

Beth Israel Sinai News

The Monthly Newsletter of Beth Israel Sinai Congregation

Rabbi's Message

DECEMBER 2015 KISLEV - TEVET 5776

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The former chief rabbi of the British Empire, Rabbi Sir Jonathan Sacks, tells a wonderful story he once heard from the Nobel Prize winning author, Elie Wiesel. There was a time when the famous psychoanalyst, Dr. Sigmund Freud, and the father of modern Zionism, Theodor Herzl, lived in the same district of Vienna. "Fortunately," he said, "they never met." Can you imagine what would have happened had they met? Herzl would have said: 'I have a dream of a Jewish state.' Freud would have responded: 'Tell me, Herr Herzl, how long have you been having this dream? Lie down on my couch and I will psychoanalyze you.' Herzl would have been cured of his dreams and there would be NO Jewish state."

The same could be said for other dreamers throughout history. Abraham, fearing the rejection of his family and friends, might not have accepted the revolutionary belief in the existence of only one G-d. A frustrated Joseph might have accepted his

fate as a prisoner of Pharaoh. Had he done so, Egypt might not have had enough grain to survive the years of famine. Judah Maccabeus might have never led a successful campaign for religious freedom against the tyrant Antiochus. Esther might have concluded that she should remain silent about Haman's plan to kill the empire's Jews. Holocaust survivors might have never fulfilled the dream of building new lives upon the ashes of Auschwitz. The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King might have never had his "dream".

Marcia, Becky, Lara, Sam, Robyn, Joe, Greg, Lisa, Myles, Mollie and our newest grandchild, Joslyn Renee, would like to wish our entire temple family a Happy Hanukkah. May we continue to turn our dreams into realities.

SEE YOU IN SHUL.
RABBI MARTY



*Hanukkah, oh Hanukkah
Come light the menorah
Let's have a party
We'll all dance the hora.*

*Gather round the table
I'll give you a treat
Sevimon to play with
And latkes to eat.*

*And while we are playing
The candles are burning low
One for each night
They shed a sweet light
To remind us of days
long ago.*



*Oh, dreidel, dreidel,
dreidel
I made it out of clay
And when it's dry and
ready
Oh dreidel, I shall play.*

Blessing for the Menorah

Ba-ruch A-tah A-do-nai
E-lo-hei-nu Me-lech ha-
olam a-sher ki-de-sha-nu
be-mitz-vo-tav ve-tzi-va-
nu le-had-lik ner shal
Cha-nu-kah.

Blessed are You, Lord
our G-d, King of the uni-
verse, who has sanctified
us with His command-
ments, and commanded
us to kindle the Chanu-
kah lights.

Ba-ruch A-tah A-do-nai
E-lo-hei-nu Me-lech ha-
olam she-a-sa ni-sim la-
avo-tei-nu ba-ya-mim ha-
-heim bi-zman ha-zeh.

Blessed are You, Lord
our G-d, King of the uni-
verse, who performed
miracles for our forefa-
thers in those days, at
this time.

Ba-ruch A-tah A-do-nai
E-lo-hei-nu Me-lech ha-
olam she-hechi-ya-nu ve-
-ki-yi-ma-nu ve-higi-a-
nu liz-man ha-zeh.

Blessed are You, Lord
our G-d, King of the uni-
verse, who has granted
us life, sustained us, and
enabled us to reach this
occasion.

Sisterhood

In November we had several people sponsor our Shabbat kiddush. Joanie Williams and her friends from Atonement Lutheran Church in Racine sponsored a kiddush; Jim Barten sponsored one in honor of his AA birthday; we were honored by a young couple who sponsored a kiddush for their auruf. We hope December will bring many more people wanting to sponsor a kiddush.

With your generous support, we will be able to continue having great food. If you have any items you would like to donate, we can always use paper products, coffee, tea, any food that has a kosher hesker. If you want to sponsor a kiddush, call Joyce Placzkowski at 262-945-7675. A meat kiddush costs \$100, a dairy kiddush costs \$50. Gift cards are always welcome.

Thanks to everyone who has helped in the kitchen either with cooking, cleaning up or shopping.

President's Message

Hi, Beth Israel Sinai Friends,

Well, after having a happy feeding frenzy at Thanksgiving (I gained three pounds!), all I have to look forward to is an overload of latkes at Hanukkah, the menorah, lighting the candles and spinning the dreidel.

We will all be able to celebrate Hanukkah together at the synagogue on Sunday, December 13th while enjoying a wonderful dinner (Lots of latkes!) The festivities will begin at 6pm. I look forward to seeing you all there.

Shelly



Acknowledgements

~ Sarah Levin, in honor of birth of a daughter to Robin and Joe Riser

~ Rich Jon LLC, in memory of Portia Rothschild

~ Max Gordon, in honor of the birth of Joslyn Renee

~ Mary Jo McIntyre, general donation

~ Arthur S. Rothschild, in memory of Portia Rothschild

~ Joan Toth, general donation

~ Max Gordon, in honor of Jim Barten's AA birthday, in honor of Joyce Placzkowski and Marion Sperer birthdays, in honor of Jeff Collen's father, Milton

~ Anonymous donation for fire extinguisher

~ Max Gordon, bottle of wine for Hanukkah dinner.

~ Judy and Stan Rosen, donation for fire extinguisher

~ Fran and William Gold, general donation

~ Anonymous, general donation

Birthdays

December

Joyce Placzkowski
Marion Sperer

January

Rabbi Martin Adelberg
Max Gordon



Yahrzeits

**Week of December 5
Kislev**

Mary Fishbain 29
 Alex Dorman 1
 Jacob M. Kassel 1
 Maynard Greenberg 3
 Dr. Charles Robert Bloom 4
 Myron Adelberg 5
 Lena Hoffman 5
 Shirley Levine 5
 Dr. Hymon J. Soref 5

Week of December 12

Morton Bachman 7
 Burton Isaacson 7
 Harry J. Mandelker 8
 Sara Brownstein 10
 Dora Schaefer 10
 Sydney Silver 11
 June S. Harris 11
 Betty Ruben 12
 Sol Marcado 12
 Harry Donovitz 12

**Week of December 19
Tevet**

Mae Brownstein 13
 Jacob Jacobson 13
 Meyer Levin 13
 Mitchel Pearlman 14
 Abraham Gorsky 15
 Abe Goodman 16
 Jacob Slobodkin 16

Elvin Wolfman 16
 Sarah Woolf 16
 Herman Sunshine 17
 Rose Blitstein 18
 Abe Goldberg 18
 Abraham Krasnow 18
 Rudolph Kahn 19
 Abraham Karlitzky 19
 Ruth L. Meyer 19
 Mary Shapiro 19
 Ida Tabaksman 19

Week of December 26

Celia Woolf Westphall 20
 Ida Blume Weisman 21
 Harry M. Blitstein 22
 Alice Letsche 23
 Herman Kaplan 23
 Abraham Grant 23
 Paula Shovers 24
 Hans Sternheim 24
 Evelyn Goldberg Kupperman 25
 Jeanne Brown 25
 Herman Levin 26

Week of January 2

Sadie Kaufman 27
 Harry Gordon 28
 Toby B. Gorsky 30
 Morris Mitler 30
 Irving Schulman 30
 Bessie Levin 31
 Ben Mitler 1
 Solomon Reder 2
 Dan B. Levit 2

Shabbat Candle Lighting Times

December 4 - 3:59 PM
 December 11 - 3:59 PM
 December 18 - 4:00 PM
 December 25 - 4:04 PM



Cemetery Notes

The Racine Jewish Cemetery is five acres located at 612 Lathrop Avenue. It is a well maintained, park-like setting. A resting place for all Jews.

There is a reform section of the cemetery where Jews and their non-Jewish family members can be buried together.

For more information about the purchase of cemetery plots or perpetual care, please call Jim Barten at 262-886-0381

Hadassah

Hadassah gratefully accepts any donations. Please remember Hadassah and its many good works and projects when considering making charitable contributions. Cards \$5; Shares \$10; Children's Pavilion Certificates \$5 & \$10; Trees (JNF) Certificates \$18. For more information call Sarah Levin, 886-9331

Notes from the Treasurer

We have made repairs to the heating system that we believe will save several thousand dollars per year. Also, we are covering many of the windows with plastic sheeting to further reduce utility costs. If all members pay dues suggested by the work sheet we sent in June, sponsored a kiddush at least twice per year, and made a few other donations during the year, we would have a shot at balancing the budget.

Coming events:

Make your reservation for the delicious Hanukkah dinner on Sunday, December 13th at 6pm. \$20 for members, \$25 for non-members. Children under 10 are free.

We have tentative plans to bring in a klezmer band on January 24, 2016. Watch next month's bulletin.

Please honor birthdays with a contribution to the synagogue. Donation suggestions:

Chai \$18 ~ Dedicate a prayer book \$36 ~ Sponsor a dairy kiddush \$50 ~ Sponsor a meat kiddush \$100
 Leaf for Hulbert Tree of Life \$500 ~ Rock for Hulbert Tree of Life \$1,000 ~ Yahrzeit plaque \$360
 Benefactor plaque \$2,500 ~ Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, any amount ~ Building Restoration Fund, any amount



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Did you know?

Maimonides reduced Judaism to a creed of thirteen axioms in the style of Greek and Arabic philosophers. He was condemned for writing a Jewish creed, as well as for its contents, and repudiated his own work. Never the less, it was so popular with the grass roots, it survived as Yigdal sung in the closing section of many services. The concept of a creed does not appear anywhere else in Judaism.

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Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Hebrew & Adult Ed. Class	4	5 Shabbat Service at 9:45am
6 Place right to left; kindle left to right 	7 	8 	9 	10 Hebrew & Adult Ed. Class 	11 	12 Shabbat Service at 9:45am 
13 Hanukkah dinner 6pm 	14	15	16	17	18	19 Shabbat Service at 9:45am
20	21	22	23	24 Hebrew & Adult Ed. Class	25	26 Shabbat Service at 9:45am
27	28	29	30	31		