LOST AT HOME

A JOURNEY TO EVERYWHERE AND NOWHERE

PURIM @ ADAS • 3.20–3.21
This is absolutely the only acceptable response whenever a white person asks certain questions of someone in our building who doesn’t look like the person asking the question. Questions like “Why are you here?” “Are you Jewish?” “When did you become Jewish?” “Why did you convert?” “Tell me about your journey to Judaism.” The acceptable response, that is, unless you’re gonna haul off and whack the person. Which is certainly what I would feel like doing.

I have never in my life been asked a question that challenges my identity as a Jew, or my right to be in a synagogue anywhere in the world. But any-color-but-white Jews are asked about all the time, in just about any Jewish space. I used to think this didn’t happen at Adas Israel. I was very, very wrong.

I don’t think anyone asks these questions to be mean. Just because someone is, unknowingly to be sure, insensitive, rude, and thoughtless doesn’t mean that person is mean. I believe these questions stem from curiosity when somebody sees someone walking or sitting or standing or praying or learning in our synagogue who looks different from the person. And then sometimes people assume that person is an outsider, an “other,” someone who doesn’t belong here. And then the person’s filter gets lost.

Think for just a moment about how any normal person might want to answer such questions. “Why are you asking me that? Is it because I’m Black?” “Why are you asking me that? Does my Latino accent make you think I’m not Jewish?” “Why are you asking me that? You don’t believe Asians can be Jewish?” When questions are based on assumptions, the askers are wrong way more often than they’re right. Look, not everyone who comes to our synagogue is white. We have some folks here who don’t look like most of the people here. So?

Here are a couple of rules I’d like us all to follow. If you’re white, only ask people here questions that you would ask white, Jewish people. And if you must assume something about somebody, how about assuming that person belongs here? Because—guess what—that person does.

And anyway, how can anyone possibly know who’s Jewish and who isn’t? “You don’t have a nose like a Jew!” a business colleague, in shock, once told me when she found out I’m Jewish.

And since I’m getting warmed up here, Jews-by-choice belong in this conversation, too. There is no hierarchy of Jews. A Jew is a Jew. By birth or by choice, it’s the same. The same! By law! Once we remember that, there’s nothing at all that needs to be asked, is there?

Now, if you should happen to forget all this, and someone asks you, “Why are you asking me that?” it’s okay. Take a second to realize what you’ve said, apologize, smile, and then have a real conversation.

In 2019, it’s time to get comfortable with the growing diversity of our kehillah. Jews of color and Jews by choice and Jews from cultures other than North America bring perspectives our white members have likely never thought about. Many have had experiences that certainly I haven’t had—and maybe you, too—and thus bring different world views. Different priorities. Different ways of figuring things out. This diversity enriches us all. If our community is to continue to thrive, if Conservative Judaism in the United States is to thrive, we have to be totally welcoming, fully accepting, and completely nonjudgmental. And we have to learn how not to ask offensive questions of people who don’t look like most of us.
The Second Night
Community Seder
with Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt

SATURDAY, APRIL 20 @ 7:30 PM

Join us for our annual, festive community Passover seder at Adas Israel with delicious food, thought-provoking discussion, and joyful song. The Passover seder is one of the Jewish peoples’ most treasured traditions. Few rituals have survived so long and remained so true to their original form. Using rich symbolism, role-playing, and all of the senses, the seder has warmly transmitted the values of human dignity, liberty, and the search for higher meaning to every society it has reached.

To this day, in every corner of the world, Jewish families come together to reconstruct that original Passover seder, again and again, year after year. And every year, there is more to learn. We look forward to sharing this beautiful and meaningful tradition with you and your family this year at Adas.

The Sale of Hametz

During Passover, it is technically forbidden to have any hametz in our possession. Because we cannot finish it all and it is improper to destroy usable food, the rabbis provided for a symbolic sale of all the hametz to a non-Jew who then “sells” it back to us after Pesach. The hametz is then no longer “in our possession.” This includes food, dishes, and utensils, all of which are locked away in storage for the duration of the festival.

Funds collected through donations and through the “sale” of hametz are used for charitable purposes and to help provide Passover food for those who might otherwise have none. This legal procedure technically transfers ownership of hametz that remains in our pantry during the festival. Technical ownership reverts to us when the festival is over.

Please use this form and send it to Hazzan Rachel Goldsmith, Hazzan.Goldsmith@adasisrael.org by April 12.

Dear Hazzan Goldsmith:

Please sell our hametz so that we have fulfilled our obligation of religious ownership and accept this contribution so that others are assured of a seder.

Please print:

Name ____________________________________________

Home Address ______________________________________

Business Address ____________________________________

LOST AT HOME
A JOURNEY TO EVERYWHERE AND NOWHERE

PURIM @ ADAS
MARCH 20-21, 2019

Sunday, March 17
10:30 am: Purim Carnival

Erev Purim, Wednesday, March 20
6:00 pm: Mincha
6:30 pm: Full Megillah Reading (TEM Family Service)
7:00 pm: Full Megillah Reading & Purim Shpiel Followed by Refreshments & Celebration

Purim, Thursday, March 21
7:15 am: Morning Minyan & Megillah Reading

These crazy things are happening this Purim:

- Our famous, elaborately-themed Purim building experience
- Full Megillah reading with music mash-up and “Adas Mockumentary 2019”
- Food food food, and drinks, and more food
- Animated walls coming to life around you
- Formal Bar Mitzvah and Sad Song Karaoke party in Kay Hall

This year our Purim Prism will be “Lost@Home.” Why? Because sometimes the best way to find ourselves is to briefly lose ourselves. In other words, in order to see the reality that is “Adas” in all of its holy facets, once in while we must imagine it from the other side—the lost side.

To that end, we’ll be gently playing with some of the building’s more common features to create a sensation that begi one more glance, one more moment of reflection, and one more attempt at clarity. Not all who wander are lost; the famous quote goes. But anyone who is lost gets to wander.

Purim demands that we use a unique prism to peer into our lives and communities. Day in and day out, the typical windows into humanity are determined for us, but on Purim we flip the model on its head. We deploy the Book of Esther to re-frame the picture of life. We use humor where seriousness so often prevails. We mobilize laughter as the avenue from which old truths become newly experienced.

We certainly can’t do Purim every day, but if we never see the world with Purim goggles, we’ll likely miss some of the sacred stuff that lies right before our hearts.

Purim @ Adas
MARCH 20-21, 2019

The Chronicle
March 2019
The Heart of “Home”: Judaism’s Multi-Textured, Spiritual, Architectural Guide to Sacred Space

MakomDC 2018–19 Season
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.

2018-2019 MENDELSON SHABBAT SCHOLAR

POST-KIDDUSH HALAKHA CLASS
Rabbi Dr. Alyssa Gray
SATURDAY, MARCH 16 @ 1:00 PM
Join us as our March Mendelson Shabbat Scholar, Dr. Alyssa Gray, guest teaches this month’s text-based class, after Kiddush, using halakah (Jewish life and living) as a prism through which to access our monthly topic. Dr. Gray is the Emily-Sand Rabbi Bernard H. Mehlman Chair in Rabbinic and Professor of Codes and Responsa Literature at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York, and the author of A Talmud in Exile: The Influence of Yerushalmi Avodah Zarah on the Formation of Bavi Avodah Zarah.

The Text 2.0: In-Depth Halakhah (Jewish Law) w/ Rabbi Aaron Alexander
TUESDAYS, MARCH 19, & MAY 21 @ 7:30 PM
Rabbi Alexander leads 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

Friday Parsha Study w/ 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 Hassidut 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.
New Member Reception
MARCH 8

Please join us in the Biran Beit Midrash on Friday, March 8, at 5:30 pm, for a new member reception. This is an invitation to all our wonderful new members at Adas Israel to join us for a relaxed “meet and greet” with the Adas Israel clergy, lay leaders, and community members! Long-standing members of the community are also encouraged to attend to welcome our new friends! We hope you will also stay for our Return Again to Shabbat service, which begins at 6:30 pm.

Sisterhood Shabbat 5779 will be held March 22-23, 2019.

The theme is “The Eternal Flame: From Purim to Passover to Pittsburgh – Women’s Contributions to Jewish Resiliency through the Ages.” Our speaker, underwritten by the Mozelle Saltz (z”l) Fund for Sisterhood Speakers, is educator Rabbi Avi Strausberg of the Hadar Institute.

Friday, March 22
6pm: Kabbalat Shabbat and Ma’ariv services in the Biran Beit Midrash. Rabbi Strausberg’s sermon is entitled, The Posture of Hope and the Measure of Resilience.

Saturday, March 23
9:30am: Shabbat Service in Smith Sanctuary. Rabbi Strausberg’s dvar Torah will describe The Women Who Took Control and the Rabbis Who Love Them for it. The Kiddush Lunch that follows is sponsored by congregant Donald Saltz in memory of his wife, Mozelle (z”l), a Sisterhood member who was an inspiration to everyone who knew her.
1:15pm: Rabbi Strausberg will conclude her two days of teaching with a presentation entitled, From Silence to Protest: The Different Faces of Resilience. Join us for two wonderful days of prayer, study, food, and friendship.

USCJ Hosts Conference of Large Congregations at Adas Israel

Representatives from the largest Conservative synagogues in North America gathered at Adas Israel to discuss a variety of important strategies for strengthening our keilhot (Jewish communities) inside and outside the walls of our synagogues. The conference was organized by the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (USCJ), which functions essentially as the “trade association” of conservative synagogues in North America. Adas Israel was chosen as the location for the conference for the community’s commitment to excellence and congregational vibrancy, these past several years in particular.

Rabbis Lauren Holtzblatt and Aaron Alexander led the conference attendees in a meaningful Return Again to Shabbat Ma’ariv service, and participants discussed in detail a number of the exciting initiatives that we are developing in our congregation. It was an honor to share our experiences and successes with the broader North American Jewish landscape, and to learn from other conference participants, as we always strive for continuous growth, learning, and engagement at every level of congregational life here at Adas.
Kol HaOlam 2019

What’s more fun than attending Kol HaOlam, the only national, Jewish, collegiate a cappella competition? How about getting to vote for the winner yourself? Or a “celebrity” MC whose original tunes are sung in Jewish communities across the nation?

But first, some background. For those of you who have never attended Kol HaOlam weekend, think of it as Pitch Perfect Goes to a Shabbaton. Even before we get to the big event on Saturday night, we experience a rousing kiddush Shabbat service, where the students join with Adas members to pray, not just with kavanah but also in multi-part harmony. Services are followed by a Shabbat dinner for the students and anyone else who wishes to sign up, after which there is both dessert for our mouths and dessert for the soul in the form of spirited and tuneful zemirot (Shabbat and other Jewish songs). Then, on Shabbat morning, some of the a cappella groups perform during services and sometimes even during kiddush.

On Saturday night, eight groups—selected through a rigorous video audition process—take the stage to see who will emerge as this year’s Kol HaOlam champion. In the past, a panel of expert a cappella musicians has judged the competition and selected the winners, with the exception of one “audience favorite” category. This year, we’re flipping the script: a three-judge panel will select the top four of the eight groups on the basis of a first-round performance. Then, after a second round of performances, the audience will vote on their phones to determine the first-, second-, and third-place winners.

Another exciting development this year is the participation of Noah Aronson as the master of ceremonies. Noah, one of the most acclaimed contemporary composers on the Jewish music scene, is best known for his award-winning album, Am · Awake, and its blockbuster title song (a favorite of our Return Again services). While his solo albums feature instrumentation, Noah was a founding member of Jewish a cappella supergroup Six13, so his a cappella game is equally strong. We’re also honored to have three fantastic judges participating. Adas Israel’s own Cantor Arianne Brown will be joined by Tizmoret alumnus Cory Hecht, who has performed on the Kol HaOlam stage multiple times over the years, and Aaron Dunn, voice and theater teacher at the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School, who coaches the CESJDS high school a cappella group, Shir Madness.

In addition to hearing from our eight competitors and voting for the winners, the audience will have an opportunity to sing with Noah, who will vote on their phones to determine the first-, second-, and third-place winners.

Tickets are available online at adasisrael.org/kolhaolam.

Theater J - The Jewish Queen Lear

The Jewish Queen Lear
March 13 – April 7, Georgetown University’s Davis Performing Arts Center, 37th & O Streets NW
Join the Adas Israel group attending March 27 @ 12:00 Noon
Special discount tickets: $30 (contact Marcy Spiro, marcy.spiro@adasisrael.org)

A bold, independent heroine for the ages, Mirele Efros—the Jewish Queen Lear—stands at the center of this epic, gripping story of power, pride, and maternal sacrifice. A wealthy widow and savvy businesswoman who wants to find a good wife for her son, Mirele suffers a fall of Shakespearean proportions when her children turn against her. Wildly successful in its time, this 1898 masterpiece of Yiddish theater shines in a scintillating new English translation directed by Theater J’s Artistic Director. We will be providing a bus leaving from Adas at 11:15 am. Join us at 11:00 am in the Youth Lounge to hear from Cantor Arianne Brown about the work she did on this production.

adasisrael.org/musicalmoments
Scenes From Our Sunny Adas Gathering In Florida

On February 4th, Adas members who took a break from the cold winter weather in Palm Beach, FL, had the opportunity to connect with our incredible clergy, leadership and fellow community members, to enjoy a varied presentation of music by Cantor Arianne Brown. Enjoy some highlights below!

Three Weddings & A Statement
WASHINGTON HEBREW CONGREGATION, MARCH 26

Whether local or long distance, you can join us for this celebration of love! Learn more and register online at www.whctemple.org/3weddings. We love Israel and support love and marriage in Israel!

Dear Adas Israel Community:

We are writing to invite you and your congregation to participate in an exciting and powerful event—Three Weddings and a Statement at Washington Hebrew Congregation on Tuesday, March 26, beginning at 6:30 pm. It will be a celebration of love, our love for Israel, and our commitment to freedom of choice in marriage in Israel. It will be a quiet, loving protest, to foster availability of legally recognized Jewish marriage to all Jews in Israel, to attain for all Jews in Israel a right to be married lawfully in their homeland.

The organizers are a partnership. WHC, Adas Israel Congregation, the Israeli Religious Action Center, the Masorti Movement of Israel/ Masorti Foundation, ARIZA, the Union for Reform Judaism, United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, MercazUSA, and Jewish congregations around the nation, all support and host this event here in our nation’s capital. Three Jewish Israeli couples who cannot marry at home will be married at WHC.

- The bride in one couple is not recognized as Jewish because her mother, who converted, is deaf, and her mother’s conversion was not recognized in Israel.
- Another couple rejects the Orthodox Chief Rabbinate’s rigid control over Jewish marriage and refuses to marry under that system.
- The third is a transgender, same-sex couple, who are not allowed to marry in Israel.

They will be married by rabbis representing Judaism’s different movements, including our own Rabbis Holtzblatt and Alexander, under three chuppot whose poles are wrapped in ribbons bearing the names of synagogues and Jewish organizations from around the country. A triply joyous wedding reception celebrating the couples will follow the ceremonies. As you may know, a similar event, held at New York City’s Temple Emanu-El in December 2017, received positive attention both here and in Israel. The Three Weddings at Washington Hebrew will take place two weeks before Israel’s important, legislative election, and we cannot think of a better time for Israel’s political and religious leadership from across the spectrum to hear our united voice in support of the values of love and equality. This will be done through the “Statement” (see full statement at www.whctemple.org/3weddings).

The Statement will be signed on March 26 by those attending the event and digitally by others who cannot attend but want to show their support. It will be sent to Israel’s Prime Minister following the April 9 election. The Union for Reform Judaism and United Synagogue for Conservative Judaism are asking all affiliated synagogues to show their support by signing the Statement and adding their congregation’s name to colorful ribbons on the chuppot poles.

To show strength and commitment, it is especially important for our local congregations to partner with us. There are several opportunities—in addition to signing the Statement and adding your congregation’s name to the chuppah ribbons—for you to become involved. Information about these opportunities can be found on the WHC website at whctemple.org/3weddings, or by contacting Stephanie Tankel at stankel@whctemple.org.

We hope you will join us now and on March 26 to raise a toast along with your voice!

JEWISH MINDFULNESS CENTER OF WASHINGTON

We live in a goal-oriented society, especially here in the DC area. But how often do we think about our spiritual goals? And what does that even mean? Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel says, “Our goal should be to live life in radical amazement... get up in the morning and look at the world in a way that takes nothing for granted. Everything is phenomenal, everything is incredible, never treat life casually. To be spiritual is to be amazed.” As we enter the lovely spring season, opportunities for amazement abound: a patch of earth we walk by one morning becomes a bunch of daffodils in the next; a barren tree seems to sprout green leaves in slow motion before our eyes, and it can look like an artist arrived while we were asleep and selectively dabbed bright colors of paint around town. It’s hard to miss the miracle of a DC spring, which makes paying close attention to its fluid beauty a perfect mindfulness practice. This can help us develop the capacity for amazement, and we can begin to sense that in every corner, even those of personal or communal darkness, mystery and wonder are there to be seen. JMCW offers opportunities to help cultivate this capacity by quieting the mind and creating space to connect with ourselves and others through song, prayer, breath, and movement. And this month, we are offering a special Intro to Jewish Mindfulness Series! As Rabbi Lawrence Kushner writes: “To be a Jew means to wake up and to keep your eyes open but as the reality in which you live. Everything is phenomenal; everything is incredible; never treat life casually. To be spiritual is to be amazed.”

MIRACLE AND WONDER: A JEWISH MINDFULNESS SERIES

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel is considered one of the most influential Jewish thinkers of the 20th century through his writing, social activism, and many teachings, including the interdependence of God and humanity. This volume contains beautiful essays on wonder and radical amazement. I Asked For Wonder: A Spiritual Anthology by Abraham Joshua Heschel. Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel is considered one of the most influential Jewish thinkers of the 20th century through his writing, social activism, and many teachings, including the interdependence of God and humanity. This volume contains beautiful essays on wonder and radical amazement.

CONTROVERSY AND SPIRITUAL PATHS: THE LIFE OF RABBI ABRAHAM JOSHUA HESCHEL

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel (1907-1972) was a prominent rabbi, philosopher, and activist in the 20th century. He was a central figure in the Jewish intellectual world and a key player in the civil rights movement. Heschel is known for his profound insight into the human condition and his call for social justice.

ONGOING OFFERINGS

Vinyasa Lunar Flow
WEDNESDAYS @ 6:30–7:20 PM
A slow-paced asana practice for all levels, led by a rotating roster of JMCW faculty.

Weekly Meditation Sit
WEDNESDAYS @ 7:30–8:30 PM
A community sit that integrates meditation techniques with guided teachings, led by a rotating roster of JMCW faculty.

Adas Israel Community Mikvah
The beautiful, recently renovated and accessible mikvah is open! We welcome you to plan your own time for a mindful immersion.

NEW: Intro to Jewish Mindfulness Series
SUNDAYS, MARCH 10, 24, & 31 & APRIL 7 @ 1:00–3:00 PM
Introducing JMCW’s second annual Intro to Jewish Mindfulness Series! Come join our newly designed course in Jewish mindfulness. Together we will explore embodied spiritual practice, contemplative Jewish meditation, Kabbalah, chanting and mindfulness practice. Jewish tradition teaches that our bodies are deeply in sync with the lunar cycle, and Rosh Chodesh calls us to listen to these timeless, embodied rhythms. Following the asana practice, we will gather for a group discussion circle. For registrations, updates, and additional information and offerings, please visit the JMCW web page at adasisrael.org/jmcw or the JMCW Facebook Group. Please direct any questions to JMCW Director, Alesandra Zsiba@adasisrael.org.

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 adasisrael.org/jmcw, where you can also subscribe to our weekly newsletter. Find us on Facebook, JMCW at Adas Israel!
MARCH 2019

SUNDAY

24 9:00 am Morning Minyan
19 Adar I
25 7:30 am Evening Minyan
20 Adar I
26 9:00 am Morning Minyan
21 Adar I
27 6:00 pm Evening Minyan
22 Adar I
28 7:30 am Morning Minyan
23 Adar I
29 6:00 pm Evening Minyan
30 Adar I
31 7:30 am Morning Minyan

TUESDAY

1 7:30 am Morning Minyan
2 6:00 pm Evening Minyan
3 20 Adar I
4 6:00 pm Evening Minyan
5 7:30 am Morning Minyan
6 9:00 am Morning Minyan
7 10:00 am Morning Minyan
8 9:00 am Morning Minyan
9 10:00 am Morning Minyan
10 11:00 am Morning Minyan
11 6:00 pm Evening Minyan
12 7:30 am Morning Minyan
13 9:00 am Morning Minyan
14 10:00 am Morning Minyan
15 11:00 am Morning Minyan
16 12:00 pm Morning Minyan
17 1:00 pm Morning Minyan
18 6:00 pm Evening Minyan
19 7:30 am Morning Minyan
20 9:00 am Morning Minyan
21 10:00 am Morning Minyan
22 11:00 am Morning Minyan
23 12:00 pm Morning Minyan
24 1:00 pm Morning Minyan
25 6:00 pm Evening Minyan
26 7:30 am Morning Minyan
27 9:00 am Morning Minyan
28 10:00 am Morning Minyan
29 11:00 am Morning Minyan
30 12:00 pm Morning Minyan
31 1:00 pm Morning Minyan

WEDNESDAY

31 9:00 am Morning Minyan
1 6:00 pm Evening Minyan
2 9:00 am Morning Minyan
3 10:00 am Morning Minyan
4 11:00 am Morning Minyan
5 12:00 pm Morning Minyan
6 1:00 pm Morning Minyan
7 8:00 am Evening Minyan
8 6:00 pm Evening Minyan
9 9:00 am Morning Minyan
10 10:00 am Morning Minyan
11 11:00 am Morning Minyan
12 12:00 pm Morning Minyan
13 1:00 pm Morning Minyan
14 6:00 pm Evening Minyan
15 9:00 am Morning Minyan
16 10:00 am Morning Minyan
17 11:00 am Morning Minyan
18 12:00 pm Morning Minyan
19 1:00 pm Morning Minyan
20 6:00 pm Evening Minyan
21 9:00 am Morning Minyan
22 10:00 am Morning Minyan
23 11:00 am Morning Minyan
24 12:00 pm Morning Minyan
25 1:00 pm Morning Minyan
26 6:00 pm Evening Minyan
27 9:00 am Morning Minyan
28 10:00 am Morning Minyan
29 11:00 am Morning Minyan
30 12:00 pm Morning Minyan
31 1:00 pm Morning Minyan

THURSDAY

28 7:30 am Morning Minyan
29 6:00 pm Evening Minyan
30 9:00 am Morning Minyan
31 6:00 pm Evening Minyan

FRIDAY

28 7:30 am Morning Minyan
29 6:00 pm Evening Minyan
30 9:00 am Morning Minyan
31 6:00 pm Evening Minyan

SATURDAY

28 7:30 am Morning Minyan
29 6:00 pm Evening Minyan
30 9:00 am Morning Minyan
31 6:00 pm Evening Minyan

Traditional Egalitarian Minyan (TE): Every Shabbat morning at 9:30 am, with the Torah service around 10:30 am. Led by laypeople with the occasional assistance of a rabbi, the service includes a D’Var Torah and sermon by the D’var Torah and often includes participation by members and B’nai Mitzvah.

Youth Shabbat Services: Starting with Tot Shabbat for children ages 5 and under led by Menahem Peters. Netivot, for students in grades K–3, is led by Sarah Attermann or Jeremy Kadden. 

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 (TE): Every Shabbat morning at 9:30 am, with the Torah service around 10:30 am. Led by laypeople with the occasional assistance of a rabbi, the service includes a D’Var Torah and sermon by the Rabbi and often includes participation by members and B’Nai Mitzvah.

Youth Shabbat Services: Starting with Tot Shabbat for children ages 5 and under led by Menahem Peters. Netivot, for students in grades K–3, is led by Sarah Attermann or Jeremy Kadden. Dial-in for Programs & Services: If you are unable to attend programs, lectures, or services, dial in to hear them. Call 202-606-8406. Library Open on Shabbat. Our third-floor library is open on Shabbat following. 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).
From the Director of Education

RABBI KERRITH SOLOMON

Welcoming Author Dori Weinstein

From the narratives of our tradition to the stories that we co-create every day in our shared Jewish lives, Jews have been, and continue to be, the people of the book. This month the Education Department welcomes Dori Weinstein as a guest teacher. She comes not only to share her children’s chapter book series, but also to talk about the landscape of Jewish literature for children and her approach to bringing Jewish characters and rituals to life. We look forward to welcoming her in both the religious school and high school programs and to the narratives of our tradition to the stories that we co-create every day in our shared Jewish lives, Jews have been, and continue to be, the people of the book. This month the Education Department welcomes Dori Weinstein as a guest teacher. She comes not only to share her children’s chapter book series, but also to talk about the landscape of Jewish literature for children and her approach to bringing Jewish characters and rituals to life. We look forward to welcoming her in both the religious school and high school programs and to sharing her Jewish children’s chapter book series: YaYa & YoYo. According to Rabbi Alvin Mars, PhD, Senior Consultant to the President of the JCC Association of North America for Education Development, “Dori Weinstein captures the attention of youngsters and their parents alike with captivating stories that links contemporary kids, their families, and their lives to the core of Jewish traditions and values.”

Jewish Children’s Author Dori Weinstein Is Coming to Adas Israel!

Tuesday, March 5 & Wednesday, March 6

Educator and award-winning author Dori Weinstein is coming to Adas to talk with our students about writing and publishing and to share her Jewish children’s chapter book series: YaYa & YoYo. According to Rabbi Alvin Mars, PhD, Senior Consultant to the President of the JCC Association of North America for Education Development, “Dori Weinstein captures the attention of youngsters and their parents alike with captivating storytelling that links contemporary kids, their families, and their lives to the core of Jewish traditions and values.”

If you would like to pre-order signed copies of Dori’s books, please return this order form and a check (payable to Dori Weinstein) to your child’s teacher on or before Tues. 3/5 or Wed. 3/6

Name of student: .............................................................................

_____ copies of Sliding into the New Year (new cover: $10 each, original cover: $9 each) (Circle your preference)

_____ copies of Shaking in the Shack ($11 each)

_____ copies of Huppah Under the Huppah ($15 each)

*Books are priced individually, however when purchasing the full set it is discounted to $34

Autograph the book(s) to: .................................................................

(Include the exact name(s) you would like the books to be signed)

Enclosed is $ __________

SEEING & TEACHING EACH CHILD

Educator and award-winning author Dori Weinstein is coming to Adas to talk with our students about writing and publishing and to share her Jewish children’s chapter book series: YaYa & YoYo. According to Rabbi Alvin Mars, PhD, Senior Consultant to the President of the JCC Association of North America for Education Development, “Dori Weinstein captures the attention of youngsters and their parents alike with captivating storytelling that links contemporary kids, their families, and their lives to the core of Jewish traditions and values.”

Almost 80 years after the first intelligence tests were developed, Howard Gardner challenged the view that something called “intelligence” could be measured objectively and reduced to a single number or “IQ” score. In Frames of Mind (1983) he proposed the existence of at least eight basic intelligences. In his theory of Multiple Intelligences (MI theory), Gardner sought to broaden the scope of human potential beyond the confines of the IQ score and suggested that intelligence has more to do with the capacity for (1) solving problems and (2) fashioning products in a context-rich and naturalistic setting. Gardner’s eight comprehensive categories or “Intelligences”:

• Linguistic: The capacity to use words effectively, whether orally (e.g., as a storyteller, orator, or politician) or in writing (e.g., as a poet, playwright, editor, or journalist).
• Logical-Mathematical: The capacity to use numbers effectively (e.g., as a mathematician, tax accountant, or statistician) and to reason well (e.g., as a scientist, computer programmer, or logician).
• Spatial: The ability to perceive the visual-spatial world accurately (e.g., as a hunter, scout, or guide) and to perform transformations upon those perceptions (e.g., as an interior decorator, architect, artist, or inventor).
• Bodily-Kinesthetic: Expertise in using one’s whole body to express ideas and feelings (e.g., as an actor, mime, athlete, or dancer) and facility in using one’s hands to produce or transform things (e.g., as a craftsperson, sculptor, mechanic, or surgeon).
• Musical: The capacity to perceive (e.g., as a music aficionado) discriminate (e.g., as a music critic), transform (e.g., as a composer), and express (e.g., as a performer) musical forms.
• Interpersonal: The ability to easily recognize and make distinctions among the moods, intentions, motivations, and feelings of other people.
• Intrapersonal: Self-knowledge and the ability to act adaptively on the basis of that knowledge.
• Naturalistic: The ability to easily recognize and classify plants, animals, and other things in nature.

Using Gardner’s Theory of Multiple Intelligences leads to a greater understanding each student’s unique gifts and he or she learns. What do you think is your intelligence?

—Pamela Gorin, Assistant Director of Education

YOUTH @ AI

Adas Israel’s Youth Department is offering a variety of wonderful programming for families this Purim. The holiday commemorates the resilience and strength of Jewish community, and, to emphasize the importance of community, each age cohort has an opportunity and special way to participate in our Purim celebrations and traditions.

Our annual Purim Carnival on Sunday, March 17, is open to all members of the Adas community. There will be games, bouncy rides, and delicious snacks. Our Madrichim and USYers will join us at the carnival to facilitate and lead a variety of activities. Religious School students will have additional programming with the Education Team and teachers to learn about and celebrate the holiday in dynamic ways tailored to their age groups. We have parades, storytelling, and videos planned for our Gishron through 6th-grade students. By providing activities for all of our student age groups, our Purim celebrations will embrace and grow the strength and connections in community.

On Purim, March 21, our Wednesday Religious School students will learn and celebrate the holiday with special games and story-telling. One Religious School tradition involves our 6th-grade class performing a Purim play for our Gan students. Purim is the perfect time for students of every age to celebrate together.

—Sarah Attermann, Youth and Family Educator

Continued on page 30
Ma Tovu
Amy Schwartz, Eric Koenig & Family

Honoring Our Leaders & Volunteers

Interviewed by Marcy Spiro, Senior Director, Engagement & Programming Operations

You are celebrating your 20th anniversary as members of Adas this year! How did you end up in the DC area, and what brought you to Adas Israel?

Both of us grew up in the New York area—Amy in the city, Eric in Fair Lawn, NJ—and came to Washington for jobs. Eric first worked here as a Hill intern during the summer after his freshman year in college, then stayed to work in the Department of Health and Human Services during the Carter administration, and then, after law school and a clerkship, as an associate at Covington and Burling. Amy came here as a young journalist for an internship at the New Republic and moved on to the Washington Post, where she spent nearly two decades as an editorial writer and op ed columnist. Oddly enough, we met in Washington and moved on to the New Republic, Covington and Burling. Amy came here as a young journalist and then, after law school and a clerkship, as an associate at Covington and Burling. Eric then transferred to the Washington office in 1990–91, married in 1997, Amy took another leave to spend most of a year in Paris, leaving us with a rather long commute! This went on as vice president for education.

Amy, in addition to your job at Moment Magazine, you run the Jewish Study Center and we are fortunate to host classes here at Adas on Wednesday evenings. Can you tell us more about the Jewish Study Center and how you became involved?

The Jewish Study Center was founded by Rabbi Max Ticktin z”l and Norman Shore in the 1970s as a way for people of all different Jewish backgrounds, whether rabbis, professors, or enthusiastic laypeople, to teach and learn together informally. In 1991, when I returned from Germany and was writing about it for the Post, I gave a talk at the downtown JCC (then still in temporary digs on Jefferson Place NW). Afterward, a man approached me and said he ran a small independent adult education outfit called the Jewish Study Center, and would I be interested in doing some volunteer teaching in the evenings on some Jewish topic? I said I’d love to, but that I didn’t know enough about any Jewish topic to teach it. He was undeterred, and since I often wrote about poetry and literature for the Post, we dreamed up a course on recent Jewish women’s poetry, which I enjoyed so much that I ended up teaching many more courses, then joining the board, then becoming president. At some point, I settled into the habit of teaching Psalms, which gets more enjoyable every year as I (and my long-term students) dig into the texts more deeply. Many others have had parallel experiences, as we discover every summer by swapping stories at the annual volunteer appreciation dinner. (The man who recruited me, by the way, was Paul Scharn, a longtime Adas member and now director of the Cildesdale Center for Israel Studies at the University of Maryland, one of many eminent local scholars who’ve run the Study Center.)

Eric, in addition to being an attorney, you are the Treasurer of Appleseed and have been involved in a number of other nonprofit organizations. Can you tell us more about your involvement in these groups?

I am passionate about helping groups that advance human rights, access to justice, and equal opportunity, both here and abroad. I have served as board chair of the Juvenile Law Center, a Philadelphia-based group that works to better the lives of youth in our child welfare and juvenile justice systems, and as board chair and (now treasurer) of the Appleseed Foundation, a network of 18 justice centers in states and Mexico City that work to achieve reforms that make the system work better for the underprivileged. I spent several years helping start our Mexico City center, which seeks to build a pro bono culture among lawyers and has been wonderfully successful. I serve as a board member of the Public Interest Law Network, which inspires lawyers in many countries to advance the public good, and was a board member of the now-dismembered group Global Rights, which taught and encouraged local groups in many countries to use international human rights treaties and tools to advance their work. I started working with that group as a young volunteer lawyer, serving as an official observer of the first Ceausescu elections in Romania in the spring of 1990. I also enjoyed serving as treasurer and trustee of Georgetown Day School. Nothing has made me happier than catching glimpses of my kids thriving at school!

You have three wonderful children who grew up at Adas. Where are they now, and when not at Adas, what are they doing?

Our oldest, Sandy, is a sophomore at Harvard this year and has just decided to major in history. He is also studying Chinese and spent last summer in Beijing, becoming proficient enough to be an excellent tour guide when we joined him there briefly in August! Danny is a high school senior, loves math and science, and will be joining his brother next year. Mimi, our youngest, is a junior this year, about to plunge into the fray. (Who said spacing your children was a thing?) All our children have been “fliers” at Georgetown Day School, and, perhaps not surprisingly, all three are into politics, though each in a different style: Sandy interned last spring for a Massachusetts state senator, Danny loves to debate philosophical ideas, and Mimi went door-to-door for Hillary and joined the “die-in” protests at the White House after the Parkland shootings. Mimi and Danny also spent summers at Camp Ramah New England, to which Danny will return this summer as a counselor.

I’ve had the pleasure of traveling with all three of your children to Israel on our Abe and Minnie Kay Israel Experience during the summer after their 10th-grade Confirmation year. Every trip has had similarities and differences. We’d love to hear the highlights of the trip from Sandy, Danny, and Mimi.

Sandy’s most vivid memories are of visiting Independence Hall in the Philadelphia Museum of Art, where Ben Gurion declared statehood, traveling to the Lebanese border with Hezbollah outposts visible in the distance. Danny’s group had wonderful moments in Jerusalem and in the Negev, especially one night when they hiked out in the darkness, lay down, and talked while looking at the stars. Mimi also loved hiking and climbing in the Negev and remembers with fondness the night the group spent in a Bedouin tent.

The vote is 5-0: Latkes, early and often, regardless of season! Eric adds, “Amy and I were pleasantly surprised, when living in Germany, to find that fabulous (albeit locally called rotebuchen) latkes could be obtained at a popular stand near the Cologne train station and were further improved with a generous slice of smoked salmon on top.”

We know all of your children have been to Israel with their peers. What are some of your favorite family vacation spots? Do you have any big trips planned before Danny heads off to college next fall?

We love to spend time at our house on Martha’s Vineyard—though the kids are so busy nowadays that we’re rarely all there together. We’ve had some wonderful travel adventures over the years, including “big trips” to Japan and Vietnam, where we were lucky enough to stay with friends and glimpse the local life, and Cambodia, where Sandy rode an elephant on his 16th birthday. On one memorable trip to London when the kids were younger, Eric managed, by ceaseless online checking and rechecking, to score five tickets to the Harry Potter Studios the day they first opened to the public. We hope we’ll take many more trips together as a family, but we’re also very pleased that the kids have developed a love for travel on their own and are already having adventures without us.

Where are they now, and when not at Adas, what are they doing?

Max Ticktin Memorial Latke-Hamentasch Debate! Wednesday, March 6, 7:45—9:00 p.m. at Adas Israel

Which is better—the taste of the hamentasch? Our Yet-to-be-revealed celebrity moderator and learned panelists address the eternal conundrum: Diane Boltz, Arts Editor; David Fallick, Yiddishist; Elissa Silverman, at-large member, D.C. Council; and others to be announced. The audience is invited to join the panel afterward in mouth-watering, hands-on research.

JSC, Adas members $10; others $12. Refreshments included!
**Sisterhood Shabbat to Focus on Jewish Women’s Resilience through the Ages**

March 22-23, by Joyce Stern

The theme of this year’s Sisterhood Shabbat, March 22–23, is “The Eternal Flame: From Purim to Passover to Pittsburgh—Women’s Contributions to Jewish Resilience through the Ages.” The Torah portion for the Shabbat is Tzav, where we find the commandment to maintain the Eternal Light. Intended to teach us about the need for constancy in relating to God, the text reads: “A continual fire shall be lit on the altar; it shall not go out” (Leviticus 6:5–6). In time, this flame became the ner tamid, the eternal light found in most synagogues to signify the divine presence.

The attack visited upon the congregants at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh this past fall was a brutal demonstration of the resurgence of anti-Semitism in our day. Sisterhood Shabbat will take place between Purim and Passover, each holiday commemorating the Jewish people’s deliverance from annihilation. It will celebrate the leadership of Jewish women who demonstrated resilience in the face of existential threat and constancy to God and to our eternal mission to be a Light unto the Nations.

Thanks to the generosity of congregant Donald Saltz, through the Mozelle Saltz (z”l) Fund for Sisterhood Speakers, Sisterhood is once again privileged to present to the congregation a renowned Jewish educator, Rabbi Avi Strausberg, who recently settled with her family in Washington, DC. She is the Director of National Learning Initiatives at Hadar. Based in New York, Hadar is a leading institution promoting Jewish education and community building. Joining the faculty of Mechon Hadar in 2016, Rabbi Strausberg is now bringing Hadar’s vision and programming to the DC/MD/VA area.

Rabbi Strausberg received her rabbinic ordination and master’s degree in Jewish education from Boston’s Hebrew College and is a Wexner Graduate Fellow. While pursuing her studies, she served as a rabbinic intern at synagogues in Brookline, MA, and at T’ruah, an organization of rabbis dedicated to promoting human rights, where she organized an anti-trafficking campaign. She also was a Pastoral Care Fellow at a Massachusetts residence for seniors.

She holds a bachelor of science in theater from Northwestern University, and her postgraduate studies have been at Yeshivat Hadar in New York and Pardes in Jerusalem. Before joining Hadar, Rabbi Strausberg served as the Director of Congregational Learning at Temple of Aaron in St. Paul, MN. Known for her skills as an educator, she has developed numerous curricula and taught students of different ages and backgrounds, including aspiring rabbis, during her internships and in her rabbinic positions. Energized by engaging creatively with Jewish texts, Rabbi Strausberg has written several theater pieces inspired by the Torah and maintains a blog in which she writes daily Talmudic haiku. She is also a recurring columnist for “70 Faces of Torah” in the Huffington Post.

Rabbi Strausberg is again privileged to present to the congregation a renowned Jewish educator, Rabbi Avi Strausberg, where we find the commandment

---

**SISTERHOOD**

After the congregational kiddush, sponsored by Donald Saltz, Rabbi Strausberg will pursue this theme with a lesson entitled, “From Silence to Protest: The Different Faces of Resilience.” She explains, “In the wake of the #MeToo movement, we have seen women across the country come forward to share their stories, drawing deep on reserves of strength and resilience. In this session, we’ll look to the women of our own traditions, to Esther and Queen Vashti, to Dina and a bride on her wedding night, as we discover that resilience comes in many forms.

Please join Sisterhood in welcoming Rabbi Strausberg and in thanking Donald Saltz for enabling Sisterhood to continue this wonderful tradition of scholarship and study in memory of his wife, Mozelle, who was a long time dedicated member of the Adas Israel Congregation Sisterhood.

---

**ONGOING PROGRAMS**

**Weekday Torah with Sisterhood**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 12 @ 10:30 AM, FUNGER HALL**

Rabbi Lauren Holzblatt will lead the text study session on Tuesday, March 12, at 10:30 am, rather than the usual 10 am. Weekday Torah with Sisterhood is an engaging approach to traditional Hebrew text study that offers great opportunity to study and discuss challenging texts and ideas. Students of all levels and backgrounds are welcome. Classes are open to the entire Adas community, and participants are invited to bring a friend. Most classes meet at 10:00 am in Funger Hall, meeting monthly except in the summer. Subsequent 2019 classes will be April 9, May 14, and June 11. For more information, please contact Marilyn Cooper, marilynccoooper70@gmail.com.

**Sisterhood in Your Community**

**NEXT UP: SUNDAY, MARCH 3; SUNDAY, MARCH 10; SUNDAY, MARCH 24**

Sisterhood is again offering the very popular “Sisterhood in Your Community” Get-Togethers on select Sundays. These are brunches, wine and cheese gatherings, or teas hosted by Sisterhood members in a neighborhood near you. The purpose is for current members to get to know one another better and to have fun. Hosts will send out invitations to members who live in close proximity, but if you’re interested, contact June Kress (202-316-3439 or juneblessgss@gmail.com), and she will put you in touch with the host. Thanks to Marian Fox for scheduling and then—due to the weather—rescheduling her tea, which was a huge success. Nine women enjoyed a fabulous assortment of teas and Marian’s talent for baking. We all shared some great stories and loved the experience of getting to know one another. Here is the lineup for March:

- Sunday, March 3, 10:30 am–12:30 pm, Arlette Jassel will host a brunch in Bethesda.
- Sunday, March 10, 2:00–4:00 pm, Barbara Friedell will host a wine and cheese in Bethesda.
- Sunday, March 24, 2:00–4:00 pm, Rhoda Ritzenberg will host a wine and cheese in Balitston.

**Take-A-Walk!**

**CHECK THE SISTERHOOD WEBSITE FOR THE NEXT WALK!**
**SISTERHOOD**

**Next Up: Wednesday, March 13 @ 7:30–9:00 PM, Youth Lounge**

On March 13, Hazan Rachel Goldsmith will address the group to inspire those making tallitot. You can purchase an atarah and ready-to-knot tallitot online from Ben’s Tallit Shop in Jerusalem (save $5 on shipping with code SHIP2ME), Zion Judaica in Brooklyn, and Amazon, among other vendors. Members are encouraged to continue knitting, sewing, and embroidery projects and to donate leftover wool, which we use to knit or crochet squares for Afghans. All are welcome to join our monthly meetings to work on ongoing sewing, knitting, and crocheting projects, including working with silk to make tallitot, and to propose new projects. Ongoing knitting projects are open to new and experienced knitters and to those who crochet.

---

**Life Cycle**

**Births**

Henry Asher Raboy, son of David & Kali Raboy, born December 28

Liona Elias Stern, daughter of Brinat Gilnet & Zach Stern, born January 8

Davies Nolan Heckroth, son of Naomi & Thomas Heckroth, born January 12

Theo Shai Hagen, son of Clark & Shaina Hagen, born January 27

**B’not Mitzvah**

Samantha Hunker, March 2

Samantha Shields Hunker, daughter of Mark Hunker and Jeff Shields-Hunker, is a seventh grader at the Edmund Burke School. She started her Jewish education at the DCJCC and has continued at Adas since third grade. For her mitzvah project, Samantha is raising funds for the Pride Fund to End Gun Violence, of which her father, Mark, is a founding board member. Samantha supports their goal to serve as the strong, concentrated voice of the LGBTQ community in the movement to stop senseless gun tragedies. She shares this simcha with her parents, grandmother, and many family members friends from Pennsylvania, Florida, New York, California, and beyond.

Nicola Klarfeld, March 9

Nicola Klarfeld, daughter of Debbie and Jonathan Klarfeld, is a seventh grader at Alice Deal Middle School. Nicola began her Jewish education at Gan HaHaled, and is a student at the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School. For her mitzvah project, she will volunteer at an animal rescue organization that focuses on rescuing and finding homes for neglected and abandoned animals. Nicola shares this simcha with her sister, Sydney, her grandparents, and the rest of her extended family.

Emerson Luzzatto, March 16

Emerson Almeida Luzzatto is a sixth grader at The Sheridan School. She celebrates her bat mitzvah with her grandparents, sisters, and other family and friends. For her mitzvah project Emerson will combine her interest in the work of Malala Yousafzai and basketball. First, Emerson will educate herself about Malala and the Nobel winner’s advocacy on behalf of girls’ education worldwide. She will meet with the director of the Malala Fund and will learn about Malala’s work with refugee girls by reading her 2018 book, We Are Displaced. Emerson plans to organize a basketball game among her family and friends and writing to her simcha with her twin sister, Daisy, and a community of family and friends.

Daisy and Sally Esquith, March 30

Daisy Esquith, a daughter of Katy Gingles and David Esquith, is a seventh grader at Pyle Middle School. Daisy attended the Gan HaHaled and continues her Jewish education at the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School. For her mitzvah project, Daisy is raising awareness of and donations for women who are incarcerated for traffic fines and cannot afford bail. She is excited to share her simcha with her twin sister, Sally, and a community of family and friends.

Sally Esquith, a daughter of Katy Gingles and David Esquith, is a seventh grader at Pyle Middle School. She attended the Gan HaHaled and continues her Jewish education at the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School. For her mitzvah project, Sally is raising awareness of and donations for women who are incarcerated for traffic fines and cannot afford bail. She is excited to share her simcha with her twin sister, Daisy, and a community of family and friends.

**In Memoriam**

We mourn the loss of synagogue members:

Mazal tov to Michaela Miller, Mazal tov to Abby Alter

Michaela Miller, daughter of Debbie and Jonathan Klarfeld, is a seventh grader at The Sheridan School. She celebrates her simcha with her twin sister, Daisy, and a community of family and friends. For her mitzvah project, she will volunteer at an animal rescue organization that focuses on rescuing and finding homes for neglected and abandoned animals. Nicola shares this simcha with her sister, Sydney, her grandparents, and the rest of her extended family.

Samantha Hunker, March 2

Samantha Shields Hunker, daughter of Mark Hunker and Jeff Shields-Hunker, is a seventh grader at the Edmund Burke School. She started her Jewish education at the DCJCC and has continued at Adas since third grade. For her mitzvah project, Samantha is raising funds for the Pride Fund to End Gun Violence, of which her father, Mark, is a founding board member. Samantha supports their goal to serve as the strong, concentrated voice of the LGBTQ community in the movement to stop senseless gun tragedies. She shares this simcha with her parents, grandmother, and many family members friends from Pennsylvania, Florida, New York, California, and beyond.

Nicola Klarfeld, March 9

Nicola Klarfeld, daughter of Debbie and Jonathan Klarfeld, is a seventh grader at Alice Deal Middle School. Nicola began her Jewish education at Gan HaHaled, and is a student at the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School. For her mitzvah project, she will volunteer at an animal rescue organization that focuses on rescuing and finding homes for neglected and abandoned animals. Nicola shares this simcha with her sister, Sydney, her grandparents, and the rest of her extended family.

Emerson Luzzatto, March 16

Emerson Almeida Luzzatto is a sixth grader at The Sheridan School. She celebrates her bat mitzvah with her grandparents, sisters, and other family and friends. For her mitzvah project Emerson will combine her interest in the work of Malala Yousafzai and basketball. First, Emerson will educate herself about Malala and the Nobel winner’s advocacy on behalf of girls’ education worldwide. She will meet with the director of the Malala Fund and will learn about Malala’s work with refugee girls by reading her 2018 book, We Are Displaced. Emerson plans to organize a basketball game among her family and friends and writing to her simcha with her twin sister, Daisy, and a community of family and friends.

Daisy and Sally Esquith, March 30

Daisy Esquith, a daughter of Katy Gingles and David Esquith, is a seventh grader at Pyle Middle School. Daisy attended the Gan HaHaled and continues her Jewish education at the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School. For her mitzvah project, Daisy is raising awareness of and donations for women who are incarcerated for traffic fines and cannot afford bail. She is excited to share her simcha with her twin sister, Sally, and a community of family and friends.

Sally Esquith, a daughter of Katy Gingles and David Esquith, is a seventh grader at Pyle Middle School. She attended the Gan HaHaled and continues her Jewish education at the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School. For her mitzvah project, Sally is raising awareness of and donations for women who are incarcerated for traffic fines and cannot afford bail. She is excited to share her simcha with her twin sister, Daisy, and a community of family and friends.

**Engagement/Weddings**

Mazal tov to Michaela Miller

We note with sorrow and mourn the passing of: Sarah Toren, mother of Peter Toren

We note with sorrow and mourn the passing of: Stanley Macklin, father of Padi Flagg

Sarah Toren, mother of Peter Toren

Samantha is raising funds for the Pride Fund to End Gun Violence, of which her father, Mark, is a founding board member. Samantha supports their goal to serve as the strong, concentrated voice of the LGBTQ community in the movement to stop senseless gun tragedies. She shares this simcha with her sister, Sydney, her grandparents, and the rest of her extended family.

**Member in the News**

Mazal tov to Abby Alter

Igor 101, chosen to represent the U.S. at the 2019 Maccabi Pan Am Games as a member of the U-18 Girls Soccer Team. The games will be played in Mexico City in July.

---

**Gan Spotlight: January 2’s**

continued from pg. 25

Here at Gan HaYeled, we believe in the idea, “Nothing without joy….” as Loris Malaguzzi, the founder of Reggio Emilia philosophy teaches. From a Jewish perspective, Rabbi Lawrence Kushner shares the idea. “When people are joyful, they are at their best: they are generous, kind, grateful . . . . “ Day in and day out, we demonstrate these two teachings, which can be seen, heard, and felt when walking through the halls of the Gan. This past January the Gan grew by two more classes. We welcomed our January Efrochim team: Danielle, Jocelyn, and Rachel and the January Efrochim team: Danielle, Jocelyn, and Rachel. Having the opportunity to bring new two-year-olds into the Gan community in January increases joy and growth.

The Efrochim class, taught by Jocelyn Dorfman, Danielle Leff, and Rachel Vana, is part of our Onah program. The Efrochim class truly serves as an entry point into school and Jewish education for our youngest students, and their families. Jocelyn, Danielle, and Rachel provide a warm, nurturing, and engaging school experience by responding to the emotions and interests of the children and learning who each child is as an individual. The Dagim class, taught by Catherine Carroll, Tate Sweeney, Shamiq K, and Lauren Chambers Dennis, is part of our Shanah program. Our Dagim students arrive and are welcomed each day by their amazing team of early childhood professionals. These teachers have endless love, compassion, and joy, and the Dagim children thrive due to the dedication and passion of these teachers. The Efrochim and Dagim children and teachers truly are a source of light and joy!

---

**Sisterhood Sewing, Knitting & Craft Circle**

**Next Up: Wednesday, March 13 @ 7:30–9:00 PM, Youth Lounge**

---

**Purim Purim Purim Purim**

**Sisterhood Gift Shop**

We have everything you need to celebrate Purim: graggers, tambourines, masks, beads, and crowns.

**Shop early for best selection.**

**Gift Shop Hours**

**Sunday-Monday:** 9:30 am-12:30 pm

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

**Every purchase benefits Adas Israel Congregation.**

202-364-2888

adasgiftshop@gmail.com

*We will also be open for Kol HaOlam, March 2, and on Erev Purim, March 20.*

---

**In Memoriam**

We mourn the loss of synagogue members:

Michaella Miller

We note with sorrow and mourn the passing of: Stanley Macklin, father of Padi Flagg

Sarah Toren, mother of Peter Toren

---

**Engagement/Weddings**

Mazal tov to Michaela Miller

We note with sorrow and mourn the passing of: Stanley Macklin, father of Padi Flagg

Sarah Toren, mother of Peter Toren

---

**Member in the News**

Mazal tov to Abby Alter

Igor 101, chosen to represent the U.S. at the 2019 Maccabi Pan Am Games as a member of the U-18 Girls Soccer Team. The games will be played in Mexico City in July.

---

---

---
Honoring Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. at Adas Israel

Photos: Adas members Sarah Brooks, Brian Schwalb, Lauren Queen, Nancy Weiss, and Joel Fischman.

Adas Israel celebrated and honored the legacy, wisdom, and courage of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with a weekend of reflection and learning. The weekend began with a Return Again Shabbat Service and Shabbat dinner with our community partners. During dinner, our guest speaker, George Lambert, president and CEO of the Greater Washington Urban League, reminded us of what it means to do the hard work of activism and opened a discussion of Dr. King’s ideas in the context of Jewish text. Over dinner, each table discussed an assigned set of texts, challenging all of us to think about how we can put Dr. King’s messages into action today.

On Saturday, our guest speaker, Rabbi Sandra Lawson, gave a moving sermon on the challenge of moving beyond diversity within Judaism to engagement, inclusion, and pluralism. She cited how we may fail to achieve inclusion and pluralism, and she told the truth in love that all too often, Jews of color are made to feel unwelcome in Jewish spaces. Rabbi Lawson later led a workshop where attendees discussed how Jewish communities could improve on their efforts to create inclusive and pluralistic Jewish communities. She challenged white Jews to be aware of, and work to address, the unconscious biases and assumptions that too often come about when interacting with Jews of Color—interactions that ultimately result in creating Jewish spaces that are not very welcoming to, and are therefore not inclusive of, Jews of Color.

On Sunday, Rabbis Alexander and Krinsky, along with several members of Adas Israel, attended a wonderful MLK service at Peoples Congregational Church, where the focus was on reforming the criminal justice system. The two speakers shined a light on how important it is to support those in the criminal justice system. In addition to the support you may expect from Jewish communities, we were reminded of how something as small as a regular postcard, letter, or phone call can be a lifeline to someone in prison and can make a huge difference in that person’s success when he or she re-enters the community.

It was a wonderful weekend, one that left us all with more knowledge and an enlightened perspective on what it means to put Dr. King’s message into action to eradicate racism and create a world where everyone is treated fairly and equitably. We hope it inspired everyone with a renewed commitment to tikkon olam.

Tikkun Olam

‘REPAIRING THE WORLD’

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

The Chronicle

Hesed B’Dubim

Hesed B’Dubim, the official name of our Dubim class for the 2018–2019 school year, was inspired by the Adas High Holy Day theme of ‘Heart, Hope, and Strength’ with an emphasis on hesed. This theme is a perfect fit for our group of young learners: they have such big hearts and want nothing more to channel their hope and strength into meaningful acts of loving kindness for others.

Once the children were acquainted to school, we hit the ground running with our hesed program. Our first steps involved setting up the classroom environment to support our hesed theme. We made our very own hesed aprons, a hesed-themed bulletin board complete with pictures of each child modeling his or her apron and photos of hesed in action, and a kindness wall on our front door. Each time a child engages in kindness, that child puts a sticker on the wall, and we sing our special hesed song. With our hesed-themed classroom environment in place, it was time to jump feet first into action.

Our first few months have been productive. We have baked loaves of quick bread for a classmate who was hospitalized, for Officer Chris upon his retirement from Adas, and for parents who volunteer in our classroom. We even baked cookies for Teacher Su’s granddaughter, who was ill, and made a delicious batch of applesauce for Ron, our Friday Shabbat helper. Ron is our prayer leader on Friday during the Bimah story time.

Our acts of loving kindness are not limited to baking and cooking. At Thanksgiving, we created two beautiful fall-themed wall hangings for the Anne Frank House and for our assistant director, and we made homemade potpourri for our parents. When our classmates or teachers are home sick, we make “get well” phone calls. These quick chats always end with the children blowing lots of kisses to their loved ones at the other end of the phone. Just about every day, the children ask, “Who are we calling today?” And we have the answer: grandparents.

Now that hesed is so much a part of our daily Dubim routine, it’s a good time to reflect on how the children feel about helping others. As soon as the question was asked, “How do you feel about doing hesed?” Natalie responded “better.” Henry explained, “I get a sticker.” Ellie said, “Sticker,” and Eva said, “I put a sticker on the door for Hannah and Teddy helped Izzy.” Teddy replied that he feels “good.” And when the parents were asked to reflect on their children’s experiences in the classroom, Teddy’s mom Alyssa remarked: “We love the hesed activities and that you teach the children about compassion and kindness. Teddy loves to tell us about the activities, including making cookies for Su’s granddaughter and calling Su when she was sick. He still suggests that at home we should make more cookies for Su’s granddaughter.”

In the coming months, we will continue to focus on baking and phone calls and collect tzedakah on Fridays, along with a food drive during Purim, a summertime art show to raise money for Reading Partners, and, we hope, additional baking and cooking projects with the larger Adas hesed community. We are always looking for new opportunities to help out, so please reach out to us if you have ideas that would be just right for our group of compassionate, energetic, and eager children. You can contact the Dubim team at pkrczr@gmail.com. Thank you!

Sunday MLK service at Peoples Congregational Church. In Photos: Adas members Sarah Brooks, Brian Schwalb, Lauren Queen, Nancy Weiss, and Joel Fischman.
The holiday of Purim sparkles like a fairytale—costumes and carnivals, wine and song, and an age-old tale of a foolish king, a brave queen and an evil-plotting courtier. What a perfect month for reading fantasy fiction. The two bewitching books described below—one for adults, one for children—feature Jewish characters and plot elements. Try them with tea and hamantaschen.

**SPINNING SILVER** by Naomi Novik
(Published for adults, but enjoyable for ages 13 and up)

*Spinning Silver* is a richly creative retelling of the Rumpelstiltskin fairytale. In medieval Eastern Europe, a young Jewish woman, Miryem Mandelstam, lives with her loving parents at the edge of a small, non-Jewish village. Miryem’s father Josef is the local moneylender but he is not very good at it. Softhearted and timid, Josef is reluctant to ask borrowers to repay their loans, partly in fear of stirring up the village’s simmering anti-Semitism. Meanwhile, the Mandelstams slide into desperate poverty. Determined to rescue her family, Miryem begins collecting on the debts, shrewdly demanding goods and services as partial payments. As her success grows, she develops a profitable sideline in selling embroidered finery.

Proud of her business prowess, Miryem casually boasts that she can turn silver into gold. Unluckily, a Staryk king overhears her and takes her boast literally.

The Staryk are magical beings of ice from a winter world parallel to the human world; they have a pressing need for gold (albeit not for financial reasons). The Staryk king puts Miryem to the task of changing silver coins to gold ones, magically awakens as the protective golem of Jewish legend. Together, she and the golem hide from Crudd while Miryem resourcefully earns their keep. Despite the risk of revealing her whereabouts, Nan organizes a London protest march to call attention to the danger-filled lives of young chimney climbers.

Beyond poverty and child labor, Victorian London suffered from anti-Semitism. Nan’s Jewish friend, Esther Bloom, a teacher who schools Nan in golem lore, feels safer keeping her Jewish practices secret from other teachers. Toby, a young Jewish peddler, is attacked by anti-Semitic thugs. Yet despite its dark themes, *Sweep* sparkles with light and wonder—the dazzling view of snowy London from the rooftops, sleeping beneath a canopy of stars; and the deep, abiding love between Nan and her Sweep.

Eleven-year-old Nan Sparrow is indentured to a cruel master chimney sweep appropriately named Wilkie Crudd. Like other master sweeps, Crudd keeps a crew of young children to climb inside cramped, narrow chimneys and scrub them clean. At night, Nan dreams of her life before Crudd, of travelling the country with her beloved guardian, the Sweep, until he mysteriously disappeared when she was six years old.

On a job for Crudd one day, Nan nearly dies in a chimney fire, but is saved when a lump of charred soot in her pocket—a parting gift from the Sweep—magically awakens as a protective golem of Jewish legend. Together, she and the golem hide from Crudd while Nan resourcefully earns their keep. The holiday of Purim sparkles like a fairytale—costumes and carnivals, wine and song, and an age-old tale of a foolish king, a brave queen and an evil-plotting courtier. What a perfect month for reading fantasy fiction. The two bewitching books described below—one for adults, one for children—feature Jewish characters and plot elements. Try them with tea and hamantaschen.

**SLEEP: THE STORY OF A GIRL AND HER MONSTER** by Jonathan Auxier
(For ages 8–12)

*Sweep* is an imaginative blend of fantasy and historical fiction, set in Victorian London among chimney sweeps. But these sweeps lead miserable lives; they are not the jolly dancers of Mary Poppins.

Eleven-year-old Nan Sparrow is indentured to a cruel master chimney sweep appropriately named Wilkie Crudd. Like other master sweeps, Crudd keeps a crew of young children to climb inside cramped, narrow chimneys and scrub them clean. At night, Nan dreams of her life before Crudd, of travelling the country with her beloved guardian, the Sweep, until he mysteriously disappeared when she was six years old.

On a job for Crudd one day, Nan nearly dies in a chimney fire, but is saved when a lump of charred soot in her pocket—a parting gift from the Sweep—magically awakens as a protective golem of Jewish legend. Together, she and the golem hide from Crudd while Nan resourcefully earns their keep. Despite the risk of revealing her whereabouts, Nan organizes a London protest march to call attention to the danger-filled lives of young chimney climbers.

Beyond poverty and child labor, Victorian London suffered from anti-Semitism. Nan’s Jewish friend, Esther Bloom, a teacher who schools Nan in golem lore, feels safer keeping her Jewish practices secret from other teachers. Toby, a young Jewish peddler, is attacked by anti-Semitic thugs. Yet despite its dark themes, *Sweep* sparkles with light and wonder—the dazzling view of snowy London from the rooftops, sleeping beneath a canopy of stars; and the deep, abiding love between Nan and her Sweep.

Beyond poverty and child labor, Victorian London suffered from anti-Semitism. Nan’s Jewish friend, Esther Bloom, a teacher who schools Nan in golem lore, feels safer keeping her Jewish practices secret from other teachers. Toby, a young Jewish peddler, is attacked by anti-Semitic thugs. Yet despite its dark themes, *Sweep* sparkles with light and wonder—the dazzling view of snowy London from the rooftops, sleeping beneath a canopy of stars; and the deep, abiding love between Nan and her Sweep.

*Eleven-year-old Nan Sparrow is indentured to a cruel master chimney sweep appropriately named Wilkie Crudd. Like other master sweeps, Crudd keeps a crew of young children to climb inside cramped, narrow chimneys and scrub them clean. At night, Nan dreams of her life before Crudd, of travelling the country with her beloved guardian, the Sweep, until he mysteriously disappeared when she was six years old.*

On a job for Crudd one day, Nan nearly dies in a chimney fire, but is saved when a lump of charred soot in her pocket—a parting gift from the Sweep—magically awakens as a protective golem of Jewish legend. Together, she and the golem hide from Crudd while Nan resourcefully earns their keep. Despite the risk of revealing her whereabouts, Nan organizes a London protest march to call attention to the danger-filled lives of young chimney climbers.

Beyond poverty and child labor, Victorian London suffered from anti-Semitism. Nan’s Jewish friend, Esther Bloom, a teacher who schools Nan in golem lore, feels safer keeping her Jewish practices secret from other teachers. Toby, a young Jewish peddler, is attacked by anti-Semitic thugs. Yet despite its dark themes, *Sweep* sparkles with light and wonder—the dazzling view of snowy London from the rooftops, sleeping beneath a canopy of stars; and the deep, abiding love between Nan and her Sweep.