

Congregation B'nai Jacob

April
2012



Nisan/Iyar
5772

Mitchell Kornspan, Rabbi	Services	Ron Friedman, President
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Holiday Reading: Shmot 12:21-51 Early CL 6:51pm CL 7:52pm Havdalah: 8:55pm	Friday, April 6th Saturday, April 7th Sunday, April 8th	Siyum for the Firstborn 7:00am Passover Services 10:00am Passover Services 10:00am
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Holiday Reading: D'varim 14:22-16:17 Early CL 6:56pm CL 7:59pm Havdalah: 9:02pm	Friday, April 13th Saturday, April 14th Shabbat School	Passover Services 10:00am Services 7:00pm Passover Services 9:15am Yizkor 10:30am 9:30am
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Weekly Portion: Shemini Early CL 7:02pm CL 8:07pm Havdalah: 9:10pm	Friday, April 20th Saturday, April 21st Shabbat School Torah Class	Services 7:30pm Services 9:15am 9:30am 1:00pm
Bar and Bat Mitzvah Anniversaries: Brian Leib, Sharone Swedarsky		

Weekly Portion: Tazria-Metzora Early CL 7:08pm CL: 8:14pm Havdalah: 9:17pm	Friday, April 27th Saturday, April 28th Torah Class Sunday, April 29th	K.I.S.S. 7:00pm Services 9:15am 1:00pm Religious School Special Program 10:00am
Bat Mitzvah Anniversary: Rossya Klebanow		



Dear B'nai Jacob Family,

Isn't this a nice picture? Do you recognize who is in it? In case you don't know who the individuals are, let me introduce them to you. On the left is Rabbi Seymour Weller, and next to him is Maurice (Mooch) Lewis studying for his Bar Mitzvah. The year was 1973.

I took this picture of a photo while visiting with Jeanette Lewis. I had not seen many photos of B'nai Jacob's past years, and I think you would join me in being very interested in viewing them and learning more of our history. Thank you, Jeanette, for allowing me to publish this picture.

Rabbi Abraham Geiger was a rabbi and scholar who was a leader in founding Reform Judaism. A concept he taught is so apropos: "Draw from the past, live in the present, work for the future!"

We are entering into our centennial year, which we will be celebrating this fall and throughout the coming year. I know that the Centennial Committee is developing and working on the plans for a very nice celebration, and I thank Mike Adams and his committee for their work. Additionally, there are plans for a year of celebration with activities you will enjoy!

I have always loved to learn the history of our people. In the same way, I hope you will join me in learning the history of our congregation. We are looking forward to the work Leah Tourkow (our historian) is doing in compiling and writing this.

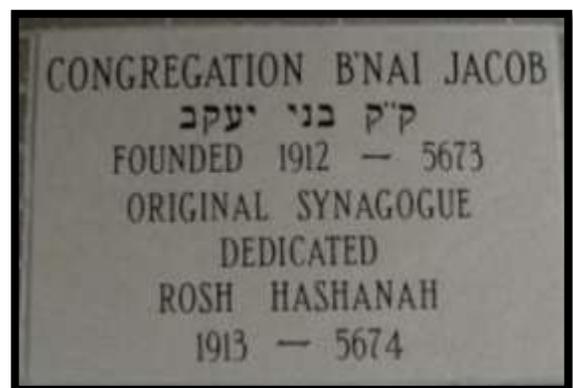
Perhaps you can help us. If you have pictures that we can reproduce, or other documents, such as the booklets that were done in previous years for momentous occasions in our synagogue, please let us know.

It believe it would be wonderful to share some of these pictures in our bulletin in the months ahead. I am certain that our newer families will want to hear of our past, even as we plan for the future. Perhaps you know the names and addresses of some of our alumni who have moved from this area. If you let us know their names and addresses, we would love to contact them about our upcoming celebration.

Penny and I wish you a Chag Kasher V'sameach, a very joyous Passover. As we think of our history, let us re-experience with our family and friends the wonderful lessons of Pesach. Let us retell the miracle that G-d redeemed us from Egyptian bondage and chose us as an Am Segula, a treasured, special people. Let us rejoice on this festival with our families and friends, even as we await the time of the Passover to come, when all will be free and peace will finally come to all.

B'shalom,

Rabbi Mitchell Kornspan



Preparing for Passover

Bedikat Chametz

Thursday evening, April 5th

After the house has been thoroughly cleaned, a ceremonial search is performed for whatever "chametz" may remain. All chametz should have already been put away in cabinets, the garage or in some place where it can be marked and not be used, even by accident. The "chametz" found in the ceremony is burned on the following morning. This is called Biur Chametz.

Biur Chametz completes the removal of all leavened products from our possession. One may eat a chametz meal until 11:30am on the eve of Pesach, Friday, April 6th. No matzah is to be eaten until the Seder that night.

Siyum for the Firstborn Friday April 6th, 7:00am

The "Siyum" Service for the firstborn is held in gratitude to G-d for sparing the firstborn sons among the children of Israel when the last plague was brought against the Egyptians. A siyum is a public completion of the study of a tractate of the Talmud. Afterwards, we will share breakfast.



Rabbi Kornspan has been working with Kroger on U.S. Highway 24 to bring in kosher meat. At this location, Kroger will not only have kosher for Passover products, but kosher for Passover meat. Arrangements are being made to bring in kosher meat during the rest of the year as well. With community support, we will have an ongoing local source for kosher meats and poultry.

Maot Hittim, Money for Wheat

Many thanks to those who made contributions to aid the needy at Passover: Dan and Annie Appel; Ryan Baldwin; Janet Finkel; Ron and Pam Friedman; Rabbi and Rebbetzin Kornspan; Ron and Susie Miller; Virgil and Nina Mocle; Mort Schaffer and Ruth Minkoff; Bee Siegel; and Leah Tourkow.

Religious School

Todah Rabbah to Pam Friedman who planned the successful Shabbat in Shul we had this year. Helping her were Debby Roberts, Missy Schneider, Rafi Friedman, Elie Friedman, Rabbi Kornspan, and Ron Friedman, with assistance from parents Iris Fuchs, Mark Schneider, and Marc Spanjer.

Family Education Special Program Sunday, April 29th, 10:00am

More details to be announced.

K.I.S.S.

K.I.S.S. (Kids in Shabbat Services) involves our religious school students in helping lead Shabbat Friday Evening Services. This month the entire religious school will lead services on April 27th at 7:00pm. Sarah Shaw is the Tefillah leader and coordinator for our K.I.S.S.



We express our thanks to...

Franck Hagendorf for sponsoring the Kiddush and Tu B'Shevat Seder on February 4th. **Jan Chambers** for sponsoring the Kiddush on February 11th and to **Rebbetzin Kornspan** for preparing the Kiddush. **The Schneider Family** for sponsoring the Kiddush on February 18th. **The Zemmol Family** for sponsoring the Kiddush on February 25th. **The Schneider Family** for sponsoring the Kiddush on March 3rd. **Rabbi and Rebbetzin Kornspan** for sponsoring the Kiddush on March 10th. **Nina and Virgil Mocle** for sponsoring the Kiddush on Saturday, March 17th. **The Spanjer Family** for sponsoring the Kiddush on Saturday, March 24th. **The Zemmol Family** for sponsoring the Oneg following the lecture by Rabbi Capers C. Funnye, Jr. on Sunday, March 25th, and to **Nina and Virgil Mocle** for helping in the kitchen that afternoon. **Bob Sheray** for providing security during the Scholar in Residence event on Sunday, March 25th. **Nina and Virgil Mocle** for sponsoring the Kiddush on March 31st. **Keith Groman** for his attention and service to a variety of needs around the synagogue.

Partaking of Parashiot

by Rebbetzin Penny Kornspan

April 7, 2012 / 15 Nisan, 5772

Holiday reading: Shmot 12:21-51

Moshe tells the elders to slaughter the Pesach lamb and to sprinkle some of its blood on the lintel and the *mezzuzot* (the doorposts). The people are informed they are to remain inside the home until morning. It is said that Hashem will 'pass over' homes with the blood and none residing inside will perish. The people need to keep this service upon entering the land of Yisrael, and if children inquire why this is being done, it must be explained: it is a sacrifice to Hashem Who passed over their homes when the Egyptians were being killed. B'nai Yisrael did as they were instructed. At midnight all the firstborn children of Egypt were killed, as well as the first of the cattle. Pharaoh summoned Moshe and Aharon. He told them to leave, all of them, with their livestock. About 600,000 men (not counting women and children) left and a diverse multitude accompanied them. B'nai Yisrael is said to have been in Egypt 430 years to the day. Next, emphasis is placed on the uncircumcised being prohibited from eating the sacrificial meal. The *korban* is not to be removed from the home, nor shall any bones be broken. The portion ends making it clear that it was Hashem bringing them out of slavery.

Some Seder questions: Who needed the blood on the lintels and doorposts? Why did they have to remain in the house after the blood was painted? Why did they need to continue this practice once they settled in the Land? Why were the Egyptians' firstborn cattle killed as well as the people? Pharaoh called for Moshe and Aharon at night. When did they arrive? Did they break the command to remain inside? Why did Pharaoh ask to be blessed? What purpose was there in asking for jewels from the Egyptians? If the Egyptians were so happy to have B'nai Yisrael leave, why was it necessary for Hashem to put favor in their eyes? Wouldn't the people gladly turn over anything? Why is necessary to say it was exactly 430 years? Did they actually live in Egypt all that time? Were they slaves all those years? Why did a man have to be circumcised in order to eat the Pesach offering and does that mean you cannot invite Gentiles to your Seder?

April 14, 2012 / 22 Nisan, 5772

Holiday reading: D'varim 14:22-16:17

The reading begins with yearly tithing of crops, wine, oil and livestock that will be brought to the place Hashem will choose to be consumed in a sacrificial meal. If it is too difficult to bring them, one is permitted to sell the items and use the money to purchase his desires there, partake of the meal, and share with the Levites. There is to be a tithe in the third year to aid the Levite, the stranger, the orphan and the widow. Every 7th year there is to be forgiveness of debt among the Hebrew people, and Hashem will bless the Land. The people are warned even if the 7th year is approaching, they must lend to the needy among them. If a Hebrew is a slave to another Hebrew, s/he must be freed in the 7th year with provisions to get their start. If one desires to remain a servant, his ear is pierced and the person loses the opportunity to ever being freed. The firstborn male of the livestock is to be sacrificed to Hashem. The people are reminded to make Pesach, count the seven weeks to Shavuot and celebrate it. We are also called to remember we were slaves to the Egyptians. Sukkot needs to be kept and celebrated; this is noted as a very joyful holiday. The section closes reminding us that three times in the year every man is to give according to his ability, which is defined by the blessings given directly to him from Hashem.

A pasuk to ponder: "...you shall eat unleavened bread, bread of stress, for you departed from the land of Egypt in haste..." 16:3 Each time I have read about eating unleavened bread in connection with the hurried way we left Egypt, I missed something important. I would like to share what Seforno says on this matter. "The reason why we have to remember this state of haste is because haste is a form of pressure." Do you know people always striving with time? Do you fall into that trap? I do. I feel I must hurry through the day. Seforno also states "since the people were always in a rush, the redemption came in the guise of extreme haste." You see the compassion of Hashem, He deals with us at the level we best understand. But we do not have to fall victim to self-inflicted slavery or stress induced hurrying. Hurrying is a way of living, over which we have some control. Today, we are free; celebrate it at your pace!

**April 21, 2012 / 29 Nisan, 5772 Shemini
Triennial cycle: Vayikra 10:12–11:32**

Moshe informs Aharon and his two sons about what and where they eat from the peace offerings of B'nai Yisrael. He further inquires as to why the sons did not eat from a particular offering as they would do normally. Aharon defends his sons and himself as to why the offering was not eaten. Moshe concedes his brother is correct. The following chapter begins the explanations of which animals are kosher and which are not. Camels, hyraxes, and rabbit aren't kosher - while they digest food more than once, they do not have split hooves. Pigs have split hooves, but they don't digest their food more than once. Not touching the carcasses of these animals applies to the time of festivals, when ritual purity was required to enter the Temple. Fish need to have fins and scales to be fit to eat. Twenty types of fowl are listed as not kosher. Insects are next discussed, and even dogs would cause ritual impurity. Lastly, eight creeping animals are named which should not be touched as they too cause ritual impurity.

A pasuk to ponder: “ ‘Say to the Israelites: These are the creatures you may eat from among all the land animals:’” 11:2

From Seforno: They had what Seforno calls spiritual jewelry – the Torah from Sinai, but their status changed due to the sin of the golden calf. The reason for the construction of the Mishkan was to supply a specific place of residence, whereas previously: “Any place I hear My Name mentioned I will come to you and bless you.” (Shmot 20:24) Now, refinement of character and attitude is to come through mitzvot. (See 15:31) Seforno further stipulates applying intelligence was (and is) also a part of this refinement process, gaining eternal life. These laws are two sided, there is the negative prohibition: do not eat... and a positive aspect: if we do this we remain holy. He puts this together very neatly in his commentary that I am trying to distill. It is all so beautiful. Hashem is always offering a home coming, if you will. But we need to answer the door and partake of our side of the bargain. The notion of keeping kosher bothers many Jews today. Many think the laws' institution centered on health issues, and they would be correct; however, it is spiritual health, not physical.

**April 28, 2012 / 6 Iyar, 5772 Tazria - Metzora
Triennial cycle: Vayikra 13:40–14:32**

The Tazria portion of the cycle notes one having a ‘white affliction with a red streak’ on the head has contracted *tzaraat*. It continues to tell us what such a one needs to do. The discussion resumes regarding spots appearing on wool, linen or leather and what is to be done with these. The Kohen's judgment on these matters is sought and followed carefully to allow one to a) properly rejoin the community or b) resume use of items affected by *tzaraat*, or discard them. The portion Metzora next tells the role of the Kohen in helping the afflicted return to the community, including a ritual he performs. The word *metzora* is the designation for one who has *tzaraat*. After residing outside the camp, once the Kohen deems fit, he will need to shave his hair and immerse himself and his clothing in a mikveh. He must bring a korban to the Temple, which the Kohen handles in a very specific manner. The section closes by telling us a different provision is made for a poor person's offering to be less.

Pasukim to ponder: “... he shall be brought to the Kohen. The Kohen shall go outside the camp ...” 14:2,3

The *metzora* could not go into the camp, so the Kohen who pronounced him impure could now pronounce him pure. (Ideally the same Kohen would do so.) Therefore, he would be brought to the immediate outskirts of the camp, and the Kohen would meet with him there. By saying the “Kohen shall go out,” we first learn that a Kohen in the same predicament (being a *metzora* himself) could not participate in this. A beautiful teaching regarding this comes to us from *Siftei Kohen*. “The *metzora* had suffered the extreme humiliation of being exiled from his family and neighbors. Now that he has repented, G-d honors him. Whoever sees a Kohen leave the camp will escort him ... The result is that a multitude of people will see that the *metzora* has repented and is once again worthy of their respect.”

These aspects of Torah seem difficult to grasp. Do you see the dignity in the phenomenon? The representative of Hashem goes to the man. Cooperation and collaboration can yield fulfilling resolutions among all of us.

April Birthdays

1 Bruce Merritt
6 Karmiya Farber
6 Dr. Jere Leib
9 Jackie Levin
10 Dr. Lynne Margolies
12 Zackary Zemmol
14 Joshua Bradley
14 Cassie Martinez
14 Brandon Roberts
14 Jay Zemmol
14 Beth Zweig
16 Melissa Barile
17 Noah Bussell
18 Sharon Eisbart
18 Theresa Farber
18 Debbie Sheray
18 Scott Trauner
20 Sheryl Merritt
20 Ralph Tourkow
21 Ralph Levin
21 Marci Trentacosti
22 Donna Tourkow
23 Michael P. Adams
24 David Bussell
27 Dan Droegmyer
27 Jerry Pownall
29 Sharone Swedarsky
29 Melissa Schneider



April Anniversaries

1 Steve Martin and Jackie Levin
21 Mike and Marci Trentacosti

**Congregational
Annual Meeting**
Sunday, May 20, 2012
10:00am



Book Fair Fundraiser
Sunday, May 20, 2012
1:00-4:00pm

Please bring in gently used books, magazines, DVDs, and music CDs to donate for our fundraiser. A bin will be located by the entrance to the shul. More info to come! To volunteer, contact Missy Schneider at 627-1029.

April Congregational Donations

David Siegel Memorial Fund

In honor of Anna Gottesman

Bee Siegel

General Fund

In honor of my daughter Molly Cohen's Bat Mitzvah anniversary; my husband Hugo's birthday Feb. 22; and my birthday March 19

Lis Cohen Kahn

Kiddush Fund

In memory of my father, Jacob Schwartz

Leah Tourkow

In memory of my mother, Helen Zaslowsky

Adrienne and Adolph Brateman

In memory of Abe Dubin

Josh and Donna Tourkow

In honor of all who celebrated birthdays -
"Happy Birthday!"

Ovadya

In honor of all who celebrated wedding and Bar/Bat Mitzvah anniversaries - "Mazel Tov!"

Ovadya

Simon / Hannah Crell Education Fund

In memory of Margot Krel

Rossya and Howard Klebanow

Torah Maintenance Fund

For Torah restoration

Rachel M. Riley

Yahrzeit Fund

In memory of Elias Punsky

Fani Kozolchyk

In memory of Julius Schwarz

Elsa Jakob

In memory of John Schmitz

Elsa Jakob

In memory of Fran Herman

Jeffrey and Marilyn Herman

In memory of Fran Herman

B. Steven Herman

In memory of Frieda Safirstein

Moses and Kay Safirstein

In memory of Jean Siegel

Ron and Vicki Goltz

In memory of Daryoush Shalom Boudaie

Kourosch and Doris Boudaie

In memory of Elmer Lewis

Jeanette Lewis

In memory of Molly Cohen

Lis Cohen Kahn and Hugo Kahn

In memory of Florence Rudin

Barbara Kaplan

In memory of Sarah Cohen

Michael and Rebecca Park

In memory of Michael Leib

Doris and Marvin Gottlieb

April Jahrzeits



	Nisan	April
Herbert Brateman	9	31-1
Ryan Zimmerman	9	31-1
Pres. Gen. Chaim Herzog	10	1-2
Mushke Golder	10	1-2
Libby Babich	11	2-3
Rae Dorman	12	3-4
Sidney Hutner	12	3-4
Samuel Appel	13	4-5
Barney Sterling	13	4-5
Jerry Morgenstein	13	4-5
Chaim Norkin	15	6-7
Isser Goldin	16	7-8
Mary Levy	16	7-8
Dorothy Maier	16	7-8
Harry Dale	17	8-9
Ida Schneider	17	8-9
Steve Abrams	17	8-9
Ruth Mark	18	9-10
Harry Sheray	18	9-10
Harriet Mirman	18	9-10
Frederick Milz	19	10-11
Tillie Ochstein	19	10-11
Samuel Ochstein	19	10-11
Anna Trauner	20	11-12
Phillip Trivus	20	11-12
Ann Peltz	20	11-12
Samuel Weinberg	20	11-12
Tina Wilcox	21	12-13
Ronald Brateman	21	12-13
Jean Rehm	22	13-14
Jacob Bruch	22	13-14
Anna Schefman	23	14-15
Erna Shulkin	23	14-15
Rosetta Siegle	23	14-15
Sonia Finkelstein	23	14-15
Morton Trauner	23	14-15
Arthur A. Sapirie	24	15-16
June Saul Himelstein	24	15-16
Leah Edelman	25	16-17
Zelda Punsky	25	16-17
Louis Latker	26	17-18
Gary Nemeroff	26	17-18
Rebecca Kaplan	26	17-18
Larry Levin	27	18-19
Samuel Brateman	27	18-19
Lena Goltz	28	19-20
Nate Nemeroff	29	20-21
May Bussell	29	20-21
Sophia Ebner	29	20-21

	Iyar	April
Minnie S. Mendelson	1	22-23
Ida Ruth Superior	1	22-23
Alan Slutsky	1	22-23
Louis Masursky	2	23-24
David Ochstein	2	23-24
Harvey Wolf	2	23-24
Lillian Weiss	2	23-24
Jacob Brateman	3	24-25
Ann Block	3	24-25
Samuel Zaslowsky	3	24-25
Dora Kudysh	4	25-26
Irvin Adams	5	26-27
Pearl Fichman	6	27-28
Molly Wolf	6	27-28
Morris Ruderman	6	27-28
Jennie Weisman	6	27-28
Ruth Cohen	6	27-28
Sidney David Troy	6	27-28

If you would like to make a donation in honor/memory of someone, please fill out the form and submit it with your check to:
 Congregation B'nai Jacob, 7227 Bittersweet Moors Drive,
 Fort Wayne, IN 46814

I have enclosed \$_____ in honor/memory of: _____

From: _____

Fund Preference: Please indicate which fund you prefer to donate to:

A.J. Ochstein Fund
 Building Fund
 David Siegel Memorial Fund
 General Fund
 Kiddush Fund
 Levy/Levin Endowment Fund
 Library Fund
 Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
 Seth Horwitz Education Fund
 Simon/Hannah Crell Education Fund
 Sisterhood Nursery Fund
 Torah Maintenance Fund
 Winnick Memorial Garden Fund
 Yahrzeit Fund

Plaques Available at B'nai Jacob

Make sure the memory of your loved one will have Kaddish recited each year on the appropriate date. The cost of the **Memorial Plaque** is \$300 and will give you peace of mind. You may also purchase a leaf on our **Tree of Life** for only \$100 - a great gift for a wedding, anniversary, birthday, or special event. And don't forget the **Bar/Bat Mitzvah Plaque**. For \$200, the name and date of this occasion will always be remembered. Call Rabbi or the office to place your order.

Congregation B'nai Jacob
7227 Bittersweet Moors Drive
Fort Wayne, IN 46814
(260) 672-8459
Email: bnaijacob@frontier.com
Rabbi Mitchell Kornspan

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Dan Appel	Mark Schneider



As promised, winter heated up
as the result of an
"Afternoon of Games" in late January!
Many thanks to all participants and to
Nina Mocle for promoting and organizing
the games, refreshments, and good times.

The shul is missing a bridge table. If you
borrowed the table, please return it - full
amnesty provided. Or, if someone would
like to donate a bridge table, that would be
welcomed, too! Thank you. - *Rabbi*