High Holy Days 2014

L'Shana Tova!

Please turn to page 5 for a complete schedule of the 2014 High Holy Days at Adas Israel.

Your High Holy Day booklets will arrive soon and stay tuned for the special “High Holy Days” edition of the Chronicle in September.

Visit www.adasisrael.org/highholydays to learn more.

David J. Polonsky

Named Executive Director for Adas Israel Congregation

We are pleased to announce that the Board of Directors has appointed David Polonsky as Adas Israel Congregation's new Executive Director, effective July 1, 2014. The appointment follows an extensive nationwide search conducted by a special search committee chaired by Rob Satloff and appointed by the president. The search committee recommended David's selection unanimously and the Board adopted the recommendation by enthusiastic acclamation.

Senior Rabbi Gil Steinlauf commented, “David is a visionary who has distinguished himself in the congregation as available, as a problem-solver, as a peace-maker, as a brill...
in a language and style that Western and American Jews could appreciate. Moreover, he was very sensitive to the religious and spiritual questions that trouble most of us. In one way Rabbi Dessler was an ultraorthodox rabbi; on the other hand, he was a very modern rabbi who came up with many innovative spiritual approaches that address many of the religious questions we all ask at one time or another.

One of Rabbi Dessler’s essays is called “The Discourse on Lovingkindness OR Giving and Taking.” From Rabbi Dessler’s perspective, when God created human beings, He made us capable of both giving and taking. The attribute of “giving” is a sublime power, for it is one of the attributes of the Creator. God is the Giver par excellence. God’s mercy, love, and goodness include all human beings and all of His creatures. God never needs anything in return because God lacks nothing. We human beings have been given this power of giving, which enables us to be compassionate, to bestow goodness, and to help others. The power of giving is one way we are created in God’s image.

On the other side stands the attribute of “taking.” A “taker” desires to draw to him or herself all that comes his or her way. We often call this selfishness or even narcissism. Rabbi Dessler calls it taking the root of all evil in the world. Some people take without giving anything in return. They are robbers if they take by force, thieves if they take by stealth, or swindlers if they deceive others to give up their property willingly. There are some who take without doing any wrong to anyone else; they merely like to take without giving anything in return. A person who can only “take” cares only for himself or herself and tramples the rights of others directly or through indifference.

If we accept that God is the source of all life and is the “giver” par excellence, then we are faced with a spiritual choice. Will we stand before God always asking for more because we can never be satisfied? Or will we be grateful to God for the all the bounty He has bestowed on us? That is, in relation to God will we be a “giver” or “taker”? Will we give back to God through expressions of gratitude? Or will just want more and more, indifferent to any spiritual value? Spiritual experience really depends on possessing a deep sense of gratitude for God giving us so much. It is impossible to experience spirituality without first becoming a “giver.” Only if we are “givers” can we recognize giving in another, including God. Usually, when a “taker” sees other people doing completely unselfish acts that person simply does not believe what his or her eyes see. That person speculates what selfish ends these apparently selfish acts must serve. Such a person has never experienced the doing of Hesed (lovingkindness) and therefore cannot admit the existence of unselfishness.

Similarly, we can appreciate the attributes of God only to the extent that we are ourselves possess something of those attributes. It is the loving person who recognizes God’s love. It is through the power of “giving” that we can experience the splendor and glory of God’s Presence. Thus, we human beings were created not only to fulfill ourselves but also to influence others. This is one of the ways in which we can understand what the Torah means when it teaches that all human beings were created in the image of God.

Our community is blessed with many “givers.” Take a minute to think about how many different kinds of “givers” our congregation is blessed with! We have volunteers who lead services; who read Torah; who teach Torah; who befriend the homebound; who assist the bereaved; who help the poor in so many ways; who help administer the many educational, religious, and social activities in the synagogue; who help fund our many programs; and who help underwrite the cost of running and maintaining our synagogue building and cemetery; who make meals for the bereaved or for families with newborn children—and the list goes on and on.

Let us be grateful to God for all the “givers” in our midst. Let us not take them for granted. Above all, allow them to inspire us to give more, to help more, to be more present to others. By doing so, we, too, will experience God’s Presence in our midst.

Finally, as we approach the summer months, let us not forget the attribute of “giving.” May God help us find ways to continue giving as we pause and refresh ourselves.

NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR continued from page 1

David is an accomplished executive leader, and as a pragmatic translator of big ideas into meaningful action steps. David’s passionate love and commitment to Judaism and to the Adas Israel community is a true blessing. For him, being an Executive Director is not a job. It is a calling.

David has served as the Congregation’s Director of Marketing & Communications for two years, and, since February 2014 as its Acting Associate Executive Director. Immediately prior to joining the senior staff at Adas Israel, David enjoyed a successful career in Strategic Planning, Marketing/Communications, and Audience Development at Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater and at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, where he supervised large communications teams and was responsible for multi-million dollar earned and contributed revenue campaigns. While at Arena, David was publicly recognized for helping to develop strategies that doubled outbound subscriptions sales and expedited a company rebranding effort, reversing a seven-year subscription decline, doubling the patron base, and setting new all-time records for highest grossing subscription sales seasons. He has also worked and volunteered in a synagogue setting from an early age. In addition, David has an extensive background in performing arts, development, personnel management, and Jewish studies.

Synagogue President Arnie Podgorsky said, “David brings a fresh and comprehensive vision of Judaism, powerful communication skills, astute financial and development capabilities, and a delightful countenance that brings smiles to all around him.”

His commitment to his own Jewish journey, as well as his highly successful career as both a Jewish communal professional and as an organizational strategic planner, make him an ideal leader for our diverse and thriving congregational community. We are thrilled with this selection, and wish David every success for a bright and wonderful future at Adas Israel.
From the President

Rabbis

In Conservatism Judaism (and maybe other communities) we often converse about our rabbis. Was her sermon insightful or pedestrian? Is he too traditional or not traditional enough? Was there a personal slight, or is she sensitive and able to recollect events in my family that I never mentioned? Is he humble or too tentative to make a clear point and inspire us, or too egotistical? Is she scholarly or pedantic? Are his teachings shallow? Discussions, compliments, and criticisms are the stuff of human nature—though lashon hara is foreclosed.

Sometimes we forget. The rabbinic path is uncertain. Perhaps a path to Jewish scholarship, teaching, learning, pastoral counseling, or other service, but certainly not a path to riches. And while congregational work can be fulfilling, it also can be difficult if not painful.

Our rabbis deserve the highest honors. Since the destruction of the Second Temple (if not earlier) our rabbis have refined our Torah, captured our oral tradition, established yeshivot, debated the finer points of halacha, and taught us to question and participate. No less today. Just as Judaism evolved over past millennia, rabbis, including our rabbis at Adas Israel, find new ways to bring Torah to us in a rapidly changing and challenging society. This work today defines who and what we are no less than the halacha the finer points of, and taught us to question and participate. Embracing and perspectives always advance a discussion. Embracing the status quo for specialized work are still rabbis, bringing their inspiration, knowledge, and insight. Rabbi Lauren retains her lifelong learning work, but we also rightly recognize—and embrace—her as one of our rabbis. She is part of our team of clergy, there for you.

Can we do this? Sure we can! Rabbis on our staff engaged for specialized work are still rabbis, bringing their inspiration, knowledge, and insight. Rabbi Lauren brings to us a very personal caring and sensitivity. Her warmth is engaging, and her balance and perspectives always advance a discussion. Embracing Rabbi Lauren for all of her capabilities will enrich us all.

Our new director of education, Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum, is an educator and an experienced rabbi. Our hope and vision is that our rabbis raise future generations of rabbis. Our new director of education, Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum, is an educator and an experienced rabbi. Our hope and vision is that our rabbis empower and teach the next generation of rabbis. Our new director of education, Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum, is an educator and an experienced rabbi. Our hope and vision is that our rabbis inspire and mentor the next generation of rabbis. Our new director of education, Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum, is an educator and an experienced rabbi. Our hope and vision is that our rabbis instruct and mentor the next generation of rabbis.

Elinor Tattar’s Double Chai Anniversary at Adas

Celebrating 36 years of service

Adas Israel staff members surprised Elinor Tattar with a special outdoor lunch party to celebrate her “Double Chai” anniversary at Adas—36 years of service to the congregation and its members! Elinor came to Adas Israel in May 1978, to work for then-Executive Director Sandy Cohen. Her aunt, Jean Title (of blessed memory), secretary to Rabbi Stanley Rabinowitz, told Elinor about the job opening. As a result, the congregation and its members have benefitted from her devotion, passion, and goodwill ever since.

Elinor has worn many hats at Adas Israel, but these days she is the mastermind behind everything “High Holy Days.” She is often described as “the memory, the rock, the soul of the ‘back of the house.’” Many of Elinor’s friends and colleagues came to celebrate with her at the surprise outdoor lunch, and the congregation presented Elinor with a beautiful, custom made, double Chai silver necklace and other lovely gifts and words of praise.

Elinor and her husband, Stuart (of blessed memory), have two daughters, Nancy and Beth, and two grandchildren, Stephanie and [to come]. A letter from Nancy, which was read at the party, said, Mom—Adas Israel would not be what it is without you . . . . I know that all of your friends and colleagues that are there to celebrate with you are nodding right now. What they may not know is that because of your work at Adas, you have instilled in your family a love of Adas Israel, a special bond that will never die. You have a long history with the congregation and have given much of your life to [the synagogue]. However, it has given much back to you! It has given you good friends. It has given you a place to lean on in hard times and a wonderful place to celebrate in good times.

The congregation joins us in thanking Elinor for her dedicated service to the synagogue, our members, and our staff for 36 wonderful years. We look forward to the next 36 and beyond! ☉
Tisha B’Av

For 20 centuries, Tisha B’Av, the ninth of Av, has been the saddest day in the Jewish calendar. Yom Kippur is known as the White Fast; Tisha B’Av is called the Black Fast. It commemorates the destruction of both Temples in Jerusalem, the death of Bar Kochba, and the last rebellion against Rome in 135 CE as well as the expulsion of Jews from Spain in 1492.

When they could, Jews would come to the area near the Kotel (Western Wall) to read Eicha (the Book of Lamentations) and to weep. Most Jews, of course, could not come to Jerusalem, and during many periods, they could not approach the Kotel area.

In modern times, the establishment of the State of Israel caused some to question whether Tisha B’Av was necessary any longer. This debate continues, although those who observe the day recognize its symbolic power and emphasize that we still lament the destruction of the Temples, which ruptured our sense of connectedness to God.

Our observance of Tisha B’Av at Adas Israel is exceedingly touching, a moving experience in which we gather as the sun sets to quietly chant the Book of Lamentations in a subdued atmosphere, by candlelight, using the traditional melody. The evening service on Monday, August 4, begins with Mincha at 6:00 pm and Maariv and Eicha at 9:00 pm. The scroll is again chanted as part of the morning service on Tuesday, August 5, at the 7:30 am service (Shacharit and Eicha) and at Mincha at 6:00 pm.

Join us in this annual beautiful experience as we connect with tradition and history.

ACCESS FOR DISABLED AND SPECIAL-NEEDS INDIVIDUALS

Members requiring wheelchair access or those with other special needs, please contact the synagogue office in advance of the High Holy Days so we can make arrangements for you. A handicap entrance door is available, and handicap parking is available to those with proper tags. There will also be sign language interpretation at services, if requested.

AUDIO LOOPS, ‘DIAL-IN’ SERVICES, AND LARGE-PRINT PRAYER BOOKS

A limited number of audio loops are available for each service. Please come to the Reception Desk in the Quebec Street Lobby and leave your ticket or other ID to sign them out and ensure their return. Homebound members can “dial-in” to services using our many telephone lines to hear High Holy Day services. If you are unable to attend, please dial and “listen in” at 202-686-8405. Large-print High Holy Day machzorim are available for all services; just ask an usher.

Garden of Righteous Honorees Remembered

In May, Adas Israel members Larry and Jean Bernard began a visit to Central Europe with a stay in Warsaw. While they were there, they placed a stone on the grave of Irena Sendler, a past Garden of the Righteous honoree. They also visited the Museum of the History of Polish Jews, where there is a statue of Jan Karski, another honoree.
Schedule of Services

ROSH HASHANAH EVE*  No Tickets Required  WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

6:00 pm & 8:00 pm*

FIRST DAY ROG HASHANAH

Shacharit 8:15 am  Charles E. Smith Sanctuary
Torah Service 9:15 am  Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, Kay Hall, Gewirz Beit Am
“Return Again” Service 10:00 am  Biran Beit Midrash/Kogod Chapel
Shofar 10:00 am  Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, Kay Hall, Gewirz Beit Am
Family Service 10:30 am  Cohen-Wolpe Hall
Children’s Services 10:30 am  see page 6 in the High Holy Day guide for locations
Musaf 10:40 pm  All locations
Sermon 11:00 am  All locations
Family Tashlich 12:00 pm  meet on Connecticut Avenue Plaza
USY Hike and Tashlich Service (9th-12th graders) 12:00 pm  meet in Quebec Street Lobby
Community Tashlich 5:30 pm  meet at Quebec Street entrance
Mincha/Maariv 6:45 pm  Gewirz Beit Am

SECOND DAY ROG HASHANAH*  No Tickets Required  FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

Preliminary Service and Shacharit 8:15 am  One Service – Charles E. Smith Sanctuary
Combined Torah & Shofar Service 9:30 am – 10:45 am  One Service – Charles E. Smith Sanctuary
Pre-school (Gan) Service 9:30 am – 10:30 am  Cohen-Wolpe Hall
Children’s Services 10:30 am  see page 6 in the High Holy Day guide for locations
Creative Musical Musaf Service with choir & instruments and Sermon 10:45 am  Charles E. Smith Sanctuary
Traditional Musaf Service and Sermon 10:45 am  Kay Hall
Mincha/Maariv 6:45 pm  Gewirz Beit Am

KOL NIDRE  FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3

Mincha 5:45 pm  One Service – Gewirz Beit Am
Kol Nidre 6:15 pm  Charles E. Smith Sanctuary, Gewirz Beit Am, Kay Hall
“Return Again” Kol Nidre 7:30 pm  Connecticut Avenue Plaza

YOM KIPPUR  SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4  (PLEASE NOTE YIZKOR TIME)

Shacharit 9:00 am  One Service – Charles E. Smith Sanctuary
“Return Again” Service 10:00 am  Biran Beit Midrash/Kogod Chapel
Family Service 10:30 am  Cohen-Wolpe Hall
Children’s Services 10:30 am  see page 6 in the High Holy Day Guide for locations
Torah Service 11:00 am (approx.)  All locations
Yizkor 11:40 am (approx.)  All locations
Teen Discussion (7th-12th graders) 12:15 pm  Library
Sermon 12:15 pm (approx.)  All locations
Musaf & Martyrology 12:40 pm (approx.)  All locations
Afternoon Discussion 3:30 pm  Library
JMCW Meditation & Chant 4:45 pm (approx.)  Kay Hall, with Ambassador Martin Indyk
Mincha 5:00 pm  One Service Charles E. Smith Sanctuary
Late Yizkor 5:30 pm  Biran Beit Midrash/Kogod Chapel
Pre-school (Gan) Service 5:45 pm  Cohen-Wolpe Hall
N’elah 6:15 pm  Charles E. Smith Sanctuary
Traditional Minyan N’elah 6:15 pm  Gewirz Beit Am
Shofar 7:35 pm (approx.)  Charles E. Smith Sanctuary

*No Tickets Required
Upcoming Event

Women’s League Convention: July 17-20, Whippany, NJ: “Kodesh v’Chol: Balancing the Sacred and the Every Day.” This promises to be our most innovative convention yet. Log into the new Women’s League website, www.wlcj.org, and click on Convention 2014 Registration. Then click on the link to the hotel to reserve your room.

Ongoing Event

Sisterhood Studies: Our next Taste of Tanach resumes in the fall on Tuesday, September 16, 10:00–11:00 am. Mark your calendar now for this engaging Torah study class with Rabbi Steinlauf in the Biran Beit Midrash. Just drop in or prepare ahead.

Closing Event

Sisterhood’s Closing Event was held on Sunday, June 8. Award-winning cookbook author/editor and cooking instructor Sheilah Kaufman presented a talk on the “History of Jews and Chocolate.” She revealed the story of how the Sephardic Jews, who left Spain and Portugal in 1492 and settled in the Caribbean, shaped the chocolate industry, and then how chocolate shaped the Jews.

Using a short demonstration, which included a delicious tasting, Sheilah taught us how to recognize the differences in quality among three types of kosher chocolate. To complement the delicious tasting, refreshments were served. In addition, Sheilah presented important tips on how to cook successfully with chocolate.

The meeting also honored Lisa Kleine as she concluded her three-year tenure as Sisterhood President and introduced the incoming Executive Committee/Officers, General Board Members, and new President Marcy Feuerstein. Adas Israel President Arnie Podgorsky conducted the installation.

Executive Committee/Officers who will serve with President Marcy Feuerstein include VP Communications, Joyce Stern; VP Education/Programming, TBA; VP Membership, June Kress; Corresponding Secretary, Carol Ansell; Financial Secretary, TBA; Recording Secretary, Nadine Jacobs; Treasurer, Dava Berkman; Gift Shop Co-Managers, Jean Bernard, Diane Keller, and Susan Winberg; and Parliamentarian, Miriam Rosenthal.


Shalom!

While the summer is in full swing, so are we here in the Youth Department as we get ready for the new program year. With our new Director of Education, Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum, in town, we’re working to build on the excitement of the past year’s youth programs to make 2014–2015 even better.

In addition to our preparations, I recently returned from the Abe & Minnie Kay Israel Experience with our 10th-grade Religious School class—what a trip! I hope to post pictures on our website later in the month. I’ll also be visiting Camp Ramah New England toward the end of the summer to see how our kids are doing up there. Be sure to check our website (www.adasisrael.org/youth) for future events and check out photos from our kids’ summer experiences.

Again, thanks to everyone who participated in youth events this year. Personally, I look forward to a fresh and exciting year of programming in 2014–15 filled with innovation, ruach, and fun! Feel free to contact me over the summer with any questions, comments or ideas, at Rich.Dinetz@adasisrael.org.

——L’Shalom,
Rich Dinetz, Youth Director

A message from the YP Committee:

On the May 10 Shabbat, the Young Professionals had the privilege of taking over the Traditional Egalitarian Minyan. Though waking up early on a Saturday morning isn’t a natural tendency for the typical YPer, we were honored to be able to make a contribution in this way—and we hope to make a habit of it.

By volunteering to organize and lead the TEM, we were demonstrating our desire to have a regular YP presence at the synagogue, to add our voices with those of other shul-goers. And the welcome we received from the TEM regulars was truly humbling. Everyone was so appreciative of our contribution and receptive to our goals. We hope you’ll continue to come up to us and say hello at future Smith and TEM services as well as at other Adas functions.

We want to thank Maya Bernstein, Bill Levenson, and the rest of the TEM coordinators for handing over the reins of their service to us. We couldn’t have organized the service without their help, encouragement, and generosity.

Rich Dinetz, Youth Director
Milestones

Weddings:

Herlene & Yaacov Nagler are pleased to announce the marriage of their son, Asaf Nagler, to Hana Hasunerova, daughter of Drs. Eva and Petr Hausner.

Joel Fischman is pleased to announce the marriage of his son, Samuel Abbay, to Abby Cohn.

B’nai Mitzvah

Noam Ari Jacobovitz, August 30

Noam, son of Leah Hadad and Jeffrey Jacobovitz, began his Jewish education at Gan HaYeled and continues at the Ma’alot DC high school at the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School and, in the summer, at Habonim Dror Camp Moshava. Noam is a seventh grader at Alice Deal Middle School. He is the grandson of Sarah and Menahem Hadad of Rosh Ha’ayin, Israel, and the late Hilda (z”l) and John Jacobovitz (z”l). Noam shares his simcha with his siblings, Sivan and Gavrielle, who became b’nai mitzvah at Adas Israel, and with other family members and friends.

In Memoriam

We mourn the loss of synagogue members:

Lenora Abrams
Bonnie Lewin
Reuben Sternfeld

We note with sorrow and mourn the passing of:

Toby Cutler, mother of Margie Fern
Cecile Fuchs, sister-in-law of Judith Beltz-Schreiber
Fred Hoffer, brother of Ron Hoffer
Madeline Netter, mother of Jerome Netter
David Rudnick, father of Amy Rudnick
Sandra “Sandy” Steinlauf, mother of Rabbi Gil Steinlauf

Life Cycle Information

When Death Occurs

When death occurs, please call the synagogue office, 202-362-4433, so that we may inform the clergy and be of assistance. During business hours, ask for Carole Klein. After business hours, a staff member on call may be reached by calling the synagogue office at the number above and pressing “2” to be connected automatically, or by calling the answering service, 301-421-5271, which will page the staff member on call. On Yom Tov and Shabbat, even though detailed funeral arrangements should not be made, a staff member on call can still be reached at 301-421-5271.

Cemetery Hours

Visitation at the Adas Israel Cemetery is by appointment only. Contact Carole Klein at the synagogue office (202-362-4433) to schedule a visit.

Kol HaMayim

by Naomi Malka

Summer is the perfect time to go to the mikvah. Why? Because any natural, flowing body of water is a kosher mikvah! You don’t even have to take off your bathing suit! Find a nice, quiet area near the shore of an ocean, lake, or river, where you can stand in about four feet of water. Immerse your whole body once. Say the blessing, Baruch atah Adonai ... vetzivanu al hatevila. If you can’t remember that, just bless Hashem for giving us the ability to go in and out of the water safely. Immerse a second time and say the She-hecheyanu. Then immerse a third time! Mazal tov ... you did it!!

Ruth & Simon Albert Sisterhood Gift Shop

We’ve received new merchandise, including Washington Nationals kippot, new anodized aluminum objects from Emanuel, and gorgeous tallitot for men and women.

Stop by to see the selection!

Summer Shop Hours:
Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday
10:00 am–noon
or by appointment by calling
Jean Bernard, 301-654-8914
or Susan Winberg, 301-656-7766
202-364-2888
adasgiftshop@gmail.com

Every purchase benefits Adas Israel Congregation.

Adas Israel Community Mikvah

Our mikvah is a sacred space where Jews can mark life transitions with powerful physical ritual. Immersing in a mikvah connects the body to the water cycle of our planet and to the sources of life. People visit our mikvah to observe the mitzvah of monthly immersion; to celebrate simchat Torah; to find strength during a difficult time; to pray for healing; to reflect on the meaning of becoming a bride, groom, or bar or bat mitzvah; to convert to Judaism; and to prepare physically and spiritually for chagim. To learn more about our mikvah or to schedule an appointment, contact Naomi Malka, 202-841-8776 or mikvah@adasisrael.org. For more information, visit adasisrael.org/mikvah.
### July–August 2014

**Tammuz–Elul 5774**

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### Summer Tuesday Meditation Schedule

Jewish Mindfulness Center of Washington @ Adas Israel
Free & open to the entire community...

Tuesday evenings at 7:30 pm
Visit www.adasisrael.org/jmcw for a full list of Meditation Leaders
Education

Gan HaYeled
If you have been at Adas recently and heard spirited singing or squeals of delight, you are not alone. Sweet Summertime Camp is in full swing, and children are having a great time. We have experienced Gan staff, assisted by “on-the-road-to-being-experienced” teen counselors. Our children are enjoying all that camp can offer: sun, water, art activities, tikun olam projects, and fun food experiences. A few slots are still open for later camp sessions; please inquire at the Gan Office if you’re interested.

The summer is also when the Gan prepares for the next school year. This year, while school starts after Labor Day, families gather for a picnic in July and the always-popular Buddy Dinner on August 27. Class offerings continue to evolve as families’ needs do; this year we will offer more spots in the full-year program (which is 8:00 am–6:00 pm daily, with a 5:00 pm dismissal on Fridays). There are a few spots left in many programs; again, Sheri or Sarah in the Gan office would be happy to help you.

The Gan is proud of its record of inclusion for children with many different types of learning styles and/or developmental challenges. This year, our developmental support coordinator, Stephanie Slater, will be on board full time. Her expertise in providing appropriate support for ALL students helps the Gan provide a superior learning environment for all.

Religious School
Have a Great Summer!

Welcome Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum!
We were so proud to see all of our amazing Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School students celebrating their achievements this June at their end-of-year celebration. All of our parents and teachers should be immeasurably proud of our amazing kids and take great personal joy in their growth and Jewish development this year.

We are thrilled to welcome Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum, as well as her husband and two young children, to the Adas Israel community! As many of you know, Rabbi Kerrith will join the synagogue staff on July 1 as the new Director of Education. We are excited to enter this new chapter for education in our community.

Many of you had the opportunity to meet with Rabbi Kerrith this spring. She is a deeply passionate, thoughtful, and talented individual who looks forward to beginning this new journey with all of you in the coming weeks. Opportunities to sit down with her will be announced shortly. The majority of her time this summer will be spent listening and learning from you and our teachers as we plan a renewed, successful year of Jewish education for our all our youngsters both inside and outside of the Religious School program.

Please enjoy this personal message from Rabbi Rosenbaum below (written at the time of print):

Dear Friends,
As I write this I am sitting amidst an overwhelming amount of “stuff” trying to figure out how to pack our lives into boxes. I promised myself that with this move I would finally take stock of everything and make decisions about what needs to come with us and what I can gift to new homes, but I am finding it to be much more difficult than I had imagined. At the end of the day, most of these boxes will still be filled with books and things that belong to my children—it seems that I just can’t bear to part with them. But I don’t feel as though I have failed in my task of sorting because I believe that this is a fitting beginning for our move to DC to join the Adas community, a place that also deeply values both learning and family.

Adas Israel has an amazing reputation, and yet my visit this past March still exceeded my expectations. I was deeply impressed by the wonderful families, dedicated staff, and warm community and was inspired by the passion and commitment that I saw throughout the congregation.

As our brimming boxes indicate, I am invested in knowledge and am dedicated to sharing it with the next generation. If we want our children to be the future Jewish innovators, educators, and leaders, then we need to arm them with the skills and foundation to create their own exciting, modern, vibrant Jewish lives. It is my deepest hope that this is the learning community we will develop together at Adas.

My husband, children, and I are so excited to begin this new chapter of our journey, and to growing and building toward a shared vision with the Adas community. We look forward to meeting you all soon!

—Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum, June 3, 2014

Should you need anything over the summer, please don’t hesitate to contact Rabbi Rosenbaum and Rich Dinetz in the synagogue office. Thank you for all of your amazing work and leadership. We look forward to welcoming you back formally in the fall!

2014–15 Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School Registration

We are looking forward to welcoming our new Director of Education, Rabbi Kerrith Rosenbaum, to the Adas Israel community this July! And we are equally excited to kick off our Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School registration process! Please visit www.adasisrael.org/rsregistration to learn more.

For your convenience, you can now use the online form to pay the 50% deposit with a credit card. Or you can still send the 50% deposit, payable to Adas Israel, by July 1. All school families must be current in their tuition and synagogue dues to register for the 2014–15 school year. To discuss your account, please contact Rita Nicholls in the accounting office, 202-362-4433 or rita.nicholls@adasisrael.org. For special financial arrangements, please contact Carole Klein or David Polonsky in the synagogue office.

Feel free to contact us if you have any questions!

—B’Shalom,
Team Education @ Adas Israel
education@adasisrael.org
A Sneak Peak at our Opening Dates; Stay Tuned for the Full Calendar

**September 2–3:** Classes begin for grades 3–6  
**September 7:** First Sunday of grades PreK–7th classes and Opening Programs  
**September 9:** Ma'alot classes begin for grades 7–12  

**Gishron Pre-K Program**

Learning by doing! Music, dance, art, and storytelling bring Judaism alive! Sunday mornings, 9:15am–12:15pm, starts September 21  

The Gishron (“Little Bridge”) program is designed for students who leave the Gan HaYeled for a secular Pre-K program but are not yet ready for the Religious School Kindergarten class. Limited space is available.

Registration and tuition (due by July 1): FREE for Adas Israel members, $50 activity fee only; $250 for non-members plus $50 activity fee

If you’re interested in learning more about this new program, please contact the education office (202-362-4449 or education@adasisrael.org). Our Gishron Pre-K program is made possible by the Sandra & Clement Alpert Family Education Fund.

**Summer Youth Services**

We hope you enjoy our captivating summer Youth Services all summer long. Please visit www.adasisrael.org and keep an eye out for e-mails of the full list of summer Youth Services.

**Tentative Schedule:**  
**Tot Shabbat** (for children 5 and under and their parents): July 5, 12, 19, 26; August 2, 16, 23, 30  
**Netivot** (For K–3rd graders): July 5, 19; August 2, 30 (all services begin at 11am)  

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**Mazal Tov to Our Graduates!**

Mazal Tov on another incredible year for you and your families at Adas Israel. We were so proud to see all of our religious school students celebrating their achievements a few weeks ago at the end-of-the-year celebration.

**2014 Ma’alot High School Program Graduates:**

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Another Sukkot in Spring Success

Adas Israel volunteers at work at this year’s Sukkot in Spring project on May 4, the 20th anniversary of the Adas Israel/Yachad collaborative project. At far right is Ed Kopf, project coordinator. The volunteers painted, stained, and removed wallpaper, helping to transform the home and making it more accessible for the family and its elderly owner when she comes home from the hospital. Adas Israel members and former Social Action Council chairs were prominent in the genesis of the project, originally known as Sukkot in April, and in the founding of Yachad. The Social Action Council now collaborates with Yachad for Veterans Day and Martin Luther King Jr. weekend projects as well as Sukkot in Spring.

38th Annual Community CPR Program
Tuesday, September 10 at 6:15 pm

Once again this year, the Men’s Club is sponsoring a Community CPR program on Tuesday, September 10, at 6:15 pm, providing a chance to learn or brush up on your CPR skills. All High Holy Day and Shabbat ushers and Kesher Ishi Greeters should attend this year’s training, and we encourage new participants as well! Participants will enjoy a free light supper, starting at 6:15 pm, and training begins at 6:45 pm. During the supper we will thank and brief our High Holy Day ushers on important security, emergency, and procedure information.

To register, contact Steven Miller, 703-981-1709 or smiller173@aol.com. Registration is limited. There is no charge for synagogue members; for non-members, the cost is $5.

HAZAK Save the Date!
Kosher wine tasting at neighborhood wine store, Weygandt Wines, Sunday, July 13, 2:00–5:00 pm
Join other HAZAK members as we taste and learn about several different kosher wines and stay for some schmoozing and noshing!

From Adas members, Betty Adler and Mark Rosenberg: HAZAK is an acronym meaning Wisdom (Hokmah), Maturity (Ziknah), and Forward (Kadima). We are dedicated to serving this growing segment of our community through a variety of wonderful programs that include study, prayer, entertainment, and socializing. Adas Israel has been our “spiritual home” since 1978, and we’ve seen so many wonderful and exciting transformations over the years. Now, we’re at a point in our lives where we’re interested in programming that addresses our needs as “mature adults”!

You may be part of this community at Adas Israel as well—members who are single or married, retired or still working, and/or empty nesters. Although not fond of labels, we know that unless we identify with a group within a larger community, one can get lost looking for programs, activities, and a social group with like-minded interests.

HAZAK is about identifying interests at this time of our lives and using our well-developed skills and talents to create programs and activities—social, educational and spiritual—and to join and support each other and provide friendship and community. Feel free to contact us at bettyadler1@gmail.com if you’d like to learn more or get involved!

FROM THE PRESIDENT continued from page 2

with this dual background Rabbi Kerrith will elevate both of our schools. As she settles in and grows comfortable with us, it seems likely that we will come to grasp her rabbinic capabilities as well.

We envision a team of clergy—rabbits and hazzan—led by Senior Rabbi Gil Steinlauf, working harmoniously, engaging with each other in creative chavruta, with more sharing and less allocation of tasks. This approach advances our broader efforts to foster integration across our staff and topple silos. As we succeed, may all our clergy have ever greater insight, vision, and strength to sustain the light of Judaism at Adas Israel and in our broader community.

I wish each of you a relaxing and restorative summer.

—Arnie Podgorsky
One hundred years ago, on a summer’s day in Sarajevo, a Serb nationalist gunned down Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir to the throne of Austria-Hungary, during a ceremonial motorcade parade. The assassination was the spark that ignited the First World War. Within six weeks, for reasons that scholars continue to probe and debate, the nations of Europe plunged into a brutal four-year bloodbath, bringing suffering and death to millions. For Jews, it seemed an ominous omen that the sad day of Tisha B’Av, linked with Jewish tragedy and mourning, coincided that August with the escalation of hostilities across the continent. How did the war affect the Jews? Here are some snapshots:

**Jewish Soldiers**

More than 1.5 million Jewish soldiers fought on both sides of the war, eager to prove their loyalty to the nations in which they lived. The London *Jewish Chronicle* proclaimed in its August 7, 1914, edition, “England has been all she could be to Jews; Jews will be all they can be to England.”

Likewise, the editor of a leading German Jewish newspaper praised German Jews’ enthusiastic defense of the Fatherland, saying that their patriotism served to rebut any accusation that Jews were primarily loyal to international Jewry. “The German Jew,” the editor wrote, did not “think of himself as a Jew first, but rather as a member of his country.”

Nonetheless, Jews everywhere were grimly aware that they were fighting fellow Jews. One oft-repeated story, perhaps apocryphal, told of a Jewish soldier poised to plunge his bayonet into an enemy soldier. The enemy cried out, “Shema Yisrael!” Horrified, the attacking soldier dropped his weapon.

**Jewish Refugees**

In Eastern Europe, the battle lines ran through regions where nearly four million Jews lived. Distrusting the Jews’ loyalty to Russia, Russian forces expelled 600,000 Jews from villages near the front lines and massacred many accused of enemy collaboration.

Eyewitness accounts report whole communities driven on foot for hundreds of miles or jammed into trains heading toward Russian interior towns that had neither the resources nor the desire to help the refugees.

**A Jewish Poet**

In Poet’s Corner in Westminster Abbey, a plaque commemorating notable British writers who died in World War I includes the name of Isaac Rosenberg. A poor Jew from the East End of London, Rosenberg was among the most famous of the soldier-poets who fashioned poetry out of warfare. One of his best-known poems is set in the trenches—the miserable, muddy, rat-filled ditches in which the warring armies encamped.

**Break of Day in the Trenches**

The darkness crumbles away.

…

Only a live thing leaps my hand,
A queer sardonic rat,
…

Droll rat, they would shoot you if they knew
Your cosmopolitan sympathies.
Now you have touched this English hand
You will do the same to a German
Soon, no doubt, if it be your pleasure
To cross the sleeping green between.
It seems, odd thing, you grin as you pass
Strong eyes, fine limbs, haughty athletes,
Less chanced than you for life . . .

At long last, the slaughter ended in November 1918. In hindsight, two legacies of the war predicted both future Jewish triumph and tragedy. The Balfour Declaration of 1917, voicing Britain’s support for a Jewish homeland, foreshadowed the birth of Israel. A more menacing legacy, however, was the post-war myth within Germany blaming Jews for Germany’s humiliating defeat. That vicious myth helped fuel Hitler’s rise to power and the ensuing Holocaust.

Further reading: *The Sleepwalkers* (Christopher Clark); *Catastrophe 1914* (Max Hastings); *To End All Wars* (Adam Hochschild); *The War that Ended Peace* (Margaret MacMillan); and the classic *The Guns of August* (Barbara Tuchman).

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**Books, Ideas, & More**

*The Guns of August* by Robin Jacobson, Director of Library Services

Summer reading for the Fall Book Chat!

*The Aleppo Codex* by Matti Friedman

A true-life detective story about an ancient Hebrew Bible

Join the discussion on Sunday, September 14, at 10:30 am
The congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

**Abraham & Anna Nathanson Youth Endowment Fund**
**In Memory Of:** Abraham Nathanson by Bennet Nathanson.

**Anne Frank House Fund**
**In Honor Of:** Morris Klein’s special birthday by Manny Schiffer & Rae Grad.

**Benjamin James Cecil Special Education Fund**
**By:** Michael J. Cloonan.

**Bereavement Fund**
**In Memory Of:** Sandy Steinauf by Barbara Winnik.

**B’Yahad Special Needs Fund**
**In Honor Of:** Sophie Slater becoming a bat mitzvah by Shalom & Deborah Flank.

**Cantor Brown Discretionary Fund**
**In Appreciation Of:** Cantor Brown’s performance at Somerset House by Dorothy Block.

**Congregational Kiddush Fund**

**In Memory Of:** Herbert Goldberg by Stuart & Jamie Butler.

**Craig Jeffrey Atlas Hebrew University Fund**
**In Memory Of:** Sylvia Gotkin, Max Gotkin, Mervin Gotkin, all by Alvin & Arline Atlas.

**Daily Minyan Fund**
**In Honor Of:** Bernie Meyer’s birthday by Richard & Susan Ugelow. Irv Lebow’s birthday by Richard & Susan Ugelow. Dr. Ira Berkower by Craig Yokum. Emma Herman becoming a bat mitzvah by Andrew & Amy Herman.


**In Memory Of:** Samuel Rose by Dr. William & Vivienne Stark. Pauline & Sol Kempler by Harry Kempler.

**Ethel & Nat Popnick Chronicle Fund**
**In Memory Of:** Robert Saks. Sandy Steinauf by David & Harriet Bubes. Alan Rosenbloom by Dorothy Block, David & Harriet Bubes.

**Ezra Pantry**
**In Memory Of:** Yetta Rovner by Michael & Shelley Kossak.

**Frances & Leonard Burka Social Action Endowment**
**In Memory Of:** Elizabeth Gelman Kossow by Leonard & Frances Burka.

**Freedman Endowment Fund**
**In Memory Of:** Albert P. Levy by Rosalyn Jonas. Sandy Steinauf by Shirley Cohen.

**Garden of the Righteous**
**In Memory Of:** Sandy Steinauf by Judy Strauch, Alan & Beryl Saltman, Larry & Jean Bernard. Jack Connick by David Connick.

**Havurah Kiddush Fund**
**In Honor Of:** Joshua Brooks, Birth of Henry & Norah Krvaric by Michael & Joyce Stern.

**Leah Chanin Day School Fund**
**In Honor Of:** Leah Chanin receiving the 2014 Yad Hakavod award by Jeremy Mandell, Sander & Suzanne Davidson, Jane Baldinger, Volunteers of the Adas Israel Gift Shop, Ricki Gerger, Renée & Roger Fendrich.

**Lillian & Daniel Ezrin Fund for Ritual Objects**
**In Memory Of:** Esther Soled Siegel, Richard Ganz by Joel & Rhoda Ganz. Solomon Seigle by Paula Goldman.

**Maxine & Gerald Freedman Endowment Fund**
**In Memory Of:** Robert Saks by Maxine Freedman.

**Men’s Club Amuday Torah Fund**
**In Memory Of:** Sandy Steinauf by Mark & Leslie Berlin, Irving & Estelle Jacobs.

**Mikveh Capital Campaign**
**In Honor Of:** Naomi Malka by Janet Scribner. Leah Chanin receiving the 2014 Yad Hakavod award by Sherry Kaban.

**Maxine & Gerald Freedman Endowment Fund**
**In Memory Of:** Robert Saks by Maxine Freedman.

**Rabbi Avis Miller Lifelong Learning Fund**
**In Memory Of:** Juliet Schneider by Nancy, Daniel, & Jordan Weiss.

**Rabbi Feinberg Discretionary Fund**
**In Honor Of:** Morris Klein’s 75th birthday by Fradel Kramer.

**Rabbi Jeffrey A. Wohlgemort Masorit Fund**
**In Memory Of:** Cantor Max Wohlgemort by Rabbi Jeffrey Wohlgemort.

**Rabbi Steinauf Discretionary Fund**
**With Great Appreciation For:** Rabbi Steinauf by Andrew & Amy Herman.

**In Memory Of:** Sandra Steinauf by Sheri Brown, Leah Chanin, Sander & Suzanne Davidson, Zev Lewis, Joel & Rhoda Ganz, Pam Ehrenberg, Don & Gail Roache, Irv & Grace Lebow, Amie & Mary Hammer, Abbe Escoff Zimmerman, Rachel Rosenthal, Maddie Shapiro, Steve Grayson & Michelle Leavy Grayson, Ruth Snyder, Gilda Snyder, Stanley & Sandy Babb, Roger & Renée Hendrick, Ricki Gerger, Drs. Marion and Michael Usher, Dorothy Block.

**Rise & Ronald Schlesinger Music Fund**
**In Honor Of:** Ron Schlesinger’s birthday by Ron & Rise Schlesinger.

**Rosen & Simon Laupheimer Fund**
**With Thanks For:** Calvin Case’s speedy recovery by Harry Kempler.

**Rose R. Freudberg Sisterhood Memorial Library Fund**
**In Honor Of:** Estelle Jacobs’s special birthday by Glenn & Cindy Easton. Elinor Tattar’s 36 years at Adas Israel by Sander & Suzanne Davidson, Jane Baldinger. Joseph Maslinsky by Nettie Maslinsky. Leah Chanin receiving the 2014 Yad Hakavod award by Elinor Tattar.


**Ryna & Melvin Cohen Senior Rabbi Program Fund**
**In Memory Of:** Mary Glick by Ryna Cohen, Sarah & William Pittleman Special Needs Fund
Simcha Wall

In Memory Of: Bonnie Lewin by Glenn & Cindy Easton.

Shabbat Sing

Shirley Abrams Fund


Summer Building Hours
As you may be aware, the building is closed on Monday and Thursday nights during the school year. As we approach the summer months, please keep in mind that we will also be closed on Wednesday nights after the evening minyan, to reduce energy use, utility costs, security charges, and staffing expenses. Since Tuesday will be the only available night for meetings, please plan accordingly. Thank you and have an enjoyable summer. 

Simcha Wall

The congregation is invited to mark special family occasions on our Simcha Wall, which is located near the Gewirz Beit Am. We are pleased to celebrate the most recent additions to the wall:

In Honor Of
The Birth of Eli Ephraim March 13, 2013
Son of Yael and Dan Ephraim
Grandson of Herlene and Yaacov Nagler

Families marking s’machot on our Simcha Wall may select a 2” x 4” plaque or a 4” x 4” plaque. For additional information on the Simcha Wall, please contact Jane Baldinger, 202-362-4433, ext. 126.
The Adas Fund 2014

"Adas Israel has been our home for more than 35 years, and we care deeply about the next 35 and beyond."
—Toni & David Bickart (2014 Adas Fund Chairs)

We are honored to chair The Adas Fund (formerly the Kol Nidre Appeal) this year. There is indeed so much to celebrate at Adas Israel—from our inspiring and energetic clergy and staff, to our multifaceted education programs, to our vibrant and spiritual worship experiences, to the meaningful friendships and support that bind together so many of our congregants. We joined Adas when our son was ready for the Gan, and we’ve been learning ever since.

Adas Israel Congregation plays an important role in our lives and in the life of our community. For more than 145 years, our congregation has provided moving religious services, personal life cycle events handled with care and sensitivity, education for children and adults, innovative new programs and offerings, and caring social action projects.

We are proud of the fact that no one is turned away from our synagogue and no student denied a Jewish education because of cost. To maintain this policy, we need the support of our entire community.

Please join us this year by making a contribution to the Adas Fund. With your help, we’ll be able to provide an exciting year of synagogue programming. We can expand our Young Professionals offerings, continue the robust full- and part-day options at our early childhood center, Gan HaYeled, give our new director of education the resources she needs to make the Estelle & Melvin Gelman Religious School the best in the area, and expand our adult education offerings.

The gift you make through the Adas Fund will enable more than 800 people to join together as a holy community each Shabbat. It will support excellent teachers in our schools; enhance adult education and programming; deliver kosher meals to elderly and sick people; provide a cushion for those who cannot afford full synagogue dues; give our schools vital resources; help support Anne Frank House, a homeless shelter; and maintain the only non-Orthodox mikvah in the DC Metro area. None of this is possible without your support.

So we urge each of you to invest in our community at the level you can best afford. Letters with pledge cards and return envelopes will arrive at your home shortly. You can also contribute online at www.adasisrael.org. We seek 100% participation and trust that we’ll be able to include you as a contributor during this significant stage in the growth and renewal of our congregation. It’s an exciting time in the life of our community and it’s up to us to help it grow.

Please feel free to contact us or Vice President for Development Pamela Reeves at any time.

—Warmly and gratefully, Toni & David Bickart