

# Beth Israel Sinai News

The Monthly Newsletter of Beth Israel Sinai Congregation

February 2016 Shevat -ADAR 1 5776

## Rabbi's Message

FEBRUARY 2016--SHEVAT, ADAR 1, 5776

There are 365 days a year in the secular or solar calendar. The Jewish calendar, which is based on the lunar cycle, has 354 days. To ensure that Passover does not fall in the winter or Yom Kippur in the spring, the Rabbinical authors of the Talmud ruled that an additional month be added to the Hebrew calendar seven times in nineteen years. This month is known Adar Sheni or Adar II. When this occurs, Purim is celebrated by the Jewish community during the second month of Adar. The only Jews not celebrating Purim during Adar II is the small Karaite community. They do not accept the "Divine origin" of the Oral Law or the authority of the Rabbis who wrote it down beginning with Rabbi Judah the Prince (Rabbi Yehudah ha-Nasi) around 200 CE.

5776 is a leap year. The 14th of Adar I, or "Adar Rishon," is called Purim Katan or "Little Purim." The 15th of Adar Rishon is known as Shushan Purim Katan. Historically, many Jewish communities throughout history established additional "Purims" to commemorate their deliverance from a particular antisemitic ruler or threat. The best known is Purim Vinz, traditionally celebrated in Frankfurt, Germany one week after the regular Purim. Purim Vinz commemorates the Fettmilch uprising, in which one Victor Fettmilch attempted to exterminate

the entire Frankfurt Jewish community. According to some sources, the saintly Rabbi Moses Sofer (the Chasam Sofer), celebrated Purim Vinz every year, even when he served as rabbi in other cities.

In recent history, Adolf Hitler banned the observance of Purim. Julius Streicher, the editor of the main Nazi newspaper, the Volkischer Beobachter, delivered his most famous speech justifying the massacre of Jews and destruction of their synagogues and property just one day after Kristallnacht (the Night of the Broken Glass.) On November 10, 1938, Streicher declared that just as "the Jew butchered 75,000 Persians" on one night, the same fate would have befallen the German people had the Jews succeeded in conducting a war against Germany. The Jews "would have instituted a new Purim festival in Germany."

Many Nazis justified their murderous actions against Jews by insuring that they coincide with Purim. To name a few, on Purim 1942, the Nazis hanged 10 Jews in Zdunska Wola to avenge the hanging of Haman's ten sons. On the eve of Purim in 1943, over 100 Jewish doctors and their families were shot by Nazis in Czestochowa. The following day, Jewish doctors were taken from Radom and shot.

Adolf Hitler stated in a speech made

on January 30, 1944, that if the Nazis were defeated the Jews would "celebrate a second Purim." After his conviction for crimes against humanity, Julius Streicher sarcastically shouted "Purimfest 1946" as he ascended the scaffold after the Nuremberg Trial. According to one Rabbi Mordechai Neugroschel noticed that 10 Nazi defendants in the Nuremberg Trials, corresponding to Haman's 10 sons, were executed on October 16, 1946.

There is a story among many adherents of the Hasidic Chabad movement that the Russian dictator, Joseph Stalin, died as a result of some metaphysical intervention given on Purim by the seventh Chabad leader, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson. On March 1, 1953, which corresponds to Purim 1953, Stalin became paralyzed and died four days later.

It is my fervent prayer that the world has no reason in the future to initiate additional "Purims" commemorating senseless acts of murder and violence.

SEE YOU IN SHUL.

RABBI ADELBERG

## **Sisterhood**

Thanks to Jim and Marion for making such a good Shabbat dinner of stuffed peppers and potato latkes in January. Now we get to enjoy their famous chicken and matzah ball soup in February. Mark your calendars for the third Friday in February for their next Shabbat dinner.

Save the date---March 18, 2016.

Special Shabbat service and dinner at the Atrium where Louise Langlieb lives.  
Lets make this a Shabbat dinner to remember!

The Seder will be in April. Details coming soon!

June 4, 2016

Special anniversary party for the Rabbi's 10th anniversary.

Special thank you to Mary Jo for help with the January newsletter and other office stuff.

Interested in sponsoring a kiddush? Helping in the kitchen? Donating coffee or paper goods?  
Contact Joyce Placzkowski, (262) 945-7675.  
Dairy kiddush: \$50/Meat kiddush: \$100.

Do you know?

A minyan is ten Jewish adults. Without a minyan at a service we cannot recite the Barkhu (call to worship), read from the Torah, nor chant the mourner's Kaddish.

Join the Minyanaires' club. Commit to attending at least one Shabbat service a month-9:45 AM Saturday. Enjoy a delicious lunch and a



## *Acknowledgements*

Donations in honor of Arnold Solomon's 91st birthday from:  
Darcy Rice, David Daneman, Robert Shrago, Dorie Shrago, Max Gordon, Glenn Gordon, Beth Temkin, Linda Rotter, Randy Rotter

Donations for speedy recovery for Bob and Joyce Katzman:  
Anonymous, Anonymous, Max Gordon

General Donations:  
Eileen Schroeder, Anonymous, Wendy Dorman

Kiddush Max Gordon, Joyce Placzkowski

Joyce Placzkowski: In honor of the anniversary of Rabbi Martyn Adelberg's Bar Mitzvah

In memory of Nathan and Etta Hulbert Family from Gertrude Hulbert, Leonard Hulbert, Bernard Hulbert, David and Ruth Hulbert

## *President's Message*

Hi all my Beth Israel Sinai friends- Well here it is February already. My "39th" birthday is this month. All are welcome to celebrate with me on Saturday February 20th. There will be a super Kiddish-enough for a lot of people so I expect a large turnout for the Saturday Shabbat service-(more than just a minyan I hope). Also by the time this reaches the bulletin, Rabbi will be back from the sunny islands. I attended his Thursday evening class last month on the Torah and found it very enlightening and informative. I would recommend all should try and attend. It is Thursday evening at 6PM and lasts about an hour. It's very informal - lots of question and answer.

And once again, as The Rabbi says.....see you in shul

SHELLY

## **Shabbat Candle Lighting Times**

February 5 - 4:51 PM

February 12 - 5:00 PM

February 19 - 5:10 PM

February 26 - 5:19 PM



## **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

## **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

## *Notes from the Treasurer*

We are two thirds through our fiscal year ending may 31, 2016. So far, WEnergies has been kind and we have received generous donations. We could break even this year if all members gave a little more. Honor a birthday, memorialize a yahrzeit, sponsor a kiddush. Dues don't even cover Rabbi's salary. We depend on donations.

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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## February 2016--Shevat-Adar 1 5776

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4 Hebrew and Adult Education  6 PM	5	6 Shabbat Ser- vice 9:45 AM
7	8	9	10	11 Hebrew and Adult Education  6 PM	12	13 Shabbat Service 9:45 AM  Kiddush in hon- or of Joyce P sponsored by Max
14	15	16	17	18	19 Shabbat Dinner 6 PM Matzah ball soup by Jim and Marion	20 Shabbat service 9:45 AM Kiddush sponsored by Shelly
21	22	23	24	25 Hebrew and Adult Education  6 PM	26	27 Shabbat service 9:45 AM Kiddush spon- sored by Joyce P
28	29					