

# Beth Israel Sinai News

The Monthly Newsletter of the Beth Israel Sinai Congregation

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MARCH 2014

ADAR I - ADAR II 5774

## Rabbi's Message

Purim commemorates the victory of the Jewish people over the evil Haman. Haman falsely accused the Jews of not being loyal subjects to King Ahasheurus. Initially, the King agreed to Haman's request to kill the Jews. Only later would Ahasheurus be informed that his beloved Queen Esther, the heroine of the story, was also Jewish. Convinced by her Uncle Mordechai of Haman's evil plan, Queen Esther prevailed upon the King not to let the Prime Minister destroy her people. Instead, the entire family of Haman was executed in place of the Children of Israel. Though unable to rescind the murderous order sealed with the royal insignia to kill the Israelites, the Jews were provided weapons to repel

their attackers throughout the 127 provinces of the Persian Empire. Not one Jew lost their life. Later, Mordechai would be appointed Prime Minister and Jews would become prominent members of Persian society. Shortly thereafter, they were given permission to return to the Land Israel where they had been expelled after the destruction of the First Temple by the Babylonian King, Nebuchadnezzar. A Second Temple would be completed in 515 BCE and would serve as the center of Jewish life until its destruction by the Roman Empire in 70CE.

Purim begins this year on Saturday night after Shabbat on March 15th (14 Adar II) and continues until sunset the following day. The Megillah, the Scroll of Esther, will be read in our Temple,

Sunday March 16th at 10AM. Jews of all ages are required to hear the Megillah since Haman planned to wipe out all Jews, young and old alike. To relive the miraculous events of Purim, we "wipe out" Haman's evil name by twirling groggers (noise makers) and stomping our feet whenever it is mentioned during the reading of the Megillah. It's the only time when it's a mitzvah to make noise during the service. Many participants come dressed up as Purim characters.

On Purim, we emphasize the importance of Jewish unity by sending gifts to friends consisting of at least two kinds of ready to eat food. Hamentaschen, a three corner pastry shaped like Haman's hat, is the main

## President's Message

We hope you'll also join us at our regular, 3rd Friday of the month March 21, 6:00 p.m. Shabbat dinner and service at Temple. Once again, it will be a soup (beef barley), salad and bread meal. Jim Barten, Marion Sperer and Rita Collen will be sharing the cooking honors. I'm sure the food will be great, I can't wait!

Well, Solomyn's Bat Mitzvah is only a month away, April 5. All are invited. She asked me to let you know that she's been working diligently (my word, not hers) on her Haftorah and has enjoyed working on her Bat Mitzvah volunteer project. She's been making and selling dogs toys as well as walking dogs for people in the community. Any money that she's earned through these endeavors, she plans to donate to the Wisconsin Humane Society.

Interested in participating on the Temple board? Please let me know so I can put your name into nomination at the Sunday, May 18 annual meeting.

A reminder, that all assessed or arranged membership dues for the 2013-2014 fiscal year must be paid prior to the annual meeting on Sunday, May 18 to be able to participate.

Shalom,  
Jeff

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## Special Happenings

**Friday, March 21  
6:00 PM  
Shabbat Service  
and  
Congregational Dinner**

**"A One State Plan for Peace  
in the Middle East"**

**A program presented by  
Caroline Glick, Deputy Editor  
of the Jerusalem Post**

**March 30, 4:00 p.m.  
Peltz Center for Jewish Life  
Mequon**

## Rabbi's Message Continued...

delicacy of the day. Giving tzedakah (charity), while important during the entire year, is a special mitzvah on Purim. One should donate charity to at least two, but preferably more individuals. Another tradition is to donate three half dollar coins to charity to commemorate the half shekel given by each Jew to the Holy Temple. The mitzvah is best fulfilled to giving directly to the needy. About two hours before sunset, a festive meal is held in

many households where friends gather to celebrate our most precious gift of freedom.

Chag Sameach Purim to all of my Temple family.

See you in shul,  
Rabbi Marty Adelberg

P.S. Please join us on Thursday, March 27th at 7PM, for a special interfaith panel discussion at Beth Israel Sinai on "The Binding of Isaac." More details to follow. Also, it's not too early to be thinking about Pesach. As always, seders

for both nights of Passover will be held in the Temple. On Monday April 14th at 7PM, the first night of the holiday, Marcia and I will be hosting the seder. All are invited to attend. (The cost will be \$25 for adults and \$15 for children under 12.) Our Temple communal seder will be held on Tuesday night, April 15th at 6PM. Services for the First Day of Pesach will be held on Tuesday morning at 9:45. Services for the Eighth Day of Pesach will be held on April 22nd at 9:45am. Yizkor will be recited.

## Sisterhood

I was hoping that this month I could write about how nice it has been to have a break in the weather but so far that is not possible! The weather has made it even nicer to be in a warm kitchen, with tasty treats in the oven and pots bubbling on the stove. We'll keep the tables filled with comfort foods for as long as the winter winds rage. February's Shabbat congregational dinner featured a "Wisconsin Fish Fry" theme and was well-attended, despite the weather. Join us again on Friday, March 21 at 6:00 p.m. for a Shabbat evening service and dinner. The dynamic kitchen duo of Jim Barten and Marion Sperer will be back, preparing gallons and gallons of Jim's favorite beef barley soup, accompanied by an assortment of salads, homemade bread, and dessert. Jim will also be sponsoring the dinner. If you are interested in co-sponsoring this or any future dinner, give me a call.

Thank you to Sarah Levin for her donation this month. I have used it to purchase some additional pareve baking sheets, just in time to bake Hamantaschen for Purim. I will be out of town on March 8 (the original date set for the baking day), and due to the Megillah reading being scheduled for the Sunday of Purim, Hamantaschen baking has been rescheduled. Join the Sisterhood on Thursday, March 13 at 4:00 p.m. and participate in the baking festivities. Bring a container so you can take some home to share with your family. The Sisterhood will make the cookie dough and provide several fillings. If you have a favorite filling, feel free to bring it with you. Also, if you know of any members who might like a delivery of *mishloach manot* for Purim, contact me no later than the baking party on March 13 with names and addresses. If you are willing and able to help with deliveries, give me a call. My schedule is filled through Purim and I'd appreciate your help!

Many thanks to Joyce Placzowski for sponsoring the Kiddush on February 15! We'd also like to thank, in advance, the members of the BIS Board who have volunteered to serve and clean up after the Kiddush on March 8. Thank you, Marion Sperer and Glenn Gordon! Their efforts will ensure lunch will be on the table and the coffee hot and ready! We sure miss Jeff Hansen when he's on vacation and hope he has a safe return, well rested, from his holiday at warm and sunny Marco Island. Thank you to Josh and Rebecca Bloom for helping with the shopping as we prepare for Pesach.

Speaking of Pesach ... mark your calendars for the annual kashering of the kitchen to prepare for the holiday. Join us on Thursday, April 10 at 4:00 p.m. to help out. Many hands will make the work go quickly and it might even be fun!

Gifts to the Sisterhood (whether financial, in-kind, or extra pairs of hands) enrich community life at Beth Israel Sinai and will be enjoyed throughout 5774! If you'd like to schedule a Kiddush to honor a life cycle event, birthday, anniversary, or any occasion, please give me a call. Contributions can be sent to BIS (designate it for the Sisterhood). You may also help by donating kosher grocery items for the onegs and Kiddush. We are currently in need of coffee, tea, "kosher for Passover" items, and with Passover coming soon, paper plates, plastic utensils, hot and cold beverage cups, etc. You may drop these items off in the kitchen.

Sisterhood Chair: Rita Collen

### General Support

Mary Vite  
Jim Barten

### For Louise Langlieb's speedy recovery

Sarah Levin

### In Honor of Rabbi Adelberg's 50th Bar Mitzvah Anniversary

Glenn Gordon

### In Honor of Arnold Solomon's 89th Birthday

Nieces and Nephews of Arnold Solomon



**Yahrzeits**

**Week of February 28**

Mildred Shovers	28
Louis Shapiro	1
Ralph Levin	3
Genevieve Lillian Gold	3
David W. Watt	4
Eugene J. Aronin	5
Sarah Spracker	5
Dori Gorsky	5
Max J. Bassewitz	6
Dr. Ernest Wolf	6

**Week of March 7**

Joseph (Jack) Gould	7
David Schwartz	9
Sarah C. Dorman	10
Birdie Metz	10
Mary Shovers	13

**Week of March 14**

Emily Alperovitz	16
Foster Gould	16
Rashe Berson	16
Moses H. Rubin	18
Goldie Shlimovitz	18
Sarah Blitstein	19
Fanny Alperovitz	20

**Week of March 21**

Louis Gorsky	21
Ruben A. Gorsky	22
Philip Waisman	23
Rabbi Hyman Cohen	23
Harold Levin	24

David Merens	25
George Stern	26
Dr. Mark Temkin	26
Rose S. Wiener	27

**Week of March 28**

Arthur J. Kraft	29
Reeva Dorman	29
William Woolf	30
Rela Markovits	31
Benjamin Grant	1
Benton Kaufman	3

**Week of April 4**

Leo H. Finsky	4
Morris Gerol	4
Bessie Luby	4
Solomon Maier	5
Charles Wollman	5
Alice H. Wolfman	6
Sol M. Dorman	8
Rose Grant	9
David Hulbert	9



**Shabbat Candle Lighting Times**

March 7 - 5:29 PM
March 14 - 6:38 PM
March 21 - 6:46 PM
March 28 - 6:54 PM
April 4 - 7:02 PM
April 11 - 7:10 PM



Shabbat ends on Saturday one hour later than candle lighting on Friday.

**Cemetery Notes**

The Racine Jewish Cemetery is five acres located on the 600 block of Lathrop Avenue and is a well maintained, park-like setting. It is a resting place for all Jews. Changes in cemetery policy approved by the congregation at its 2013 annual meeting have created a Reform section of the cemetery where Jews and their non-Jewish family members can be buried together.

For more information about the purchase of cemetery plots or perpetual care, please call Jim Barten at 262.412.8457.

**Hadassah**

Hadassah gratefully accepts any donations. Please remember Hadassah and its many good works and projects when considering making charitable contributions. Cards \$5; Shares \$10; Children's Pavilion Certificates \$5 & \$10; Trees (JNF) Certificates \$18. For more information call Sarah Levin, 886-9331 or Sidnee Nerad, 551-0406.

**Congregational Passover Seder**

Tuesday, April 15, 2014  
6:00 p.m.

Mark your calendar and make your reservation on the enclosed/attached reservation form! The form can also be downloaded from [bethisraelsinai.org](http://bethisraelsinai.org)

Please consider sponsoring the matzo, wine, table decorations, or a dinner for someone less fortunate.

**Sale of Chametz**

If you'd like to sell your chametz, the sales form is attached/enclosed and also available at [bethisraelsinai.org](http://bethisraelsinai.org)

**Sisterhood Hamantashen Baking**

Thursday, March 14  
at 4:00 p.m.



If you'd like to help bake Hamantaschen for the congregation's celebrations, come and join us. All are invited to come and bake (men, too)!





Beth Israel Sinai  
Congregation

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***Join us for a Friday Night Shabbat Service and Congregational Dinner  
on March 21, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.***

## *March 2014     Adar I - Adar II 5774*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<i>Feb. 27 Hebrew &amp; Adult Ed. Class</i>	28	<i>March 1 Shabbat Services 9:45 AM</i>
2	3	4	5	<i>6 Hebrew &amp; Adult Ed. Class</i>	7	<i>8 Shabbat Services 9:45 AM</i>
9	10	11	12	<i>13 Hebrew &amp; Adult Ed. Class Sisterhood Hamantaschen Baking 4:00 PM</i>	14	<i>15 Shabbat Services 9:45 AM  Purim begins at sundown.</i>
<i>16 Purim service and Megillah reading - 10:00 AM</i>	17	18	19	<i>20 Hebrew &amp; Adult Ed. Class</i>	<i>21 Congregational Shabbat Dinner and Service 6:00 PM</i>	<i>22 Shabbat Services 9:45 AM</i>
23/30	24/31	25	26	<i>27 Hebrew &amp; Adult Ed. Class  Interfaith Discussion 7:00 PM</i>	28	<i>29 Shabbat Services 9:45 AM</i>