Adas Israel Congregation July-August/Sivan-Av

# CHRONICLE









# ADAS (in) ISRAEL

An Unforgettable Adas Israel Congregational Journey to Israel

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An Unforgettable Adas Israel Congregational Journey to Israel

SAVE THE DATE: SUMMER 2020









#### Tentative Travel Window: June 18-28, 2020

Rabbis Lauren Holtzblatt & Aaron Alexander, Cantor Arianne Brown, and our Israel Engagement Task Force enthusiastically invite you to join us for an unforgettable exploration of Israel, with our own Adas clergy and community members. For first-timers and experienced Israel-travelers alike, this is your opportunity to encounter Israel through the lens of our sacred and diverse Adas Israel community, and through various high-impact, multi-day experiences of your choosing unique to Adas participants.



#### Strength in Community

We're not just going to Israel, we're bringing Adas to Israel. Build relationships & memories to cherish for all time.



#### All Are Welcome

First-timers, young families, Israel-experts, spiritual seekers ... we want you all! Custom "track" experiences built for everyone.



#### A Holistic Israel Encounter

Bask in the rich, energetic culture of modern-day Israel. Dive into unique areas of focus available only to Adas participants.



#### **Expertly Designed Travel Experience**

Curated travel arrangements, delightful accommodations, expert tour guides, delicious food, and unforgettable experiences.





#### **DAYS 1 - 5**

Together in Jerusalem & Surroundings



\*Custom "Tracks" All Over Israel

#### **DAYS 9 - 12**

Together in Tel Aviv & Surroundings



#### \*Custom Breakout "Tracks"

- Shalom Hartman Institute Study Track
- Geo-Political Deep Dive Track
- Greatest Hits for First-Timers Track
- Young Family Adventure Track
- Spiritual / Mindfulness Seeker Track

Need-Based Financial Aid will be available. Instructions regarding the application process and criteria for accessing the financial aid pool will be shared soon. Trip details, full itineraries, trip costs, and support for those requiring accessibility accommodations, etc., coming soon.

#### **Our Travel Partner:**



## REGISTRATION OPENING LATE AUGUST 2019

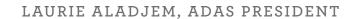
Visit AdasIsrael.org/AdasInIsrael to Complete an Adas (in) Israel Interest Form Today!

\*Please note, this is not a formal registration for the trip itself, just an acknowledgment that you are interested in potentially joining us and/or looking to receive more information.





# From the President





# "President of Adas? Why would you want to do that?"

That was the reaction of our 15-year-old daughter upon hearing that I was about to have this honor and privilege. After I finished laughing, I gave her a mini-lecture about giving back to your community. Once she was bored to tears (I won't reveal how little time that took), I began to reflect on what that really means.

We are all parts of several communities: school, neighborhood, work, to name a few. But what is it about being part of this community, our Adas Israel community, that seems different? We live in a time and a place where synagogue affiliation is a choice, not a requirement. But yet we all have chosen Adas. Maybe because of the rabbis. Maybe because of the Gan, or the TEM, or the daily *minyan*, or the JMCW. Some of us grew up at Adas, and for some of us Adas is our first introduction to Jewish life. But we are all bound together by a commitment to this place. We are all, as the name Adas Israel translates, the people of Israel.

Harold Kushner said, "Judaism is less about what we owe God and more about what we owe each other because we believe God cares more about how we treat each other than about our theology." How do you treat your fellow congregants? We are more than 6,000 people, and we come to this congregation on many paths, with many stories (and often a lot of baggage). Eventually, if things are working well here, we stray off our original paths, and into parts of the congregation that are unfamiliar. Are we welcomed? Are we greeted in love and with understanding? Do we really listen to each others' varied perspectives with open minds and open hearts? That is what we owe each other.

We owe each other support and respect for what makes us different but still all people of Israel. My path is probably typical yet unique. We joined Adas Israel almost 18 year ago. Soon we had a baby, then another. I was never much of a "joiner," but I got involved at the Gan. Still I didn't have much sense of the rest of our community. But little by little, I became more involved, and started to meet people outside of my "demographic." I started learning again and actually found myself enjoying services. And long story short, here I am. I am honored and humbled to be

following in the footsteps of our past presidents and lay leaders who have brought Adas to this 150 year mark. And to Ricki Gerger: you have led this congregation for the last two years with love, humor, and kindness. You are a role model for all of Adas Israel, and we will be forever grateful.

I continue to learn so much. The primary lesson I have carried with me on this path is that in serving the community, I am enriched so much more than I ever thought possible. I am inspired every day by the clergy, staff, and congregants that comprise our community. We are a varied group of individuals who come together to make something far greater than any of us could on our own.

I take special pride in being a part of a community that has such a variety of congregants, and I hope that we will always be a congregation that is truly welcoming of all individuals and families, wherever they are on their Jewish journey. I look forward to learning as much as I can about as many congregants as I can. In learning about others' paths, ours only grow and take unexpected turns. And when we come together as a community, the path widens for everyone. When I was born, Adas Israel did not have women on the *bimah*, or in leadership. Girls did not become *b'not mitzvah*. No one would have imagined that we would champion marriage equality. And yet, here we are, all the richer for these changes along our communal path. I don't know what the future holds, but I am confident that Adas Israel will continue to thrive and grow (and, yes, change).

So please introduce yourself to me and tell me about your path. And don't stop there. Try to introduce yourself to a stranger next time you are in the building. Your path may take an unexpected turn as a result.



# Clergy Corner

RABBIS HOLTZBLATT & ALEXANDER



# Our High Holy Day Theme Unpacked

Pathways: Wonder. Joy. Peace.

"Its ways are pleasant ways, And all its paths, peaceful."

דרכיה דרכי נועם וכל נתיבותיה שלום

As with most ambiguous hebrew phrases in the Tanakh, this one calls out for interpretation. What's the "it" here? In context, based on the entire proverb, the "it" is likely wisdom. Add some rabbinic commentary and wisdom predictably becomes "Torah." In other words, Torah, understood expansively, is pleasant, beautiful, and peaceful. This verse, the one upon which we will inform our High Holy Day experience, lays out an aspirational blueprint for the ways in which we construct our religious moments and spaces. Why do we gather in the ways we do on these upcoming significant days? What brings us together, in this space, year after year? Honestly, it's an impossible question to answer. When we are over 6,000 strong there's no primary reason for communal participation.

But we can identify a few common themes. Some of us want to be close to family. Some of us are seeking atonement. Some of us crave the High Holy Day sounds. Some of us desire the piercing call of the shofar. Some of us come because that's just what we do. For others, all of these and more. And so forth and so on.

There are so many pathways into Judaism, in general, and Adas in particular. And that's important. But even more important—and what we'll focus on this coming holiday season and calendar

year, 5780—is your experience on the path itself, once inside. Where does it lead? How does it feel? Is it connected to a larger narrative? Does it allow for changing course? Do new pathways emerge? Are our hearts more open? Did we listen with an open mind? Did we sing with the help of our internal angels? Did we give ourselves a chance to wander, to experience this sacred space from another angle? Did we laugh? Cry? Did we feel held by each other, and by God?

The key, always, is to pave these paths with precisely what Proverbs describes: peace, beauty, and opportunities for deeper engagement. If we do that together, the answers to the above questions should organically emerge.

This past year has left so many of us with countless moments of joy, pain, depth, tragedy, understanding, conflict, and everything between

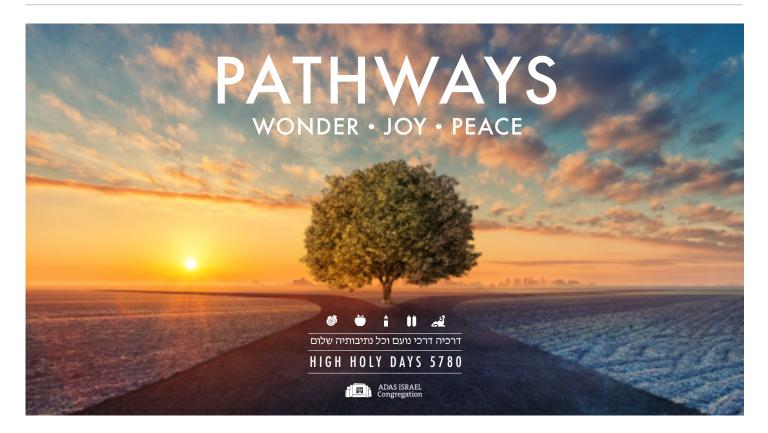
Our sacred role is to give you enough space to enter this home of yours and find in yourself, and in those you love, the tools for reflection, interpretation, integration, and some newfound inspiration. We couldn't be more excited to be together.

Learn more about the High Holy Days at Adas on the next page or visit: adasisrael.org/highholydays

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Pathways: Wonder. Joy. Peace.

#### HIGH HOLY DAYS 5780

Believe it or not, the High Holy Days are right around the corner. Packets with High Holy Day information will arrive in vour homes soon!

As usual, tickets for all members of your household for services in the Kay Hall, Gewirz Beit Am, or Cohen Hall (Family Service) will be sent automatically, roughly 10 days before the holidays. If you are a dedicated seat holder in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, you will need to request the number of your seats

that you intend to use for the coming holidays (two seats are included in membership; additional seats will be charged to your account). Members will also be able to reserve non-dedicated seats (with limited availability) in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary. You can request these seats on the seat request forms included in the High Holy Day booklet.

Thank you. We look forward to celebrating the holidays with





Monday & Tuesday, Sept. 30 & Oct. 1









Tuesday, October 8 Wednesday, October 9

Full High Holy Day Schedule & Information Now Available Online at

adasisrael.org/highholydays

# Service Schedule

HIGH HOLY DAYS AT ADAS ISRAEL

#### 🍎 EREV ROSH HASHANAH

#### COMMUNITY SUNSET SERVICE 6:45-7:45pm

Led by Adas Clergy, Sermon by Rabbi Krinsky • Charles E. Smith Sanctuary

#### TOSH HASHANAH DAY 1

#### **SHACHARIT** 8:15am

**Led by Michael Leifman & Clergy •** Charles E. Smith Sanctuary Lay-Led, Traditional Egalitarian • Gewirz Beit Am (begins 8:45am)

#### **FAMILY SERVICE** 9am

Family Experience w/ Rabbi Solomon • Kay Hall

#### TORAH SERVICE & SHOFAR SOUNDING 9:15am

✓ Led by Adas Clergy & RA Band • Charles E. Smith Sanctuary Lay-Led, Traditional Egalitarian • Gewirz Beit Am (begins at 10am) Livestream Overflow • Biran Beit Midrash

#### MUSAF SERVICE 10:45am (Sermons at 11am)

- ✓ Led by Rabbis Holtzblatt & Alexander, Sermon by R. Holtzblatt Charles E. Smith Sanctuary
- Led by Rabbi Krinsky & Cantor Brown, Sermon by R. Alexander Kay Hall Lay-Led, Traditional Egalitarian • Gewirz Beit Am Livestream Overflow • Biran Beit Midrash

#### **COMMUNITY TASHLICH** 4:45pm

Led by Rabbi Krinsky • Meet at Quebec St. Entrance

#### MINCHA/MAARIV 6pm

Led by Hazzan Goldsmith • Biran Beit Midrash

With Instruments: Reflective, Soulful Sounds

With Instruments: Traditional, Cantorial Melodies

With Sign Language Interpretation

#### TOSH HASHANAH DAY 2

Tuesday, October

#### **SHACHARIT** 8:15am

Led by Hazzan Goldsmith • Charles E. Smith Sanctuary

#### TORAH SERVICE & SHOFAR SOUNDING 9:15am

Led by Rabbi Krinsky & Cantor Brown • Charles E. Smith Sanctuary

#### PRESCHOOL CHILDREN & FAMILY CELEBRATION 9:30am

Led by Robin Helzner • Cohen Hall

#### MUSAF SERVICE 10:45am (Sermons at 10:45am)

Led by Rabbi Alexander & Cantor Brown, Sermon by R Alexander • Charles E. Smith Sanctuary Led by Rabbi Holtzblatt & Michael Leifman, Sermon by R Holtzblatt • Kay Hall

#### MINCHA/MAARIV 6pm

Led by Michael Leifman • Biran Beit Midrash

#### **III** KOL NIDRE

#### MINCHA 5:15pm

Led by Hazzan Goldsmith • Biran Beit Midrash

#### KOL NIDRE 6pm

Led by Rabbi Alexander & Cantor Brown • Charles E. Smith Sanctuary Lay-Led, Traditional Egalitarian Minyan, Sermon by Rabbi Krinsky • Gewirz Beit Am

#### **RETURN AGAIN KOL NIDRE** 7:30pm

✓ Led by Rabbi Holtzblatt & Return Again Band • Adas Israel Parking Area

#### A YOM KIPPUR

Wednesday, Octobe

#### **SHACHARIT** 9am

Led by Hazzan Goldsmith • Charles E. Smith Sanctuary Lay-Led, Traditional Egalitarian • Gewirz Beit Am

#### FAMILY SERVICE 9am

Family Experience w/ Rabbi Solomon • Kay Hall

#### TORAH SERVICE & YIZKOR 10:30am (Yizkor -11:10am)

Led by Rabbi Holtzblatt & Cantor Brown • Charles E. Smith Sanctuary Led by Rabbi Alexander & Michael Leifman • Kay Hall 69 Lay-Led, Traditional Egalitarian • Gewirz Beit Am (begins at 10am)

#### YOM KIPPUR UNPACKED: A HIGHLIGHT EXPERIENCE 11am-12:30pm

Led by Rabbi Krinsky • Biran Beit Midrash

#### MUSAF & MARTYROLOGY SERVICE 12:45pm (Sermons at 12:45pm)

Led by Rabbi Holtzblatt & Return Again Band • Charles E. Smith Sanctuary Led by Rabbi Alexander & Cantor Brown • Kay Hall & Lay-Led, Traditional Egalitarian Minyan • Gewirz Beit Am

#### AFTERNOON DISCUSSION: JUSTICE ELENA KAGAN 3pm

Justice Kagan in Conversation w/ Seth Waxman • Charles E. Smith Sanctuary

#### MINCHA 4:30pm

Led by Michael Leifman • Charles E. Smith Sanctuary

#### LATE YIZKOR 4:30pm

Led by Rabbi Krinsky & Hazzan Goldsmith • Biran Beit Midrash

#### N'EELAH 5:45pm (Shofar -7:35pm)

▶ Led by Adas Clergy • Charles E. Smith Sanctuary

#### TRADITIONAL N'EELAH 6:15pm

Lay-Led, Traditional Egalitarian • Gewirz Beit Am

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Avinu Malkenu... Be gentle with us, be in relationship with us. bring us to our full potential. Even though we have limitations.

Several days before Rosh Hashanah, Jews around the world gather together to recite the Selichot, a beautiful series of penitential prayers and meaningful liturgy. This tradition invites us to open ourselves up to the essential work of the Days of Awe: the process of repair and return, of acknowledgement and longing. It allows us to chant in unison and begin to come to terms with where we have erred in relation to ourselves, to others, and to the Holy One.

Our Selichot service includes highlights of the High Holy Day liturgy, coupled with the hauntingly beautiful sounds of the Days of Awe melodies. Please join the community for a warm evening of personal reflection through song, text, and sharing our own stories. The evening is generously sponsored by the Mollie & Joseph Muchnick Selichot Fund.



Sukkot begins on the 15th day of the month of Tishrei (Erev Sukkot is on Sunday evening, October 13th, and continues for seven days). We encourage you to order your *lulav* and *etrog* (\$40 each) in preparation for the festive observance of the Sukkot holiday. This year you may order your lulay and etrog online at adasisrael.org/highholydays or by sending a check and order form to the attention of Hazzan Rachel Goldsmith (Hazzan.Goldsmith@adasisrael.org) at the synagogue.

Sukkot is known by several names, none more descriptive than Z'man Simchataynu, Day of Our Rejoicing. Haq HaSukkot, the Feast of Tabernacles, reminds us of the huts (sukkot) in which our ancestors dwelt in the desert for forty years on their way to the Promised Land.



In addition to our clergy and staff members, we look to our community members to help us make Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur a spiritual, enjoyable, meaningful, stress-free experience for our 5.000 members.

Volunteering as a High Holy Day usher and/or greeter at Adas Israel can help you fulfill the mitzvah of hachnasat orchim (welcoming guests). Not only do we make sure that congregants and guests feel welcome, but we also play a role in maintaining security in and the dignity of our services. We direct worshippers to their seats; answer general questions; and distribute books, kippot, tallitot, and other religious materials. Simply stated, your service observance would not be the same without the assistance of our greeters and ushers.

If you would like to do more this year, consider participating as a High Holy Day volunteer. We need volunteers for all services, so no matter which service you attend, we can use your help at a time that is convenient to you. The time commitment is slight two hours or less—and we have approximately 100 slots to fill.

If you are interested in learning more or volunteering, please contact Marcy Spiro, marcy.spiro@adasisrael.org. Thank you in advance for your assistance. We have scheduled an orientation for Sunday, September 15, at 10:00 am, and more information will come later this summer. Thank you in advance for your



### ANNUAL COMMUNITY **CPR PROGRAM**

#### Sunday, September 15 @ 1:00-3:00 pm

Join us for our annual Community CPR program on Sunday, September 15, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm (after our High Holy Day volunteer orientation). This training provides our community with an opportunity to learn or brush up on your CPR skills. Refreshments will be provided.

To register, contact Steven Miller, smiller173@aol.com or 703-981-1709. Registration is limited. There is no charge for synagogue members; for non-members, the cost is \$5.



#### **EREV TISHA B'AV**

Saturday, August 10, 9:00 pm Maariv & Eicha

#### TISHA B'AV

Sunday, August 10, 9:00 am Shacharit

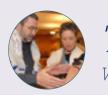
For 20 centuries, Tisha B'Av, the ninth of Av, has been the saddest day in the Jewish calendar. Yom Kippur is known as the White Fast: *Tisha B'Av* is called the Black Fast. It commemorates the destruction of both Temples in Jerusalem, the death of Bar Kochba, and the last rebellion against Rome in 135 CE, as well as the expulsion of Jews from Spain in 1492. When they could, Jews historically would come to the area near the Kotel (the Western Wall) to read Eicha (the Book of Lamentations) and to weep. Most Jews, of course, could not come to Jerusalem, and during many periods, they could not approach the Kotel.

In modern times, the establishment of the State of Israel caused some to question whether Tisha B'Av was necessary any longer. This debate continues, although those who observe the day recognize its symbolic power and emphasize that we still lament the destruction of the Temples, which ruptured our sense of connectedness to God.

Our observance of *Tisha B'Av* at Adas Israel is exceedingly touching, a moving experience in which we gather as the sun sets to quietly chant the Book of Lamentations in a subdued atmosphere, by candlelight, using the traditional melody. The evening service on Saturday, August 10, begins with Maariv and Eicha at 9:00 pm. The scroll is again chanted as part of the morning service on Sunday, August 11, at 9:00 am (Shacharit and Eicha) and at 6:00 pm (Mincha).

Join us in this annual beautiful experience as we connect with tradition and history.





# The Daily Minyan @ Adas Israel When was the last time you made it to the Minyan?

Twice daily, we have the opportunity to strengthen our community by participating and sharing in the joy and responsibility of making a minyan. Attending the daily minyan, in one respect, serves a charitable purpose. It allows others to pray and recite *Kaddish* for their loved ones. Just as significant, however, are the spiritual gifts participants receive from the service itself. It is diverse in its attendees and filled with beautiful melodies, a special ruach, Torah readings on Mondays and Thursdays, many opportunities for an aliyah, and the chance to take a meaningful pause in your day and to connect with friends. As members of a synagogue community, we owe it to each other and to ourselves to participate regularly in the daily minyan.

Please Join Us—Daily *Minyan* Schedule:

Morning: Monday-Friday: 7:30 am/Sundays & Legal Holidays: 9:00 am

**Evening:** Sunday–Thursday: 6:00 pm

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#### An Evening with Ambassador Alfred Moses In Discussion with Sarah Wildman

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10 @ 7:00 PM

In the mid-1970s, Alfred Moses learned that there was a pocket of Jewish life all but forgotten by the world, tucked behind the Iron curtain. Not the Soviet Union: Romania, under dictator Nicolae Ceausescu. For 13 years, Moses quietly shepherded visas to trapped Romanian Jews, enabling thousands to make aliyah to Israel. His activism didn't stop there. In the early 1990s, he was appointed ambassador to Romania. He spent three years in the post, helping, as he later put it "move Romania from darkness to light."

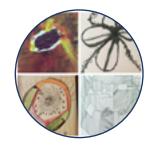
Adas Israel is pleased to invite you to a very special evening with Ambassador Alfred Moses—lawyer, Navy vet, former president of the American Jewish Committee, father of four, and quiet Moses to the Jews of Romania. His book, *Bucharest Diaries*, navigates the decades he spent working to address the needs of a nation. In conversation with Sarah Wildman, author of *Paper Love: Searching for the Girl My Grandfather Left Behind* and host of the Foreign Policy Podcast, *First Person*.



# Healing *Shabbat* Morning Service with Rabbi Krinsky saturday, august 24, 9:30-10:30 am

Please join us on August 24 for a *Shabbat* morning healing service designed for those in need of spiritual, emotional, or physical healing as well as caretakers. Rabbi Sarah Krinsky will create a space to explore and process challenges, and to access places of support and resilience. Grounded in Jewish prayer and ritual, the service will include moments of liturgy, song, meditation, and learning to build a community of compassion, comfort, and strength.

Note: This service will meet during the beginning of *Shabbat* morning services. For those who want to join other prayer spaces, we will conclude by the end of *Shacharit*.



#### Call for Artists of Adas: Celebrating Creativity within the Congregation

All of us have skills and talents that celebrate the joy of our synagogue. As unique opportunity will be occurring at Adas in December, and I wanted to put it on everyone's radar early on.

My name is Sara Vogler, and as an active member of the congregation, I wanted to take a moment to introduce a new project I'm developing at Adas and explain why it's important to me. I have showcased my art around DC for a while now in small cafés. I even was able to sell one of my art pieces to a collector at a local art show. I believe in art and its magic. One of the many things that I love about Adas is attending Daily Minyan; it is a beautiful way to break up the day with mindfulness and meaning. I also love Hanukkah; it's one of my favorite holidays! It's a holiday that means a lot to me, and I want to share those meanings with you all through my art and yours.

In preparation for *Hanukkah*, we are calling for all **Artists of Adas** to showcase their art. These are the parameters:

- Send a sketch or picture of your piece.
- Include the name of your piece and a sentence describing it.
- Include the dimensions of your piece and its style (type of art).

In addition, your art should resemble an element of *Hanukkah* that you love most! The plan is for the exhibit to be up in the Adas main lobby for at least a month during *Hanukkah*. The submission deadline for this project is **Monday**, **October 28**. Please e-mail the sketches of your pieces to Sara Vogler (email below) or drop off your pieces directly to Adas, Attn: Courtney Tisch. We hope you can join us in filling our walls with community, art, and the building of our spirit of rejuvenation! Please reach out Sara Vogler, *sara.vogler@amail.com*, with any questions/comments and submissions.



The Adas Fund • 2019/5780

The Adas Fund is the engine that drives all of the meaningful work in our community. This year, we will honor the sacred work of our Social Action Committee, as its members work tirelessly to make the world everything we know in our hearts it should be.













## Why Give To The Adas Fund Campaign?

The Adas Fund is the Congregation's only annual campaign and is critical if we are to operate in the way you have come to count on and deserve. We seek 100% participation, at any level of giving. This year's campaign is inspired by the work of our Social Action Committee, and supports all of our activites at Adas. The Committee is made up of teams focused on the pressing issues facing us today:

- Poverty / Homelessness / Housing Team
- Climate Action Team
- Dev B'Lev ("Heart to Heart")

- Gun Violence Prevention Team
- Racial Justice Working Group
- Refugee Response Team

Visit adasisrael.org/socialaction to learn more about this incredible work. Please join them as we demonstrate our gratitude for the many personal and family journeys Adas Israel's members, clergy, and staff inspire. Please do give something today, and make everything possible.



aurie Aladjem Adas Israel President-Elect



ein r



Rabbi Aaron Alexander



Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt

Donate online at AdasIsrael.org/AdasFund

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# JMCW@ADAS

jewish mindfulness center of washington



How strange we are in the world, and how presumptuous our doings! Only one response can maintain us: gratefulness for witnessing the wonder, for the gift of our unearned right to serve, to adore, and to fulfill. It is gratefulness which makes the soul great.

RABBI ABRAHAM JOSHUA HESCHEL

Gratitude runs deep in our tradition, even in its humor. As a Yiddish saying goes: "If you cannot be grateful for what you have received, then be thankful for what you have been spared!" Jewish prayer invites us to start each morning with a moment of gratitude. Modeh/ Modah Ani L'fanekha reminds us to thank God for the miracle of life, our health, our body, our physical world, and our eyes, all of which we might easily take for granted. As we look back on another extraordinary year of growth and learning at JMCW, we give thanks for the many ways in which our spiritual paths have crossed. We have been blessed with both wonderful teachers and special guests, and, above all, each one of you. Thank you for your continued support and participation; your presence is a crucial part of JMCW. May you have a joyful summer filled with moments of peace, wonder, inspiration and, of course, gratitude

#### SUMMER OFFERINGS

**Note:** Weekly meditation and yoga classes will be on summer break until September. Please watch for upcoming High Holy Day and other programming dates via the JMCW newsletter (beginning again in August), the *Chronicle*, and the JMCW web page.



#### Morning Awakening Led by Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt

SELECT TUESDAYS @ 9:00 AM
CHECK THE JMCW WEB PAGE OR E-MAIL JMCW@ADASISRAEL.ORG.

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



#### Adas Israel Community Mikvah

The beautiful, recently renovated and accessible *mikvah* is open to all! We welcome you to plan your own time for a mindful immersion. E-mail *mikvah@adasisrael.org* or call Naomi Malka, 202-841-8776, to schedule appointments.

Who is rich? Those who rejoice in their own portion.

—Pirkei Avot 4:1

#### JMCW RECOMMENDS ...



#### The Relationship Between Happiness & Gratitude

See this delightful video on *The Relationship Between Happiness and Gratitude*, by Israeli artist and animator Hanan Harchol: http://www.hananharchol.com/watch-gratitude.

On Being, with Krista Tippett has several inspiring audio episodes on gratitude from different cultural perspectives. You can listen by streaming or download. Go to www.onbeing.org and put "gratitude" in the search tool on the left.

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

Excerpted from Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, Covenant & Conversation: The Power of Gratitude (Ekkev 5775), August 3, 2015, http://rabbisacks.org/the-power-of-gratitude-ekev-5775/

We now know of the multiple effects of developing an attitude of gratitude. It improves physical health and immunity against disease. Grateful people are more likely to take regular exercise and go for regular medical check-ups. Thankfulness reduces toxic emotions such as resentment, frustration, and regret and makes depression less likely. It helps people avoid over-reacting to negative experiences by seeking revenge. It even tends to make people sleep better. It enhances self-respect, making it less likely that you will envy others for their achievements or success.

Jewish prayer is an ongoing seminar in gratitude. *Birkot ha-Shachar*, "the Dawn Blessings," said at the start of morning prayers each day, form a litany of thanksgiving for life itself: for the human body, the physical world, land to stand on, and eyes to see with. The first words we say each morning—*Modeh/Modah ani*, "I thank you"—mean that we begin each day by giving thanks. Gratitude also lies behind a fascinating feature of the *Amidah*. . . . For every other blessing of the *Amidah*, it is sufficient to assent to the words of the leader by saying "Amen." The one exception is *Modim*, "We give thanks." Rabbi Elijah Spira (1660—1712), in his work *Eliyahu Rabbah* [4], explains that when it comes to saying thank you, we cannot delegate this away to someone else to do it on our behalf. Thanks has to come directly from us.

Part of the essence of gratitude is that it recognizes that we are not the sole authors of what is good in our lives. Thankfulness has an inner connection with humility. It recognizes that what we are and what we have is due to others, and above all to God. Though you don't have to be religious to be grateful, there is something about belief in God as creator of the universe, shaper of history, and author of the laws of life that direct and facilitate our gratitude.

For registrations, updates, and additional information and offerings, please visit the JMCW Adas webpage at adasisrael.org/jmcw or the JMCW Facebook Group. Please direct any questions to JMCW@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!

adasisrael.org/jmcw







#### A Community of Sisterhood, the Bonds of Friendship: Adas Israel Sisterhood 2019-2020

Who are the women of Sisterhood? That's a common question. Well, they are some extraordinary women! Women of all ages—some married, some not—with fabulous stories of incredible careers, travels, education, families, volunteerism, and so much more. The women of Sisterhood are a gold mine of interesting journeys and accomplishments; they are people to call for help or advice, too.

Our members are as diverse as our events, and there was something for everyone this past year. From panel discussions about the stakes for women in the 2018 mid-term elections and updated breast health information from the Brem Foundation to *The Mamboniks* at the DC Jewish Film festival and everything in between, we presented a special event **every month**. And, of course, our signature Sisterhood Shabbat Weekend, made possible through the generosity of Donald Saltz in memory of his late wife Mozelle (z''l).

With the new Sisterhood year beginning July 1, we are excited about the lineup of events and programs that will be offered throughout the year. Look for our Take A Walk!, Mah Jongg, Weekday Torah with Sisterhood, and Knitting, Sewing & Craft Circle programs to return in the fall, led by dedicated Sisterhood members.

Sisterhood is also planning to reprise the very popular "Sisterhood in Your Community" get-togethers on selected Sundays for brunch, wine and cheese, and tea, so members of Sisterhood can continue to socialize and get to know one another. This year, nearly 100 women, including nine hosts, participated in these events in the District, Maryland, and Virginia. Plans are also underway to produce several "Sunday Salons" featuring exceptional Adas/Sisterhood members—women who have built remarkable careers and from whom we can all learn.

Stay tuned for news about the Sisterhood Opening Event planned for October 27, 1:00-3:00 pm, featuring "One Religion, Many Cultures" and including a delicious lunch. Some other dates to put on your calendar include our very special Sisterhood *Shabbat* Weekend, February 21 & 22, and the Closing Event on June 14. Our full schedule is on our website (listed on next page).

The Sisterhood Membership levels will remain the same as last year:



Some of the attendees at an intimate Sisterhood in Your Community Brunch hosted by Myra Promisel.

Membership Type	Dues
Chavera Membership (Friend) - Chavera Membership - Includes 25% off one-time, one item purchase at Gift Shop and admission to Opening and Closing Events.	\$118.00
Sister Membership (Standard) - Sisterhood Membership for 30 years old and above.	\$44.00
Under 30 Membership - Sisterhood membership for women under 30 years of age.	\$36.00

For more information, visit the Sisterhood website, https://www.adasisrael.org/sisterhood, or contact Membership VP June Kress at junebkress@gmail.com. You may also send your payment directly to Sisterhood Treasurer Elinor Tattar, 15300 Pine Orchard Drive, #3K, Silver Spring, MD 20906.

#### Sisterhood Board Slate 5780

SISTERHOOD

We are pleased to announce the Adas Israel Sisterhood Board Slate for 2019–2020 year. Elections and installation took place at the Sisterhood closing event on June 23. **Thank you to all those who serve.** 

#### **Executive Committee/Officers:**

Jill Jacob/18-20 President: Co-VP for Communications: Debby Joseph/18-20 Co-VP for Communications: Ronnie Kweller\*/19-21 Treasurer: Elinor Tattar/18-20 Co-VP for Education/Programming: Susan Winberg/18-20 Co-VP for Education/Programming: Rona Walters\*/19-21 VP for Membership: June Kress/18-20 Carol Ansell/19-21 Parliamentarian: Corresponding Secretary: Leah Hadad/19-21 **Recording Secretary:** Helen Kramer/19-21

Gift Shop Co-Managers: Jean Bernard, Diane Keller, Susan Winberg

Immediate Past President:Miriam RosenthalTorah Fund ChairMindy Gaynor

Board Members for 2019-2021 Serving New 2-Year Terms:

Continuing Board Members 2018-2020:

Dava BerkmanMindy GaynorSusan KleinRebecca BoggsJennifer GibsonNaomi RosenblattBarbara FrankJudy HeumannApril Rubin

Barbara Friedell Wendy Kates\* Ellen Snyder\*
Marian Fox Rhoda Ritzenberg Joyce Stern
Orna Goldwater\* Pamela Sislen Cheryl Wasserman\*

**Ex-Officio Members of the General Board:** 

Alisa Abrams Rabbi Sarah Krinsky Rabbi Kerrith Solomon

Rabbi Penina Alexander Naomi Malka Elly Sokol

Cantor Arianne Brown Rabbi Emerita Avis Miller Rabbi Eliana Yolkut

Hazzan Rachel Goldsmith Heather Polonsky Rabbi Lauren Holtzblatt Myra Promisel

 $\label{lem:members} \mbox{Members of the nominating committee who proposed this slate:}$ 

June Kress (Chair) Nancy Weiss Jill Jacob

Ronnie Kweller

\* Indicates new board member.

Joyce Stern

#### ruth & simon albert

## sisterhood gift shop



A wonderful gift for newlyweds:
a glass to break under the chuppah
and hollow candlesticks to hold the shards.
A one-of-a-kind gift!

Summer Hours
Tuesday, Thursday, & Friday,
10:00 am-12:00 noon

Just because it's summer, that's no excuse to stay away from the gift shop. We are showcasing two new products we think will pique your interest.



or by appointment by calling:

Jean Bernard, 301-654-8914

Diane Keller, 301-442-7625

Susan Winberg, 301-656-7766

Women's League calendar for 2019-20, featuring poetry by our own Carol Ansell and art by our own Arlette Jassel.

> Every purchase benefits Adas Israel Congregation. 202-364-2888 adasgiftshop@gmail.com

5 7:30 am Morning Miny 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shal	12 7:15 am Morning Miny, 10:00 am Kabbalat Onec 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shalat	19 7:30 am Morning Miny 10:00 am Kabbalat Oneg 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shab	26 7:30 am Morning Miny 10:00 am Kabbalat One 6:00 pm Kabbalat Shab
JULY			

16 Av 30 Av 2 Av 9 Av 23 Av 24 Tamuz 17 PARSHAT VAETCHANAN/SHABBAT NACHAMU
8:30 am Boker Or Parashat Hashavuah Class
9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service, Sermon by Rabbi Alexander
9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan
11:00 am Tot Shabbat
12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush
1:00 pm Shabbat Mincha
8:41 pm Havdalah 10 PARSHAT DEVARIM/SHABBAT CHAZON
8:30 am Boker Or Parashat Hashavuah Class
9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service, Shabbat in Harmony w/
Robyn Helznet, Semon by Rabbi Krinsky
9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan
11:00 am Tot Shabbat
12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush
1:00 pm Shabbat Mincha
8:50 pm Havdalah n Boker Or Parashat Hashavuah Class
n Shabbat Morning Service, Sermon by Rabbi Holtzblatt;
Bar Mitzvah: Coby Gayer
n Traditional Egalitarian Minyan
m Tot Shabbat
m Congregational Kiddush
n Shabbat Mincha Boker Or Parashat Hashavuah Class

Shabbat Morning Service, Sermon by Rabbi Holtzblatt

Traditional Egalitarian Minyan

Tot Shabbat

M Congregational Kiddush

Shabbat Mincha

Havdalah 31 PARSHAT RE'EH/ROSH CHODESH Boker Or Parashat Hashavuah Class
 Shabbat Morning Service, Sermon by Rabbi Krinsky
 Traditional Egalitarian Minyan
 Tot Shabbat
 M Congregational Kiddush
 Shabbat Mincha
 Havdalah NO Boker Or Parashat Hashavuah Class
Shabbat Morning Return Again Service, Sermon by
Rabbi Alexander, Bar Mitzvah: Jack Spector
Traditional Egalitarian Minyan
Tot Shabbat
M Congregational Kiddush
Shabbat Mincha 3 PARSHAT MATOT-MASEI 27 PARSHAT PINCHAS 24 PARSHAT EKEV 8:30 am 9:30 am 11:00 am 11:00 bm 6:58 bm 13:00 bm 6:58 bm 14:00 bm 6:58 bm 15:00 bm 6:50 bm 6:5 8:30 am 9:30 am 9:30 am 11:00 am 1:00 pm 9:05 pm 9:30 am 11:00 am 12:00 pm 1:00 pm 9:30 am 11:00 am 12:00 pm 1:00 pm 8:30 am 9:30 am 8:30 am 9:30 am **29 Av** 7:22 pm 23 Tamuz 8:05 pm 15 Av 7:41 pm 8 Av 7:50 pm **22 Av** 7:32 pm 7:5 Parshat Hashavua Class Kabbalat Shabbat with Hazzan Goldsmith 7: Parshat Hashavua Class Kabbalat Shabbat with Hazzan Goldsmith Morning Minyan
n Parshat Hashavua Class
Kabbalat Shabbat w/ Rabbi Holtzblatt
Shir Delight Happy Hour
Shir Delight Shabbat Service Morning Minyan Parshat Hashavua Class Kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi Holtzblatt with Rabbi Holtzblatt Morning Minyan Kabbalat Shabbat **9**7:30 am
10:00 am
6:00 pm 7:15 am 10:00 am 6:00 pm 6:30 pm 7:30 pm 7:30 am 10:00 am 6:00 pm 7:30 am 10:00 am 6:00 pm 7:30 am 6:00 pm 30



20 PARSHAT BALAK
8:30 am Boker Or Parashat Hashavuah Class
9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service, Sermon by Rabbi Holtzblatt
9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan
11:00 am Tot Shabbat
12:00 pm Congregational Kiddush
1:00 pm Haydalah
9:10 pm Haydalah

16 Tamuz 8:10 pm

with Hazzan Goldmith

17 Tamuz

10 Tamuz

13 PARSHAT CHUKAT

8:30 am 9:30 am

with Cantor Brown

9 **Tamuz** 8:14 pm

Boker Or Parashat Hashavuah Class
Shabbat Morning Service, Bat Mitzvah: Abigail
McGraw-Trater, Sermon by Rabbi Alexander
Traditional Egalitarian Minyan
Tot Shabbat
m Congregational Kiddush
Shabbat Mincha

9:30 am 11:00 am 12:00 pm 1:00 pm

July-August E C. A. L. Shabs bull A L. Shabs bull out Friday.

3 Tamuz

Saturday

Boker Or Parashat Hashavuah Class Combined Smith/TEM Service n Congregational Kiddush Shabbat Mincha Havdalah

8:30 am 69:30 am 712:00 pm 61:00 pm 8:16 pm 1:00 pm 1:

**6 PARSHAT KORACH** 

2 Tamuz

an obat

Friday

# **EREV TISHA B'AV**

Maariv and Eicha TISHA B'AV

Sunday, August 11, 9:00 am Shacharit

**SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES:**Please turn off cell phones and pagers before

**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 *Brail 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 *Psukel DZimah* (introductory Psalms), *Shacharit*, and *Musaf*, a complete reading of the weekly Torah portion, and a *d'var Torah*. For more information, e-mail *traditionalminyan@adasisrael.org*. **Havurah Service:** Lay-led, participatory service at 9:45 am. Rotating volunteers lead services, read Torah, and conduct an in-depth discussion of the weekly Torah portion. A *kiddush* follows the service. For additional information and to participate, e-mail *havurah@adasisrael.org*. **Youth Shabbat For** children ages 5 and under led by Menuhah Peters or Rabbi Ben Shalva. *Netivot*, for students in grades K-3, is led by Linda Yitzchak or Allison Redisch. Junior Congregation, for grades 4-6, is led by Yoni Buckman and teenage *madrichim*. **'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 "nowriting *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*).

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**AUGUST** 



# **Education & Youth**

@ ADAS ISRAEL

#### From the Director of Education



RABBI KERRITH SOLOMON

Our Summer Vacation. School might be out, but we are still hard at work here at Adas. We have been reflecting on the year past, dreaming of new initiatives, setting goals for the year to come, and continuing to work on our own learning and professional development. Both Rabbi Kerrith and Sarah are participating in programs through M<sup>2</sup>: The Institute for Experiential Jewish Education. Rabbi Kerrith is honored to be part of the second cohort of the M<sup>2</sup> Relational Learning Circle.

Sarah is participating in the Senior Educators Cohort, joining educators throughout the world for a year of learning, refining, and sharpening their practice through study of theories and methods of experiential Jewish education. Pam is continuing her training through the Matan Institute for Education and Youth Directors, focusing on teaching Hebrew to students with learning disabilities. Kristine is excited to organize for the year ahead and to be ready to start the year familiar with our students and families. Her friendly face will continue to greet you when we return in the fall. We are all looking forward to spending time with family and friends over the summer and to relax and rejuvenate for the fall.



Powerful experiences shape lives. Some people are fortunate enough to create them.

#### SUMMER: THE SEASON OF THE SUN AT GAN HAYELED



With each season there exists energy that correlates with that natural world. In the winter we are drawn inside, staying cozy and warm. Come the summer, there is a shift—the days are long and filled with light. Winter restlessness is counteracted by summer adventure.

Here at the Gan, the energy of summer takes over. Classes spend their days outside in the sunshine, engaged in water play, bike riding, and field tripping. After these great adventures, the children return to their classroom homes to cool down, rehydrate, and take a much-needed nap. Philosophically, the Gan believes in this shift toward fluidity and freedom.

The question is, Why? Why in the summer is there a shift both inside and outside the Gan? In trying to identify the intention, we can cite the pull of the natural world. We can look toward the founder of Reggio Emilia philosophy, Loris Malaguzzi. Malaguzzi teaches the idea of "Nothing without joy." This idea permeates all areas of the early childhood experience here at the Gan. During the summer the joy can be felt in the same way that the warmth of the sun can be felt. Both the joy of the children—their laughter, excitement, curiosity, and creativity, and the energy of the sun, nourishes us all. We can always be reminded, "V'yehi Or—and then there was light." —By Darci Lewis, Assistant Director & Curriculum Specialist, Gan HaYeled



# Musical Moments at Adas

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

### Flash Choir



# CALLING ALL SINGERS (AND YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE!)

- DO YOU SING IN THE SHOWER . . . AND GET APPLAUSE?
- DID YOU PERFORM IN MUSICALS IN HIGH SCHOOL?
- DID YOU SING IN A COLLEGE A CAPPELLA GROUP?

If you can either read music or learn a part on your own from a recording . . . . If you sing on key . . . If you love singing . . . . If you want to try a new way to participate in Adas Israel activities . . .

WE WANT YOU!!! YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE ADAS ISRAEL "FLASH CHOIR"! THIS CHOIR WILL SING AT SPECIAL ADAS ACTIVITIES AND WILL REQUIRE MINIMUM REHEARSAL AND TIME COMMITMENT ... WITH MAXIMUM RESULTS!

Interested? Contact Cantor Arianne Brown at cantor.brown@adasisrael.org.

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# tikkunolam

'REPAIRING THE WORLD'

#### CAPITAL PRIDE INTERFAITH SERVICE AT ADAS ISRAEL

Adas Israel hosted the 36th Annual Capital Pride Interfaith Service on Tuesday, June 11. The service respectfully demonstrated and incorporated the breadth, depth, and sincerity of multiple faiths throughout the Greater Washington area.













#### SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

#### Fruit for Friendship Place Welcome Center

Can you help do a nourishing and simple act of *tzedakah*? Friendship Place's Welcome Center is in need of fresh whole fruit for the homeless individuals who use its services. Tucked away in a house on Wisconsin Avenue between Tenleytown and Friendship Heights, the Center serves as a drop-in site for homeless individuals and as a central place to apply for various services. Meal services rarely include fresh fruit, and if you can pick up an extra two or three dozen apples, clementines, oranges, pears, etc., on your next grocery run, it would make a big difference to our neighbors' diets. Fruit can be dropped off any time the Center is open

**Address:** 4713 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20016 **Hours:** Mondays: 8:30–11:30 am & 1:00–4:00 pm; Wednesdays/

Thursdays: 8:30-11:30 am & 1:00-3:00 pm

**Phone:** 202-364-1419 — *Jamie Butler* 

TIKKUN OLAM

#### Adas Israel Annual Backpack Drive for Friendship Place

Every year, Adas Israel commits to help students in Friendship Place Neighbors First Families Program temporary housing start the school year with dignity and well prepared, just like their classmates. And each year Adas Israel has been the leader in the backpack drive. This year we are collecting and distributing at least 60 new backpacks, full of grade-specific school supplies, to children in grades 3–5 and 9–12.

Please see the *Tikkun Olam* page on Adas's website for a complete list of supplies for each age group. Filled backpacks can be dropped off in the Adas Israel coatroom. Please choose items that are not gender-specific and clearly label whether the contents are for elementary or high school students. Contact Joel Fischman (*fischman@comcast.net*) with any questions. — *Joel Fischman* 

#### **SOME Memorial Day Service**

On Memorial Day, teams of Adas members gathered at So Others Might Eat (SOME) to host, cook, and engage with our community. Members served breakfast and lunch, and played games with guests in between.

-Sharon Burka





#### BEREAVEMENT



Destined to Be a Chaver - Written By Herlene Nagler
On Sunday, March 24, the second class in the series,
"Conversations About End of Life Issues" was offered by the
Hesed and Bereavement committees. The class was followed
by personal stories from Adas members who have been affected
by the work of the Bereavement Committee and Bereavement
Committee members who have been enriched by their work as
shomrim, tahara team members, and chaverim. The following
was written by Herlene Nagler:

Somewhere in my DNA I was destined to be a *chaver*. I remember as a young child how much I loved *shiva* for all my great aunts and uncles.

- I loved missing school and wearing a dress and party shoes.
- I loved making fruit salad from all the baskets that were sent to the house.
- I loved the trays of homemade sweets that we never had at home.
- I loved that all my cousins showed up.
- I loved passing out prayer books and listening to the prayers in Ashkenazi Hebrew.

I am only realizing now that my mother was showing me, by example, the meaning of *nechum avelim*, comforting the bereaved.

Fast forward 60 some years . . . As a *chaver* we are trained to navigate the few days between death and burial in a systematic and loving manner steeped in our traditions—all the while wrapping our collective Adas Israel arms around those who have lost a dear family member. Often when we walk into the home of families, we are strangers. Maybe all we have in common is a relationship to Adas Israel. We, the *chaverim*, are able to make our large congregation feel intimate and personal at a time that is tender, raw, and overwhelming. It is a shared experience between each *chaver* and the bereaved family. We do not part as strangers after these few days together.

continued on next page ...



A

It would be disingenuous of me to suggest that we, the volunteers are "the givers." We actually receive in return as much as we give. Of all the ways I have volunteered in my life, especially here at Adas Israel, never have I felt such a deep sense of personal satisfaction as well as gratitude for the gift of being Jewish.

#### ANNE FRANK HOUSE



Dear Adas Israel Community:

We hope you're having a relaxing and refreshing summer. It's an easier time of year for our residents, who have gotten through a long winter, some of them coping with a number of health-related issues. Nonetheless, they're all grateful to have a place to call home,

which is in part thanks to the support of many of you.

As always, Anne Frank House relies in so many ways on the Adas Israel community, and we're grateful for everyone's continued support of our work.

Here a few "fast facts" about the work we do:

- Anne Frank House provides apartments in NW Washington to formerly homeless people who suffer from mental illness.
- AFH makes the difference between a degrading, difficult existence on the streets and a secure, stable, dignified, and independent home life.
- AFH is an all-volunteer organization.
- Over 90 percent of our income goes directly to serving our clients.
- Through a partnership with Friendship Place, AFH pays for our clients to receive psychiatric, medical, and case management services.

There are several ways to contribute:

- On our website: http://www.theannefrankhouse.org
- Mail a check to us directly at P.O. Box 73275, Washington, DC 20056-3275
- On the Adas website, choose to direct your contribution and select the "social action and special needs funds" dropdown
- Send a check, made out to Anne Frank House, to Adas Israel

If you have any questions about Anne Frank House or want to get involved with our work, contact Sue Ducat at *stansue@verizon.net*. Anne Frank House always welcomes broadening our network, particularly in the Adas community. If you have experience in real estate or property management, or you know anyone who does, that would be especially helpful. But regardless of your experience, we appreciate your interest and are confident that we could put your time, and your commitment, to good use

Enjoy your summer!

—Marian Fox & Ed Kopf, Co-Presidents



#### The Hesed Phone Team

Each week as *Shabbat* nears, close to 50 members of the Hesed Phone Team take a few extra minutes to share *Shabbat* greetings and a short phone call with about 90 of our "Golden Age" Adas congregants.

As just one part of Adas's Hesed movement, the Hesed Phone Team has grown from a handful of volunteers to a robust group of callers, and, as a result, our outreach to the congregation has grown as well. The goal is a simple one, to maintain a connection between Adas and its congregants, especially among those in our community who may be feeling isolated. The Hesed Phone Team is about connections—making sure no part of the Adas circle is broken.



Under the leadership of Laura Ginns, who heads up the Hesed Phone Team, wonderful connections have been made as callers remind our congregants that Adas appreciates them and is thinking about them even if they can't physically be present each week. Hesed Phone Team calls offer a chance to discuss the latest articles in the Chronicle, provide the phone number for dial-

in services in the Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, or just a casual chat about what the past week brought.

Our congregants have enjoyed receiving the calls and, often, meeting (over the phone line) a new friend. Our callers have equally been touched—meeting members who love to share stories of their years at Adas, news about grandchildren, and more. If a congregant needs anything, our callers can direct assistance their way. The Hesed Phone Team is just one part of the Hesed family at Adas, bringing joy to our congregants on both sides of the phone line.

If you would like to be a caller, or if you would like to receive a call, please call Marcy Spiro at 202-362-4433 or send a note to hesed@adasisrael.org.



# Sign up Now for Nationals vs. Atlanta Braves at Nationals Park with Adas Israel Members

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15; GAME BEGINS AT 1:35 PM

The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington is hosting the fifth annual Grand Slam Sunday: Jewish Community Day at Nationals Park. On September 15, the Washington Nationals will take on the Atlanta Braves at 1:35 pm.

Join us two hours before the game for activities and fun for all ages! Don't miss out—purchase your tickets today for Adas Israel Congregation's ticket block by calling the synagogue office at 202-362-4433. See you at the ballpark!

# Wise Aging

led by Janice Mostow & Betsy Strauss

Wise Aging is a small-group exploration of aging well and wisely through a Jewish lens. The Wise Aging group at Adas will meet monthly to learn, share experiences, and acquire skills to sanctify the moments in time that make up this stage in our lives. The first session takes place September 22, 10:30 am–12:30 pm. The program uses the book developed by the Institute for Jewish Spirituality by Rabbi Rachel Cowan and Dr. Linda Thal, *Wise Aging: Living with Joy, Resilience, and Spirit.* The schedule for the rest of the year is Oct. 6, Nov. 3, Dec. 8, Jan. 26, Feb. 9, Mar. 22, April 26, May 10, and June 7.

Registration is limited. Please contact Janice Mostow (janicelml@aol.com) or Betsy Strauss (betsy.strauss@gmail.com) if you have questions. For more information and to register, please see the JMCW Adas webpage.



# Days for Girls September 22

In many developing countries, young girls have limited or no access to feminine menstrual care products. We hope you will join us on Sunday, September 22, 2:00–5:00 pm, to help make it possible for some of these girls to get the kind of menstrual products they need. We are doing this as part of an initiative organized by Days for Girls, which provides feminine menstrual care products to young girls in developing countries, along with menstrual health education. These products and education help young girls to go to school during their periods and receive an education through their teenage years, creating a pathway for the rest of their lives.

This program is organized by one of Adas Israel's awesome teens, Shifra Waskow, and is co-sponsored by the Adas Israel Community Mikvah and the Sisterhood Sewing Circle. The Mikvah is co-sponsoring this event with to bring dignity to women's cycles in other communities and shine a light on how the Mikvah brings meaning and spirituality to women's cycles in our community.

For this event, we are looking for people to bring/donate both material and talent. We need people to bring and operate sewing machines, irons and ironing boards, measuring boards, scissors, pins, etc. However, these skills are not necessary to be involved, everyone's help is wanted and welcomed!

Please e-mail *shifrawaskow@gmail.com* if you are interested in bringing or operating any of the materials listed above. We hope to see you there!



# Ma Tovu

Introducing our *Shlicha*, Talia Garber

HONORING OUR LEADERS & VOLUNTEERS

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

#### Talia, we are so excited to welcome you to DC and Adas Israel this summer! Can you tell us about your life in Israel? Where you live, your family, favorite cities, foods, etc.?

Thank you, I am also so excited to be joining the Adas family! Where do I begin with describing my life in Israel? My family lives in Ra'anana, my older brother and I were born here after my parents made *aliyah* from the UK. Ra'anana was a wonderful (very Anglo-friendly) city to grow up in, as it had lots of different activities for young kids/teens after school. In high school, I majored in film and television (and biology), which led to me serving in the Army as a military photographer/video editor. After the army, I moved to Jerusalem, where I studied film at the Sam Speigel Film & Television School. After graduating and completing the very intense five-year program, I moved to Tel Aviv, where I started working as a video editor at a television company; after working there for about a year, became a freelance editor. I visit Ra'anana very often (almost every Shabbat), to see my family and spend time with my four-year-old niece and nephew (the sweetest English-Hebrew speaking twins!).

I can definitely say that I am a foodie; I love discovering new places to eat. One of the lovely gems I found in Tel Aviv is a small coffee shop/restaurant called "The Little Prince" (named after the book). It looks like a bookshop from the outside, but inside you can have wonderful food and great coffee (and also read the books!).

#### This won't be your first time in the States—you've worked at Camp Ramah before. Which camps have you worked at, what did you do there, and what are some of your favorite American summer camp memories?

My first summer as a *shlicha* at camp was in 2011, at Camp Ramah in the Berkshires. I started out as a video instructor, which meant I would teach the campers about films and making videos. We would go out and film all around the camp, and it was wonderful to see the excitement on their faces. I then became the in-house videographer, making promo, special events/chagim, and weekly videos (which was my initiative). I went back for seven summers to the same camp, also working

during the year (from Israel) on videos for fundraisers and other clips. My love for summer camps and informal education is what made me want to continue working in this field.

In 2013 I started working for the Jewish Agency-Summer Shlichim Program, as part of the training and selection staff. This kept my connection to "camp life" alive during the year and was probably one of the reasons I'm coming to you as a longterm shlicha. I think it is difficult to describe the magic of camp, but I always go back to the very special moments that happen every summer and that capture the "essence" of Jewish camp, such as, Kabbalat Shabbat every Friday. As Shabbat is about to begin, the whole camp gathers in the amphitheater, dressed in white. Imagine about 700 people (staff and campers), all in white, sitting and singing together, overlooking the lake as the sun begins to set. This to me was such a powerful, spiritual and community-building moment, that will always be in my heart.

#### Washington DC is an amazing city filled with museums, historical monuments, theatre, food, and so much more. What are you most excited about exploring in the DC area?

I have been to DC once before, and I visited some of the museums and tourist spots, but I think I'm more excited to get to know the city through the eyes of a local. I love the theatre, so I'm sure I would be happy to see what DC has to offer on that front, but I want to see the less-known hidden gems in the city!

#### You will be the Adas shlicha, which in English means emissary. You are coming to Adas on a special mission. We have our own ideas of what your mission will involve; but what are some of your goals for the mission?

My goal is to bring Israel to the community in whatever way possible. I want to be able to bring myself and my "Israeli story" to the table. I would love to be involved and help out in all different activities and aspects of the congregation. I would like to integrate Israel activities into the everyday life at Adas, across all age groups in the community. One of the ideas I had, as I come from the film and TV world, is to start a "Movie Club," where we can screen Israeli films and discuss them, maybe even

have some of the creators or directors speak (in person or via video chat).

MA TOVU

You have a lot of special skills, including video filming and editing, photography, makeup, singing, and dancing. What would be your ultimate project at Adas that brings all of these special skills together?

Wow, that's a tough one . . . one thing that comes to mind, to combine all of those, is some kind of "Purim Musical Production" (or a *Thriller* video clip homage [haha]). When I know what the programming schedule is like, I'm sure that I will find a way to bring my skills into play, when needed throughout the year (particularly on *chagim*/special occasions). :)

We have several different styles of Friday night Kabbalat Shabbat services here: some more traditional, some geared for young professionals or families with young children, some with a full band, and all followed by a community Shabbat dinner. What does your ultimate Shabbat look like in Israel?

When I go to my parents' for Shabbat, we all go over to my brother's house, where we have Kabbalat Shabbat with my niece and nephew, it is always so sweet to see them say the blessings for the wine and the bread and insist on wearing head covers

Another great Shabbat experience in Israel, is at the summer shlichim training seminar in Shefayim, where every year hundreds of shlichim are preparing for their summer camp experience. On Friday, they all gather together and sing and dance in circles (according to camps), most are dressed in white, and there is always a magical feeling in the air. For some this is a very regular thing, singing at Kabbalat Shabbat, for others, this may be the first time, but for all it is a meaningful moment.

#### One of the questions in the application was "What kind of Israel do you want to bring to the community?" I was lucky enough to read your response, but I'd like everyone else to know too.

My response in my application was: I like to bring my Israel; I don't know if I can quite describe it in words. I try to show the variety of opinions and feelings Israelis have, I like to talk to people who are eager to listen and are not stuck in a preconceived opinion. I do everything with a polite manner and get along well with most people. I always believe that if we have a civilized conversation we can learn a lot more about things we might not have known than if we argue without listening.

Today I'd like to add: I believe that having a constant connection and a "face" for Israel, just by my presence and involvement in the community, will help strengthen the bond you have with Israel. I'm sure there are many people who have been to Israel, but for some, it is a faraway place that they hear about in the news. Being able to give my personal take on things and being able to talk about what is really going on (and not just what is in the news) is a huge honor for me, and I am pleased I get to share this journey with Adas



#### Adas Israel Community Mikvah

Mikvah Immersion is an embodied Jewish ritual. It is an opportunity to reflect on the times that brought you to this moment in your life. Mikvah is a chance to return again. Mikvah is a turning point. For more information, visit www. adasisrael.org/mikvah; to make an appointment, go to www. mikvahcalendar.as.me.

#### Kol HaMayaim

The best mikvahs are natural ones! Which body of water will you travel to this summer? Does it have a tide or a flow? Try this simple (bathing suit on!) immersion ritual.

- Immerse once and say the blessing "Baruch Ata . . . vetzivanu Al HaTevila"
- Immerse a second time and say Shehechiyanu
- Immerse a third time and add your own words of prayer

Even you forget the words, you can still do this! Before the first immersion think about the past, before the second immersion appreciate the present, and before the third immersion set an intention for the future.

Be Safe . . . and Mazal Tov!

## Adas Office Closings

**Independence Day** Thursday, July 4th -Schools/Offices Closed

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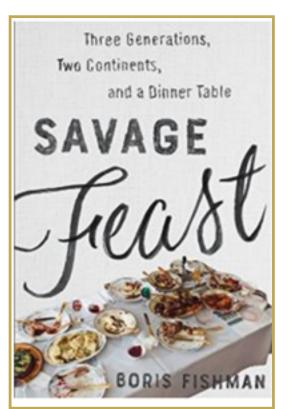


# Books & More The Adas Israel Library Corner

## Always an Immigrant

BY ROBIN JACOBSON

LIBRARY & LITERARY PROGRAMS DIRECTOR



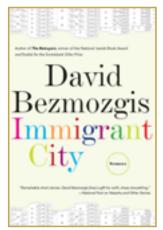
As Moses might have said, "You can take the Jews out of Egypt, but you can't take Egypt out of the Jews." It is hard to shed a past life and homeland, even one of misery and persecution. This is the theme of two outstanding new books by Jewish émigrés from the former Soviet Union: Savage Feast: Three Generations, Two Continents, and a Dinner Table, a memoir by Boris Fishman, and Immigrant City, a short story collection by David Bezmozgis. Both books are in our library; come check them out this summer!

#### SAVAGE FEAST

Boris Fishman is the author of two novels (A Replacement Life and Don't Let My Baby Do Rodeo). In his engrossing new memoir, Savage Feast, Fishman writes about hunger—his hunger for the mouthwatering epic meals conjured by family "kitchen magicians" (recipes included), hunger for understanding and approval, hunger to find a life partner.

These hungers have roots in a darker hunger bred in the Soviet Union. During World War II, Fishman's maternal grandmother, Sofia, fled the Minsk ghetto to hide for two years in the Belarus swamps, subsisting on potato peels. When she first saw a loaf of







bread after the war, she devoured it like an animal, making herself sick. Not surprising, Sofia married Arkady, a resourceful black marketeer able to obtain plentiful food and consumer goods even in a Soviet society of scarcity. Nonetheless, the family lived with the constant fear of not having enough, as well as with pervasive anti-Semitism.

In 1988, the family (Fishman [age nine] and his parents and maternal grandparents) left Minsk for the United States. Even safe and well-nourished, Fishman's family retained their Soviet mindset; they remained risk-averse and apprehensive, always expecting the worst. Planning a family trip, Fishman fielded anxious questions from his father: "What if it snowed the night before we were supposed to go? What if the weather was bad? What if the hotel was no good?" When Fishman wanted to study abroad or accept a Fulbright fellowship in Turkey or relocate to Mexico, his family was so alarmed that he, nervous himself, turned down these opportunities. Yet Fishman insisted on becoming a writer, despite the family's concern over his financial prospects. Savage Feast portrays Fishman as riven in two, loving his family, but resenting their pessimistic Soviet world view, which he couldn't help but absorb. Years after immigrating, Fishman says he still feels "foreign in America."

#### **IMMIGRANT CITY**

David Bezmozgis immigrated to Toronto with his family from Riga, Latvia, 40 years ago when he was only six years old. Nonetheless, Bezmozgis, sounding like Fishman, says he doesn't feel fully Canadian. Bezmozgis has written extensively on what it means to come from one country but live in another (*Natasha and Other Stories, The Free World*, and *The Betrayers*). Much of this work focuses on newly arrived Soviet Jewish immigrants. In contrast, *Immigrant City*, Bezmozgis says, is largely about immigrants "who have been here long enough to adapt," but don't adapt.

Immigrant City opens with a story about a Latvian émigré and his young daughter journeying to a seedy neighborhood in Toronto to buy a replacement car door from a Somali refugee. The émigré's American wife, "raised in mindless California abundance," fails to see the necessity for this bargain-hunting trek. But the émigré, who grew up eating spotted, less-than-perfect fruit, persists. The Somali's neighborhood reminds him of the Toronto immigrant neighborhood where he once lived, and his suspicion of the Somali is leavened by a sense of solidarity. This story and others in the collection depict immigrants who feel disoriented and displaced long after leaving their homelands.



SUMMER READING FOR SEPTEMBER'S ADAS BOOK CHAT

Three Floors Up by Eshkol Nevo

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, AT 10:00 AM IN THE LIBRARY

This summer, try the Israeli novel *Three Floors Up* by Eshkol Nevo. Set in an apartment building near Tel Aviv, *Three Floors Up* reveals the residents' secrets, mistakes, parenting challenges, and more against the backdrop of the Israeli social protest movement. We'll be discussing the book at the September Adas Book Chat.

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#### **BIRTHS**

Asher Joel Bennet, son of Arielle Winnik & Jerrold Bennet, grandson of Barbara Winnik, was born May 3. Jonah Ethan Malasky, son of Ellen & Gary Malasky, was born May 17.

Isaac Abravanel Yaeger, son of Karen Abravanel & Jonathan Yaeger, grandson of Susan & Allan Abravanel, was born May 17. Ari Liam Case, son of Laura & Rachel Case, was born May 21.

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

#### B'NAI MITZVAH



#### Abigail McGraw-Traster, July 13

Abigail, a seventh grader at Stuart-Hobson Middle School, attends the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School. For her mitzvah project, Abigail has been volunteering as a "buddy" in the Capitol Hill Challenger League, a baseball league for students with disabilities. She celebrates this simcha with her parents, extended family, and friends.



#### Coby Gaver, August 24

Coby, son of Ted and Rachel Gayer, is a seventh grader at Maret School. He began his Jewish education at the Gan, and he is grateful for the lessons about life, friendship, and Judaism that he learned there. He is currently a student in the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School. Coby, who enjoys baseball, basketball, and playing the drums, looks forward to sharing his simcha with his brothers, parents, grandparents, and other friends and family.



#### **Jack Spector**, August 31

Jack just completed sixth grade at Maret School and has been attending the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School since kindergarten. When Jack isn't in school, he's usually playing baseball or watching a Nationals game. But he can also be seen playing flag football and ultimate frisbee, reading fantasy and historical fiction, eating at Chipotle, and binge-watching episodes of The Office. He spends the rest of his time hanging out with his parents, Robin Halsband and Jeremy Spector, and their beloved beagle, Desi. For his mitzvah project, Jack is hoping to work with the Adas Social Action Team to help with the refugee families Adas has adopted.

#### MEMBER IN THE NEWS

Mazal tov to . . .

Gabe Kanter-Goodell, who was elected as the new president of Seaboard USY.

#### IN MEMORIAM

We mourn the loss of synagogue members: Shirley Kaplan Robert Rosenthal

We note with sorrow and mourn the passing of:

Rabbi Henry Weiner, father of Adina Kanefield





YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

## a community for young Jewish adults.

singles can meet singles, couples can meet couples, newcomers can connect with other newcomers.

# A Wonderful Year of YP@AI!









The Young Professionals Community at Adas Israel has had a very busy year! YP@AI is aimed at those between the ages of 21 and 35 and 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 a glimpse into our past year:

- celebrating Shabbat together as a community every first Friday at Shir Delight
- serving meals to women at Patricia Handy Place every third Sunday
- learning together with our clergy at our YP Brunch and Learn sessions
- attending Saturday morning Shabbat services
- taking newcomers out for coffee to tell them about Adas and the YP Jewish
- calling our new YP members to welcome them to Adas
- leading hikes in Rock Creek Park
- volunteering for Purim, Kol HaOlam, and all major Adas events
- hosting a Shabbat morning YP Shabbat and coordinating and leading the service

And, most important, our YPs are getting more and more involved with the larger Adas community: serving on the Board of Directors, volunteering and taking leadership roles with the Hesed Committee, serving on the Inclusion Committee, leading projects for the Social Action Committee, performing with the Flash Choir, coordinating services for the Traditional Egalitarian Minyan, serving as Mikvah guides, teaching in our Gan HaYeled and Religious School, attending our Jewish Mindfulness Center programs, etc.

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



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#### Anne Frank House Fund

By: Steven & Jane Gilbert, Kenneth Heitner & Rhoda Ritzenberg, Stanley M. Salus, Alan & Dale Sorcher, John Speaks.

In Honor Of: June Kress by Stuart & Jamie Butler. Elaine Schefflin on Mother's Day by Evan & Hallie Werbel.

In Memory Of: Albert Schwartz & Maurice Eanet by Sheryl Fahey & Ken Colling.

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Brown Discretionary Fund By: Margery Elfin.

Congregational Kiddush Fund In Honor Of: Our aufruf by Linda Singer & Joshua Freedenberg. In Memory Of: Irving Mates by Carol Mates.

Daily Minyan Fund

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In Gratitude & Love For: Daily Minyan by Dena Bauman.
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Fund for the Future

Arnie Hammer.

*In Honor Of:* **Ricki Gerger** by Herlene & Yaacov Nagler.

Havurah Kiddush Fund

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In Honor Of: Kathy & Gerry
Sandler's 50th anniversary by Joyce & Michael Stern.
In Honor Of: Marcy Spiro & Dani
Goldberg's engagement, Donald
Lubick's birthday by Mary & Arnie
Hammer. Natalia Strutman-Shaw
becoming a bat mitzvah by Ronald & Rise Schlesinger.
In Memory Of: Lillian Kahan by

Mark Kahan. **Gene Block** by Mary &

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Butler, Jane Baldinger. Marriage of
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Leah Chanin Day School Fund In Honor Of: 75th anniversary of Marty Ezrin's bar mitzvah by Elayne Flax.

Lillian & Daniel Ezrin Fund for Ritual Objects

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By: Matthew Weissman
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Teicher. 40th anniversary of Rabbi
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Birth of Ellen Roche & Mark Yecies'
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Mazel Tov To: Rabbi Alexander for being named one of Avodah's Partners in Justice, 2019, by Gail & Don Roache.

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In Memory Of: Israel Stern by Alvin Stern. **Irving Kreisman** by Barbara Kreisman. **Howard Speisman** by Blanche Speisman. J. Arnold Pines by Elaine Pines. Ruth Winnick by Ellen Sinel. Rose Lieberman by Irving Lieberman. Elizabeth Gelman Kossow by John & Renny Kosow. Irene Botch by Joyce & Michael Stern. Morris & Dorothy Krauss by Laura Melmed. Burt Corwin by Marjorie Corwin. Nathan Sinel by Norman Sinel. **Edward Cline** by Robert Cline. Robert Leibowitz by Roslyn Weinstein. Elizabeth Gelman Kossow by Sharon Burka. Edward Zupnik by Stanley Zupnik. Teresa **Kelin** by Stephen Kelin.

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