

# Beth Israel Sinai News

The Monthly Newsletter of Beth Israel Sinai Congregation  
July 2016---Sivan/Tammuz 5776

## Rabbi's Message

JULY 2016----SIVAN/TAMMUZ 5776

Who wrote the Torah has been the subject of debate for centuries. The Torah refers to the Five Books of Moses. This historical document, according to most traditional Jewish authorities, was written down by Moses over a period of 40 years while the Children of Israel roamed the Sinai Desert. Unlike other prophets, Moses writes in the third person as though he were a passive observer writing down each word as it was dictated to him by G-d. Some Biblical scholars feel the Chumash was written over a period of centuries. One reason for this speculation was that Moses did not even exist when Genesis was recorded by earlier scholars. Another was that it was unlikely that an undefinable G-d actually dictated that words of the Torah to Moses. So was Moses a mere scribe allowing G-d's wisdom to flow unabated into the world without any interference from his own ego? Or did Moses and later scholars compile the Five Books of Moses and the other books, comprising the triad of the Torah, Neve'im (Prophets) and Ketuvim (Writings), popularly known as the Tanach? Together with the 24 books of the Bible is the Kabbalah, which unlocks mystical insights accumulated by the author of the Zohar, Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai, and later scholars. To some Jews, the Kabbalah is as sacred as the Written Torah.

Later this month, we will observe a minor fast day known as the 17th of Tammuz. This is the day that Moses descended from Mt. Sinai with the two stone Tablets containing the Ten Commandments. Imagine how



## August 13th 8 PM-Tisha b'Av Service



Please join us for a special Service at 8 PM Saturday, August 13th for Tisha b'Av. This commemorates the destruction of the First and Second Temples, which both happened on the Ninth of Av, It is the second most important fast day of the year.

shocked Moses was after being on Mt. Sinai with G-d for 40 days and 40 nights to see the Children of Israel worshipping the Golden Calf. In a fit of anger, he smashed the Tablets. Other historical events affecting the Jewish people occurred on the 17th of Tammuz in later years. King Menashe set up an idol in the Temple. A Greek officer by the name of Apostomos burned a Torah scroll. On the 17th of Tammuz in 586 BCE the Babylonians breached the wall of Jerusalem. Three weeks later, on the Ninth of Av, the First Temple fell. On the 17th of Tammuz in 70 CE, the Romans breached the wall. Three weeks later, the Second Temple fell. Jews through the world commemorate the "Three Weeks" between the 17th of Tammuz and the Fast of Tisha B'Av as a period of national mourning. Since the 17th of Tammuz falls this year on Shabbat, we will celebrate it on July 24th.

Thanks to all who participated in making the 100th anniversary of Beth Israel Sinai a special success. Over 70 people from both Racine and around the nation helped to make this occasion so special. Once again, we were honored by the participation of Mayor John Dickert. May we share many more "simchas" together in the future as a thriving congregation.

SEE YOU IN SHUL,  
RABBI MARTY

## Anniversary Donations

Thank you to everyone who helped make our 100th Anniversary celebration a huge success.

Jim Barten  
Eileen Schroeder  
Michael Mueller & Carol Baumgartner  
Don Lang  
Warren & Joannie Williams  
Sharon Locke  
Dale & Roberta Jacobs  
Gregory Petro  
Terry Dason  
Christopher & Krista Leberfing  
Mr. & Mrs. L. Vaytsman  
Miriam Horwitz  
Mr. & Mrs. S. Vielie  
Mr. & Mrs. J. Schmadl  
Mr. & Mrs. C. Leberfing  
Mr. & Mrs. I. Chasnoff  
Gary Mednick

Diane Davis  
Rita Metzger  
Leone Niemiec  
Rev. Tony Larsen  
Arthur Domsky  
Mark Isenberg  
Steve Kushner  
Rick Schaefer



Marion Sperer  
Sarah Levin  
Linda Hulbert/Kent Russman  
Charitable Fund  
Blanche Kahn  
Joel & Judy Roher  
Mary Jo McIntyre  
Leon Teichner  
Lorraine Ganz  
Glenn Gordon  
Judith McGauran  
Michael Katz  
Michael Jacobs  
Joyce Placzkowski  
Gertrude Hulbert  
Teresa Dason  
Maresh Meredith Funeral Home

## Notes From Our Treasurer

In the face of \$40,000 per year operating losses the congregation authorized the Board to sell our building.

We hope to relocate to a more economical home, possibly north west of Racine where we might attract Jews living in Milwaukee County. Our present building costs \$35,000 a year to operate.

It could take five years to sell our building. It is imperative that we reduce our losses so that we do not run out of money before we can move.

Pay your dues according to the schedule included with your dues statement. The schedule spreads costs fairly among our members according to income and family size. Do not pay according to any special arrangement you negotiated years ago.

Donations beyond your dues are needed if we are to succeed in downsizing our operation. Sponsor a Kiddush or two. Honor the birthdays and yahrzeits of friends and relatives with a donation. Our monthly Shabbat dinners are fundraisers. Attend our Passover Seder, our Hanukkah Dinner, and our newest annual event the pre-Yom Kippur Banquet.

We can.

(article written for June newsletter by Max, outgoing Treasurer)

## Happy Birthday!

### July Birthdays



**Steve Kushner  
Edie Goodman  
Judy Roher**

### Sisterhood for July 2016

Thank you so much to Judy Roher for sponsoring the Kiddush July 2nd and preparing such a beautiful cake!

If you would like to sponsor a Kiddush (Meat \$100/Dairy \$50) or help in the kitchen, please contact Joyce Placzkowski at (262) 945-7675.

Please consider donating coffee or paper goods to the kitchen. We can always use them!

**Yahrzeits**

(Yahrzeit section researched and written by Max G.)

**July/Sivan**

1	25	Jacob Gorsky Oscar Waisman Joseph Wilks
2	26	Joseph E. Seft Harvey Silverman Celia Frank
3	27	Sarah Shapiro
4	28	Kate Fox
6	30	Katherine Silver

**July/Tammuz**

7	1	Gertrude Kiselow
9	3	Mamie Faber Louis Rosenberg
10	4	Ruth Dingfelder Minnie Grant
12	6	Mynette Davis Frank Hoffman Cherna Shovers Tillie Hornstein
13	7	Rebecca Karlitzky
14	8	Norman Shovers
15	9	Max Tannenbaum
17	11	Freda Altman Epstein Anne Levin
18	12	Julius Fishbain Samuel Gluck Edward Shovers
19	13	Myron Goldberg Isador Karlitsky
20	14	Sophia Gottlieb
21	15	Mary W. Lippman
22	16	Genevieve S. Ruben Fannie Shovers
23	17	Emma Dunya Silver
24	18	Esther Laufman Josephine Levit
26	20	Pfc. David Lester Gordon Julia Kaminsky Dr. Victor Ganz

**July/Tammuz**

27	21	Isador Silver Jacob Silver Chaim Weissbard
30	24	Stella Greenberg Dr. Leo M. Lifschutz Norman Levin
31	25	Beatrice Marvin



Yahrzeit is the anniversary of the death of a loved one. Observe yahrzeit by burning a yahrzeit candle in your home, reciting Mourner's Kaddish, and making a contribution to the synagogue in memory of the departed.

**June Donations**

Thank you to all who support Beth Israel Sinai

- John & Babs Schnabl-General Donation
- Glenn Gordon-Shabbat Dinner
- Mr. & Mrs. J. Schmadl-In Honor of Sarah Levin's birthday
- Eileen Schroeder-General donation
- Joyce Placzkowski-Sarah Levin's birthday
- Max Gordon-In memory of Glenn Rice
- Sarah Levin-in Honor of Temple Friends
- Joannie and Warren Williams-In Honor of Sarah Levin

**Time for a Picnic!**



On August 21, 2016 at 12:30 p.m. we will be have the congregational picnic. Eileen Schroeder graciously offered her home for our use. Her address is 119 Stuart. It will be a meat meal. We will provide hamburgers and hotdogs.

Please bring a pareve dish to pass. Hope to see everyone there!





Beth Israel Sinai  
Congregation

944 Main Street, Racine, WI, 53403

Phone: (262) 633-7093

Email: [bethisraelsinai@att.net](mailto:bethisraelsinai@att.net)

Web: [www.bethisraelsinai.org](http://www.bethisraelsinai.org)

## Beth Israel Sinai News

Your NUMBER ONE source for BIS news and events (probably)

Sivan-Tammuz 5776  
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## Shabbat Candle Lighting Times



July 1--8:17 pm

June 8--8:15 pm

June 15--8:11 pm

June 22--8:05 pm

July 29--7:58 pm

August 5--7:49 pm

## July Calendar

July 2nd--Shabbat Services 9:45 AM, followed by a special sponsored Kiddush luncheon

July 7th--Torah Class at 6 PM

July 9th--Shabbat Services 9:45 AM, followed by a Kiddush luncheon

July 14th--Torah Class at 6 PM

July 16th--Shabbat Services 9:45 AM, followed by a Kiddush luncheon

July 21st--Torah Class at 6 PM

July 23rd--Shabbat Services 9:45 AM, followed by Kiddush luncheon

July 30th--Shabbat Services 9:45 AM, followed by Kiddush luncheon

Mark your calendars!

Special Tisha b'Av service August 13th 8 PM

Congregational Picnic August 21 (details inside)