Adas Israel Congregation

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Chag Sameach from your Adas Israel Family!
I Thank My Lucky Stars

“Did you know that the earth is so big that fifty moons could fit inside it?”

Actually, I didn’t know. I’ve never gravitated toward learning about outer space until lately, when our five-year-old son Yonah became fascinated with the solar system.

“Jupiter is so large that over one thousand earths can fit inside it! And the sun is even more humongous! One thousand Jupiters can fit inside the sun,” he continued. “And God is the biggest of all, because God fills the entire solar system!”

I stopped in my path and looked at my son, filled with the spirituality that comes so naturally to small children, and said, “k’vodo malei olam, God’s glory fills the world.” All of a sudden, my understanding of this beloved, well-chanted phrase that we recite in our Kedushah took on a different meaning, as I pictured the vast expanse of the sun, the moon, the planets, and the stars.

We celebrate Sukkot this month. Together with friends, family, and community, we spend time in our sukkot—flimsy structures with no protection from the elements, through which we must be able to view the stars. As we recite each evening in our Hashkiveinu prayer, “Ufros aleinu sukat sh’lomecha, spread over us a sukah of Your peace.” Sometimes I instead would like to pray for a tarp, a dome, or a shield. I wish for something that offers better protection to us against the outside elements that threaten our peace. Then I lift my eyes upward, while enjoying company on a cool autumn evening in our sukkah, and I am reminded of the vastness of the universe, and of the limitations of my own comprehension.

Soon after Sukkot, we celebrate Shemini Atzeret, on which we continue to celebrate time together, and we recite Yizkor prayers of remembrance. There is a poem by Hannah Szenes that I love to add to our Yizkor service, entitled Yeish Kochavim. She writes, “There are stars up above so far away we only feel their light long, long after the star itself is gone. And so it is with people we have loved. Their memories keep shining, ever brightly though their time with us is gone. The stars that light up the darkest night—these are the lights that guide us.”

We complete the cycle of reading our Torah on Simchat Torah, and begin again with the reading of Genesis. After miraculous stories of creation, we narrow our focus and relive God’s promise to Abraham that his descendants will become as numerous as the sands of the sea and the stars of the sky. I can just imagine Abraham, joyfully running home to Sarah, looking down at the earth and up at the sky to revel in this incredible promise of unending legacy. Kvodo malei olam, God’s glory fills the world. I wish each and every one of you a wonderful holiday season—a season in which you feel embraced by the sukkah of peace, guided by the shining stars of your life, and connected to the eternal legacy of our heritage.
Musical Moments at Adas Israel 2017-2018
Brought to you by Cantor Arianne Brown & the Musical Moments Committee

**Simchat Torah**
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12 @ 6:30 PM
Join us as we celebrate Torah with festive song and dance, with stars of the Klezmatics—the Lisa Gutkin and Lorin Sklamberg Klezmer Duo!

**Bimah to Broadway to Beltway**
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5 @ 7:30 PM
Washington Jewish Music Festival at the DCJCC: Come join Cantors Arianne Brown, Elisheva Dienstfrey, and Hinda Labovitz in a dazzling concert of Jewish music spanning liturgical and theatrical styles. For tickets, visit wjmf.org.

**Israel Through the Decades**
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9 @ 7:00 PM
Celebrating 70 years of song! Join us for Havdalah, a sing-along, and a concert with the groovy Israeli band, Banot, followed by Israeli dancing and dessert. An evening for all ages!

**Move & Groove**
SUNDAYS, JANUARY 7 AND FEBRUARY 4 @ 10:00 AM
Exciting concerts for families with young children! Come move and groove with our children’s entertainers. All are welcome.

**The Lion King of Persia: Purim Spiel**
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28 @ 7:00 PM
It’s a jungle out there! Be prepared to laugh and sing as our Adas community acts out the Purim story, along with a traditional Megillah reading and jungle-themed spoofs and surprises.

**Kol HaOlam 2018**
SATURDAY, MARCH 10 @ 8:00 PM
Who will be crowned the 8th champion in 2018? Witness the ever-popular Annual National Collegiate Jewish A Cappella Championship Competition!

**Special Musical Event: Vision of Israel**
A Celebration of Culture and Creativity
SUNDAY, JUNE 3 @ 7:00 PM
Our big music event of the year! We celebrate the miracle of Israel by immersing ourselves in Israeli cultural arts. Israeli headliners will be joined by Theater J and other top DC community talent, along with

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Hesed and Social Action

**Lev B’lev Speaker Series Kick-Off Event**
With Rais Bhuiyan, founder of World Without Hate
Shabbat, October 28

Rais Bhuiyan, an American Muslim from Bangladesh and an extraordinary individual with a powerful story, will kick off our Lev B’lev speaker series on October 28. He will speak during Shabbat morning services and again at 1:00 pm after kiddush. Rais’s multidimensional story will help us examine hate and consider impactful responses to it. He has struggled with many of the questions Lev B’lev is seeking to answer. We will return to his experience throughout the year, so please plan to attend this compelling event.

After serving as an air force pilot in Bangladesh, Rais moved to the United States in 1999 to study computer technology. Ten days after 9/11, Rais was the victim of a horrific hate crime. Shot in the face at point blank range by white supremacist Mark Stroman, the self-described “Arab slayer,” Rais barely survived.

Rais’s near-death experience and subsequent religious pilgrimage sparked a profound journey of soul-searching and began his path as a human rights activist for peace, forgiveness, empathy, and understanding. Through his nonprofit, World Without Hate, Rais has touched the lives of hundreds of thousands of people as he shares his inspirational story and message at schools, organizations, conferences, and houses of worship all over the world.

To read more about Lev B’lev and the Speaker Series, please turn to page [to come]. For more information, contact Bruce Charendoff, brucecharendoff@yahoo.com.
From the President continued from page 2
Committee. As a result of these and other efforts, our new members are warmly welcomed, have learned about the opportunities we have for involvement, and are eager to participate.

But what about our not-so-new members? Maybe you were active in the past, took a break, and now you’re ready to come back. Or maybe you haven’t been so active but want to be now. How do you fit in? In recent years, our Member Engagement Committee and staff have introduced a few ways for all of us to become more involved and more engaged in our community. We’ve hosted social events for different cohorts in the synagogue and at members’ homes. We’ve opened the committees to further participation. We’ve expanded our outreach efforts to be communicate with you to further participation. We’ve expanded our members’ homes. We’ve opened the committees for different cohorts in the synagogue and at our community. We’ve hosted social events to become more involved and more engaged and learning to read Torah.

Involvement can come through Social Action (Jamie Butler, chair), Hesed (Rae Grad, chair), and Lifelong Learning (Steve Kleinrock, chair). Members are serving meals at SOME, tutoring kids through Lifelong Learning (Steve Kleinrock, chair). Members (Jamie Butler, chair), Hesed (Rae Grad, chair), and more regularly.

Outreach efforts to be communicated with you to further participation. We’ve expanded our members’ homes. We’ve opened the committees for different cohorts in the synagogue and at our community. We’ve hosted social events to become more involved and more engaged and learning to read Torah.

Involvement can come through Social Action (Jamie Butler, chair), Hesed (Rae Grad, chair), and Lifelong Learning (Steve Kleinrock, chair). Members are serving meals at SOME, tutoring kids through our relationship with Reading Partners, helping our adopted refugee family, and more. Through our Hesed Committee, people cook meals for members who are sick or who’ve had a loss, deliver new member welcome baskets, call our seniors on Fridays to check in and wish them Shabbat Shalom, and so on. Our members perform these tasks in small groups, and you meet people who are drawn to the same things you are.

Want some Torah? Our Friday morning parasha class and Shabbat morning Boker Or are caring communities. Programming in the Beit Midrash through MakomDC opens people’s minds with text study and engaging speakers. There’s a downtown study group that meets monthly. “Scotch and Scripture” is some guys who get together each month to study. “Mothers and Malbec” is young women who do the same. There are more ways to engage, like yoga, meditation, and learning to read Torah.

The common thread is that while you have the advantages of belonging to a large congregation, you also have the chance to engage with small groups of people who share your interests.

This year, 5778, we’ll put our heads together again to create even more ways, systems, and opportunities to build and maintain strong relationships to create a sense of community for all our members. Our staff, officers, directors, committee chairs, and, certainly, our clergy are renewed after our meaningful High Holy Days. We approach Sukkot, the holiday of welcome (among other things), openly, more desirous than ever of greater participation of our members to enhance your experience. And we sincerely want to be “co-creators” with you in fostering this ever-expanding culture of meaningful connections. We need you and your ideas if we’re to achieve this goal and sustain it through the years. We promise to do our part. So please join us, get involved, share your ideas, chair a gathering, reach out to the team. We can do this together.

You don’t have to figure this out by yourself. But because we’re not able to call every member, you do need to take the first step. Marcy Spiro, Rabbi Holtzblatt, Rabbi Alexander, David Polonsky, Rae Grad, and I can help you deepen the experience you have at Adas Israel. Reach out to one of us, please. Let’s meet and find your place, together.

We just want everyone to “feel in.”

Marcy Spiro| Rabbi Holtzblatt | Rabbi Alexander | David Polonsky | Rae Grad | President
rosenthal@adasisrael.org | rabbi.holtzblatt@adasisrael.org | rabbi.alexander@adasisrael.org | david.polonsky@adasisrael.org | rgrad@comcast.net | president@adasisrael.org

Musical Moments continued from page 3
Cantor Arianne Brown, Adas Israel’s Flash Choir, and the young voices of Kolot for an engaging cultural experience, followed by a dessert reception.

Music is an integral part of all our prayer services. When our voices join together in prayer, we feel embraced by each other’s energy and a communal spirit that uplifts us all. Check out adasisrael.org/musicalmoments for descriptions of the various services we offer. We hope to see you here!

Get Involved in Flash Choir!
Did you sing in your high school choir or college a cappella group? Perhaps you just enjoy singing with others and even harmonizing on your own? Or maybe you have formal training and time makes it difficult to immerse yourself in music?

This is a group for you! The Flash Choir is a commit-per-event choir. The only requirement is being able to sing on key. Contact cantor.brown@adasisrael.org.

Kolot
Kolot is our youth choir, for students in grades 3–6. Come join us on select Sunday mornings to sing, learn music, and perform with Cantor Ari! Contact cantor.brown@adasisrael.org.

Music Pop-Ups @ Adas
A brand new way to meet your musical hevrut! This is a grassroots list and listserv of musicians of all levels among us. Are you a violinist searching for a violist and cellist for chamber music? A vocalist looking for a pianist to join you in some jazz? A clarinetist looking for someone to collaborate with on klezmer? Contact emma.rosenthal@adasisrael.org. ✨

From the President continued from left column
A Letter From our 2017 Adas Fund Chairs!
Annabelle Friedman (age 16), Isaac Frumkin (age 17), Kalia Hoechstetter (age 18), Julia Kagan (age 18), William Satloff (age 17) and Ethan Sorcher (age 18)

Dear Friends –
Believe it or not, the summer and High Holy Days are behind us and the new year has just begun. We know our congregation, which has given us so much, cannot possibly thrive or even function without all of our support, and specifically, without the success of this campaign. If you have not already, we urge you to make your pledge now to The Adas Fund campaign, at any level of giving.

Our clergy, staff, and leadership are working hard and with great success to serve and grow our congregation. Adas Israel is a vibrant, thriving community that welcomes all. We are proud of the fact that no one is turned away from our synagogue, and no student denied a Jewish education because of cost. To maintain this policy, we need the support of our entire community. We are deeply grateful to this year’s Adas Fund Champions (pictured below) for supporting us as we seek 100% participation in this year’s campaign.

Growing up at Adas, and traveling to Israel with our classmates and educators, has been one of the great experiences of our lives. Now, we are proud to give back. The Adas Fund is your opportunity to create similar experiences of connection and community for the thousands who call Adas Israel home.

Please visit www.adasisrael.org/theadasfund to make your pledge today.
We can do this.

In gratitude,
Annabelle, Ethan, Isaac, Julia, Kalia and William

The campaign is also be supported by the following dedicated group of Adas Fund Champions, who have partnered with our remarkable students to harness our congregation’s vitality, growth, and strength through the campaign:


“Adas is our family’s second home, the shul where our kids have grown up and learned to read Torah, lead services, and - most important - be part of a close community. Since the week we moved to DC, we’ve been steadfast members of the Traditional Egalitarian Minyan. Our Adas family extends far beyond the Minyan – to the inspiring and thoughtful clergy, to the brilliant and welcoming administrative staff, and, never to be forgotten, to the maintenance and security staff who organize our prayer spaces, prepare prayer books and Torahs for shiva minyans and happy occasions, and have brought smiles to our kids’ faces during all our years at Adas.”

– David Waskow, Ketura Persellin & Family, joined 2000
Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret, and Simchat Torah 2017

Sukkot begins on the 15th day of the month of Tishri (Erev Sukkot is on Wednesday evening, October 4) and continues for seven days. It is known by several names, none more descriptive than Z’man Simchataynu, Day of Our Rejoicing. It is one of the three harvest festivals in the Jewish year known as the Shalosh Regalim, the three pilgrimage festivals (the other two being 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 to be 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. 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 that a sufficient rain fall in Eretz Yisrael to make the land fruitful and the crops plentiful. 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 participate. It is on this day that we complete the annual reading

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## Sukkot / Shemini Atzeret / Simchat Torah

### Full Service Schedule

**Pre-Sukkot Prep, Sunday, Oct. 1**
- 11:00 am  Community-Wide Sukkah Building and Decorating

**Eve 1, Erev Sukkot, Wednesday, Oct. 4**
- 7:30 am  Morning Minyan
- 6:00 pm  Mincha / Maariv Services

**Day 1, Thursday, Oct. 5**
- 9:15 am  Combined Morning Service
- 11:00 am  Sukkot Children’s Service
- 12:00 pm  Kiddush in the Sukkah
- 6:00 pm  Mincha / Maariv Services

**Day 2, Friday, Oct. 6**
- 9:15 am  Combined Morning Service
- 12:00pm  Kiddush in the Sukkah
- 1:00 pm  Mincha
- 6:00 pm  Kabbalat Shabbat
- 7:30 pm  Community Shabbat Dinner in the Sukkah

**Day 3, Saturday, Oct. 7**
- 9:15 am  Shabbat Service/
  Tinok (Baby) Shabbat
- 9:15 am  TEM Service
- 9:30 am  Havurah Shabbat Service
- 11:00 am  Tot Shabbat
- 11:00 am  Netivot
- 12:00 pm  Kiddush in the Sukkah
- 1:00 pm  Mincha

**Day 4, Sunday, Oct. 8**
- 9:00 am  Morning Minyan /
  Chol HaMoed Sukkot
- 2:00 pm  YP Hike & Sukkah Rock Party
- 6:00 pm  Evening Minyan

**Day 5, Monday, Oct. 9**
- 7:15 am  Morning Minyan / Chol HaMoed Sukkot
- 12:00 pm  Gan Snack in the Shack
- 6:00 pm  Mincha / Maariv Services

**Day 6, Tuesday, Oct. 10**
- 7:15 am  Morning Minyan / Chol HaMoed Sukkot
- 6:00 pm  Mincha / Maariv Services
- 6:30 pm  New Member Reception

**Day 7, Erev Shemini Atzeret, Wednesday, Oct. 11**
- 7:15 am  Morning Minyan /
  Hoshana Rabba Service
- 6:00 pm  Mincha / Maariv Services

**Day 8, Erev Simchat Torah, Thursday, Oct. 12**
- 9:15 am  Holiday Service/ Yizkor Service
- 9:15 am  TEM Service
- 12:00 pm  Kiddush in the Sukkah
- 6:00 pm  Mincha
- 6:30 pm  Erev Simchat Torah
- 7:00 pm  TEM Erev Simchat Torah Service
- 8:30 pm  Erev Simchat Torah Reception

**Simchat Torah, Friday, Oct. 13**
- 9:15 am  Holiday Service
- 11:00 am  Simchat Torah Family Service
- 12:00 pm  Congregational Kiddush
- 6:00 pm  Kabbalat Shabbat
Simchat Torah Honorees 5778

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 again. 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 that of their families. Please join us on the morning of Simchat Torah on Friday, October 13, when we will honor this year’s worthy members.

Alvin Dunn

Alvin Dunn and his wife, Lisa, have been active and cherished members of Adas for many years. They are both extremely active in the larger Adas community, yet their passion lies with the Traditional Egalitarian Minyan. Alvin has been attending the Minyan regularly since 1994, loves leading davening, and has served on the coordinating committee and as a service coordinator. Alvin has served on the Adas Budget Committee for the past 10 years (and counting), and most recently played an important role on the Nominating Committee. Lisa and Alvin were married at Adas in 2001, and all four of their children (Avery, Maren, Harper, and Wyatt) attended the Gan and still attend the religious school. Avery, Maren, and Harper have all had their b’not mitzvah here, and Wyatt’s bar mitzvah is already scheduled for 2019! Alvin’s commitment to Adas has made him an indispensable asset to our Adas family, and we look forward to honoring him this year.

Sandra Eskin

When Sandra walked into an Adas Tot Shabbat service with her two-year-old daughter in 1987, she knew they had found their Jewish home in Washington, DC. Sandra and her husband, Andrew, sent their three children—Naomi (now 32), Becca (30) and Ben (27)—to the Gan, celebrated their b’nai mitzvah at the shul, and graduated from the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School. Sandra has served on various synagogue committees over the years, was VP for Education and Youth from 2000 to 2002 and from 2015 to 2017, and she taught Kitah Bet for nine years in the religious school. She has written a number of Purim spiels for the synagogue and is an avid playwright for young audiences. A production of her stage adaptation of Jumanji won a Helen Hayes award this year. A graduate of Brown University and UC-Hastings Law School, Sandra currently directs a food safety advocacy project at The Pew Charitable Trusts.

Lois Fingerhut

Lois and her husband Michael have been Adas members for the past 30 years. At both Adas Israel and during her professional career, Lois has seen herself as a “connector.” She serves as chair of the Social Action Committee’s Gun Violence Prevention team. In addition, she joined the Social Action Committee several years ago when she introduced Adas congregants to Reading Partners, and, as a tutor and board member, Lois continually connects Adas members with Reading Partners. She thoroughly enjoys being a part of Hesed teams and participating in Morning Awakening and Return Again services.
Jewish Life and Learning

Your 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 their entry into 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 28 inches wide, with room enough to accommodate a table where people can comfortably eat a meal.

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

Honorees continued from page 8

Lois is also a past board member of the Edlavitch DC Jewish Community Center and has been a member of the Theater J council since 2003. Before her retirement in 2009, Lois was an injury epidemiologist with the National Center for Health Statistics, spending most of her career writing about the impact of firearm violence on the youth in the U.S. Lois and her husband Michael are ardent Nationals fans and theater enthusiasts and they love to travel. Their two sons, David and Josh, live in Denver and Los Angeles, respectively.

Ron Lapping

Ron and his wife Kelley have been Adas members since 2012. A previously lifelong Chicagoan, Ron first arrived at Adas looking for a place to say Kaddish for his father, of blessed memory, and quickly found a home for himself here at Adas. Ron felt so enriched and welcomed within the Daily Minyan community that he stayed long after his 11 months and plays an important leadership role in our Daily Minyan to this day. Ron comes to minyan nearly every day, without fail, to help ensure that our prayer services continue to run strong and so that community members in mourning will always be able to recite Kaddish when needed. Ron had also coordinated the extraordinary Rosh Hashanah Gift Bag project, ensuring the delivery of High Holy Day goodness to hundreds of new and long-term community members. Through these and other activities, as well as his genuinely warm and caring presence, Ron has contributed to the congregation’s ongoing efforts to foster a warm, welcoming community experience for all.

Simchat Torah begins this year on Thursday evening, October 12. Celebration of Simchat Torah at Adas Israel will begin at 6:00 pm with Mincha, followed by Maariv and Hakafot at 6:30 pm.

The celebration continues on Friday morning, October 13, at 9:15 am, at which time we will recognize our Simchat Torah honorees: Sandra Eskin, Ron Lapping, Alvin Dunn, and Lois Fingerhut. Please come to honor them and the Torah.
JSC Wednesdays at Adas Israel
OCTOBER 18, 25, NOVEMBER 1
More classes in November and December at www.jewishstudycenter.org

Jews, Identity, and Racial Justice: Having the Conversations
OCTOBER 18, 25 AT 7:00 PM
Are Jews white? What is the role of Jews in current racial justice? A series of candid and caring discussions on some of today’s most urgent and sensitive political questions, facilitated by Rabbi Batya Glazer.

OCTOBER 18: Let’s Talk Among Ourselves
This is an opportunity to gather together for a conversation about race. Some questions we may cover: As a Jew, do you consider yourself white? What does that mean, and how does it relate to privilege? How does the Jewish community relate to Jews of color? How do we relate to members of other minority communities, how do we understand our relationship to members of communities of color, and what are the issues and concerns regarding relationships with the black community? Rabbi Batya Glazer, JCRC Director of Social Justice and Intergroup Relations, moderates this participatory discussion.

OCTOBER 25: I’ve Always Wanted To Ask . . .
James L. Stowe, Director of the Montgomery County Office of Human Rights, will join us for a discussion of intergroup relationships and our relationships to the black community.

James L. Stowe, a native of Belmont, NC, has received numerous awards and recognition for his efforts in community service and advocacy for human and civil rights.

NOV. 1: What’s Next for the Jewish Community and Racial Justice?
How do we as a community, want to engage on issues of race? What is the best way forward? What is the role of history? How do we address conflicts and areas where our interests don’t coincide? What is the role for racial justice organizations? In this session we’ll process what we have learned and look at some new strategies being pursued by Jewish organizations locally, including efforts criminal justice reform and pro bono legal representation.

Rabbi Batya D. Glazer is the Director of Social Justice and Inter-Group Initiatives and of D.C. Government and Community Relations at the Jewish Community Relations Council.

GLOBAL JEWISH CULTURES:
Farideh Goldin: An Iranian Jewish Woman Tells Her Story
OCTOBER 18, 8:25 PM (NOTE LATE STARTING TIME)
Farideh Goldin was born in 1953 in Shiraz, Iran, to her fifteen-year-old mother and into a Jewish community living in an increasingly hostile Islamic state—pre-revolutionary Iran. Her family included dayanim, judges and leaders of the Jewish community. She is the author of two memoirs: Wedding Song: Memoirs of an Iranian and Jewish Woman (2003) and Leaving Iran: Between Migration and Exile (2015). She will recount her path from an Iranian ghetto to a new life in the United States and other memories from a fascinating life.

JSC, Adas members $15, others $20

Why I Became a Military Rabbi
OCTOBER 25, 7:00–8:15 PM
Speaker: Rabbi Yonatan Warren
Yonatan Warren, educated and ordained at the Jewish Theological Seminary, has had anything but a typical rabbinic career. As a military rabbi, he has served as chaplain to Marines in Okinawa and has deployed to Afghanistan, South Korea, and the Philippines. He is now in his last months of a stint as Jewish Chaplain at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. How did he choose this career path? What’s it like to serve? Rabbi Warren will speak on his choices and his experiences with the military.

Rabbi Warren is happily married and is a father to a beautiful daughter (and, b’shaah tovah, a second daughter after printing).

JSC, Adas members $15, others $20

Israel’s Other Arts
OCTOBER 25 AT 8:15 PM.
Jewish Street Art
OCTOBER 25, 8:15 PM Instructor: Hillel Smith
Hillel Smith, an artist and graphic designer focusing on engaging Jewish communities with their heritage in innovative ways, has painted dynamic Jewish murals in Southern California and Israel through his Hebrew street art venture, Illuminated Streets. He revitalizes ancient rituals with online projects like his GIF Omer Counter and Parsha Poster series, encouraging creative reconsideration of religious practice. Seeing Hebrew as the visual glue binding Jews together across time and space, he teaches Jewish typographic history, using print as a lens for Jewish life and culture. He also leads workshops focusing on artistic empowerment, continuity, and manifesting identity through the arts. You can see his work online at www.hillelsmith.info. Copies of his book, Parsha Posters will be available for sale.
**Jewish Mindfulness Center of Washington @ Adas (JMCW)**

*In the sukkah, a house that is open to the world...the illusion of protection falls away, and suddenly we are flush with our life, feeling our life, following our life, doing its dance, one step after another. And when we speak of joy here, we are not speaking of fun. Joy is a deep release of the soul.* —Rabbi Alan Lew

**Hashkiveinu Adonai eloheinu 1'shalom.** During the Maariv service, we ask God to shelter us with a canopy of peace. This canopy is viewed as of a spiritual, rather than a physical, nature. Imagine—a canopy of peace! The imagery is external, but the protection of such shelter emanates from within us. No matter how strong an outer shelter we build, there is no guarantee that it will withstand the unknown. The new Adas siddur, *Lev Shalem,* has a beautiful sidebar reading on the *Hashkiveinu* prayer: “Peace comes to us in the recognition that when we allow ourselves to be vulnerable, when we recognize that we cannot control everything, redemption can be achieved. The central image in this prayer is the *sukkah of peace.* The *sukkah* is a fragile structure, open to the elements. Peace is pictured not as a temple, solidly built, gilded, perhaps ornate, but rather as created out of the most fragmentary of materials, leaving us vulnerable and at risk.” When we find peace, as Rabbi Lew says, in a house that is open to the world, we also open ourselves to joy. As the *Haggim* continue this month with *Sukkot* and *Simchat Torah,* we hope you’ll join JMCW in meditation, yoga, and prayer practices. Together, we can open ourselves to the vulnerabilities of this life as we work to strengthen our inner shelter of peace and find joy as we connect to God, the universe, our breath.

**Upcoming JMCW Services, Programs, and Workshops**

*Hineni*—*Here I Am: Mapping our Spiritual Coordinates through Yoga & Kabbalah with Rabbi Ben Shalva*

*Three-week mini-series. Sundays: Oct. 15, 22, 29, 11:00 am–12:15 pm*

We have within us four discrete yet interconnected worlds: the body, the heart, the mind, and the soul. According to both yoga and *Kabbalah,* we must explore these four dynamic landscapes in order to master the self and connect with our Creator. Join us for an experiential, on-the-mat exploration of these four worlds. Through *Kabbalistic* text study, meditation, and traditional yoga postures, we will deepen our appreciation of our own inner landscape and learn how to more honestly declare: “*Hineni*—Here I am.” Beginners welcome. Please wear movement clothes. $36 for all three sessions. Website Registration Required; see the JMCW web page: www.adasisrael.org/jmcw/

*Weekly Wednesday Evening Meditation  7:30-8:30 pm*

*Note the change to Wednesday nights—just after yoga*

With four alternating leaders, these sessions include a teaching, an exploration of Jewish meditation techniques, and a silent meditation sit. Beginners and experienced meditators alike are most welcome!

**WEEKLY YOGA**

*Moving Meditation Vinyasa Flow*

*Wednesdays 6:30–7:20 pm*

Join us for a vigorous flow, and dive deep into your physical practice. Draw Jewish concepts into the body and initiate your own moving meditation. And then stay afterward to join the weekly Wednesday meditation.

*Moving Meditation Awakening Flow*

*Sundays, 11:00 am–12:15 pm*

Morning flow promises to awaken and stimulate the sacred body through a full exploration of asana. This signature class draws inspiration from Mussar, *Kabbalah,* and the wisdom of Jewish thinkers.

*The “Return Again” Service with Rabbi Holtzblatt and Elie Greenberg will resume on Friday, November 10, 6:30 pm*

For updates and additional information and offerings, please visit the JMCW web page, www.adasisrael.org/jmcw/ or the JMCW Facebook Group.

**JMCW Recommends . . .**

In April 2017, Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, former Chief Rabbi of the U.K., gave this TED talk, entitled “How we can face the future without fear, together.” You can access this inspiring 12-minute video by going to www.ted.com and entering *Rabbi Jonathan Sacks* in the search tool.

The Adas Library has many books on Jewish spirituality, meditation, and mindfulness. Some of these can be found under call number 175.01 or speak with Adas Librarian Robin Jacobson (librarian@adasisrael.org) for more information.

The Jewish Mindfulness Center of Washington @ Adas (JMCW) offers services, programs, and workshops that help deepen contemplative practices as part of our individual and communal religious and spiritual lives. Watch this space each month to follow these JMCW offerings. Visit our Adas web page at www.adasisrael.org/jmcw/, where you can also subscribe to our e-newsletter. Find us on Facebook—JMCW @ Adas Israel!

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*Faith is the ability to rejoice in the midst of instability and change, travelling through the wilderness of time toward an unknown destination. Faith is not fear. Faith is not hate. Faith is not violence. These are vital truths, never more needed than now.* —Rabbi Jonathan Sacks
As educators, we know that many people welcome students and their families back to school with questions like, “How was your summer,” and writing prompts on “What I did over my summer vacation.” However, we also know that not everyone went to camp, traveled abroad, or spent family time at a beach.

The stories of our complicated lives continue over the summer, despite the break from the routines of school and the academic year. The difficult times we may have experienced both personally and communally over the summer months shape the way we carry ourselves into the year, even without the extra invitation to reflect on and share those memories. We know that it is incumbent on us to help make space for students to share about their time away, both the positive and perhaps the less so, but we also have to figure out how to ask the questions that allow us to focus on where they are now, transitioning back into school, making our way through the fall holidays, and planning for the year ahead.

In so many ways, it is just another way we ask ourselves how are we present for our students, and how we invite them to be present with us.

May this year be one in which we create space for the complexities of everyday life and spend the time to make meaningful moments to be present with one another.

**Snapshot of the Religious School:**

**Our Hebrew Department**

By Pam Gorin, Assistant Director of Education

Last year, we successfully piloted a new Hebrew program in our third through sixth grades. Led by our Hebrew Specialists, David Diamond and Gila Efrati, we created small-group learning experiences for all of our students by grade. This enabled the teachers to focus more closely on each individual student and gave the students the opportunity for more active engagement and participation in fluency and reading skills.

We had previously determined which **Tefilot** were the most important for the children to master before they finished sixth grade, and these form the basics of our Hebrew reading program. Both students and teachers enjoyed the small-group setting. We were very pleased with the outcomes and look forward to continuing the program this year.

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**Honoring Our Veterans**

To Our Dear Adas Israel Veterans,

We wish to honor you with an aliya on November 11, the Shabbat of Veterans Day. We hope you can join us!

Please notify Hazzan Rachel Goldsmith (hazzan.goldsmith@adasisrael.org) and include your Hebrew name.

Warmly,

Adas Israel Clergy

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**Save the Date!**

Adas Israel Field Trip to see
*The Pajama Game* at Arena

Sunday, November 19, 2:00 pm

“Terrific songs . . . sassy dancing . . . wiseacre humor . . . knockout score.” –Washington Post

Join the Adas Israel community at the theater! The Sleep-Tite Pajama Factory is a tiptop model of efficiency—so why are things getting so steamy? It could have something to do with how hard new superintendent Sid Sorokin has fallen for Babe Williams, the trouble-making head of the union grievance committee. Sparks really start to fly when a workers’ strike pits management against labor and ignites an outrageous battle of the sexes. Packed with seductive dance numbers like “Steam Heat” and “Hernando’s Hideaway,” The Pajama Game is the best way to ensure a good night’s rest during the hectic holiday season!

Register online or call 202-362-4433.

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**From the Director of Education**

By Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum

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**My Adas Israel Journey**

By Yoni Buckman, Youth & Family Educator

When I started working at Adas, I was instantly inspired by this community’s commitment to Jewish learning, creativity in engaging with tradition, and courage to envision a brighter future. Our work together has infused an unyielding stream of meaning into my life that has quenched my profound need for purpose. And so it is with deep appreciation to the Adas community that I share that I will be moving to Denver this month in hopes of cultivating as nourishing a Jewish environment as the one here in which I have been so

continued on page 13
Religious School Calendar

September 24–October 11: School Closed
Sunday, October 15: Sunday Classes Resume; Anne Frank House Mini Walk
Tuesday, October 17: Tuesday Classes Resume; First Night of Ma’alot
Wednesday, October 18: Wednesday Classes Resume

Adas After School

I hope that in my time at Adas I have shared some worthy words of Torah, and I would like to express my sincere gratitude for all that this community has taught me. Developing a Parshat HaShavu’ah class on Shabbat afternoons, after being plucked from the sidelines of an ultimate frisbee game, has taught me that Judaism is not a spectator sport but a story to which we can all contribute a line. Engaging in the task of diving into our religious school curriculum has taught me that while some objectives may feel beyond reach, the depth of joy that can be attained in their pursuit knows no bounds.

I firmly believe that this community will continue to welcome and uplift the spirit of everyone who crosses its threshold as you have welcomed and uplifted me. As I turn to the next chapter of my life, I will travel with the words of Torah all of you have given to me. It is because of my experiences with you that no truth seems too baffling and no joy too distant; but it is in my heart to share as you have wholeheartedly shared your truths and joys with me. ❧

Calling All Babies Born In 5777

Help us celebrate the new babies welcomed into the Adas community during the past year with a special Shabbat morning service in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary on Saturday, October 7th beginning at 9:15 am. Families with new babies should have received an invitation and are asked to respond to Jocelyn Dorfman at Jocelyn.Dorfman@adasisraelorg. If you have welcomed a new baby during the past year and did not receive an invitation, please contact Jocelyn.

What do I do, again?

Study with Hazzan Rachel Goldsmith
SUNDAY MORNINGS, 10:15 – 11:45 AM

Hazzan Goldsmith will be giving a series of classes on Sunday mornings. Come learn with her!

The first course in the fall will be a refresher of synagogue skills. If you have questions about the Shabbat service, where to go on the bimah, how the calendar or torah reading works, or why everyone else is standing up, this may be a good place to spend a few Sunday mornings from 10:15 –11:45 am. Come for one class or all four. Dates: October 15, October 22, and November 5.

The second class of the series in December will be learning to read Megillat Esther for Purim! If you know a little Torah trop, here’s your chance to expand your repertoire and participate in Purim services next March. December 3, 10, and 17. ❧

Gan HaYeled

The 5778 Gan school year is under way, and the hallways at the Gan are humming with excitement. New relationships are being formed and children are exploring and learning each day. Some new staff members have joined our veterans, and the mix of experience and youth provides joyful stimulation for all.

With the addition of our Assistant Director for Curriculum, Darci Lewis, the Gan has strengthened its focus on staff development and accountability. This translates into an even more powerful learning environment for our students and more support for our staff. We continue to lead the way in Jewish education by focusing on maximizing each individual child’s potential as we leverage the experience and knowledge of Early Childhood Developmental Support Coordinator Stephanie Slater’s expertise. Our students are fortunate indeed. ❧
SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES: Please turn off cell phones and pagers before entering services.

Sunday

Morning Minyan
9:00 am
11:00 am
Community Sukkah Building and Decorating
6:00 pm

Monday

Morning Minyan
7:30 am
9:00 am
11:00 am
9:00 am
Evening Minyan
6:00 pm

Tuesday

Morning Minyan
7:30 am
9:00 am
11:00 am
9:00 am
Evening Minyan
6:00 pm

Wednesday

Morning Minyan
7:30 am
9:00 am
11:00 am
9:00 am
Evening Minyan
6:00 pm

Thursday

Morning Minyan
7:30 am
9:00 am
11:00 am
9:00 am
Evening Minyan
6:00 pm

Friday

Morning Minyan
7:30 am
9:00 am
11:00 am
9:00 am
Evening Minyan
6:00 pm

Saturday

Morning Minyan
7:30 am
9:00 am
11:00 am
9:00 am
Evening Minyan
6:00 pm

10.30 am. Led by laypeople with the occasional assistance of Adas clergy, the TEM is a participatory service with a full, Plus U D’VARim (introducory 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 Services: 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 Menahem Peters or Rabbi Ben Shalva. Netivot, for students in grades K-3, is led by Linda Yitzchak or Allison Redisch. Junior Congregation, for grades 4-6, is led by Hani Buchman and teenage madrachim. "Dial-in for Programs & Services: If you are unable to attend programs, lectures, or services, dial in to hear. Call 202-586-8405. 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 (RJacobson@adasisrael.org).
Kol HaMayim

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 fifth 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!

Mikvah Guide Training Dates:
Wednesday October 18, 6:30–8:30 pm (dinner will be served), or Thursday October 19, 12:30–2:30 pm (lunch will be served).

Occasions when your guidance might be called upon include life-cycle events, infertility, healing, aging, conversions, and 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 an orientation on October 18 or 19 and ongoing informal training on your schedule. For questions or more information, or to express interest, even if you can’t attend a training, please contact Naomi Malka at 202-841-8776 or Mikvah@adasisrael.org.
**In Memoriam**

We mourn the loss of synagogue members:
- Jeanne Clayman
- Harry Grubert
- Mark Heller
- Muriel Mitchell
- Sidra Rausch
- Dr. Snyder Spigel

We note with sorrow and mourn the passing of:
- Herbert Goldberg, father of Debra Goldberg
- Jerome Phillip Hahn, grandfather of Eliza Simon
- Richard Levitt, father of Randall Levitt
- Shirley Lezell, mother of Lauren Lezell
- Marianne Liebermann, mother of Joanie Liebermann
- Derek Solomon, father of Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum

**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.

**Hesed Committee**

The Adas Israel Hesed Committee is committed to fostering a caring, compassionate, and giving community. Our sacred obligation is to help identify, reach out to, and lovingly support community members in moments of joy, pain, and/or grief. If you are experiencing an illness, or have surgery or medical treatments planned, or if someone in your family has had a new baby, please let the Hesed Committee know. We want to reach out to you. Contact hesed@adasisrael.org or rabbi.holtzblatt@adasisrael.org.

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**B’nai Mitzvah**

**Zachary Pan,** October 14

Zachary, son of Max Stier and Florence Pan, is a seventh grader at Washington International School. He began his Jewish education at Gan HaYeled. He celebrates his bar mitzvah with his brother, Noah; his grandparents, Serena Stier, Steve Burton, Wu-Ching Pan, and Felicia Pan; and other friends and family. For his mitzvah project, Zachary plans to volunteer at Martha’s Table, and to raise and donate money to build a water-pump well in a rural Cambodian community.

**Erin Pollack,** October 21

Erin, daughter of Becky Reed and Barry Pollack, is a seventh grader at Alice Deal Middle School. She started her Jewish education at Temple Sinai Nursery School, and has been attending the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School since kindergarten. Erin has spent a month each summer for the last four years at Camp Judaea. For her mitzvah project, she is volunteering for the Encephalitis Society. She shares this simcha with her brother Benjamin, and her grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins, and other family and dear friends.

**Harry Davidson,** October 21 (Havurah)

Harry, son of Alan and Melissa Goldman Davidson, is a seventh grader at the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School. He is also a proud graduate of the Gan HaYeled. Harry’s lineage at Adas Israel goes back six generations, and he will follow in the footsteps of mother Melissa, grandfather Michael, and great-grandfather Aaron Goldman (z”l), in celebrating his bar mitzvah at Adas. Harry shares this simcha with his sister, Amelia, and his adoring extended family.

**Gabriel Bassat,** October 28

Gabriel is the eldest son of Nathalie Goldfarb and José Manuel Bassat and has two brothers, Jacques (10) and Daniel (4). Knowing that all of his grandparents, cousins, aunts, and uncles would travel from Barcelona and Miami to celebrate with him was a big motivation when preparing for his bar mitzvah. His bar mitzvah is the starting point of a personal project to raise awareness about the plight of Venezuela (where his mother hails from) and help disadvantaged children. Gabriel is a seventh grader at Westland Middle School.

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**Life Cycle Information**

**Milestones**

**Births**
- Rebecca Mary Huffman, daughter of Stephanie & Wesley Huffman, was born July 18.
- Jacob Brett Friedman, son of Ashley & Elliot Friedman, was born July 19.
- Rose Gabrielle Stryker, daughter of Rachel & Brian Stryker, was born July 22.
- Nathaniel Lloyd Whiting, son of Genevieve & Edward Whiting, was born July 25.
- Evan Zachary August, son of Erin Cohen August & Eric August, was born August 17.

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

**August 17.**

- Nathaniel Lloyd Whiting, son of Genevieve & Edward Whiting, was born July 25.
- Rose Gabrielle Stryker, daughter of Rachel & Brian Stryker, was born July 22.
- Jacob Brett Friedman, son of Ashley & Elliot Friedman, was born July 19.
- Rebecca Mary Huffman, daughter of Stephanie & Wesley Huffman, was born July 18.

We note with sorrow and mourn the passing of:
- Herbert Goldberg, father of Debra Goldberg
- Jerome Phillip Hahn, grandfather of Eliza Simon
- Richard Levitt, father of Randall Levitt
- Shirley Lezell, mother of Lauren Lezell
- Marianne Liebermann, mother of Joanie Liebermann
- Derek Solomon, father of Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum

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**Festive Birthdays**

- Zachary Pan, October 14
- Erin Pollack, October 21
- Harry Davidson, October 21 (Havurah)
- Gabriel Bassat, October 28

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Bridges and Boundaries: The Contours of Community
Learning, Living and Exploring in Adas Israel’s Biran Beit Midrash
Over the course of the year, our rabbis and distinguished scholars will lead us in guided text study, conversations, and presentations that explore the Jewish tradition’s essential teachings on defining holy community. Together we’ll navigate the particular values that bind us and the universal ideas that inspire us, and then think together about where they do and don’t intersect.

MakomDC Learning | November, January 2018, March, & May

**Open Beit Midrash**
The first Tuesday of the month will offer an Open Beit Midrash, a place to sit across the table from fellow seekers and explore the rich, sophisticated, sacred texts that have animated our people for so many years.

**MakomDC Keynote Scholar**
The second Tuesday of the month will offer a keynote experience, featuring a dynamic scholar and master-teacher to explore the month’s topic, expanding and deepening the texts covered in the first week.

**"The Text" Text Study**
The third Tuesday of the month will explore transformative Jewish texts in their original Aramaic and Hebrew. That means we will break our teeth together and study with no translations but with lots of support from your peers and teachers.

**Shabbat Halakhah Learning**
On Shabbatot over the course of the year, (3rd Saturdays) Rabbi Alexander will give a text-based class, after kiddush in the BBM, using halakhah (Jewish life and living) as a prism through which to access our monthly topic.

**“The Heart of Torah” Book Talk and Signing with Rabbi Shai Held**
In conversation with Jeffrey Goldberg, Editor-In-Chief of The Atlantic
Sunday, October 8, at 7:30 pm in the Biran Beit Midrash
Co-sponsored by Sixth & I and the Washington Board of Rabbis
Please join us on Sunday, October 8, at 7:30 pm, as we host Rabbi Shai Held, who will discuss his new book, The Heart of Torah, in conversation with Jeffrey Goldberg, editor-in-chief of The Atlantic.

*The Heart of Torah*, which has been ranking as the #1, #2, or #3 new release in Amazon’s category of Torah, is now available for purchase. The work grew out of an intense labor of love and covers an extraordinary array of topics. Some of the core themes featured prominently are the centrality of compassion and empathy in Jewish ethics, the predominance of divine love in Jewish theology, the primacy of gratitude and generosity in Jewish spirituality, and the lived experience of being summoned by God to lives of goodness and holiness.
Americans in Russia—Russians in America
By Robin Jacobson, Library & Literary Programs Director

Russia is in the news a lot lately. Am I imagining that American Jews pay particular attention to news from that country? Millions of us descend from immigrants who fled Czarist Russia. One could speculate endlessly on what our family stories would be if those ancestors had stayed put. The thriving genre of Soviet-Jewish émigré fiction provides insight into that “road not taken.” These novels tend to reflect the experiences of authors who were born in the former Soviet Union and emigrated in the 1980s and 1990s. Adas Israel’s book club has already sampled from this genre, reading works by David Bezmozgis and Boris Fishman.

Here are two more talented Soviet-Jewish émigré authors to try: Sana Krasikov and Lara Vapnyar. Both have compelling new novels relating to Russia, and they are mirror images of each other. Krasikov’s The Patriots is about American immigrants in Russia, and Vapnyar’s Still Here is about Russian immigrants in the United States.

Americans in Russia
Sana Krasikov’s sprawling historical novel, The Patriots, follows one Jewish family for three generations. In 1934, Florence Fein, an idealistic young woman from Brooklyn, sets sail for the Soviet Union. She is eager to join the socialist cause and to reunite with a handsome Soviet engineer she met while he was on U.S. assignment. Alas for Florence, life in Stalin’s empire is grim and dangerous. In 1936, Soviet authorities confiscate her American passport, leaving her trapped in the USSR, a fate shared by many American expatriates.

In time, Florence is arrested for alleged anti-Soviet activity and serves seven years in brutal labor camps while her son, Julian, suffers in orphanages.

A generation later, Julian decides he’s done with the USSR after he is denied a Ph.D. because the “Jewish quota” has been met. He immigrates with his young family and the elderly Florence to the United States. Despite this family history, Julian’s son, Lenny, opts to return to Russia as an adult, hoping to become rich in the post-Soviet capitalist state. Distressed by Lenny’s decision, Julian takes advantage of a business trip to Russia to try to persuade Lenny to come back to America. While in Russia, Julian also researches Florence’s past in newly opened KGB archives. Bewildered by what he discovers, Julian gains understanding as he and Lenny become entangled in a corrupt Russian scheme.

Russians in America
Still Here by Lara Vapnyar is a contemporary novel about four Russian friends in their late 30s. They immigrated to New York over a 14-year span, but feel like outsiders in America. The four friends are: Sergey and Vica, a financially stressed married couple; Regina, a literary translator; and Vadik, a computer programmer who restlessly changes apartments, girlfriends, and his online dating profiles. Sergey and Regina have Jewish backgrounds, but Judaism is not a theme in the story. Mainly, the friends struggle to understand American culture and take turns guiding each other.

First Book Chat of the New Year
Sunday, October 29,
10:15-11:15 am in the Library
Join the discussion of All Who Go Do Not Return by Shulem Deen, an award-winning memoir of Hasidic life. Questions? Please contact Robin Jacobson, librarian@adasisrael.org.

200+ High Holy Day Gift Bags Delivered!
Yasher koach to the Hesed and Membership Engagement committees, and all those who volunteered to help deliver over 200 High Holy Day gift bags to new and veteran members before Rosh Hashanah. Each year, these committees coordinate delivery bags of holiday warmth to the newest members of the Adas Israel family.

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 at Marcy.Spiro@adasisrael.org or 202-362-4433, ext. 113.
Sukkot and Simchat Torah Greetings from Sisterhood President Miriam Rosenthal

Chag Sameach. Wishing you a joyful Sukkot and Simchat Torah.

Sisterhood’s Autumn and Early Winter Events

Opening Event, November 12

Join the women of the Adas Israel Sisterhood for our opening event, a book chat starting at 10:00 am in the Rose Ruth Freudberg Sisterhood Library with celebrated cookbook author—and longtime Adas Israel member—Joan Nathan. Joan will discuss her successful new book, King Solomon’s Table,* and will be available to sign copies (also for sale).

After we hear from Joan, take a seat at King Solomon’s Table! Sisterhood is hosting a luncheon (catered by Moti’s) of selected recipes from Joan’s cookbook. The luncheon will take place in Kay Hall from 11:00 am until noon.

Tickets start at $10 for Sisterhood members, $12 for non-members, and $15 at the door.

RSVP at http://adasisrael.org/sisterhood/. In addition, if you have any questions, contact Jodi Ochstein, jodiochstein@gmail.com, or Susan Winberg, susanw1608@comcast.net.

*If you join Sisterhood at the Woman of Valor level ($120) by November 1, the book is included and will be available for pickup at the event.

Sisterhood Sewing Circle Returns Oct. 8

The Sisterhood Sewing Circle will resume on October 8 at 10:00 in Funger Hall. Experienced and beginning seamstresses welcome. For more information and to express interest, contact Lesley Frost, lesleyfrost0@gmail.com.

Weekday Torah with Sisterhood ‘Psalms, Old and New,’ with Amy E. Schwartz, Oct. 17

Please join us for Weekday Torah with Sisterhood at 10:00 am on Tuesday, October 17, in the Biran Beit Midrash. Amy E. Schwartz, opinion editor of Moment Magazine, president of the Jewish Study Center, and a longtime Adas member, will lead a discussion of “Psalms, Old and New,” examining both ancient and contemporary responses to some of the best-known and most beloved of the 150 religious poems that make up the Book of Psalms. Besides anchoring the liturgy, the Psalms have inspired and comforted poets of every era and religion.

Weekday Torah with Sisterhood is an engaging approach to traditional Hebrew text study that offers participants the opportunity to study and discuss challenging texts and ideas. This class is open to the entire Adas Israel community. Classes are monthly, except in the summer, and we usually meet on the second or third Tuesday of the month. Students of all levels and

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backgrounds are welcome.

To RSVP and for more information, please contact Marilyn Cooper, MarilynCCooper70@gmail.com.

Weekday Torah with Sisterhood will meet on the following Tuesdays: October 17, November 14, December 12, January 23, February 20, March 20, April 17, May 8, and June 12.

Mah Jongg Group Resumes Oct. 19

Beginning Thursday, October 19, mah jongg will continue weekly at 1:00 pm in Sisterhood Hall.

Bring your National Mahjongg League card ($8, nationalmahjonggleague.org). The cards come in large print for $1 more. For those new to the game, we’ll teach you. This activity is not restricted to Sisterhood members.

To express interest and RSVP for the mah jongg group, contact Barbara Friedell, 702-630-5106 (C); 202-813-3781 (H); or bhfriedell@yahoo.com. This activity is open to everyone.

Learn to chant from the Torah in time for Sisterhood Shabbat!

You’ve heard words of Torah; here’s your chance to chant them . . . and to do so with confidence. Please contact Marilyn Kincaid, Marilyn.Kincaid0999@verizon.net, to read Torah at Sisterhood Shabbat on Saturday, March 10. If this is your first time or you need a refresher, Marilyn is willing to teach you this skill this fall.

New Group, Sisterhood Works

Sisterhood Works: Sisterhood has formed a group of women who work from their homes to help support each other in our endeavors, network, advise, make us feel more connected, and nurture our dreams. Meetings are monthly. For more information, contact June Kress, junebkress@gmail.com or 202-316-3439. All are welcome.

Sisterhood and the Rose Ruth Freudberg Sisterhood Library partner to bring you:

- **Sunday, Oct. 29, 10:15 am:** First Book Chat of the New Year. Join the discussion of *All Who Go Do Not Return*, an award-winning memoir of Hasidic life, by Shulem Deen.

- **Sunday, Dec. 10, 10:00 am:** Hanukkah Book Event for Pre-Schoolers and Their Special Adults. Author Pam Ehrenberg will read from her latest book, *Queen of the Hanukkah Dosas*.

Jewelry-Making for Hanukkah

Repurpose your vintage jewelry for the perfect gift for yourself or a loved one. On Sunday, Dec. 5, 12:30–2:00 pm, in Funger Hall. You supply the materials; we’ll help you create jewelry that sparkles. Bring extra beads—available at a local bead store, like Beadazzled on Connecticut Avenue, NW, or Etsy.com—to fill in and enhance; medium gauge wire crimp tubes and crimp covers; and some tools. These supplies are very inexpensive to buy from Amazon.com. Michaels has very inexpensive beads and supplies as well.

RSVP to Barbara Friedell, (H) 202-813-3781, (C) 702-630-5106, bhfriedell@yahoo.com.


By Miriam Rosenthal and Carol Ansell

Women’s League for Conservative Judaism (WLCJ) is the Conservative Movement’s umbrella organization for congregational Sisterhods. This past summer, four Adas Sisterhood members attended the WLCJ Centennial Convention in Crystal City, VA, along with two Adas professionals who presented workshops. We learned from our seminary leadership and affirmed our commitment to Israel. We also delivered a policy statement to the Israeli embassy.

Panels of female rabbis, educators, and health-care and domestic violence advocates discussed their challenges and hopes for the future. Workshops covered authors, women's spirituality, crafts, the mikvah, and more. The 420 convention delegates participated in a mitzvah project—Mathilde's Mentionables—named after Mathilde Schechter, the founder of Women's League, collecting almost 10,000 bras for distribution to homeless women. We came home with wonderful memories and new friends, renewed and ready to immerse ourselves in the coming year of Sisterhood.
About Lev B’lev—a New Joint Hesed and Social Action Endeavor

Lev B’lev is a new, joint Hesed and Social Action Committee initiative at Adas that integrates extending constructive compassion to victims of hate crimes with opportunities to create cohesion within the Washington, DC, interfaith community. The initiative attempts to eradicate hate and replace it with love and kindness. This effort launches at a time when hate and the response to it is dominating the news. White supremacist groups have marched in Virginia chanting, among other things, “Jews will not replace us.” This hate speech has led to protests, deadly violence, and, perhaps most ominous, political reactions that could embolden rather than deter those preaching the ugliest forms of divisiveness.

Members of the congregation interested in becoming involved in Lev B’lev should contact Bruce Charendoff, brucecharendoff@yahoo.com.

Lev b’lev Speaker Series

One Lev B’lev initiative is the launch of a speaker series to look at hate from a variety of perspectives, taking a 360-degree view of this chronic human plague with a goal of better understanding it and fashioning constructive, empathetic, impactful responses. Over the course of the next eight months, four speakers from different fields (e.g., science, history, psychology, politics, religion, education, and media) will join us to explore questions such as:

• What is hate? What is the biology of hate? Is it part of fight or flight? Can it ever be eradicated?
• What is the history of hate? How has it evolved/devolved? Does it correlate with national crises? Is there a psychological profile of a hater? What causes a hater to change his or her perspective? Does love conquer hate? Does incarceration? Does something else?
• Why is hate such an effective political strategy? Why does it fit so well with nationalism?
• What do the Torah, the Quran, and the Bible teach us about hate? With hate too often packaged in misguided religious terms, what is the role of religion in the campaign against it?
• What role could education play in bringing about a better, less hateful world? Starting at what age?
• How do we convince others to celebrate diversity rather than condemn it?
• What is the media’s responsibility in reporting, but not sensationalizing, hate crimes?

Reading Partners

Adas member Laura Melmed, a Reading Partners tutor, shared her enthusiasm about this very effective program in this letter:

ONE TUTOR. ONE CHILD. INFINITE POSSIBILITIES.

This is the motto of Reading Partners, an organization I’ve been volunteering with for the past three years. My weekly sessions with first grade students at Whittier Education Campus have been filled with the joy of seeing a student’s hard work pay off in finding the key to literacy. Reading Partners
engages communities in providing students with proven, individualized reading support with the goal of having them read at grade level by fourth grade; research shows that students who accomplish this have a greater opportunity to succeed in school and in life. There are 20 Reading Partners centers in DC schools.

Volunteers are trained to work with students one-on-one for 45-minute sessions, once or twice a week. Tutors guide students through a structured, research-based curriculum. Adas Israel is committed to strengthening our greater community through its many service initiatives, and last year, 11 of my fellow Adas members volunteered in the Reading Partners program. Now, we're looking to increase our numbers.

Here's what two of our current tutors had to say about Reading Partners:

**Ricki Gerger:** "What could be better than helping a child learn to love to read? Reading Partners has created an entire curriculum, and I get to teach it one-on-one to a child who is eager to learn it. The best!"

**Susan Tannenbaum:** "I think there is nothing more thrilling than being part of a process that begins to open up the world to a child. The process of reading and comprehending what you read is a basic tool of life. I am proud to be a partner in this endeavor at Bancroft school."

Please consider helping a child achieve this success. For more information or to volunteer, go to [http://readingpartners.org/location/washington-dc](http://readingpartners.org/location/washington-dc), contact Lois Fingerhut at loisafingerhut@gmail.com or me at lauramelmed@gmail.com.

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**Adas Volunteers Are Back at SOME**

Come join us on Monday, October 30, from 10:30 am to 1:15 pm, when we will once again serve a hot lunch to the hundreds of men and women who use SOME's services. Adas has committed to funding these meals through 2018. Volunteers must be 13 years or older.

SOME (So Others Might Eat) is located at 71 O Street NW. The closest Metro station is the New York Avenue (NoMa) station. For more transportation, see the SOME website, [http://some.org/about/contact/](http://some.org/about/contact/). For questions, contact Sharon Burka, slburka@aol.com.

**Summer Pop-Up Backpack Drive to Benefit Friendship Place**

Many thanks to everyone who donated backpacks filled with school supplies for our pop-up summer backpack drive to help kids who are homeless. Friendship Place staff picked up 71 filled backpacks for children who are in their shelters and transitional housing! To learn more about Friendship Place, visit [https://friendshipplace.org/](https://friendshipplace.org/).

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If you need Hesed, or would like to volunteer, please contact Rabbi Holtzblatt (rabbi.holtzblatt@adasisrael.org or hesed@adasisrael.org). We particularly need volunteers for short-term assignments such as driving people to doctor appointments or picking up prescriptions. We thank all who participate in Hesed.
What brought you to Washington, DC? What do you think are some of the advantages and challenges of raising a family in this area?

We moved from Boston to DC in 1997 for David’s job after business school. Washington, DC, was a beautiful mix of many elements we sought in a city. Because we grew up in Ecuador, we wanted a city that was international and diverse, warm and open, and also offered a strong and vibrant Jewish community. At the time, Washington offered all of the advantages of an established city while still being relatively manageable and livable. Today, what’s most challenging about raising a family here is finding balance and staying grounded given how much the city has to offer and the intensity with which people experience it.

This past September marks your 20th Adas Israel membership anniversary. Thinking back to 1997, why was it important for you to join a synagogue? And why did you choose Adas?

As most Jewish stories go, this one is quite serendipitous and bashert-ish! We knew very few people when we moved here, but we had heard of Rabbi Miller, who was the only female rabbi at Adas Israel and had recently visited Ecuador and met David’s family. We were intrigued and made an appointment to meet with her and learn more. That day, Adas became our shul-shopping front-runner. Since we had also decided to start a family, we were drawn to Adas’s Gan HaYeled nursery school, one of a few NAEYC-accredited preschools in the area. We joined Adas’s elegant, warm, urban, intellectual, and international community just in time for the High Holidays that year and never looked back. It’s been a wonderful place in which to grow and live our Judaism.

Jessika, you are very involved with our Jewish Mindfulness Center. For those unfamiliar, can you tell us a bit about the programming that we offer and how it helps you connect more spiritually?

From my perspective, the Jewish Mindfulness Center of Washington DC (JMCW) is a Jewish response to a growing awareness and sensitivity to what it means to be whole and to engage in the world with every aspect of who we are, including our vulnerability, our imperfections, and our humanity. It is also a celebration of Judaism’s deep spiritual heritage. Through its programming, JMCW is like a water well that hydrates the values Adas Israel’s community cherishes: community, prayer, diversity, inclusiveness, openness, tradition, mystery, and meaning. We offer an outdoor Kol Nidre service that drew nearly 2,000 people last year, musical Return Again Shabbat services for all ages, regular yoga classes, and guest speakers on topics ranging from mindful parenting to Jewish spirituality. We also provide spaces for reflection and learning in rabbi-led, Torah-inspired sits or meditations. Interestingly, while JMCW started off as a dream for Adas, today its spirit infuses every aspect of our community. I often tell friends how palpable this energy is in every part of the Adas experience. I’m proud that this is our spiritual home.

I had the pleasure of staffing the 10th-grade Israel trip that your son Alex went on this summer. And rather than flying back with us, he met up with the rest of your family to stay for an extra two weeks. What was your Israel experience like? What were some of your favorite stops, moments, memories, etc.?

Without sounding clichéd, our trip to Israel with our children Talya (18), Alex (16), and Yael (13) was transformational. Since we were last there in 1997, we got a little older, our family was three members bigger, and Israel felt more modern and established. We noticed a natural rhythm and faster pace that we didn’t remember feeling before. Yet, that feeling of arriving at a place where we belonged was still very much there. We traveled the entire country in two weeks and got to revisit old places and make new stops this time through our children’s eyes. We heard the Biblical stories again, grappled with the tensions and realities of a conflicted country, and saw the miracle of a reclaimed desert and the abundance of delicious, locally grown produce. We visited the North...
and stopped at Kibbutz Lavi, where our children heard first-hand the story of how David’s family fled Nazi Germany and survived the war. We visited the Deller Sukkah, a hand painted fully functional wooden sukkah owned by David’s maternal grandmother’s family that was smuggled from Germany to Israel and now has a permanent spot at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem. We also visited Ein Gedi, rafted on the Jordan River, snorkeled in Eilat, and stopped by the Ramon crater. Our whirlwind tour ended with just enough time to shop at Sarona Market and enjoy our last Paleta treat, a delicious, seasonally flavored, Mexican-inspired, Tel Aviv produced popsicle. Our favorite part of the trip was witnessing Israel as a “miracle country,” a place that inspires us to believe and stay open to what’s possible.

You have three beautiful children. What are some of your favorite memories of them growing up at Adas?
Our favorite memories are the Gan, attending Shabbat services, and, of course, celebrating their b’nai mitzvah. The Gan years were frantic and fabulous. The Jewish calendar was alive and vibrant in those early years, and watching them live and learn Judaism at the Gan was magical, filled with joy, music, color, and lots of glitter. We celebrated major and minor holidays and they all came home with enough Jewish arts and crafts to fill every corner of our home . . . forever.

We also loved attending shul regularly with the children. After the Gan, staying connected to Adas became a top priority, especially because they attended Georgetown Day School, a secular school. We did anything to convince (cajole?) them to get dressed for services and often brought bags of toys, books, and sugary snacks each Saturday to get everyone there. Yet, the children’s favorite shul activity was fidgeting with the tzitzit in David’s tallit. They loved running their little fingers through it until they figured out how to pull the strings out one by one. Now, David has a well-worn, un-Kosher tallit that tells a special family story.

Celebrating our children’s b’nai mitzvah at Adas is another meaningful memory. Watching our children shine on the bimah and become a link to the next Jewish generation was an incredibly powerful and humbling moment. Today, each of our children connects to Judaism in his or her own way, and we love that Adas continues to be a place that meets them where they are and offers them many options of what Judaism can be.

You are answering these questions in late August when it’s 100 degrees, but people will be reading this in October when it will feel cooler. What are some of your favorite things to do in and around DC in the fall? Do you have any favorite homemade apple or pumpkin treats?

There are so many things to do in October. When the children were younger, we loved heading out to Homestead Farm, a hand-painted fully functional wooden sukkah owned by David’s maternal grandmother’s family that was smuggled from Germany to Israel and now has a permanent spot at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem. We also visited Ein Gedi, rafted on the Jordan River, snorkeled in Eilat, and stopped by the Ramon crater. Our whirlwind tour ended with just enough time to shop at Sarona Market and enjoy our last Paleta treat, a delicious, seasonally flavored, Mexican-inspired, Tel Aviv produced popsicle. Our favorite part of the trip was witnessing Israel as a “miracle country,” a place that inspires us to believe and stay open to what’s possible.

Anne Frank House Update

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 members of the Adas community, which enables us to do our important work. Our annual Walk to End Homelessness will take place on October 15 at Adas Israel. The walk 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 displayed proudly on the walk T-shirts.

Anne Frank House Walk to End Homelessness

Sunday, October 15
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 serves 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 2, to guarantee your T-shirt will be available by the day of the walk.

To register, visit http://www.theannefrankhouse.org/ and click the “Walk to End Homelessness” tab. For additional information about the walk event, corporate sponsorship, or any other questions about Anne Frank House, please contact Sue Ducat, 301-841-9962 or stansue@verizon.net.

Thank you for your support!
The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

**Adas Fund**
*In Honor Of:* Birth of Herlene & Yaakov Nagler’s granddaughter, **Ellie Kaufman** by Rhoda Ganz. Sarah Bickart’s engagement by Steve & Sybil Wolin.

**Anna & Joseph Blumenthal Video Fund**
*In Loving Memory Of:* Flora Atkin by Joseph Atkin.

**Anne Frank House Fund**
By: [list of contributors]

**Bereavement Fund**
*In Honor Of:* Steven Schawt by Andrew Akers.

**Board Sunshine Fund**
*By:* Elliot Wolff.

**B’Yahad Special Needs Fund**
*In Honor Of:* Birth of Herlene & Yaakov Nagler’s new granddaughter, **Ellie Kaufman** by Drs. Steven & Sybil Wolin.

**Cantor Brown Discretionary Fund**
*In Memory Of:* Annette Levin Sherman by Rennie Sherman.

**Congregational Kiddush Fund**

**Daily Minyan Fund**
*In Honor Of:* Birth of our granddaughter, **Rose Gabrielle Stryker** by Ronald & Rae Brooks. Birth of Herlene & Yaakov Nagler’s new granddaughter, **Ellie Kaufman** by Ricki Gerger. **In Recognition Of:** Ron Lapping’s Simchat Torah honor by Ricki Gerger. **In Memory Of:** Robert Forbes by Ronald & Rae Brooks. Robert Horwitz by Marwayne Horwitz. **Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School Fund**
*In Recognition Of:* Sandy Eskin’s Simchat Torah honor by Ricki Gerger. **In Memory Of:** Derek Solomon by Roger & Renée Hendrich, Michael & Lois Fingerhut, Bruce Ray & April Rubin, Courtney & Marissa Tisch.

**Ethel & Nat Popick Chronicle Fund**
*For The Speedy Recovery Of:* David Bubes by Ricki Gerger.

**Fund for the Future**
*For The Speedy Recovery Of:* Toby Joseph by Ricki Gerger.

**Goldstein Rosh Hodesh Minyan Fund**
*In Honor Of:* Steve Kleinrock’s birthday by Ricki Gerger.

**Harry & Judie Linowes Youth Endowment Fund**
*In Memory Of:* Mildred Bierman by Harry & Judie Linowes.

**Havurah Kiddush Fund**
*By:* Sheldon Kimmel.

**Hesed & Bikkur Cholim Fund**
*In Honor Of:* Rae Grad’s 70th birthday by Jane Baldinger, Michael & Lois Fingerhut, Steven & Ruth Kleinrock. **In Memory Of:** Kathleen Hoppe’s beloved furry kids, **Moishe & Crisette** by Marcia Miller. **Derek Solomon** by Betsy Strauss.

**Ida Mendelson Memorial Prayer Book Fund**
*In Honor Of:* Birth of Herlene & Yaakov Nagler’s new granddaughter, **Ellie Kaufman** by Glenn & Cindy Easton. **In Memory Of:** Gertrude “Gussie” Jorisch by Paul Jorisch. **Richard Levitt** by Yaakov & Herlene Nagler.

**Julius & Anna Wolpe Auditorium Fund**
*In Memory Of:* Donald Wolpe by Rona Katz.

**Kullen Family Fund**
*In Memory Of:* Dora & David Margolit, Rose & Joseph Rabinowitz, all by Dr. Shirley Kullen. **Leah Channin Day School Fund**
*In Memory Of:* **Dick Levitt** by Ricki Gerger.

**MakomDC Fund**
*By:* Steve & Maryse Horblitt.

**Mikvah Fund**
*In Gratitude For:* Rabbis Suzzy Stone, Scott Perlo, Aaron Alexander, & Aaron Potek, all by Emma Green.

**Mikvah Capital Campaign**
By: Women’s League for Conservative Judaism.

**Mildred & Jess Fisher Nursery School Fund**
*In Memory Of:* Derek Solomon by Ricki Gerger, Marsha Pinson.

**Morris Hariton Senior Programming Fund**
*By:* Carl & Nancy Gewirz.

**Offerings Fund**
*By:* Steven & Kim Aftergood, Scott Levine & Melissa Blume.

**In Honor Of:** William Kurtzin’s special birthday by Shirley Cohen. **Stuart Butler’s** big birthday by Manny Schiffres & Rae Grad. **For The Speedy Recovery Of:** Ruth Ernst by Lawrence & Jean Bernard.

**Rabbi Alexander Discretionary Fund**

**Rabbi Holtzblatt Discretionary Fund**

**Rabbi Rosenbaum Discretionary Fund**
*In Memory Of:* **Derek Solomon** by Michael Madden & Mindy Saraco, Chuck & Lesley Rich.

**Rabbi Stanley Rabinowitz History Fund**
*In Memory Of:* Florence Fibus by Carole Lerner.

**Refugee Response Project**
*By:* Sarah Frumkin, Diane Abelman Wattenberg.

**In Honor Of:** Ricki Gerger becoming president of Adas Israel Congregation by Steven & Ruth Kleinrock.

**Rose R. Freudberg Sisterhood Memorial Library Fund**
*In Honor Of:* Irwin & Grace Lebow’s 66th anniversary by Ricki Gerger. **Sonya Gichner’s** special birthday by Fradel Kramer. *In Memory Of:* Etta Cohen by Sheldon I. Cohen. **Zuse Honikman** by Gerrie Dubit. **Derek Solomon** by Irv & Grace Lebow. **Harry Popovsky** by Alan Popovsky. **David Rosenberg** by Charlotte Teicher.

**Rothstein Family Israel College Scholarship Fund**
*By:* Ben & Tosha Berman.
Office Closing

Sukkot Day 1
Thursday, October 5
Schools/Offices Closed

Sukkot Day 2
Friday, October 6
Schools/Offices Closed

Shemini Atzeret
Thursday, October 12
Schools/Offices Closed

Simchat Torah
Friday, October 13
Schools/Offices Closed

Jewish Life and Learing continued from page 9

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. 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.

Most of us live in houses or apartments built by others. 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, ultimately, we 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.
UPCOMING CHRONICLE DEADLINE—

January: Thursday, November 30