



SCROLL

מגילה

Newsletter of B'nai Emet Synagogue

August 18, 2000

Volume 28, No. 1

17 Av 5760

From the Rabbi



As you read this, we will still be in the summer vacation season. You may, therefore, think it's strange to read a column in August urging you to begin preparations for the

High Holy Days (especially in view of the fact the holidays are "late" this year). But, in fact, this is the best time for us to begin preparing for the *Yamim Nora'im*.

The days surrounding and including *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*, known as the *Yamim Nora'im*, the Days of Awe, are traditionally the most intense period of the Jewish year. It is a period of *t'shuvah*, repentance, a period of soul-searching, a period of heightened spirituality.

At least that's the way it's supposed to be.

For many Jews, however, the High Holy Days are a period of disappointment. The spiritual intensity of the services eludes many of us. The words of the *Machzor*, the High Holy Day Prayerbook, leave us cold. While we come to the synagogue expecting a heightened religious experience, many of us leave feeling let down.

Why are so many of us disappointed by our High Holy Day experience? The simple fact is that the intensity of the *Yamim Nora'im* cannot be achieved without preparation. It is simply too complicated an experience to create just by coming into the synagogue, opening a *Machzor* which

we haven't glanced at in a year, and waiting for something amazing to occur.

But we can enhance our experience of the High Holy Days with a little preparation. A little reading, a little studying, a little pondering or discussing the themes of the *Yamim Nora'im* can yield unexpected benefits next fall.

I would suggest that an appropriate first step would be to spend some time studying the *Machzor*. Read some of the prayers and ask yourself: "What is the prayer trying to say? What does it mean to me? Does it create a resonance in my soul? Do I have difficulty with the ideas in this prayer?" You will also notice that most *Machzorim* have explanatory notes which you may find interesting.

If you want to go further, there are two books on the *Yamim Nora'im* that I would recommend. Max Artz's *Justice and Mercy* is a commentary on the *Machzor*, and S. Y. Agnon's *Days of Awe* is a Nobel Prize-winning collection of traditions, legends, and explanations related to the High Holy Days.

In addition to these works, I would recommend: Blu Greenberg's *How to Run a Traditional Jewish Household*, chapters 16 and 17; Hayim Halevy Donin's *To Be a Jew*, chapter 13; Isaac Klein's *A Guide to Jewish Religious Practice*, chapters 12 to 15; and Leo Trepp's *The Complete Book of Jewish Observance*, chapter 9. If you'd like some help finding any of these books or acquiring them for your own library, don't hesitate to contact me.

Finally, I urge you to participate in the High Holy Day education program on September 11, which is co-sponsored by B'nai Emet, Beth El, and Adath Jeshurun.

Any one of these sources can help you in your own preparation for the *Yamim Nora'im*, and the effort you devote this summer will surely pay off in the fall.

—Rabbi David L. Abramson

Calling All Historians

Do you have information, articles, documents, or pictures that relate to B'nai Emet's predecessor congregations Mikro Kodesh, Tifereth B'nai Jacob, or B'nai Abraham? If so, please contact the office. Your information could be useful in compiling our synagogue's history.

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Meet our B'nai Mitzvah



Joshua Brandon Gerber will be called to the Torah as a *bar mitzvah* during *Shacharit* services, *Shabbat* morning, August 19. His Torah portion is *Ekev*.

Josh was on the 'A' and 'B' sixth grade honor roll at Wayzata East Middle School, where he will be in seventh grade in the fall, and completed grade *Daled* at Talmud Torah. His extracurricular activities and hobbies include involvement in cross-country, basketball, soccer with the traveling PSA Predators, refereeing for the traveling soccer league and participation in B'nai Emet *Kadima*.

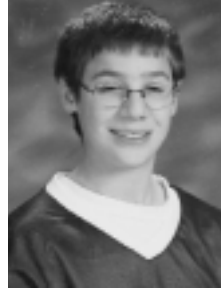
He is the son of Susan and Steven Gerber, brother of Daniel, Kristopher, and Nathan, and grandson of Orel Held and the late Judge Samuel J. Held of St. Louis Park, and Barbara Berger and Thelak Jacob Gerber of Astoria, New York. His grandmother, Orel Held, will be sponsoring the *Kiddush* immediately following *Shabbat* morning services in Josh's honor and invite the congregation to join the family.



Jason Shear will be called to the Torah as a *bar mitzvah* during *Shacharit* services on *Shabbat* morning, August 26. His Torah portion is *Re'eh*.

Jason will be in the eighth grade at Plymouth Middle School. His extracurricular activities include downhill skiing, computers, swimming, and participation in B'nai Emet *Kadima*.

He is the son of Cindy and Barry Shear, brother of Jaclyn, and grandson of Arlene and Gary Grossman and Rita and Mel Shear. His parents will be sponsoring the *Kiddush* immediately following *Shabbat* morning services in Jason's honor and invite the congregation to join the family.



Jacob Aaron Garber will be called to the Torah as a *bar mitzvah* during *Shacharit* services on *Shabbat* morning, September 2. His Torah portion is

Shoftim.

Jacob recently graduated from the seventh grade at Minneapolis Jewish Day School and will be attending the Twin City Middle School this fall. His extracurricular activities and hobbies include being on the Math Masters Team in 1999 and 2000, magic cards, swimming, biking, trading on E-Bay and participating in B'nai Emet *Kadima*. He was a recipient of the Solomon Schechter *Gimel* Award and enjoyed his stay at Herzl Camp. Jacob also leads the 5:15 P.M. *Shabbat* service at Texas Terrace Convalescent Home every other week.

He is the son of Roxanne Weiner and Leonard Garber and grandson of Doness Weiner, Herbert Weiner and Shirley Garber, and the late Jack Garber. His grandmother, Shirley Garber and his aunt and uncle, Michal and Micah Garber will be sponsoring the *Kiddush* luncheon immediately following *Shabbat* morning services in Jacob's honor and invite the congregation to join the family.



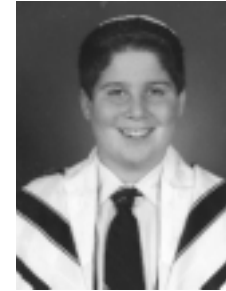
Mark David Freudenheim will be called to the Torah as a *bar mitzvah* during the *Minchah* service on *Shabbat* afternoon, September 2. His Torah portion is

Ki Teitzei.

Mark is in eighth grade at Valley View Middle School in Edina. His extracurricular activities include gymnastics, piano, and student leadership.

He is the son of Debbie and Eric Freudenheim, sister of Joanna, and grandson of Sidney Moskowitz and the late Harriett Moskowitz of Skokie, Illinois, and Renee and Harry Freudenheim of Matteson, Illinois. His parents will be spon-

soring an *oneg* immediately following the service in Mark's honor.



Aaron Iman Graf will be called to the Torah as a *bar mitzvah* during *Shacharit* services on *Shabbat* morning, September 9. His Torah portion is *Ki Teitzei*.

Aaron will be in the eighth grade at Hopkins North Junior High and concluded his studies at Talmud Torah through grade *Hey*. He is looking forward to continuing his studies in our B'nai Emet *Shabbat* School *Prozdor* program, where he was the recipient of the Sherna and Philip K. Schwartz Merit Award for excellence. His extracurricular activities and hobbies include playing tennis, horseback riding, cooking, participation in B'nai Emet *Kadima* and is a loyal Herzl Camp attendee, having just completed his sixth summer there.

He is the son of Miriam and Melvin Graf and Jill Sigman, brother of Elana and Jason, and grandson of Norman Graff and Judy and Leon Sigman and the late Ada and Saul Graf and the late Bryna Graff. His parents, Miriam and Mel, will be sponsoring the *Kiddush* luncheon immediately following *Shabbat* morning services in Aaron's honor and invite the congregation to join the family.

President's Message

Please visit us at www.bnaiemet.org

I've been looking forward to the day I would be able to extend that invitation. When I assumed the B'nai Emet presidency, creating a synagogue website was on my short list of things to accomplish. Don't get me wrong; the website is not my accomplishment alone. It represents the work of a number of contributors and one very knowledgeable Webmaster, Ira Wald.

Whether or not you have your own computer and Internet access, chances are you agree with me that in today's world the Internet has become an indispensable means of communication, publicity, and

education. Through our website, we can present B'nai Emet to our members, to our potential members and to the world. Our site can be accessed by someone preparing for a job-related transfer to Minneapolis, by one of our college students spending a junior year in Israel, by a USYer checking out the date of the next youth program, or by a member wintering in Florida.

We have begun to explore the possibilities of our website. At this point, our site highlights B'nai Emet's departments, affiliates, staff, and programs. Visit the site and learn about the synagogue's facilities and history. Check the time for *Shabbat* candle lighting or holiday services. Find out what's new in the library. Link to other sites of Jewish interest. Look for people you know in the photographs in our online scrapbook. Preview the newest gift shop merchandise.

Eventually, we will add more interactive features to our website. You will be able to register online for an upcoming program, communicate electronically with the office, and order scrip. The possibilities are limited only by our imaginations and available volunteer time.

A number of staff people and synagogue members have contributed to the website to this point. The person who has really made it happen is our Webmaster, Ira Wald, a member of B'nai Emet, who has been unfailingly generous with his professional expertise and volunteer dedication. In Ira's business, Creative Software Solutions, he creates custom websites and computer program applications for businesses both large and small. Ira's programs are distributed as commercial products or are used by a company's sales, accounting, or engineering departments.

Ira operates his business mostly out of his busy home, where he and Stephanie are raising their son and four daughters. Ira describes his house as an electronic cyberspace, filled with computers and wires running everywhere connecting his computers into a mass of equipment. His office has overflowed from a single room to the family room, basement, dining room, and anywhere else there is space for computer equipment.

All services conducted by Rabbi David L. Abramson

Shabbat Morning, August 19,—9:00 A.M.

Bar Mitzvah: Joshua Gerber

Torah Reading: *Ekev*

Haftarah Reader: Joshua Gerber

Shabbat Morning, August 26,—9:00 A.M.

Bar Mitzvah: Jason Shear

Torah Reading: *Re'eh*

Haftarah Reader: Jason Shear

Shabbat Morning, September 2,—9:00 A.M.

Bar Mitzvah: Jacob Garber

Torah Reading: *Shoftim*

Haftarah Reader: Jacob Garber

Shabbat Minchah, September 2,—5:45 P.M.

Bar Mitzvah: Mark Freudenheim

Torah Reading: *Ki Teitzei*

Haftarah Reader: Mark Freudenheim

Shabbat Morning, September 9,—9:00 A.M.

Bar Mitzvah: Aaron Graf

Torah Reading: *Ki Teitzei*

Haftarah Reader: Aaron Graf

Shabbat Morning, September 16,—9:00 A.M.

Torah Reading: *Ki Tavo*

Haftarah Reader: Benjie Tarshish

Shabbat Morning, September 23,—9:00 A.M.

Torah Reading: *Vayyeilekh*

Shabbat Morning, September 30,—9:00 A.M.

Torah Reading: *Rosh Hashanah I*

Shabbat Morning, October 7,—9:00 A.M.

Torah Reading: *Ha'azinu Shuvah*

Out of this personal and professional life, Ira has made time to create the B'nai Emet website, help us focus our efforts, cheer us on, and always respond promptly and courteously. Ira describes this major volunteer effort as having fun while helping the synagogue. Ira, we can't thank you enough.

So visit bnaiemet.org. Log on often. We will do our best to keep the content interesting and changing. Your suggestions, contributions, and help will be greatly appreciated.

—Bonnie Berezovsky

Shanah Tovah

Calling All Shofar-Blowers and Potential Shofar-Blowers!

Join us for a dramatic conclusion of our *Yom Kippur* services!

Join the growing corps of B'nai Emet Shofar-blowers at the conclusion of *Ne'ilah*.

Please call the synagogue office for more information.

Celebrate Sukkot with Lulav and Etrog

The holiday of *Sukkot* will be here before you know it. B'nai Emet is the "official" headquarters for the purchase of a personal *lulav* and *etrog* set. You say you've never purchased your own *lulav* and *etrog*? You wouldn't know what to do with it? For a limited time only, Rabbi Abramson will give a personal *lulav* and *etrog* lesson to each family that orders a set. Place your order by completing the enclosed form and sending a \$50 check to the synagogue office. The sets will be available for pick-up prior to *Sukkot*. We have only a limited number of sets, so order now.

High Holy Day Babysitting

Babysitting is available for children ages infant through five years old for both *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*. As in the past, there will be a fee for this service. Please check the enclosed packet for detailed information. HIGH HOLY DAY BABYSITTING WILL BE BY RESERVATION ONLY!

For safety reasons, there will be an absolute limit to the number of children accepted for each age group on a first come, first serve basis. Please return your reservation form promptly in order to assure your child's slot. The babysitting service will be coordinated by Jeanne Kaufman and will be fully staffed to make sure each child's participation is both safe and meaningful.

Synagogue Office Closed

12:00 noon, Friday, September 29
Monday, October 9

High Holy Day Service Schedule

Services conducted by Rabbi David L. Abramson and cantorial soloist Michael Winikoff.

<i>Rosh Hashanah</i>	
Friday, September 29	5:45 P.M.
Saturday, September 30	8:00 A.M.
Sunday, October 1	8:00 A.M.
<i>Tashlich</i>	
Sunday, October 1	5:15 P.M.
<i>Kol Nidrei</i>	
Sunday, October 8	6:15 P.M.
<i>Yom Kippur</i>	
Monday, October 9	8:00 A.M.
<i>Torah</i> Reading	approx. 9:00 A.M.
<i>Yizkor</i> Service	approx. 11:30 A.M.
"Conversation with the Rabbi"	3:45 P.M.
<i>Avodah and Minchah</i>	4:45 P.M.
<i>Ne'ilah</i>	6:15 P.M.
<i>Shofar</i>	7:30 P.M.

High Holy Day Youth Services

Children must be pre-registered in order to participate. See registration material included in this issue or call the synagogue office for further details.

Kever Avot Services

Kever Avot memorial services will be held on October 8. Services will begin at 11:00 A.M. at the B'nai Emet Cemetery (72nd and Penn Avenue South).

Shanah Tovah

Best wishes for a *shanah tovah* from Rabbi David and Sandy Abramson, Michael Winikoff, Andrea Hartzman, Susie Andler, Missy Lavintman, Jeanne Kaufman, Marilyn Richter, Bobbi Brown, Anita Siegel, Jan Giudice and the entire B'nai Emet Synagogue staff.

Note:

There will be only one service for each day of the High Holy Days. There will be no saving seats after *Torah* reading begins.

Minneapolis Inter-Congregational S'lichot Service

Saturday, September 23

Adath Jeshurun Congregation

The evening will begin with a *pre-S'lichot* program at 9:00 P.M., followed by a reception at 10:00 P.M. and services at 10:30 P.M.

Sponsoring congregations include Adath Jeshurun, Beth El, Bet Shalom, B'nai Emet, Mayim Rabim and Temple Israel.

We hope you will be with us at this special service as we prepare for the High Holy Days.

Sukkot Services

Erev Sukkot

Friday, October 13 5:45 P.M.

Saturday and Sunday morning,
October 14 and 15 9:30 A.M.

Hoshana Rabbah

Friday, October 20 9:00 A.M.

Sh'mini Atzeret

Saturday, October 21
(with *Yizkor*) 9:00 A.M.

Simchat Torah Celebration

Saturday, October 21
(Fingerhut Sanctuary)
Minchah 5:45 P.M.
Ma'ariv 8:00 P.M.

Tashlich

Tashlich is a brief ceremony held on the afternoon of *Rosh Hashanah*. It is customary to go to the banks of a body of water and symbolically cast away our sins by throwing bread crumbs in the water.

Those wishing to join in this ceremony should gather with their family in front of B'nai Emet on Sunday, October 1 at 5:15 p.m. Together we will cross Highway 25 and walk to "Lake *Tashlich*", located on Beltline Blvd.

Preparing For the High Holy Days:

Your mind, your spirit, your table

A community-wide adult study evening sponsored by:
Adath Jeshurun, Beth El and B'nai Emet Synagogues

Monday, September 11, 2000

7:00–9:45 P.M.

Adath Jeshurun Congregation

Join with your friends and neighbors for a special evening of learning and fun!

- 7:00 P.M. **Registration**
- 7:15 P.M. **Opening Gathering: Heshbon Hanefesh – Preparing Our Souls for the Season**
Rabbi Barry D. Cytron, Jay Phillips Center for Jewish Christian Learning
- 7:45 P.M. **Workshop #1** (choose one)
Kedusha and Hallah: Bringing Holiness Home
Rabbi Alexander Davis, Beth El Synagogue
Teshuva: Taking a Personal Inventory
Rabbi Harold Kravitz, Adath Jeshurun Congregation
Holy Joy: How our Sukkot Traditions Address our Spiritual Yearnings
Rabbi David Abramson, B'nai Emet Synagogue
- 8:40 P.M. **Coffee Break**
- 8:50 P.M. **Workshop #2** (choose one)
Making Yourself Part of the Service, and the Service Part of You
Rabbi Robert Kahn, Beth El Synagogue
**Bread Crumbs, Fish Heads and Palm Branches:
Celebrating the High Holy Days and Sukkot with Children**
Susie Tatarka, Adath Jeshurun Congregation
Top Ten High Holy Days “MiSinai” Tunes
Cantor Neil Newman, Beth El Synagogue

Registration Form

Please complete and return this form to Adath Jeshurun Congregation, 10500 Hillside Lane, Minnetonka, MN 55305. (Attention: Preparing for the High Holy Days) by September 7. Please make checks payable to Adath Jeshurun Congregation.

Please circle one workshop for each session:

Workshop #1

Kedusha and Hallah: Bringing Holiness Home–Davis
Teshuva: Taking a Personal Inventory–Kravitz
Sukkot and Holy Joy–Abramson

Workshop #2

Making Yourself Part of the Service–Kahn
Bread Crumbs, Fish Heads and Palm Branches–Tatarka
Top Ten High Holy Day “MiSinai” Tunes–Newman

Cost of the program is \$5 per person, if received before September 7. Payment at the door is \$7 per person.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address: _____ Number Attending: _____ Enclosed is: \$ _____

Synagogue News

Reminder

There is no parking in handicapped spots except for the disabled

August Anniversaries

Laureen and Jack Bleet	24 years
Jane and Burton Bolter	40 years
Kate and Robert Brill	25 years
Elayne and Larry Chiat	27 years
Phyllis and Earl Cohen	31 years
Mary Anne and Shep Cohen	18 years
Ann and Neil Covin	32 years
Clarice and Richard Cutts	53 years
Lois and Harvey Edelstein	43 years
Betsy and Robert Fine	1 year
Gerda and Haskel Fishman	50 years
Susan and Steven Gerber	14 years
Barbara and Stephen Goldfarb	37 years
Jeanne Astren and Warren Goldstein	14 years
Shirley and Allen Greenstein	41 years
Dorothy and Marvin Haskovitz	51 years
Elaine Savick and Michael Hindin	21 years
Sara and Aaron Hirsch	59 years
Reva and Jack Horowitz	50 years
Lori and Jay Kamin	20 years
Gloria and William Kamman	51 years
Rita and Ronald Kelner	23 years
Miriam and Mark Kieffer	24 years
Limor and Amikam Kol	3 years
Marnee and Thomas Lieberman	9 years
Roberta and Mark Mandel	44 years
Dee Ann and Gerald Mann	29 years
Katherine and Bruce Melemed	28 years
Deedra and Joel Muscoplat	26 years
Serene and Leonard Paletz	45 years
Gayle and James Rapoport	26 years
Shirley and Hy Rosen	55 years
Leslie and Bruce Rosenberg	24 years
Louise and Jerry Rotman	46 years
Berneen and Burt Rudolph	11 years
Janice and Henry Rutman	54 years
Sandra and Eugene Scherling	39 years
Bailey and Abe Schwartz	61 years
Patricia and Arthur Sherman	28 years
Raya and Mikhail Solganik	34 years
Mary and Max Tilsner	61 years
Marilyn and Harold Trestman	36 years
Nancy and Dennis Vitoff	27 years
Renee and Loren Weinberg	31 years
Robin and Yefet Zadaka	22 years
Heidi and Paul Ziman	11 years

September Anniversaries

Sandy and David Abramson	18 years
Linda and Steven Erlich	21 years
Bonnie and Harry Farb	34 years
Bev and Jerry Finkelstein	44 years
Lori Leder-Fogel and Arnold Fogel	22 years
Sender and Asya Fridland	30 years
Esta and Gerald Gold	47 years
Julie and Roman Gadaskin	16 years
Margaret and Howard Goldfine	27 years
Joyce and Jeff Greene	11 years
Sharyn and Alan Grono	21 years
Evelyn and Alan Ingber	26 years
Bonnie and Steve Lazar	14 years
Arlene Berenson and Richard Levine	8 years
Brenda and Theodor Litman	39 years
Julie and Scott London	19 years
Kelly and Martin Mandel	4 years
Peggy and Joel Mandel	9 years
Estelle and Thomas Mount	33 years
Pati and Ronnie Rosenzweig	10 years
Karen and Ronald Sallerson	17 years
Rivian and Leonard Silesky	53 years
Lois and Jerome Solomon	52 years
Sandra and Myron Striker	33 years
Beverly and Lee Walter	19 years
Susan and Stuart Weinstein	22 years
Sandra and Alan Witebsky	22 years
Shelly and Stephen Zien	24 years

Condolences to

- ...Irene Kardonsky on the death of her nephew, Benjamin Gurovitsch.
- ...Joel Muscoplat on the death of his father, Leonard Muscoplat.
- ...David Devin on the death of his father, Sydey L. Devin.
- ...Helven Rubin on the death of his wife, Bess Rubin.
- ...Nancy Vitoff on the death of her father, Hershel Orenstein.
- ...Patricia Sherman on the death of her mother, Bertha Dorr.
- ...Leon Malter on the death of his wife; Missy Lavintman on the death of her mother; and Nathan Weinberg on the death his sister, Edith Malter.
- ...David Shlay on the death of his stepfather, Christopher Drew.
- ...Marian Toberman on the death of her

brother, William Goldberg.

...Edith Aaron on the death of her sister, Ruth Kessel Gulkin.

...Joel Lavintman on the death of his mother, Myrl Lavintman.

"May their memories be an eternal blessing."

Congratulations to

...Barbara and Larry Zweigbaum and Minnie and Nate Zweigbaum of the birth of their grandson and great grandson, Jacob. Parents are Michael and Ellie Zweigbaum.

...Shirley and Harold Haskovitz on their new grandson, Max Edward Haskovitz, son of Becky Haskovitz.

...Asya and Sender Fridland on the marriage of their daughter, Gina to Mark Bazer.

...Jonathan Harris who received his Master's Degree in Industrial Design from Rhode Island School of Design, parents are Carole and Max Harris.

Hebrew Reading Marathon

Level I and Level II classes will take place on Thursday, October 19, and Monday, October 23, simultaneously on both evenings. Both begin on October 19 at Adath Jeshurun and conclude on October 23 at B'nai Emet. Please contact Anita Siegel in the synagogue office for further information.

Candle Lighting

August 18	7:56 P.M.
August 25	7:44 P.M.
September 1	7:32 P.M.
September 8	7:19 P.M.
September 15	7:05 P.M.
September 22	6:52 P.M.
September 29	6:37 P.M.
October 6	6:25 P.M.
October 13	6:13 P.M.



Synagogue News Continued

Dear B'nai Emet,

Sorry this letter is late, but I have been having trouble with my eye. I want to thank everybody for the wonderful tribute you paid to me on my retirement. It was the most spectacular affair I have ever been to in my honor.

Thanks for the permanent seating. I feel so honored in every way. It was an evening I shall never forget.

Thanks for the tribute by the girls, 3 B's and one E.

Never have I had a standing ovation. It is really something.

Again, my thanks for everything. I did go to see my brother and all the family. There were 14 of us from here. The entire family.

My thanks and all my love. Will see you soon.

—Fay Leader

בייה

תודה רבה

To all my dear friends:

The B'nai Emet family—שלום

On the high holy days we pray:

ותשובה ותפילה וצדקה

Thank you, please, sorry

מעבירין את רוע הגזירה

These 3 expressions are most important in human relations.

I'm sorry if I ever hurt anybody's feelings, please forgive me and thank you for all the years you let me serve you.

I especially owe thanks to all of you who participated in the June 30 activities. Whether making contributions to worthwhile causes, taking out ads in the tribute books, or just being at the dinner and program.

Special thanks to Rabbi Abramson, Bonnie Berezovsky, the office staff, and the organizing committee.

My greatest appreciation goes to David Liss for a superb job in printing all the materials for the occasion.

I'm not going anywhere. I hope to serve you in a limited capacity, as long as

my health allows me and you let me.

בברכת שלום וברכה

Peace and happiness to all.

—Michael Engel

New Books in the Library

These books were acquired for the B'nai Emet library through the generosity of the Linda and David Itman family in honor of Heidi's *Bat Mitzvah*. Additional books dedicated to Heidi on her *Bat Mitzvah* were listed in the June 2000 issue of the Scroll.

Jewishness, Peter Loewy, is a collection of Loewy's photographs, illuminating his response to the question, "What is a Jew?"

The Violin Players, Eileen Bluestone Sherman, tells the story of Melissa, whose family moves from New York to Missouri. She hides her Jewish identity in the face of the antisemitism of her new community until a Jewish student at her school is attacked. Ages 9–12.

Isaac Bashevis Singer: The Life of a Storyteller, Lila Perl, is a biography of the master *Yiddish* novelist and short-story writer, beginning with the his childhood in Poland. The author explores the influence of superstitions and *Hasidic* tradition on Singer, and his great imagination as well as his struggles with extreme shyness and depression. Ages 12–14.

A Traitor Among Us, Elizabeth Van Steenwyk, is suspenseful from beginning to end. Thirteen-year-old Pieter Van Dirk overcomes his fears to help the Dutch resistance against the Nazis during World War II. As he works to undermine the Nazis, he gradually becomes aware of the existence of a Nazi informer in the village. Who is this person who represents a threat to Pieter's work and life? Ages 12–15.

Pharaoh's Daughter: A Novel of Ancient Egypt, Julius Lester, retells the story of Moses as a teenager, torn between his identity as a Hebrew and his Egyptian upbringing. The story is told through the alternating points of view of Moses and Almah, his older sister who becomes enthralled with Egyptian religion and culture. Ages 12 and up.

Miriam's Cup: A Passover Story, Fran Manushkin, explains, through beautiful watercolor illustrations and text, the derivation of the new *Passover* ritual, Miriam's cup, which is filled with water and placed on the *Seder* tables. As she prepares for the *Seder*, Mrs. Pinsky tells her daughter Miriam the Biblical story of Miriam who prophesied the birth of Moses and led the women in song and dance after the crossing of the Red Sea. Ages 6–9.

The Matzah that Papa Brought Home, Fran Manushkin, presents a child's view of the *Passover Seder*, emphasizing the family pleasures of the holiday. Ages 3–6.

NOTE: Fran Manushkin, author of *Miriam's Cup* and *The Matzah that Papa Brought Home*, welcomes comments on her books and promises to reply promptly. Her e-mail address is franm@pipeline.com.

Men's Club Update

The B'nai Emet Men's Club invites you to the season opening Breakfast Bash on August 27, 10:30 A.M. Please join us for fellowship, bagels, eggs, lox, and more.

Our program will be simply to get to know each other, talk about the upcoming programs, and generally to see what is in store for 5761.

Please RSVP to Andrea in the synagogue office, 952-927-7309, so that we have an idea of how much food to have. (But don't hesitate to drop in, we'll have extra.)

Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class Offered

An information meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 19, at 7:30 P.M. in the Hellman Library for all interested people. Please RSVP to the office at 952-927-7309.

Synagogue News Continued

Women's League Corner

Shirley Haskovitz, President

1999–2000 was a great year of achievement and fun for B'nai Emet Women's League. Together we attended programs, worked on fundraising, and honored Fay Leader and Donna Shapiro for their many years of dedication to Women's League and synagogue volunteerism.

We started 2000–2001 with our 2nd annual paid up membership dinner cruise on Lake Minnetonka in August. The evening was fun-filled with many memories for years to come. Please review the calendar below for upcoming events.

September 12, Dinner and Guest Speaker, Gil Mann at 6:00 P.M., Cost: \$11

October 17, Open Board Meeting, Videotape of Midwest Branch Women's League

November 12, Annual Deli Dinner

December 5, Torah Fund Luncheon

January 13, Women's League *Shabbat*

March 20, Open Board Meeting with Program

May 1, *Mitzvah* Luncheon with Program

June 5, Installation Dinner and Program

We hope to have a dinner dance and program when all our snow-birds get home in the spring.

Our next fund raising project will be the High Holy Day greetings and *Yizkor* booklet. Watch for your mailing and please participate in making it a profitable venture. Much hard work goes into the production of these booklets.

Don't forget to mail your membership dues of \$18 to Shirley Greenstein. Your membership in B'nai Emet Women's League helps maintain such things as the Early Childhood Department, the synagogue gift shop, in-house catering, a fully equipped synagogue kitchen, and a financial commitment to the synagogue.

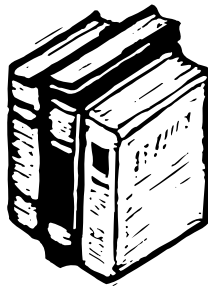
Memorial Plaques

The following plaques have recently been installed at B'nai Emet Synagogue.

Memorial Alcove of the Fox Family Chapel:

Inez E. Lorber
Sidney Lorber
Gilbert Finkelstein
Charles Bruzonsky
Viola Yavner
Rose Berezovsky
Saul Graf
Isadore Vitoff
Jeffrey Edward Weinberg
Esther Bader Schekman
Ida Janowitz
Max Janowitz
Faye Itman
Evan Joseph Goldstein
Daily *Minyan* Dedicated in honor of
Michael Engel, June 30, 2000
Dedicated Seats (Fingerhut Sanctuary)
Harold and Fleurette Spear
Gilbert Finkelstein
Pokey and Ben Katz
Perl Wall of Joy (Baratz Social Hall)
Michael Engel

Book Report



by Debbie Slutsker

Putting God on the Guest List, How to Reclaim the Spiritual Meaning of Your Child's Bar or Bat Mitzvah by Rabbi Jeffrey K. Salkin

This book is worth reading. It is family friendly; easy to understand the basic themes the author wants to convey. It reminds the reader of the true meaning of being Jewish. Rabbi Salkin wants Jewish people to think of their child's *bar/bar mitzvah* as an event linking it to the event of Moses receiving the tablets at *Sinai*. He says God's presence is important and reminds us of the covenant God made with the Jewish people...it is, basically, "a custom with no force of law". The *Torah* is a central theme of the *bar/bat mitzvah*. The scroll "evokes history,

continuity, and tradition, as no other Jewish ritual object can". Rabbi Salkin interprets the celebration in the context of today's world using true examples of modern day families. He uses metaphors to enhance his explanations.

There are ten chapters and two appendices in this book. In the newer 2nd edition, the author has added one new chapter called "Speak to the children of Israel, How *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* speaks to the Inner Life of Children." This is an interesting chapter and worth getting the 2nd edition. After all of the chapters there are questions asked to the reader and his/her family which helps one to reflect and to think about the meaning of their lives.

Rabbi Salkin covers much information in his book about the *bar/bat mitzvah*. He tells the literal meaning of these words. He says it is really a celebration of "ritual maturity about growing up as a Jew. It is about becoming a fuller member of the Jewish community. But it also about moral responsibility, about connecting to *Torah*, to community, to God." Rabbi Salkin explains what the person actually does at the celebration, reading from *Torah* and *Haftorah* and the prayers recited. He explains why they are read and the meaning of them. He does cover what differences there are in the various sects of Judaism. In addition, he tells the history of the *bar/bat mitzvah* and explains why age 13 is chosen for the celebration.

Another interesting aspect in the book is Appendix 1, "What Non-Jews Should Know About the *Bar and Bat Mitzvah* Service." Rabbi Salkin encourages the reader to make copies of this part to give it to non-Jews so they can "understand the meaning and purpose of our celebration."

All in all, Rabbi Salkin covers all aspects of the celebration of the *bar/bat mitzvah*. It has been helpful to read it and think of its contents as I am planning my own son's *bar mitzvah*. I recommend reading this book to all Jewish parents who have a child around the age of ten years. The book tells us the meaning and purpose of why we should go ahead and celebrate this remarkable ritual.

You're a Good Man Charlie Brown

Ordway Center for Performing Arts
February 4, 2001
2:00 P.M.
Tickets: \$45
Please call Sari Lederman at
763-559-2802 to reserve tickets

Grand Casino Hinkley

December 24, 2000

B'nai Emet has reserved rooms for Christmas Eve. The price is \$50 per person based on double occupancy. Kids stay free! Please invite your friends to join us. For more information call Sari Lederman at 763-559-2802 no later than November 17.

Notice:

SUPERVALU will no longer be participating in the scrip program. Please see the back cover of this issue for our new and exciting participants in the program.

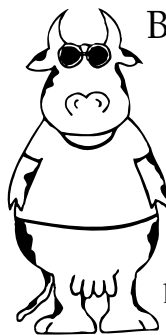
Now Showing!

B'nai Emet's website!
www.bnaiemet.org



Scroll Deadline

September 25 for October 20 Edition



BESY's Corner

A Message from Susie

Welcome back to another year of USY, *Kadima*, and *Maccabees*. I hope you all had a safe, yet exciting summer. We have some great programming coming up so check

us out on our web page. If you haven't heard, this year's USY and *Kadima* play is *Guys and Dolls*. Make sure you watch for more information in mid September. See you soon.

President's Message

Shalom all, Bryan Grone here. I just wanted to check in with everybody, make sure all is well at camp, in Israel, and back home. I am very excited for the start of a very promising year of BESY and I look forward to seeing you all at the HUGE Twin City Wide Kickoff! See you in August.

Calendar of Events

Sunday, August 27 USY Twin City Wide Kick-Off Cruise

Sunday, September 10 USY, *Kadima*, *Maccabee* Horseback Riding

Tuesday, September 19 USY Lounge Night

Thursday, September 21-

Sunday, September 24 USY LTI

Sunday, September 24 Apple & Honey Bag Packing, Pick-up, and Delivery
Starting at
6:00 P.M.

Tuesday, September 26 *Kadima* Lounge Night

Sunday School Update

Shalom! My name is Jeanne Kaufman. This will be my 18th year at B'nai Emet Sunday School. I enjoy leading explorations for B'nai Emet's Kindergarten, First and Second Grade Students. Our classes are small and combined with lots of individual attention and hands on activities! The curriculum changes each year to avoid repetition for students from year to year.

This year's curriculum will focus on *Torah* and Bible stories. We will also have in-depth units on the synagogue, Israel and *Mitzvot*. All of the curriculum will focus on relating the morals and ethics of the stories, characters, and ritual items to young children. Exploring our synagogue and Israel will help the children to know how they are connected to both and they will also explore how they can perform *mitzvot* at a young age!

During the year there will be several family programs to include parents, siblings and grandparents in the children's educational experiences. Games, songs, trips and special guests will enhance the curriculum as well.

Sunday School begins September 10th 9:30-11:30 A.M. If you know of anyone that may be interested in our program please contact the synagogue office for an enrollment form.

FYI

The B'nai Emet Youth Commission administers the B'nai Emet Youth Scholarship Fund.

This fund supports all youth department programs and also provides scholarships to BESY and regional events.

If you would like to make a contribution to this fund to support our youth please call Sharyn Grone for more information at 763-559-5040.

Youth and Education

B'nai Mitzvah Project 2000

Stephen Lederman, Jason Shear, Shaina Hage, Michelle Shapiro, Heidi Itman, and Leah Weinstein, as part of their *B'nai Mitzvah* project, planted flowers at Sholom Home. This was one of four projects they participated in. Other projects included: collecting food for the food shelf, helping out at preschool, and a bowlathon.



Camp Ahava Provides Summer Fun

The B'nai Emet Early Childhood Education Department's Camp *Ahava* this summer provided children with a variety of fun-filled activities, including crafts, sports, water play, and special events. Guests brought to camp for special events included Sprinklestrings, Ginger's Petting Zoo and Pony Rides, as well as the Wonderweavers.



The picture above shows the campers enjoying a baby lamb, one of the many visitors from the petting zoo. They include: Madeline Richter, Rachel Rub, Lewie Plantikow, Jack Goldberg, Hannah Ballen, and Ethan Jonas.



Shown here are children ready for water play fun in Tammy and Rochelle's class. They are: Will Poulter, Jessica Siegel, Joey Brandys, Maia Zelkind, Aleeza Mandel, and Sam Sanderson.



Preschool Update

B'nai Emet Early Childhood Education Department is busy planning our preschool classes with children age sixteen months through five years old. The 2000–2001 school year classes are currently full. Our outstanding staff consists of Evelyn Ballen, Laura Brandys, Tammy Engebretson, Terry Freedman, Kate Gabriel-Jones, Eloise Gershone, Nicole Goldstein, Eileen Kopman, Marnee Lieberman, Marta Otero, Michelle Rudoy, Sandy Rudoy, Jeri Saad, Joyce Treff, Tova Walder, and Estee Warsett. Marilyn Richter is the Director of Early Childhood Education. The program is under the auspices of B'nai Emet Women's League with Penny Sanderson as chairperson of the Early Childhood Education Committee which is the governing board of the Early Childhood Department.

On Tuesday, August 29, we will host a Preschool Parents' Night. Our one hour (7–8 P.M.) meeting will offer preschool families the opportunity to visit with our early childhood teaching staff, early childhood education committee, Rabbi, B'nai Emet Synagogue President, Executive Director, and other parents.

All children in B'nai Emet preschool will have a scheduled visit before their first day of class.

We appreciate everyone's support of our very successful DMC (Dining Monthly Cards) fundraiser. All proceeds benefit the Early Childhood Education Department.

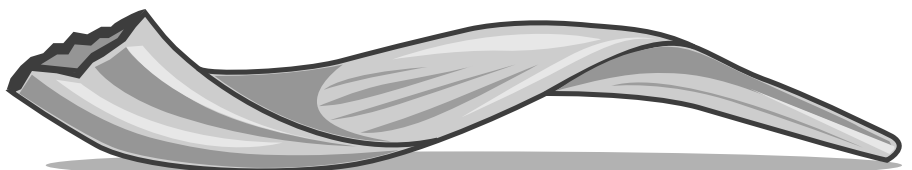
Confirmation Class 2000–2001

"Entertaining," "educational," "interesting," "hilarious," "creative," "thought-provoking," and "great." These were some of the adjectives used by B'nai Emet teenagers in describing their experience with Rabbi Abramson's 1999–2000 confirmation class. The class, which will again be taught by Rabbi Abramson, will meet on Sunday mornings at Talmud Torah. Study and discussions focus on Jewish ethics and contemporary issues, such as vegetarianism, alcoholism, euthanasia, abortion, and suicide. Class participants will have the opportunity to participate in the *Panim el Panim* trip to Washington, D.C., in spring. If you will be entering 10th, 11th, or 12th grade this fall and have not yet participated in B'nai Emet's confirmation class, please register soon.

In the words of one of last year's confirmation class members, "If I'm gonna get up really early on a Sunday to go learn things, this is the place I would go." Take advantage of this terrific opportunity. Classes begin in early September. Contact the B'nai Emet office for details.

Fall Scholarship News

For those who are seeking need-based financial aid for school-year programs in Israel, scholarship applications will be available from the synagogue office as of September 1 and are due in by Monday, October 2; financial aid will be awarded after the High Holy Days. Applications for all summer 2001 camps and programs will be available in December. Please contact the synagogue office with any scholarship questions.



Donations

ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

In honor of Jill Ingber's Confirmation
Zelda Rae, Annette & Tova Walder

In honor of Caryn London's Confirmation
Zelda Rae, Annette & Tova Walder

In memory of Esther Cien
Carole & Max Harris

ALEX & LORRAINE ASTREN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In honor of Loren Bach's Confirmation
Lorraine & Alex Astren

In honor of Maya Berezovsky's Confirmation
Lorraine & Alex Astren

In honor of Bryan Grone's Confirmation
Lorraine & Alex Astren

In honor of Jeremy Kopman's Confirmation
Lorraine & Alex Astren

In honor of Mirit Zunis Haskovitz's Confirmation
Lorraine & Alex Astren

In memory of Esther Cien
Jeanne Astren, Warren & Avi Goldstein
Lorraine & Alex Astren

In memory of Dr. Zondal Miller
Lorraine & Alex Astren

In memory of Edith Malter
Jeanne Astren, Warren & Avi Goldstein

SHIRLEY & ZOLLIE BARATZ SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In honor of Shirley & Zollie Baratz's 55th anniversary
Rose Kay

IDA & SAM BIALICK CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

For Betsy Israelson's speedy recovery
Linda Kamin

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In honor of Susan Shapiro's Bat Mitzvah
Joy, Richard, Ben & Evan Field
Alice Gilman

In honor of Charlotte & Len Juster's 50th anniversary
Shirley & Burt Politz

In honor of Rose Fingerhut's 80th birthday
Audrey Freidson

In honor of Phyllis & Joe Greenstein's anniversary
Bonnie & David Blumberg

In honor of the birth of Min & Nate Zweigbaum's great grandson, Jacob
Lorraine Golden

In honor of Michael Engel
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Harry Engel
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In honor of Michelle Rudoy's engagement
Sharon & Steve Goldschmidt

In honor of Nettie Beers' 80th birthday
Bobbi Brown
Bea & Len Getzkin

In honor of Ethel Gershone's 80th birthday
Racha & Charles Marks

In honor of Fay Leader's 80th birthday
Racha & Charles Marks

In honor of Shirley Silver's special birthday
Irene & Saul Greenspoon

In honor of Andrea Hartzman & Ted Blumberg's engagement
The Walds

In honor of Sharon & Steve Goldschmidt's 15th anniversary
* The Walds

Thanks to
Lily Berman
Cheryl Chandler-Rosenblatt
Midge Frailich
Connie Frank
Evie Ingber
Sue Weinstein

for baking for Shaina Hage's Bat Mitzvah
The Hages

In honor of Claire & Ben Katz's 52nd anniversary
Karen & David Katz & Family

For Irwin Rubenstein's speedy recovery
Yvonne & Alan Frailich

For Debbie Freudenheim's speedy recovery
Yvonne & Alan Frailich

Stacy, Bernie, Julie & Rachel Zeder/Rub
In memory of Esther Cien
Alice Gilman
Minnie & Sandra Bergman

In memory of Selmer Lazar
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In memory of Israel Begam
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The Walds

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In memory of Myrl Lavintman

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In memory of Hershel Orenstein
Harriet & Kent Confeld

SAMUEL BODERMAN EDUCATION FUND

In memory of Zelda Ganensky
Barbara & Neil Boderman

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In honor of Jeremy Kopman's Confirmation
Zelda Rae, Annette & Tova Walder

In honor of Maya Berezovsky's Confirmation
Zelda Rae, Annette & Tova Walder

For Andrea Hartzman's speedy recovery
Zelda Rae, Annette & Tova Walder

NORMAN COHEN EDUCATIONAL FUND

In honor of Susan Shapiro's Bat Mitzvah
Missy & Joel Lavintman

In honor of Gina Fridland's marriage
Missy & Joel Lavintman

In honor of Michael Engel
Missy & Joel Lavintman

In memory of Doreen Drew
Missy & Joel Lavintman

In memory of Hershel Orenstein
Missy & Joel Lavintman

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Andrea Hartzman & Ted Blumberg
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Michael Engel
The Walders
Karen & David Katz

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In honor of Charlotte & Len Juster's 50th anniversary
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Dorothy Fagel

In honor of Becky Edelstein's birthday
Gus & Harlowe Edelstein

In memory of Bessie Rubin
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In memory of Leonard Halper
Gus & Harlowe Edelstein

In memory of Edith Malter
Gus & Harlowe Edelstein & Family

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In honor of Dee & David Grone's special birthdays
Anita & Myron Siegel
Babe Narotzky

In honor of Michelle Shapiro
Shaina Hage & Susan Shapiro

In honor of Sandy Hage
Susan Shapiro & Shaina Hage

In honor of Rabbi & Zena Woolf's son's graduation
Bonnie & Bruce Berezovsky

In honor of the arrival of Max Edward Haskovitz
Bonnie & Bruce Berezovsky

In honor of Nettie & Joe Beers' 15th anniversary
Bea & Len Getzkin
Occie Watchman

In honor of Pacey Beers' 80th birthday
Nettie & Joe Beers
Clara Watchman
Bea & Lenny Getzkin

In honor of Becky & Ed Addis' grandson's Bar Mitzvah
Anita & Myron Siegel

For Doreen Greenblat's speedy recovery
Anita & Myron Siegel

In memory of Doreen Drew
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In memory of Edith Malter
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In honor of Shaina Hage's Bat Mitzvah
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In honor of Susan Shapiro's Bat Mitzvah
Susan & Mark Leder & Family
Eileen & Michael Kopman & Family

In honor of Allan Ackerman's 50th birthday

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Nettie & Joe Beers
Pacey Beers
Occie Watchman
In honor of Aaron Wald's Bar Mitzvah
His family
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To thank Laura Brandys for help with Aaron Wald's Bar Mitzvah
The Walds
To thank Rabbi for teaching the Confirmation class
Eileen & Michael Kopman & Family
In honor of Ethel Gershone's 80th birthday
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Thank you Rabbi Abramson for all your help with Gina's wedding
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Marilyn & Gary Rose
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In honor of Fay Leader
Ruth & Fred Ziman
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Jeri & Adeel Saad
In honor of Ben Bunin's graduation
Jeri & Adeel Saad
In honor of Lisa Cohen's graduation
Jeri & Adeel Saad
In honor of Susan Salita's graduation
Jeri & Adeel Saad
In honor of Jennifer Bearman's graduation
Jeri & Adeel Saad
In honor of the birth of Eileen & Harold Scherling's grandson
Jeri & Adeel Saad
In honor of Dahlia Bach's graduation
Jeri & Adeel Saad
In honor of Loren Bach's Confirmation
Jeri & Adeel Saad
In honor of Maya Berezovsky's Confirmation
Jeri & Adeel Saad
In honor of Bryan Grone's Confirmation
Jeri & Adeel Saad
In honor of Josh Kelner's Confirmation
Jeri & Adeel Saad
In honor of Sam Kelner's graduation
Jeri & Adeel Saad
In honor of Jeremy Kopman's Confirmation
Jeri & Adeel Saad
In honor of Caryn London's Confirmation
Jeri & Adeel Saad
In honor of Mandy Slutsker's Confirmation
Jeri & Adeel Saad
In honor of Daniel Rosen's graduation
Jeri & Adeel Saad
In honor of Ethan Tarshish's graduation
Eloise & Jeff Gershone
In honor of Jaclyn Saad's graduation from Talmud Torah
Eloise & Jeff Gershone
Eileen & Michael Kopman & Family
In honor of the arrival of Max Edward Haskovitz
Michael Engel

Our prayers are with you, Vera Wilensky
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In memory of Doreen Drew
Ruth & Martin Schoenberger
In memory of Esther Cien
Audrey Freidson
Dorothy Fagel
In memory of Bertha Dorr
Ruth & Martin Schoenberger
In memory of Edith Malter
Ruth & Martin Schoenberger
SHERNA & PHILLIP K SCHWARTZ FUND
In honor of Ethel Gershone's 80th birthday
Eloise, Jeff, Josh & Mike Gershone
In honor of Michael Engel
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Bea & Lenny Getzkin
In memory of Edith Malter
Miriam & Mark Kieffer
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Miriam & Mark Kieffer
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In memory of Bill Goldberg
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Rev. 07/20/00

THE SCROLL

Newsletter of

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St. Louis Park, MN 55416
Phone: 952-927-7309
FAX: 952-927-0179
www.bnaiemet.org

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Applebees • Olive Garden • Bath & Body Works • Best Buy

Footlocker • Home Depot • JC Penney • Red Lobster • Pier One Imports

