Simchat Torah (Rejoicing with the Torah) at Adas begins Monday evening, October 1st!
5779 will be a year of study and evaluation that leads to naming the values of our community.

I recently attended a committee meeting (!) where some very smart people were discussing — what else? — how to make our community even better. “How about if the rabbis share with us their vision for the year?” Wow! I’m not aware that we’ve ever done that! What a great idea! And so that’s what Rabbis Holtzblatt and Alexander did at this year’s first board meeting on August 29.

This kind of “vision” is a statement of what we’ll accomplish this year and answers questions, such as: What will this achievement do for us? How will we be different at the end of the year from how we are now? How will we grow?

5779 will be a year of study and evaluation that leads to naming the values of our community. The Board of Directors hasn’t done this in a few years, and all healthy organizations go through this exercise from time to time to have a clear sense of their future. Defining our values helps us set priorities. And to succeed in this effort we have to study where we are now and agree on what we do best. And we’ll see what’s missing, as well as what we can do better.

Our clergy will provide wonderful tools to help us define our values. This year’s MakomDC theme, “The Heart of Home,” Cantor Brown will incorporate this theme into parts of this year’s Musical Moments calendar, expanding our understanding of its meaning. Through relevant texts and commentaries, we’ll study with our rabbis and guest scholars such questions as: What defines a place as home? Who gets to call home, home? What influences our understanding of a Jewish homeland?

When we think of Adas Israel as our spiritual home, it’s easy to see how answering such questions sets a framework through which to study our values as well. And I’ll keep you updated on the progress the Board of Directors makes toward this goal.

Connect this with our High Holy Day theme, “Heart, Hope, Strength: Take Strength, and With Courageous Heart, Place Hope Towards God,” a riff on the last words of Psalm 27. We recite this Psalm every day from the first of Elul until Hoshanah Rabbah. It brings us tremendous comfort as we assess our lives going into the Chaggim, and as we face the fear that this process brings.

Psalm 27 contains these poignant and familiar words:

“One thing do I ask of God, it is this that I seek that I dwell in the house of God all the days of my life . . .”

The “house of God” of which David speaks is the Temple, of course, and continuing to our time it’s a “house of worship,” whether it be a physical home or a metaphysical one. And our overwhelming yearning is for the protection — emotional and spiritual as well as physical — that this home provides.

As we write our narratives through 5779, as we examine our values as a community, my wish for our Adas family is that we grasp our individual meaning of “home” in all its senses, that we derive strength from this journey, and that we are sustained by the hope we place in God.

Clergy Corner

RABBI SARAH KRINSKY

“In Israel, the phrase, acharei hachagim, has seeped into the mainstream vernacular.”

Literally meaning “after the holidays,” it refers to the marathon season of Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret, and Simchat Torah that we have just completed. This term has become so ingrained into everyday speech that it is actually now used as a general shorthand for “this will be delayed, but will happen eventually.” Even in times of the year in which these fall chagim are months away, Israelis—when asked about a task that is not yet completed—will promise that it will be ready acharei hachagim. Eventually. Soon. Just not yet.

So, too, with the rhythm of synagogue life. As the slowness of summer gets swept away by the whirlwind of preparation for the High Holy Days, more and more gets pushed to the future acharei hachagim: that October moment when the year can finally begin. When routines can be established, when classes can proceed uninterrupted, when programs can be planned and executed with the proper time and attention.

For me, this period of acharei hachagim has taken on heightened promise and significance this year. After starting at Adas in July with the warm (literally and figuratively) welcome of the summer promise and significance this year. After starting at Adas in July with the warm (literally and figuratively) welcome of the summer slowness of the High Holy Days, more and more gets pushed to the future acharei hachagim: that October moment when the year can finally begin. When routines can be established, when classes can proceed uninterrupted, when programs can be planned and executed with the proper time and attention.

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Musical Moments at Adas

Brought to you by Cantor Arianne Brown & the Musical Moments Committee.

Featured Musical Performance

Jewish Music, Jewish Soul

Starring Cantor Simon Spiro

Joined by Cantor Arianne Brown, DC's Thomas Circle Singers, and our own Flash Choir & Kolot

Sunday, November 4 @ 3:00pm

SPECIAL EVENT

A gift to the Jewish community as the first of our incredible Kramer Family Concert Series. Come join world-renowned performer Simon Spiro in a dazzling concert of powerful Jewish music encompassing various genres and styles. A wonderful dessert reception in Kay Hall follows.

Cantor Simon Spiro is recognized by his colleagues as one of the foremost cantors alive today. He is known as “the British jazz singer” for balancing dual careers in cantorial and pop music. His hit singles on Israeli and British pop charts are rivaled only by the emotional depth of his prayers, boosted by gorgeous choral and orchestral arrangements.

Free of charge with advance RSVP by visiting adasisrael.org/musicalmoments or calling 202-362-4433; $10 at the door.

2018–19 Program

Singing in the Sun

Parlor Concert and Musical Gathering for Our Adas Snowbirds

Monday, February 4 @ 4:00pm

A chance to reconnect with Adas while enjoying sunny Florida. RSVP to emma.rosenthal@adasisrael.org. Parents of Adas members are warmly invited.

Move & Groove

Sunday, February 10 @ 10:00am

An exciting concert for families with young children! Come move and groove with our children’s entertainers. All are welcome.

Kol HaOlam 2019

Saturday, March 2 @ 8:00pm

Witness the ever popular Annual National Collegiate Jewish A Cappella Championship Competition . . . with a new twist!

Lost at Home

A Journey to Everywhere & Nowhere!

Wednesday, March 20 @ 7:00pm

Come lose yourself in the Purim story, spoofed in our spiel by way of thematic music about home. This, along with our Megillah reading and building transformation, is an evening you won’t want to miss.

Nefesh Mountain

Jewish Bluegrass

Shabbat, May 17 – 18

Nefesh Mountain is the place where bluegrass and old-time music meet with Jewish heritage and tradition. Join us over Shabbat as these rising stars infuse our Shabbat with their unique music.

Starring Cantor Simon Spiro

Choral Jubilation

Sunday, July 7 @ 3:00pm

A stellar performance by the DC’s Thomas Circle Singers and Flash Choir.

Free of charge with advance RSVP by visiting adasisrael.org/musicalmoments or calling 202-362-4433; $10 at the door.

Nefesh Mountain

Huppah

Saturday, October 5 @ 4:00pm

A joyous concert for the Jewish wedding community.

Free of charge with advance RSVP by visiting adasisrael.org/musicalmoments or calling 202-362-4433; $10 at the door.

adasisrael.org/musicalmoments
Simchat Torah @ Adas
THE BIGGEST TORAH PARTY OF 5779!

Erev Simchat Torah
Clergy-Led Instrumental Service
MONDAY, OCT. 1, BEGINNING @ 6:30 PM

Non-Instrumental Service w/ TEM
MONDAY, OCT. 1, @ 7:00 PM

Simchat Torah Morning
Community Service w/ S.T. Honorees
TUESDAY, OCT. 2, BEGINNING @ 9:15 AM

Featuring the Mayer brothers, along with our local DC klezmer workshop instructors, to lead us in festive song & dance!

On Simchat Torah, the Torah scrolls wish to dance—so we become their feet! 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 Erev Simchat Torah service with the Traditional Egalitarian Minyan, without instruments, at 7:00 pm. All are welcome! Also look out for a post-hakafah klezmer jam session - bring your instrument along to keep the music going after we’ve sung, danced, and read Torah! The Erev Simchat Torah Reception in Wasserman Hall is Sponsored by Steve Rabinowitz & Laurie Moskowitz in memory of Steve’s mother, Dorothy Rabinowitz, on her Yahzeit, linking her memory with the beauty and importance of Simchat Torah is a lasting and meaningful memorial.

Full Holiday Information Available Online at adasisrael.org/sukkot

Simchat Torah HONOREES 5779

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 those of their families. Please join us on the morning of Simchat Torah on Tuesday, October 2, when we honor this year’s worthy honorees.

Janet Scribner — Janet has been a member of Adas for five years. Both at Adas, and in her professional life, Janet sees herself as someone who “gets things done.” Janet is a mikvah guide, serves on the Board of Directors, is a floor gabbai for Charles E. Smith Sanctuary services, and is co-chair with Edna Povich of the Hesed Committee’s meal team. She also serves as a chaver on the Bereavement committee. Janet sees being of service as integral to her identity. She has been a CPA in private practice for the past 30 years and enjoys the ballet, reading, dining out with friends, and all family gatherings.

Jessica Nemeth — Jessica and her husband David have been members of Adas Israel for 21 years, and their daughters Aviva and Yael joined in 1999 and 2004, respectively. Jessica credits hachnasat orchim (hospitality) for her entry into a full Jewish life, and it remains the core principle in her participation in synagogue life. She has served on the Board, the Minyan Coordinating Committee, and various other committees over the years, but her primary activity is “inviting a lot of people to dinner.” Her children have been known to refer to “Mom’s Young Couple of the Month Come to Dinner Club,” and her greatest achievement was fitting 30 people into her dining room for seder one year. She also created, and continues to organize the North Cleveland Park Sukkah Walk, the OG of sukkah walks, now in its 18th year. She learned all she knows about making people feel welcome from her chevra at the Traditional Egalitarian Minyan, where she and her family joyfully daven. When she is not hosting Shabbat meals, Jessica is a clinical psychologist on the staff of the Capital Institute for Cognitive Therapy.

Andrew Herman — Andrew and his wife Amy joined Adas 22 years ago, immediately finding a warm and stimulating community when they enrolled their oldest child in Gan Ha’Yeled. As a member of the Adas Board, Andrew chairs the Finance Committee and has also served on the committees for education along with those handling the recruitment of Rabbi Alexander and Rabbi Solomon. He was a founding member of Scotch & Scriptures as he enjoys every opportunity to pursue Jewish learning. At Adas Israel and in his professional career, Andrew prioritizes client service. He sees his role as ensuring that Adas allocates its funds to provide the optimal member experience. “Our Jewish flame grows brighter when a person can feel an immediate connection both to the Adas community and their Jewish identity—whether through prayer, Jewish mindfulness, education, listening to a speaker, or participating in any number of other activities.” Andrew is a partner in the global law firm Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP, where he specializes in private equity and mergers and acquisitions transactions. He enjoys running, skiing, traveling, and the challah Amy bakes for Shabbat. He has a strong passion for Israel and college basketball. Andrew and Amy’s teenage children, Emma and Arthur, attend Georgetown Day School. Emma was elected International Sh’licha for BBYO, leading Jewish heritage, community service, and social action programming. Arthur plays competitive travel soccer and is an avid fan of the University of North Carolina Tarheels, like his dad.

Irwin Lebow — A Boston native, Irwin served in the Navy from 1944 to 1946, and obtained a PhD in physics from MIT in 1951. He was president of Temple Emmanu in Lexington, MA, in 1964–66 and came to Washington in 1975 to serve as chief scientist at the Defense Communications Agency. Irwin and Grace joined Adas in 1981, and for the past 37 years have been very active members of the community. He was the floor gabbai for more than 10 years beginning in the late 1980s, and was twice chairman of the Religious Committee (now the Religious Practices Committee). Irwin received the Yad Hakavod award in 2003 and continues to lead Shabbat Mincha on Saturday afternoons. This past April, he celebrated the 79th anniversary of his bar mitzvah. Grace (who lovingly painted this portrait of Irwin) and Irwin have been married for 67 years and have been blessed with three children and four grandchildren.

Irwin Lebow

Grace Lebow

Andrew Herman

Jessica Nemeth

Janet Scribner

Irwin Lebow

Grace Lebow

Andrew Herman

Jessica Nemeth

Janet Scribner
5779 HIGH HOLY DAYS TODAH RABAH

...to our Clergy & Service Leaders: Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt, Rabbi Aaron Alexander, Rabbi Sarah Kinsky, Cantor Arianne Brown, Hazan Rachel Goldsmith, Rabbi Kenneth Solomon, Michael Leifman, and The Return Again Band.

...to Marky and Martin Kirsch for dedicating our Yiskor Book of Remembrance in loving memory of their parents, Samuel and Sadie Lebowitz and Ralph and Helen Kirsch.

...to our shofar blowers: Jennie Litvak, Howard Ungar, Zach Gayer, and Menuhah Peters.

...to the Charles E Smith Sanctuary musicians and the Return Again Band.

...to the Adas Israel Choral singers, soloists, and prayer leaders.

...to those who led Youth Services: Menuhah Peters, Robyn Helzner, Sarah Attermann, and Elizabeth Goen.

...to the Adas Israel staff, including Melissa Adler, High Holy Day Coordinator, and Naomi Malka, Director of Immersive Experiences.

...to Rich Webster for his beautiful graphic designs of the High Holy Day booklet, signage, and iconography.

...to our incredible Maintenance Team: Charles Mallory, Steve Claar, Mike Freeman, Calvin Casey, Phillip Thomas, Tyrone McCard, and Corey Jones.

...to our amazing Mikvah Guides of the Adas Israel Community Mikvah, who facilitated countless pre-holiday immersions and helped our community usher in the season in a meaningful and mindful way.

...to the Ruthe and Nathan Katz Dial-In Fund, so members were able to hear our services from afar.

...to Elinor Tattar for underwriting the congregational Break-the-Fast in memory of Dr. Stuart R. Tattar together with the Elinor Tattar, Alix Speigel and Hanna Rosin.

...to our madrichim (teen assistants).

...to Torah, Haftarat, and HaShrei readers for Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, and Simchat Torah.

...to the daveners in the Preliminary & Shacharit Services on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

...to all of our officers and lay leadership.

...to all our ushers and their coordinator, Mark Berlin.

...to our Yom Kippur afternoon speakers: Alis Speigel and Hanna Rosin.

...to everyone who helped build and decorate the Adas Israel sukkah.

...and to the nearly 5,000 members and guests who attended and participated in our High Holy Day services.

HOLIDAYS @ ADAS

The Adas Fund
2018/5779

Inspired by the work of HESED

We look forward to hearing stories of inspiration and community from our Hesed Team members as the campaign progresses, and to celebrating their achievements over the year. We hope you will join with them at any level of giving as we demonstrate our gratitude for the many personal and family journeys Adas Israel’s members, clergy, and staff inspire.

Learn more and pledge to the campaign at adasisrael.org/adasfund

APPRECIATION FOR THE WORK OF OUR HIGH HOLY DAY USHERS AND GREETERS

If you enjoyed High Holy Day services more this year, it just might be partially attributed to the fact that we had nearly 75 volunteers helping us with ushering and greeting. We had over 140 time slots in as many as five different services a day over five days.

Thanks go especially to Mark Berlin, High Holy Day Usher Coordinator, and to Marcy Spira for her exemplary staff help. And, of course, deep thanks and appreciation go to each of our many volunteers, many of whom helped for the first time:


The Chronicle

October 2018
MakomDC 2018–19 Season
The Heart of “Home”: Judaism’s Multi-Textured, Spiritual, Architectural Guide to Sacred Space

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. To learn more visit adasisrael.org/makomdc.

Register for lectures or classes online or by calling Courtney Tisch, 202-362-4433, ext. 125.

The Chronicle

MAKOMDC OCTOBER LEARNING

THE HEART OF HOME
Judaism’s Multi-TEXTured, Spiritual, Architectural Guide to Sacred Space

MakomDC @ Adas Israel 2018-2019

ONGOING LEARNING

POST-KIDDUSSH HALAKHAH CLASS
with Rabbi Aaron Alexander
TUESDAYS, NOV. 13, JAN. 29, MARCH 19, & MAY 21 @ 7:30 PM
Rabbi Alexander will lead learners in a textual exploration of a topic in Jewish Law, using original sources without translation. This series is designed primarily for those with previous experience studying classical rabbinic texts in Hebrew/Aramaic.

BOKER OR SHABBAT STUDY
SATURDAY MORNINGS @ 8:30 AM
Boker Or meets Saturday mornings in the Biran Beit Midrash with the weekly portion as its focus.

FRIDAY PARSHA STUDY
with Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt or Rabbi Aaron Alexander
FRIDAY MORNINGS @ 10:00 AM
Please join us Friday mornings in the Biran Beit Midrash for an exclusive look at the weekly parsha. On the first and second Friday of the month, Rabbi Holtzblatt will explore the parsha through the lens of Hasidut and mysticism; on the third and fourth Fridays, Rabbi Alexander will use the Talmud as the prism for the weekly reading; and on the fifth Friday, Rabbi Krinsky will lead the exploration.

*This event will be livestreamed at adasisrael.org/adaslive.

OCTOBER MakomDC SCHOLAR:
Rabbi Barry Wimpfheimer
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16 @ 7:30 PM

When Co-Rabbis Co-Teach . . . Be Ready for Anything & Everything
with Rabbis Holtzblatt & Alexander
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6 @ 1:15 PM
Rabbis Holtzblatt and Alexander will introduce the month’s theme and lead learners and seekers through an in-depth exploration of the rich, sophisticated, sacred texts that have animated our people for so many years.

The Text with Rabbi Elianna Yolkut
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23 @ 7:30 PM
Explore transformative Jewish texts in their original Aramaic and Hebrew. This means that we will break our teeth together and study with no translations but with lots of support from your peers and teachers.

Synthesis & Application with Rabbi Sarah Krinsky
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 30 @ 7:30 PM
This new addition to our MakomDC line-up will offer participants a space to revisit some of the month’s core texts and teachings, ask questions, debate ideas, and gain further familiarity with the month’s messages.

*This event will be livestreamed at adasisrael.org/adaslive.
Some of us have been working with mindfulness for some time, and some of us are new or just beginning to explore these practices. One of the beautiful qualities here is that we all are really at the same place: beginning with our breath, finding “that still, small voice within,” and bringing in expansiveness as we work to quiet our thoughts. Together, we are guided and supported by Jewish texts, ritual, and many teachings from our tradition. And it seems that we need mindful practices now more than ever as we face especially challenging days in our community, country, and world.

Meditation practice, mindful movement, and the wisdom found in Jewish texts can help keep us grounded and steady. These practices help us develop the equilibrium to live our own lives fully and to do whatever we are called on for tikun olam, repairing the world. The Institute for Jewish Spirituality (IJS) has a web page that speaks directly to this and provides myriad resources (essays, webinars, poetry, teachings, and practices) for these times. See US link below under JMCW Recommends. Likewise, JMCW’s offerings here at Adas Israel provide a variety of contemplative programs, practices, and services to help us remember our joy, find peace, and give us the strength to face challenges. We hope you’ll join our community as we breathe, sit, move, sing, and practice together.

ONGOING OFFERINGS

Our weekly JMCW meditation and yoga classes offer a home to those who wish to explore embodied spirituality. The yoga program includes an array of practices that seek to awaken and stimulate the senses through full mind/body exploration. Classes often draw on Mussar, Kabbalah, and the wisdom of Jewish thinkers. meditation sits offers participants an opportunity to come together for guided teachings, a wide variety of meditation techniques, and silent community sits.

Vinyasa Lunar Flow

A slow-paced asana practice for all levels, led by a rotating roster of JMCW faculty.

Weekly Meditation Sit

A community sit that integrates meditation techniques with guided teachings, led by a rotating roster of JMCW faculty.

The whole world is a very narrow bridge. And the most important thing is not to be afraid

— Rebbe Nachman of Breslov

adasisrael.org/jmcw

JMCW RECOMMENDS . . .

Institute for Jewish Spirituality

“Resources to Support Practice in Our Time”

Here you will find teachings in various formats, including short essays, poetry, webinars, and guided meditations. Using wisdom from both contemporary and traditional sources, a host of rabbis and other teachers present topics in mindfulness relevant to today. This resource list is updated continually and can also be accessed at the IJS homepage (www.jewishspirituality.com), under Resources on the top banner.

Return Again to Shabbat with Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt & Alexander, Cantor Brown & The Return Again Band

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12 @ 6:30 PM

This monthly service is an intergenerational favorite in our congregation! Join us for a reflective journey into the power of Shabbat. The evening features seasoned musicians and a spiritual, personal excursion into prayer and song. A festive Israeli tapas-style feast follows. *Please register for dinner on the Adas JMCW web page.

Wisdom and Wellness

Jewish Spiritual Tools for Mental Health

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10 @ 7:00 PM

Women are faced with higher rates of anxiety, depression, and loneliness than ever before, but ancient Jewish rituals have been in place for thousands of years that offer us tools and support to navigate difficult times. Join the Adas Israel Community Mikvah, At The Well, and the Jewish Mindfulness Center of Washington for an evening of learning and conversation with rabbis, mikvah attendants, wellness coaches, and therapists, speaking about using Jewish spiritual practices to live whole lives. Join us in unifying the practices of wellness and spirituality.

Morning Awakening

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

TUESDAYS @ 9:00 AM

For registrations, updates, and additional information and offerings, please visit the JMCW web page, adasisrael.org/jmcw or the JMCW Facebook Group. Please direct any questions to: JMCW@ADAS
Our students have had a long “back to school” season. Some of them started back in their schools as early as mid-August, and our religious school finally opens in October. When we gathered with our teachers and madrichim (student assistants) for professional development and teacher training, we asked them what they liked about the opening of school. We have shared some of their answers below, and we hope that you are as inspired by their enthusiasm, excitement, and love of learning as we are!

- I like the idea of fresh opportunities. It’s exciting to imagine what is going to happen next, who you will meet, and what you will do.
- From a teacher’s perspective, every year is a chance to be better and learn from the past. You have new ideas and you go in with confidence, because you’ve had the summer to think it over and grow as an educator.
- I love getting to meet the new students and getting to know a new class.
- It’s wonderful to see the children reunite with their friends and the people they enjoy being with.
- It’s a time to bring our individual creativity to our team and see how our ideas fit into the big picture.
- I like the opportunity to see our students from previous years and hear what they did over the summer, to see how they’ve grown, and where they are now.
- The energy of the kids is refreshing and their excitement is wonderful to see.
- I’m looking forward to experiencing joy and laughter with the students.

Madrichim Thoughts:
- It is great to start fresh with a new mindset that you can carry through the year.
- The kids are so happy to be back and they get to reunite with friends they haven’t seen all summer.
- The energy of the kids is contagious as the year begins.

From the Director of Education

RABBI KERRITH SOLOMON

Sunday, October 14:
First day of Religious School (Pre-K–6th Grade)
Tuesday, October 16:
First day of high school Ma’alot program
Sunday, October 21:
Parent Open House, 10:00 am, Beit Midrash
Sunday, October 28:
Anne Frank House Mini Walk

Important Dates & Upcoming Events

ADAS NEWS

ONGOING EDUCATION

What Can Jewish Culture of Pre-War Germany Teach Us Today?
with Professor Michael Brenner, Seymour and Lillian Abensohn Chair in Israel Studies, American University, and Professor of Jewish History and Culture, Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich, Germany
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23 @ 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

The 19th-century German Jewish community was the first to attempt to integrate Jewish traditions into a modern European society. Today, it might appear that this attempt failed because of the rise of Nazism and the tragic events of World War II and the Holocaust. But from a distance of almost 80 years, perhaps this conclusion should be reconsidered, as we look at the extent to which the pre-war German Jewish community served as the cultural pioneers and role models for Jewish communities generally, and the American Jewish community in particular.

Pre-register online at www.foundjs.org.

This program is made possible by the generosity of the Wagner-Braunsberg Family Foundation as part of an ongoing series on German-Jewish heritage. There is no registration fee for this lecture.

2018 COMMUNITY CPR PROGRAM HELD

On August 26, Adas Israel sponsored its 41st Community CPR Program. We are grateful to the following individuals for their help in planning, setting up, and running this annual program: David Polonsky, Marcy Spico, Charles Mallory, Corey Jones, Tyronne McCard, Patrick Joseph, Calvin Casey, Sandy Mendelson, and Wendy Miller. Special thanks go to Steven Miller for directing the program for the 33th consecutive year.

HONORING OUR VETERANS

Dear Adas Israel Veterans,

We wish to honor you with an aliya on Shabbat, November 10, the weekend of Veterans Day. We hope you can join us!

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

Warmly,
Adas Israel Clergy
Sisterhood News
Networking, Nurturing, Learning, Sustaining

Adas Israel's Sisterhood members benefit from the special experiences that our unique programming offers. Susan Winberg and Jodi Ochsberg serve as Co-Vice Presidents of Programming and Education and are proud of our myriad offerings. In conversation with Sisterhood’s growing membership, we have been able to emphasize the issues that are important to the women of Adas Israel. Last year, we were the first Jewish women’s organization in Washington, DC, to host an event about the #MeToo movement. We also took to the streets with our inaugural “Take A Walk” program, very popular with women who like to explore our amazing city.

Opening Event

This year, we are delighted to kick off the season with our opening event, featuring esteemed Sisterhood member and popular author, Faye Moskowitz entitled, Preserving Your Family Tale. Memoir Writing with Faye Moskowitz. As we enjoy a catered lunch, Faye will guide us through a mini writing workshop focused on memoir writing.

Faye famously taught creative writing and Jewish-American literature at George Washington University here in DC. She was chair of the English Department for eight years, and director of creative writing, for which she received the GW Award in Special Recognition for Contributions to University Life. She also served as president of the Jenny McKean Moore Fund for Writers from 1975 to 1989, and for many years was the fiction editor of Lilith magazine. Her published works include A Leak in the Heart, Peace in the House, and And the Bridge is Love. It is an honor and pleasure to have her launch the “Season of Sisterhood.”

Please join us for this special program on October 14, 2018 at 11:00 am. Tickets can be purchased at adaisrael.org/sisterhood.

Sisterhood Knitting, Sewing, & Craft Circle

BY LESLEY FROST

The work of our hands, whether for creativity, sustenance, or charity, is a long-standing Jewish tradition. A year ago, a group of women began meeting to continue that tradition. Many projects were proposed, and those interested in sewing chose to focus on making new Torah mantles for Adas Israel Congregation’s Havurah, which meets in the library on the first, third, and (if there is one) fifth Shabbat from September through June. The Havurah has been meeting for more than 40 years.

Sisterhood and Havurah member Arlette Jassel Goldstein designed two Torah mantles, a new table cover and a third that documents the progress of the work of Arlette, Sue Greenberg, Anat Bar-Cohen, Adina Mendelson, Kathy Sandler, and Faye Moskowitz who leads the Weekday Torah study. On October 9, we are partnering with the National Council for Jewish Women (NCJW) to learn what’s at stake for women in 2018. Director of Washington Operations Jody Rabhan will discuss the impact of the appointment of a new Supreme Court Justice and what DC residents can do to have an impact on legislation and the mid-term elections.

Jody is the Director of Washington Operations for the National Council of Jewish Women. As head of the organization’s Washington, DC, office, she helps lead the organization’s advocacy efforts in Washington and plays a key role in mobilizing effective grassroots work on the organization’s issues and campaigns around the country.

This event takes place on October 9 at 7:00 pm. RSVP at adaisrael.org/sisterhood.

Weekday Torah with Sisterhood

Tuesday, October 9, Fungur Hall

Please join Weekday Torah with Sisterhood at 10:00 am on Tuesday, October 9, upstairs in Fungur Hall. Community leader and scholar Norma C. Shore will lead a class about the stories and language associated with the Tower of Babel.

Sisterhood's Weekday Torah 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, produced during those months except during the summer, and usually meet on the second or third Tuesday of the month. Students of all levels and backgrounds are welcome. Please contact MarilynCCooper70@gmail.com with any questions.

Katzen Arts Tour

On August 5, 18 Sisterhood members and their friends/family attended our afternoon event at the Katzen Arts Center at American University for a docent-led introduction to the exhibit, “Latitude: The Washington Women’s Arts Center 1975–1987.” The exhibit showcased 90+ works produced during those years by Washington women artists, including ones by incoming Sisterhood board member Barbara Frank and returning board member Arlette Jassel. Presented here are Barbara’s colored pencil drawing, My Sister, Myself, and Arlette’s acrylic, Interior Landscape—What do I Know What’s Inside Me? Several attendees extended the day by gathering for cappuccino and conversation afterward.

Barbara was one of the founding members of the Washington Women’s Arts Center (WWAC), created in 1975 as a non-profit organization to provide professional support and opportunities for women in the arts. Throughout its history, WWAC has sought to raise the profile of women artists from the Washington area and around the country. The Katzen show brings back the energy, passion, and talent of members at a time when the WWAC was, for many, “the only show in town.” Thank you, Barbara, for being a pioneer by helping to create a venue for women artists. And thank you both, Barbara and Arlette, together with your sister artists, for sharing the vibrant art you created during that groundbreaking period.

Sisterhood Gift Shop

New Items from the 2018 Gift Show Arriving Every Day!

Our purchases run the whole gamut: kiddush cups • candleholders • colorful shabbat candles • havdalah sets • hostess gifts • popular children’s books • wedding presents • and on and on.

Shop Hours:
Sunday—Monday, Wednesday—Friday: 9:30am–12:30PM
Special Tuesday Hours: 9:30am–3pm & 6–8pm

Please note that we will be closed on the following holiday dates:
October 1 & 2

Every purchase benefits Adas Israel Congregation.
202-364-3888
adagiftshop@gmail.com

October 2018
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**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 Slusser D’Zimmah (introduction, Psalms, Shacharit, and Musaf, a complete reading of the weekly Torah portion, and a Divrei Torah. For more information, e-mail traditionalegalitarian@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 Menuchah Peters. Netivot, for students in grades K-3, is led by Sarah Alterman or Jeremy Gradon.

**Dial-in for Programs & Services:** If you are unable to attend programs, lectures, or services, dial in to hear them. Call 202-686-8405 Library Open on Shabbat. Our third-floor library is open on Shabbat following services. You may sign out materials using our “no-writing Shabbat method,” explained in signs on the check-out desks. For assistance during the week, contact our Director of Library Services, Robin Jacobson (librarian@adasisrael.org).

**OCTOBER 2018**

**TISHRI-CHESHVAN 5779**
Making this unique project happen was no easy task. SOME secured financing from the Healthy Futures Fund, a partnership among LISC, the Kresge Foundation, and Morgan Stanley that supports the growth of high-quality, community-based health centers linked with affordable housing, plus low-interest loans and government funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and several District sources, including the Housing Production Trust Fund. In addition, SOME raised $20 million, including contributions from Adas members.

Adas’s Social Action Committee’s Affordable Housing Team is working with other advocates and the city to get additional, badly needed affordable housing in our community. Contact Adas member Shelly Tomkin at shellytomkin@aol.com or 202-363-8387, to get involved.

More Opportunities: Adas members also are volunteering at SOME’s career education and training, food service and social services programs. If you’re interested in preparing and serving meals at SOME’s Dining Room for the Homeless on O Street NW, please contact Adas member Sharon Buska, sibuska@aol.com. If interested in helping with career education and job training, please contact Adas member Marty Lewin, mtlewin@kallielewlin.com. For other inquiries, please contact Adas member Nechama Maislansky, rnamislansky@some.org, or see www.some.org/volunteer.

INCLUSION UPDATE

Celebrate National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM)
Are you ready for National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM)? Each October, NDEAM is a fitting time to educate about disability employment issues and celebrate the many and varied contributions of America’s workers with disabilities. The 2018 NDEAM theme is “America’s Workforce: Empowering All.”

For the past 70 years the U.S. has been celebrating National Disability Employment Awareness Month. The Adas Task Force on Inclusion would like to share some information that not only explains what this month is about but also provides some information about what you as an employer or an employee could consider doing this month. Having this information could enable you to highlight good practices you already may have implemented where you work or could begin a discussion about what needs to be done over the coming year.

Adas is proud of the work we have been doing to make our synagogue a truly welcoming community for all. In addition, we believe it is important that not only should we work in meaningfully ways to make our synagogue a welcoming community for all, but that we also try to advance our values in our day-to-day lives. We would appreciate learning whether you use any of the materials linked into this year’s NDEAM activities.

The Anne Frank House Walk to End Homelessness
Sunday, October 28
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.

For more information, visit https://www.whatcanyoudoforcampaign.org/celebrate-ndeam/ and https://www.dol.gov/odep/topics/ndeam/.

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 Israel community, which enables us to do our important work. Our annual Walk to End Homelessness, which will take place on October 28, 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 tote bag.

The Chronicle
October 2018 21
There are many ways to wish someone a happy new year during the Rosh Hashanah season: send a greeting card, share special meals, and make phone calls to family and friends far and near, and then there’s the Hesed way!

The Hesed Committee has a yearly tradition of hand delivering Rosh Hashanah gift bags to many in our Adas community. The bag includes a jar of honey, a bottle of grape juice, a greeting card, and a honey cake baked with love from the Hesed Cooking Team.

An energetic group of volunteers stuffed and organized the bags and a devoted cadre of individuals delivered them into the hands of the grateful recipients.

Adas is about community. We build community through one smile, one handshake, one greeting at a time. We welcome everyone to join us in making our community warm and inviting.

The two of you joined Adas Israel in 2013 before both of you were 30 years old. Why was joining a synagogue so important to you? What brought you to Adas?

We both grew up very engaged at our synagogues, and it has always been important to both of us to be actively involved in the Jewish community. In fact, we first met at the UMD Hillel. Jonah grew up at Temple Beth Zion, a reform synagogue in Buffalo, NY, and David grew up at Congregation Eitz Chaim near Atlanta, which is conservative. So when visiting synagogues, we liked the service options available at Adas with both the full liturgy and innovative music. We were looking for a synagogue that was in the District and Metro accessible. The clergy and members were energized, and we quickly made friends with them and the awesome staff. When we were looking at wedding venues, the member discount was a good incentive for us to make it official and become members.

You are both very involved in many different pockets of Adas. You taught in our Religious School, you regularly help with Shabbat morning services, you’re on our Young Professionals committee, you host Shabbat dinners at your home, you’re in the Flash Choir, you’ve starred in several Purim spiels, you attend our learning sessions, etc. First, how do you make the time for all of this in addition to your full-time jobs and other commitments? And what advice do you have for members who haven’t quite “found their place” at Adas yet?

It’s easy to make time for things we enjoy, and it’s convenient for us to get to Adas after work or on weekends. When we first joined, we were only attending services, and other members were eager to recruit us for all kinds of opportunities. All we had to do was show up and not be afraid to try new things.

David, you work full time at Shakespeare Theatre Company and are the managing director of Pointless Theatre Company. Can you tell us a bit about your roles at each of these organizations, what “can’t miss” shows we should be looking out for, and what the world of theatre means to you.

At the Shakespeare Theatre, I assist our Artistic Director Michael Kahn and Executive Director Chris Jennings and work closely with the 42-member Board of Trustees. This past year, I’ve coordinated the exciting search process to find the next artistic director, and I hope by the time this is published, everyone has heard the great news about the next leader. Pointless Theatre Company began when some of my best friends and I started producing puppet theatre spectacles at the Capital Fringe Festival. We had such success and such fun working together that we have been producing ever since in small theaters around DC. I started as a performer and writer for the company, and I took on the role of leading the growth of the organization. We’re now a Helen Hayes Award–winning 501(c)(3) with a Board and a full-time staff member. It’s been a dream watching this passion project grow. This year in DC Theatre, you can’t miss The Comedy of Errors and The Oresteia at STC (everyone should subscribe now because the whole season is really excellent!). I will definitely be seeing Anything Goes and Indecent at Arena Stage, and I’m really excited about The Jewish Queen Lear, which Theater J is staging at Georgetown while its theater undergoes renovations.

Jonah, I remember seeing you studying very hard in the Biran Belf Midrash for your Bar exam. What type of law do you practice? What does a typical day at work look like for you? Did you always know you wanted to be a lawyer?

I work at the Environmental Protection Agency in the Office of General Counsel, in the Alternative Dispute Resolution Law Office, where I assist EPA staff and attorneys seeking to resolve disputes outside of the courtroom. I started at the EPA right out of undergraduate, and knew I wanted to be a lawyer after working with the incredible lawyers at EPA and seeing what they do. I recently took on a pro bono client through the DC Bar Pro Bono center, and am enjoying working in a courtroom setting.

You just celebrated your four-year wedding anniversary at the end of August. Mazal tov! What’s great about being a young couple at Adas?

We love being connected to an amazing community of young professionals at Adas. With YP(Ad), we get to participate in fun events like Shir Delight and Jazz, Jews, and Booze. Beyond the YP community, we love being part of a multigenerational community at Adas and look forward to all of the programming that Adas has to offer at every stage of life.

You’re answering our questions before the High Holy Days and we’ll be reading your answers right after them. What are your hopes for 5779?

5779 will be a big year of opportunities for both of us, and we hope for the strength and wisdom to make the most of those opportunities.
As a core partner of the national Rising Tide New Mikvah Network, the Adas Israel Community Mikvah was well-represented at this summer’s gathering at Pearlstone; our director, three Mikvah Guides, our AU intern, and a Mikvah Educator were all in attendance. We are excited to share some of our experiences with you.

From Naomi Malka, Mikvah Director:
This retreat was both eye-opening and focused. It was great to be around other mikvah nerds like me and to have concentrated time to discuss important issues like scheduling volunteers, welcoming visitors from all background, and educating different age groups about what mikvah means to them. One of the highlights was a storytelling session by Noa Baum, a local storyteller. Another highlight was hearing from other mikvahs within synagogues (like ours) to see how they balance the needs of their synagogue with those of the community. Our story, our work, and our printed materials are inspiring to others as well. It was great to see the Adas Israel Community Mikvah playing such a leadership role for the larger network.

From Rebecca Maltzman, Mikvah Guide:
I did not know what to expect from the Rising Tide experience but I was looking forward to learning just a little more about the progressive mikvah movement. As I drove to Pearlstone for a day at the retreat, I wasn’t sure I had made the right decision; I had taken off a day of work, I imagined the e-mails piling up, I was tired, and it was a long drive. As soon as I pulled into the retreat center, I realized how worthwhile it was and I was so happy that I had been invited to attend and had made the time to do so. I left that same afternoon feeling rejuvenated, rededicated to the mikvah movement and inspired to tell my own story. The conference was immaculately planned down to the minute and the content was rich. I went to an incredible session led by the associate director of education from Mayyim Hayyim who taught us about all of the ways to reflect on making the mikvah even more welcoming. It included text study, discussion, and role plays. I was also pushed immensely by the storytelling session led by Noa Baum. Both sessions centered on the role of the mikvah but also encouraged me to think about so many other facets of my life.

From Sara Lichtenfeld Tauber, Mikvah Guide:
Attending the Rising Tide retreat was a great opportunity for me to learn about the broader mikvah world as well as how to improve as a Mikvah Guide. I enjoyed learning of the challenges, solutions, and stories from other mikvahs. For me the most beneficial portion of the retreat was the breakout session about welcoming. By sharing personal experiences and reading Talmudic texts, we discussed different approaches to welcoming someone into the mikvah. We talked about the importance of keeping a non-judgmental and open approach. It was very validating to discuss this in an inclusive setting.

From Emmy Cohen, Religious School Teacher:
I loved getting to work with Naomi last year to teach the sixth graders in the Religious School about mikvah as part of their Rituals curriculum, but I still had so much room for growth as a mikvah educator; the Rising Tide Gathering pushed my learning and teaching forward. As we head into the new school year, I am excited to bring the energy of the Rising Tide Gathering and the different skills and ideas that I learned about inclusion in mikvah education.

From Steph Black, AU Intern:
I am fairly new to the mikvah and was apprehensive when I was offered the opportunity to attend this retreat. I had no frame of reference even now to what to expect, let alone be nervous about anything specific, but I was thoroughly blown away. Every aspect of this gathering was intentional and focused on education, community, and deep dedication to the mission of Rising Tide: establishing mikvah as part of the full diversity of the Jewish communal landscape by articulating best practices, fostering innovation, and building partnerships. Going in, I didn’t even know how much I didn’t know. And while not every one of my questions could be answered in two and a half days, I feel energized and invigorated to begin educating myself. I am so, so grateful to the Adas Community Mikvah for this opportunity.

What’s Happening This Fall in YP@AI?!

The Young Professional Community at Adas Israel has an awesome year planned! YP@AI, designed for those between the ages of 21 and 35, introduces them to all that Adas has to offer. We have a dedicated group of volunteers who help plan and coordinate all of our events and have helped to inspire new programming for the larger Adas community. Here is what we have planned for the fall:

• Celebrate Shabbat together as a YP community every first Friday at Shir Delight, Oct. 5, Nov. 2, and Dec. 7.
• Help us serve meals to women at Patricia Handy Place every 3rd Sunday.
• Join us for a DC United game at the team’s new stadium on Wednesday, Oct. 17, at 7:30 pm.
• Learn with Rabbi Krinsky Sunday morning, Nov. 11, at 10:00 am.
• Sign up for a coffee date with one of our YP members and learn more about Adas and the YP Jewish community.
• Attend any event, service, or class that interests you; even if it’s not just for YPs!

If you have any questions about YP@AI and getting more involved, please e-mail us at YP@adasisrael.org.

learn more online: adasisrael.org/YP
On Simchat Torah, we reach the end of the Torah and begin reading it anew. The rabbis promise that each year’s reading offers new insights as our life experience broadens. Is it similarly true, I wonder, that remarks our parents made take on new meaning over time? And is there something a tad mystical about that?

Long ago, toward the end of my mother’s life, a visitor complimented her stunning bridal portrait hanging over a bureau. Mom glanced at it and said simply, “It was yesterday.” She meant, I understood at the time, that life passed quickly. But now, looking back, her comment feels unfinished. Did she perhaps pause and then say something else? As I replay the scene in my imagination, Mom adds a mystical, subliminal message for me to hear only now. I imagine (remember?) Mom saying not only, “It was yesterday” of the bridal portrait, but her beautiful wise smile as she added a prophecy: “But it’s also tomorrow.” This October 14, Mom’s granddaughter, Sylvia, named for her, will wear Mom’s wedding dress on her own wedding day. Maybe Mom saw a glimmer of the family’s future?

Moving from the mystical to the practical, preparing for Sylvia’s wedding has led me to several good guidebooks. If your family has an upcoming wedding, try The Jewish Wedding Now by Anita Diamant, which encompasses traditional, LGBTQ, multi-faith, second weddings, and more. Other worthwhile guides are Made in Heaven by Aryeh Kaplan, The Jewish Marriage Anthology by Philip and Hanna Goodman, and Mazal Tov! by Michael Shire; these guides explore the rich heritage of Jewish wedding rituals—ketubah, chuppah, Seven Blessings, stomping on a glass, etc. Here’s a sampling of notable quotes and legends on Jewish marriage.

Why Get Married?

In 2018, most Americans readily accept an unmarried couple living together. So, what “added value” does a wedding offer? Consider these perspectives:

“A Jewish wedding is [about the couple], but it is also about family, and community, and tradition. A Jewish wedding connects [a] couple . . . to a language of holiness, to a living history, and to a diverse and vital culture . . . something much larger and more mysterious than two people.”

—Anita Diamant

“The wedding ceremony is a ritual of transformation. You enter . . . seeing the world through the eyes of a single person, and you leave the ceremony as a couple . . . [A mystical tradition even] suggests that the souls of the bride and groom gradually become intertwined [in the] circling [that is part of the ceremony].”

—Rabbi Michael Shire

Made in Heaven?

In Jewish tradition, marriages are bashert, made in heaven, as the following selections illustrate:

A wealthy Roman woman asked a rabbi what God had been doing since Creation. The rabbi replied that God was busy arranging marriages. The woman scoffed, saying she could do that. She immediately arranged 1000 marriages among her slaves. Within a day, the newlywed couples, bruised and battered, declared that they could not abide their spouses. When the woman conceded that making a good match was harder than she had thought, the rabbi said that even for God it was as difficult as dividing the Red Sea.

—Genesis Rabbah 68:4

God creates new worlds constantly by bringing human couples together.

—Zohar 1:89a

“From every human being there rises a light that reaches straight to heaven. And when two souls that are destined to be together find each other, their streams of light flow together, and a single brighter light goes forth from their united being.”

—The Baal Shem Tov

Wishing you only simchas in 5779!
**We wish our newborns and their families strength, good health, and joy.**

Iris Gillian Linowes

Lena Iris Kimmel

Lila Ayelet Willis

Daniel Isaac Wachter, son of Eric & Miriam Wachter, was born August 16.

B’Nai Mitzvah

**We mourn the loss of synagogue members:**

Sheldon S. Cohen

Timothy Glogster

Mildred Krupsaw

**When Death Occurs**

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 Nancy Spiero. 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**

Adas Israel Community

- **Mikvah**
  - Our mikvah is being renovated this summer! New tiles, new fixtures, and, most important, new features that will expand everyone’s ability to access the mikvah safely. Stay tuned for more updates! 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 a simcha; 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. To learn more about our mikvah or to schedule an appointment, contact Naomi Malka, 202-841-8776 or mikvah@adasisrael.org. For more information, visit adasisrael.org/mikvah.

- **Mikvah Renovation**
  - As you may have heard, the mikvah is going to be renovated this fall. When it is finished, we will have a fully accessible space that both parallels the esthetic of the main floor of our synagogue and reflects the experience of transition that this ritual represents. Here is a rendering from our designer, Ritter Norton Architects, the same firm that redesigned the Kay and Wasserman Halls. As you can see, the materials to be used convey warmth, nature, and calm. Included in this renovation are the two restrooms right outside the mikvah.

  - The dates of this project are from approximately October 8 – December 15. For our regular users, we have arranged for access to Mikvah Chaim (at Ohev Shalom) on 16th Street during this time. Please contact us to help you arrange your visit there.

  - In the meantime, please save the date of January 30, 7:00–9:00 pm, for our grand reopening event, which will include:
    - a rededication ceremony by Adas clergy
    - a Moth- or StoryDistrict-style storytelling event honoring our Mikvah Guides and everyone who supports our mikvah
    - a dessert reception

  - Of course, the whole community is welcome!

**LIFE CYCLE**

**Mazal Tov**

Mazal Tov to Raphael (Rafi) Fox, a rising sixth grader at Acele Deal Middle School, selected by the Library of Congress as a finalist for DC as part of the Library of Congress’s Summer Writing Contest regarding the theme, “A Book that Shaped Me.”

**IN MEMORIAM**

We note with sorrow and mourn the passing of:

Arthur Cohen, brother of Judy Cohen

Arnold Isenberg, father of Stacie Isenberg Weinstein

**LIFE CYCLE INFORMATION**

**BIRTHS**

Evan Lewis Engel, great grandson of Ruth Snyder, son of Lindsey & Brad Engel, was born August 5.

Daniel Isaac Wachter, son of Eric & Miriam Wachter, was born August 36.

Lila Ayelit Willis, daughter of Aaron Willis & Rachel Goldstein, was born August 26. Grandparents: William Willis & Rennere Sherman Lena Iris Kimmel, daughter of Rachel Bernard and Seth Kimmel, grand-daughter of Lary and Jean Bernard, born September 7.


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

**B’NAI MITZVAH**

Jake Drimmer, October 6.

Jake, son of Jonathan and Ilana Drimmer, is a seventh grader at the Washington International School. He is an Adas Israel “life,” starting with nursery school at the power. He enjoys many sports, and is an avid baseball player. For his mitzvah project, Jake is raising funds for “ImpAlta,” a charitable foundation in the Dominican Republic created by former Nationals manager Manny Acta, which emphasizes the importance of education, health, and athletics.

Simon Kirschenbaum, October 6 (TEM).

Simon, son of Michelle Buzgon and Jay Kirschenbaum, is an eighth grader at Alice Deal Middle School. He began his Jewish education in the Kangoaroo class at Gan Halahal and has attended the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School since kindergarten. By far his favorite part of the year is summer at Camp Ramah in New England. He shares his simcha with his older brother, Judah, and his grandparents: Susan and Louis Kirschenbaum and Marcia and Bernard Buzgon. For his mitzvah project, Simon is collecting puzzle, maze, word search and coloring books, along with sharpened pencils, colored pencils, and crayons, to share with children in need. For the past several years, he also has been a dedicated volunteer with Northwest Little League’s Challenger baseball team.

Eden Hood, October 6.

Eden Rose Hood, daughter of Lynn Zuckerman and Kevin Hood, is a seventh grader at Georgetown Day School. She began her Jewish education at B’nai Israel Schilt Nursery School and is a student at the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School at Adas. Eden’s mitzvah project is raising funds to host a bat mitzvah at Sixth & I Synagogue, with her grandparents, other family, and friends. Eden’s mitzvah project has been working for Berkshire Horse Works. At the farm, she cared for rescue horses and also worked with the therapy horse programs for people with disabilities.

Mia Gerson, October 6.

Mia, daughter of Shane and Samaa Gerson, is a seventh grader at Alice Deal Middle School. She was named at Adas Israel Congregation, attended Gan Halalah and is a student at the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School. She shares her simcha with her brother Isaac, grandparents Randy and Harriet Kiviat and Jay and Frances Gerson, great-grandparents Hanan and Beryl Metzger, and other family members and friends in health and in fond memory. Mia loves art, music, theater, dance, rock climbing. She also has a passion for social justice and for her mitzvah project is raising funds to donate American Girl Dolls to girls undergoing life-changing medical procedures—a mitzvah in which she has been participating since she was three years old.

William Friedman, October 27.

William, son of Caroline and Peter Friedman, is a seventh grader at Sidwell Friends School. He began his Jewish education at Gan Halalah and has continued on at the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School. He shares his simcha with his sister Ammi, best friend and his grandparents: Linda and Harold Friedman and Dr. Henry Haberfeld. William enjoys baseball, tennis, and chess and spending time with his family. His mitzvah project is volunteering and raising money for A Wider Circle, with which he has been involved through school. He is fund raising through donations for every hit he makes during his baseball season. As this special time, he thinks lovingly of his late grandmother Judith Haberfeld, of blessed memory.

Moses Fishman, October 27 (TEM).

Moses, son of Charles Fishman and Stephanie Peters, is an eighth grader at The Landon School. He shares his bar mitzvah with his beloved family and his global village, which includes his sisters Sarit Scott, Michael and Arielle Fishman; brothers-in-law Russell Scott and David Sheon; grandmother Twelvia Peters; aunt, Annette Peters; godparents Rabbi Scott and Laura Spierling; godfathers Philippe Israel and Harvey Horweng, godmother Roberta Flack, and many other friends and family who are such an important part of Moses’ life. His interests are soccer (as a player and as a true fan), travel, world history and music, especially jazz. Moses plays percussion in The Landon School band and plays piano with his father and friends. Moses’ mitzvah project is raising funds for Grassroots Soccer, an adolescent health organization that leverages power, inspire, and mobilize at-risk youth globally. His project combines his passion for soccer, his global heritage, and his compassion for at-risk youth. 

**Adas Israel Community Mikvah**

- **Adas Israel Community Mikvah**
  - Our mikvah is being renovated this summer! New tiles, new fixtures, and, most important, new features that will expand everyone’s ability to access the mikvah safely. Stay tuned for more updates! 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 a simcha; 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. To learn more about our mikvah or to schedule an appointment, contact Naomi Malka, 202-841-8776 or mikvah@adasisrael.org. For more information, visit adasisrael.org/mikvah.

- **Mikvah Renovation**
  - As you may have heard, the mikvah is going to be renovated this fall. When it is finished, we will have a fully accessible space that both parallels the esthetic of the main floor of our synagogue and reflects the experience of transition that this ritual represents. Here is a rendering from our designer, Ritter Norton Architects, the same firm that redesigned the Kay and Wasserman Halls. As you can see, the materials to be used convey warmth, nature, and calm. Included in this renovation are the two restrooms right outside the mikvah.

  - The dates of this project are from approximately October 8 – December 15. For our regular users, we have arranged for access to Mikvah Chaim (at Ohev Shalom) on 16th Street during this time. Please contact us to help you arrange your visit there.

  - In the meantime, please save the date of January 30, 7:00–9:00 pm, for our grand reopening event, which will include:
    - a rededication ceremony by Adas clergy
    - a Moth- or StoryDistrict-style storytelling event honoring our Mikvah Guides and everyone who supports our mikvah
    - a dessert reception

  - Of course, the whole community is welcome!
As you no doubt have heard, all Adas Israel community members can individually login securely to the synagogue’s website, adasisrael.org. When logged in, you’ll be able to view and interact with your synagogue accounts, profiles, school enrollments, event registrations, billing information, and more. A new and user-friendly way to access personalized content and information, monitor your own account, and set up payments in easier, faster, clearer, and more manageable ways (a la 21st century).

Highlights include:

- Easily access your synagogue statements in real time.
- Review recent transactions and registrations.
- Easily make payments online via checking accounts and/or credit cards.
- Set up ongoing, automatic payment plans through your account!

And don’t worry, you can always still use checks, stock gifts, or other payment mechanisms if that’s best for you. But we are proud to offer this safe, dynamic, user-friendly online option now as well.

How will I login moving forward?

When you visit adasisrael.org, you will now see a gray box at the top-right of the screen that enables you to login to your personal Adas Israel account.

1. **Visiting adasisrael.org**
   
   If you are not logged in, you will see the following, with the “Login” button at the top of the page:

   ![Login button](image)

   If you are not logged in to your account, you will see this button displayed. Please click on it to log in to your account.

2. **Be Sure To Login!**
   
   When you land on the site, feel free to click to login. You will see your name appear in the top right of the website when you are successfully logged in:

   ![Logged in](image)

   Please Note:
   
   In order to view your account, complete registrations, and/or make payments, you will need to be logged in to your personal Adas account. By logging in, the website will automatically update with any activity through your account.

How do I get started?

All Adas Israel community members now have an online Adas account. Now, it’s time for you to login, check your info, and set a personalized password for future regular use.

An Email from Adas Israel Congregation with the subject line, “Login to the new and fully interactive adasisrael.org,” was sent to your Email address. Please open that Email, click on the link to access your account, and then complete the steps on the screen. If you cannot locate that email, please email us at adasoffice@adasisrael.org. If you do not have an email address, or regularly use the internet, feel free to give us a call if you would like our help getting you all set up. Or, if you would prefer to do nothing with this software and continue working from mailed statements, etc., that is completely fine, and there is no need to do anything more. If you run into any problems or have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to our staff at adasoffice@adasisrael.org or 202.362.4433. Please note, for two adult households, you will each have your own personal login, of which are both tethered to one connected household account.

Please Note:

In order to view your account, complete registrations, and/or make payments, you will need to be logged in to your personal Adas account. By logging in, the website will automatically update with any activity through your account.
How do I set up payments?

My Profile: Your Personal Account Page
This page will show you your profile and household information, as well as your recent statement information, transaction history, and other relevant account information. This is also the page from which you can make payments and set up payment plans:

1. Access Your Profile Page
When you are logged in, the last tab on the right of the website navigation will say “my account.” Click on it, and you will be taken to your profile page:

Making Payments
Once on the profile page, you can view your balance under “Balance” and click “Submit a Payment” to make a payment:

Payment Options
You can then choose to pay off all outstanding items, or select which items to pay at this time. Also, you can choose to pay them all at once, or set up an automatic payment plan using a checking account and/or credit card:

Have Questions? Need Help?
Contact us at 202.362.4433, adasoffice@adasisrael.org or send your questions to:
Personal Account Management: Marcy.Spiro@adasisrael.org
Financial and Billing: Chloe.Chemla@adasisrael.org
Event Registration: Courtney.Tisch@adasisrael.org
Gan HaYeled Registration: Abby.Koplow@adasisrael.org
Religious School Registration: Sarah.Attermann@adasisrael.org

OCTOBER CALENDAR
The Music of Prayer: Cantorial Classics from the Golden Age to the Modern Synagogue
Wednesday, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m.
Instructor: Cantor Asa Fradkin
Have you ever wondered why different cantors use different singing styles even when singing the same music? An expert will explain those differences while we listen to excerpts from CDs and other sources.

Songs for the Shabbat Table: An Introduction to Zemirot
Wednesday, Oct. 3 at 8:15 p.m.
Singing at the dinner table might seem like an odd form of entertainment, but countless Shabbat-observing families and veterans of Jewish summer camp swear by it. Join us for an introduction to the most popular zemirot, or songs, for Shabbat and holiday meals. If you already sing zemirot, come for a refresher!

Panel Discussion: Is Political Activism Central to Your Judaism?
Wednesday, Oct. 10 from 7-9 p.m.
Recent surveys show that American Jews under 40 overwhelmingly consider liberal values a significant element of their Jewish heritage. Others, though, say the importance of tikkun olam—repairing the world—is overstated by those not interested in more traditional Jewish values such as prayer, observance and support for Israel. Join a no-holds-barred discussion, with drinks and snacks afterward to keep things friendly.

Jews, History and Memory: Four Ways to Approach Our Stories
Jewish Museums in a Time of Change
Wednesday, Oct. 17 at 7 p.m.
Instructor: Avi Decter
Like the Jewish community itself, Jewish museums are changing at a rapid rate. So are the stories they need to tell. We will discuss trends in American, European, and Israeli museums, possible new narratives, and their implications for future Jewish museum exhibitions, public programs, and online resources.

Buchach: The Destruction of a Small Galician Town as Seen in Literature, History and Memoir
Wednesday, Oct. 17 at 8:15 p.m.
Instructor: Jerry Garfinkel
The class will look at how changing borders influenced how the Holocaust played out in the region—with a few pictures from Jerry’s trip to add further context.

Conflicting Memories, Unreconciled Narratives: How the Memory of World War II Continues to Haunt Eastern Europe and Why It Matters
Three sessions: Wednesdays, Oct. 24, 31, Nov. 7 at 7 p.m.
Instructor: Izabella Tabarovsky
Recent controversy over Poland’s problematic “Holocaust Law” has put a sharp focus on the fundamental differences between Western and Eastern European collective memories of World War II. Today, the region is home to widespread Holocaust distortion, selective memory, and whitewashing, while Russia uses some of that history in a propaganda campaign of its own.

From Here to Eternity: Jewish Views of the Afterlife
Wednesday, Oct. 24 at 7:00 p.m.
Instructor: Gary Fink
In this class, we’ll explore how ideas about the afterlife have evolved through 3,000 years of Jewish thought, belief, history, and tradition.

Book Talk: In Search of Israel: The History of an Idea by Michael Brenner
Wednesday, Oct. 24 at 8:15 p.m.
Speaker: Michael Brenner
Recent controversy over Poland’s problematic “Holocaust Law” uses some of that history in a propaganda campaign of its own. This much-praised book, a sweeping survey of images and ideas of what Israel is, can be or should be—what the author calls “the story of the real and the imagined Israel”—has been greeted as a major new history of Zionism.

Interview: Immigration and the Political Landscape
Wednesday, Oct. 31 at 8:15
Instructor: Barry Chiswick in conversation with Amy Schwartz
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UPCOMING CHRONICLE DEADLINE—
December: Monday, October 29, at noon