **Evelyn Berkower** by Dr. Ira Berkower. **Arthur Garten** by Fran Cohen. **Henry Krieger** by Leslie Mark. **Dora Ellen** by Margaret Ellen. **Ruth Parnes** by Sandy & Lydia Parnes. **Claire S. Postman** by Sydel Sandy. **Daniel Parnes** by the Parnes family. **Ruth Estrin** by Wilma Bernstein.



### The Anne Frank House Walk to End Homelessness

**Sunday, November 1**

**11:15 am at Adas Israel**

*A brief program will precede the walk.*

Registration Fees: \$18 per youth (25 or younger), \$36 per adult

Your registration fee will serve as a donation to Anne Frank House even if you can't be present at the walk.

Everyone who registers will receive a free T-shirt! You must register by October 18 to guarantee that your T-shirt will be available by the day of the walk.

To register, visit  
<http://www.theannefrankhouse.org/>  
and click on the  
"Walk to End Homelessness" tab.

For additional information about either the walk event, corporate sponsorship or any other questions about Anne Frank House, please contact Sue Ducat, 301-841-9962 or [stansue@verizon.net](mailto:stansue@verizon.net).

**Thank You for Your Support!**

## Digital Photographs of Renewed Spaces Recently Donated



Professional architectural, event, and restaurant photographer and director of the Washington Photo Safari E. David Luria has donated photographs of the synagogue.

David was trained in Paris by a protégé of the famed French photographer, Henri Cartier-Bresson. In 1999, David established the Washington Photo Safari, taking clients around the local monuments and teaching them how to use their cameras. He was a member of the panel that judged congregants' photographs that were on display in the Quebec Street Foyer last *Purim*.

David's own story is of special interest to our congregation. Born to Jewish parents in Hamburg, Germany, David and his immediate family had the good fortune of being able to escape Nazi Germany aboard one of the last ships sailing from Hamburg to New York in 1938. He was raised in New York City, graduated with honors from Amherst College, spent over three years in military service, and then embarked on a 30-year career in international development and citizen exchange, including six years in Colombia and Panama with the international development organization CARE.

David credits his American mother, Estela de Lima Luria, for stimulating his interest in photography and for saving his life and the lives of his family. "It was her fierce determination, her bitterly accurate predictions in the early 1930s of what was happening to the Jews in Germany, and her American passport," David says, "that convinced my proud German Jewish father to leave his beloved homeland. Thanks to her, my brother and I are alive today."

His photos will be used in various synagogue publications and will greatly enhance our website. *Todah rabah*, David. 🌸

### Start Your Day with Intention! Wednesday Mornings @ 9:15 am

*Baruch atah Adonai... asher yatzar et ha'adam b'chochma.*

Praised are You Adonai, our God, who fashions the human body in wisdom.

Join Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum and Director of Membership Engagement Marcy Spiro for a spiritual, physical, and communal exercise experience at 9:15 am on

Wednesday mornings. Drawing on elements of yoga, dance, aerobics, and weight training, we will prepare ourselves for the day ahead (and have fun!)

Contact Lacy, [Lacy.LeBlanc@adasisrael.org](mailto:Lacy.LeBlanc@adasisrael.org), with questions or to register.







2850 Quebec Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20008

202-362-4433 • [www.adasisrael.org](http://www.adasisrael.org)  
[facebook.com/adasisraeldc](https://facebook.com/adasisraeldc)

PERIODICALS POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
WASHINGTON, DC  
AND AT ADDITIONAL  
MAILING OFFICES

**Vol. 78, No. 3**  
**October 2015**  
**Tishri-Cheshvan 5776**

Rabbi Gil Steinlauf, *Senior Rabbi*  
David Polonsky, *Executive Director*  
Deborah Joseph, *President*  
Rabbi Aaron Alexander, *Rabbi*  
Cantor Arianne Brown, *Cantor*  
Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt, *Rabbi*  
Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum, *Director of Education*  
Hazzan Rachel Goldsmith, *Ritual Director*  
Naomi Malka, *Mikvah Director*  
Sheri Brown, *Director, Gan HaYeled*  
Rabbi Jeffrey A. Wohlberg, *Emeritus*  
Rabbi Avis Miller, *Emerita*  
Cantor Arnold Saltzman, *Emeritus*  
Carole Klein, *Director of Operations*  
Marcy Spiro, *Director of Membership Engagement*  
Rich Dinetz, *Director of Youth Activities*  
Lesley Brinton, *Controller*  
Marcy Feuerstein, *Sisterhood President*  
Erin Claxton and Taryn Rosenkranz,  
*Co-Presidents, Gan Parents Association*

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](mailto:AdasOffice@AdasIsrael.org).  
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.



**CELEBRATING OUR 146TH YEAR**

The *Chronicle* Is Supported in  
Part by the Ethel and Nat Popick  
Endowment Fund

**UPCOMING CHRONICLE  
DEADLINES—**

November:  
Thursday, October 1, at noon

December:  
Friday, October 30, at noon