The word “ritual,” from the Latin *ritus*, means “the proper way to do something.” This word was first recorded in English in 1570 and came into use in the 17th century to mean “the prescribed order of performing religious services.”* (You know, like Kadeish, Ur’chatz, Karpas, Yachatz …)

In modern usage, “ritual” has expanded to include much more than religious services. Our lives are filled with rituals, some self-invented, some handed down through generations, and some made for us. How you put a child to bed. Your morning routine. Having monthly dinner with a friend. Thanksgiving Day. Rituals help us navigate time without having to think very much. They’re more than habits when they’ve been created with intention and care. Some rituals give meaning to our lives because they come packaged in memories.

We also speak of the “ritual life of our synagogue.” I think this refers to the rhythm of religious-based events that are repeated daily and weekly and monthly, through a set sequence. Morning and evening minyan. Shabbat morning services. Return Again on the second Friday night. Of course, we also have rituals at Adas Israel that are not based in prayer, although particular prayers may accompany them. This month, I’d like to mention two of them. The first one is about honoring death and the second one is about renewing life.

Members of the Adas Israel Bereavement Committee, under the leadership of Edie Hessel, are trained to navigate this path. Let’s turn now to the Adas Israel Community Mikvah, built 30 years ago. The number of conversions has remained steady throughout this time, at about 180–200 a year. While this number constituted 85% of our mikvah use years ago, that same number now represents fewer than 50% of the times people use the mikvah. Under the leadership of Naomi Malka, ritual of immersion is now used to celebrate and commemorate many additional important transitions in our lives in a particularly spiritual way. We provide suggested prayers for healing, giving birth, starting a new job, birthdays, b’nai mitzvot, special moments of gratitude, the end of a period of mourning, and more. I used the mikvah the day before I became president of the congregation.

As the home of the only pluralist mikvah in the Greater Washington area, we have been acutely aware of the limitations of our mikvah to serve everyone in the community. We are proud to unveil our renovated facility, complete with aquatic lift, which, according to some metrics, exceeds ADA standards. This renovated mikvah is a statement of the values of inclusion that we hold dear as a community. Natural elements like wood and stone (and of course rainfall!) connect this interior space to natural mikvahs such as oceans, rivers and lakes. This renovation matches what we experience throughout our building and in our programming and prayer services.

Please join us on Wednesday, January 30, 2019, at 7:00, for the rededication ceremony of the Adas Israel Community Mikvah. If you would like to learn more about these opportunities to participate in the ritual life of the congregation, please contact Bereavement Committee Chair Edie Hessel at edith_hessel@yahoo.com, and Mikvah Director Naomi Malka at Naomi.malka@adasisrael.org.

I am grateful to be president of this community.

* Wikipedia!
Tu B’Shevat—the New Year for Trees

Tu B’Shevat is a time when trees start drinking the new year’s rainwater and the sun renews itself. As the Jewish Arbor Day, Tu B’Shevat embodies the strong dedication to ecology, environmentalism, and conservation that the Jewish National Fund (JNF) has championed since its inception in 1901. This year, Tu B’Shevat (the 15th of Shevat) falls on Monday, January 21.

On the third day of creation, God created “seed-bearing plants, fruit trees after their kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it” (Genesis 1:11). God then put Adam in the garden to “till it and tend it” (2:15), making humans stewards of the earth.

According to the Mishnah, where it is first mentioned, Tu B’Shevat—the 15th day of the month of Shevat—is the date farmers used to calculate the year’s crop yield and determine the tithe that the Bible requires. It also marks the beginning of the first three years and the end of the first four years of a tree’s growth, during which one is forbidden to eat its fruit.

Since its founding, the JNF has planted more than 240 million trees in Israel to protect the land, prevent soil erosion, green the landscape, and preserve vital ecosystems. The trees maintain forest health, combat desertification, protect watersheds, and manage water flow. Additionally, they create a “green lung” to combat carbon dioxide emissions in the region. JNF’s success at planting trees in Israel has resulted in naturally expanded forests and reclaimed deserts. Go to the Jewish National Fund’s website, www.jnf.org, for more information or to make a donation.

Celebrating Tu B’Shevat with a seder has become traditional for families and congregations around the world. During a Tu B’Shevat seder, we bless and eat seven species of fruits and grains from Israel. The seven species are wheat, barley, grapes, fig, pomegranate, olive, and dates (Deuteronomy 8:8). It is also customary to dance the Mayim, the Jewish dance for water, during a Tu B’Shevat seder.

Spend Shabbat Shirah together as a community as we celebrate and explore the wisdom, courage, and legacy of Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Special Shabbat meals and programming will be guided by the Racial Justice Working Group and community leaders, and Shabbat services will include music honoring Dr. King.

**HOLIDAYS @ ADAS**

**TU B’SHEVAT**

Monday, January 21, 2019

**Martin Luther King Jr. Weekend & Shabbat Shirah**

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 18**

6:00 PM: Return Again Shabbat Service

7:45 PM: Shabbat Dinner with community partners and speaker George Lambert, president and CEO of the Greater Washington Urban League, who will facilitate a study of Martin Luther King Jr.’s ideas in conversation with Jewish text.

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 19**

9:30 AM: Shabbat Shirah: The Shabbat of Song. Charles E. Smith Sanctuary

Our MLK Shabbat morning service, which coincides with Shabbat Shirah, will feature the Adas Israel Flash Choir and the Return Again Band. The sermon will be given by featured guest, Rabbi Sandra Lawson, who will lead a 1:00 PM workshop entitled “Creating an Inclusive Jewish Future.”

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 20**

10:00 AM: Adas Israel and Rabbi Sandra Alexander and Kristyne join Peoples Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, at 4704 13th Street, NW'

**MLK Weekend 2019 Highlights**

Rabbi Sandra Lawson received ordination from the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in June 2018. She was born in St. Louis, Mo. and grew up in a military family. She graduated from Saint Leo University magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from Clark Atlanta University. Rabbi Sandra has served in the United States Army, as a Military Police person with a specialty in Military Police Investigations, specializing in cases involving child abuse and domestic violence. Upon leaving the military she started a personal training business and later worked as an Adjunct Instructor of Sociology at local community colleges. She has also served as the Investigative Researcher for the Anti-Defamation League’s Southeast Region, becoming the go-to person when Law Enforcement in the South needed information on hate groups. Rabbi Sandra uses her rabbinic training to bring Judaism to where people already are in their lives. As a rabbinical student Rabbi Sandra received a prestigious grant to lead shabbat services for unaffiliated Jews in a vegan cafe, she also received a grant to launch her podcast Minutes of Torah. Rabbi Sandra’s vision as a Rabbi is to help build a more inclusive Jewish community where all who want to come are welcomed, diversity is embraced and we can come together to learn and to pray. Rabbi Sandra is currently serving as the Associate Chaplain for Jewish Life and Jewish Educator at Hillel at Elon University in North Carolina.
The Adas Israel Community Mikvah would be honored by your presence as we celebrate the renovation of our space

Mayim b’Sasson

A Joyful Mikvah Rededication Ceremony

Join us for a night of blessings, singing, storytelling, and honoring our Mikvah Guides.

Storytellers trained by master storycrafter Noa Baum.

The newly renovated, fully accessible space will be open for all to see.

Wednesday, January 30th, 2019

7:00pm: Reception and hors d’oeuvres
7:30pm: Ceremony and Storytelling

Adas Israel Congregation, Kay Hall
RSVP: mikvah@adasisrael.org

Free Jewish Genealogy Workshop
SUNDAY, JANUARY 13 @ 1:30 - 3:00 PM

Please join us Sunday, January 13, 1:30-3:00 pm, when we’ll share some free online tools to help piece together your family’s history. Whether you’re overwhelmed with your grandparents’ attic full of pictures and documents, don’t care to pay for an Ancestry.com search, swabbed your cheek for a 23andme test but only glanced at the results, or never even started a genealogical research, all that is required is to bring your own tablet or laptop and any family info (names, places, and dates) you might know so we can show you some tricks and resources. While we are especially interested in the histories and immigration of Holocaust survivors and their families, all are welcome to this casual workshop. The event will take place in Funger Hall, and registration is free. RSVP to Emma Rosenthal at emma.rosenthal@adasisrael.org or contact her with any questions you might have.

As part of our security precautions and procedures, we ask all congregants and school parents to register their automobile information. The permits, which are numbered and tracked, speed up the flow of traffic into our lot, aid us in our parking lot management, provide a level of security, and assist us in case of an emergency or blocked car. If you do not have a parking decal, please contact Carol Ansell at the front desk via e-mail at carol.ansell@adasisrael.org or by calling 202-362-4433. Once you receive your form, please complete it and return it to Carol. When she has recorded the information, we will send you your parking permit. Please display the permit on the driver’s side of the windshield, top or bottom, your choice. The important thing is that it is visible to the security guard in the booth. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School Graduates to Be Honored on February 9
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9

On Saturday, February 9, we will honor the graduating Adas Israel seniors of the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School. Mazal tov to:

Naomi Alter, daughter of Michael & Amanda Alter,
Ethan Chanin, son of Leonard Chanin & Jackie Eyl,
Ilan Cohen, son of Rabbi Kenneth Cohen & Joanne Kenen,
Amelia Davidson, daughter of Alan Davidson & Melissa Goldman Davidson,
Ari Gershengorn, son of Ian Gershengorn & Gail Levine,
Dora Mendelson, daughter of Daniel & Jennifer Mendelson,
Henry Sosland & Kate Sosland.

If you have not already confirmed your child’s participation, please contact Beryl Saltman, beryl.saltman@adasisrael.org. We will honor our graduates with an aliyah and a gift from the congregation. We are happy to participate in their celebration in this way and extend our sincere good wishes to them and their families.

Parking Decals Update

As part of our security precautions and procedures, we ask all congregants and school parents to register their automobile information. The permits, which are numbered and tracked, speed up the flow of traffic into our lot, aid us in our parking lot management, provide a level of security, and assist us in case of an emergency or blocked car. If you do not have a parking decal, please contact Carol Ansell at the front desk via e-mail at carol.ansell@adasisrael.org or by calling 202-362-4433. Once you receive your form, please complete it and return it to Carol. When she has recorded the information, we will send you your parking permit. Please display the permit on the driver’s side of the windshield, top or bottom, your choice. The important thing is that it is visible to the security guard in the booth. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Save The Date! Bimah Basics: Hagbah Practice, Feb. 9, and Aliyah Practice, Feb. 23
FEBRUARY 9 & 23, 1:15 PM, BIRAN BEIT MIDRASH

Interested in learning to lift the Torah (hagbah)? Has it been a while since you’ve had an aliyah? Would you like to practice one-on-one and learn about the choreography on the bimah when you have an aliyah? Interested in practicing lifting the Torah when it’s heavy on the right, early in the year, or on the left, later in the year? Want to practice lifting a heavy or light Torah? Interested in serving as a gabbai when the Torah is read? All are welcome on Shabbat afternoon, February 9, for hagbah practice, and February 23 for aliyah practice, learning what serving as a gabbai entails. Both classes, at 1:15 pm, after kiddush in the Biran Beit Midrash, will be led by members of the Traditional Egalitarian Minyan.

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

Over the course of the year, our rabbis and distinguished scholars will lead us in guided text study, conversations, and presentations that explore the Jewish tradition’s essential teachings on defining holy community. Together we’ll navigate the particular values that bind us and the universal ideas that inspire us, and then think together about where they do and don’t intersect. To learn more visit adasisrael.org/makomdc.

Register for lectures or classes online or by calling Marcy Spiro, 202-362-4433, ext. 113.

POST-KIDDUSH HALAKHA CLASS
Rabbi Dr. Noah Bickart
SATURDAY, JANUARY 26 @ 1:00 PM

Join us as our January Mendelson Shabbat Scholar, Rabbi Dr. Noah Bickart, guest teaches this month's text-based class, after kiddush, using halakhah (Jewish life and living) as a prism through which to access our monthly topic. Rabbi Noah Bickart is assistant professor of Jewish and Interreligious Studies at John Carroll University in Cleveland. His first book, based on his JTS PhD dissertation, The Scholastic Culture of the Babylonian Talmud, will be published later this year.

The Text 2.0: In Depth Halakhah (Jewish Law) w/ Rabbi Aaron Alexander
TUESDAYS: JAN. 29, 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

Boker Or meets Saturday mornings in the Biran Beit Midrash with the weekly portion as its focus.
January 5: Rabbi Elianna Yolkut, January 12: Rabbi Sarah Krinsky, January 19: Rabbi Aaron Alexander

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.

Kabbalat Parsha @ Adas
Kabbalat Parsha is a special ritual that we created to celebrate the giving of each student’s Torah portion. While Cantor Ari leads us in singing at Mitzion Tetze Torah, we unroll an entire Torah scroll around the Gewirz Bet Am. Parents stand in a circle, holding the Torah so the text faces the middle of the circle, where the children are sitting on the floor. One by one, starting with Beresheet, each child is called up by their Hebrew name to stand in front of their parents and their parsha. When everyone is standing, the parents give the children a traditional blessing (Birkat Kohanim) in Hebrew and in English. Then we sing Siman Tov uMazal Tov and roll the Sefer Torah back up!

ADAS EVENTS

Kabbalat Parsha @ Adas

The Chronicle
Musical Moments at Adas

Kol HaOlam 2019

The New & Enhanced Kol HaOlam Competition
Saturday, March 2 @ 8:00 pm
Buy your tickets in advance at adasisrael.org/kolahoolam!
- Eight powerhouse Jewish Acapella groups from colleges and universities around the country
- All new format: The stakes are higher - The music is louder!
- Celebrity MC (sit tight for the announcement)
- All new audience participation: YOU CHOOSE THE WINNER!

There are competitions for a cappella groups out there, such as the Harmony Sweepstakes and ICCA, but there was a void in the Jewish a cappella world—at least until 2011! The inaugural Kol HaOlam National Collegiate Jewish A Cappella Competition held in Washington, DC, saw Tizmoret (Queens College) crowned as the first official National Collegiate Jewish A Cappella champion. After Tizmoret repeated in 2012, Hooshir (Indiana University) claimed the title in 2013 and 2014, Tizmoret again in 2015, Jewop in 2016, Rak Shalom in 2017, and Ani V’Ata NYU in 2018! Who will be crowned the next champion?

Kolot Youth Choir

Do You Like To Sing?
Then come and be part of Kolot, the young voices of Adas Israel with Cantor Arianne Brown!

For 3rd-6th graders!
Kolot meets on Sundays twice per month from 11:30-12:15, beginning January 13.
To register & receive a complete schedule, please email cantor.brown@adasisrael.org with your name and grade.

Tricks of the Trope

Interested in learning Haftarah trope (cantillation)?
Cantor Arianne Brown will teach you to sing all the Haftarah trope (cantillation) patterns. Please listen, learn, repeat after me... and connect with us so that you can chant a haftarah here soon!

Six years ago, I came to Adas Israel for an amazing interview weekend. I was thrilled and excited beyond belief about this wonderful new community I’d soon join! As I flew back to Los Angeles, I thought about how much I would miss the students I had taught. We had enjoyed years of classes and experiences together. In the midst of teaching in a busy religious school and day school, my students helped me hone my best practices and techniques of teaching trope to large groups of learners in a way that is “fast, fun, and easy to learn!” As a means of leaving my methods behind with my beloved students, and introducing them to my students to be, I created the Tricks of the Trope video series for Torah trope.

Little did I know that there were thousands of learners around the world eager for this kinesthetic, visual, and auditory method of learning to chant Torah trope. As the views grew to over 100,000, stories poured in year after year about how these videos helped various learners all around the world in their quest to learn or improve their Torah trope skills.

So now, at long last, I bring to you the companion video series - Tricks of the Trope for chanting Haftarah. Whether you use this video as a learning tool for yourself, as a teaching tool for your students, or as a means of review, I present this interactive video series to you. I hope they help to inspire you in your Jewish learning, and to help you chant Haftarah in a beautiful, expressive manner that honors our beautiful tradition.

Watch the Series: adasisrael.org/bnaimitzvah

adasisrael.org/musicalmoments
JMCW RECOMMENDS . . . on Mussar, includes an array of practices that seek to awaken and stimulate the senses through full mind/body exploration. Classes often draw guided teachings, a wide variety of meditation techniques, and silent community sits.

Ongoing Offerings

Our weekly JMCW meditation and yoga classes offer a home to those who wish to explore embodied spirituality. The yoga program requires reservations: see page 5 for more information.

An Evening w/ James Jacobson-Maisels: Playfulness, Somersaults & Risk Taking
MONDAY, JANUARY 14 @ 7:30 - 9:00 PM (THIS EVENT WILL BE HELD OFF-SITE)

Our lives can often feel like we have been turned on our heads. At such moments, it can be easy to feel lost and overwhelmed, unprepared to experiment and take the leaps that may bring outer and inner change. Through exploring a Hasidic technique of cultivating the deep qualities of playfulness and risk-taking in our practice, we will experiment with meeting the topsy-turvy nature of our times with bravery, compassion and creativity.

The Soul of Jewish Social Justice
Published in 2014, this is a comprehensive look at how Jewish wisdom is relevant to many of the most pressing moral issues of our time. This book is available in the Adas library, as are many others on Jewish spirituality, meditation, and mindfulness. Some of these can be found under call number 175.01 or speak with Adas Librarian Robin Jacobson (librarian@adasisrael.org) for more information.

The truly righteous do not complain about evil, but rather add justice; they do not complain about heresy, but rather add faith; they do not complain about ignorance, but rather add wisdom. —Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook

The Chronicle
Tu B’Shevat, where we are already succeeding. This may we all find the balance between nurturing and cultivating (the world, our wandering outside without a coat. Sometimes we are so worried with the process that we don’t give ourselves the chance to see few. But when I ask myself what successful growth looks like for them, I wonder if it means experimenting with independence by successful growth?

opportunity to think about the things that cultivate growth, both literally and figuratively. What are the elements that set one up for hard work of preparing for spring, which is not quite as far off as it feels. And this month’s celebration of Tu B’Shevat offers us an this time of year. While I look outside my window and see bare trees and frosted grass, under the surface, the ground is doing the safe, and healthy sometimes eclipses my brother’s rational medical advice. This, in many ways, is reflective of the natural world worse) home each winter, and I shiver every time I walk out the door. My love and desire to bundle them up and keep them warm, Whenever one of my children insists on going outside in winter weather without a coat, my brother, who is a doctor, reminds me that kids don’t get sick from being cold. But it is often hard to hold onto that as they bring sneezes and coughs (and sometimes worse) home each winter, and I shiver every time I walk out the door. My love and desire to bundle them up and keep them warm, safe, and healthy sometimes eclipses my brother’s rational medical advice. This, in many ways, is reflective of the natural world this time of year. While I look outside my window and see bare trees and frosted grass, under the surface, the ground is doing the hard work of preparing for spring, which is not quite as far off as it feels. And this month’s celebration of Tu B’Shevat offers us an opportunity to think about the things that cultivate growth, both literally and figuratively. What are the elements that set one up for successful growth?

For me they include those things that I wish for my children in the middle of winter—warmth, safety, and health, to name just a few. But when I ask myself what successful growth looks like for them, I wonder if it means experimenting with independence by wandering outside without a coat. Sometimes we are so worried with the process that we don’t give ourselves the chance to see where we are already succeeding. This Tu B’Shevat, may we all find the balance between nurturing and cultivating (the world, our children, ourselves) and being able to take a step back and see the fruit of our labors, even if they are just the early buds.
**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.

**SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES:**

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<td>30 9:00 am Morning Minyan Evening Minyan</td>
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<td>2 7:30 am Morning Minyan Evening Minyan JMCN Linear Flow Yoga JMCN Meditation Session</td>
<td>3 7:30 am Morning Minyan Evening Minyan Sisterhood: Men’s Morning</td>
<td>4 7:30 am Morning Minyan Evening Minyan Kabbalat Shabbat with Hazan Goldsmith</td>
<td>27 Tevet 4:22 pm</td>
<td>5 Parshat Vayera 8:00 am Roth Olam Parshat HaShavuah Class 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan Hassunah Shabbat Service 12:00pm Congregational Kiddush 1:00 pm Mincha 5:30 pm Havdalah</td>
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<td>6 9:00 am Morning Minyan Evening Minyan</td>
<td>7 9:00 am 6:00 pm</td>
<td>8 9:00 am Morning Awakening w/ Rabbi Laurens Workshop Torah w/ Sisterhood Downtown Study Group Roth Shabbat: Celebrating New Moon</td>
<td>9 9:00 am Morning Minyan Morning Awakening w/ Rabbi Laurens JMCN Linear Flow Yoga JMCN Meditation Session</td>
<td>10 7:15 am Morning Minyan Pacha w/ Hazzanus</td>
<td>5 Shevet 4:11 pm</td>
<td>12 Parshat Bo 9:30 am Roth Olam Parshat HaShavuah Class 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Service Sermon by Rabbi Krinsky 9:30 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 11:00 am Tot Shabbat 11:00 am Retnet 11:00 am Para for Kids 12:00pm Congregational Kiddush</td>
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<td>13 9:00 am Morning Minyan Adas Rock Chat 10:15 am JMCN Wise Aging 10:30 am Beginner’s Hebrew Class 1:00 pm Days For Girls 1:30pm TIDY Genealogy Workshop 6:00pm Evening Minyan</td>
<td>17 7:30 am Morning Minyan Morning Awakening w/ Rabbi Laurens JMCN Linear Flow Yoga JMCN Meditation Session</td>
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<td>26 Parshat Yitro 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Service/Shabbat in Harmony with Rabbi Holtzblatt Bat Mitzvah: Clara Hammann 9:00 am Traditional Egalitarian Minyan 11:00 am Retnet 11:00 am Tot Shabbat 11:00 am Para for Kids</td>
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<td>27 9:00 am Morning Minyan Jewish Hypnotherapy w/ Hazel Goldsmith 10:15 am Beginners Hebrew Class 2:00 pm DC Women’s Workshop 5:00 pm Sisterhood: Women Alleviate Abuse Gala Evening Minyan</td>
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**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 Rabbi Krinsky, the TEM is a participatory service with a full Psukei D’Zimrah (introductory Psalms), Shacharit, and Musaf, a complete reading of the weekly Torah portion, and a D’var Torah. For more information, e-mail traditionalminyan@adasisrael.org.

**Havurah Service:** Lay-led, participatory service at 9:45 am. Rotating volunteers lead services, read Torah, and conduct an in-depth discussion of the weekly Torah portion. A kiddush follows the service. For additional information and to participate, e-mail havurah@adasisrael.org.

**Youth Shabbat Services:** Starting with Tot Shabbat for children ages 5 and under led by Menahelah Peters. Netivot, for students in grades K-5, is led by Sarah Attelman or Jeremy Radkin. 

**Dial-in for Programs & Services:** If you are unable to attend programs, lectures, or services, dial in to hear them. Call 202-686-6406. Library Open on Shabbat. Our third-floor library is open on Shabbat following services. You may sign out materials using our “no-writing Shabbat method” explained in signs on the check-out desks. For assistance during the week, contact our Director of Library Services, Robin Jacobson (librarian@adasisrael.org).

**January 2019**

16 The Chronicle
**FAMILIES WITH YOUNG CHILDREN**

As winter continues, we have plenty of upcoming programs to keep you and your children warm and entertained: Break out your fuzzy pajamas and biggest breakfast bowls for our upcoming events.

**Pajama Havdalah**
Saturday, Jan. 12, 5:30 pm

Ice Cream for Breakfast!
Saturday, Feb. 2, 10:00 am

While the Onah (part-time) classes of the Gan are in session, our weekly programs are open for all.

**Yad b’Yad play group for infants, toddlers, and their adults**

Thursdays, 9:00-10:00 am, Room LL6

Sing N’ Play for children of all ages and their adults

Thursdays, 10:00-11:00 am, Library

For more information, please contact Jocelyn Dorfman, Families with Young Children Engagement Coordinator, at jocelyn.dorfman@adasrael.org or 202-362-4433, ext. 229.

We want to hear from you! Do you want to see more or different types of programming for families with young children at Adas? Please let Jocelyn know! Her inbox and phone line are open for any and all suggestions or comments.

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**EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

**GAN SPOTLIGHT: THE PEELIM & CIRCLE CLASSES**

Gan Hallef is fortunate to be a large, thriving early childhood school. Each day our classrooms are full of joy, laughter, singing, creating, and joyfulness! Due to the dedication of our incredible teachers and truly engaged families, each classroom community is unique and interesting. We believe it is important to pause and take notice of the individuals who make up the beautiful whole.

The Peelim Class is where the oldest Shanah two-year-olds begin their year in the Gan. Rae Brooks, Neida Swann, Kristen Ross, and Nana Deck are the four creative, hardworking, passionate early childhood educators who intentionally create a rich and meaningful experience for their students each and every day. Through authentic explorations, a belief in competency, Hebrew language, and a whole lot of laughter, the Peelim children soar.

The Circles Class welcomes many Gan two-year-olds into the Onah program. Janice Gittelson and Lourdes Ruano shower the Circle children with love and believers for embracing each of their young Jewish families as well. Through messy art, sensory explorations, nature walks, story, and song, the Circle children and families come to love their classroom community. Janice and Lourdes are passionate!

A big toad rabah to the Peelim and Circle teachers. Both classes truly embody the teaching of Loris Malaguzzi, founder of Reggio Emilia philosophy. “Creativity seems to emerge from multiple experiences, coupled with a well-supported development of personal resources, including a sense of freedom to venture beyond the known.”

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**MA TOVU**

HONORING OUR LEADERS & VOLUNTEERS

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

Laura, you and your family are celebrating your 20th Adas anniversary this year! And it just so happens your oldest son is 25 years old, so I’m thinking the two might be connected. What brought you to Adas 20 years ago?

Indeed it was the Gan that first drew us to Adas. We were living in Wardman Park and heard about it from a colleague who had a daughter who was already enrolled. We signed up for the parent/toddler class and never looked back. All three of my boys attended the Gan, and it really was life changing for us. Many of my closest friends are moms I met at the Gan. The Gan was (and I am sure still is) a wonderful Jewish support system for young families. Joining Adas was just a natural progression and, like our family, it has grown and changed along with us.

We’ve been seeing you around Adas more and more the past couple of years. Besides your volunteer work here, what do you do professionally?

After the birth of my third son, I became a full-time mom and avid volunteer. I have kept busy with volunteer opportunities at my children’s schools and in our community. Right now, in addition to my Hesed work, I am a volunteer for CollegeTracks, an organization that works with high school students on all aspects of the college application process. I am currently working at Wheaton High School in Montgomery County. It’s a wonderful program, and I have found working with the amazing students—many of whom are first-generation college applicants—really satisfying.

In 2005, you participated in our adult bat mitzvah program. Why was having your bat mitzvah important to you? What did that program involve? Did you and your sons work on Hebrew together since they were in Religious School at the same time?

Participating in the adult bat mitzvah program was really special for me. I had joined a new family and group, and even while my kids were at the Gan, I took advantage of Jewish education programs at Adas. I did not have a strong Jewish education growing up and I became more interested as an adult. The program involved weekly discussions on all topics of Judaism and, of course, learning my Torah portion was a highlight. It was one of the hardest things I’ve done—I didn’t sleep at all the night before—but I was so excited about it. I wanted my boys to see that learning Torah was important to me and that Jewish learning was a lifetime commitment. Yes, I did study Hebrew with my boys, and my mother-in-law was an excellent tutor as well. By the way, I’m still in the same Torah study group comprised of former Gan moms; we’ve been meeting for around 13 years. It has continued to be an important part of my life.

You recently became very involved with our Hesed Committee. Can you explain what you do and how others can get involved?

Sure—right now I have two jobs within Hesed. I am co-chair of the Hesed Phone Team, a group of volunteers who make weekly Shabbat calls to our golden age Adas congregants. Maintaining a relationship between Adas and our long-time members is so important, and many beautiful relationships have been hatched out of these calls. It is also a great opportunity to share some news from the Chronicle or make sure they know that the Shabbat service can be live streamed. I also work with Michael Fingerhut on the Hesed Basket Committee. We deliver new member gift bags and new baby gift bags. We have a team of helpers who assist in packing bags with wine, baked goods (baked by the Hesed Cooking committee), an invitation to an Adas Shabbat dinner, and synagogue information. The new babies receive hand-knitted hats and a CD of music from our own Cantor Brown. We have received such a nice response to this outreach. It is very rewarding. We are always looking for more volunteers. Anyone interested in getting involved can contact me or any members of the Hesed Committee. They can also send an e-mail to hesed@adasrael.org.

Many people become less involved once their children age out of the Gan, Religious School, high school, etc. You have done the exact opposite. What made you decide to become more active here?

My Adas participation really peaked when my children were at the Gan. I really jumped into everything Gan! I was a co-president of the Gan Parents Association. I then became less involved volunteer-wise at Adas. My youngest son went off to college this fall, and I thought it was a good time to get involved again. I had heard about Hesed and have some friends who are involved, so I figured I would see what I was getting into, I like the people I am working with, and it’s been easy to dive in again.

When we had our first meeting, we complimented one another on our nail color choices. Do you have a favorite nail salon in the area? If you could be a nail polish, what color would you be, and more important, what clever name would you have?

You definitely caught me on a good day. I am not a regular at the nail salon and don’t have a favorite. It can be a fun outing with a friend for sure! I tend toward browns. And, of course, I would name my color. You Gins Some, You Lose Some.

You are answering these questions right before Thanksgiving, and we’ll be reading them after the secular New Year. What plans do you have to celebrate Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, and the New Year?

I always have Thanksgiving at my house and love doing the cooking. I’m very excited for all of my boys to come home, and my mom will join us, too. I hope when this is printed that we will have watched Michigan beat Ohio State the Saturday morning after Thanksgiving: it will be a big part of the weekend. Hanukkah this year will be an adult holiday—all the kids will be at college, so I’m planning to have my usual Hanukkah gathering with some of our family friends, but this year there may only be one child! I will mail some Hanukkah care packages for sure! We always take a nice family vacation somewhere warm over winter break.

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**The Chronicle**

18 January 2019
THE CRIME OF COMPLICITY: A Discussion of Moral Responsibility with Amos Guiora

JANUARY 27 @ 2:00 PM

If you are a bystander and witness a crime, should intervention to prevent that crime be a legal obligation? Or is moral responsibility enough? Join us for a discussion with Amos N. Guiora on “The Crime of Complicity: The Bystander from the Holocaust to Today.” Drawing from his book, The Crime of Complicity: The Bystander in the Holocaust, he will examine the bystander-victim relationship from a personal and legal perspective, focusing first on the Holocaust, and then using those lessons to explore cases in contemporary society. Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the event.

MEET THE MIKVAH: Bodies of Water

FEBRUARY 10 @ 1:00 PM

Join us on February 10 at 1:00 pm for “Bodies of Water,” an award-winning program that introduces you to mikvah as a path to body positivity from a Jewish perspective. Framed along with other healthy practices like mindful eating and Jewish meditation, this experience is a very special way to explore how mikvah is relevant in a modern Jewish life. We will watch a demonstration immersion performed either communally or within our families, the mikvah is singular in its focus on the person herself. Each experience is unique, and the staff is here to walk you through the process, while respecting your individuality and privacy.

Sisterhood attendees at Dr. Rachel Brem’s November presentation, Examining Women’s Health event; Genetic Counseling was available for those who wanted it.
**tikkunolam**

**‘REPAIRING THE WORLD’**

**SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE**

**Outreach to Families Affected by Gun Violence**

When the tragedy of gun violence strikes our neighbors, we ask each other, “What can we do?” As a community, we can perform the mitzvah of comfort for those who are grieving a death and those who are praying for healing. We can offer food for a family, and in so doing we can make plain that they are not alone and not unheard.

We are working with the DC Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (ONSE) and its Community Stabilization Program (CSP), which provides wrap-around services to victims of violent crimes and their families. CSP team members meet with the victims and/or families, in the home or hospital, when the family is willing, and develop a service plan that helps meet immediate and long-term needs.

The GVP team is organizing outreach to these families; we will write notes and bring food to the hospital for family members. Meals can be homemade or from the Hezad freezer. This is one important way for us to build bridges across our city. If you are interested in learning more about our effort, please contact Lois Fingerhut (loisafingerhut@gmail.com).

**Reading Partners**

Reading Partners needs more volunteer tutors! We’d love for you to join the nearly 20 Adas members who are already tutoring. We have 600 volunteers serving 600 students across DC, on our way to reaching a goal of serving 900 students. To learn more about Reading Partners, please get in touch with Lois Fingerhut (loisafingerhut@gmail.com) or visit the Reading Partners website, https://readingpartners.org/location/washington-dc/.

**INCLUSION UPDATE**

**Inclusion Celebration Shabbat is on February 2, 2019!**

Please join us in welcoming Dr. Julia Watts Belser, our guest speaker from Georgetown University’s Theology Department. We look forward to hearing her Dvar Torah, Beyond Productivity: How Shabbat Values Underscore the Principles of Disability Justice,” in the Smith Sanctuary service and to learning together after Kiddush in the Biran Beit Midrash on the topic of “Priestly Bodies & Blemishes in Torah and Talmud,” an interactive text-study examining Leviticus 21’s prohibitions regarding that confers the benefit. Regardless of causation, it is clear that we at Adas have an opportunity to foster greater connection among all of our members.

**Toward that end, we are instituting a new program, called Kesher Shabbat. We are looking for potential hosts to invite new members of our growing congregation into their homes (and into our community) for a Shabbat dinner, seudah shlishit, or havdalah ceremony, at their convenience.**

If you are interested in hosting or being a guest at a Kesher Shabbat meal, please contact Marcy Spiro at marcy.spiro@adasisrael.org.

**Adas Office Closings**

New Year’s Day
Tuesday, January 1, 2019
Schools/Offices Closed

MLK Jr. Day
Monday, January 21
Schools/Offices Closed

The Biran Beit Midrash, at the heart of our synagogue, is a place of community, learning, and conversation. Following this theme, over the next year we would like to share your special family collections in our ever-changing Biran Beit Midrash window.

Our current display features a sampling of Myra and Larry Promise’s imaginative and inspiring collection of Hanukkiot. What can you share for six weeks?

Contact us at adasevents@adasisrael.org to display something special and for more information.

**Pesach & Personal**

Share Your Special Family Collections
In Our Biran Beit Midrash

**Kesher Shabbat Connection = Community**

**NEWS FLASH**

**Popular People Live Longer**

Although dismayng to my former eighth-grade self, that was just one title of similar articles that have crossed my desk in recent months. I am thankful that the point of these articles is not to promote the “popularity” of our former school days. Instead, they all stress that those of us who are lucky enough to be surrounded by family, friends, and community fare better than those who are not. Yes, loneliness is detrimental to our health. Some studies have gone so far as to say that loneliness is a risk factor on a par with obesity and smoking!

But we Jews already know that. God tells us that up front in the beginning of the Torah. In Genesis 2:18, God explicitly says that it is not good (lo tov) for man to be alone. And then he creates Eve.

Another spate of recent studies demonstrates that Adas Israel can be part of the solution. Research also has shown that members of religious congregations thrive better than their unaffiliated counterparts. The studies don’t reveal whether it is the prayer, sense of community, or the cookies (yes, the studies mention the cookies) that confers the benefit. Regardless of causation, it is clear that we at Adas have an opportunity to foster greater connection among all of our members.

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Julia Watts Belser is an associate professor in the Religion Department. She is the author of Power, Ethics, and Ecology in Jewish Late Antiquity: Rabbinic Responses to Drought and Disaster (2015). She serves on the board of the Society for Jewish Ethics and holds leadership positions in the American Academy of Religion. A wheelchair rider herself, Dr. Belser is the co-author of A Health Handbook for Women with Disabilities. She is also a board member of Nehirim, a national community of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Jews and allies. Watts Belser has a B.A. from Cornell University, M.Div. from the Graduate Theological Union, M.A. from the Academy for Jewish Religion California, and Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley and the Graduate Theological Union.

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The Daily Minyan

Alan Lefkowitz, who came to services every day to say kaddish after his father, Jerry, passed away, delivered these words at morning minyan:

As some of you know, I end the daily recitation of Kaddish tomorrow. And I wanted to take some time to thank this minyan for the community and comfort you have provided to me these past 11 months.

It has been quite a journey. My father’s passing was painful. While in so many ways, I had much to be thankful for — he lived a full and rich life of 86 years, and I lived to 47 before ever having to say Kaddish, it was very hard at the outset to appreciate these blessings. Rather, grief and at times overwhelming grief was all I felt, and my grief felt unique and particular to me — even appreciably different than from my siblings to say nothing of my mother.

And yet our tradition asks that we share our grief within a community — a minyan of at least 10 adults. So, after I returned from Shiva, I started coming to this community, with you. I can’t be entirely sure, but I think I remained lost for a few weeks. But still I came — both because it is our tradition to do so, but also because you gave me a space where my father was not all gone. Each day, I had reason to hold on to some or other aspect of my father. Some days that connection was solely related to the recitation of the prayers or the Kaddish. On others, it was more spiritual. Possibly most important in the healing process was the realization that was dawning on me that my grief and loss was far from singular. Rather, in the properly ordered life, it is the most common thing we all share. I was saying Kaddish every day with others — some were in their own mourning period that had started before mine and others suffered a loss shortly thereafter; other people regularly came and went for 1 day a year for the Yahrzeit of a loved one lost previously. And most everyone else who came to the Minyan had already experienced a loss, and those that did not, would someday walk in my shoes.

Not only did this community provide me comfort and provide me a forum where I could still commune with my father, but you also tied me so strongly to our shared Jewish tradition. Rabbi Alexander shared with us only recently that we are to treat the bones of a deceased relative with as much dignity as possible. And yet more than that, we must treat our Torah with greater dignity. As he rightly pointed out, the bones of a deceased relative only have us looking in the past, whereas with the Torah, we are at once in the past, present and future. And in some respect, I have been here for the past 11 months carrying the deceased bones of my father, and that is important, but as the Rabbi indicated, backward looking. I have also been spending the last 11 months integrally tied to our shared Jewish traditions — our long-standing tradition of how Jews mourn the passing of our loved ones. And like the Torah, it is this shared tradition that links us thru the generations and millennia in the past and will continue to link and knit future generations together. I know that my father would take great joy and comfort knowing that his passing has provided me this blessing and connection — as following in the Jewish faith and tradition was of paramount importance in his life.

And so, to all of you who make up this community — those who have been my fellow travelers in mourning, those who are occasional minyan-goers, and most especially the stalwarts who bring the minyan alive day after day, and in particular to Manny and to Ron, I cannot thank you enough. You have given me a space to grieve, a space to heal, and a space to be embraced by our traditions. Thank you.

A special welcome for those observing a Yarzheit on a weekday or Sunday:

The Daily Minyan invites you to join us for morning and evening services in the Biran Beit Midrash to recite the Mourner’s Kaddish. The congregation is blessed with a number of minyan regulars who would be happy to assist you if you are not familiar with the services or would like to learn or practice reciting the Kaddish. We also can arrange for someone to greet you at the front door of the Beit Midrash the first time you come to the Daily Minyan. If you have any questions or want to arrange for a Minyan regular to welcome you, please email Rhoda Ritzenberg at ritzenberg@yahoo.com or call (703) 538-4747.

The Daily Minyan @ Adas Israel

Please Join Us — Daily Minyan Schedule:

Morning: Monday-Friday: 7:30am / Sundays & Legal Holidays: 9:00am
Evening: Sunday-Thursday: 6:00 pm

What’s Happening This Winter at YP@AI!?

The Young Professionals Community at Adas Israel (YP@AI) introduces those between the ages of 21 and 35 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. After a busy fall, here’s what we have planned for the winter:

• Celebrate Shabbat together every first Friday at Shir Delight: January 4 and February 1.
• Help us serve meals to women at Patricia Handy Place as part of MLK Weekend on Sunday, January 20.
• Learn with Rabbi Alexander on Sunday, January 6, at 11 am.
• Sign up for a coffee date with one of our YP members and learn more about Adas and the YP Jewish community.
• Sweat for a Cause on Sunday, February 17, at 11:00 am. Come for a great workout; all proceeds go to N Street Village.
• Attend any event, service, or class that interests you, even if it’s not just for YPs!

Sweat for a Cause!

Earn a few extra steps over the long weekend with Adas! Join us on Sunday, February 17, at 11:00 am for a workout—a-thon! Come for a great workout; all proceeds go to N Street Village.

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

learn more online:

adasisrael.org/YP
ADAS ISRAEL LIBRARY

Books & More  The Adas Israel Library Corner

Hearing Echoes of the Past

BY ROBIN JACOBSON
LIBRARY & LITERARY PROGRAMS DIRECTOR

A perennial source of fascination to physicists, philosophers, and poets is the nature of time. Does time progress along a straight line? Perhaps it ripples outward, like the rings on a tree trunk? Or maybe time is tiered, like an archaeological dig? The Maze at Windermere (2018), by Gregory Blake Smith, takes the archaeological view. In this enchanting novel, the present is but a thin layer atop a rich past. Praised as “staggeringly brilliant” by the Washington Post’s Book World editor and selected for the Post’s ten “Best Books of 2018,” Windermere is set in Newport, RI. In this historic city, home to an early American Jewish community and the oldest synagogue in North America, Smith interweaves five stories that take place in 2011, 1896, 1863, 1778, and 1692.

LOVE AND DECEPTION

Windermere’s five stories cleverly echo each other; characters in different time periods seek love, self-fulfillment, or financial security while struggling against social mores. The novel begins in 2011 with a drunken wager that propels a handsome but directionless tennis pro, Sandy, into the orbit of Newport’s moneyed elite, including the fabulously wealthy Alice du Pont. Alice, a fiercely intelligent young woman who suffers from cerebral palsy, is the owner of Windermere, one of Newport’s palatial mansions. Entranced with Newport history, Alice roams the seaside city by night, visiting the Jewish cemetery, peering at the old Quaker houses, and imagining the lives of long-dead residents. One foggy night, she cajoles Sandy into joining her, telling him the “ghosts are walking.” Although Sandy falls easily and unthinkingly into love affairs, he hesitates before responding to Alice’s advances, initially repelled by her disability. Does Alice become more attractive to him as he comes to know her better, or is her fortune the main attraction?

If Sandy is a fortune hunter, he is at least less cynical than Franklin, the protagonist in the 1896 story. Franklin, a witty, charming man who has made a career of amusing Newport society doyennes, schemes to marry a wealthy young widow in order to gain both financial security and a cover for his secret gay life. In the 1863 story, Henry James (an actual historical character!) turns a marriage proposal, realizing that what he wants most is to observe life and capture it in his novels. The most appealing character is Prudence Selwyn, an earnest teenage Quaker girl who narrates the 1692 story. When she is suddenly orphaned, Prudy, at first hesitatingly and then with increasing confidence, begins to forge a life for herself and her young sister and their African slave. Her growing unease with the contradiction between Quaker beliefs in equality and the institution of slavery foreshadows the Quakers’ later repudiation of slavery.

JEWISH NEWPORT

Although characters in multiple Windermere stories find themselves drawn to Jewish landmarks (the Jewish cemetery, the synagogue), only one story has Jewish characters. In the 1778 story, Major Ballard, a British officer stationed in Newport during the Revolutionary War, plots to seduce the daughter of a wealthy Jewish merchant. Isaac Da Silva. Da Silva is a Portuguese Jew whose family lived for centuries as conversos, outwardly Christian but secretly practicing Judaism. When Ballard tries to convince Da Silva that his designs on Da Silva’s daughter are honorable and suggests that the aristocratic Ballard family would begrudgingly accept Ballard’s marriage to a Jew if she converted, Da Silva is outraged. He declares that the Da Silva family did not withstand centuries of persecution only to have its descendants relinquish Judaism. Rather, “he was a Jew and those who were his were Jews. And any who did not like it could be damned!”

UPCOMING ADAS BOOK CHATS IN THE LIBRARY

MUNICH
BY ROBERT HARRIS
Sunday, January 13, 10:00-11:00 am
This historical thriller is based on actual events surrounding the infamous Munich Agreement of 1938. European leaders vainly attempted to appease Hitler by allowing him to annex part of Czechoslovakia.

CONAN DOYLE FOR THE DEFENSE
BY MARGALIT FOX
Sunday, March 24, at 10:00-11:00 am
This is a non-fiction account of Arthur Conan Doyle, author of the Sherlock Holmes stories, who vigorously and effectively championed a Jewish immigrant wrongly accused of murder. Who knew that Arthur Conan Doyle not only invented mysteries, but actually solved real ones, using the techniques of Sherlock Holmes, his fictional detective?

All welcome! Questions? Contact Robin Jacobson (librarian@adasisrael.org).
SNOW CLOSURES

The synagogue office follows the federal government's inclement weather policies. When the federal government closes, the synagogue office closes. When the federal government opens late, the synagogue office also opens late.

When in doubt, visit adasisrael.org or call the synagogue/school for a taped message. If the synagogue offices are closed due to the snow, all daytime and evening programs are canceled. If the schools are closed, but the building/offices are open, please call the synagogue office (202-362-4433) regarding evening programs and classes. The minyan typically meets twice daily, regardless of the weather, but again, please consult the website.

BIRTHS

Ezra Rubin Gerber, son of Rachel Rubin & Michael Gerber, was born October 29.
Logan Maxwell Greenberg, son of Allison Rachel Greenberg, was born November 3.
Penelope Wein, daughter of Matthew & Lisa Wein, was born November 14.
Charlotte Tova Kramer, daughter of Eva Davis & Justin Kramer, was born November 20.

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

B’NAI MITZVAH

Clea Horowitz, January 26
Clea is a seventh grader at the Maret School in Washington. She had her baby naming at Adas Israel and later attended Gan Hellel and the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School. Clea plays on two ice hockey teams in the Montgomery Youth Hockey Association. She also loves to bake and was excited to participate in the Sunflower Bakery’s b’nai mitzvah program for her mitzvah project. Clea celebrates her simcha with her parents, Michael and Alexandra, her siblings Frederick and Phoebe, and her grandparents and extended family.

AUFRUF

Ethan Waxman, son of Debra Goldberg & Seth Waxman, will celebrate his aufruf with his fiancee, Nina Mullien, on January 19.

WEDDING

Alexander Prescott and Josie Villanueva, officiated by Rabbi Holtzblatt, on November 18.

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

MAZEL TOV

Andrew Kupfer, who was elected to this year’s Jewish Teen Funders Network (JTFN) Youth Ambassador Council, a selective group of teen philanthropists from across North America.

LIFE CYCLE

IN MEMORIAM

We mourn the loss of synagogue members:
Rebecca Goldberg
Cynthia Sutton

We note with sorrow and mourn the passing of:
Dr. Lawrence R. Shapiro, father of Andrew Shapiro
Ruth Rand, mother of Harry Rand

LIFE CYCLE INFORMATION

Bereavement Committee
The Bereavement Committee assists families with all of the arrangements surrounding the funeral and subsequent burial of loved ones. We welcome your interest and encourage your participation and assistance. We need you; please join us. If you have questions, or know of someone who you think might be interested in participating in this important work, please feel free to call Edie Hessel (202-244-7189) or contact Toni Bickart (202-421-5271) regarding the Tahara Committee.

When Death Occurs
When death occurs, please call the synagogue office, 202-362-4433, so that we may inform the clergy and be of assistance. During business hours, ask for Marcy Spiro. After business hours, a staff member on call may be reached by calling the synagogue office at the number above and pressing “2” to be connected automatically, or by calling the answering service, 301-421-5271, which will page the staff member on call. On Yom Tov and Shabbat, even though detailed funeral arrangements should not be made, a staff member on call can still be reached at 301-421-5271.

The Adas Israel Hesed Committee is committed to fostering a caring, compassionate, and giving community. If you are experiencing an illness, or have surgery or medical treatments planned, or if someone in your family has had a new baby, please let the Hesed Committee know. We want to reach out to you. Contact hesed@adasisrael.org.

When in doubt, visit adasisrael.org or call the synagogue/school for a taped message. If the synagogue offices are closed due to the snow, all daytime and evening programs are canceled. If the schools are closed, but the building/offices are open, please call the synagogue office (202-362-4433) regarding evening programs and classes. The minyan typically meets twice daily, regardless of the weather, but again, please consult the website.

The Adas Israel Community Mikvah is open late, the synagogue office also opens late. When Death Occurs
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The Adas Israel Community Mikvah is now re-opened after its renovation. Please contact Mikvah@adasisrael.org for help with scheduling an appointment.

Also, please save Wednesday, January 30, 7:00–9:00 pm, for Mayim B’Simchah: A Joyful Mikvah Rededication Ceremony. Join us for an evening of blessings, singing, storytelling, and honoring our Mikvah Guides. The newly renovated, fully accessible space will be open for all to see. Reception and hors d’oeuvres at 7:00 pm and ceremony/storytelling at 7:30 pm. Everyone is welcome.

Days For Girls Initiative, Jan. 13
In many developing countries around the world, young girls have limited or no access to feminine menstrual care products. We hope you will join us on January 13, 2019, 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, along with menstrual health education, to young girls in developing countries.

This program is organized by one of Adas Israel’s awesome teens, Shifra Waskow, and is being co-sponsored by the Adas Israel Community Mikvah and the Sisterhood Sewing Circle. The mikvah is co-sponsoring this event 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. This kite-making event will be Sunday, January 13, 2019, 1:00–4:00 pm. For this event, we need both material and talents! 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 or naomi.malkaj@adasisrael.org if you are interested in bringing or operating any of the materials listed above. If you are interested, please sign up at https://www.adasisrael.org/event/day-for-girls.html. We hope to see you there!

IN MEMORIAM

Reeva Goldberg
Dr. Lawrence R. Shapiro
Ruth Rand

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The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

Adas Community Security Fund
By: Ezequiel Steiner & Nenke Grossman.

Adas Fund
In Memory Of: Dr. Marilyn Berman Pollans by Brian Berman.

Anne Frank House Fund
In Memory Of: Rae Schwartz by Sheryl Fahey & Ken Coiling.

Bereavement Fund
With Thanks For: Bus to the cemetery during the High Holy Days by Doris Podich.

Cantor Bower Discretionary Fund
In Honor Of: Daniela Klein becoming a bat mitzvah by Catherine Bendor & Shelley Klein. In Gratitude For: All you do to enrich our experiences at Adas by Sonya Gitchner.

Congregational Kiddush Fund
In Memory Of: Phillip S. Lewis by Zev Lewis.

Daily Minyan Fund
In Honor Of: Daily minyan by Sheldon Kimmel.

Dass Kaufman Children’s Program Fund
In Honor Of: Dale Kaufman by Susan Ungelerste.

Daryl Reich Rubenstein Staff Development Fund
In Memory Of: Lewis Lutter by Tirza Rubenstein.

Etzel & Nat Popick Chronicle Fund
In Memory Of: Stuart Foreman & Meryl Goodman by Dorothy Block.

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

Havurah Kiddush Fund

Hassan Goldsmith Discretionary Fund
In Honor Of: Daniela Klein becoming a bat mitzvah by Catherine Bendor & Shelley Klein.

Hessel & Bilkur Cholin Fund
By: Nancy & Mark Silverman.
In Honor Of: Margie Siegel by Richard Solloway.

Hyman & Sadie Goldman Prayer Book Fund
In Memory Of: Albert Sydney Altman & Alexander Altman by Zalma Slavsky.

Jewish Mindfulness Center
In Memory Of: Sidney B. Ross by Judith Ross.

MakomDC
By: Jerry Schechtman.

Morris Hariton Senior Programming Fund
By: Phyllis Mindell.

Morton & Norma Lee Fungar Israel Program Fund
In Memory Of: Yetta Kursap Cohen by Norma Lee Fungar.

Offerings Fund

Rabbi Alexander Discretionary Fund
In Honor Of: Rabbi Alexander, the Adas leadership & staff by Kathy Krieger.
With Thanks To: Rabbi Alexander for helping Benny with his bar mitzvah by Kimby & John Hasenberg.

Rabbi Avi Miller Lifelong Learning Fund
In Memory Of: Jack Chernikoff by Larry Chernikoff.

Rabbi Holtzblatt Discretionary Fund

Rabbi Krisinsky Discretionary Fund
With Thanks To: Rabbis Sarah & Seymour Krisinsky by Aaron &
CELEBRATING OUR 148TH YEAR
The Chronicle Is Supported in Part by the Ethel and Nat Popick Endowment Fund

UPCOMING CHRONICLE DEADLINE—
March:
Thursday, January 31, at noon