

# Beth Israel Sinai News

## The Monthly Newsletter of Beth Israel Sinai Congregation

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FEBRUARY 2015 SHEVAT - ADAR 5775

### Rabbi's Message

After Joseph's death, "there arose a Pharaoh who knew not Joseph." Despite saving Egypt from famine due to Joseph's economic policies, a new regime systematically drove the Children of Israel into slavery. Repeated attempts by Moses to secure freedom for the Israelites failed. Resistance did not only come from the Egyptian ruler. Many Israelites came to accept their situation as the norm. Despite their onerous situation, they initially resisted the attempts by Moses to free them. Having enjoyed a prosperous life in Goshen, the Children of Israel thought that Pharaoh would eventually come to his senses.

They would be restored to their lofty position as keepers of the royal livestock. As indicated by the Passover story, this would never happen. This belief was so pervasive amongst the Israelites, that only after suffering through the first three plagues with the Egyptians would they begin to accept the notion the G-d would deliver them to freedom. Witnessing how the Egyptians suffered subsequent plagues while they were spared the wrath of G-d, convinced them that Moses would lead them to the Promised Land. The Tenth Plague, the killing of the Egyptian first born, finally convinced Pharaoh to let our people go. Despite all the miracles performed on behalf of

the Children of Israel, even after freedom many wanted to return to Egypt. Many even accused Moses of taking them to die in the desert. Had it not been for the gift and eventual acceptance of the Torah we might have died both physically and spiritually in the desert.

Our Rabbis ask why we learn the story of the Exodus almost two months before Pesach? The answer is that the story of freedom should be retold as often as possible and not be relegated to just once a year. In fact, all you have to do is look in the Siddur (Prayer book) to see how our morning prayers constantly refer to the notion of freedom from oppression. Each

morning, the story of Exodus and the parting of the Reed Sea permitting our ancestors to escape the oncoming Egyptian armies is read. The notion of freedom is so precious that it must be emphasized over and over again. After the massacre at Charlie Hebdo and the Hypercacher Kosher Supermarket, 3.7 million French citizens and world leaders came to the same realization.

Thanks to all our Temple family for making my 14th anniversary as your spiritual leader so special. I am eagerly looking forward to celebrating with you our Silver Anniversary.

SEE YOU IN SHUL,  
RABBI MARTY

### Board's Message

If there is a theme to our middle of winter message, it is *warmth* -- how to get it, how to keep it.

We are delighted to announce that Sara and Perry and Evan Kivolowitz have become the newest members of BIS! Many of us have begun to know the Kivolowitz family in the past couple months, and we are honored to have them join us. Their personal qualities will add immeasurably to our temple community. WELCOME!!!

On January 17th the congregation experienced an especially noteworthy Shabbat service and Kiddush. We celebrated Rabbi Marty's fourteen-year tenure at BIS and the anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah. Our ranks were swelled by the presence of the Rabbi's large and devoted family. In addition, at least four distinguished members of the

clergy were in attendance, as was Racine Mayor John Dickert. Again, we say *Mazel Tov*, Rabbi!

On behalf of the entire congregation, the Kivolowitz family presented the Rabbi a photograph taken by Perry at the old Jewish Cemetery of Prague. The photo depicts a wall in which paper messages, or prayers, have been placed by visitors. The messages form a mysterious, silent, somehow abstract image that is particular and metaphorical at the same time. The content of these messages is unknowable but worth imagining. There is a suggestion of eternal longing, and hope amidst the fragility of life.

Max Gordon will celebrate the 56th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah on February 7th. Not only are we confident of Max's ability to chant and understand his Haftorah portion, we believe

he can now knot his necktie without help! This is yet another event to keep our members warm through the winter. Congratulations in advance to Master Gordon!

The Maxwell Street Klezmer Band will be performing a free concert at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside on Friday, February 13th from 12 Noon to 1:00pm at The Rita, known also as the Bedford Concert Hall. The concert will be followed by a Master Class, which is open to the public. This is a wonderful opportunity to experience a type of joyous Jewish music not often heard in these parts.

It's a great pleasure to have Barry Langlieb visiting from Hawaii. He seems always to add an element of Polynesian warmth to our congregation, and we will be sorry to see him leave.

Bon Voyage to Edie and Gene!

They are leaving for their annual sailing vacation in Florida. As they bask in dazzling warmth and glide through tropical waters, we hope they will not miss the ice storms, blizzards and biting winds of home.

Thanks to Glenn Gordon for the emergency use of his computer and printer, thereby permitting the January board meeting to proceed properly. (The temple computer was having a bad hair day.)

Our monthly Friday Evening Shabbat Service & Dinner will take place on February 20th at 6:00pm. We anticipate another memorable dinner thanks to Jim and Marion, our *Chefs de Soupe Magnifique*. There is a rumor of beef barley. We hope all will attend. Let there be soup!

Shalom,

Jim, Max, Joyce, Sandy, Brian



## Treasurer's Message

Winter is being brutal to our budget. The utility bill for the month ended December 23rd was \$1800! Most of this sum was for gas and the electricity to run the pumps and blowers of our heating system. I expect the January bill to be higher. We need some donations.

As a fund raiser, I will be reprising my Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, February 7th. I have finally learned the meaning of the Hebrew words in my Haftorah and hope that this time I will make no mistakes. A fine Kiddush will be served after the ceremony.

As I still have pens left over from my first Bar Mitzvah and my college education has been paid, please consider honoring the occasion with donations to Beth Israel Sinai Congregation.

Max Gordon

## Sisterhood

Thanks to Jim and Marion for the delicious Shabbat Dinner. We look forward to the February 20th dinner!

### KIDDUSHES:

Rabbi Adelberg will be sponsoring the Kiddush on February 7th, in honor of the anniversary of Max Gordon's Bar Mitzvah. Joyce Placzowski will be sponsoring the Kiddush on February 14th.

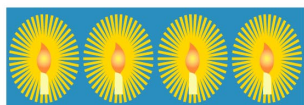
Much thanks to our "anonymous angel" for the oranges and napkins.

*We so appreciate all donations and sponsorships.  
They help us to maintain a gracious and welcoming atmosphere that is a benefit to all!*

Is someone in your family celebrating a birthday, anniversary, or other milestone? Consider sponsoring a Kiddush to commemorate a special day or honor a loved one. It's easy. Just speak to a board member and we'll take care of the details. We also welcome financial contributions, grocery gift cards, and donations of kosher grocery items or paper goods to help the Sisterhood fund the cost of the weekly Kiddush. We always seem to run short of bottled water, soda, and paper goods (especially cups, napkins, and forks) and items such as coffee, fresh fruit, cookies, and other kitchen basics are also needed on a regular basis. Please ensure that any packaged, canned, or otherwise processed foods are marked "kosher". You may drop these items off in the kitchen at any time.

<b>In Memory of Nathan &amp; Etta Hulbert and their sons David, Bernard &amp; Leonard</b>  Gertrude Hulbert	<b>General Support</b> Mary McIntyre Max Gordon Mark Hertzberg Josh Bloom Anonymous	<b>In Honor of Rabbi Adelberg</b>  Judith McGauran Sarah Levin Max Gordon
<b>In Memory of Ruth Hulbert</b>  David and Debra Passolt		<b>In Honor of Max Gordon's Bar Mitzvah</b>  Sandra Levin and Brian Rose
<b>In Memory of Marcia Schaefer Rubinowitz</b>  Rick Schaefer		<b>In Honor of Max Gordon's Birthday</b>  Sarah Levin
<b>In Memory of Lucille Bloom</b>  Max Gordon, Gail and Rachel Hoss Joyce Placzowski		<b>In Honor of Perry, Sara &amp; Evan Kivolowitz</b>  Sandra Levin and Brian Rose
<b>In Memory of Minnie Goodman Yahrzeit 1-18</b>  Dale and Roberta Jacobs		<b>High Holiday Appeal</b>  Wendy Dorman Eileen Schroeder





## Yahrzeits

### Week of January 30 to February 5

Sidney Glickstein	30
Hilda Popkoff	30
Ethel Shovers	30
Dorothy Glickstein	31
George A. Lang	31
Hazel Watt	31
Phil Blitstein	1
Meyer Gottlieb	1
Fanny Kluk	1
Idah Schwartz	2
Sophie Shovers	2
Sgt. Leonard Hulbert	3
Ruth Grant Gordon	3
Samuel G. Laufman	4
Tillie Sideman	4
Elizabeth Goldberg	5

### Week of February 6 to February 12

Kathryn Raftenberg	6
Max Grust	7
Harold Tabaksman	7
Esther Gottlieb	8
Isadore Milch	8
Bertha Waisman	8

Joseph Popkoff	9
David Shovers	9
Julius Lichterman	9
Oscar Shovers	9
Eva Gorsky	10
Manfred Oelsner	10
Edith Seft	10

### Week of February 13 to February 19

Joseph Magner	14
Zachary Dorman	15
Joseph L. Harris	15
Jane Kiselow	15
Gertrude Fishbain	15
Frank Shovers	15
George S. Cohen	15
Eli Hulbert	16
Mary Soref	16
Rose Kaminal	16
Darnold Blivas	17
Beverly Schuster	18
Marc Lee Silver	18
Paul Kaplan	18
Joseph I. Donner	19
Sam Fishbain	19
Solomon Levin	19
Fritz Roos	19

### Week of February 20 to February 26

Sheine Chayne Aronin	20
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Ralph Levin	20
Genevieve Lillian Gold	20
Simon Grant	20
Hyman Lauffman	21
David W. Watt	21
Eugene J. Aronin	22
Sarah Spracker	22
Dori Gorsky	22
Max J. Bassewitz	23
Dr. Ernest Wolf	23
Anna Brill	23
Meyer Domskey	23
Joseph (Jack) Gould	24
Goldyne R. Mann	24
David Schwartz	26

### Week of February 27 to March 5

Sarah C. Dorman	27
Marjorie Bernbaum	27
Birdie Metz	27
Mary Shovers	2
Pearl Levin	2
Necha Weissbard	3
Samuel A. Grant	4
Emily Alperovitz	5
Foster Gould	5
Rashe Berson	5



## Shabbat Candle Lighting

February 6 - 4:53 PM
February 13 - 5:02 PM
February 20 - 5:11 PM
February 27 - 5:20 PM
March 6 - 5:29 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 262.412.8457.

## Hadassah

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

Cards \$5; Shares \$10; Children's Pavilion Certificates \$5 & \$10; Trees (JNF) Certificates \$18.

For more information call Sarah Levin, 886-9331

## The Maxwell Street Klezmer Band



- Friday, February 13th
- Noon through 1:00 PM
- University of Wisconsin - Parkside:  
The Rita, Frances E. Bedford Concert Hall
- Concert is free of charge.
- Free parking is available during the concert



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Congregation

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***Please join us for Shabbat Dinner & Services  
on Friday February 20 at 6:00!***

**February 2015**

**SHEVAT - ADAR 5775**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 Tu B'Shevat	5 Hebrew & Adult Ed. Classes	6	7 Shabbat Services 9:45 AM Celebration of the Anniversary of Max Gordon's Bar Mitzvah
8	9	10	11	12 Hebrew & Adult Ed. Classes	13	14 Shabbat Services 9:45 AM
15	16	17	18	19	20 Shabbat Service and Dinner 6:00 PM	21 Shabbat Services 9:45 AM
22	23	24	25	26 Hebrew & Adult Ed. Classes	27	28 Shabbat Services 9:45 AM