



BETH EL NEWSLETTER

The Heights Synagogue

February 2008

שבט \ אדר א' 5768



Rabbi Moshe Adler

Creches, Menorahs, and Health Care

House Resolution 847, passed by the U. S. House of Representatives on December 11, 2007, officially recognizes the contributions of Christianity and Christians to western civilization and condemns all forms of bigotry against that religion.

local – must not advocate or favor one religion over another.

Reading the text of the resolution, I found myself feeling strangely uneasy. I recognize Christianity's contributions to Western civilization, and I condemn all forms of bigotry against that religion. Yet something about the resolution bothered me: not what it said, but the fact that the House of Representatives found it necessary to say it. I wasn't aware that Christianity was especially disrespected or that it was a target of bigotry (at least not more so than are other religions in this age, when fundamentalist atheism offers itself as the only alternative to fundamentalist religion). Why this particular resolution at this particular moment?

The House of Representatives has apparently found it politically necessary to placate the religious right by publicly disavowing discrimination against Christianity. One of the weapons in the religious right's arsenal is: create a false choice, put it on the public agenda, and pressure people to choose. They previously manufactured the supposed evolution versus creation dispute in order to introduce fundamentalist Christian teaching into the public school system in the guise of an alternative scientific theory. Their "war on Christianity" ploy, with its implied choice between God and non-sectarian government, is but another use of that weapon.

In recent times, the religious right has taken to claiming that Christianity is under attack by liberals, whose campaign to prohibit religious displays or religious teaching on government property is really a war on Christianity. This is the same religious right that advocates the elimination, or at least the weakening, of the wall of separation between church and state. It is disingenuous to portray those who seek to strengthen that wall as enemies of Christianity. Either the government should display the symbols of all American religions – an absurdly impossible expectation – or it should display none. The political statement this makes is not that Christianity or any other religion is bad, but that government – whether federal, state, or

The places to nurture God consciousness are the home and the religious school. Public schools cannot teach religion, but they can and should teach religions, educating children to understand and appreciate the religions of America. The late Catholic theologian, Jacques Maritain, wrote of a "democratic covenant" by which citizens of a pluralistic democracy explore their respective religious traditions for the roots of tolerance within them, such that each respects the others not merely as a civic duty but as a religious obligation. In an essay entitled "No Religion is an Island," the late Jewish theologian, Abraham Joshua Heschel, argued that the way for religion to be a force for good and not for destructive divisiveness is for the various religions to recognize that each is a different path to the same goal, and act together to change society for the better. *(continued on page 3)*

Light up a dark, cold February evening!

Enjoy an elegant evening of dinner and dancing with friends at the first-ever BE-THS Saturday night dinner dance.

(See flyer, back page.)

Join us for Kabbalat Shabbat on February 8 and March 7.

Beth El - The Heights Synagogue builds vibrant Jewish community.

We welcome all in participatory, traditional, egalitarian worship and learning.

Rabbi Moshe Adler ♦ Saturday Morning Services at 9:15, 3246 Desota Ave., Cleveland Hts., OH 44118 ♦ ☎216-320-9667



Jack Valancy

**QUESTIONS? CONCERNS?
COMMENTS?
COMPLAINTS?**
Please do not
hesitate to contact
your President by
e-mail president@bethelheights.org
or home telephone
(216) 371-1439

**HELP US
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Please be sure we
have your current
contact information.
Send changes to
Blanche Valancy,
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Appreciation

We begin our monthly Board meetings by sharing our appreciation for great things that happened, or are happening, in our congregation. We do this exercise in Appreciative Inquiry to identify processes that work well so we can plan a future that works just as well. (Appreciative Inquiry was developed by Professor David Cooperrider of Case Western Reserve University's Weatherhead School of Management.)

We always have a lot to talk about, but once our program year begins in the fall we are practically glowing with appreciation.

Giving thanks is central in our relationship with each other, and with *Hashem*. In the sanctuary, we lead services on Shabbat, holidays, and High Holy Days. We read Torah, *gabbai* (facilitate Torah reading), and chant Haftarah. We present *d'verei torah* (sermons). We usher. We schedule all these assignments.

We coordinate bar and bat mitzvahs and other *simchas* (happy events). We buy floral arrangements. We maintain the Torahs, ark curtains, reading table covers, and *tallisim* (prayer shawls).

We assemble *minyanim* (prayer groups) for mourners. We organize the kitchen in homes observing *shiva* (ritual mourning), and send food to mourners and those recuperating from illness. We care about and for each other.

We learn together by facilitating Learners' Services and arranging for Lunch and Learn speakers. We produce lectures and multimedia presentations. We coordinate Movie Nights and Short Stories by Jewish Authors discussion group meetings. We open our homes to host programs.

We plan curriculum and lead our Junior

Congregation. We organize children's activities during adult programs. Our big kids take care of our little kids and we keep an eye on each others' kids. It takes a village, and all that.

We plan menus, shop, cook, set up, serve, clear tables, and wash dishes for kiddush, breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Each meal we share strengthens our community.

We keep the roof over our heads by performing and contracting for improvements, maintenance, repairs, and cleaning. We are on call for emergencies.

We stay in touch by editing, contributing to, and mailing our newsletter. We design and maintain our web site, send press releases, and design and distribute flyers. We post to our e-mail service, BigList.

We manage our finances, record membership dues and donations, send bills, pay bills, and keep track of it all. We take reservations and collect money at programs. We organize fund raising events and appeals, and thank people for their donations.

We serve on our Board and attend monthly meetings. We develop and implement policies consistent with our vision of a participatory, traditional, egalitarian community. We coordinate our many programs and attend to a broad variety of synagogue business. We appreciate those who graciously make everyone feel welcome, and those who tactfully smooth ruffled feathers on the rare occasions when they don't.

We are, indeed, a participatory congregation. Beth El - The Heights Synagogue touches our lives. Our appreciation for one another builds our future together.

~ Jack

(*Creches, Menorahs, and Health Care, continued from page 1*) When religious communities educate their children that way, they will grow up to be conscious of God both in public and in private.

A non-sectarian yet more truly religious proposal before the House of Representatives is House Bill 676, which would establish a publicly financed, privately delivered health care program that uses the already existing Medicare program by expanding and improving it for all U.S. residents, and all residents living in U.S. territories. Its goal is to ensure that all Americans, guaranteed by law, will have access to the highest quality cost effective health care services regardless of employment, income, or health care status. The bill is endorsed by Physicians for a National Health Program and by the California Nurses Association, among other groups. (For further information, visit <http://www.guaranteedhealthcare.org>.) And should that particular vehicle prove inadequate or deceptive, then we would need to pressure lawmakers to come up with a better vehicle, as long as all Americans are properly insured.

No one should die because his insurance wouldn't pay for a needed treatment. In our liturgy, God is called "Healer of all flesh" – not Jewish or Christian flesh, not rich or poor flesh, but ALL flesh.

Woody Allen Film Delights SSBJA

Leave it to Woody Allen to tickle our funny bones. "Curse of the Jade Scorpion" (2001) is one of the most humorous of his film offerings. Set in 1940s New York, as is often his custom, Allen departs from his frequent shtick of casting Jewish characters in his comic films and stories. In "Curse..." he appears to deliberately obscure a manifest Jewishness to the roles (his own character is named "C.W. Briggs"). The dialogue is fraught with outrageous one-liners--typical Woody Allen.

In our effort to find a Jewish connection with the film, it was observed that the insults and "curses" delivered to Briggs by Betty Ann Fitzgerald (Helen Hunt)--an efficiency expert and coworker of Briggs at an insurance firm--definitely had a Jewish flavor with which we were instantly able to identify. The film's jazz score was marvelously appropriate to the time period and a particular refrain was repeatedly used to convey a certain plot mood. How clever! The film left all ten viewers with an upbeat mind-set.

Short Stories by Jewish Authors group will return to its customary format and focus on stories of J.D. Salinger. Meeting date to be announced. New participants are welcome. For information, contact Sondra Jacobs, 216-397-1481 or sondrajacobs@sbcglobal.net

JCC will produce *Brooklyn Boy*

Brooklyn Boy, the JCC's spring theater production, will open on Thursday, February 21, and run through Sunday, March 9. This comedy is being directed by Brian Zoldessy. Performances are on Thursday and Saturday evenings and Sunday afternoons. There is also a matinee on Wednesday afternoon, February 27.

If you are available to usher for one of the performances, please contact Judie Amsel at jbjbjb38@ameritech.com or 440-449-5855.

To purchase tickets, go to [tickets.com http://tickets.net/browse.cgi?pgid=2012738](http://tickets.net/browse.cgi?pgid=2012738), call 800-766-6048, or get them in person at the Mandel JCC. Groups of 10 or more should call 216-593-6258 and inquire about group rates.

On Becoming a Jew: The Meaning of Conversion

Just in case you missed Leon Gabinet's excellent talk on conversion, which was the Rabbi David Genuth Memorial Lecture at Beth El-The Heights Synagogue in 2006, Leon is going to speak on the same subject on Tuesday, February 19, at 1:00 PM, at Park Synagogue East. The program is sponsored by Park Synagogue Sisterhood and will be preceded by lunch (\$5.00). Reservations are suggested by phoning Terry Juntoff at 440-442-5378. Lunch begins at noon in the social hall at Park Synagogue East, 27500 Shaker Blvd., Pepper Pike.

The BE-THS BigList

The BE-THS BigList is our best means of short-notice communication with you – yet only about a third of our members subscribe. If you want the latest news, be sure you're one of them.

To subscribe, visit <http://valancy.BigList.com/sub> or send an e-mail to bethel-sub@valancy.BigList.com, and confirm your subscription by replying to the e-mail you will receive. If you change your e-mail address, remember to subscribe again. You may unsubscribe at any time, by visiting <http://valancy.BigList.com/unsub> or sending an e-mail to bethel-unsub@valancy.BigList.com, then subscribing with your new address as above. Once you are subscribed to BigList, you can post items for all other subscribers to read. Just enter bethel@valancy.BigList.com in the "to" space of an e-mail and your communication will be sent to all subscribers, but only to subscribers.

Questions? Contact Blanche Valancy at blanche@valancy.com or 216-371-1439.

Your Turn: *Our Members Write*

This month, Leon Adato shares an interesting and fun way his family has found to celebrate Shabbat with their friends.

The Edible Torah – Feeding our Souls One *Portion* at a Time

It could be argued that every Jewish experience is tied up with food. You've probably heard the joke that all Jewish holidays can be summed up as "they tried to kill us, we survived, let's eat." It seems that each important Jewish experience arrives on the calendar with a specific food connection or prohibition coming from our cultural tradition or from the Torah itself.

Shabbat, the Jewish holiday which occurs most frequently, does not have this. It might be argued that Shabbat is therefore less approachable or accessible because of this. However, standardizing on any single food item or menu would render Shabbat a tedious culinary experience and reduce rather than increase the joy.

About six years ago our friend Naomi (a gifted educator as well as an incredible human being) had committed herself to the ideal of carving Shabbat time out of her week – of making it different, separate, and inviolable. We would gather at her house for a potluck dinner and listen to her analysis of the weekly Torah portion. Our group represented the entire spectrum of religions, economic backgrounds, ages, and experiences.

Because it was potluck, and because as many as forty people were invited, Naomi would assign "the regulars" a food category to bring each week. It was on the week when we read "Toldot" (where Esau trades his birthright for "red red stew"), that Naomi jokingly asked everyone to make sure their food assignment included something red.

The response was as overwhelming as it was unexpected. Like the Israelites who were asked to bring to the Mishkan and brought so much that Moses had to tell them to stop, we brought and brought and brought. In giving us a food assignment connected to the portion, we discovered an aspect of Torah that we could latch onto, to participate in fully, to be a part of. Most of us didn't speak Hebrew. Many of us had never read the Torah for ourselves. But

in this assignment we found something we could do and understand.

As the weeks progressed and the themed assignments continued, it became a contest - two contests really. One contest was among the invitees, to see who could bring the most interesting, unexpected, creative entry based on the theme of the week. The other contest was between Naomi and everyone else. She was determined to see how far we could be pushed thematically, and we were determined not to be stumped.

Along the way, something else happened. We all became engaged in Torah itself. The food assignment led us to think about (and usually read up on) how it related to the weekly portion. How did the assignment fit in? Was the theme applicable to the entire portion or just one incident? Could we top the assignment, by making our offering apply to more of the parsha than was originally intended?

Naomi's weekly analysis – which had originally consisted of her summary and a few sparse comments from other brave or educated souls – became a full-blown discussion. Everyone would explain how the food they brought met the criteria of the assignment. Then Naomi would reveal the reason for the assignment. And then, almost inevitably, someone would say, "Yeah, but what I still don't understand is..." or "But then again, couldn't it be..."

We now joke that years from now, our children will be unable to plan a Shabbat meal without consulting a Talmudic reference. "Dinner?" we imagine them saying to their spouses. "How should I know what to cook? I haven't even read the Torah portion yet!"

- Leon Adato

Isabelle Adato to Become Bat Mitzvah

My name is Isabelle Adato. I am in the 7th grade at Solon Middle School. I will turn 13 on January 26th, 2008. I am very musical: I sing in school choir and in the HaZamir international youth choir (<http://www.chscle.org/hazamir/>); take private lessons for piano and bassoon; play piano and trombone in my school jazz band; and play bassoon in my school concert band. My goal for this year is to learn to read music written in C-clef, which is an inverted clef on the bass clef.

During the summer I play baseball and go to Goldman Union Camp (<http://www.guci.bunk1.com/>) which is a Jewish summer camp in Indiana.

Since I was a baby, my favorite thing has been Winnie the Pooh, so for my mitzvah project I am buying honey-bees from the Heifer Project (<http://www.heifer.org/>), which will be given to low-income families around the world so they can earn money from selling the wax and honey, and also to help the farming and environment in their area. I am very excited to become Bat Mitzvah.

My family, at the right, includes (top to bottom) Heather Adato (16), Joram Adato (7), myself (12), and Kaleb Adato (4). The statue is Mrs. Mallard, from *Make Way for Ducklings*, in the Boston Public Garden.

Isabelle's parents, Debbie and Leon Adato, invite the congregation to Kiddush on February 2, in Isabelle's honor.



Jillian Rosales to Become Bat Mitzvah

My name is Jillian Rosales. I am 13 years old, in the 7th grade at Roxboro Middle School. I have one little sister and three older half-siblings. My siblings' names in order of oldest to youngest are: Maritza, Leah, Daniel, and Alicia.

I like to play lacrosse. I like it because it's always interactive, and there is no point in a game if you can't run after the ball. I play lacrosse in the Cleveland Heights-University Heights Girl's Lacrosse program in the summer, winter, and spring. I can't play for my school yet because there isn't an official team until I am in High School. I am in my school's ski club this year and am learning to snowboard. I also play the flute. I have been playing since I was seven years old. I am learning three languages right now (if you count English). They are English, Hebrew, and Spanish. I've been learning English my whole life (of course), Hebrew since I was seven, and Spanish a little bit my whole life (my dad is Cuban-American).

When I grow up, I will be what ever I decide to be. I am kind of a quietly competitive person, so one of my goals is to do really well in school. But right now I have no idea what I even want to be, so I can't really tell you.

Jillian's family will sponsor Kiddush on February 16, in Jillian's honor.





Scholar in Residence

ADELE REINHARTZ

From Scripture to the Silver Screen

FRIDAY NIGHT — Join us for Kabbalat Shabbat at 6 p.m., followed by dinner and an interactive talk on **Ten Reasons to Read Your Bible.**

SHABBAT MORNING— Join us for our regular service at 9:15 a.m. Special extended *dvar torah* on **Who is Plony Almony? — The Jewish John Doe and Other Extras(?) in the Bible.** Followed by a kiddush lunch and informal discussion.

SATURDAY NIGHT— Join us at 7:30 p.m. for havdalah, dessert, movie snacks, and our Feature Presentation of **Jesus of Hollywood: Scripture on the Silver Screen.** Extensive movie clips show how Jews and Judaism are presented in Jesus movies.

COST — \$35 per person, \$60 per couple/family for the entire weekend. Single event: \$20 per person.

OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY; talks are aimed at adults and teens. Programming and sitting for children will be provided. All events are at Beth El–The Heights Synagogue, 3246 Desota Ave., Cleveland Hts., OH 44118.

For more information, call Mia or Joe Buchwald Gelles at 216-321-6717. Registration deadline February 1.

Adele Reinhartz, Ph.D., is Professor of Classics and Religious Studies, University of Ottawa, specializing in first century Judaism and Christianity. She also lectures and writes on Bible and film. Her books include *Jesus of Hollywood* (2007); *Scripture on the Silver Screen* (2003) which looks at use and misuse of the Bible in contemporary Hollywood films; *Befriending the Beloved Disciple: a Jewish Reading of the Gospel of John* (2001); and *Why Ask My Name* (1998), a study of anonymous figures in the Jewish Bible. She's also an active Conservative Jew, enthusiastic singer, and wife and mother of four children. And she's got a cool Canadian accent.



Third Annual Pancake Breakfast – Great Food and Great Program

Light and tasty pancakes, delicious veggie sausage, juice, and fresh fruit were the mainstays of another terrific meal prepared by our executive chef, Marvin Palevsky. Over fifty members, their families, and friends gathered at the synagogue on December 25 for this annual event.

In addition to the lovely breakfast and opportunities for socializing, the crowd was treated to a very special program given by Wendy Wasman, a librarian who is actively involved in local and national library activities. Ms. Wasman's particular interest lies in Jewish Graphic Novels. She came well-prepared with handouts and many slides to enhance and illustrate her talk about the evolution of Jewish Graphic Novels and current authors who create works for children, teens, and adults on a spectrum of topics from serious to more fanciful. The audience was fully engaged with Ms. Wasman's presentation and was pleased to have her answer their questions following her talk. Some individuals in the audience who were quite familiar with the genre, were eager to learn more about its history.

The morning began with services at 9:30. While the Jewish Graphic Novels segment was geared for sub-teens through adults, younger children in attendance were entertained with arts and crafts projects that they greatly enjoyed.

Scott Wachter coordinated the Pancake Breakfast again this year. Marvin Palevsky set up the projection equipment. Scott wishes especially to thank the Adult Education Committee for bringing Ms. Wasman to the congregation. He also thanks the many volunteers who assisted in making this event so successful.

~ Sondra Jacobs

We would give anything for what we have.

Tony Hoagland

REGISTRATION — Fees and RSVP

Adele Reinhartz, Scholar-In-Residence ♦ February 8-9, 2008

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone(s) _____

E-mail _____

Please send check to Beth El-The Heights Synagogue, 3246 Desota Ave., Cleveland Hts., OH 44118.

Registration deadline is February 1, 2008.



FEES for all events

Family (including children) \$60

Single (including children) \$35

Single event \$20

RSVP

Friday evening adults ____ children

Saturday lunch adults ____ children

Saturday evening adults ____ children

NEWS FROM BETH EL

חדשות

Even Socrates,
who lived a
very frugal and
simple life,
loved to go to
the market.

When his
students asked
about this,
he replied,
“I love to go
and see
all the things
I am happy
without.”

Jack Kornfield
*After the Ecstasy,
the Laundry*

Refuah Sh'lema to: רפואה שלימה!
➤ Lynda Siff

Welcome, new members: ברוכים הבאים
➤ Leon, Debbie, Heather, Isabelle, Joram,
and Caleb Adato
➤ Sharona Hoffman and Andy Podgurski

Condolences to: ביחום אבלים
➤ Lila and Joe Newman on the recent
death of Joe's sister-in-law, Shirley Newman.
Shirley Newman was also the aunt of Judy
Shoenfeld.

Mazel Tov to: מזל טוב!
➤ Shelley Birkner, who received her identity
card making her an official Israeli. For now,
she can be reached at the Mack's Cleveland
phone number 216-932-2579 or their Israeli
phone 972-672-9572 (when Shelley gets her
own cellphone, then she'll be a “real” Israeli!)
or by e-mail at SJB60637@aol.com

➤ Jan Bruml, whose son, Dylan Fujimura,
recently became engaged to Shannon Bragger.
Dylan is the Technical Director for the Kleist
Center for Arts and Drama at Baldwin Wallace
College in Berea. Shannon is the Admission
Coordinator for the B-W Conservatory.
➤ Enid and Irving Kushner, whose son David
recently became engaged to Lucy Rebecca
Diener. They are planning to marry in the fall,
and will live in Portsmouth, Virginia, where
David works as a radiologist at the Naval
Medical Center. He recently completed a year
of active duty service with the Navy, working
at the U.S. military's large Landstuhl Regional
Medical Center in Germany. Lucy Rebecca
is a classical musician and teacher of flute
and piano. She is working toward a Master
of Science in Jewish Education at the Spertus
Institute of Jewish Studies in Chicago. They
met at services at Ramstein Air Force Base.

(continued on page 9)

Yahrzeits, February 2008

SHEVAT ~ שבט

Jules Pepper	25 Shevat	Sonia S. Goldstein	7 Adar
Rae Beckenstein	27 Shevat	Zali Schlesinger	7 Adar
Irving Bloom	29 Shevat	Samual Taubman	8 Adar
Emanuel Mills	29 Shevat	Hannah Eifer	9 Adar
Phil Mishinsky	29 Shevat	Bertha Pepper	10 Adar
Edith Bertman	30 Shevat	Boris Kushner	10 Adar
Dorothy Samuels	30 Shevat	Harry H. Sobel	11 Adar

ADAR ~ אדר

Rabbi David L. Genuth	1 Adar	David Negin	13 Adar
David Beckerman	1 Adar	Selma Chernikoff	13 Adar
Sam Buchwald	1 Adar	Malke Bilkes	14 Adar
Mary Rachel Linden	1 Adar	Jacob Chassis	14 Adar
Clara Miller	1 Adar	Phyllis Sharpe	14 Adar
Rose Rock	2 Adar	Leo (Leib) Smith	14 Adar
Kurt Brandes	2 Adar	Dora J. Horwitz	16 Adar
Abe Hoicowitz	5 Adar	Isadore Glanz	17 Adar
Julius Weinberg	5 Adar	Solomon Malkin	19 Adar
Clara Adler	5 Adar	Esther Hollander	20 Adar
Isaac Wachter	6 Adar	Daniel Geddes	20 Adar
		Barbara Becker	22 Adar
		Ida Weiss	23 Adar I

Mazel Tov to (continued):**מזל טוב!**

➤ **Honey Massey** on the birth of her second grandson, Ari Yakov Massey, born in Safat, Israel, on December 26. Proud parents are Honey's son, Oren, and his wife, Deb. Saftah Honey thinks Ari is bound to be strong in character as his first name means "lion" in Hebrew; Yakov is in honor of Honey's brother and Ari's great Uncle, Jim Saunt, who was well-known for charting his own course in life. Honey will travel to Israel to see her new grandson in the Spring. Two-and-a-half-year-old brother Zev loves helping his parents with the baby.

Yasher Koah to:**יִישֵׁר כּוֹחַ!**

➤ **Bruce Jennings**, part-owner of Pumpadoodle Productions, which was featured in the Uniquely Ours column on the front page of the Plain Dealer's Business section on December 24. Pumpadoodle personalizes children's songs, fitting the child's name and details from the child's life into the lyrics of their songs, then records them live; the recordings make great gifts for children! If you missed it here is the link to the article: http://blog.cleveland.com/business/2007/12/uniquely_ours_pumpadoodle_prod.html

➤ **Ilana Schmitt**, who has a new position as a physician at the University of Massachusetts Amherst Student Health Clinic. Ilana expresses regrets at leaving Cleveland and BE-THS, but says she can still be reached at schmittcle@aol.com or c/o Student Health Clinic, U.Mass., 150 Infirmiry Way, Amherst, MA 01002.

➤ **Menachem Shoham**, who will be on sabbatical leave at the Weizmann Institute in Rehovot, Israel February-August 2008. His E-mail address will be menachem.shoham@weizmann.ac.il

שלום וילהתראות**Thanks for Kiddush sponsorship to:****תודה!**

➤ January 5 – **Bill and Ilana Schmitt**, in honor of Ilana's new job in Massachusetts.

➤ January 26 – **Marvin and Ieda Warshay**, in honor of Marvin and Alisa Warshay, who completed a 20-mile walkathon in Phoenix, where they raised money for the Leukemia foundation, in honor of Jay Ross.

➤ February 2 – **Debbie and Leon Adato**, in honor of Isabelle becoming Bat Mitzvah.

➤ February 16 – **The Rosales family**, in honor of Jillian Rosales becoming Bat Mitzvah.

Thanks for Contributions to:**תודה!**

➤ **Rabbi Moshe and Nili Adler**, to the Rainy Day Fund.

➤ **Lisa and Russell Berusch**

➤ **Michael and Shelley Bloomfield**

➤ **Bill and Carol Bruml**, toward sanctuary window replacement.

➤ **Doreen Davis**, in memory of Jackie Davis Z"L, and in thanks for High Holy Day Tickets.

- **Henry Bloom and Marilyn Malkin**
- **Anthony C. Gooch**, in honor of Laura Gooch and David Kazdan.
- **Betty and Meyer Hoffer**, to the Rainy Day Fund.
- **Esther and Philip Kazdan**, to the Rainy Day Fund.
- **Laura Gooch and David Kazdan**
- **Deborah and Marc Lynn**, to the Rainy Day Fund.
- **Carol and Stanley Magden**, to the Rainy Day Fund (toward elevator repairs).
- **Sharon Hoffman and Andy Podgurski**
- **Harvey and Sondra Jacobs**, in memory of Harvey's parents, Celia and Henry Jacobs Z"L.
- **Harvey and Karen Kugelman**
- **Marlene Leitson**, in memory of Hyman and Sarah Cohen Z"L
- **Joe and Lila Newman**, to the Rainy Day Fund, in memory of Shirley Newman Z"L.
- **Deborah Pearl**
- **Stephen Pepper and Linda Tobin**
- **Laura and Marty Rabinowitz**
- **Judith and James A. Saks Philanthropic Fund** of the Jewish Community Federation
- **Deborah Smith**, in honor of Menahem Shoham's January birthday.
- **Jay Valancy**, to the Rainy Day Fund, in memory of Mary and Nathan Valancy Z"L.
- **Ieda and Marvin Warshay**, in memory of Chari Shanker Z"L.
- **Helen Weinberg**, in honor of Leon Cabinet.
- **Sue Wolpert**
- **Anonymous**, toward the memorial plaque.

Thanks for the donation of books for our library to:**תודה!**

- **Bernie and Ruth Cattleberry**
- **David and Teri Tomberg**

Thanks for participating in our record-breaking January newsletter mailing party to:**תודה!**

- **Gerson Carr**
- **Kimberly Carr**
- **Sue Klein**
- **Honey Massey**
- **Alicia Rosales**
- **Jillian Rosales**
- **Vicki Rosales**
- **David Tomberg**
- **Teri Tomberg**
- **Blanche Valancy**
- **Beth Wachter**

The entire mailing was processed in only 44 minutes! Guinness Book of World Records, here we come!

CALENDAR, FEBRUARY 2008

שבט \ אדר א' 5768

Saturday, January 26 – **Ieda and Marvin Warshay** will sponsor **kiddush**, in honor of Marvin and Alisa Warshay, who completed a 20-mile walkathon in Phoenix, to raise money for the Leukemia Foundation, in honor of Jay Ross.

Sunday, January 27, 2:00 to 3:30 PM – **Rabbi Moshe Adler** will lead the **second of three seminars on Judaism, Christianity, and Repairing the World**, as part of the Jewish community's annual *Hodesh Limud*, A Month of Study. We will explore the messianic idea in the two faiths, where they differ, and where they are the same, as well as the teachings of the two faiths on love, repentance, and humanity's role in furthering G-d's plan.

See <http://www.hodeshlimud.org> for registration and further information.

Saturday, February 2 – **Kiddush** will be sponsored by **Debbie and Leon Adato**, in honor of their daughter, **Isabelle**, becoming **Bat Mitzvah**.

Sunday, February 3, 2:00 to 3:30 PM – **Rabbi Moshe Adler** will lead the **third of three seminars on Judaism, Christianity, and Repairing the World**. (See January 27 for details)

Saturday, February 9, approximately 10:20 AM – **Learners' Service**. Meet in the library off the balcony. Explore the meaning and history of prayers, customs and holidays. Practice praying at a slower pace. Ask questions and get answers. Rejoin the main service for the d'var torah.

February 8-10 – **Scholar in Residence weekend, with Adele Reinhartz**

(see flyer, page 6, reservations tear-slip on page 7. Reservations required!)

Friday, February 8, 6:00 PM – Kabbalat Shabbat services, followed by dinner and an interactive talk, *Ten Reasons to Read Your Bible*.

Saturday, February 9, 9:15 AM – Morning services, with a special extended d'var torah, "Who Is Plony Almony – The Jewish John Doe, and Other Extras (?) in the Bible." Kiddush luncheon and informal discussion, following services.

Saturday, February 9, 7:30 PM – Havdalah, dessert, movie snacks and our feature, *Jesus of Hollywood: Scripture on the Silver Screen*.

Saturday, February 16 – **Jillian Rosales** will become **Bat Mitzvah**. Jillian's family will sponsor Kiddush in her honor.

Saturday, February 23 –

Approximately 10:20 AM – **Learners' Service** (see February 9 for description)

After Services – **Birthday Club Kiddush**

7:30-11:00 PM – **Dinner Dance**: Enjoy dinner and an evening of ballroom dancing, with instruction by our own Frank and Jeanette Buchwald. – (see flyer, page 12)

Friday, March 7 – Kabbalat Shabbat (see flyer, page 11)

5:30 PM – **Services**

6:30 PM – **Dinner, followed by zmirot (singing)**

Saturday, March 8 –

Approximately 10:20 AM – **Learners' Service** (see February 9 for description)

After services – **Lunch and Learn with Julia Sherson** of the Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR). (See March newsletter for further details.)

Saturday, March 15 – **Movie Night!** Watch for details in March newsletter.

Saturday, March 22, approximately 10:20 AM – **Learners' Service** (see February 9 for description)

Saturday, March 29 – **Birthday Club Kiddush**



Become a Birthday Club Honoree:

Donate \$25 per birthday celebrant to the Kiddush Fund, accompanied by a note stating who is to be honored, and what month.

All proceeds go toward defraying the cost of the Kiddush.

Kabbalat Shabbat

at Beth El –

The Heights Synagogue



Friday, March 7, 2008



5:30 PM Services begin in the sanctuary

6:30 PM Dinner in the social hall, followed by *zmirot* (singing)

The cost of the dinner is \$12.00 per adult

\$10 per child (ages 5 -12)

Children under 5 are free.

Reservations and prepayment are absolutely necessary. Reserve your spot **by Monday, March 3**, by sending in payment with response forms (to help us keep track of what your check is for!) to:
Beth El–The Heights Synagogue, 3246 Desota Ave., Cleveland Hts., OH 44118.

For more information call Merry Lugasy, 216-337-4761.

No reservation necessary if you would just like to come to services!

.....
Yes, we are coming to the Friday night Kabbalat Shabbat dinner on March 7, 2008.

Name _____

Phone number _____

Number of: adults attending _____ Children age 5-12 _____ Children under 5 _____

Total amount enclosed (\$12.00/ adult; \$10/child; children 5 and under free.) _____

Checks payable to Beth El–The Heights Synagogue

Mail to: 3246 Desota Ave., Cleveland Heights, OH 44118

I can help set up/ cook (Thurs. Eve.) _____ Set up (Fri., 4 PM) _____ Clean up _____



Dine and Dance

*Enjoy an elegant evening
of dinner and dancing*

Saturday, February 23

7:30 PM to 11:00 PM

At the Beth El Ballroom

Cost: \$25.00 per person

Wine: BYOB (Kosher only)

Dress: Ballroom dancing fancy

*Ballroom dance instruction will be provided
by our own Frank and Jeanette Buchwald.*



Yes, we'd be delighted to dance the night away at Beth El on February 23.

_____ *will attend.*

Number of persons: _____ *Phone:* _____

We prefer: Beef _____ *Fish* _____ *Vegetarian* _____ ★

We'll be happy to help: Decorate _____ *Set up* _____ *Food prep* _____ *Clean up* _____



RSVP by February 15, with check payable to BE-TKS

Beth El-The Heights Synagogue

3246 Desota Ave., Cleveland Hts., OH 44118