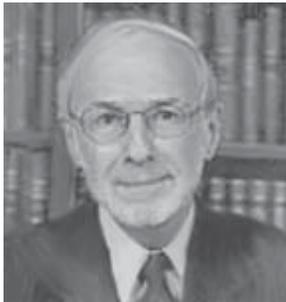




# BETH EL NEWSLETTER

The Heights Synagogue

August 2006  
אבואלול 5766



Rabbi Moshe Adler

## Hope Born from the Womb

With the approach of Tish'ah b'Av, the major fast that commemorates the destruction of the Temple, we come across a startling midrash (Agadat B'reshit 68):

On the day that Nebuchadnezzar destroyed the Temple, the Messiah was born, as it is written, "the Lebanon shall fall by a mighty one" (Isaiah 10:34)<sup>1</sup> [and] "a shoot shall grow out of the stump of Jesse" (Isaiah 11:1).<sup>2</sup>

The near-juxtaposition of two verses, one prophesying the destruction of Zion and the other prophesying the restoration of the Davidic line, suggested to our Sages that the two events happened on the same day.

We're not waiting for the Messiah to come; he's already come and we're only waiting for him to appear! Hmmm... a proselytizer for Christianity could have a ball with that.

In thirteenth-century Spain, an influential apostate Jew tried to do just that. He used this midrash in a public debate with the sage Nachmanides to prove that even according to the talmudic rabbis the Messiah has already come, and challenged Nachmanides and the rest of the Jews to accept him.

It didn't take much effort to debunk this "proof" on the grounds that, if the man whom the Church deifies were actually the Messiah revealed, the Church would not be persecuting the Jews or indeed anyone else, since we would all be living in a redeemed world. (Thanks to the fairness of King James of Aragon, Nachmanides was exiled instead of being executed for so blasphemously pointing that out.)

Nachmanides drew a crucial distinction between the Messiah's birth and his coming. To say that the Messiah was born is to say that he is now in our world. To say, on the other hand, that he has come is to say that he has accomplished the final redemption, a claim that human history has repeatedly disproved.

What, then, does it mean to assert that on the very day the kingdom was lost, the person who will restore it was born? To assert this is to say that G-d's allowing the kingdom to be lost was but one phase in a history that will ultimately climax with its restoration. Both the loss and the restoration were assured on the same day, the former occurring immediately, the latter irrevocably destined to occur when the time would be ripe. In other words, the future messianic redemption is as certain as the past destruction. *(continued on p. 3)*

צום תשעה באב  
ט' אב



Tish'ah b'Av  
August 2-3



*Jack Valancy*

# Fulfilling Our Vision

On June 6, after considering our members' responses, our Board adopted our congregation's Vision Statement:

**Beth El - The Heights Synagogue builds vibrant Jewish community. We welcome all in participatory, traditional, egalitarian worship and learning.**

During the past year, we demonstrated that we are, indeed, a participatory congregation.

Ritual Committee Chair Lisa Berusch, Rabbi Adler, and the dozens of people who lead our services, read Torah and haftarah, and present d'verei Torah, conducted Shabbat services every week, and Kabbalat Shabbat services eleven times during the year. We conducted High Holy Day Services, and services for holidays throughout the year. Some services were as modest as morning minyans, while others were as expansive as our Purim Megillah reading and our Shavuot worship and learning program. Joe Buchwald Gelles and Ari Klein established our active Junior Congregation.

Adult Education Committee Chair Mia Buchwald Gelles and dozens of others produced a broad variety of programs: Linda Tobin organized our three-part series on End of Life Issues with Rabbi Adler and distinguished faculty from Case Western Reserve University. Rabbi Adler presented our three-part series on Negotiating With G-d. Many people presented our three-part series on preparing for the High Holy Days. Mia Buchwald Gelles and others presented ten Learners' Services, and Shelley Bloomfield, Shulamit Magnus and others presented four Lunch & Learn programs.

Cheryl Birkner Mack facilitated four Kiddush with Rashi discussions, and Sondra Jacobs organized four Short Story by Jewish Authors discussions.

We celebrated six b'nai mitzvah and two marriages. Our Chesed Committee, chaired by Cheryl Birkner Mack, supported our members and friends in mourning and other difficult circumstances. We had a picnic and a Sukkah Hop. Scott Wachter organized our December 25 pancake breakfast, and Joe and Mia Buchwald Gelles organized four movie nights. Cheryl Birkner Mack took us out to an Indians vs. White Sox baseball game!

One thing almost all of our activities have in common is food! Executive Chef Marvin Palevsky and Social Chair Merry Lugasy have spent hundreds of hours organizing and operating our commercial-quality kosher kitchen. Most of our activities take place in our synagogue. Our House Chair, Ditte Wolin, and Marvin Palevsky keep our building running, with help from Bill Schmitt, Bill Bruml, Scott Wachter, and others who make repairs and do other tasks, like acquiring and installing our bike rack.

We stay informed about our programs and each other through our newsletter, which is edited by Carol Bruml and distributed by Data Base Queen Blanche Valancy and dozens of people on our mailing crew. David Shutkin maintains our web site.

We are a participatory community that worships and learns together, with many opportunities to participate. You can participate in our community financially. Our members and friends *(continued on p.3)*

**QUESTIONS?  
CONCERNS?  
COMMENTS?  
COMPLAINTS?**  
As always, please do not hesitate to contact your President by e-mail [president@bethelheights.org](mailto:president@bethelheights.org) 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](mailto: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 [news@bethelheights.org](mailto:news@bethelheights.org) (You must have the free Acrobat Reader in order to open the attachment.)

*(Fulfilling Our Vision, continued from p. 2)*

respond generously to our appeals, organized by Development Chair Emily Dennis.

Membership dues account for 42% of our congregation's income, and contributions account for another 31%. Please consider a significant contribution in addition to your dues, as many of our members have been doing for years. Consider sponsoring or co-sponsoring a kiddush. Use the contribution envelopes you receive by mail throughout the year, and can pick up on our literature tables, to make donations to celebrate, honor, or remember someone – or to fund a favorite program. Put a few dollars in the donation jar when you see it on the buffet table.

You can also participate in our community with your time, energy, and expertise. Hundreds of opportunities to participate in our congregation arise throughout the year. You may decide to initiate a program yourself, as is true with many of our worship and learning programs. You may see a job and volunteer to help without being asked, like in the kitchen, or ushering, or mailing. You may hear or read a call for help in conversation, in our newsletter, or in your e-mail. You may be personally invited to participate in a program. Don't expect an engraved invitation, though; we're all just a little too busy to stand on ceremony.

Whether the opportunity to participate financially or physically requires a large commitment or a small commitment, our community appreciates YOUR commitment to Beth El - The Heights Synagogue.

Let us continue working together to build our vibrant community for participatory worship and learning. Let us apply our creativity, energy, and judgment. Let us reason together. Let us celebrate what we have accomplished, and what we have yet to accomplish!

*(Hope Born from the Womb, continued from p. 1)*

Tish'ah b'Av both mourns the fall of Zion and anticipates its full restoration. From the onset of the fast the night before, until after midday, we do not study parts of the Bible or recite parts of the Prayer Book that deal with redemption, but focus instead on passages that deal with destruction and induce mourning. After midday we make it a point to focus on prophecies and prayers that stress redemption and elicit hope and joy.

In the midst of destruction, the future redemption is born. This is the faith that has kept the Jewish people from giving up and disappearing. It must keep us, too, alive as Jews, and we must in turn pass it on to our children and our descendants.

- 1 Metaphorically understood by the Talmud [Gittin 56b] to mean that Jerusalem, majestic as the Lebanon forest, shall fall by the hand of a king.
- 2 "The stump of Jesse (the father of David)" refers to the Davidic line, seemingly discontinued yet destined to produce a new scion whom our Sages identify with the Messiah.

***G-d is the mirror of silence in which all creation is reflected.***

Paramahansa Yogananda

## Traffic Update

The roadwork area has moved east! In mid-June, the section of Euclid Heights Boulevard closest to our building was finished and reopened. Now you can approach from the west on Euclid Heights and from the east on Berkeley or Desota unimpeded!

The final section of Euclid Heights, from Berkeley to Taylor Road, is now under construction and limited to westbound traffic. This should not be a big obstacle to approaching BETHS; from the north on Taylor Road, simply continue south to Desota, turn right, and proceed two blocks west to the building. This project should be complete before the snow flies!

# Thanks to our Board By Jack Valancy

Our elected Board members work together to guide our congregation. At our Annual Meeting on June 25, we thanked departing and continuing Board members for their service, and welcomed new Board members.

Please do not hesitate to contact individual Board members or me with your questions, comments, concerns, or complaints. Their telephone numbers and e-mail addresses appear elsewhere in this newsletter.

## Departing Board members:

■ **Cheryl Birkner Mack, Chesed.** Cheryl has coordinated our quick and sensitive responses to our members and friends in need. We appreciated Cheryl's warm sense of humor and perspectives at our Board meetings

■ **Michael Bloom, At Large.** Michael's keen insights and sharp sense of humor made our Board meetings productive and fun.

■ **Mark Davidson, Child and Teen Programming.** Mark and his committee have succeeded in several areas, including our Junior Congregation and our visit to the Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage.

■ **Fern Grunberger, Secretary.** Thanks to Fern for preparing detailed minutes of our Board meetings, maintain our congregation's calendar, and sharing her perspectives at Board meetings.

■ **Jeff Halpern, Membership.** Jeff was responsible for our Membership committee for about a year. We appreciate his energy and enthusiasm.

■ **Celia Jennings, Communications.** Celia and her committee have organized, improved, and expanded our congregation's internal and external communications.

■ **Bill Schmitt, At Large.** Bill has volunteered his time since the early days of Heights Synagogue. Most recently, he has devoted untold hours on building repairs. Bill articulately and passionately participated in Board deliberations and decisions.

## Continuing Board members:

■ **Lisa Berusch, now At Large, was Ritual Chair.** Lisa has done innumerable things

for our congregation, including serving as Beth El - The Heights Synagogue's first president. For the past two years, Lisa has been organizing our services and, together with Rabbi Adler, has been taking care of all matters ritual. She will continue on the Board as an at large member

■ **Mia Buchwald Gelles, Adult Education.** Mia has organized an extraordinarily effective committee that presents a wide variety of educational programs. The Board values her astute observations and thoughtful recommendations.

■ **Emily Dennis, Development.** Emily is organizing an effective Development program. She thinks about Beth El - The Heights Synagogue night and day, often posting e-mail messages in the wee hours of the morning. Emily gets things done.

■ **Robin Dubin, now Secretary, was At Large.** Robin actively participates in Board deliberations and decisions. She recently chaired our Nominating Committee. One of her first projects as Secretary will be to maintain our congregation's comprehensive calendar in easily accessible form on the Internet.

■ **Leon Gabinet, Vice President, now also Ritual Chair.** Leon is a pillar of our congregation. He served as President of Temple Beth El for many years, is a past Vice President of our Board as well. Leon's knowledge and wisdom will continue to guide our congregation. Special thanks for agreeing to head our Ritual Committee, in addition to his responsibilities as Vice President.

■ **Laura Gooch, Treasurer.** Laura completely reorganized our bookkeeping, reporting, and budgeting systems. She

## Kiddush Sponsorship Procedure

Want to sponsor a Kiddush or reserve the Synagogue for a mitzvah? It's easy. Just follow the steps below:

1. Go to our new electronic calendar at <http://calendar.yahoo.com/dubinrobin> to find an available date.
2. Send an e-mail to Robin Dubin ([rad4@case.edu](mailto:rad4@case.edu)). Robin will send you an e-mail confirming that your date has been reserved.
3. Merry Lugasy will contact you if the kitchen is needed for your event.

personally reviews every transaction. We appreciate the tremendous amount of work she does.

📖 **Merry Lugasy, Social.** Merry has volunteered her time since the early days of Heights Synagogue. For the past year, she has worked closely with Executive Chef Marvin Palevsky to improve and expand the capabilities of our commercial quality kosher kitchen.

📖 **Marilyn Malkin, now Chesed Chair,** was **At Large.** Marilyn has volunteered her time since the early days of Heights Synagogue. She actively participates in Board deliberations and decisions, helping us refine and polish our solutions.

📖 **Scott Wachter, At Large.** Scott has volunteered his time since the early days of Heights Synagogue. His initiatives this past year have included organizing minyanim, coordinating our Pancake Breakfast, and acquiring our bike rack. Scott's awareness of our members' needs make him a valuable member of our Board

📖 **Ditte Wolin, House and Operations.** Ditte runs our building every day. She rolls up her sleeves and tackles the 1,001 jobs that need to be done. Ditte actively participates in Board deliberations and decisions.

### **Incoming Board members**

📖 **Shelley Bloomfield, At Large.** We welcome Shelley's intellectual and literary abilities to the issues facing our congregation.

📖 **Stacia Dearmin, At Large.** We welcome Stacia's articulate approach.

📖 **Marty Gelfand, Communications.** We welcome Marty's experience in communicating on both the local and national level. Mickey Greenberg, Membership. We welcome Mickey's decades of business experience.

📖 **Sue Klein, At Large.** We welcome Sue's thoughtful approach.

Finally, thank you for the honor and privilege of serving as our congregation's President. It is truly a labor of love.

## New Member Profile: Marc and Debora Lynn

Life-long Clevelanders Debora and Marc Lynn recently joined Beth El - The Heights Synagogue. They had visited us in our temporary location at the Jewish Community Center and were attracted to join us in our now-permanent building. Marc and Debora were previously members of Congregation Beth Am. They live in South Euclid with their four cats and a gaggle of friendly squirrels in the back yard.

Debora graduated from Cleveland Heights High School in 1967. She has recently graduated magna cum laud from John Carroll University with a major in religious studies and a minor in political science. She has two children: daughter, Melissa McAdams, lives with her daughter, Morgan, in North Carolina; son, Eddie Hancock, lives in Cleveland. When Melissa and her daughter lived in Cleveland, Debora was Morgan's caregiver. To fill some of her available time, Debora is a volunteer in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital.

Marc graduated from Beachwood High School in 1967 and holds a Ph.D. in regulatory biology, having specialized in research in the area of cardiovascular neurophysiology. His interests made him venture into the business realm, and he now teaches business information systems, database development, and related subjects in the Business School at John Carroll. Mark's family has deep roots in Cleveland. They were members of B'nai Jeshurun, going back to the original building in Cleveland and the Temple on the Heights. Marc's daughter and son-in-law, Robin and David Sacks, live next door to the Lynns. A grandchild is expected in December!

Debora and Marc are musicians! Debora has recently begun to sing jazz with the group, "Jazz, Etc.", in which Marc is the guitar player. You can catch "Jazz, Etc." every Thursday night at Club Isabella and sometimes other evenings, as well.

BE-THS welcomes Marc and Deborah Lynn to the community!

# Beth El – the Heights Synagogue Is Now Bicycle Friendly



We are a bicycle-loving congregation! For many years, a substantive number of our members and friends have arrived at our meetings and events on bicycles. Since the move to our new home in 2003, the number of bikers has increased. During the Community Pancake Breakfast last December, some of our regular cyclers decided it was time to have a place to park and lock our bikes, which might subsequently encourage others to bike to our new home.

Seizing the opportunity, Eric Fryxell, Bill and Carol Bruml, and Scott, Beth, Anna and Maia Wachter collaborated on the purchase of our new bike rack!

They searched web sites, (you wouldn't believe the variety of types of bike racks out there!), bounced ideas back and forth, and finally agreed on the location and shape (making sure it didn't interfere with our Sukkah). Beth El - The Heights Synagogue is now the owner of a brand new bike rack that can hold five to six bikes (or Bill's and Carol's tricycles) with ease.

Thanks to Marv Palevsky, who did a terrific job of installing the rack. Our new bike rack demonstrates to the community that Beth El - The Heights Synagogue is bike friendly! We welcome you to grab your helmet, ride to the Synagogue, and check it out!

*To distribute  
material things is  
to divide them.*

*To distribute  
spiritual things is  
to multiply them.*

Joseph Albers

## Fall Courses at Siegal College

Learn how to read Hebrew or brush up your skills at Siegal College's diversified Hebrew programs:

- "Hebrew on One Foot" - A six hour reading program on Sunday August 27, 9:30 AM – 3:30 PM.
- Courses are offered in conversational or biblical/prayerbook Hebrew, a study of biblical narrative, Hebrew literature, learning how to chant the Torah, and Yiddish.

The Siegal College fall 2006 course catalog may be downloaded from <http://www.siegal-college.edu>. Fall classes begin September 5.

For further information, call Nili Adler at 216-464-4050 ex. 116, or send an e-mail to [nadler@siegalcollege.edu](mailto:nadler@siegalcollege.edu)



## Aliza Mack Will Become a Bat Mitzvah

Aliza Rivka Mack will become a Bat Mitzvah on Labor Day. The Birkner Mack family will celebrate that weekend. Aliza will give a d'var Torah the previous Shabbat (September 2) and the congregation is invited to celebrate with Aliza and her family at Kiddush following services that morning.

Aliza will be entering 6th grade at Evelina de Rothschild school in Jerusalem this fall. With the move to Israel, Aliza will fulfill her dream of fulfilling the mitzvah of living in Eretz Yisrael. Aliza is an avid reader (both English and Hebrew) and loves solving Math puzzles – especially Sudoku.



# Membership

We need members. We need them to help create the critical mass to make our synagogue stronger. We need them for their financial support. Summer is the time to start recruiting, because many people join a synagogue in the fall, before the High Holy Days.

The way we find potential members is through our existing membership. It is everyone's responsibility to continually "sell" our congregation to people we meet. To make that easier, the Membership Committee has put together a new tri-fold brochure to give to prospective members. It is in the early development stage, but a limited number of copies are on the literature table. Let Mickey Greenberg know if you need any and he will give them to you. If you know of any potential members please give Mickey their contact information and the Membership Committee will follow up with them, in addition to your efforts.

We are a unique congregation. We are challenged to identify and recruit the people who will love our congregation as we do. How do you describe our uniqueness to prospective members? Here are some suggestions:

- We have an full traditional-style service with Pesukai d'Zimrah, Shaha<sup>rit</sup>, a full Torah-reading and

Mussaf. Women participate equally with men. We call it participatory, traditional, egalitarian.

- Our service is lead by our lay members and our exceptional rabbi and teacher, Rabbi Moshe Adler.
- We really sing together as a congregation.
- Our seats are arranged facing each other to enhance our sense of community.
- We are small enough that everyone gets to know everyone else.
- Our highly-educated congregants lead learner services and adult education programs.
- We do not have a parking lot; just park on the street right at the door, when you come to an event or meeting.
- Our building is handicap accessible with a Shabbat elevator.
- We have child care and a junior congregation that are truly engaging.
- Our weekly Kiddush is a vegetarian-friendly social highlight of Shabbat.
- So, if you are looking for something special in a congregation, please join us as a full-time member or as an associate member along with your existing congregation.
- We are proud of the unique character of our congregation. We are a home for very special people just like you.

If you feel that this is a "sales pitch," it is! But our congregation is a "product" that sells itself! Join our Beth El "Sales Team"! If you have any questions, contact Mickey directly:

Mickey Greenberg  
Membership Chairman  
(216) 291-1805

[mickeygreenberg@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mickeygreenberg@sbcglobal.net)

## Share Your Newsletters

Nili Adler commented that, naturally, our newsletter looks even more attractive in color than in black and white.

She suggests that those of us who own color printers should print out a copy or two of the newsletters as they come, and place them in public areas in our workplaces or elsewhere.

This would spread the news, the Beth El - The Heights Synagogue news, more widely within our community.

# NEWS FROM BETHEL חדשות

## Mazel Tov to: מזל טוב!

🕍 Judith and Adi Gerblich on the birth of their new grandson, Gabriel, on June 24. Gabriel is the son of Ilanit (Gerblich) and Doron Kalir.

## Condolences to: ניהום אבלים

🕍 Emily Dennis and family. Emily's mother, Nancy Landis, passed away on July 8.

## Yasher Koah to: יישר כוח!

🕍 Didi and Sophie Shiloh, who both earned Honor Roll all 4 quarters in school this past year. Didi received a Presidential Academic Excellence Award, and Sophie was chosen to be a West Geauga cheerleader.

## Thanks to the following members, who took time to call other members to remind them of the Annual Meeting:

🕍 Frank Buchwald	🕍 Honey Massey
🕍 Kimberly Carr	🕍 Blanche Valancy
🕍 Connie Friedman	🕍 Beth Wachter
🕍 Sondra Jacobs	🕍 Ieda Warshay
🕍 Sue Klein	

## Thanks for Kiddush sponsorships to: תודה!

🕍 April 30 – Sue Klein, Ari Klein and Ditte Wolin, in honor of Shoshana's and Aviva's birthdays.

🕍 May 6 – Ieda and Marvin Warshay and Ellen and Harold Ticktin in honor of Alisa Warshay, who read the Haftorah that day.

🕍 May 27 – David Kazdan and Laura Gooch, in honor of all Memorial Day wedding anniversaries.

🕍 June 17 – Merry and Nissim Lugasy, in honor of Tali's Bat Mitzvah.

🕍 July 8 – Honey Massey, in celebration of Oren, Deb and Zev Massey's visit from Israel.

🕍 July 15 – Laura and Marty Rabinowitz, in honor of Miriam becoming a bat mitzvah.

🕍 July 22 - Robin Dubin and Richard Krueck, in celebration of their wedding anniversary.

🕍 September 2 – Eric Mack and Cheryl Birkner Mack, in honor of Aliza's Bat Mitzvah.

🕍 Anonymous

## Thanks for Breakfast to: תודה!

🕍 June 25 - Frank and Jeanette Buchwald sponsored a pancake breakfast in honor of Shani Gelles' birthday

## Thanks for our new bike rack to: תודה!

🕍 Bill and Carol Bruml  
 🕍 Eric Fryxell  
 🕍 Marvin Palevsky (for installation)  
 🕍 Anna, Beth, Maia and Scott Wachter

## Thanks for Contributions to: תודה!

🕍 Frank and Jeanette Buchwald, in honor of Tali Lugasy becoming a bat mitzvah.

🕍 Hope and Jay Fromson, in memory of Abe Fromson and Will Lieberman, and in honor of Goldie Fromson Lieberman's ninety-second birthday.

🕍 Betty and Meyer Hoffer

🕍 Natalie Jacobs, in thanks for Harvey Jacobs' recovery from an illness.

🕍 Harvey and Karen Kugelman

🕍 Shulamit Magnus, to the Adult Education Fund, in appreciation of the Medical Ethics Series.

🕍 Ewa Maniawski and Richard Tuschman

🕍 Cynthia and Kyle Rose

🕍 Miriam Steigman, in memory of Leslie Kazdan Rolle.

🕍 Connie Sussman, in memory of her parents, Sam and Helen Kasimov.

🕍 Linda Tobin and Stephen Pepper in honor of Miriam Rabinowitz becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

🕍 Mark Weber, in honor of Linda Silver on her retirement from the Jewish Education Center of Cleveland.

🕍 Marsha Weisberg, in memory of Bertha and Sidney Weisberg and in honor of Tali Lugasy becoming a Bat Mitzvah.

🕍 Cedars Legacy Fund, for music by the Ben Bloom Trio at the September 10 Wine Tasting.

## Thanks for the donation to: תודה!

🕍 Eric Fryxell, who donated and planted day lilies.

## Thanks to the following youth members, who provided childcare services during the annual meeting:

🕍 Jacob Dennis	🕍 Aliza Mack
🕍 Tali Lugasy	🕍 Noah Schmitt

# CALENDAR, AUGUST 2006

August 2006

5766 אבאלול

Wednesday, August 2, 9:30 PM – **Tish'ah b'Av** begins with evening services and a reading of Eikha, the biblical book of Lamentations. **צום תשעה באב**

Saturday, September 2 – **Aliza Mack will give a d'var Torah in honor of her Bat Mitzvah**, which will take place on September 4.

Her parents invite the congregation to Kiddush in Aliza's honor, after services.

Sunday, September 10, 6:00 to 9:00 PM – **Wine Tasting**.

See page 10, and watch for your invitation in the mail.

Saturday, September 16 – **Selihot סליחות**

Friday, September 22 – **Erev Rosh Hashanah ראש השנה**

7:06 PM – Candle Lighting

7:30 PM – Evening Service

Saturday, September 23 – **Rosh Hashanah, First Day ראש השנה**

8:00 AM – Morning Services

8:00 PM – Evening Services (Dark/Candle Lighting is at 8:05 PM)

Sunday, September 24 – **Rosh Hashanah, Second Day ראש השנה**

8:00 AM – Morning Services

6:00 PM – Tashliḥ תשליך (Meet at the Kugelman's home, walk to Coventry School)

7:53 PM – Dark, Yom Tov ends.

## Yahrzeits

JULY 29 TO AUGUST 4

4 AV TO 10 AV

Joseph Meyer Dubin	5 Av	
Fanny Wachter and Children	6 Av	5704
Joseph Oshuns	10 Av	5756

Esther Ann Farachi

20 Av 5739

Joseph D. Klein

23 Av 5718

Samuel Messerman

24 Av 5748

AUGUST 19 TO AUGUST 25

25 AV TO 1 ELUL

AUGUST 5 TO AUGUST 11		
11 AV TO 17 AV		
Joe Neuger	11 Av	5754
Hanna Tepper	11 Av	5700
Sarah Fried Weiss	12 Av	5723
Marcia L. Jacobs	14 Av	5734
Harry Tinman	15 Av	5729
Norman Paul Glanz	16 Av	5723
Sarah Blume Levine	16 Av	5737

Sadie Landesman

27 Av 5720

Dr. David Russack

27 Av 5743

Bernard Mason

29 Av 5719

Esther Liederman

1 Elul 5733

AUGUST 26 TO SEPTEMBER 1

2 ELUL TO 8 ELUL

AUGUST 12 TO AUGUST 18		
18 AV TO 24 AV		
Ida Greenstein	18 Av	5728
Lena Freed	19 Av	5726
Morris Ginsberg	19 Av	5732

Victor Linden

3 Elul 5755

Alter David Miller

3 Elul 5732

Isaac A. Belkes

3 Elul 5703

Rose Rapport

4 Elul 5723

Jack Malkin

4 Elul 5719

Rev. Nathan Davidson

6 Elul 5741

Anna Sender

6 Elul 5755

## Tish'ah b'Av צום תשעה באב

On August 2, we will have an evening service and reading of Eikha, the biblical book of Lamentations, when the fast begins.

Start time is 9:30 PM, as soon as it's dark enough to be considered Tish'ah b'Av.

*Once every year,  
on every  
Ninth of Av,  
the stones are  
in mourning.*

Heinrich Heine  
in *Jehuda Ben Halevy*

Former member, **Roger Kohn**, shared the news that he presented a workshop on "Hidden Torah and Revealed Torah in the Sfat Emet," the Torah interpretations by Rabbi Judah Aryeh Leib Alter, at the "Canamica," The Canadian/American Havurah Shabbaton of the National Havurah Institute, at Canterbury Hills Retreat Centre, Ancaster (Ontario), on Sunday, June 18, 2006.

# Experiencing Israel, June 2006

**The Gordons:** Stephanie Gordon writes that she and her husband, Chester, promised each other “Next year in Jerusalem” when their daughter Rachel and her husband Joseph made aliyah last September.

Experience Israel with Rabbi Howard Ruben (Anshe Chesed) turned out to be the perfect match. Travel arrangements were made with Keshet (Center for Educational Tourism in Israel) which assigned us Danny, a modern orthodox Jew (with kipa) who made aliyah some 15 years ago. Danny wove our 3,000 year history with realism and optimism.

Our hotel stops were in Tel Aviv, Dead Sea, Jerusalem, and Tzfat. Tel Aviv highlights were Independence Hall (Ben Gurion declared the State of Israel) and the Palmach Museum (elite force of Haganah). En route to the Dead Sea, we visited Moshav Nevatim site of the Cochin Jews from India who made aliyah as a group then we ate an authentic Chochin Indian lunch.

We cabled up the desert fortress of Masada (Jewish fighters faced Roman legions 2,000 years ago) then cooled off at the waterfalls of Ein Gedi Nature Reserve (David hid from Saul). After a refreshing overnight at a spa at the Dead Sea, we bused to Maale Adumim (our daughter’s home), a suburb of Jerusalem and experienced home hospitality with Ethiopian Jewish immigrants who told of their determined trek to Israel (Rachel helped translate).

Once in Jerusalem, we explored the Jewish “love affair” with this city through Danny’s eyes and heart. We visited David’s City (Mt. Zion), recent excavations (City of David Archaeological Park), Old City, Jewish Quarter, the Cardo, and the Kotel where we tucked our

messages in the Wall. Our last stop before Shabbat was Yad Vashem where we walked through the haunting dark chambers and listened to the echoing names of our perished children. Observing Kabbalah Shabbat at dusk on the roof top of our hotel, we prayed and danced with a touring group from B’nai Yeshuran as the sun set and the buildings of Jerusalem turned to gold. On Shabbat we had a pick of shuls-reform, conservative, modern orthodox, and orthodox with Shabbat lunch included. Late afternoon before Havdalah, Danny led us on a walking tour through the Church of the Holy Sepulcher.

Before saying lehitraot to Jerusalem, we stopped at Yad LaKashish Lifeline for the Elderly (active 80’s and 90’s, many without glasses) making gifts in their workshop for sale in their gift shop. Heading north we stopped at the ancient Galilean capital of Tzipori with its preserved mosaics of paganism mingled with Judaism and learned that this is the site where Rav Yehudah Hanasi compiled the Mishnah 1,800 years ago.

On our way to Tzfat, we passed lush farmlands, pastures, orchards, fish farms and had a glimpse of the “fence” from time to time. Once in Tzfat (City of Jewish Mystics), we explored its narrow alleys and a synagogue and met with Avraham Lowentahl, a Kabbalistic artist.

On our last day, we witnessed the security issues of the Golan Heights and learned about the water issues at the headwaters of the Jordan River at Tel Dan Nature Reserve. An exciting experience for me was when we walked through the Ancient Biblical City of Dan, we saw a preserved sacrificial altar.

“Next year in Jerusalem” a possible promise among those of us at Beth El.



**The Shilohs:** Caren Shiloh shared the news that the Shiloh Family has just returned from an exciting, action-packed visit to Israel!! Sophie and Didi were the guests of honor at a large Shiloh family gathering to celebrate Sophie’s past Bat Mitzvah, and Didi’s upcoming Bat Mitzvah. (Date not yet set.) In attendance were their 95-year-old great-grandmother, Savta Bronca, and thier brand-new, 2-month-old baby boy first cousin, Eliya. Sophie wrote and recited her speech to the family entirely in Hebrew. Didi recited hers in English, with Abba Eran translating it for the crowd. The girls did EVERYTHING in Israel, from going on a Bedouin camel trip in the Negev Desert, to kayaking on the Jordan River!! Didi even got badly stung by a “medusa” (jellyfish) in the Mediterranean Sea!

**Beth El – The Heights Synagogue**  
**Board and Committee Contacts**  
**August 2006**

Name	Position	E-Mail	Phone
<b>Board Members</b>			
Officers:			
Jack Valancy	President	president@bethelheights.org	216-371-1439
Leon Gabinet	Vice-President	lxg5@po.cwru.edu	216-751-7444
Robin Dubin	Secretary and Scheduling	rad4@po.cwru.edu	216-382-8848
Laura Gooch	Treasurer	lgooch@alum.mit.edu	216-932-1002
Committee Chairs:			
Mia Buchwald Gelles	Adult Education	miabgelles@gmail.com	216-321-7134
Marilyn Malkin	Chesed	mxm74@po.cwru.edu	216-932-1949
Marty Gelfand	Communications	marty.gelfand@mail.house.gov	216-371-8827
Emily Dennis	Development	glendennis@rmrc.net	216-589-0663
Joe Buchwald Gelles (non-Board)	Family Education	thumpers@apk.net	216-321-7134
Ditte Wolin	House and Operations	adwolin@dasa93.net	216-932-9907
Mickey Greenberg	Membership	mickeygreenberg@sbcglobal.net	216-291-1805
Leon Gabinet	Ritual	lxg5@po.cwru.edu	216-397-9060
Merry Lugasy	Social	mlugasy@core.com	216-397-9305
At-Large:			
Lisa Berusch	At-Large	lberusch@sbcglobal.net	216-397-9060
Shelley Bloomfield	At-Large	s_bloomfield@sbcglobal.net	440-247-9415
Stacia Dearmin	At-Large	stacia113@adelphia.net	216-321-4327
Sue Klein	At-Large		216-321-6541
Scott Wachter	At-Large	wachter@nacs.net	216-932-5964
<b>Other Committee Contacts</b>			
Rabbi Moshe Adler		moshetzvi@earthlink.net	216-291-2404
Carol Bruml	Newsletter	news@bethelheights.org	216-932-9155
Ari Klein and Ditte Wolin	Publicity	Ari@dasa93.net adwolin@dasa93.net	216-932-9907
David Shutkin	Webmaster	dshutkin@jcu.edu	216-371-3145
Blanche Valancy	Data Base and Mailing	blanche@valancy.com	216-371-1439
Marvin Palevsky	Executive Chef	mpalevsky@mybunnies.com	216-382-7622

*Please keep this page for future reference.*



Join us for a

# Kosher Wine Tasting

## Fund Raiser

with Musical entertainment  
by the Ben Bloom Trio

Sunday, September 10  
6:00 to 9:00 PM

Come enjoy a lovely evening with friends  
at a Cleveland Heights home,  
while supporting  
Beth El-The Heights Synagogue.

For more information,  
call Merry Lugasy  
at 216-397-9305

Interested in volunteering to help?  
Please contact Merry Lugasy,  
Social Committee Chair,  
at 216-337-2294 or 216-397-9305.