

# Beth Israel Sinai News

The Monthly Newsletter of the Beth Israel Sinai Congregation

Volume 94, Issue 7

DECEMBER 2013

KISLEV - TEVET 5774

## Rabbi's Message

Joseph had earned the reputation of a dreamer. In last week's Torah portion, he successfully interpreted the dreams of both Pharaoh's chief baker and chief wine steward. The baker was hanged and the wine steward restored to his former position by the Egyptian ruler just as the Hebrew prisoner predicted. When Pharaoh could not sleep, Joseph was released from prison to interpret his dreams. Pharaoh first dreamed that there were seven hearty ears of corn and seven skinny ears of corn. The pathetically thin ears of corn devoured the seven fat ears of corn. Pharaoh's second dream consist-

ed of seven fat cows and seven skinny cows grazing in the royal pasture. The seven skinny cows devoured the seven fat cows. Joseph predicted from these two dreams that Egypt would face seven years of plenty followed by seven years of famine. Amazed that the young man not only interpreted dreams, but could find practical solutions to implement them, Pharaoh released Joseph from prison and appointed him Second in Command.

Indeed, what set Joseph apart from other dreamers was his ability to translate dreams into practical solutions. Grain houses were filled during the seven fruitful harvest years to provide food during the long famine.

When Egyptians could no longer afford to buy grain, they sold their land for food.

We learn from Joseph that we must never be afraid to dream. Imagine if the Maccabees had not dreamt about religious freedom. Our culture might have perished under the tyranny of Antiochus. There would have been no re-dedication of the Temple. There would have been no miracle of a single cruse of oil lasting for eight days. There might have been no Jewish people.

The former Chief Rabbi of the British Empire, Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks, relates a wonderful story he once heard from the Nobel Prize winning author, Elie Wiesel.

## President's Message

At the last two annual meetings, the congregation's members directed the congregation's board to discuss with Kenosha's Congregation Beth Hillel ways to strengthen, now and into the future, the Jewish Community in Southeastern Wisconsin. Our conversations have been very fruitful. In October our respective ritual committees exchanged visits and in November some of our congregation's members visited Beth Hillel for a Friday night pot luck dinner and Shabbat service.

On Saturday, December 14, please help provide a warm welcome as members of Beth Hillel join us to experience our Saturday service and the Kiddush that follows.

Thinking about Chanukah and how the Maccabee's fought and preserved our religion has again reminded me that we're all Jews and while we may approach things slightly differently, we have the same 5774 years worth of closely shared history.

In January the board will hold an informational meet-

ing for all members to help everyone better understand all of our options for the future, and for strengthening Southeastern Wisconsin's Jewish Community.

I'm looking forward to seeing you at the congregation's Wednesday December 4, 6:00 p.m. Chanukah Party.

Please don't forget to bring a dish to the December 7 dairy potluck Kiddush.

Shalom,  
Jeff

## Inside this issue:

Rabbi's Message Continued...	2
Donations	2
Sisterhood News	2
Yahrzeits and Candle Lighting Times	3
Cemetery News Hadassah	3
Holocaust Presentation	3
Calendar	4

## Special Happenings

**Congregation Chanukah Party**  
**Wednesday, December 4**  
**6:00 PM**

### Dairy Potluck Kiddush

*Bring a kosher dairy dish, appetizer, or dessert to share after the service!*  
**Saturday, December 7**

## Rabbi's Message Continued...

There was a time when the famous psychoanalyst, Sigmund Freud, and the father of modern political Zionism, Theodore Herzl, lived in the same district of Vienna. "Fortunately," he said, "they never met." Can you imagine what would have happened had they met? Theodore Herzl would have said: "I have a dream of a Jewish state." Freud would have replied: "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 today there would be NO Jewish state." The same could be said of other great dreamers like the late President John F. Kennedy and the Reverend Martin Luther King.

This is indeed a valuable lesson as our Jewish community forges into the future. To quote Herzl, "If you will it, it is no dream."

Hope you all had a great

"Thanksgivukah" and continue to enjoy the remainder of our "Festival of Light." Chag Sameach.

See you in shul,  
Rabbi Marty

P.S. Don't forget to mark the calendar for January 4, 2014. Everyone is invited to come celebrate the 50th anniversary of my Bar Mitzvah. There will be guests coming who attended my original Bar Mitzvah in 1964.

## Sisterhood

November was a month filled with celebrations and the Sisterhood thanks the members and friends who hosted the Kiddush during the first three weeks of November. Congratulations to Jim Barten, who sponsored the November 2 Kiddush in recognition of 33 years of sobriety. Dr. and Mrs. Victor Ganz will host the Kiddush on November 9, celebrating 64 years of marriage. Happy Anniversary, Victor and Lorraine! Eileen Schroeder celebrated her late October birthday with a Kiddush on November 16. Happy birthday, Eileen!

Please join in the fun and bring your favorite dairy dish to our first "Potluck Kiddush", which will take place immediately after services on Saturday, December 7. We encourage everyone to bring a dairy dish, dessert, or other potluck item to share. We know we have many wonderful cooks in our congregation and are excited to try your specialties! Perhaps you bake special Hanukkah treats, make a kugel that everyone raves about, or have a secret party dip that keeps friends and family coming back for more. Anything goes, but please ensure the ingredients are kosher. *If you are bringing a dish that needs to be heated or otherwise stored or prepared in the kitchen, it must be prepared strictly kosher and brought in a kosher serving dish or a new disposable pan.* Otherwise, please do not bring it into the kitchen; we will designate a table in the fellowship hall for items that are not prepared kosher. Ice will be available to keep cold foods cold. We will make the necessary accommodations to keep any non-kosher foods out of the kitchen to ensure our kosher kitchen remains kosher and will provide disposable plates, cups, utensils, and serving pieces.

I hope everyone remembered to send or call in their reservations for the upcoming annual Hanukkah dinner and party, which will be held on Wednesday, December 4 at 6:00 p.m. Many thanks to Rebecca Bloom for once again planning and preparing the dinner, and to the members who help her make the gallons of homemade applesauce and mountains of crispy latkes we all look forward to every year. Since the Hanukkah dinner takes place in December, this will take the place of the monthly Shabbat dinner; however the Shabbat dinners will resume again in January.

Many thanks to our friends at Beth Hillel for inviting Beth Israel Sinai to a potluck dinner and service on November 15. I wasn't able to attend due to a scheduling conflict, but hear the food was outstanding and the tables were heaping with delicious treats! I forgot to submit the recipes for the October Shabbat dinner last month. They are now available on the BIS website or you can call Rita to request a copy be sent to you.

Gifts to the Sisterhood (whether financial, in-kind, or extra pairs of hands) enrich community life at Beth Israel Sinai and will be enjoyed throughout 5774! If you'd like to schedule a Kiddush to honor a life cycle event, birthday, anniversary, or any occasion, please give Rita a call. Contributions can be sent to BIS (designate it for the Sisterhood). You can also help the Sisterhood by donating kosher grocery items for the onegs and Kiddush. You can simply drop them off in the kitchen at your convenience.

Sisterhood Chair: Rita Collen

### General Support

Mary Vite  
Drs. Barbara and Richard Schuster  
Joannie and Warren Williams

### A Book in Honor of Jim Barten

Max Gordon

### Chanukah Support

Anonymous  
Joannie and Warren Williams  
Marilyn and Moreau MacCaughey  
Dr. and Mrs. Victor Ganz



**Yahrzeits**

**Week of November 29**

Harry J. Mandelker	29
Sarah Brownstein	1
Dora Schaefer	1
Sydneye Silver	2
June S. Harris	2
Betty Ruben	3
Sol Marcado	3
Mae Brownstein	4
Jacob Jacobson	4
Meyer Levin	4
Mitchell Pearlman	5

**Week of December 6**

Abraham Gorsky	6
Abe Goodman	7
Jacob Slobodkin	7
Elvin Wolfman	7
Sarah Woolf	7
Herman Sunshine	8
Jacob Levin	8
Rose Blitstein	9
Abe Goldberg	9
Abraham Krasnow	9
Rudolph Kahn	10
Abraham Karlitzky	10
Ruth L. Meyer	10
Mary Shapiro	10
Ida Tabaksman	10
Celia Woolf Westphall	11
Jean Dorman	12
Ida Blume Weisman	12

**Week of December 13**

Harry M. Blitstein	13
Alice Letsche	14
Herman Kaplan	14
Abraham Grant	14
Paula Shovers	15
Hans Sternheim	15
Evelyn Goldberg Kupperman	16
Jeanne Brown	16

Herman Levin	17
Sadie Kaufman	18
Harry Gordon	19

**Week of December 20**

Toby B. Gorsky	21
Morris Mitler	21
Irving Schulman	21
Bessie Levin	22
Ben Mitler	23
Solomon Reder	24
Dan B. Levit	24
Don Gordon	25
Marcia Grant	25
Rose Hulbert	25
Nathan I. Silver	26

**Week of December 27**

Elaine Adelberg	27
Geraldine Shovers	27
Hyman Draft	27
Meyer Levin	28
David Gottlieb	29
Martha Kleffmann	29
Beverly Lichterman	29
Philip D. Cohen	29
Minnie Goodman	30
Bertha Julian	30
Ida Ruffalo	30
David Schaefer	31
Edith Kronson	1
Anna L. Marks	2
Dora Solomon	2

**Week of January 3**

Norman Richard Grant	3
Edward E. Rosenzweig	3
Joseph I. Levin	4
Boroch Hirsh Sidran	4
Julius Alperovitz	5
Morris Wolf	6
Harris Domskey	7
Maurice Davis	9

**Shabbat Candle Lighting Times**

December 6 - 4:00 PM
December 13 - 4:00 PM
December 20 - 4:02 PM
December 27 - 4:06 PM
January 3 - 4:12 PM
January 10 - 4:19 PM



**Cemetery Notes**

The Racine Jewish Cemetery is five acres located on the 600 block of Lathrop Avenue and is a well maintained, park-like setting. It is a resting place for all Jews.

Call Jim Barten at 262.412.8457

**Cemetery Change Approved**

At the annual meeting the congregation approved the creation of a Reform section of the cemetery where Jews and their non-Jewish family members can be buried together.

**Hadassah**

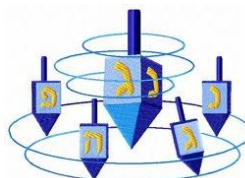
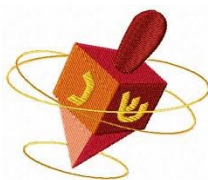
Hadassah gratefully accepts any donations. Please remember Hadassah and its many good works and projects when considering making charitable contributions. Cards \$5; Shares \$10; Children's Pavilion Certificates \$5 & \$10; Trees (JNF) Certificates

**Context for the Holocaust**

On December 9th, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., the Oak Creek Public Library, 8620 S. Howell Avenue, will host a presentation called "Community Conversations: Context for the Holocaust." This program will cover the conditions and political climate that led to the Holocaust.

**Congregational Chanukah Party - Wednesday December 4 at 6:00 p.m.**

Chanukah comes very quickly this year. The Congregation's Chanukah party is scheduled for Wednesday, December 4 at 6:00 p.m. Thanks again this year to Rebecca Bloom and her Sous Chefs, we can again look forward to an excellent meal of brisket and latkes!





Beth Israel Sinai  
Congregation

944 Main Street, Racine, WI, 53403

Phone: (262) 633-7093

Email: bethisraelsinai@att.net

Web: www.bethisraelsinai.org

## *Dairy Potluck Kiddush - Saturday December 7*

***Bring a kosher dairy dish, appetizer, or dessert to share after the service!***

# *December 2013    Kislev - Tevet 5774*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 Congregation's Chanukah Party 6:00 PM	5 Hebrew & Adult Ed. Class	6	7 Shabbat Services 9:45 AM Potluck Dairy Kiddush
8	9	10 ***Hebrew & Adult Ed. Class	11	12 ***NO Hebrew & Adult Ed. Class	13	14 Shabbat Services 9:45 AM Beth Hillel members will join us.
15	16	17	18	19 Hebrew & Adult Ed. Class	20	21 Shabbat Services 9:45 AM .
22	23	24	25	26 Hebrew & Adult Ed. Class	27	28 Shabbat Services 9:45 AM
29	30	31	Jan 1, 2014	2 Hebrew & Adult Ed. Class	3	4 Shabbat Services 9:45 AM  Rabbi Adelberg's 50th Bar Mitzvah Anniversary Kiddush