

Congregation B'nai Jacob

celebrates its 100th anniversary

1912-2012



Wayne & Monroe Streets, 1912



Fairfield & Pierce Streets, 1955



Bittersweet Moors Drive, 1993



January 2013

Tevet/Shevat 5773

Weekly Portion	Services	Mitchell Kornspan, Rabbi
Weekly Portion: Shemot CL: 5:06pm Havdalah: 6:09pm	Friday, January 5th Saturday, January 6th Shabbat School Torah Class	Services 5:30pm Services 9:15am 9:30am 12:45pm
Scholar in Residence with Arthur Kurzweil (see page 3 for more information)		
Weekly Portion: Va'era CL 5:13pm Havdalah: 6:17pm	Friday, January 11th Shabbat Dinner with A. Kurzweil Saturday, January 12th	Evening Begins @ 6:00pm (Paid Reservations Only) Services 9:15am
Sunday, January 13th, Religious School Special Program - Doroteinu with Arthur Kurzweil - 12:00pm		
Weekly Portion: Bo CL 5:21pm Havdalah: 6:25pm Bar Mitzvah Anniversaries: David Deitch; Jeff Wolf	Friday, January 18th Saturday, January 19th Shabbat School Torah Class	Services 5:30pm Services 9:15am 9:30am 12:45pm
Weekly Portion: Beshallah Tu B'Shevat CL: 5:30pm Havdalah: 6:33pm Bat Mitzvah Anniversary: Susan Moyer	Friday, January 25th Saturday, January 26th Shabbat School Tu B'Shevat Seder	Services 7:30pm Services 9:15am 11:00am Following Services (RSVP by 1/21/12)



Tu B'Shevat: Opportunity To Taste Gan Eden

As I was shopping in a grocery store, a man approached me. Noticing my kippah, he queried: "May I ask you a question about Judaism?" Since it was still Hanukkah, I thought he would be inquiring about the holiday's observance. Instead, he asked: "Where in Fort Wayne can I obtain some really good lox? You know, like they have in New York!" (By the way, if you know a good answer, let me know!)

Although somewhat surprised by this, I recognized how much we, as Jews, are connected to "Jewish foods" and "Jewish foods for the holidays." Let's talk about a holiday centering on food! Not just any food, but fruits!

Adam and Eve were given two commandments. One was to eat from all the trees of the garden. Almost all fruits, that is. They were also commanded not to eat from the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. Unfortunately, they partook of the forbidden fruit and received the knowledge, of the good and evil inclinations. To this day, we struggle with our decisions, choosing either the good or the evil. When you think of it, this all occurred because of not eating properly!

The Chassidic master, Rabbi Tzadok HaKohen taught that on Tu B'Shevat we are attempting to rectify this wrong. At our Tu B'Shevat table we are eating fruits, just like Adam and Eve would have done. It is like returning to the Garden of Eden! We are recreating the mitzvah, the command, by G-d to eat of the fruits of the trees.

Oh, you may counter, we could also be eating a fruit from the forbidden Tree of Knowledge? After all, there are so many speculations about which fruit it was. Was it the fruit of the etrog tree, or of the fig tree, or the grape vine.... and the list goes on!

Rav Tzadok teaches that the Tree of Knowledge was really of all of the seven species and none of them at the same time. The Tree of Knowledge was not a species of fruit, but was a way of eating! What was and what is this way? It is when we are so involved in taking pleasure, while forgetting G-d. Hashem gives us these gifts, and we don't remember that G-d is the One who bestows these on us! It is no wonder that the Talmud teaches that one who eats and does not first say a blessing, is as if he or she is a thief! (After all, by behaving this way, we are not appreciative or even giving thought to the Creator, who gave us food as a gift.)

What are we accomplishing at our Tu B'Shevat Seder? We are fine tuning our consciousness to eat, with thankfulness to our Creator, The Gift Giver. When we do this, we are making a Tikun, a correction, a healing. We are learning how to enjoy food, while we are enjoying being close to G-d.

Is this a small matter? Not at all. We are often reminded that much disease may stem from what and how we eat. Gulping our food, piling our plates with more food than it is good for us to eat are examples of poor eating habits. Not stopping mindfully to say a blessing over our food, is an example of an impoverished spirituality. Each moment we eat, each meal of which we partake, can be a moment we link with Gan Eden. It can be the moment when we link with Hashem. So, please join us for our Tu B'Shevat Seder, and let us eat mindfully, spiritually, and with G-d at our table. May this happen not only on Tu B'Shevat, but all year long!

Happy Tu B'Shevat,

Rabbi Mitchell Kornspan



As part of a special Tzedakah during Hanukkah, food and funds (\$147.00) were donated to **Community Harvest Food Bank** by members and friends of Congregation B'nai Jacob.



In celebration of our 100th Anniversary

Scholar in Residence

Arthur Kurzweil

will be at B'nai Jacob

January 11th - 13th, 2013

sponsored by

PNC Schneider Charitable Trust

Arthur Kurzweil is often described as America's foremost Jewish genealogist. As part of B'nai Jacob's year-long celebration of its 100th anniversary, Mr. Kurzweil will present a series of lectures. All lectures take place at the synagogue except for Sunday, January 13th when we will meet at the Allen County Public Library.

Friday, January 11th @ 7:30pm -

"Kabbalah for Dummies:

So What's the Big Secret Anyway?"

Saturday, January 12th @ 12:45pm -

"I Can't Read Hebrew, I Never Went to a Yeshiva,

But I Want to Study Talmud:

An Introduction to Talmud Study in English"

Saturday, January 12th @ 7:30pm -

"Searching for God in a Magic Shop"

Sunday, January 13th @ 12:00 Noon -

Doroteinu Program

"From Generation to Generation: How to Trace Your Jewish Genealogy and Family History"

The Sunday, January 13th presentation takes place at the Allen County Public Library downtown and

includes a tour of its genealogical facilities and an invitation to embark on a study of your family roots.

Young religious school students will be with their teachers in Meeting Room B. All other participants will be in Meeting Room C.

All lectures are open to the community.



SHABBAT DINNER WITH ARTHUR KURZWEIL

Limited to the first 40 reservations!

A wonderful evening is planned for Friday, January 11th including services, Shabbat Dinner, Arthur Kurzweil's presentation and an Oneg. Dinner with Mr. Kurzweil will be available to the first 40 reservations received. If you will be joining us for dinner, the cost will be \$10 per adult and \$5 per child, 12 and under. Please note, **your check must be made out to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, and January 7th is the cutoff date** so that we will be able to purchase and prepare for the evening. We are sorry, but no phone reservations can be accepted for this event. As the saying goes, **your check is your reservation.**

This special evening begins at 6:00pm.



☆**Bar Mitzvah**☆

Ian Michael Martinez

Ian will be called to the Torah on Saturday, February 16th at 9:15am.

Mazel Tov to Greg Wolf who recently passed the final exam to become a CPA! In addition, Greg earned a Bachelors in Accounting from Drake University in 2010 and a Masters in Finance from Washington State University in 2011 ... all of this before his 25th birthday! Greg lives in downtown Seattle and works as a Financial Coordinator for Kasala, a high end furniture and interior design store. Greg's longtime girlfriend, Nikki, a graduate student in Environmental Science, also lives in downtown Seattle. We congratulate **Greg's grandmother Diane Wolf, and parents Ed and Judy Wolf.**



Tu B'Shevat Seder

following services on Saturday, January 26th

RSVP to office by Monday, January 21st.

Partaking of Parashiot

Rebbetzin Penny Kornspan

Jan. 5, 2013, / 23 Tevet, 5773 Shemot

Triennial cycle: Shemot 4:18 -6:1

In the previous verses God had spoken to Moshe regarding his return trip to Egypt. Moshe would have Aharon as his spokesman and the rod to perform signs. Here we begin with Moshe asking permission from Yitro, his father-in-law, to leave and since those wanting to kill him had perished, he wished to take his wife and sons as well. Hashem informs Moshe of what signs he is to perform and what words he shall say to Pharaoh. In route, Tzipora circumcises her son, as Moshe had not taken care of this. Aharon is told by G-d to meet his brother; they reunite. Moshe informs Aharon of Hashem's plans, the brothers gather the leaders of Yisrael, tell what has happened. The people believe them and they worship God. Afterwards, the brothers go to Pharaoh with the message to "let My people go." Pharaoh does not comply; he increases the workload of the people by requiring them to procure the necessary straw themselves to make the bricks. And, they are to maintain the same production numbers. The people in turn complain to Moshe, who then seems to be complaining to God: "Lord, why have You dealt this way?" The Eternal responds he will deal with this in the way He chooses.

For a change, I am offering Midrashim instead of psukim. They can fill gaps in the Bible events and sometimes even personalities. They facilitate better grasping a difficult passage, helping us to understand how something could happen. Interestingly, two Midrashim can even contradict each other, presenting different views since they do not carry the same weight as the Torah. So here is a simple first example:

A Midrash to ponder: The entry to the palace of Pharaoh was protected by animals. Those trying to enter without permission would have to get past them. (Think pit bull.) When Moshe and Aharon tried to enter without prior consent, the animals became docile, allowing their entry. Beyond that, we are told the animals followed them about like pets following a master. Did you ever wonder how Moshe was able to just waltz into the palace of perhaps the most powerful man in the world at that time? So what do you glean from this Midrash?

Jan. 12, 2013, / 1 Shevat 5773, Va'era

Triennial cycle Shemot 8:16 – 9:35

Moshe is instructed to meet Pharaoh at 'the water' early in the morning to tell him to let the people leave in order to serve God, otherwise, swarms of flies will descend upon Egypt. The Eternal further states the land of Goshen, where "My people" live, will be free from this plague. The swarm came; destruction ensued. Pharaoh calls for Moshe and claims he will allow the people to leave. Moshe in turn asks Hashem that the flies depart; it is done. But Pharaoh then reneges on his agreement to let the people go to make sacrificial offerings. Next, the cattle, horses, flocks etc. of the Egyptians are struck while Goshen is safe. Pharaoh would not let the people leave. Moshe is told to toss handfuls of soot heavenward in Pharaoh's presence, which will cause boils over the land. The same scenario with Pharaoh occurs, but now, 'the Lord hardened' his heart. The plague of hail is to come next. This time the Egyptians who took the warning seriously suffered no loss if they kept their servants and livestock indoors. The hail was combined with fire, triggering massive destruction except in Goshen. Again Moshe is summoned to Pharaoh to bring an end to the plague. This time Moshe says he will bring an end to the hail, however he fully realizes Pharaoh does 'not yet fear the Lord, God.' The sedra ends by telling us that this happened as God had told Moshe it would.

Midrash to ponder: Were the plagues chosen randomly? No. Some Midrash explanations are: Blood- The Egyptians considered the Nile as a god. Frogs- the Jews were forced to load freight, so the frogs destroyed it. Lice- the Jews had swept the dust of the streets, thus dust turned into lice. Wild animals - the Jews were required to capture wild animals for the Egyptians' fun. Pestilence occurred since they were forced into becoming cattle-herders. Boils/Blisters were brought on as they had insistently ordered the Jews in the bathhouses. As the Hail cuts down and razes, it reminds us Jews were forced into being stone-cutters. Grasshoppers were sent as a reminder they were forced to plant the very grains the insects ate. Darkness evokes the prisons the Jews endured. Their firstborn dying punishes them for the drowning of the newborn Jewish boys.

**Jan. 19, 2013 / 8 Shevat 5773, Bo
Triennial cycle Shemot 12:29 - 13:16**

Egyptians' firstborn deaths begin the cycle. All homes feel the death, even the cattle are affected by the proclamation from the Eternal. Moshe, summoned to the palace by Pharaoh, is told to exit the land with all the people and their herds to worship the Lord. Also, Pharaoh wants to be blessed by Moshe. The Egyptians were eager to have B'nai Yisrael leave, who were gathering their things and asking for jewels, gold, etc., all of which were given to them. We are told that the prophesied amount of time they would be in Egypt had been completed. 'Night of watching' is the name given to the time when B'nai Yisrael left Egypt, because the Eternal was watching. It is also said to be so throughout the generations. Some regulations are listed re the eating of the Pesach sacrifice, including who is allowed to partake of the meal. (Sages are divided about this, referring to the future or that this passage is placed here but it had been spoken earlier.) The pidyon haben for firstborn male men and animals is discussed. Moshe tells them to remember the day they had left Egypt and that it was the strength of Hashem that brought this about for them. When they enter the Land they are to keep this unleavened bread ordinance for seven days 'from year to year.' The children are to be told these things are being implemented because of what had been done by the Eternal on their behalf.

A Midrash to ponder: What do you think occurs in heaven during the Seder? Hakodesh Baruch Hu gathers all of His angels in heaven and says, "Let us go and hear how My children tell about the redemption from Egypt." The angels join Him in listening and rejoice because when we were saved, it was as though He was also redeemed. Why would G-d need to be saved? Because when we as His holy people, suffer, it is as though He too suffers. For a moment, parents, think of how you feel when you see your child in pain. Now, imagine the very Author of loving kindness seeing all of His children in such terrible distress. When you see resolution to your child's problem, how do you feel? Happy. Did you know your Creator could share that type of rejoicing to see a conclusion to your misfortune? The angels do, you can too.

**Jan. 26, 2013 / 15 Shevat 5773, Beshallah
Triennial cycle Shemot: 14:26 – 7:16**

The water of the Sea of Reeds came crashing back to a close over the Egyptians pursuing Bnai Yisrael, via Hashem through Moshe. While the Egyptians were killed, the Israelites were saved and walked on dry land. They saw this, revered and believed in G-d as well as Moshe. The Song at the Sea, the tale of what happened there is sung by Moshe. The famous "Who is like You" is recorded within 18 verses of poetry which is quite the victory ballad. (It includes one of a few places Hashem is called by the first 2 letters of the holiest name for G-d.) Miriam sang with the women. Next, Moshe 'caused' them to journey onward, but they complained about no clean drinking water. Hashem commanded Moshe to throw a tree into the water at Marah. Hashem tells them of their need to act justly, listen diligently, and pay attention to the *mitzvot* and keep the *chukim*. He refers to Himself as their Healer, Who will not afflict them with the diseases their captors suffered. They advance forward and complain of no food to eat, stating things were better in Egypt. This is when manna and pheasant are sent for food. Here we learn already of the proper way to keep Shabbat in connection with food collection and preparation. Some obeyed, others did not. Water became an issue again with the people. Amalek is battled while Moshe lifts his arms heavenward. Aharon and Hur supported Moshe's arms when he tired of holding them up. The sedra ends by telling us that there is a war against Amalek eternally.

A Midrash to ponder: We are told that people found their portion of manna according to their spiritual status. Very righteous ones found it immediately outside of their tents so as not to interrupt Torah study and the performance of mitzvot. The average person would have to go a bit further to collect the daily portion. But the wicked people, it is said, had to go all the way to the outside of the camp. We are also taught every day enough manna fell to feed the Jews for two thousand years. Why? It was a teaching lesson that we will always have more food than we can ever use! So here are two questions I can ask myself. Where would I find my heaven sent manna today? Do I believe my most basic needs will always be provided by Hashem?

January Congregational Donations

David Siegel Memorial Fund

David and Twyla Siegel

General Fund

In memory of Max Konigsberg

Annie and Dan Appel

In honor of Robert Long, Laura Long, Miranda Long
and Geoffrey Long

Anonymous

In appreciation

Lis and Hugo Kahn

In memory of Bert Rose

Kathy and Sam Stoller

Kiddush

In memory of Pauline Brateman

Adrienne and Adolph Brateman

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

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In honor and appreciation of Keith Groman

Pam and Ron Friedman

In appreciation

Anonymous

Simon/Hannah Crell Education Fund

In memory of Margaret Merin

Harriet and Marvin Crell

Yahrzeit Fund

In memory of Pauline Brateman

Elaine and Irving Brateman

In memory of Louis Samuel Superior

Elaine and Irving Brateman

In memory of Frances Groden Bussell

Paula and David Bussell

In memory of Louis Groden

Paula and David Bussell

In memory of Paulette Bussell Oatley

Paula and David Bussell

In memory of Yetta Magazine

Jeanette Lewis

In memory of Rebbetzin Gute Goldin

Irene and Bob Walters

January Birthdays

- 1 Zoey Zemmol
- 7 Brittany Sheray
- 14 David Crell
- 14 Rachel Current
- 15 David Current
- 17 Levi Goltz
- 17 Keith Groman
- 18 Arlene Leib
- 20 Jeff Goltz
- 21 Melanie Bookout
- 23 Bee Siegel
- 23 Illana Nugas
- 24 Shelle Pabla
- 25 Jacob Bussell
- 25 Brian Leib
- 25 Nathan Wyman
- 26 Ryan Baldwin
- 29 Jeff Wolf
- 30 Harriet Crell
- 30 Geoffrey Long



January Anniversaries

- 6 Mort Schaffer and Ruth Minkoff
- 15 David and Teresa Miller
- 26 Scott and Theresa Trauner



100th Anniversary DVD Now Available

The DVD celebrating Congregation B'nai Jacob's 100th Anniversary is now available for sale. The DVD includes Franck Hagendorf's complete concert, the one-hour historical video, and plenty of crowd shots. There is a bonus feature of the complete version of artist Lee Bleifeld explaining the meaning behind the creation of our beautiful ark.

The DVD is 2 hours and 15 minutes in length and is priced at only \$25 (plus \$5 if you want it mailed).

If you would like a copy, please send a check for \$25 or \$30 made out to **Congregation B'nai Jacob** and mail it to Dan Appel, 9818 Houndshill Place, Fort Wayne, IN 46804. If you would like to pick up the DVD at Dan and Annie's home, please call them at 260-432-7444, or it can be mailed to you (for the additional \$5).

Menu

Saturday
Kiddush
Luncheon

It's always time to give thanks...

Thank you to **Keith Groman, Marc and Marla Spanjer**, and **Virgil and Nina Mocle** for sponsoring and / or preparing kiddushim for December 1st, 8th, and 29th, respectively. Thank you to **Paula Adams and Ruth Minkoff** for preparing kiddush for December 15th and to **Ruth Minkoff** for the 22nd. Delicious, nutritious, and expeditious!

January Jahrzeits



	Tevet	January
Stanley Kornspan	19	31-1
Emanuel Levy	19	31-1
Michelle Lundmark	19	31-1
Norman Jean Rifkin	20	1-2
Morris Abraham Ruchman	20	1-2
Samuel Finkelstein	21	2-3
Deborah Gorelick	21	2-3
Marlene Ochstein	21	2-3
David Siegel	21	2-3
Herman Lowenhar	22	3-4
Sam Nemoff	22	3-4
Ethel Schechter	23	4-5
Sol Bronstein	24	5-6
Maureen Gilbert	24	5-6
Fannie Kravitz	24	5-6
Sarah Masursky	24	5-6
Minnette Ruchman	25	6-7
Sam Jaffe	27	8-9
Julius Kaufman	27	8-9
Herman Ivan Messe	28	9-10
Harry Papier	28	9-10
Hannah Royter	28	9-10
Hyme Sains	28	9-10
Bonnie Weiler	28	9-10
David Weinberg	28	9-10
Tillie Auerbach	29	10-11
Philip Dorman	29	10-11

	Shevat	January
Margo Hirshfeld	2	12-13
Joseph Doran	4	14-15
Aida McCassey	4	14-15
Fannie Hassan	5	15-16
Bea Waldman	5	15-16
Morris Begun	6	16-17
Rose Latker	6	16-17
Jay Rosoff	6	16-17
Alan Ritchie	7	17-18
Sylvia Brateman	9	19-20
David Baitcher	10	20-21
Hyman Jerome Bass	10	20-21
Rose Leader	10	20-21
Clara Magazine	10	20-21
Eleanor Margolis	10	20-21
Pearl Starr Sachsels	10	20-21
Pearl Hertzman	12	22-23
Richard Sachsels	14	24-25
Jacob Schwartz	14	24-25
Yetta Falk	15	25-26
Henri Hagendorf	15	25-26
Frances Herman	15	25-26

Shevat January

Morris Kudysh	15	25-26
Benjamin Kurzner	15	25-26
Helen Zaslowsky	15	25-26
Meir Fichman	16	26-27
Esther Garber	16	26-27
Samuel Tillinger	16	26-27
Abraham Edelman	17	27-28
Isadore Hersch	17	27-28
Mark Merin	17	27-28
Louis Abraham Messe	17	27-28
Elias Punsky	17	27-28
Frank Winnick	17	27-28
Sam Fogel	18	28-29
Hyman Marcus	18	28-29
Douglas Martin	19	29-30
Mae Rifkin	19	29-30
Norman Bosell	20	30-31
Anna Perlman	20	30-31
Manuel Babich	21	31-1
Jennie Zweig	21	31-1

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
- Jahrzeit Fund

???? DO YOU KNOW THE ANSWER ????

Besides being outstanding Jewish women (and we have many around here), residents of Fort Wayne, and members of B'nai Jacob, *Annie Appel, Iris Fuchs, Rebbetzin Kornspan, Susie Miller, Nina Mocle, Bee Siegel, Donna Tourkow, and Leah Tourkow* all have something in common. If you don't know what it is, see if you can find the answer inside this publication.



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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Return Service Requested

1 st Vice President	Mike Adams
2 nd Vice President	Mark Schneider
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Financial Secretary	Estelle Greenberg
Treasurer	Paul Schuler
Past President	Ron Friedman
Past President	David Bussell
Past President	Josh Tourkow

Board Members	Jay Zemmol
Jennifer Schuler	Paula Adams
Marc Nusholtz	Yuval Fuchs
David Miller	Janet Finkel
Dan Appel	Dan Bradley

Gift Shop

Sales were brisk during Hanukkah and the Sisterhood thanks you for your support of the Gift Shop. Have you seen the new items that will make your Shabbat dinners even more beautiful? Need gift ideas for an upcoming Bar or Bat Mitzvah? Call the synagogue at 672-8459 and stop in during office hours. You will be glad you did!

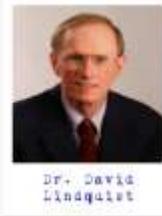
**Fort Wayne Jewish Federation
to host its annual Shalom Party on
Saturday, January 19, 2013 @ 7:30pm**



DUO DMITRI

Luba Agranovsky and Dmitri Kasyuk, natives of Moscow, Russia moved to Jerusalem in 1990 with their very young daughter, via the assistance of the Jewish Agency. Dmitri and Luba tell their poignant and touching story, while interweaving their beautiful music. Both are graduates of the Nessin Academy of Music in Moscow and winners of numerous Russian piano and flute competitions.

The party will take place at the Temple and light refreshments will be served. The FWJF hosts this event with thanks to the community for its generosity.



"Confronting the Shoah"

The Fort Wayne Jewish Federation invites you to attend this five-session program taught by IPFW Professor and USHMM Mandel Fellow, Dr. David Lindquist. The two hour classes will begin at 7:00pm and will be held on the following Tuesdays: Feb. 19th; Feb. 26th; March 5th; March 12th; and March 19th and will take place at the Temple. The program is open to any adult, junior or senior high school student in the greater Fort Wayne area. There is no cost for the series to Federation members. A \$5.00 non-member fee will be charged to cover the cost of materials.

The program is supported by the **Harry W. Salom Foundation** and gifts from Federation members to the Annual Campaign. Please call the Fort Wayne Jewish Federation at 422-8566 or register by email at office@fwjf.org. ☆