

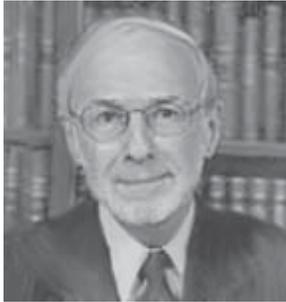


BETH EL NEWSLETTER

The Heights Synagogue

March 2005

5765 אדר א' \ אדר ב'



Rabbi Moshe Adler

Haman and Antiochus: One Beast with Two Names

On the night of March 24 and the day of March 25, we will be celebrating Purim with revelry and feasting. It is our people's way of thanking G-d for delivering us from an anti-Semitic plot that nearly wiped us out.

Why do we celebrate Hanukkah with candle-lighting, a totally spiritual observance, but celebrate Purim with eating and drinking, a decidedly physical observance? The Mishnah B'rurah commentary to the Shulhan Aruch law code (Orah Hayyim 670:2, note 6) explains: "In the case of Purim, the enemy decreed our physical death and destruction, which would have meant the end of all feasting and merry-making. Even had our ancestors sought to exchange their religion for Haman's, he would not have accepted them [but would have continued his campaign of annihilation]. Therefore, when the Holy One, blessed is He, rescued them, they ordained thanksgiving and praise to G-d by means of feasting and merry-making."

On Hanukkah, however, "Antiochus decreed for our ancestors, not death and destruction, but troubles and persecution in order to force them into apostasy. Had the enemy subdued the Israelites, made them tributary, and forced them to accept his religion, he would have demanded

nothing more of them. Therefore, when the Holy One, blessed is He, strengthened Israel's hand so that they vanquished the enemy, the Jews ordained the eight days of Hanukkah for praise and thanksgiving alone, since that is the very thing from which the enemy wished to keep us."

Our people have historically been the target of two types of enemy: the Antiochus variety and the Haman variety. The Antiochus variety seeks to rob the Jewish people of its soul by eliminating Judaism. The Church, until late in modern times, tried alternately to seduce or force Jews into converting to Christianity. Similarly, the Soviet regime tried to seduce or force the Jews into exchanging Judaism for the supposedly humanistic secular religion known as Communism (while, ironically, continuing to hate even those Jews who did trade their Judaism in). These are examples of the Antiochus variety of anti-Semitism.

The Haman variety of anti-Semitism is typified by Nazism of six decades ago and by radical Islamist fanaticism. The latter movement has re-ignited the flames of traditional Western anti-Semitism so that they have spread over Europe. Radical Islamist fanatics have convinced much of the Western world that Israel is the leading cause of trouble everywhere *(continued on page 6)*



פורים שמח

Kabbalat Shabbat services 6:00 PM, first Friday of each month: March 4 and April 1



Jack Valancy

QUESTIONS?
CONCERNS?
COMMENTS?
COMPLAINTS?

As always, please do not hesitate to contact your President by e-mail jack@valancy.com or home telephone (216) 371-1439

HELP US STAY IN TOUCH! Please be sure we have your current contact information: phone number and home and e-mail addresses. Send changes to Blanche Valancy, blanche@valancy.com or call her at (216) 371-1439

E-Mail Newsletter If you'd like to get the pdf e-mail version, contact benews@apk.net (You must have the free Acrobat Reader in order to open the attachment.)

President's Perspectives, March 2005

Becoming a Member-Partner

My favorite part of Shabbat is making announcements after services. Each week, I start by thanking everyone who led services, read Torah, chanted the Haftarah, and presented the d'var Torah, our ushers, those who lead our newly expanded children's program, and those who organize our kiddush. I also thank those who lead our Adult Education programs and events, those who put food on our table, and those who keep a roof over our heads. It takes a lot of hands and hearts to do all this, and most of them are members of Beth El – The Heights Synagogue.

Our congregation is unique because our members can participate meaningfully in *all* aspects of synagogue life. What's more, our members can help *define* synagogue life. Our members can be *member-partners* in our congregation, sharing in the operation of our congregation and making it better.

Since Temple Beth El and Heights Synagogue started worshipping together at the Mayfield JCC in 1998, our member-partners, with the guidance of Rabbi Adler, have organized our weekly Shabbat, High Holy Day, and holiday services. At Rabbi Adler's suggestion, we decided to sit facing each other to heighten our sense of community. At the JCC, we taught ourselves to conduct services, cater sumptuous kiddushes, organize social events, and host simchas.

Our facilities team searched for three years to find a suitable building for our permanent home. Our member-partners debated this major purchase in a series

of well-attended meetings. In July 2003, we had our new home. Our member-partners immediately started cleaning and renovating, work that continues today. In September 2003, we marched our Torahs from the JCC. Our Adult Education programs blossomed in our new home as member-partners organized and presented Learners' Services, Kiddush with Rashi, Lunch and Learns, and movie nights.

Our member-partners labored hard to create our commercial kosher kitchen, enabling us to host simchas more easily, Lunch and Learn programs, parties, Kabbalat Shabbat dinners, and, of course, weekly Shabbat kiddushes.

Our child and teen programs are expanding, with member-partners creating and leading Shabbat morning programs for younger and older children. Member-partners recently presented a b'nai mitzvah planning meeting for parents to address ritual, developmental, and logistical concerns.

Behind the scenes, the member-partners on our Board define our congregation's polices and guide its course. Member-partners also build and maintain our physical, financial, and administrative systems.

At Beth El – The Heights Synagogue, each member can choose to become a *member-partner* and work together to *create* our synagogue life. We welcome, support, and appreciate *everyone's* participation. Your presence strengthens our home for worship, learning, and community.

Adult Education

February 26: Learners' Service with Nili Sharon Adler – exploring the Torah Service. Begins at about 10:15 AM in library off balcony and rejoins the main service for the d'var Torah. All are welcome.

February 26: Lunch and Learn with Carole Zawatsky, Executive Director of the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage - Art and Creativity in Judaism. Join us for a warm, vegetarian-friendly lunch after services and stay to learn. Free to members and friends, no RSVP required. Baby sitting provided.

March 5: NOTE NEW DATE – Continue your celebration of Shabbat Across America with a **Lunch and Learn with Shelley Costa Bloomfield, PhD author and Adjunct Faculty at the Cleveland Institute of Art** – “NOBODY Expects the Spanish Inquisition”: The Times of Luis de Carvajal, the First Jewish Writer in the New World. (Readings may be made available ahead of time, so check the information table two weeks prior.) Join us for a warm, vegetarian-friendly lunch after services and stay to learn. Free to members and friends, no RSVP required. Baby sitting provided.

March 6: Jewish Short Story Evening at the home of Sondra and Harvey Jacobs, 7:00 to 8:30 PM. Stories by David Bezmozgis. Contact Sondra Jacobs at sondrajacobs@sbcglobal.net for more information.

March 12: Learners' Service – an in depth exploration of an element of Jewish prayer. Bring your questions. Begins at about 10:15 AM in library off balcony and rejoins the main service for the d'var Torah. All are welcome.

March 19: Learners' Service – an in depth

exploration of an element of Jewish prayer. Bring your questions. All are welcome. Begins at about 10:15 a.m. in library off balcony and rejoins the main service for the d'var Torah. (Note – This Learner's Service is taking place on the 3rd Shabbat of the month due to Enid Kushner's Bat Mitzvah on the 4th Shabbat of the month).

March 19: Movie night – watch your e-mail for details.



BETH EL
The Heights Synagogue

You probably wouldn't like our shul.

REASON #6:

We dress funny.

Some of us wear suits and ties.

Some of us show up casual.

Some of us come with bicycle helmets.

Some women wear a *tallit*.

Some wouldn't be caught dead wearing a *tallit*.

Some wear their best, but one thing we aren't is a fashion show. There's no dress code. We'd rather have you "come as you are" than stay home.

If you think you might like this kind of place, give us a call.
Beth El–The Heights Synagogue. 216-320-9667.

Children's Programming

By Mark Davidson, Chair of Children's and Teen Programming Committee

Members of the Children's Programming Committee have been meeting and working since the fall to establish new programs and policies for BE-THS and we wanted to take a moment to share them with you.

Goals: We are committed to providing engaging, quality activities every Shabbat morning for children in Kindergarten through 8th grade. We will continue to provide baby-sitting for younger children. And, with more and more BE-THS youth becoming Bar and Bat Mitzvah, we are looking to ways to provide opportunities for high schoolers to stay involved in the life of our community.

Ages, Activities, Times and Locations:

Pre-School: Supervised games, stories, toys and snacks will continue to be provided in services and at Lunch-and-Learn programs after kiddush. Baby sitting will continue to be provided in the Baby sitting Room.

Kindergarten—5th Grade: Ari Klein and Joe Buchwald-Gelles have generously volunteered to organize and implement activities for this age group. They will be leading children in games, T'fillah, and discussions and other learning activities focused on the weekly Torah portion. You may already have noticed our kids performing skits from *Sedra Scenes* (a compilation of humorous plays that serve as midrashim on the weekly Torah portion) during kiddush. These skits are just one of the creative activities Joe and Ari are developing to keep our kids engaged in Jewish learning on Shabbat. K through 5th Graders will meet in the Community Room from 10:30 until 11:30 each Shabbat.

6th—8th Grade: Harvey Kugelman and I will be working with this age group. We will be focusing on discussion, stories and midrashim that draw out deeper meanings from the weekly Torah portion, along with activities that will help older students begin to develop their own personal understanding of the core values, beliefs and practices of our tradition. We will soon begin collaborating with the

Ritual Committee and our Bar and Mat Mitzvah coordinator to implement programs that will help students as they prepare for their Bar or Bat Mitzvah. Middle School students will meet in the 2nd Floor Library during weeks where there is no Learners' Service. Other weeks they'll meet in the Social Hall.

Expectations and Details:

Please arrive at Shul early enough so that your child can meet with their age group for all activities and please encourage your child to join us. It is now Synagogue policy that when children's programming is taking place (between 10:30–11:30 for K–5th, 10:30–11:15 for Middle School) there is a clear expectation that children will participate in programming or will be present in the sanctuary with their parents. They will not be allowed to roam the halls or play unsupervised. Before and after these times, they are allowed to roam and play. As parents we need you to enforce this. You need to make sure your child is present at activities (ideally) or is in the sanctuary.

Please Help Us Reach Our Goals

We need your help to fill in the gaps. Are you willing to lead children's activities occasionally? Any effort will be greatly appreciated. You do not have to be a Torah scholar. You do not need to lead prayer if you are not comfortable. You do not need to lead songs if you have a bad voice. All you have to do is to work with our students to help them see the beauty, intelligence, joy and power of Jewish life.

The committee and I, many of whom are educational professionals, are willing to work with you and give you suggestions for activities. We are interested in what you would like to share as well. Please e-mail to me at MarkYosef@aol.com or call me at 216-295-1715 and let me know if and when you can help out. With all of us working together, we can create fun and meaningful experiences that will help our children grasp the beauty and power of Shabbat and encourage them to grow into active members of our community.

Enid Kushner Celebrates Bat Mitzvah



Enid received her early Hebrew education at Cleveland Hebrew School, followed by Hebrew High School and Bet Midrash L'Morim (Teacher's College). In 1976 she received her Bachelor of Hebrew Letters from the College of Jewish Studies, and she has continued to take courses in Hebrew (some with Nili Adler) at the Siegal College. Enid has attended Hebrew camps and was a counselor at Camp Ramah in Wisconsin. She is also a long-time member of Park Synagogue. Enid participates in many volunteer activities, including serving as President of the Cleveland Hebrew Schools, Vice-president of the Friends of the Library at Siegal College, and being a life member of Hadassah.

Enid earned a master's degree in social work, and then in 1983 went back to school to get a law degree. Having a bat mitzvah also seemed like a good idea. Almost 60 years ago Enid chanted the Haftorah at her confirmation at Park Synagogue (then The Jewish Center). It was necessary at that time to have a male recite the blessings. How things have changed! One of the delights of Beth El-The Heights Synagogue is the involvement of women in the service. Enid is happy to continue this tradition with her bat mitzvah, March 26.



BETH EL
The Heights Synagogue



We need to recruit new members!

How often have you dreamt about how great it would be to welcome prospective members to enjoy the wonderful worship services, educational programs, and social events at Beth El – The Heights Synagogue?

Join the Membership committee and make your dream come true!

Members of the Membership committee welcome prospective members in person and by phone. We'll coach you on what to say and when to say it. You can commit as little as two hours per month (but it will be so much fun you'll want to do more!)

Sounds like something you could do for Beth El – The Heights Synagogue? Good!
Contact Jack Valancy at jack@valancy.com or 216-371-1439.

(Haman and Antiochus, continued from page 1)
everywhere and that the Jewish people deserve not a state but death. They claim to be speaking up for the rights of the Palestinian people, but even if the Palestinians settle with the Israelis and build themselves a viable and prosperous state, radical Islamist fanaticism and its duped Western followers will keep vilifying the Jews and de-legitimizing Israel. Anti-Semitism, not the Palestinian cause, animates them. Whether driven by political ambition, religious ideology, or a combination of both, a lust for absolute power seems to demand someone for people to hate.

It goes back to biblical times. In the

book of Esther, Haman seeks the king's authorization to eliminate "a certain people, scattered and apart among the other peoples in all the provinces of your realm, whose laws are different from those of any other people and who do not obey the king's laws; and it is not in Your Majesty's interest to tolerate them" (Esther 3:8). That describes the anti-Semite's classical tactic: focus hatred or suspicion on the Jews by labeling them anti-Ahashverosh agents, Christ-killers, Bolsheviks, international bankers, or infidels; save the world from them; be awarded absolute power.

We Jews have been eating, drinking, and making merry on Purim ever since Haman got his comeuppance. We have since suffered from other Hamans and watched them ultimately fall. Trusting in the G-d whose name is not mentioned in the Megillah, but whose presence is felt throughout it, we dare to go on believing in the ability of human beings to overcome hate. We dare to celebrate Purim yet again.

To our enemies: here's mud in your eye. To our friends: l'chayim!

Mazel Tov to: **מזל טוב!**

➤Allie Jennings, who recently won a Gold Key award in the 25th Annual Cuyahoga County Regional Scholastic Art Awards competition. Hers was one of 2500 entries, and one of only 75 that won the prestigious Gold Key. Allie's untitled still life oil painting remained on display at CCC East for several weeks in February.

Allie is a Junior at Shaker Heights High School. She has created artworks in other media for quite some time, but has only recently begun to explore painting in oil.



Celebrate Shabbat Across America and Canada with Beth El – The Heights Synagogue on Friday, March 4th at 6:00 PM

Services will be followed by dinner, singing, discussion, and shmoozing.

Services are free. The dinner is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children.

If you are interested in attending the dinner, please call

Lisa Berusch at 216-397-9060 or e-mail at lberusch@sbcglobal.net

by Monday, February 28th.

Agent Emes Movies

The Agent Emes movies, which were part of our “Movie Night” January 29, are three short features starring an 11-year-old yeshiva bocher with a secret identity. Agent Emes (“emes” means truth) fights the evil forces of the Yetzer Hara and Dr. Lo-Tov.

The movies are a funny and self-revealing look at life inside a yeshiva in Pittsburgh, or “Shpittsburgh” in the film. The hero is just a kid, dealing with kid stuff -- blowing off schoolwork, annoying little sister, the class bully. But they also deal with much bigger issues, such as taking responsibility for your own actions, how important is Jewish learning anyway, and the surprising truth that sometimes an “evil” person has a soft and good side too.

Disney they’re not -- Baruch HaShem, as we say in my neighborhood. But the sight gags and the human insight are much closer to home, as are the Jewish themes. You can buy them from the filmmaker, Leibel Cohen, at

<http://www.agent-emes.com>

Joe Buchwald Gelles



BETH EL
The Heights Synagogue

You probably wouldn't like our shul.

REASON #2:

We're way too egalitarian.

We call ourselves “traditional egalitarian.”

Some people say that's a contradiction.

We say that's who we are. Egalitarian means women and men are equal in all aspects of shul life. It also means you'll see some women who wear a tallit, and some who don't.

You'll also hear prayer leaders who use inclusive language, and others who don't. We don't agree on everything (what, Jews who don't agree!!).

Egalitarian is a work-in-progress, and we intend to be part of the progress.

If you think you might like this kind of place, give us a call.
Beth El–The Heights Synagogue. 216-320-9667.

*The pursuit of
knowledge for
its own sake,
an almost
fanatical love
of justice,
and the desire
for personal
independence,
these are the
features of
the Jewish
tradition
which make
me thank my
lucky stars I
belong to it.*

Albert Einstein

Adult Education Upcoming Dates

April 9 – Lunch and Learn with Zev Garber, PhD, Rosenthal Visiting Fellow of the Samuel Rosenthal Center for Judaic Studies, Case Western Reserve University

April 10 – Jewish Short Story Evening at the home of Sondra and Harvey Jacobs. Stories by E. L. Doctorow. Contact Sondra Jacobs at sondrajacobs@sbcglobal.net for more information.

May 6-8 – Save the date for our Annual Shabbat Retreat

May Lunch and Learn (date TBA) with Alan Levenson, PhD, Professor of Judaic Studies at the Laura and Alvin Siegal College of Judaic Studies



Short Stories by Jewish Authors Reading and Discussion Group

Short Stories by Jewish Authors Reading and Discussion Group continues with the following sessions, 7:00-8:30 PM. Contact Sondra Jacobs at 216-397-1481 or sondrajacobs@sbcglobal.net for other detail.

Sunday, March 6:

David Bezmozgis, *Natasha and Other Stories*

Tapka

An Animal to the Memory

Natasha

Minyan

Sunday, April 10:

E.L. Doctorow, *Sweet Land Stories*

A House in the Plains

Baby Wilson

Child, Dead in the Rose Garden

The books can be obtained from local libraries but if you prefer to have copies of the stories, the cost is \$2.00 per set. If you need a set, please contact Sondra Jacobs as soon as possible, with your request.

Updated Roster Available

A current list of Beth El –The Heights Synagogue board members and committee chairs, combined with a current roster of our membership, is now available as a compact pdf file that can be e-mailed to you. It should be readable on any computer, as long as you have Adobe Reader (formerly Acrobat Reader) 5.0 or newer; Reader may be downloaded free from

<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>.

Printed copies of the roster will only be distributed once a year.

Any member who would like a copy should send an e-mail request to Blanche Valancy, blanche@valancy.com, and she will respond with the roster attached.

The roster will NOT be available for download from our web site, in order to protect our members' privacy.

Yahrzeits

March 2005

אדר א' \ אדר ב' 5765

FEBRUARY 26 to MARCH 4

17 ADAR I to 23 ADAR I

Isadore Glanz	17 Adar
Solomon Malkin	19 Adar
Esther Hollander	20 Adar
Daniel Geddes	20 Adar
Barbara Becker	22 Adar
Ida Weiss	23 Adar

MARCH 5 to MARCH 11

24 ADAR I to 30 ADAR I

Miranda Claire Bryant	25 Adar
Lawrence Sussman	26 Adar
Leo Berman	26 Adar
Joseph Fromson	27 Adar
Jacob Gerblich	27 Adar
Celia Auerbach	28 Adar
Pauline Shamis	28 Adar
Leo Moskovitz	29 Adar
Lena Greenhut	29 Adar

MARCH 12 to MARCH 18

1 ADAR II to 7 ADAR II

MARCH 19 to MARCH 25

8 ADAR II to 14 ADAR II

Isidor Sobel	10 Adar II
--------------	------------

MARCH 26 – APRIL 1

15 ADAR II to 21 ADAR II

Morris Bloom	15 Adar II
Abram Woolf	17 Adar II
Louis Davis	19 Adar II
Mary Cernigoj	19 Adar II



BETH EL
The Heights Synagogue

NEWS CORPS RECRUITING VOLUNTEER REPORTERS

The Communications Committee ["CommComm", for short] wants you! We all enjoy the news and announcements in the monthly Beth El–The Heights Synagogue Newsletter. In pursuit of even greater quantities of timely intelligence, a concerted effort is under way to create a larger pool of reporters to cover the varied beats in our growing organization.

Have you always wanted to write, but didn't know where to start or how to get your work published? Join the news corps now and hone your skills writing for our widely circulated publication! (It is read from Massachusetts to California!) Report past and future events at BE-THS; collect news of our members and activities, write articles, create new features to delight and entertain our members and friends. We provide some guidance with style, grammar, and spelling, you provide the ideas and imagination. No age limit; all may apply!

Contact CommComm chair, Celia Jennings, at celiakjenn@aol.com today and tell her you want to join the News Corps!!

NEWS FROM BETH EL

חדשות

Refuah Sh'lema to:

- Philip Epstein
- Jim Saunt

רפואה שלימה!

Condolences to:

- Frances Goldberg and family, on the recent death of Frances' husband, Meyer Goldberg.

ניחום אבלים

Thanks for the help!

- January Lunch and Learn: Thanks to Rabbi Moshe and Nili Adler for a wonderful program on Shabbat Shira. Thanks to Joe Buchwald Gelles and David Tomberg for cooking.
- Thanks to Rabbi Moshe Adler, Lisa Berusch, Adina Davidson, Judith Gerblich, Cheryl Birkner Mack and Ditte Wolin for planning and pulling off a very useful information session on B'nai Mitzvah.
- Thanks to the team that made the January Movie Night a success (no small technical task!) – Joe Buchwald Gelles, Ari Klein, Marvin Palevsky, David Shutkin and Ditte Wolin.

תודה!

Yasher Koah to:

- Carol Bruml, who was quoted in the January 6, 2005, Sun Press article on FreeCycling. Carol has participated in the Cleveland area FreeCycling group since May 2004 and has found it an excellent way to give away her unneeded household items to those who can really use them. To join FreeCycling, go to <http://www.freecycle.org/> and then to "US Central" then to Ohio.

יישר כוח!

Mazel Tov to:

- Shoshana Klein, who won first place in the Cleveland Heights Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Poetry Contest for elementary school! She got a plaque from the city during its annual celebration on Martin Luther King Day.

מזל טוב!

Thanks for Donations to:

- Bill and Carol Bruml
- Jacqueline Freedman, in memory of Yetta Kahan, with special thanks to Rabbi Moshe and Nili Adler.
- Adi and Judith Gerblich, for the Chesed Committee, in memory of Enid Kushner's sister, Charlotte Hope Saltzman Z"L.
- Harvey and Sondra Jacobs, for the Adult Education Committee, in honor of Judith Bergmann's milestone birthday.
- Karen Kugelman and family, in memory of Sonia Goldstein Z"L.
- Karen and Harvey Kugelman, in memory of Meyer Goldberg Z"L.
- Benjamin Rodriguez
- Caren and Eran Shiloh, in honor of Sophie and Didi Shiloh both making the honor roll.
- Blanche, Jack and Zev Valancy, in memory of Meyer Goldberg Z"L and in memory of Blanche's parents, William and Rosalyn Louise Berkman Z"L.

תודה!

Thanks for donations in memory of Nili Adler's mother, Nehama Schultz Shalit Z"L

- Frank and Jeanette Buchwald
- Harold and Mary Chaitoff
- Herb and Toby Geduld
- Brett and Sherrie Kaufman
- Inna Mongayt
- Caren and Eran Shiloh
- Marsha Weisberg-Cohen

תודה!



CALENDAR, MARCH 2005

5765 אדר א' \ אדר ב'

Saturday, February 26

About 10:15 AM – **Learners' Service:** Exploring the Torah Service.

After services: **Lunch and Learn with Carole Zawatsky: Art and Creativity in Judaism**

Friday, March 4

6:00 PM: **Celebrate Shabbat Across America and Canada! Kabbalat Shabbat Services, followed by congregational dinner** (reservations required).

See page 7 for details.

Saturday, March 5

After services: **Lunch and Learn, led by Shelly Costa Bloomfield** –

“NOBODY Expects the Spanish Inquisition”: The Times of Luis de Carvajal, the First Jewish Writer in the New World. See page 3 for details.

Sunday, March 6

7:00 to 8:30 PM – **Jewish Short Stories Discussion Group** will meet to discuss stories by David Bezmozgis. See page 8 for details.

Saturday, March 12

About 10:15 AM – **Learners' Service:** an in depth exploration of an element of Jewish prayer. Bring your questions!

March 19

About 10:15 AM – **Learners' Service:** an in depth exploration of an element of Jewish prayer. Bring your questions!

8:00 PM – **Movie Night** (Watch your e-mail for details re time and title.)

Thursday, March 24: Fast of Esther

תענית אסתר

7:00 PM: **Evening service (Ma'ariv) followed by Megillah reading and Purim Party.** See page 12 for details.

Friday, March 25: Purim

פורים

8:00 AM **Morning Megillah reading and S'udah.** RSVP required, see p. 12.

Saturday, March 26: Shushan Purim

שושן פורים

Enid Kushner will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah.

Friday, April 1

6:00 PM: **Kabbalat Shabbat Services**

Saturday, April 2

Natan Kohn-Magnus will become Bar Mitzvah.

Saturday, April 9

After Services – **Lunch and Learn with Zev Garber**

Sunday, April 10

7:00 to 8:30 PM – **Jewish Short Stories Discussion Group** will meet to discuss stories by E.L. Doctorow.

Friday, May 6 through Sunday, May 8

Annual Shabbat Family Retreat

Purim began with the drinking bout of King Ahasuerus and the resultant danger to the entire Jewish community. It ended with Israel's salvation and our dedication to philanthropy. The message of Purim, then, is that we cannot eat or drink before we have cared for the needs of all those who turn to us for help.

Rabbi Moses Mescheloff,
From *The Quotable American Rabbi*,
Edited by Samuel M. Silver

פורים
שמח

PURIM פורים AT BETH EL - THE HEIGHTS SYNAGOGUE



Thursday, March 24 at 7:00 PM -

- Ma'ariv (evening service)
- All new, MultiMedia, Family Friendly Megillah reading, with groggers
- Purim party with music, dancing and yummy hamentaschen

Bring money for Matanot La-Evyonim (gifts to the poor).

Friday, March 25 at 8:00 AM -

- Morning Megillah reading and S'udah (holiday feast). Please RSVP to the Adlers at 291-2404 if you would like to attend.

Remember the four mitzvot of Purim -

1. MEGILLAH מגילה: Hear the Megillah at night and during the day
2. MATANOT LA-EVYONIM מתנות לאביונים: Donate for gifts to the poor
3. MISHLOAH MANOT משלוח מנות: During the day, send at least one person or family a portion consisting of at least two types of food
4. S'UDAH סעודה: During the day, have a holiday-style feast, featuring meat (or a festive vegetarian equivalent) and wine (or a festive non-alcoholic equivalent)

NOTE: Ordinarily, the feast would be held between mid-day and sunset. This year, however, it should be held BEFORE mid-day to avoid diminishing the joy of the Friday night Shabbat meal.

Beth El - The Heights Synagogue

3246 Desota Ave., Cleveland Heights 44118 Tel.216-320-9667