



SCROLL

מגילה

Newsletter of B'nai Emet Synagogue

July 16, 2004

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Rabbi's Message

Do you know when the holiday of *Tish'ah B'Av* will occur this year? Do you know what *Tish'ah B'Av* is

all about? Is it important?

Years ago, I used to think that most people knew of *Tish'ah B'Av* only from an old Alan Sherman song. (That was when more people knew the late humorist and song parodist, Alan Sherman.) One of Alan Sherman's funniest song parodies, entitled "My Zelda," contains the lyric: "Why did she go and fall in love? I haven't seen her since Tishabuv..." I often wondered if the holiday of *Tish'ah B'Av* had become so obscure that it was known only in a song lyric—and now, from a song that itself has become obscure!

Another ironic observation about *Tish'ah B'Av* is this: If you never attended Jewish summer camp, you probably know little about *Tish'ah B'Av*; if you did attend Jewish summer camp, then you do remember *Tish'ah B'Av*. (This is because *Tish'ah B'Av* occurs in July or August; it's the only Jewish holiday that occurs in the summer, so it's usually programmatically significant at Jewish summer camps.)

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President's Message The Year at a Glance

As a congregation, we have accomplished much during the past year, as reflected at our recent congregational meeting on June 17, where we also elected 13 new members for the Board of Trustees. Congratulations to our new Board members. I look forward to their input and leadership in the coming years. I offer special thanks to Alan Ingber, chair of the Nominating Committee, and to the entire Committee for its hard work.

Highlights from the year include our educational programs from preschool through adult education, which are masterfully led by talented and experienced staff and volunteers. Some of this year's exciting activities have included Friday night Young Families Services as well as the Adult Education Committee's terrific and wide range of fall classes and an engaging evening at the Festival of Jewish Awareness this spring.

Mazal tov to the many families who celebrated the *b'nai mitzvah* of their children this year. I am confident that they will continue to be a source of pride and joy for our congregation. This month we also celebrated the proud milestone achievement of the adult *B'nai Mitzvah* class under the superb guidance of our Education Director, Laura Brandys. Classes were taught by Laura, Rabbi Abramson, and

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Administrator's Message

Our continued appreciation...

We have congregants and friends who do favors for us in many ways. In the last *Scroll*, I initiated a "tradition" to thank them in this column. Thank you to:

👍 Sari "Spiff It Up" Lederman for suggesting that we use permanent plastic pockets to display flyers and signs on our doors. Sari also brought us a supply of pockets. This idea makes things look tidier and saves us the trouble of removing old tape from glass doors.

👍 Jeff "Can You Hear Me Now?" Paletz for his ongoing work to monitor and adjust the sound system and new speakers in the Fingerhut Sanctuary.

👍 Joe "Take It Apart" Moses for working with our custodian Roosevelt to fix both of our lawnmowers.

These are just a few examples of how people help us out. Do you have an idea of how we may improve something at B'nai Emet? Do you have extra time each week or month—even just a few minutes—to help out? Is there a task on the enclosed list of volunteer opportunities that you'd like to do? Please call me at the synagogue office (952-927-7309) to talk about your ideas and interests.

B'Hatzlaha,
Steve Greenberg
info@bnaiemet.org

Messages

From the Rabbi

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Now back to the questions I posed above. When will *Tish'ah B'Av* occur this year? Monday evening, July 26, and Tuesday, July 27. What's it all about? Traditionally, *Tish'ah B'Av* is historically associated with the destruction of both Temples in Jerusalem—at the hands of the Babylonians in 586 BCE, and at the hands of the Romans in 70 CE. Beyond that, *Tish'ah B'Av* has become associated with numerous—or innumerable—tragedies that have befallen our people throughout our history. Thus, *Tish'ah B'Av* is our national day of mourning, our opportunity to vicariously re-experience the tragedies that are part of our historical legacy, to mourn for them, and to learn the lessons of consolation and recovery that the Jews have had to learn countless times.

The primary synagogue observance of *Tish'ah B'Av* is the chanting of *M'gillat Eikhah*, the Book of Lamentations, on *Tish'ah B'Av* eve. This stirring poetic description of the Jews' suffering and exile, written by the prophet Jeremiah who experienced this tragedy along with his fellow Jews, is chanted to a beautiful, mournful melody. Throughout the holiday, we traditionally observe mourning customs and we fast for the twenty-five hours of the holiday.

Is *Tish'ah B'Av* relevant only for Jewish summer campers or for die-hard Alan Sherman fans like me? No, I think it's relevant for all of us.

One might assert that historical identification is the only relevance of *Tish'ah B'Av*: Just as we identify with the triumphant moments of our history—on *Pesah*, *Hanukkah*, and the like—so we need to identify with the tragic events of our history on *Tish'ah B'Av*. Sadly and significantly, though, *Tish'ah B'Av* is not only about Jewish history—for tragedy and suffering are not simply vestiges of our distant past. Our historical legacy of pain and challenge are still part of our present experience. Thus, we need to identify not only with the suffering of our ancestors; we also need to learn the lessons of survival and renewal that countless generations of Jews have passed on to us.

It is true that, in the scheme of things, *Tish'ah B'Av* is a minor Jewish holiday. But more than a lyric from an obscure song parody, *Tish'ah B'Av* is a profoundly important holiday—an opportunity to learn important lessons of the past, to apply those lessons to the challenges of our own lives, and to pass those lessons on to those who will come after us.

Rabbi David L. Abramson

President's Message

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Linda Erlich. Additionally, our youth group entertained us all with their phenomenal production of *Peter Pan*.

The Inclusion Committee and a number of donors were instrumental in seeing that the handicap-accessible ramp to the *bimah* and the electric doors were successfully installed. Thanks to the generous contributions from many of our congregants, as well as \$5,000 from Women's League, our air conditioning system is once again fully operative. New and improved security measures have been instituted to help reinforce a sense of comfort for our families. These measures include the installation of a camera/monitor system with intercoms and a keypad entry device.

Fundraising efforts were enhanced by the annual *Purim* carnival, sale of tickets to a variety of touring Broadway shows, and our well-attended Art Auction. The Rabbinic Chair Fund was established this year and has generated funds to support and further enhance our budget.

Daily recognition must be given to Michael Engel, David Liss, and Hersh Berman for their dedication and leadership every day during our morning and evening *minyanim*. Shlomo Carlebach creative Friday night services led by Rabbi Abramson and Steve Greenberg, followed by *Shabbat* dinner, have been very well received by our families. *Shabbat* morning services are now followed by a deluxe luncheon sponsored by Serene and Leonard Paletz.

Our new Synagogue Administrator, Steve Greenberg, and office assistant, Sean Murphy, are welcome additions to our synagogue office. My sincere thanks to our Executive Committee, Board of Trustees, all of the committee chairs and committee members, Rabbi Abramson, Rabbi Woolf, Steve Greenberg and the entire office staff and volunteers for their dedication and tireless efforts.

I want to thank the entire congregation for your continued support and commitment to B'nai Emet Synagogue.

May we continue to go from strength to strength.

B'Shalom,

Adeel Saad

President

adeels007@aol.com



Candle Lighting

July 9 8:40 pm	August 6 8:14 pm
July 16 8:38 pm	August 13 8:04 pm
July 23 8:32 pm	August 20 7:53 pm
July 30 8:24 pm	August 27 7:40 pm

Upcoming Events

Scroll Deadline

August 9, for the
September 3 issue.

Calling All Book Lovers

The next meeting of B'nai Emet's book club will take place on Sunday, August 29, at 7:00 p.m. at Bonnie Berezovsky's home. Gwyn Leder will lead a discussion of *The Secret Life of Bees*, by Sue Monk Kidd. Everyone is welcome. Please RSVP to 763-522-6094 to let Bonnie know you plan to attend.



Watch for Details on the Fall Congregational Trip Travel, laugh, and learn!

Watch your mail for details of an exciting new event coming this fall—a congregational trip that will combine Jewish sights with history and just plain fun.

The Adult Education Committee is planning a trip that will be affordable and enjoyable, and will fit into just one or two days.

We hope you'll be able to join us!

Services

For Your Rabbinic Needs

Thank you to Rabbi Barry Woolf who will fill in while Rabbi Abramson is at Camp Ramah from July 25 through August 9.

Daily Service Schedule

Shaharit:

Monday thru Friday	7:30 A.M.
Shabbat	9:00 A.M.
Sunday & Holidays	9:30 A.M.
Minhah/Ma'ariv	
Daily	5:45 P.M.

Shabbat & Holiday Service Schedule

Services conducted by Rabbi David L. Abramson or Rabbi Barry Woolf

Shabbat Morning, July 10, 9:00 A.M.

Torah Reading: *Pinhas*

Shabbat Morning, July 17, 9:00 A.M.

Torah Reading: *Mattot/Mas'ei*

Shabbat Hazon

Shabbat Morning, July 24, 9:00 A.M.

Torah Reading: *D'varim*

Tish'ah B'Av (the Ninth of Av)

Evening Service—including the reading of *Eikhah*

Monday, July 26, 5:45 p.m.

Morning Service—including special Torah reading and *Haftarah*

Tuesday, July 27, 7:30 a.m.

Shabbat Nahamu

Shabbat Morning, July 31, 9:00 A.M.

Torah Reading: *Va'et'hanan*

Shabbat Morning, August 7, 9:00 A.M.

Torah Reading: *Ekev*

Shabbat Morning, August 14, 9:00 A.M.

Torah Reading: *Re'eh*

Shabbat Morning, August 21, 9:00 A.M.

Torah Reading: *Shof'tim*

Shabbat Morning, August 28, 9:00 A.M.

Torah Reading: *Ki Teitzei*

Upcoming Events

Security Solutions

B'nai Emet now has an operating security entry system for the front doors to the building. On *Shabbat*, holidays, and for special events, the doors to the synagogue will be unlocked. At all other times, you'll need to use a five-digit access code or ring the doorbell to enter the front doors. There are monitors and intercom systems in the main office and Preschool office so staff can see and control visitor access to the building. By the end of June, there will also be intercoms just outside the Fox Chapel and Hellman Library.

If you don't already have your own code, please **read closely** and then fill out the enclosed white *Select Your Own Synagogue Access Code* form. Congregants should bring the form to the office; Preschool parents should bring the form to the Preschool office.



Kol Hakavod Team B'nai Emet 2004!

Top notch! Outstanding! Terrific! Beautiful! These words describe TEAM B'NAI EMET, the Walk/Race for the Cure, and the weather on Mother's Day, May 9, when we supported the Susan G. Komen Foundation. Team B'nai Emet had over 40 participants who either ran or walked five kilometers, or walked one kilometer.

Thank you to everyone who took part in this community-wide event. Mark your calendars now for Mother's Day 2005! Call Eileen Kopman for information at 763-536-0013.

Bikkur Holim: An Easy, Big- Dividends *Mitzvah*

The *mitzvah* of *bikkur holim* (visiting the sick) is a central healing source in Jewish tradition. The essence of the *mitzvah* is to be present with a person who is ill in order to provide emotional support and a spiritual connection to the Jewish community. According to the *Talmud*, a truly empathetic visitor may help lighten the burden of the person who is ill.

If you are interested in performing this *mitzvah*, please phone the synagogue at 952-927-7309.



Some New, Great Books in Our Library

Don't miss these wonderful books, the newest in B'nai Emet's growing library collection. The Farb family and donors to the Farb Library Fund make it possible for us to enjoy these fine works.

📖 *Foiglmán, Aharon Megged*, translated by Marganit Weinberger. Winner of the 2003 Israel Prize for Literature, this book was first published in 1987, and recently translated into English. The novel, set in Israel, does not deal with Israeli politics, but rather deals with human relationships and Jewish culture and history. It tells the story of the somewhat uncomfortable relationship between Zvi Arbel, Israeli professor of Jewish history, and Shmuel Foiglmán, Yiddish poet and Holocaust survivor. While Arbel and Foiglmán represent two different types of Jewish identity and history, their family issues and relationship to Jewish history provide parallel and common ground.

📖 *The Foods of Israel Today*, Joan Nathan. This beautiful collection of kosher recipes represents typical contemporary Israeli foods as well as traditional dishes from Libya, Morocco, Italy, and Germany. The recipes are presented against the backdrop of Nathan's stories of Israel, the role of food in human relationships, and the biblical connections between ancient herbs and vegetables and their modern counterparts.

📖 *When the Chickens Went on Strike*, Erica Silverman, Matthew Trueman (illustrator), and Sholom Aleichem. Based on a story by Sholom Aleichem, this book describes a young boy who sneaks away from High Holiday services, only to overhear a group of chickens planning a strike. They are upset about the custom of *Kapores*, and they resent the people who use the chickens as a way to rid themselves of sin. The humor and illustrations are terrific. Recommended for ages 4-8.

Our Youth

A Change in the Youth Department

Sadly, Sasha gave notice and decided to leave B'nai Emet on June 30 in order to spend more time with his family. (No matter how busy we are, our children will keep growing up, even when we're not watching!)

You may not know that while Sasha Kuznetsov served as B'nai Emet's Youth Director, he also had a full-time job as an assistant principal for a local public school. Such a position is rarely just 40 hours per

week. Add to that the hours spent with, and for, our youth, and you may imagine one busy man.

Our Youth Commission has been busy conducting a search for Sasha's replacement. Once the position has been filled, details will be in a future *Scroll*.



B'nai Emet Early Childhood Graduation

On Tuesday, May 25th, B'nai Emet Early Childhood Education Department celebrated graduation for the following children from our pre-kindergarten class: Dotan Appelbaum, Zachary Brodsky, Arielle Buslovich, Elsa Deinema, Nathan Goldman, Olivia Gulden, Ellen Israel, Maxwell Kahn, Zollie Kaplan, Siona Kelly, Lily Kivens, Joshua Miller, Tal Mizrahi, Gaya Nahum, Jacob Newman, Alexis Phillips, Will Poulter, Zachary Rankin, Mattea Rice, Nicole Richman, Ahmree Schear, Raeann Selly, and Julien Shadle.

The cap-and-gown graduation ceremony took place in the Fingerhut Sanctuary with Rabbi David Abramson and Marilyn Richter, Early Childhood Education Director, presenting graduation diplomas and Michelle Parks, soloist. Eloise Gershone and Nicole Goldstein taught the pre-kindergarten class. The entire Early Childhood Education Department is under the auspices of B'nai Emet Women's League, Anita Siegel President, and Wendy Grosser, Early Childhood Education Vice President. Tamara Phillips chaired this exciting event.

Farewell to a Valued Friend Sasha,

As I searched my thoughts for just the right way to say thanks to you for all you have done for our U.S.Y.ers and Kadimah chapter, a famous quote came to mind: "He came, he saw, and he conquered." This simple sentence says it all. When you first came to B'nai Emet, you had a vision of what you wanted our chapter to be and you succeeded in making it become the best chapter in the Twin Cities. You captured not only the respect of our kids, but their hearts as well. You taught them to believe in themselves as individuals, and you taught them the strength of what can be when they work together. You made our work as members of the Youth Commission a pleasure. Your passion in terms of what was best for the kids was intense and up-front in every decision you made. Thank you for all you have done and all you have given of yourself to our chapter and our kids. All of us on the Youth Commission as well as all the support staff wish you only the best and we want you to know you are a terrific leader and you will be very much missed.

Fondly,
Nancy Serber
(Youth Commission Chair, on behalf of the Youth Commission)

Our Youth

Sunday School

Update:

An Exciting Finish To A Successful Year

Sunday School is over for the summer and plans for next year are being made. We will discover Israel in depth and explore *Torah* stories. We will also celebrate the holidays through the year and learn a little Hebrew on the way.

I'm excited about going to the National CAJE conference this summer. It gives me an opportunity to study with Jewish leaders and teachers from around the United States. I will return inspired by teachers, leaders, and peers who have shared techniques, ideas, and resources. New materials that are introduced at the conference often give me great new ideas.

Next year, classes will begin on September 12, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Classes are for children in Kindergarten through Second Grade. Registration materials have been sent out and can be obtained from the synagogue office. Please call me at home (763-533-1888) if you have questions about the curriculum or specific concerns regarding your child's needs.

B'shalom

Jeanne Kaufman

Our Synagogue Family

Hospital Notices

We need to hear from you.

Due to federal regulations, we do not receive hospital notices. Please phone the office and let us know when a member of your family, friend, or member of the community is in the hospital or another health-care facility.



July Anniversaries

Edward & Rebecca Addis	65 years
Zollie & Shirley Baratz	59 years
Joseph & Nettie Beers	19 years
Burton & Sara Bernstein	10 years
Joel & Sherry Coffino	22 years
Bruce & Paula Freidson	30 years
Bradley & Elizabeth Kaplan	8 years
Ben & Claire Katz	56 years
Erving & Lisa London	31 years
Edward & Alice Mall	32 years
Norman & Addie Perl	58 years
Barry & Cindy Shear	21 years
David & Barbara Siegel	10 years
Sully & Heidi Tarshish	29 years
Robert & Irene Teitelbaum	53 years
Richard & Donna Wolfson	32 years
Max & Betty Zeman	50 years

August Anniversaries

Allan & Wendy Ackerman	6 years
Jack & Laureen Bleet	28 years
Robert & Kate Brill	29 years
Larry & Elayne Chiat	31 years
Neil & Ann Covin	36 years
Richard & Clarice Cutts	57 years
Harvey & Lois Edelstein	47 years
Haskel & Gerda Fishman	54 years
Steven & Susan Gerber	18 years
Stephen & Barbara Goldfarb	41 years
Warren Goldstein & Jeanne Astren	18 years
Allen & Shirley Greenstein	45 years
Marvin & Dorothy Haskvitz	55 years
Michael Hindin & Elaine Savick	25 years
Jack & Reva Horowitz	54 years
Ronald & Rita Kelner	27 years
Mark & Miriam Kieffer	28 years
Allan Klugman & Nancy Gildin	15 years
Mark & Roberta Mandel	48 years
Ross & Janis Markus	23 years
Bruce & Katherine Melemed	32 years
Joel & Deedra Muscoplat	30 years
Leonard & Serene Paletz	49 years
James & Gayle Rapoport	30 years
Hyman & Shirley Rosen	59 years
Bruce & Leslie Rosenberg	28 years
Jerry & Louise Rotman	50 years
Henry & Janice Rutman	58 years
Eugene & Sandra Scherling	43 years
Abe & Bailey Schwartz	65 years
Arthur & Patricia Sherman	32 years
Daniel & Rebecca Steinberg	2 years
Dennis & Nancy Vitoff	31 years
Loren & Renee Weinberg	35 years
Yefet & Robin Zadaka	26 years
Paul & Heidi Ziman	15 years

These couples will be offered an *aliyah* on the Saturday following their anniversary. If your anniversary is not listed, please call the synagogue office and let us know.

Our Synagogue Family

The following memorial plaques have been installed in the Memorial Alcove of the Fox Chapel:

Martin Perl Aron Dolinsky

Mazal tov to...

- ...Nessa and Marty Moldo on the birth of their grandson, Louis Foster Kraiemer, son of Andrea and Paul Kraiemer.
- ...Marilyn and Larry Reich on the birth of their granddaughter, Isabella Josie Hall, daughter of Dawn and Mark Hall.
- ...Michelle and Steve Parks on the birth of their daughter, Johnna Madeline Parks. Grandparents are Sandy and Jeff Rudoy and Barbara and Larry Parks, and great-grandmothers are Rose Kay and Betty Smithberg.
- ...Bobbi Brown on the marriage of her son, Jack to Deb Rodenkirch.
- ...Deanna Frieman, daughter of Steve Frieman and granddaughter of Fay and Marv Frieman, on graduating with honors from the University of Minnesota-Duluth. Deanna will be leaving for Pittsburgh to study costume design at Carnegie Mellon University School of Drama—Master of Fine Arts Program.

Condolences to...

- ...Linda Erlich and Annette Paletz on the death of their uncle, Albert Barke.
- ...Aryel Londer on the death of her grandmother, Eve Diker.
- ...Blanche Amar on the death of her mother, Helen Jurisz.
- ...Jeffrey Solle on the death of his father, Benjamin Solle.
- ...Nettie Beers on the death of her brother, Valentine Nemer.

"May their memories be an eternal blessing."

Our Community

Battle for the White House

How will it affect you?

Renowned and respected political analysts Paul Begala and Tucker Carlson, hosts of CNN's popular *Crossfire* television program, will debate the 2004 Presidential election at an event sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) on Tuesday, July 20, at 7:30 p.m. at Adath Jeshurun Congregation in Minnetonka. Join *Crossfire* hosts Begala and Carlson for an intimate reception and dinner at 5:30 p.m. followed by the program at 7:30 p.m. For event information, contact Zach Sussman at 612-338-7816.

Tzofim Friendship Caravan to Visit the Twin Cities

A 33-year tradition continues...

For the 33rd consecutive year, the Tzofim Friendship Caravan, a group of talented Israeli boys and girls, age 16-17, will visit the Twin Cities. The Tzofim Friendship Caravan, sponsored by the Friends of Israel Scouts, Inc., is part of a larger delegation of 500 Israel Scouts who, each summer, represent Israel at camps and communities across North America.

This summer, three Tzofim Friendship Caravans will travel throughout the United States, bringing Israeli culture to North America through free, lively musical programs of song and dance. Of their five free appearances around the Twin Cities that began July 9, three remain: Monday, July 12 at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Paul JCC; Tuesday, July 13 at 7:00 p.m. at Knollwood Place; and Wednesday, July 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lake Harriet Bandshell.

Attention U of M Students

Twin Cities residence halls now offer kosher meal plans!

Hillel, the Jewish Student Center at the University of Minnesota, is pleased to announce that, after several months of discussion and consultation with the University of Minnesota Dining Service, a kosher meal plan for residence hall students will be offered for the first time in Fall 2004. For more information, please contact the meal plan office at 612-624-0558 or online at www.umn.edu/dining.

THE SCROLL

Newsletter of

B'nai Emet Synagogue

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David L. Abramson.....Rabbi
Michael Winikoff.....Cantorial Soloist
Steven I. Greenberg ..Synagogue Administrator
Laura Brandys.....Education Director
Marilyn RichterEarly Childhood Director

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DATED MATERIAL!



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Use Scrip for All of Your Shopping Needs

You've seen it here on the back cover of the *Scroll*, you see signs in the entry as you come into the building, but you may not know what 'scrip' is, or why you should buy it. 'Scrip' is a gift certificate to any of the stores listed below. It's used just like cash, and can be given as a gift for a graduation, a *bar/bat mitzvah*, a new baby, an anniversary, a birthday, or any other event. When you buy 'scrip' at B'nai Emet, you support our fundraising efforts. So, fill your shopping cart with groceries and your wallet with 'scrip!'

- Cub Foods
- GAP Kids
- Baby GAP
- Kohl's
- JC Penney
- Bath & Body Works
- Old Navy
- Best Buy
- Home Depot
- Chili's
- Don Pablo
- Olive Garden
- Red Lobster
- TGI Friday's
- Big Bowl
- Italianni's
- Macaroni Grill
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- Maggiano's
- Timberlodge
- Ruby Tuesday's