

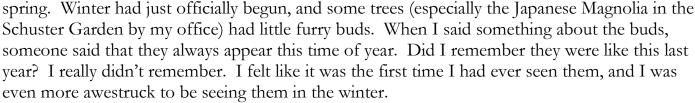
From our Rabbi

Leave Me Rooted in the Tree of Life I was surprised how

beautiful and colorful

the fall was here this year. I thought I remembered that Shreveport barely sees any colorful leaves in the fall. I was in awe of the colors this year. It often took my breath while travelling around. Every view had different trees with different colored leaves. The colorful views didn't last for very long, but I certainly enjoyed them while they were in full color.

After the leaves fell off the trees, I was surprised to see blossoms on the trees already. I thought that the blossoms are supposed to come in the



It was interesting that some people look forward to the familiar, and find comfort. I look at the world with new eyes and find awesome surprises.

At first I was embarrassed that I didn't remember to expect the fall foliage or the winter buds. I couldn't stay embarrassed for long, because I was too distracted by the magnificence of these phenomena. I see miracles every day, while others see everyday miracles. For some people, the fact that they are everyday occurrences makes people lose sight of the miracle of it all.

As we get ready to celebrate Tu BiSh'vat – the Jewish holiday for trees – I realize how the passing of the seasons is manifested in the trees. The seasons are reflected more in what the trees are "wearing" than in what we need to wear.

As the year 2013 begins, and we look forward to all of the possibilities that a new year can hold, what insight do you gain from the trees? Looking at the trees leaves me more rooted in my

sense of wonder, awe, and the magnificence and the potential to branch out to appreciate more aspects of life. It is no wonder that the Torah is our Tree of Life.

Bivrakha (with blessing),

Rabbi Dr. Jana L. De Benedetti



From our President

Shalom Friends.

I wish you all a healthy and happy New Year! 2013 is going to be a wonderful year for so many reasons: The B'nai Zion calendar is filling up with B'nai Mitzvah, religious school activities, fun(d) raisers, book reviews, special holiday events and much more. Every Shabbat is special -- with some even more Special honoring



an event or simcha. If you have a birthday, anniversary or other special event the congregation would love to share this with you. There are many opportunities to host an Oneg Shabbat and celebrate any occasion. Torah study, adult education and Hebrew add to a full calendar of events to keep us all engaged at B'nai Zion.

It is never too early to register your kids and grandkids for summer camp. Henry S. Jacobs can fill up quickly. If needed, scholarships are available to make sure that every Jewish child who wants to be at camp can attend. First time campers are eligible for scholarships. These are available to all new campers. All you have to do is apply, but there are deadlines for applications. We can help with the details.

The renovation committee is moving forward in the process of getting bids

from local contractors. Soon we will have enough information to make a formal presentation to the congregation.

This is going to be a great year!

Best Wishes,

Craig Toys



B'nai Zion Board of Trustees 2012-2013

President Craig Toys Vice President Don Posner Treasurer Todd Muslow Julie Miller Secretary Past President Mitch Newstadt Sisterhood Bethany Sorkey Brotherhood Joe Badt, Jr. Gary Abrams Tammy Courtney

Brett Lake Tim Levin Bernard Lobel Charlton Meyer Kathy Plante Suzee Robison Sam Silverblatt

Harriette Glazer Leonard Goldman

From our Educator

The Community Chanukah Party provided excellent evidence that we are thriving in spite of the downsizing that we have experienced in recent years. The party was truly a community event – planned, executed, and attended by lots of people from both Agudath Achim and B'nai Zion. We had babies and toddlers, Religious School families, and grandparent- and great-grandparent- aged people. The party was sponsored by (understand that as "paid for" by) the North Louisiana Jewish Federation, and it was just one example of what we can do when we work together.



Our next big community party will be the Purim Carnival on Sunday, February 24, and once again we will need bakers and cooks, decorators and activity planners as well as lots of people to work in the carnival booths so that parents with young children can accompany their children as they play games, exercise their creative minds, and celebrate another victory over hatred and intolerance. Melissa Gillum is our Purim Carnival chair; her husband Scott is our "booth-builder extraordinaire." They will needs lots of help, but they are committed to making this the best Purim Carnival ever. Please call now to offer your support, your talent, and your time. Email me or email Melissa or call the office.



We are all familiar with the words of the *V'ahavta* that command us to "inscribe them [the words] on the doorposts of your house," and we recognize that command as the mitzvah of *mezuzah*. Many of us have *mezuzot* on our doorposts (at least at our front doors), but perhaps you've moved recently and you *don't* have a *mezuzah* on your door. Or perhaps you've had one always on your front door, but not on other exterior doors, or not on any interior doors. (It's proper to have one on all doors except bathroom doors.) Or maybe you simply have an "old" *mezuzah* that you'd like to replace – or a *klaf* (the actual parchment containing the words of the *Shema*) that has never been replaced, though most of them do suffer from the

elements after many years – and should be replaced. If any of these circumstances fit you and your home, look for our announcement elsewhere in the bulletin about the "Mezuzah Caravan" that can visit your house to help you add or replace a mezuzah on Sunday, January 20, 2013 – the Sunday during Martin Luther King Day weekend. We would be delighted to visit you – or have you as part of a group that goes out to help people fulfill the mitzvah. Find the article, read it, and let us know how you want to be included.

On Sunday, January 27 we will have a "Babies and Toddlers Play Date" for families with children under three years old. Some people have suggested that meeting from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. might work better than our old Sunday morning 10:00 a.m. breakfasts. We can even switch to Saturday afternoon if that's more convenient for you. Email Helaine at braunigw@aol.com to give your preferences about time and place. Perhaps we can alternate meeting at BZ and meeting at the playground by A.C. Steere. Or, if the weather is too cold, maybe a family would like to invite the group to their home for play and a potluck lunch – or a lunch that is simply picked up from a restaurant. The bottom line: We want to be here for you – so let us know what you'd enjoy most. Parents and grandparents, tell your children about our group. We try to include everyone in our email, but we may be missing addresses from some families.

We look forward to seeing everyone on Sunday, January 13 after our Winter Vacation.

L'Shalom,

Helaine Braunig

We proudly use the ISJL Curriculum



Simcha Shabbat

Please join us each month when we will bless and honor those who will be celebrating a **birthday** or **anniversary** during the month. If your birthday or anniversary is in **January**, we will celebrate and honor you **January 4, 2013**, and will have a special Oneg Shabbat. If your birthday or anniversary is in February your Simcha Shabbat will be **February 1, 2013**.

It is a mitzvah for us to celebrate together.

Please make sure that the office knows your birthday and anniversary dates. If you are not on our birthday and anniversary list in the bulletin, it means we don't have your information.



Tot Shabbat



Children who are pre-readers and their families (and anyone who likes to wiggle during services), please join us for Tot Shabbat, Saturday, **January 12**, **2013**, **9:00-9:30 AM**. Rabbi Jana will lead a singing, dancing, marching, happy Shabbat service, and tell a story.

Brotherhood/Men's Club Breakfast and Presentation

Joint B'nai Zion Brotherhood and Agudath Achim Men's Club Breakfast and Presentation



Sunday, January 13, 2013 9:30-11:00 AM

Our Guest Speaker is

Judge Sheva Sims

(Shreveport City Court)



"KNOW YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS"

The whole Jewish community is invited (men and women). There is no charge.

People of The Book Club

The next meeting of the Jewish Community Book Club is **January 8, 2013, 7:00 PM.** The book chosen is The Sistine Secrets by Benjamin Blech and Roy Doliner. The recent cleaning of the Sistine Chapel frescoes served as a beginning to see some of the artistic references in a new light. Michelangelo may very well have been deeply influenced by Jewish training when he created this masterpiece. Come join our discussion of the book in January.

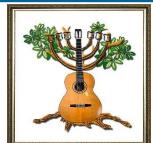


Shabbat Celebrating Music and Trees

Friday, January 25 will begin Shabbat Shirah — The Sabbath of Song. The Torah portion includes the oldest known song in history (when we celebrated after crossing the Sea of Reeds to our freedom). During all Shabbat services that weekend our worship will be filled with music.

Please join us at services as we discover how music lifts the spirit and helps us rejoice.

It is also Tu BiSh'vat - the Jewish Birthday for the Trees. We will have a potluck Shabbat dinner to celebrate music, and trees, and Shabbat and the congregation.



14th Annual World Religion Day

Sunday, January 27, 2012 The Highland Center 520 Olive Street, 1-5 PM Keynote Speaker ~ Dr. David Otto

Dr. Otto is the Crawford Chair of Liberal Arts and Chair, Department of Religious Studies at Centenary College

The purpose of World Religion Day is "to foster world peace, harmony, and understanding, we, the members of various world religions, will establish an area-wide observance of World Religion Day. We will accomplish these goals through education and communication via exhibits and demonstrations of music, spirituality, cultural foods and arts. We will offer information about origins, basic beliefs, religious feasts, and observances in a manner fully respectful of everyone's beliefs without intent to proselytize or convert."

If you are interested in helping during World Religion Day, please contact the B'nai Zion office.

Please come to show Jewish support for this event, and learn about other religions.

Hadassah — Save the date

Hadassah
Centennial Celebration
Saturday March 2, 2013
Ristorante Giuseppe
4800 Line Avenue
6:30-9:30 pm

Silent Auction

Dinner * Music * Raffle

Onformation: 318-828-2778

Think if you have any items you would like to donate for the auction. (This is not a flea market/garage sale.)



Getting the News to You

We get many compliments on the bulletin -- especially now that it is in full-color. The bulletin comes out once a month. We often have important news to relay or reminders to announce in the middle of the month. We announce major events during services, but if you miss services you will miss the announcements.



Sometimes there are events that come up beyond the time it becomes practical to put the information in the bulletin or during announcements at services -- for example when someone dies during the week, the death and burial may both occur between Shabbats. The Board suggests that we join the practice of most other Reform congregations and send you important information by email.

We also now have the ability to send you donation information, yahrzeit reminders, even dues statements by email. This can be an advantage to the office for many reasons: speed, no need to stuff and stamp and sort envelopes; cost: the price of mailing is increasing again, and the postal service is requiring that we use specialized technology to print and label outgoing mail. These are only a few of the reasons we would like to increase our use of technology to keep you informed.

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW EMAIL ADDRESS: **BnaiZionOffice@gmail.com**. Please remove the old email address from your contact lists, and replace it with this new one. Please send us an email to confirm that you have changed our address in your contact list and so that we can be sure that we have *your* email address. Even if you have received email from us in the past, **please take a moment to send an email message to the office** to show that you can send and receive to our new address. You can indicate if you would like to help us reduce our time and costs by receiving notifications, bills, and donations via email.

We also try to post news online at our website www.BnaiZionCongregation.org and Facebook pages.



Of course, if you do not have ways to connect with us "electronically," we will be happy to continue to send you bulletins, and all statements by mail. Please let us know if you want phone calls concerning important events, and if you would be willing to be part of a phone squad. We are not planning to eliminate mail versions, but we do hope to significantly reduce the amount of mail that we send out and be more efficient. Let us know if this will work for you.

Tu BiSh'vat

Tu BiSh'vat [15th of the month of Sh'vat] is the New Year of the Trees. It is marked by eating of nuts and fruits, donating funds to plant trees in Israel, and a focus on environmental issues. It has become the custom to reflect on the human impact on the environment and to work toward the reforestation efforts ever since the establishment of the State of Israel.

Over the years we have celebrated Tu BiSh'vat at B'nai Zion by planting a new tree with the help of Muslow

Forestry. An appropriate tree is chosen and the teachers and younger children gather to assist in the tree planting ceremony, where we discuss not only how to care for the tree we plant, but the benefits derived from our tree planting efforts.

Reform Jews can resolve to be "Conservative Jews" — in the way that we conserve the world around us.



Mezuzah Caravan

We are planning a "Mezuzah Caravan" to help you install Mezuzot on the doorposts of anyone's house who requests it. We will be visiting the homes of those who wish to fulfill the mitzvah of mezuzah on at least your front door ("on the doorposts of your house" is part of the Sh'ma) Sunday, January 20.

Buy a mezuzah, decide about your parchment, (all is available in the gift shop if you do not already have a mezuzah or we'll tell you where to go online) and call the office to tell us that you'd like to be a stop on the Mezuzah Caravan.

We will help you by singing the prayers and helping with the placement and hammering. We will provide a sweet treat and a sip of wine or grape juice to add to the joy of performing the mitzvah. Please sign up by Wednesday, January 9.



Tu BiSh'vat Pot Luck Shabbat Dinner: January 25



- ☐ In honor of the New Year of the Trees, we will be having a Pot Luck Dinner for the entire congregation immediately following Shabbat Shirah services on January 25.
- **Dinner** We ask that whatever dish you're bringing—you bring enough for four times the amount for your group (a family of four brings enough for 16 servings). We supply the drinks. We can keep food warm or cold but not cook food that night.
 - Please remember that we do not allow pork or shellfish at B'nai Zion. Do not bring food that has meat and milk in the same dish (for example, cheese pizza or vegetarian pizza is ok, but no pizza with meat *and* cheese on it).
 - ₱ Please notify the office of how many will be in your party, by January 18, so that we can have enough tables and chairs and place settings.

Mazel Tov to:

- ★ Emma Elizabeth Nuckolls was born to Ann and Grant Nuckolls.

 Proud grandparents are Peggy and Leroy Nuckolls and Trisha and Mike Hogan. Thrilled great grandmothers are Betty Grant and Betty Rayburn.
 - Mazel Jov/
- ☆ Larry Evensky is the new president of the Downtown Rotary Club.
- ★ Stacy Hyman graduated LSUS with a degree in Public Relations & Mass Communication.
- ❖ Sarah Caminker and Matt Weiss on their engagement (they live in New York City). She is
 the daughter of Debbie Caminker and Rabbi Harold Caminker and granddaughter of
 Clare Maisel.

We love to share good news with our Congregational family. Please contact the office with details about your "simchas."

Birthdays and Anniversaries:

January Birthdays		16	Glen Watkins	29	Joe Badt, Jr.
1	Gabriele Kappers	19	Ardis Robison, II	31	Gabrielle Miller
1	Margaret Rifkin	20	Abigail Frierson	31	Jeanie Ward
5	Sharon Goldman	20	Carl Goodman		
6	Charles Timur Pickvance	23	Grant Nuckolls		
8	Perry Hyman	26	Steven Gold		VannV-
10	Diane Dufilho	26	Donna Greengus		ADARP 6.
14	Zena Gordon	26	Kathleen Somer		SIRT DAY!
14	Cindy Marrus	27	Max De Benedetti		
15	Sheila Lawrence	27	Rachel Holman		

January Anniversary

8 Rozann and Robert Frey



We give thanks for life, for health, for all that sustains us, and for this joyous day.

If you are not on the above list for current birthdays or anniversaries it means that the office does not have your information.

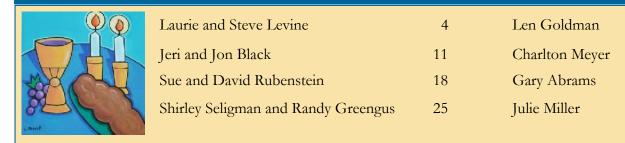
Please provide the office with the appropriate month, date, and year to complete our data.

It is a Tree of Life
To Those Who Hold Fast to It



And All of its Supporters Are Happy

Shabbat Blessers and Board Bimah Buddies



B'nai Zion Schedules

Shabbat Schedule
Friday Evening Service - 6:00 PM
Saturday Torah Study 9:45 AM
Saturday Morning Service- 11:00 AM



Office Hours

Monday through Friday 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

No Business on Shabbat or Holidays

Call for appointment to meet with the Rabbi

Tributes

CEMETERY FUND

In Memory of.

Paul Shapiro

Jackie Fleschman

DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Memory of.

Harold Kaplan

Fan Walker

Frances & Donald Zadeck

Doris Stern Levinson

William S. Levinson

Dorothy Zadeck

Frances & Donald Zadeck

ENDOWMENT FUND

In Memory of.

Harold Kaplan

Gloria Meyer

RENOVATION FUND

In Memory of.

Helen Badt

Karen & Craig Cohen

Harold Kaplan

Joe Badt, Sr.

Jo Ann & Marvin Bender

Shirley & Lionel Eltis

Trudi & Mike Foster

Eleanor & Albert Fraenkel

Betty & Len Goldman

Kathy Plante

Margaret Rifkin

Janet Ritman

FOUNDATION FUND

In Memory of.

Alexander W. Teck

GENERAL FUND

In Honor of.

Bertha Feldman

Larry Feldman, Jr.

Pauline Murov

Susan Balser Berry

In Honor of the Birthday of.

Lionel Eltis

Susan Balser Berry

In Memory of.

Larry Feldman

Larry Feldman, Jr.

Harold Kaplan

Marcia & Albert Katzenstein

Dorothy & Bernard Lobel

Ellen & George McGovern

Jean & Herman Van Os

Marilyn Weil

Jane & John Meyer

LIBRARY FUND

In Memory of.

Harold Kaplan

Bea Blumberg

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

In Memory of.

Harold Kaplan

Pauline Murov

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In Honor of.

Mitch Newstadt

Nell Ellis

In Memory of.

Sam Goldstein

Melanie Redler

Harold Kaplan

Teddy Kranson

Gloria & Don Rosen

Mandel Selber, Jr.

WE CARE FUND

Hoping for the Complete Recovery of.

Bob Susman

Sandra & David Ginsburg

In Honor of.

Cliff Birchfield

Karol Birchfield

In Memory of.

Harold Kaplan

Sandra & David Ginsburg

Karen & Bob Gordon

Suzee & Ardis Robison

Dorothy Muslow

Mrs. Irwin Muslow



While care was taken to compile these lists, errors may have occurred. If you notice any omissions, misspellings, or names in the incorrect category, please accept our apologies and notify the office so that we may correct our records.

Condolences



Keartfelt Condolences to Family and Friends for the loss of:

⇒ Sheldon Goldsholl, husband of Rochelle
⇒ Dr. Joseph Shavin, husband of Louise

May Their Memories Be A Blessing

Yahrzeits

Dec 30-Jan 5

Jacob Barron

Bertha H. Cheatham Dr. Norman N. Fein

Etta Frever

Sylvian W. Gamm

Bertha Gold

Rabbi Ronald Goldstein

Arnold Hermer Fred S. Holman Jack Katzenstein

Hilda Levi

Violet Annie Monk

Gwen Murov Harold Murov Joseph S. Murov Lazar Murov

Naomi Murov Stella Phillips

Lillian Strug Rambach Alexander Rifkin Norma Sadoff Hyman Schuster Sarah Schuster Horace Simon Sr. Lucille Stern

Jan 6-12

Theresa M. Arrant Harold B Baron Lucile Bodenheimer

Paul Brainis Lou P. Ellison

Joseph Słaughter Frankel

Bella Gold Bernice Herman

Henry Sour Katzenstein

Israel Kosovitz Nathan Kranson David Levy Gershon Marcus

Robert E. Redstone, Sr.

Frances Selber

Jane Blumenthal Steiner Della Goldstein Weis

Hazel Weisman E. Bernard Weiss Alvin Willer

Newman Zelinsky

<u>Ian 13-19</u>

Ben Blumberg Albert Elmer Burnhardt W. Fane Martin Feldman Kenneth Gompertz Adeline M. Hermer June Herold

Elsa K. Kent Fannie Klumok Stella Loeb Sophie Meisel Irwin Muslow Everett Rubenstein Morris Schuster Rose Seligman Sam Zadeck

Jan 20-26

George Abrams Larry Abrams Henry E. Cahn Josephine B. Cohen Genevieve Cowan Harry Ehrlich

Dr. William G. Fellman

Zelda Finkelstein Ruth Frankel Shirley Frever Paul Gardsbane Isabel Goldman Ruth Goldsholl Harriet Goldsmith Felice Flaxman Harris Esther A. Kaufman Mrs. Herbert Loeb Hannah Marx Vera Miller Isaac Muslow

Micah Ross Newstadt Jacob Novek Sophie Ruben Louis Schwartz Morris J. Weiss Mrs. Sydney Willer

Marvin Muslow

<u>Ian 27-Feb 2</u>

Samuel Atkins Ruby S. Blumenthal Cecile Lemle Childs

Jake Cullick Benjamin B. Eltis Lewis Feinberg Carol L Gamm

Goldie Williams Heine

Morris Hirsh Joe Kahn Mrs. Sol Kaplan Serretta Krom Sadie L. Kuperman Miriam Levine Lillian A. Mandel Max Morris Shirl S. Morris Hyman Muslow Armand Roos, Jr

Jack Ruben Morris Ruben Dr. Melvin Steiner



May Their Memories A Blessing

January 2013 / Tevet ~ Sh'vat 5773											
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday					
DEC 30 17th of Tevet	DEC 31 18 TH of Tevet OFFICE CLOSED	1 19th of Tevet HAPPY NEW YEAR OFFICE CLOSED	2 20th of Tevet	3 21st of Tevet	4 22nd of Tevet SIMCHA SHABBAT Service 6 PM 5:04	5 23rd of Tevet Sh'mot Exod. 1:1-6:1 Isaiah 27:6-28:13; 29:22-23 Torah Study 9:45 AM Service 11 AM					
6 24th of Tevet NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	7 25th of Tevet	8 26th of Tevet PEOPLE OF THE BOOK CLUB 7 PM Sistine Secrets SISTINE SECRETS WHITE PARTY OF THE BEAUTY OF THE BOOK CLUB 7 PM SISTINE SECRETS WHITE PARTY OF THE BEAUTY OF	9 27th of Tevet BET HEBREW 3:30-4:30 PM	10 28th of Tevet	11 29th of Tevet	12 1st of Sh'vat Vaera Exod. 6:2-9:35 Isaiah 66:1-13-23 ROSH CHODESH SH'VAT TOT SHABBAT 9-9:30 AM					
					Service 6 PM 5:10	Torah Study 9:45 AM Service 11 AM 5:47					
13 2nd of Sh'vat RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	14 3rd of Sh'vat BULLETIN DEADLINE	15 4th of Sh'vat BZ BOARD MEETING 7 PM	16 5th of Sh'vat	17 6th of Sh'vat	18 7th of Sh'vat Potluck Dinner RSVP Deadline Service 6 PM	19 8th of Sh'vat Bo Exod. 10:1-13:16 Jeremiah 46:13-28 Torah Study 9:45 AM Service 11 AM					
	7.0				5:16 🕌	5:53 🎍					
20 9th of Sh'vat NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL MEZUZAH CARAVAN	21 10th of Sh'vat OFFICE CLOSED	22 11th of Sh'vat	23 12th of Sh'vat	24 13th of Sh'vat	25 14th of Sh'vat Shabbat Shirah Potluck Dinner Service 6 PM 5:23	26 15th of Sh'vat Beshalach Exod. 13:17-17:16 Judges 4:4-5:31 TU BISH'VAT Torah Study 9:45 AM Service 11 AM 6:00					
27 16th of Sh'vat WORLD RELIGION DAY Highland Center 1-5 PM	28 17th of Sh'vat	29 18th of Sh'vat	30 19th of Sh'vat	31 20 th of Sh'vat	FEB1 21st of Sh'vat SIMCHA SHABBAT Februar Service 6 PM 5:29	FEB 2 22 nd of Sh'vat Yitro Exod 18:1-20:23 Isaiah 6:1-7:6; 9:5-6 Torah Study 9:45 AM Service 11 AM 6:06					



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