DONATIONS

In Memory of Pearl Levin

Rabbi and Marcia Adelberg

Max Gordon

In Memory of Sondra Lang

Rabbi and Marcia Adelberg

In Honor of Rabbi Adelberg's 10th Anniversary

Alvin Shovers

Rita Metzger

Cathy Crone

Elizabeth Howes

Michael Katz

Delaney Jones

Donald Cohen

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Edith Isenberg

Dr.'s Richard and Barbara Schuster

Dennis and Brenda Gaeta

Accounting Business Services

Pastor Warren and Joannie Williams

Louise Langlieb

Jeanne Savin

Beverly Sklansky

In Honor of Rabbi's 10th Anniversary continued

James and Kathleen Schmadl

Essi Katz

Marcia Adelberg and children

Josh Bloom and family

Arthur Gardner

Pearle T. Cohen

Sally Brown-Winter

Anonymous

Mary Soley

Rick and Heather Schaefer

Arthur Domsky

Ronald Sklansky

Ruth Hulbert

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Blanche Kahn

Diane Kahn

Rosalie and Michael Slute

Don Lang

Sarah Levin

John and Jane Brosseau

Steve Platt

Judith McGauran

BETH ISRAEL SINAI
CONGREGATION
944 MAIN ST.
RACINE, WI 53405
262-633-7093
BETHISRAELSINAI.ORG

BETH ISRAEL SINAI CONGREGATION RACINE, WI

MARCH 2011
ADAR 1-ADAR II 5771

RABBI ADELBERG'S MESSAGE

Purim is one of the most joyous and fun holidays on the Jewish calendar. It commemorates a time when the Jewish people living in Persia were saved from extermination.

The story of Purim is told in the Biblical book of Esther. The heroes of the story are Esther, a beautiful young Jewish woman living in Persia, and her cousin Mordecai, who raised her as if she were his daughter. Esther was taken to the house of Ahasuerus, King of Persia, to become part of his harem. King Ahasuerus loved Esther more than his other women and made Esther queen, but the king did not know that Esther was a Jew, because Mordecai told her not to reveal her identity. Continued next page

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RABBI ADELBERG'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

The villain of the story is Haman, an arrogant, egotistical advisor to the king. Haman hated Mordecai because Mordecai refused to bow down to Haman, so Haman plotted to destroy the Jewish people. In a speech that is all too familiar to Jews, Haman told the King, "There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among all the peoples in all the provinces of your realm. Their laws are different from those of every other people's and they do not observe the King's laws; therefore, it is not befitting the king to tolerate them." Esther 3:8 The King gave the fate of the Jewish people to Haman, to do as he pleased to them. Haman planned to exterminate all the Jews.

Mordecai persuaded Esther to speak to the King on behalf of the Jewish people. This was a dangerous thing to do, because anyone who came into the King's presence without being summoned could be put to death, and she had not been summoned. Esther fasted for three days to prepare herself, then went into the king. He welcomed her. Later, she told him of Haman's plot against her people. The Jewish people were saved, and Haman was hanged on the gallows that had been prepared for Mordecai.

The Book of Esther is unusual in that it is the only book of the Bible that does not contain the name of G-d. In fact, it includes virtually no reference to G-d. Mordecai makes a vague reference to the fact that the Jews will be saved by someone else, if not by Esther, but that is the closest the book comes to mentioning G-d. Thus, one important message can be gained from the story is that G-d often works in ways that are not apparent, in ways that appear to be chance, coincidence or ordinary good luck.

Purim is celebrated on the 14th day of Adar which is usually in March. The 13th day of Adar is the day that Haman chose for the extermination of the Jews, and the day that the Jews battled their enemies for their lives. On the day afterwards, the 14th, they celebrated their survival. In cities that were walled in the time of Joshua, Purim is celebrated on the 15th of the month because the Book of Esther says that in Shushan (a walled city) deliverance from the massacre was not complete until the next day. The 15th is referred to as Shushan Purim.

This year (5771), as in all leap years, there are two months of Adar. Purim is celebrated in the second month of Adar, so it is always one month before Passover.

RABBI'S PASSOVER SEDER

Monday, April 18th

7p.m.

$25 for adults

$18 children (6-11)

Children under 6 Free

BETH ISRAEL SINAI

944 Main St.

Racine, WI 53403

Your check is your reservation

****

Please accept my reservation for Rabbi Adelberg's Passover Seder.

Adult_____Child 6-11_____

Child under 6_____

(Please make out your check to Rabbi Adelberg)

RSVP BY APRIL 10th!

Your check is your reservation

BETH ISRAEL SINAI CONGREGATION

PASSOVER SEDER

Tuesday April 19, 2011

6:00 p.m.

We are happy to invite you to Beth Israel Sinai for our annual community Seder. We are looking forward to having you join us on Tuesday, April 19 at 6 p.m., the second night of Passover. This has been a wonderful celebration every year. You wont want to miss it!

COST: $18 Adults

$15 Seniors

$9 Children 3 to 10 years old

Free Children under 3

Seating will be assigned. We will try to accommodate requests for seating arrangements but cannot guarantee them. If you have a preference, please include it on your reservation slip. We will work on a first come, first served basis, so get your reservations in early.

Deadline for reservations : Sunday April 10th, 2011

****

2011 CONGREGATION SEDER RESERVATION FORM

Name:_____

Address:_____

Telephone: _____

I need reservations for: Adults_____Seniors_____

Children_____Toddlers_____

Check Amount:_____

I would like to sit with_____

PLEASE SEND IN YOUR CHECK WITH YOUR RESERVATION

RABBI ADELBERG'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

The 14th day of the first Adar in a leap year is celebrated as a minor holiday called Purim Katan which means "little Purim." There are no specific observances for Purim Katan; however, a person should celebrate the holiday and should not mourn or fast. Some communities also observe a "Purim Katan" on the anniversary of any day when their community was saved from a catastrophe, destruction, evil or oppression.

The word "Purim" means "lots" and refers to the lottery that Haman used to chose the date for the massacre. The Purim holiday is preceded by a minor fast, the Fast of Esther, which commemorates Esther's three days of fasting in preparation for her meeting with the King. Since one cannot fast on the Shabbat or the day before Shabbat, the Fast of Esther will be on March 17th. The primary commandment related to Purim is to hear the reading of the Book of Esther. The Book of Esther is commonly known as the Megillah, which means scroll. Although there are five books of Jewish scripture that are properly referred to as Megillahs (Esther, Ruth, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs and Lamentations), this is the one people usually mean when they speak of the megillah. It is customary to boo, hiss, stamp your feet and rattle gragors (noisemakers) whenever the name of Haman is mentioned in the service. The purpose of this custom is to "blot out the name of Haman."

We are also commanded to eat, drink and be merry. According to the Talmud, a person is required to drink until he cannot tell the difference between "cursed be Haman" and "blessed be Mordecai", though opinions differ as to exactly how drunk that is. A person certainly should not become so drunk that he might violate other commandments or get seriously ill. In addition, recovering alcoholics or others who might suffer serious harm from alcohol are exempt from this obligation.

In addition, we are commanded to send out gifts of food or drink, and to make gifts to charity. The sending of gifts of food and drink is referred to as shalach manos (li. Sending out portions). Among Ashkenazic Jews, a common treat at this time of year is hamentaschen (lit. Haman's pockets). These triangular fruit-filled cookies are supposed to represent Haman's three cornered hat.

It is customary to hold carnival like celebrations on Purim, to perform plays and parodies known as Purim "Shpiels," and to hold beauty contests.

RABBI ADELBERG'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

Purim is not subject to the Shabbat restrictions prohibiting work; however, some sources indicate we should try to enjoy ourselves as that day is a special recognition of this holiday of freedom.

Our Sages tell us, "whoever enters Adar, does so with joy." Along with Jewish homes throughout the world, we will celebrate this most important holiday. On Sunday, March 20th we will celebrate Purim with the reading of the Megillah at 10am. Celebrate with us at a special costumed brunch and the eating of hamentaschen to follow.

Special thanks to Steve and Patty Kushner and all those who helped to make my "10th Anniversary" a special success. May the next ten years see a growth of our congregation and the continued prosperity of our Jewish community. May we continue to be a beacon of light to all points of view and rise above the artificial divisions that have kept our people divided. We learn in the opening of "Pirkei Avot", the ethics of our fathers, that **ALL** members of the house of Israel have a portion in the world to come. "Chzak, chazak, v'nitchazek." May we continue to grow from strength to strength.

See You in Shul!

Rabbi Adelberg

SISTERHOOD

Your Sisterhood contributions are used to enrich community life a Beth Israel Sinai in many ways, such as providing food and beverages for the onegs after services, flowers during the High Holidays, and by assisting with the community Seder and other special events held at the synagogue. You can also honor life cycle events, family birthdays or anniversaries, or any special occasions by sponsoring an oneg on the Shabbat of your choice. For more information or to reserve your oneg date, contact Rita Collen at 262-752-0223 or email at rcollen@soaringeagleconsulting.com Contributions of any size may be sent to Rita at 2811 North Main Street, Racine WI 53402.

Sisterhood Chairs: Jane Brosseau and Rita Collen

HADASSAH

Hadassah gratefully accepts any donations. Please remember Hadassah and its many good works and projects when considering making charitable contributions. Thank you.

DONATIONS

A generous donation to the family of Pearl Levin

In memory of Pearl Levin

From Leah Shovers

Sarah Levin 886-9331 Sidnee Nerad 551-0406

Cards $5.00 Shares $10.00 Children's Pavilion $5.00 & $10.00

Certificates $18.00 Trees (JNF) Certificates

FEBRUARY CANDLELIGHTING

MARCH CANDLELIGHTING

Fri., March 4 5:26 PM

Fri., March 11 5:34 PM

Fri., March 18 6:42 PM

Fri., March 25 6:51 PM

Yahrzeit Feb. 26 to Mar. 4

Bertha Sobodkin Feb. 26

David Isaac Gordon Feb. 24

Anne Kraft Seidita Feb. 24

Charles Greenberg March 1

Ben Marvin March 2

Harold S. Browne March 3

Colette Schaeffer March 3

Mildred Shovers March 4

Yahrzeit March 5 to March 11

Louis Shapiro March 5

Ralph Levin March 7

Genevieve Lillian Gold March 7

Simon Grant March 7

David W. Watt March 8

Eugene J. Aronin March 9

Sarah Spracker March 9

Dori Gorski March 9

Max J. Bassewitz March 10

Dr. Ernest Wolf March 10

Meyer Domsky March 10

Joseph (Jack) Gould March 11

Yahrzeit March 12 to March 18

David Schwartz March 13

Sarah C. Dorman March 14

Birdie Metz March 14

Mary Shovers March 17

Necha Weissbard March 18

Yahrzeit March 19 to March 25

Samuel A. Grant March 19

Emily Alperovitz March 20

Foster Gould March 20

Rashe Berson March 20

Moses H. Rubin March 22

Goldie Shlimovitz March 22

Sarah Blitstein March 23

Fanny Alperovitz March 24

Louis Gorsky March 25

Sarah Silverman March 25

Yahrzeit March 26 to April 1

Reuben A. Gorsky March 26

Philip Waisman March 27

Rabbi Hyman Cohen March 27

Harold Levin March 28

David Merens March 29

George Stern March 30

Dr. Mark Temkin March 30

Ben Silver March 30

Rose S. Wiener March 31

OUR SYMPATHY GOES OUT TO THE FAMILIES OF SONDRA LANG AND PEARL LEVIN UPON THEIR PASSING

PLEASE RSVP FOR THE PURIM BRUNCH BY MARCH 14TH!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a great event last weekend for Rabbi Adelberg's 10th anniversary… over 80 people joined us on a cold and slippery day. Thanks again Steve and Patti Kushner for your time and effort. They created and executed a very well done and special event. It was just what we'd hoped to have. Thanks to all of you who placed ads or wrote acknowledgements in the tastefully done event program book. Thanks also to Max and Josh for adding just the right words to honor Marty during the event.

Looking ahead now, there's a special oneg planned for next week, sponsored by Louise Langlieb. Join us as we help to celebrate her 85th birthday! Do you have something to celebrate? Work with the sisterhood to sponsor an oneg!

The board will be meeting later this month to take the next steps to diversify the Temple's financial portfolio. The board members have agreed that perhaps a small additional risk will yield an extra, long term benefit. The board will also continue to look at the long term health of the congregation. While we're exploring other options to generate revenue, some tough decisions will have to be made if we are to continue as a strong Jewish community. Later in the spring the board is planning to hold some listening sessions as the start of a much needed strategic planning effort. We've got to know where we are, where we're headed and we need everyone's input. I hope that when we hold these sessions you'll all plan on being a part of the process.

Purim is next, (dress in costume for the service!), with Passover right behind. I hope you're looking forward to them as much as Rita, the girls and I are.

Thank you all for your participation in keeping Beth Israel Sinai a vibrant congregation and thank you again Rabbi Adelberg for your 10 years of providing the guiding light.

Shalom!

Jeff

MARCH 2011

ADAR I-ADAR II 5771

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	*2*	*3* HEBREW AND ADULT ED. CLASSES	*4*	*5* SERVICE 9:45 AM
6	*7*	*8*	*9*	*10* HEBREW AND ADULT ED. CLASSES	*11*	*12* SERVICE 9:45 AM
13	*14*	*15*	*16*	*17* HEBREW AND ADULT ED. CLASSES	*18*	*19* SERVICE 9:45 AM
20 Purim Service 10am Costumed Brunch to follow	*21*	*22*	*23*	*24* HEBREW AND ADULT ED. CLASSES	*25*	*26* SERVICE 9:45 AM
27	*28*					