

Beth Israel Sinai News

The Monthly Newsletter of the Beth Israel Sinai Congregation

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NOVEMBER 2012
CHESHVAN - KISLEV

Rabbi's Message

Thanksgiving is the holiday when most Americans gather together with family and friends to say "thank you." For us as Jews we say "thank you" to G-d in numerous ways every day. From the time we wake up when we say "Modeh Ani Lefanechah" (thanking G-d for permitting us to experience another day), to blessings over the food to the time we go to bed at night, we thank Adonai.

President George Washington proclaimed Thursday, November 26, 1789, a day of national Thanksgiving to G-d for "His kind care and protection of the people of this country previous to their becoming a nation; for the signal and manifold mercies, and the favorable interpositions of His providence in the course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquility, union and

plenty which we have since enjoyed; for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted; for the civil and religious liberty with which we have been blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and, in general, for all the great and various favors which He has been pleased to confer upon us."

The Jewish communities in the United States rejoiced in the part they played in establishing this new country. Both Jewish money and blood were given to the American fight for freedom. Unlike any other country in the world, Jews were treated as citizens EQUAL to their non-Jewish neighbors. In 1784, five years before Washington's proclamation, leaders of Congregation Shearith Israel in New York City (established in

1654) sent a letter to Governor George Clinton of New York on behalf of "the ancient congregation of Israelites." In this correspondence they said: "Though the society we belong to is but small, when compared with other religious societies, yet we flatter ourselves that none has manifested a more zealous attachment to the sacred cause of America in the late war with Great Britain....And now we look forward with pleasure to the happy days we expect to enjoy under a constitution wisely framed to preserve the inestimable blessings of civil and religious liberty."

Jews have historically observed as patriotic Americans the holiday of Thanksgiving. At Shearith Israel in New York, the Rev. Gershom Mendes Seixas arranged a prayer service suitable for the holiday. In his address to the congregation, Rev. Seixas called upon Jews "to sup (continued on page 2)

President's Message

October's Shabbat dinner and service was great fun! Thanks Rabbi for a nice service and thanks Rita for another great meal! Please plan on joining together on Friday, November 16 at 6:00PM for the next gathering!

The Polish American Congress has an exhibit from the Galicia Museum in Krakow Poland that depicts Polish heroes who saved

the lives of Jews. These heroes are now remembered and honored in Yad Vshem in Israel. Steve Platt, a member of that organization is working to bring the exhibit to Racine. We'll keep you informed!

If you're looking for something to do on Thursday, November 15, plan to participate in the Racine Interfaith Coalition's annual community event which will be held at Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Rabbi Adelberg will

be doing the closing prayer (about 8:30 PM).

Please join us for the November 16, Friday Shabbat dinner and service!

Lastly, this weekend and next, Horlick High School is presenting "The Diary of Anne Frank." Their productions are always first class. This one will be no different!

Shalom,
Jeff

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Join us on
Friday November 16
6:00 PM
for **Shabbat Dinner**
and **Services**

Chanukah Dinner
Friday December 14
6:00 PM
Mark your calendar!

The **Diary of Anne Frank**
presented by
Horlick High School
November 2, 3, 9 & 10
all performances: **7:00PM**

Rabbi's Message Continued...

port that government which is founded upon the strictest principles of equal liberty and justice."

In later years, Thanksgiving was celebrated at Shearith Israel and other early American congregations. These days were proclaimed in the name of the American people to be observed by each citizen according to his or her own faith. In 1817, the state of New York proclaimed a national observance of Thanksgiving Day. Shearith Israel held services in each of the subsequent years except 1849 and 1854. In those years, the Governor of the state

addressed his proclamation specifically to a "Christian people" instead of to Americans of all faiths.

Even the most Orthodox Jews have advocated the celebration of Thanksgiving. Two of the greatest Jewish legal minds of the twentieth century, Rabbi Moshe Feinstein and Rabbi Joseph Soloveichik, advocated the celebration of Thanksgiving as a "secular" or "national" holiday. (Non-Jewish holidays with a specifically religious overtone are not to be celebrated--like Christmas.) This national holiday belongs to ALL Americans. It is only fitting that Jews and Gentiles thank G-d for all the blessings the Almighty has bestowed upon this nation.

Jews, in particular, have many reasons to thank Adonai for the freedoms and opportunities granted to us in the United States.

In his famous letter to the Jewish community of Newport in 1790, President Washington wrote: May the children of Abraham who dwell in this land continue to merit and enjoy the good will of the other inhabitants--while everyone shall sit in safety under his own vine and fig tree and there shall be none to make him afraid."

See you in shul,
Rabbi Marty

Sisterhood

We enjoyed a number of celebrations during the month of October, including a Kiddush sponsored by Eileen Schroeder in honor of her recent birthday. Happy birthday, Eileen, and many thanks for a wonderful lunch, complete with flower centerpieces from Eileen's beautiful gardens. An anonymous member has sponsored the Kiddush on November 3. Join us for a meat luncheon after services. Thank you for your generosity!

We've been missing Kathy and Yaakov Schmadl these past few weeks and hope Yaakov is feeling better so they can join us for Shabbat again very soon. Jim Barten continues to keep us supplied with grape juice each week. We also want to thank those "Anonymous Angels" who surprise us with gifts of cookies, fruit, and such. Thanks so much for helping to keep our kitchen stocked.

Any BIS member or friend is invited to sponsor a Kiddush on the date of their choice. This is a thoughtful way to honor life cycle events, birthdays or anniversaries, or any occasion. The process is quite simple. Just call Rita and let her know the date, the occasion, and whether you prefer a meat or dairy meal. The suggested donation is \$54 for a meat meal and \$36 for a dairy meal. We'll take care of the shopping, cooking, and serving. You can also make a general donation to help fund the many other ways the Sisterhood enhances community life here at Beth Israel Sinai, such as preparing the Kiddush after every Shabbat service. Other Sisterhood activities include purchasing flowers for the Bimah, decorating the tables for the Passover seder, and planning special events. To contribute, send a check to Beth Israel Sinai and designate it for the Sisterhood.

If you are not able to make a financial contribution, perhaps you might be able to pick up a few extra grocery items next time you're at the market. It costs approximately \$25-30 each week to purchase the food for a dairy lunch. We go through a lot of bagels, cream cheese, coffee, tuna fish, eggs, fresh fruit, juice, and other basics. If you'd like to donate an item or two, just leave them in the kitchen. We can also use kosher wine (Maneschewitz, Mogen David, kosher table wines, etc.). As our kitchen is kosher, please ensure that the items you bring in (with the exception of fresh fruits and vegetables) is marked kosher. If you have any questions about a particular item, please consult Rabbi Adelberg.

Sisterhood Chair: Rita Collen

Donations

General Support

Mary Vite

Birthday Wishes to Babs Schnabl

Vera Ruffalo

Birthday Wishes to Lorraine Ganz

Vera Ruffalo

In Honor of Louise Langlieb

Susan Rosner

For the High Holidays

Charlotte and Bradley Katz
Alan and Doreen Marvin
Barbara and Richard Schuster
Richard Zevitz

In Memory of Ilene Levin

Steve Goldfine

A Prayer Book In Honor of Steve Platt

Max Gordon

In Memory of Marjorie Hoss

Sandy Levin and Brian Rose

A Prayer Book in Memory of Marjorie Hoss

Max Gordon



Yahrzeits

Week of November 2

Donald Wiener	5
Fred Dingfelder	5
Fannie Schwartz	5
Henry Dorman	5
Leah Seft	5
Julius Goldstein	7
Margaret Soref	8

Week of November 9

Edward Alan Sideman	9
Esther Domsy	10
Gladys Gottlieb	10
Abraham Goldberg	11
Claire Wellman	11
Hilda Levitt	13
John Niemiec	13
Joseph E. Redler	13
Jack Gelin	14
Barbara Fabian	15
Ethel Levin	15
Sarah Cohen	15
Chaica Wolfman	15

Week of November 16

Bertha Gold	17
Sylvia Goldstein	19
Maurice Silverman	19
Libby Donovitz	22
Leonard P. Baumblatt	22

Week of November 23

Joseph C. Frank	23
Samuel M. Tabaksman	23
Emil Donner	24

Alfred Shovers	24
Joseph Fishbain	25
Jacob (Jack) Weinberg	25
Jennie Levin	26
Helen Kaplan	26
William Rozumoff	26
Dr. Ruben S Grant	27
Hannah Lippman Wolf	27
Herman Noll	28
Dr. Budd Gorsky	29
Minnie Kaplan	29
Barbara Lieberstein	29

Week of November 30

Dora Mitler	30
Mary Fishbain	1
Alex Dorman	3
Jacob M. Kassel	3
Maynard Greenberg	5
Dr. Charles Robert Bloom	6



Shabbat Candle Lighting Times

November 2	- 5:24 PM
November 9	- 4:16 PM
November 16	- 4:09 PM
November 23	- 4:04 PM
November 30	- 4:01 PM



Cemetery Notes

The Racine Jewish Cemetery is a resting place for all Jews. **All.**

The cemetery is five acres located on the 600 block of Lathrop Avenue and is a well maintained, park-like setting.

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.

Thank you.

Sarah Levin 886-9331

Sidnee Nerad 551-0406

Cards \$5

Shares \$10

Children's Pavilion Certificates \$5 & \$10

Trees (JNF) Certificates \$18

November in Jewish History

Here are a few items in Jewish History that happened in past Novembers.

November 6

1973 Abe Beame becomes the first Jewish mayor of New York City.

November 8

1855 The U.S. agrees not to protest against Swiss discrimination against American Jews, (a commercial treaty was at stake).

November 9

1938 Kristallnacht, during which 300 shuls and hundreds of Jewish businesses and homes were destroyed.

1862 Ulysses S. Grant orders Jews barred from service under his command, 1862.

1526 Jews of Pressburg (now Bratislava) were expelled by order of Queen Maria.

November 17

331c.e. Birthday of Emperor Flavius Claudius Julianus, who favored the return of Jerusalem to the Jews.

1278 Jews of England were imprisoned, and many were martyred.

1938 Italian anti-Semitic code, patterned after the Nuremberg Laws published.

There are many, many more at: www.ou.org/about/judaism/bhyom/nov.htm





Beth Israel Sinai
Congregation

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*Join us for a Shabbat Dinner and Services on
Friday November 16 at 6:00 PM*

November 2012 Cheshvan - Kislev 5773

Sun	Mon	Tue	W	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Hebrew & Adult Ed. Class	2	3 Shabbat Services 9:45AM
4	5	6	7	8 Hebrew & Adult Ed. Class	9	10 Shabbat Services 9:45AM
11	12	13	14	14 Hebrew & Adult Ed. Class	16 Shabbat Dinner and Service 6:00 PM Sponsored by Patti and Steve Kushner	17 Shabbat Services 9:45AM
18	19	20	21	22 Hebrew & Adult Ed. Class	23	24 Shabbat Services 9:45AM
25	26	27	28	29 Hebrew & Adult Ed. Class	30	1 Shabbat Services 9:45AM