Roshi Hashanah in the Spring?

by Rabbi Martin P. Beifield, Jr.

Roshi Hashanah in the spring. It sounds funny doesn’t it? And not very likely. To be more specific, Roshi Hashanah on Friday night, May 30th. Sounds even less likely. But it’s true. Well, sort of. Let me explain. But first an invitation. Please come to services on Friday night, May 30th, regular time, when we will preview a new service for Roshi Hashanah. For the real Roshi Hashanah. The one which starts on the evening of September 24th. We need you to come and give us your reaction to it. Your feedback is essential for determining whether or not we do the new service for the real Roshi Hashanah in the fall. So what is this all about?

The Central Conference of American Rabbis, the professional association for Reform Rabbis in North America, is preparing a new machzor, or prayer book for the High Holy Days. Planning for the new machzor has been underway for many years. The work became more intensive after 2007 when Mishkan T’filah, our Shabbat prayer book was published. The new machzor is called Mishkan HaNefesh. It is now in draft form and available to synagogues for use. We’ve arranged to get copies of the Roshi Hashanah evening service so we can try it out on May 30th.

Why a new prayer book? Many of us still recall with affection the “old Union Prayer Book.” There was a version for Shabbat and a version for the High Holy Days. The UPB, which was...

“Memories of the Last Calisch Confirmation”

The following is an excerpt from an article printed in the Generations, scholarly newsletter published by the Beth Ahabah Museum & Archives in May of 1989, by a member of the Confirmation Class of 1945.

Rabbi’s Note: Rabbi Calisch was Beth Ahabah’s Rabbi for 54 years, setting a record for longevity that still stands.

The earliest photograph of Dr. Calisch’s many confirmation classes dates from 1898. He is shown with seven confirmands, all female. Where were the young men of the religious school? Were males Bar Mitzvah only? There is less doubt about the participation of both sexes in subsequent Confirmations as later photographs show both males and females...

IN THIS ISSUE:
- Richmond Slave Trail p 2
- The 2014 Confirmands p 4
- Religious School p 5
- Confirmation Class Reunion p 6
- B’nei Mitzvah p 7
- Community p 8
- Donations p 9
- Community Calendar p 15

Roshi Hashanah in the Spring? Continues on Page 2.
originally published in the 1890s and updated several times during the first part of the twentieth century, was used in Reform synagogues all across the United States including Beth Ahabah. By the 1960s, many people felt that the language and theology of the UPB was starting to feel dated. The UPB was comfortable and familiar but it got harder to say the thees, thous, and thines and to pray for the coal miners working deep inside the earth.

A new prayer book was in order and in the mid-1970s, Reform synagogues all over the country put away their Union Prayer Books and started using a new siddur called Gates of Prayer. Bigger and heavier, the blue Gates of Prayer offered modern language and a greater variety of services, each with its own tone and theological nuance. A few years later the red Gates of Repentance, the High Holy Day companion to Gates of Prayer was published and adopted by most Reform synagogues. It is the prayer book we use at Beth Ahabah.

Times continued to change, though now even faster. Gates of Prayer began to feel dated and before the end of the century work began on a new prayer book. When it became available in draft form, Beth Ahabah experimented with the new prayer book. In general we liked what we saw, preferred it to Gates of Prayer, and with the generous support from Linda Held Wren and her family, adopted it when the final version became available.

Mishkan HaNefesh is a companion volume to Mishkan T'filah. It has the same look, feel, and tone. Of course, its content is High Holy Day-ish. We very much want your feedback about the service. We will provide an opportunity after services on May 30th for discussion and a way to give feedback electronically or in written form if you are not able to stay.

Rosh Hashanah in the spring? Maybe not what we expected but important nevertheless. I hope you can join us and tell us what you think.
A Message from the Executive Director...

Rusell M. Finer, FSA, Executive Director

FUNERAL PRE-PLANNING

I wanted to follow up on what I wrote about in the December/January issue of B’yachad, and remind you that the time of bereavement is not the time to make many of the decisions which survivors must face. The following is offered as a guide to a few key items which form a minimal source of information to help your survivors make the necessary arrangements. I encourage you all to complete the form and keep it in a well-identified location.

— Russell M. Finer, FSA

FULL NAME(S): English __________________________ Hebrew __________________________

FULL NAME(S): English __________________________ Hebrew __________________________

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER(S) _________________________________ _________________________________

LOCATION OF BIRTH CERTIFICATES ______________________________________________________________________________

LEGAL ADVISOR ______________________________________________________________________________

TELEPHONE _________________________ EMAIL _______________________________________________

LOCATION OF WILL _______________________________________________________________________

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY/AGENT ______________________________________________________________

TELEPHONE _________________________ EMAIL _______________________________________________

LOCATION OF POLICIES _______________________________________________________________________

HEALTH AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY/AGENT _____________________________________________

TELEPHONE _________________________ EMAIL _______________________________________________

LOCATION OF POLICIES _______________________________________________________________________

BANK ACCOUNT(S)

CHECKING # _________________________ Location ______________________________________________

SAVINGS # _________________________ Location ______________________________________________

INVESTMENT ACCOUNT(S) __________________________________________________________________________

SAFE DEPOSIT BOX: NUMBER ________ LOCATION OF KEY _____________________________________________

LOCATION OF BOX _________________________________________________________________________

REAL ESTATE _________________________________________________________________________________

MILITARY SERVICE: BRANCH _______________ DATES OF SERVICE _______________ VA CLAIM # ___

GOV’T INSURANCE # ____________________ LOCATION OF DISCHARGE PAPERS ___________________________

CEMETERY INFORMATION: NAME OF CEMETERY __________________________

DEED # ____________ # OF PLOTS ______ LOCATION OF PLOTS ___________________________

FUNERAL HOME OF CHOICE __________________________ LETTER ON FILE _______________________

RELATIVES AND CLOSE FRIENDS TO BE NOTIFIED

NAME(S) __________________________ EMAIL _______________________________________________

ADDRESS __________________________________________________________

ADDRESS __________________________________________________________
The Confirmands of 2014 request the honor of your presence at their Confirmation Service Friday, the sixteenth of May at 7:00 p.m.

Rachel Beal
Brielle Conley
Elinor Dinkin
Joshua Evans
Rachel Fidlow
Harrison Fratkin
Ethan Gale
Adam Jacobs
Zachary Jacobs
Evan Leibowitz
Madeline McElgunn
Claire Mendelson
Adam Rosenfeld
Monica Rosenthal
Carly Schwam
Emma Silverman

Passover at Home Continues on Page 13.
Hello Muddah, Hello Faddah,
It’s time for Camp Sababa!
by Ramona Brand

Looking for a fun way for your kids to explore their Jewish roots this summer? Come to Camp Sababa! For the last three years, kids from all over Richmond have enjoyed the fun way of getting better at Hebrew through singing, dancing, nature, crafts, drama, and special events like Israel Day, Mayim (water) Day, and Color Wars. Make sure your child is in on the action! Sababa is Hebrew slang for “cool,” and Camp Sababa is the coolest way for your children to make new friends over the summer while learning Hebrew!

This year’s theme “Jewish Time Travel”

For whom? For ALL rising Kindergarten – 6th grade Jewish students
Counselor in Training (CIT) Program for rising 7th & 8th grade Jewish students

When? Monday-Friday, August 18-22, 2014 from 9am-2pm

Where? 601 N. Parham Rd. (Beth-El Religious School)

Goals?
• TO HAVE FUN through outdoor activities, music, crafts, games, etc.
• To meet Jewish students from around Richmond
• To review & refresh Hebrew language skills

Staff? Education Directors and teachers from the participating schools and teen madrichim

Cost? $75 for all 5 days
Final Registration Deadline July 18, 2014

For more information or to obtain an application, contact Ramona at r.brand@bethahabah.org or Sara Rosenbaum at the Federation office at 545-8629 or srosenbaum@jewishrichmond.org.

Jewish camping builds a foundation for Jewish living. Children who participate in Jewish camps create a positive Jewish self-identity, feel more engaged in community and retain connection to the Jewish community into adulthood. There are many choices for Jewish camping from day camps to overnight camps geared toward a great variety of interests. Check out our camp board in the lobby of the Religious School to see where your children’s friends will be this summer!

Tot Shabbat in the Park:
Friday, April 4

Tot Shabbat in the Park! We will welcome Spring and Shabbat at Joseph Bryan Park at 4308 Hermitage Rd. We will enjoy dinner, singing, music and movement as we celebrate together. After a family friendly service and Oneg goodies, we’ll go to the playground.

Pack a picnic dinner!! Oneg goodies will be provided.
Schedule:
5:30pm - picnic dinner in the shelter
6:00pm - service, followed by Oneg
6:30pm - playground time!

Please contact the temple office at 358-6757 or e-mail Lori Lacy at l.lacy@bethahabah.org to reserve your spot.

Religious School Seder:
Sunday, April 6 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
If we only have 50 boxes of Matza.................Dayenu!
If we only have 25 jars of gefilte fish...............Dayenu!
If we only have 10 dozen hard boiled eggs........Dayenu!
If we only have 30 bowls of haroset...............Dayenu!
If we only have 25 filled seder plates ..............Dayenu!
For we are having a seder for 150!!...............Dayenu!

Please lend your hands and donate seder goods for our annual Religious School Seder! This meaningful and lively event provides a music filled seder for all of our Religious School Students.

Volunteers are needed to make this a successful morning. Please contact Ramona at r.brand@bethahabah.org to volunteer or donate goods. Set up begins at 8:30 a.m. in the Goldburg Auditorium.
Confirmation Class Reunion

Confirmation Class Reunion Planned for May 2

Were you confirmed at Beth Ahabah?

As part of the temple’s 225th anniversary celebration, Beth Ahabah is planning a Confirmation Class Reunion on May 2. All confirmands, from the most recent to those in their 90s, will be honored at a special service and oneg.

The congregation is working to identify and contact confirmands. If you are a confirmand or know of one, please contact Deborah Greenberg, deborahkate@verizon.net. Deborah is being assisted by Bill Thalhimer, wbt3rd@mac.com, with Katy Yoffy, kyoffy@gmail.com, ages 60 up; Jo Murphy, jojosmurph@comcast.net, 40s and 50s; and Erin Kasoff, emkasoff@gmail.com, 20s and 30s.

The Confirmation Class Reunion is one of a series of ongoing events in 2014 marking the founding of Beth Ahabah’s predecessor congregation, K.K. Beth Shalome, in 1789 as the sixth and westernmost Jewish congregation in the United States.

The Last Calisch Confirmation
Continued from Page 1.

My personal memory of Confirmation goes back to 1939 or 1940. Even though I was only ten or eleven years old, attendance at Confirmation was expected. I was not an exemplary religious school student, but I did enjoy attending services. However, not enjoying services did not exempt one from attending Confirmation. Everyone went. It was truly a congregation-wide event, second only to High Holy Days in popularity and attendance...

Our class in 1945 was a good cross-section of the Congregation: a few descendants of the early nineteenth century German immigrants from Hagenbach, a few from newer families, and a few from the very new families. Seven girls, seven boys. Six members of the class still live in Richmond today. Some of us have made quite a mark in our endeavors: Dr. Calisch instilled in us a sense of responsibility to improve our community.

Dr. Calisch. What a command he had of the King’s English! Even we children were awed by his brilliance, though we were not always respectful of it. And we did take advantage of his deafness and his advancing years. Still I do not remember him as infirm or unable to handle the class. He was pretty good... for his age. Our class was no different from those today, only the promise of presents and a party kept the class from becoming completely un-glued...

The class studied the usual subjects, mainly Bible, history, and Judaism. Even to this day, I can remember Dr. Calisch’s exegesis and explanation of the 23rd Psalm. He was a wonderful teacher, but there came that fateful day when he became the taskmaster. It was April. Dr. Calisch came to class and handed each of us a page or two of onion-skin, a copy of the part that we were to recite at Confirmation. It was given to us, we accepted it, and that was that. While some may have written their own parts at some time or another, no one in our class did. It was pure Calisch we were expected to deliver. Unchanged...

There was no class trip. The city was smaller and most of us attended the same school, so we were closer knit and saw each other more frequently.

The afternoon of Confirmation arrived. It was like doomsday, I was so frightened. I knew I was going to embarrass my family. And while I really didn’t understand it, I wondered what it meant to be Confirmed.

The Last Calisch Confirmation Continues on Page 14.
**B’nei Mitzvah**

**LIAM JACOB STRUMINGER**  
April 5, 2014

Liam Jacob Struminger will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, April 5th. He is the son of Stacy and David Struminger; and the grandson of Judi and Donald Struminger and Mickie and Burton Cohen.

Liam is a 7th grader at The Steward School where he runs cross country and plays basketball. Liam’s Mitzvah Project is helping One Hundred Pounds of Hope, our friend’s nonprofit organization that seeks to provide the village of Battamburg, Cambodia with educational resources. They are currently building a school and Liam’s goal is to provide the children who currently attend in bare feet with flip flops.

His family is so proud of his hard work and dedication in preparing for this special day.

**KNAIDE GREEN**  
April 26, 2014

Knaide Green will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on April 26th. Knaide is the daughter of Carolyn Dean and Lonny Green, and sister to Galen, Stenzler, Thomas, Quinn and Mannix. She is the granddaughter of Janet O’Connor and the late Dr. Philip Dean, and the late Shirley Green and the late David Green.

Knaide is a 7th grade student in the International Baccalaureate program at Moody Middle School where she serves as SCA Secretary. She swims for the YMCA and plays in a volleyball league at Richmond Volleyball Club. Knaide loves music and has been playing piano for 7 years. She also plays the stand up bass in the school orchestra. She enjoys school, sports, family time and playing with her dogs Oscar, Max and Milo.

For her Mitzvah Project, she has implemented a program in her school collecting gently used jeans to donate to homeless shelters.

Knaide’s family is very proud of her, and looks forward to celebrating this simcha with her family, friends and the congregation.

**SHANE BISHOP**  
May 3, 2014

Shane Bishop will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, May 3rd. Shane is the son of Jodi and Greg Bishop and the older brother of Brett and Blair. He is the grandson of Phyllis and Robert Berman of McLean, and Hattie and Roger Bishop of Roanoke.

Shane is a 7th grade IB student at Tuckahoe Middle School. he enjoys soccer, skiing, tennis, reading, computer technology and hanging out with friends.

Shane is looking forward to sharing this special day with his family and friends.

---

**Please Join Us for**  
**The 8th Annual Lewis I. Held Award Presentation**  
**Friday Evening, May 9, 2014**

The Lewis I. Held Award recognizes an outstanding High School Student. The award will be presented at services during Installation Shabbat.
CONGREGATION BETH AHAHAB &
ST. JAMES’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
INTERFAITH DIALOGUE

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER WE DIE:
JEWISH AND CHRISTIAN VIEWS ABOUT THE AFTERLIFE

SESSION 1:
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23RD AT 7 PM
THE MICHAUX HOUSE (ST. JAMES’S)
PRESENTATION BY RABBI BEIFIELD

SESSION 2:
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30TH AT 7 PM
THE JOEL HOUSE (BETH AHAHAB)
PRESENTATION BY RANDY HOLLERITH AND ANN DIETERLE

Dinner: Members of Beth Ahabah are invited to join the members of St. James’s at St. James’s regular Wednesday night dinner at 6 pm; $5 per person

COMMUNITY

IN SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILIES OF:
Christopher Glen Wren
  brother of Matt (Linda Held) Wren
Richard Skolnick
  father of Curtis (Marie) Skolnick
Zelda Boley
Ruby Levey
  wife of Bernard Levey
Shirley Epstein
  mother of David (Carolyn) Epstein
Carol Davidson
  mother of Rob (Laura) Davidson
Eleanor Aarts
  mother of Linda (Jeffrey) Pinsky
Frances Rothenberg

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Dory & Tim Doyle on the birth of their twins, David Alan Doyle & Audrey Olivia Doyle, born November 29, 2013.

Gifts That Make A Difference...Simchah or Remembrance

Charitable Giving in honor of or in memory of a loved one is an important tradition for the Beth Ahabah congregation. Making a gift to the temple offers a positive way to affirm your values and priorities and protect our future Jewish way of life. Honoring a friend or loved one through charitable gifts is often an especially meaningful act of paying tribute to someone special, while assuring that worthwhile giving continues to influence our children, grandchildren and the world around us.

Beth Ahabah has a wide range of donation opportunities available, the list can be viewed on the temple website or you can call the temple office at 804.358.6757.

Thank you for your consideration.
DONATIONS

TEMPLE FUND
Ruth Z. Perel
IN HONOR OF:
David Greenberg’s special birthday
Katy & Jimmy Yoffy
Rabbi Beifield’s special birthday
Katy & Jimmy Yoffy
Sallie & Billy Thalhimer’s new granddaughter, Bailey Grace Silverstein
Katie & Ken Roeper
Jesse Ferguson being cancer free
Katie & Ken Roeper
Shelly Lubman’s speedy recovery
Katie & Ken Roeper
Terry Schultz’s daughter, Hilary Schultz receiving the U.S. Army Intelligence & Security Command’s 2013 Soldier of the Year Award
Katie & Ken Roeper
IN APPRECIATION OF:
Dana Isaacoff for chairing the fantastic BAR & exciting 225th celebration
Katie & Ken Roeper
IN MEMORY OF:
Abe Linder
Janice & Robert Freed
Robert & Gloria Scheinkman & Family
Denise & Jeff Keil
Samuel Goldstein
Ira & Maureen Goldstein
Fannie Rosenthal
Lynn & Jay Schwartz
Heidi Levinson
Amy & Lucien Roberts
Lewis & Nancy Booker
Marshall Butler
Elise & Irving Scherr
Helen & James Ryan
Betty & Leo Dunn
Jim & Mary Lou Doherty
Amy & Richard Thalhimer

Robert L. Burrus, Jr.
Marc Villamiel & Alan Rudnick
Jeffrey Berenson
David Rosenberg
Amy & Lucien Roberts
Harry Stillerman
Fern Cohen
Alice Riegel & Frances Burlock
Anne Lawver
Leon Rudnick
Alan Rudnick
Milton Meyer, Jr., Mildred Meyer, Milton Meyer, Sr., Lucille Meyer & Rose Binder
Milton M. Meyer, Jr. & Mildred B. Meyer Foundation
Selma Dascher, my mother
Ellen & Bob Lyons
Samuel J. Michael, my father
Sherlee Michael-Ginsberg
Jerome Berenson
Carolyn Berenson
Rhoda Ebert
Barbara Ebert
Christopher Wren
Katie & Ken Roeper
Lillian Straus
Judy Markowitz
Carol Davidson
Jon & Lori Bekenstein
Katie & Ken Roeper
Janice & Robert Freed
Barry Zeichner, our brother
Dr. Jerry & Terry Hirsch
Charles Stephen Kamsky, our brother
Linda & Irvin Seeman
Algese Tarasi
Katie & Ken Roeper
Mendel Schreiber
David Schreiber

THE RABBI’S PHILANTHROPIC FUND
These contributions were received in response to the Annual Appeal:
Elise & Irving Scherr
Janice & Robert Freed
IN APPRECIATION:
Cullen & Rosemary Seltzer

IN HONOR OF:
Nancy Meyer
Milton M. Meyer, Jr. & Mildred B. Meyer Foundation
IN MEMORY OF:
Lena Gordon Goldman
Elizabeth G. Solomon
Abraham Linder, my father
Bobbette Newsome
Murray Janus
Beth & Laurie Janus & Family
Ruth B. Lee & Dr. Michael E. Boustany
Richard Lee
Rae Krupnik
Ellen & Enrique Gersten
Carol Davidson
Laurie, Adam, Melissa & Lyndsay Nelson

CANTOR GOLDMAN MUSIC FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Fannie Rosenthal
Myrna & Morton Norman
Harold Abrams, my father
Anne Schwartz

HEBREW CEMETERY FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Mary LePage
Betty Sue LePage
Allan Creeger
Betty Sue & Todd LePage

BIMAH FLOWER FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Sadie M. Levinson, Frank F. Levinson, Jean P. Sugerman & Joseph R. Sugerman
Heidi Levinson
Harold Levinson
Heidi Levinson

RESTORATION FUND
IN MEMORY OF:
Simon Komins
Allen Finer

An armed security guard is on duty at Hebrew Cemetery on the first and third Sundays of the month from Noon to 3:00 p.m.

Donations Continue on Page 10.
Donations Continue from Page 9.

**PRAYER BOOK FUND**
**IN MEMORY OF:**
Alfred & Nellie Wolff
Carmen & George Wolff

**MUSEUM & ARCHIVES**
**IN HONOR OF:**
The Recovery of Mary Ellen Jackoway
Bonnie & Mike Eisenman

**IN MEMORY OF:**
Hilda Wallerstein Fleisher
Stanley & Helen Miller
Fannie Straus Rosenthal
Sara Belle & Neil November
Harriette & Erwin Will
Ralph A. May
Zippi C. Goldstein
Allan David Creeger
Sara Belle & Neil November
Dr. Abe Linder
Audrey Holtzman
Philip Holtzman
Beth & Steve Cohen & Family
Zelda Boley
Jean Goldman

**THE HERBERT HELTZER FUND:**
In Honor of the Recovery of Mary Ellen Jackoway
Millie & Herb Heltzer

Members of JeRafy enjoyed an afternoon of fun at Laser Quest.

---

**Thinking of Buying or Selling?**
**Call me 1st!**

**STEVIE WATSON**

*Ranked Top 1%*
*In the USA!*

754-4551

Insist on Stevie!

---

**UPCOMING DEADLINES**

**Editorial submissions & advertising in B’Yachad**

May/June issue due
Friday, March 28

July/August Issue due
Friday, May 23

September Issue due
Friday, July 25

For more information about advertising in the bulletin, contact Russ Finer in the Temple office, 804.358.6757
Please submit editorial and camera ready ads to Susan Morgan at smorganpr@comcast.net
Sisterhood is busy preparing for several events and meetings.

Last Friday evening was Sisterhood Shabbat. We had a wonderful dinner prepared in our honor by the Brotherhood. Men do make good cooks!! The service was meaningful and we have heard lots of encouraging remarks about the four Jewish women who spoke about their own experiences. A big thanks to them and the Rabbis and Sarah Beck-Berman for helping with the service. The women’s choir sang beautifully and Natan wrote an anthem just for us. I am sure we will hear it again. We had many women who lead part of the service and they did a wonderful job. A big thanks to the participants, congregation and clergy for a great Sisterhood Shabbat.

April 25th to 27, our Sisterhood will host the Women of Reform Judaism Mid-Atlantic District’s Interim meeting. All of the activities are being held off the Temple site but we may have some new faces at services on Friday night. If anyone can help with some of the final preparations, just let me know. We will need some nice goodies baked for Friday night Oneg and Saturday we will need someone to help get the lunch ready. Let me know if you can help us with these needs. The meetings will be held on the West End, at the Markel Center.

Sisterhood elections will be coming up soon. They will be held in April. If you are interested in lending a hand in the works of Sisterhood, please let me know what committee and/or office you might like to hold. The nominating Committee will be doing their work soon. Elections will be held in May. If you have ideas for programming that you think would interest other women please let Beryl Holzbach know of your ideas.

The Picnic for the 225th Celebration is in its final planning stages. We have booked an area of Maymont Park for the first Sunday of Religious School. This picnic is being co-sponsored by Sisterhood, Brotherhood and Temple. It will feature 225 years of history and old fashion fun. Watch for more information in the new over the summer. We may be asking for help with some of the games and activities. It will be important that you RSVP, so that we have enough food and materials for activities during the picnic hours.

---

A Message from the Religious Practices Committee

by Rachel Schmidt

For the past 3 years, I have served as a member of the Religious Practices committee. The committee consists of the Rabbis and an assortment of interested congregants. It includes choir members and regular or semi-regular service attendees.

Our mission is to facilitate spiritual experiences for the congregation primarily through worship. In addition, we serve to provide feedback to the Board of Managers and the rabbis to explore issues surrounding the spiritual life of our congregation. We make suggestions for change or no change in conjunction with the rabbis. When appropriate, we present such recommendations to the board for approval.

The issue that gets the most attention however is the music. Comments such as the following: “Why don’t we use the organ?” “Why do the melodies keep changing?” “Why don’t the melodies change?” “Why not include a guitar or other instruments?” “Why doesn’t the choir sing more often?” “Have more music during worship.” The numbers of reasons are as varied as to why people come to worship. What speaks to a Baby Boomer will not speak to a younger member. Generational differences often come into play. The goal is for congregants to find meaning in services either through the message in the sermon, the liturgy in the prayer book or through the varied melodies in our music.

As congregants attend more services, the “new melodies” will become familiar and lend meaning to worship. The Religious Practices committee continues to explore ways to make our worship more meaningful...the music is at the top of our list. Let us know your ideas.
It has been a quiet month or so with but three activities for Brotherhood. The first was the Sisterhood Shabbat dinner. As has become the tradition, Brotherhood pays for, prepares and serves the meal for the congregation before the Sisterhood planned service. This allows them to concentrate on creating the service. Similarly, the Sisterhood takes care of a meal for the congregation before the Brotherhood planned service. This activity was under the leadership of Nello Williams. The Thursday night before, four Brotherhood members assisted him in the preparation for the meal to feed seventy-five. Hours before the 6:00 p.m. start time, they gathered, again, to do the actual cooking. It was an excellent meal and no one could say they left feeling hungry!

The next activity was Beth Ahabah Game Night. Under the direction of Alan Corbett, twenty congregants gathered to enjoy an evening of board-type games and comraderie, not to mention the snacks and beverages. Most participated in two different games. Voices were heard all evening long debating answers to questions or weighing options. It was a fun filled night for all. As you read this, it is hoped you will consider joining us when we offer this activity next year. The more, the merrier.

Lastly, we put on the Purim Carnival at the JCC. It seems like hundreds of kids come down to the gym in costume to play any of the fifteen or so games to earn tickets which are in turn for prizes.

Now for upcoming events. On April 13th, we will be holding a Men’s Seder in the Joel house. This is not to replace the traditional Seder held in many homes. The meal will be participant-provided with traditional dishes assigned. The service will be abbreviated in order to permit open ended discussions including life experiences participants wish to share.

On April 27th, Beth Ahabah will be holding its annual Mitzvah Day. Among its various function, CARITAS provides furnishings for those that leave the shelter and move into their first apartment. Brotherhood will be sponsoring and participating in a furniture assembling project for them. It will be held in the Goldburg Auditorium. Any adult or child (with adult permission/supervision) is welcome to participate. Last year, the kids, particularly, found great pleasure in using the tools in the assembly process.

---

**BETH AHAVAH CARES**

Can Use Your Wonderful Assistance

Beth Ahabah Cares is looking for volunteers to make bereavement telephone calls to members who have recently had the loss of a loved one. Training will be provided and your personal satisfaction will warm you time and time again. To volunteer or get more information, contact Lori Skiles at 804.346.2684 or llskiles@verizon.net

---

David S. Feibish, GRI
Real Estate Broker

Uniquely Qualified to Represent Residential, Investment, Light Commercial Clients & Properties

Direct: 804-967-2735
e-mail: David.Feibish@joynerfineproperties.com
www.davidsellingrichmondsince1976.com
the middle Matza and hide one half as the afikomen, it is referring to the Matzah on this plate. In addition, each participant will need four bite-sized pieces during the seder.

Parsley
Everybody needs one sprig which is dipped into salt water. Some people have bowls of salt water on the table, others “pre-dip” the parsley. In addition, a sprig of parsley goes on the seder plate.

Bitter Herbs
This is horseradish. Each person needs two small pieces. In addition, a large slice of the root goes on the seder plate.

Charoset
This is more commonly pronounced with the old fashioned spelling: charoses. The accent for both is on the middle syllable. Charoset is a mixture of chopped apples, raisins, nuts, cinnamon, and wine. Some people make it as a paste but most just chop the apples into small pieces. Each person only needs a spoonful but many families place bowls on the table for later. In addition, Charoset goes on the seder plate.

Wine
Traditionally, people drink four cups of wine during the seder. These days one sets a better example for children by sipping four times. The Haggadah tells you when to do this and when only to raise the cup and replace it untasted. One also places a ceremonial cup on the table for the prophet Elijah. After dinner, the seder explains the meaning.

The large seder plate also contains two other ceremonial items. One is a roasted egg, which just sits on the plate and is not explained. Some families give each participant a hard boiled egg but don’t look too hard for directions about eating it. The Haggadah won’t tell you. The other is a roasted lamb shank the meaning of which is contained in the seder.

The parsley is dipped and eaten early in the seder. Later people eat a piece of Matza alone, then a piece of horseradish with Matza, then a Matza sandwich of horseradish and Charoset. Except for the sandwich, there is a prayer for each. The Haggadah will guide you through all along the way.

Haggadah
Everybody attending the seder needs a Haggadah so they can follow along and actively participate. One person serves as leader and should plan out the service in advance. The Haggadah is a mini-library; the leader should pick and choose keeping in mind the length of the seder and who is at the table. There are lots of different Haggadahs and it can be a challenge to find one which is appropriate for your group. The Internet is the place to go.

Now, the foods we eat and don’t eat all week. The rules are fairly simple and straightforward but when it comes to eating, each family “dots its own i’s and crosses its own t’s.” During Passover we do eat Matza. We don’t eat chametz - bread, cake, pasta, and cereals. More precisely, we do not eat foods which are leavened or made from five leavened grains: wheat, corn, oats, rye, and spelts (don’t ask!). Some people don’t eat legumes because they swell up when cooked, i.e. they act like a leavened product. Most people, including Israelis, eat legumes.

There are lots of variations and extensions of these rules and anyone who wants to know more should call the Temple office which will put you in touch with one of our designated Passover mavens.

Wishing you, your family and friends a joyous and beautiful Passover
The officers, board of trustees, clergy and staff of Congregation Beth Ahabah
Would I be changed? I dressed, taking special pride in wearing a great blue paisley tie given to me by Pearl and Sam Stern. We drove to the Temple.

Almost before I knew it, it was my time. Dr. Calisch had told us time and time again: “Hold your head up, speak slowly, speak slowly.” My head was up, I was trying to speak slowly, and ... I missed a couple of words. I finished well, but I do not remember how, after that stumble.

We finished our parts. Each Confirmand went to Dr. Calisch. We had joked beforehand that he would plead with us to make a good pledge to the Temple when college was over. He spoke with that great voice of his, and asked me to continue with my studies, to do well, and to be proud of my Judaism. It seemed sad as I knew I was almost the last student he would talk to at Confirmation.

Afterwards, I went down the steps and joined my family. The recessional was next, and then down to the social hall for the punch, cookies, handshakes, smiles, kisses, and the utter relief that it was over. Another Confirmation done. Fourteen new members of the covenant, all ushered to that point by a wonderful teacher, a powerful role model, leader and influence on the Confirmands and on the families of Beth Ahabah.

Visit the Museum & Archives to read the article, “Memories of the Last Calisch Confirmation,” in its entirety.

Franzblau Matzah Cover

This is a hand embroidered cotton matzah cover from the home of Mrs. Reba Cohn Franzblau. It shows the symbols of Passover and would have been used on the Seder table. The inscriptions relating to each symbol are in both Hebrew and English.

Reba Cohn Franzblau was the daughter of Joseph Cohn, who had the distinction of being the last reader at K.K. Beth Sholome before it closed its doors in 1898. Her husband was Rabbi Isadore Franzblau, who served as the assistant rabbi at Congregation Beth Ahabah from 1927 to 1929.

Trivia

Gustavus Myers, a prominent Jewish attorney during the Civil War and grandson of silversmith Myer Myers, met with President Abraham Lincoln when he visited Richmond on April 5, 1865. Lincoln was assassinated nine days later.

Volunteer at BAM&A

BAM&A depends on volunteers like you who love history and are interested in learning more about the history of the Richmond Jewish community. Help catalog and file new acquisitions, assist with gallery tours.

For more information about the volunteer opportunities at BAM&A, call David Farris at 804.353.2668.
COMMUNITY CALENDAR

APRIL:

WED 02 Midweek Hebrew  5:30 p.m.

FRI 04 Tot Shabbat at Bryan Park  5:30 p.m.
  Family Shabbat Service with Etz Chayim Choir  7:30 p.m.

SAT 05 Bar Mitzvah of LIAM STRUMINGER  10:30 a.m.

SUN 06 Religious School  9:15 a.m.

MON 07 Midrasha  6:30 p.m.

WED 09 Midweek Hebrew  5:30 p.m.

FRI 11 Shabbat Service  7:30 p.m.

MON 14 JTown Seder  6:00 p.m.

FRI 18 Shabbat Service in Gumenick Chapel  7:30 p.m.

MON 21 Midrasha (Confirmation Class Only)  6:30 p.m.

WED 23 Midweek Hebrew  5:30 p.m.
  Interfaith Dialogue with St. James’s  7:00 p.m.

FRI 25 Shabbat Service Commemorating Yom HaShoah  7:30 p.m.

SAT 26 Bat Mitzvah of KNAIDE GREEN  10:30 a.m.

SUN 27 Religious School  9:15 a.m.
  Mitzvah Day  11:00 a.m.

MON 28 Midrasha (Confirmation Class Only)  6:30 p.m.

WED 30 Midweek Hebrew  5:30 p.m.
  Interfaith Dialogue with St. James’s  7:00 p.m.

Who’s Who: Corporal Hilary Schultz

U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command’s 2013 Soldier of the Year

Excerpts from an article by Gregory Rips, www.army.mil

Working hard, never settling and always reaching for a higher level are recurring themes for Cpl. Hilary Schultz, the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command’s Soldier of the Year...

Her quiet, unassuming manner belies the burning drive within this young Soldier, which helps to explain how Schultz has accomplished so much in just three years of service.

Schultz, a voice language analyst with the 717th Military Intelligence Battalion, 470th MI Brigade, joined the Army after graduating with honors from the University of Maryland at College Park in 2008...

“She is aggressive, motivated and standards based,” said 1st Sgt. Aaron Parker, “She demands excellence from herself...She is the future of Army leadership.’

Hilary is the daughter of Congregation Beth Ahabah member, Terry Schultz and sister of Elizabeth and Jennifer.

PASSOVER POSSIBILITIES BROUGHT TO YOU BY

PICK-UPS PLUS CATERING

Kosher Style, Traditional Favorites, ala Cart or a Seder Dinner Special

SEDER DINNER SPECIAL FOR 4, $119
Baked Salmon Gefilte Fish, Chicken Soup with Matza Balls, Orange Chicken or Savory Brisket, Tzimmes or Roasted Potatoes, Seder Plates, Brownies and Butter Scotch Crunch

Orders must be placed by April 7th for pick up on April 12, 13 or 14th
Call 804-740-5200 or email pickupspluscatering@gmail.com for details

CALENDAR INFORMATION IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE, please check the calendar online at bethahabah.org
Yom HaShoah

Yom HaShoah is the day when we remember the victims of the Holocaust. It is the day of remembrance and is observed on the 27th day of the Hebrew month of Nisan, a week after the seventh day of Passover and a week before Yom HaZikaron (Memorial Day for Israel’s fallen soldiers). The commemoration was selected by the Israeli Parliament (the Knesset) on April 12, 1951.

American Jews observe Yom HaShoah in various ways including synagogue services. We generally recite the Kaddish (prayer for the dead) and often survivors themselves speak to us of their experiences. The overwhelming theme is remembering...recalling the victims and remembering so that this tragic atrocity can never happen again.

This year we will commemorate Yom HaShoah with music presented by Jocelyn Adelman and the Beth Ahabah Adult Choir.

Please Join Us for Shabbat Services on Friday, April 25, 2014