



SCROLL

מגילה

Newsletter of B'nai Emet Synagogue

July 15–August 31, 2005

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8 Tammuz–27 Av 5765

From the Rabbi's Desk



This year will be the first in recent memory when *Tish'ah B'Av*, the mournful ninth day of the month of *Av*, will not occur during the summer camping season. The old joke is that if one

has attended Jewish summer camp, one knows about *Tish'ah B'Av*, and if one hasn't, *Tish'ah B'Av* is just an obscure holiday about which one knows very little.

Since the current Jewish year is a leap year, the additional month of *Adar* pushed the subsequent holidays later in relation to the secular calendar. Accordingly, *Tish'ah B'Av* will begin on Saturday night, August 13, and continue until the following night. The holiday traditionally begins with the chanting of *M'gillat Eikhah*, the Book of Lamentations, to the chant which is as beautiful as it is mournful. The rest of this evening-to-evening holiday is observed through fasting (and other forms of physical self-denial), as well as other mourning rituals and traditions.

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B'nai Emet Hires Cantor Art Shragg for the High Holy Days

B'nai Emet would like to welcome Hazzan Art Shragg, who will be our Cantor for the High Holy Days. Hazzan Shragg was born and raised in Minneapolis. He earned a degree in Jewish Studies from the University of Minnesota, studied in Israel at *Midreshet Y'rushalayim*, in Los Angeles at the University of Judaism, and in New York at the Jewish Theological Seminary, where he received his cantorial ordination. Hazzan Shragg served the pulpits of several distinguished congregations before returning home to the Twin Cities. His musical programs, especially his work with adult and youth choirs, have earned national recognition. Widely respected as an educator, he has lectured frequently in the field of Jewish Music and has performed in concert and on stage throughout Israel and the United States. Singing in B'nai Emet's Adult Choir and directing and producing its teen ensemble, "*Kol Emet*," were seminal opportunities and influences in his early music career and in his decision to become a cantor. Along with his wife, Judy, and children Lior and Nina, he is very excited to return to B'nai Emet.

Yasher Koah to Sean M. Murphy, B'nai Emet's New Administrator

Since he began work at B'nai Emet as Administrative Assistant in February of 2004, Sean has become a familiar presence in the office. Our members know him as an efficient, knowledgeable, personable go-to individual who can carry on a friendly conversation without missing a beat in his work.

B'nai Emet is proud to announce that, as of July 1, Sean has taken on the position of Administrator. He will be the staff person in charge of synagogue operations, including office, building, and kitchen. His extensive work for B'nai Emet in these areas, in addition to his previous education and work for Talmud Torah of St. Paul and Twin Cities Jewish Middle School, qualify him well for this position.

In his precious spare time, Sean writes speculative fiction, pursues his love of Vikings football, and enjoys the life of a newlywed with Katherine Carlson.

B'nai Emet looks forward to a long and productive association with Sean as our Administrator.

Do You Want to Participate in High Holy Days Services?

If you are interested in having an *aliyah* or otherwise participating in High Holy Days services, please call the synagogue main office at 952-927-7309 for a list of available honors or with any questions.

Upcoming Events

From the Rabbi's Desk *continued from page 1*

Tish 'ah B'Av is primarily associated with the destruction of the Temples—both the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem were destroyed on the ninth of *Av*—but the *Talmud* lists a number of tragic events that are said to have occurred on this date. In fact, *Tish 'ah B'Av* is the darkest day of the Jewish calendar; it is the day for commemorating innumerable tragedies in our long history and for contemplating the lessons that we continue to learn from these misfortunes.

Tish 'ah B'Av is preceded by a three-week period of semi-mourning (beginning with the seventeenth day of *Tammuz*, which the *Talmud* associates with another list of tragic events), the mourning restrictions become even more strict during the nine days preceding *Tish 'ah B'Av*, and even the *Shabbat* before *Tish 'ah B'Av* is marked by reminders of *Tish 'ah B'Av* and its associated tragedies. Thus, the period commonly known as the “Three Weeks” creates a crescendo of mourning associations, somber rituals and observances.

In a way, I'm glad that this year *Tish 'ah B'Av* occurs after the end of the Jewish camp season. As intense and meaningful as *Tish 'ah B'Av* is at Camp Ramah or Herzl Camp, it will be good for more of us to have an opportunity to observe—and learn about—this mournful season together. As easy as it might be, at first glance, to dismiss the *Tish 'ah B'Av* season as irrelevant to our contemporary Jewish lives, there are in fact many levels on which *Tish 'ah B'Av* and its surrounding days are as relevant and compelling today as they ever were. Keep an eye out for various forums this summer—*Shabbat* services, the B'nai Emet *Torah* Email, and others—where we can learn together about *Tish 'ah B'Av* and its significance—and mark your calendars for our congregational observance of *Tish 'ah B'Av*: Saturday night, August 13, at 9:00 p.m..

Rabbi David L. Abramson

Mark Your Calendars! Bar-B-Que!!!

Our annual Bar-B-Que will on Sunday, August 21, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Spend an evening schmoozing with friends while enjoying our delicious menu items cooked by our own chefs: Cliff Ancier, Harold Lederman, and Randy Rutzick! Bingo will follow dinner. See the flyer insert for more information and reservation details.

Come To the Bar-B-Que Early and Do a *Mitzvah*

B'nai Emet and the Memorial Blood Centers are hosting a blood drive in the B'nai Emet parking lot on Sunday, August 21 from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. Please fill out the form on the enclosed flyer and return it to the synagogue office, or contact Michelle Shapiro at 952-545-3466 or shap5@earthlink.net to schedule a time.

Also, our next blood drive will be on Thursday, December 8, from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Save the Date—Rejuvenate!

September 11 will be “A Day of Rejuvenation—A Day of Pampering” presented by Women's League. Watch the mail for your special invitation and all the information!

Kite Runner Will Be Focus of July Book Club

You are invited to attend the next meeting of the B'nai Emet Book Club, scheduled to take place on Monday, July 18, at 7:00 p.m. at Starbucks Coffee, 3850 Grand Way, St. Louis Park. The group will discuss *Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini. Everyone is welcome! Bring title suggestions for future meetings. You can email any questions to bonnie@bnaiemet.org.

Special Needs Inclusion Baking

The Special Needs/Inclusion Committee will have a fun evening of baking and schmoozing. If you're interested in baking sweets for people with sugar-restrictive diets, please join us on August 11 at 6:00 p.m. in the synagogue kitchen. Contact Miriam Kieffer at 763-557-9654.

Your neighbors need your help!

Add a little color to someone's day! Join Justice Squared as we scrape, prime, and paint homes of low-income senior and disabled homeowners during the Metro Paint-a-Thon on Sunday, August 7. This is a great family volunteer opportunity! To sign up or to receive more information, contact Michelle Shapiro at 952-545-3466 or email at shap5@earthlink.net. Justice Squared is the social justice program of the Jewish Community Relations Council.

Our New Presidents

Bonnie Berezovsky

Greetings to all of you as I begin two years of service to B'nai Emet Synagogue as co-president with Sari.

By way of introduction, I will tell you that my husband Bruce and I have been B'nai Emet members for more than 20 years and are active in many areas of synagogue life, including the daily *minyan*. Our three “kids” are all in their 20's. All grew up at B'nai Emet Synagogue. We have fond memories of many years of preschool, three *B'nai Mitzvah*, three Confirmations, countless USY plays, and one wedding. So far. Our daughter Becka Steinberg (married to Dan) teaches fourth grade at Minneapolis Jewish Day School, our son Jesse studies Physics at University of California Santa Barbara, and our daughter Maya studies Journalism at University of Minnesota. I work as Minnesota Senate Counsel—by the time this letter is published, I hope the legislature will have adjourned for the year!

I didn't start out to be a Synagogue President, much less a two-term President. It all began many years ago when Marty Schoenberger approached me in the Fingerhut Sanctuary on a *Shabbat* morning to talk to me about getting involved in synagogue leadership. Marty was a huge influence in my life. I like to think he would be proud of me for taking on this major commitment a second time, as he did. I don't do much at B'nai Emet without thinking of Marty and feeling his presence and support.

My first go-around with this position took place from 1999 to 2001. But then I was all alone; now, my co-president Sari will make sure it is never lonely at the top. I am looking forward to sharing the work, the joys, and the frustrations with Sari. I hope you will find us to be a good team. We are already busy brainstorming ways to make the next two years lively, successful, and satisfying for all of us at B'nai Emet.

Our success is in your hands. Tell us how to make B'nai Emet Synagogue work better for you. Talk to us. Write out your ideas and drop them in the new suggestion box outside the office. E-mail or phone us. Join us on *Shabbat*, at the daily *minyan*, and at programs and classes. Lend us your ideas, your enthusiasm and support. With all of you behind us, B'nai Emet's future can only be bright.

B'Shalom,

Bonnie Berezovsky

bonnie@bnaiemet.org

All Are Welcome

B'nai Emet Synagogue is committed to the inclusion of all people in synagogue activities. If accommodations for special needs would enhance or enable your participation in synagogue events, please contact the Special Needs/Inclusion Committee through the synagogue office.

Sari Lederman

As I reflect on the job I have committed to, I must also look at my past. Accepting the co-presidency for the next two years was not an easy decision for me. I know it will involve a lot of hard work, extra meetings, and time away from my family. I also know it is now time for me to step up to the plate and do what I can do for my synagogue. Adeel has done a wonderful job over the past two years leading us forward; we couldn't have asked for a more devoted president.

Most of you know who I am. If you don't, I look forward to getting to know you over the next two years. I have been a member of B'nai Emet all of my life; before the merger, I was a member of B'nai Abraham. My husband had been a member of Tiffereth B'nai Jacob, so the merger that created our *shul* is also a part of our family. My children have been involved in B'nai Emet all of their lives, and as my eldest moves on to college, I know that his strong beliefs took root at B'nai Emet. I am a full time Loan Officer, so when I'm not putting in time at the synagogue, I'll be growing my business.

As we look toward the next two years and further into the future of B'nai Emet, we must all look at ourselves and what each of us can do. We have a lot to do to insure the survival of our wonderful congregation. Each of us must step up to the plate and do what we can, whether it be financial support, volunteering on a committee, or any of a thousand other ways to help build an even stronger synagogue community. Everyone has an interest, and I am sure there is a way for us to put your talents to work at our *shul*.

B'nai Emet is the smallest conservative synagogue in the Twin Cities. Being small gives us some very positive attributes. Everyone knows you by name. Children can take on leadership roles here they might not in a big *shul*. You have the opportunity to lead services or read *Torah* on a regular basis. You can get involved and be heard within the synagogue. If you aren't on the General Board, you can still come to those meetings (we meet the third Thursday of the month). We want to know what you want to see at B'nai Emet.

We've planned some exciting upcoming events. Don't miss our annual Bar-B-Que, which is scheduled for August 21. On September 9 we have scheduled a musical *Kabbalat Shabbat* featuring Cantor Art Shragg, followed by a community *Shabbat* dinner. (Cantor Shragg will also be chanting our High Holy Day services this year, so you'll have a chance to hear his voice ahead of time at this special *Kabbalat Shabbat* service.) Come often to *Shabbat* morning services and stay for our *kiddush* luncheons following services.

Over the next two years, my co-president Bonnie and I will be successful only with your help. With all of the wonderful people that make up our congregation, I know we can be successful, and we're counting on your help and support. So when you get a call asking you to volunteer, say “Yes,” or better yet, call us before we call you. Together, we can make B'nai Emet the place to be.

Please email me with your questions or concerns. I would love to hear from you.

B'Shalom,

Sari Lederman

sari@bnaiemet.org

Services

Shabbat Service Schedule

Morning services conducted by Rabbi David L. Abramson ,
or where noted, Rabbi Barry Woolf

Shabbat Balak, July 15 & 16

Kabbalat Shabbat: Friday, 5:45 P.M.

Shabbat Shaḥarit: Saturday, 9:00 A.M.

Shabbat Minhah: 5:45 P.M.

Shabbat Pinḥas, July 22 & 23

Kabbalat Shabbat: Friday, 5:45 P.M.

Shabbat Shaḥarit: Saturday, 9:00 A.M.

Services Conducted by Rabbi Barry Woolf

Shabbat Minhah: 5:45 P.M.

Shabbat Mattot, July 29 & 30

Kabbalat Shabbat: Friday, 5:45 P.M.

Shabbat Shaḥarit: Saturday, 9:00 A.M.

Services Conducted by Rabbi Barry Woolf

Shabbat Minhah: 5:45 P.M.

Esther Biesse-Paskoff Bat Mitzvah

Shabbat Mas'ei, August 5 & 6

Kabbalat Shabbat: Friday, 5:45 P.M.

Shabbat Shaḥarit: Saturday, 9:00 A.M.

Services Conducted by Rabbi Barry Woolf

Shabbat Minhah: 5:45 P.M.

Shabbat Hazzon, August 12 & 13

Kabbalat Shabbat: Friday, 5:45 P.M.

Shabbat Shaḥarit: Saturday, 9:00 A.M.

Erev Tish'ah B'Av

Shabbat Minhah: 5:45 P.M.

Shabbat Va'et'hanan, August 19 & 20

Shabbat Nahamu

Kabbalat Shabbat: Friday, 5:45 P.M.

Shabbat Shaḥarit: Saturday, 9:00 A.M.

Shabbat Minhah: 5:45 P.M.

Matthew Confeld Bar Mitzvah

Shabbat Ekev, August 26 & 27

Kabbalat Shabbat: Friday, 5:45 P.M.

Shabbat Shaḥarit: Saturday, 9:00 A.M.

Isaac Ziman Bar Mitzvah

Shabbat Minhah: 5:45 P.M.

For Your Info

Candle Lighting

July 15 8:40 p.m.

July 22 8:33 p.m.

July 29 8:26 p.m.

August 5 8:18 p.m.

August 12 8:07 p.m.

August 19 7:56 p.m.

August 26 7:44 p.m.

Daily Service Schedule

Shaḥarit:

Monday–Friday 7:30 A.M.

Shabbat, Sunday &

Holidays 9:00 A.M.

Minḥah/Ma'ariv

(Saturdays, *Minḥah* only)

Daily 5:45 P.M.

Attention Singers!

The B'nai Emet Choir wants YOU!

We are looking for female sopranos with experience in formal singing and sight-reading to audition for the choir for this year's High Holy Days services. If interested, please contact the director, Stewart Ross, at 507-381-7515 or via e-mail at stewart.ross@mnsu.edu.

Scroll Deadline

Monday, August 8 for the
September 1 issue

That issue will cover from
September 1 through
October 13, 2005.

Please plan accordingly!

Our B'nai Mitzvah

Esther Biesse-Paskoff will be called to the *Torah* as a *bat mitzvah* during the *Minhah* service on *Shabbat* evening, July 30. Her *Torah* portion is *Mas'ei*.

Esther is the daughter of Philippe & Ronna Biesse-Paskoff; sister of Rachel and Ari; and granddaughter of Reynold and the late Diana Paskoff, and Pierre Biesse and Carmen Biesse-Segura.



Matthew Ian Confeld will be called to the *Torah* as a *bar mitzvah* during *Minhah* services on *Shabbat* afternoon, August 20. His *Torah* portion is *Ekev*.

Matt was a sixth grade 'A' honor roll student at Howard

Lake-Waverly-Winsted Middle School. His extracurricular activities and hobbies include golf, baseball, basketball, Boy Scouts, fishing, playing the trombone, and being a part of the Student Council.

Matt is the son of Harriet Confeld and Kent and Freda (Kramer) Confeld; brother of Michele, Jonathan, and David; and grandson of Sylvia & Leo Niedorf and Mort and the late Sherley Confeld.



Aaron Daniel Ziman will be called to the *Torah* as a *bar mitzvah* during *Shaharit* services on *Shabbat* morning, August 27. His *Torah* portion is *Ekev*.

Aaron will be entering seventh

grade at Hopkins North Junior High, has completed grade *Dalet* at Talmud Torah, is an avid sports enthusiast and loves most sports, but especially basketball (he plays for 'Magic Elite'). He enjoys his summers at Camp Ramah.

Aaron is the son of Heidi and Paul Ziman; brother to Isaac and Moriah; grandson of Ruth & Fred Ziman and Dorothy & Richard Winer.

Our Synagogue

Farewell to Roosevelt Edwards

B'nai Emet has bidden a fond farewell to Roosevelt Edwards, who resigned his employment as B'nai Emet Custodian as of June 30. In his years with B'nai Emet, Roosevelt was a valued employee who has kept the building and grounds clean and in good repair. Roosevelt and his wife have decided to move to Greensboro, Mississippi, where they have a house and family waiting for them. Best of luck to Roosevelt in all his future endeavors.

The details of an agreement with our new custodian were being finalized as this edition of *The Scroll* went to press. Look for information in the next issue of *The Scroll*.

Extra, Extra! \$15 Lost!

Are you in the habit of throwing money away? Do you usually put money in your wastebasket? Are you aware that that's just what you may have done last month? You might have put \$15 in your trash!

Last month the B'nai Emet Judaica Shop sent every member a postcard worth \$15 to be used on merchandise. You could use \$10 on any regular priced item and an additional \$5 on any item that was already discounted. Only a handful of customers took advantage of this offer. In fact, some even received their purchases for free! The rest of you threw your money away.

A local women's clothing store occasionally sends out postcards with the same type of cash offers and its customers find great savings when they use them. The Judaica Shop has great merchandise for you to use now or save for a later gift. The Judaica Shop has wonderful gifts for new babies, children's birthdays, *b'nai mitzvah* celebrations, graduations and confirmations, showers and weddings, new homes, holidays, hostesses, and any other occasion. Check it out! New merchandise will be arriving before the High Holidays.

So next time you receive a postcard worth money—redeem it—don't throw it out!! Help yourself and the synagogue at the same time!

Sincerely,
Carole Harris

Calendar Clippings

Sunday, July 24	17 <i>Tammuz</i> (minor fast day)
Saturday, August 13	<i>Erev Tish'ah B'Av</i> Service & <i>M'gillat Eikhah</i> reading
Sunday, August 14	<i>Tish'ah B'Av</i> (major fast day)
Sunday, August 21	B'nai Emet Blood Drive & Annual Bar-B-Que

Our Synagogue



Nu? In the Library?

Your donations to the Farb Family Library Fund help us to increase our collection of library materials. This month's highlighted books were donated to the library by various members.

📖 *Beyond Belief: The American Press and the Coming of the Holocaust, 1933-1945*, Deborah Lipstadt.

Noted Holocaust scholar Deborah Lipstadt describes the role of the American press in providing information about the Holocaust during World War II. While many newspapers knew of European persecution and atrocities, coverage was often back-page material due to anti-Semitism, isolationism, and pressure by the American government. Her disturbing conclusions about the failure of the press at that time are applicable to today's issues of the role of the press in publicizing and shaping world events.

📖 *An Hour in Paradise*, Joan Leegant. Ten short stories on Jewish themes comprise this enjoyable and insightful debut collection. The first story, "The Tenth," tells the story of an elderly Boston rabbi and his encounter with a divine force. The story begins, "After 51 years as a rabbi, Samuel Steele had believed until that morning that when it came to the often elusive tenth man needed to complete a *minyan*, he had seen everything."

📖 *Survival in Auschwitz*, Primo Levi. This classic work of Holocaust literature, originally titled *If This Is a Man*, tells the story of Primo Levi, an Italian Jewish chemist, who was deported from his native Turin to Auschwitz. His memoir of living and dying in Auschwitz is beautifully written, horrifyingly sad, and intense.

Our Youth



B'nai Emet Early Childhood Department

The Early Childhood Department is having a wonderful, fun-filled summer at Camp Ahava. The summer of 2005 has provided the many children attending Camp Ahava with a variety of activities such as arts and crafts, sports, water play, drama, and even baking *Shabbat hallah!* In addition to our fabulous daily activities, special visitors are enhancing our program even further. The children are enjoying exciting special events including pony rides, a puppeteer, a visiting petting zoo, and a magician. Thanks to our summer staff: Eileen Kopman, Suzie Nemer, Marta Otero, Abby Wolfson, Jessica Averbach, Eloise Gershone, and Sandy Rudoy (Camp Ahava Coordinator).

Todah rabbah to all our Metro Dining Club card customers. Sales have soared for our annual fundraiser, thanks to our generous families and the community at large. Proceeds go directly to the Early Childhood Department to offset expenses.

B'nai Emet is the perfect place to begin your child's or grandchild's Jewish education. Our B'nai Emet Early Childhood Department offers enriching integrated Jewish and secular curriculum in classes for children aged 16 months through age 5 (Pre-Kindergarten). The Early Childhood Staff is looking forward to a great school year. We have limited fall openings for children in a few of our classes. Please contact Marilyn Richter at 952-927-8443 weekday mornings for information and application materials.

Shabbat School Update

We hope everyone is having an enjoyable summer and engaging in wonderful *Shabbat* experiences in Israel, Herzl Camp, Camp Ramah, at home, or wherever your travels take you.

Shabbat School calendars, staff contracts, student and staff expectations, and school policies will be sent out in early August. The first day of Shabbat School will be September 10, from 9:30 - 12:00 (**note time change from previous years**). Parent Orientation will take place on *Shabbat* morning, September 24, from 9:45-10:30. Registration forms have been sent out and should be returned by August 1st so we can begin planning for the school year.

We are happy to bring back many of our outstanding staff from last year, and welcome the incoming 9th graders as Shabbat School tutors. We also welcome our incoming *Alef* students, 4th or 5th graders celebrating their *b'nai mitzvah* in 2008. If you will be celebrating your *bar* or *bat mitzvah* in 2007 or 2008 and have not set a date yet, please contact Rabbi Abramson as soon as possible. All students need dates in order to learn their individual *Torah* and *Haftarah* portions.

We anticipate another wonderful year in Shabbat School learning and praying together, and celebrating *b'nai mitzvah* and holidays with our families and friends.

B'Shalom,
Laura Brandys, Education Director

Our Youth

Sunday School Update

Sunday School classes for this year will begin September 11. Classes are held from 9:30-11:30 a.m. most Sunday mornings through the school year for children in kindergarten to second grade.

This year's curriculum will be based on the *Alef-Bet*. Our materials (*Now I Know My Alef-Bet*) will help students to recognize the letters and sounds. The students will learn a couple of words that begin with each letter and are related to Judaism, holidays, and families. We will also have a unit on God, which I like because there is so much discussion and exploration. We mix stories, songs, games, crafts, and different exploratory activities for all ages to create a learning experience that can be followed up at home with discussions and various follow-up activities.

We will have five family programs designed not only for Sunday School families but also for any B'nai Emet family with children ages 5 to 8.

If you know anyone who might be interested in B'nai Emet Sunday School please have him or her call the synagogue office at 952-927-7309 for more information and registration materials.

B'Shalom,
Jeanne Kaufman

Feedback Forum Letters to the Synagogue

To B'nai Emet Synagogue:

I want to thank you from the bottom of my heart for making my recent two months in Israel possible. I attended the Alexander Muss High School in Israel, and it was an incredible program. I now feel a much stronger connection to Israel and a stronger Jewish connection. I grew significantly as a person. I learned an immense amount of information, and had the time of my life. Without the financial assistance I received from your scholarship program, this might not have been a reality to me. So thank you again, because it is scholarships like yours that change the lives of kids, and make dreams become realities.

Sincerely,
Max Paletz

USY Elects New Board, Wishes Seniors Farewell



New Board Members, from left to right: Lauren Rutzick, Jacki Shear, Devorah Lederman, Ben Slutsker, Abby Cooper, Naomi Zadaka, Brad Serber, and Brian Erlich.

The USY Final Banquet was held on May 24, and a wonderful time was had by all. We spent most of the evening welcoming in the new USY Board (pictured above). Next year, they will help take our chapter to new heights. We will begin next year with 35 outstanding members—a great number to build on!

We also said goodbye to our wonderful seniors (pictured below). We wish them the very best in their future endeavors!

B'Shalom,
Jessica Averbach, Youth Director



Graduating Seniors, from left to right: Aaron Graf, Stephen Lederman, Orrie Chazin, Max Paletz, and Aliza Bach.

Our Youth

Brad Serber Takes Over USY Presidency

After a tremendous year under the leadership of Stephen Lederman, president, and his board, and under the excellent guidance of youth director Jessica Averbach, B'nai Emet Synagogue Youth is excited to plunge into a new year of successful youth activity.

BESY is in good hands. The new president, Brad Serber, is a bright, talented, and dedicated leader. Brad was elected by his fellow USYers at CMT at Cragun's this past May. He was installed as president at the recent USY final banquet.

Brad is enjoying his ninth summer at Herzl Camp, this year as an *Ozo* (counselor-in-training). Beginning in September, he will be a senior at Armstrong High School. He will continue to take classes at North Hennepin Community College as part of the post-secondary enrollment options program, and he plans to continue his studies at Talmud Torah. Brad is a teacher in our Shabbat School, and a frequent *Torah* reader and participant/leader in services.

With dedication that goes beyond the B'nai Emet congregation, Brad was awarded the prestigious Howie Stillman leadership award, in recognition of his outstanding Jewish community involvement, including his contributions to USY.

Brad is looking forward to the coming year in USY. His goals are to increase members' commitment and activity within the chapter, to use technology to improve communication, and to make sure everyone who participates in USY enjoys the experience.

Presidential parents Nancy and Steve Serber are proud of Brad and of his siblings Jenny, Brian, and Debbie. This amazing family includes our current youth commission chair, past BESY presidents, and B'nai Emet youth advisers. Nancy and Steve are also the co-presidents of our Mishpacha group.

Brad, we are so proud of you! Your synagogue is behind you all the way. We wish luck and great success to you and your outstanding incoming USY board.

Our Family

The Congregant Kibbitz Corner Meet Avi Comay

Avi is a native of Israel but has lived in the U.S. most of his adult life. He came to Minneapolis 11 years ago from Indiana. Avi received a Masters Degree in Computer Science in Indiana and currently works for United Health Group. He and his wife Judy moved to Minneapolis when their three kids were still very young. They remember that it was difficult being new to a community and having no family near to help. Now, Stav is thirteen and recently celebrated her *bat mitzvah* at B'nai Emet. Their twins, Shai and Matan, are twelve years old and have *b'nai mitzvah* coming up this year.

Avi and his family have been members of B'nai Emet for three years. They joined B'nai Emet because of its comfortable and relaxed environment. When asked if they like living in Minnesota, Judy and Avi looked at each other debating whether they should tell the truth. Finally they agreed that it's a great place to raise a family, but that they could do without some of the weather!

(Interview by Michelle Shapiro)

Mazal tov to ...

- ... Nathan Cera, son of David & Susan Cera, a *Yav* Student at Minneapolis Talmud Torah, who passed the regional Bible Contest exam and qualified to compete in the national contest in New York.
- ...Ryan Brodsky and all of his family on his recent *bar mitzvah*.
- ...Sarah Kudishevich and all of her family on her recent *bat mitzvah*.
- ...Lauren Paletz and all of her family on her recent *bat mitzvah*.
- ...Katherine & Richard Reinach on their recent wedding, as well as to Kathy's parents, Gene and Sandy Scherling.

Condolences

- We extend our condolences to Susan Gerber on the death of her mother, Orel Held, and to all of her family.
- We mourn the death of our member, Edward Kreamer, and extend our condolences to all of his family.
- We extend our condolences to Audrey & Paul Estrin on the death of their stepsister/sister-in-law, and to Bonnie Berezovsky on the death of her aunt, Sybil Estrin.
- We extend our condolences to Irwin Brodsky, on the death of his brother, Samuel Brodsky.

Our Family

July 15-31 Anniversaries

Edward & Rebecca Addis	66 years
Zollie & Shirley Baratz	60 years
Bradley & Elizabeth Kaplan	9 years
Ben & Claire Katz	57 years
Edward & Alice Mall	33 years
Max & Betty Zeman	51 years

August Anniversaries

Harvey & Lois Edelstein	48 years
Haskel & Gerda Fishman	55 years
Steven & Susan Gerber	19 years
Stephen & Barbara Goldfarb	42 years
Warren Goldstein & Jeanne Astren	19 years
Allen & Shirley Greenstein	46 years
Marvin & Dorothy Haskvitz	56 years
Daniel & Harriet Hilecher	1 year
Michael Hindin & Elaine Savick	26 years
Jack & Reva Horowitz	55 years
Ronald & Rita Kerner	28 years
Mark & Miriam Kieffer	29 years
Mark & Roberta Mandel	49 years
Ross & Jan Markus	24 years
Bruce & Katherine Melemed	33 years
Leonard & Serene Paletz	50 years
James & Gayle Rapoport	31 years
Hyman & Shirley Rosen	60 years
Bruce & Leslie Rosenberg	29 years
Jerry & Louise Rotman	51 years
Henry & Janice Rutman	59 years
Eugene & Sandra Scherling	44 years
Abe & Bailey Schwartz	66 years
Arthur & Patricia Sherman	33 years
Daniel & Rebecca Steinberg	3 years
Dennis & Nancy Vitoff	32 years
Loren & Renee Weinberg	36 years
Yefet & Robin Zadaka	27 years
Paul & Heidi Ziman	16 years

If your anniversary is not listed, please call the synagogue office and let us know.

Hospital Notices

We need to hear from you.

Due to federal regulations, we no longer 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 other health-care facility.

Our Community

Stuff for School

The annual Stuff for School (S4S) project of the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW), Greater Minneapolis Section, is underway! S4S is NCJW's annual community service project that provides school supplies and books to economically disadvantaged students in the Minneapolis Public Schools. Of the nearly 45,000 students currently in the Minneapolis schools, 66% live at or below the poverty level. These children come from families where food, shelter and clothing take priority over school supplies. If you would like to volunteer for this worthwhile cause or to make donations to help a student in need, please contact Sherri Feuer at 952-546-4512 or by email at Feuerslf@aol.com, or Cindy Amberger at 952-936-9226 or chamberger@earthlink.net, for more information.

Twin Cities Employment Collaborative

10:00-11:30 A.M., Tues., July 19 and August 2 & 16, at Jewish Vocational Service, 13100 Wayzata Blvd., Minnetonka
11:00 A.M.-Noon, Thu., July 28, August 11 & 25, at the Sabes JCC, 4330 S. Cedar Lake Road, Minneapolis

The goal of the Twin Cities Employment Collaborative is to provide job-search related information, networking opportunities, and emotional support for people looking for employment. There is no fee and reservations are not necessary. For more information, contact Ardis Wexler, JVS Career Development Program Coordinator at 952-417-2117.

Florence Melton Adult Mini-School Fall Class Open for Enrollment

- ✧ Gain personal insights into what Judaism is.
- ✧ Think, consider, and reconsider the meanings of Judaism from a variety of perspectives.
- ✧ Enhance your understanding of what it means to be Jewish.
- ✧ Focus on important issues of personal values and community needs.
- ✧ Connect with others who are also exploring their Jewish identity.
- ✧ Join others from their 20's to their 80's in lively dialogue and interactive learning.

The Florence Melton Adult Mini School is not your parents' after school program. It's an extension of The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, a two-year (30 weeks each year) program from which graduates receive a certificate of completion from The Hebrew University of Jerusalem. All coursework is CEU eligible, and the certificate of completion can be applied to licensure in Jewish education through the Jewish Educational Services of North America (JESNA).

Classes meet from 7:00 to 9:30 in the evening at the Sabes JCC (Mondays) or St. Paul JCC (Tuesdays). Each class is one hour long with a break in between. The starting date for this year's program is Monday, September 19. Instructors are Sara Lynn Newberger and Robert Portnoe. Cost for the year is \$500 for a Twin Cities Melton Consortium member and \$600 for a non-member. Payment plans can be arranged. There is a \$45 materials fee. To find out more about this international program, go to www.fmams.org.il, or contact Sheryl Gross at 651-255-4739 or by email at sgross@stpauljcc.org.

THE SCROLL

Newsletter of

B'nai Emet Synagogue

3115 Ottawa Avenue South

St. Louis Park, MN 55416

Phone: 952-927-7309 • FAX: 952-927-0179

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Michael Winikoff.....Cantorial Soloist
Sean M. MurphySynagogue Administrator
Laura Brandys.....Education Director
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Marilyn RichterEarly Childhood Director

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Bradley SerberUSY President

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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 wallet with scrip and your shopping cart with groceries and gifts!

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- Olive Garden
- Panera
- Rainbow
- Red Lobster
- Red Robin
- Ruby Tuesday
- TGI Friday's
- Timberlodge