



# Beth Israel – The West Temple BULLETIN

December 2003 – Kislev/Tevet 5764

## Our Mission ☆

*To be a center of worship  
and vital community life  
where Jews and their  
families from Cleveland's  
western communities learn  
Jewish traditions and values,  
develop their Jewish identity,  
and assure the continuity  
of Jewish life.*

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## President's Message: The Gala is Coming! ☆

*Now is the time for all good congregants to come to the aid of their Gala!*

Even though the Big Event – our bi-annual fund-raising bash – is months away (May), the work begins NOW. As with every fund-raising effort at Beth Israel, our goal is **100% participation** – so find your niche and get involved!

Here's the menu of options:

**CAST AND CREW** – Yes, there will be another amazing, touching, hysterical, and always memorable **Feldman/Rosen Production** this year! The casting call will go out in January, and rehearsals will begin under the able direction of **Diana Strongosky**. Of course, you can't have a show without sets, props, costumes, accompaniment, etc. Can you design, build, or donate them? We need **YOU!**

**REFRESHMENTS** – What's a Gala without **wonderful wine, nummy nosherei, and decadent desserts**? Can you donate your homemade specialty? Do you have favorite restaurants, bakeries, caterers who might be willing to contribute – in return for a place in our hearts and our program? Start talking to them **NOW** so we can get our menu set well in advance. Wouldn't it be fun to have **recipes**, too?

**DECORATIONS** – Oooooohs and aaaahs are the order of the evening at Gala time. Be part of the team that makes this a truly beautiful and elegant event. Can you donate decorations, paper goods, favors, etc.? We need you!

**INVITATIONS and PROGRAMS** – Do you have a flair for writing or design? Here's a great chance to put your skills to work and give the Gala just the right image to attract a sell-out crowd. We'll need a printer and a team to fold, stuff, and label, too!

**PR/PUBLICITY** – Help get the word out about this sensational event. Use your skills to keep Beth Israel in the limelight and attract more interest and members.

**BASKET RAFFLE** – There are so many creative ideas/themes for baskets, they are fun to source and assemble, and they are a **very** successful fund-raiser at the Gala. Start thinking about a basket or two that you can design and donate. Better yet – partner with a friend and work together on a basket project.

**GALA STAFF** – The backbone of a successful event is a strong team for set up, staffing, and clean up on the day and evening of the Gala. Your help will make it happen!

**Our goal for the 2004 Gala is to raise \$X,000.** This can only happen with the energy and involvement of all of our members and friends. You have a role to play in its success. Contact **Linda Schertzer** or **Laura Green Stout**, our co-vice presidents in charge of fund raising. They're eager to hear from you and to get the ball rolling for another **GREAT GALA**.

Shalom,  
Maryellen Cudney  
President – Board of Trustees

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## Rabbi's Letter ☆

I have written and spoken a number of times about how Chanukah does not compare in its importance in the Jewish tradition with the importance of Christmas in the Christian tradition. Traditionally, Chanukah is a minor holiday – indeed, it isn't even in the Bible and is the only such holiday in our calendar (with the exception of the new holidays of Yom HaShoah [Holocaust Memorial Day] and Yom HaAtzmaut [Israel Independence Day]).

Its importance, and the high number of American Jews who celebrate it (especially compared to other “more important” holidays like Sukkot and Shavuot) is due to its timing in December – near the Christmas holidays. (See page 3 for information on the discussion sessions we will be holding on what many call the “December Dilemma,” particularly – though not exclusively – for intermarried couples both before and after the holidays.)

But it isn't only in America that Chanukah is celebrated with more attention than it traditionally deserves. At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and through the 20<sup>th</sup>, Zionists who badly needed examples of Jewish ancestors who fought for our freedom in the Land of Israel focused on the Maccabees – for throughout most of Jewish history, our ancestors were passive victims in many different parts of the world. So in the contemporary State of Israel, schools are closed for Chanukah, (which explains why Jean and I have chosen that time to visit our children and grandchildren in their new home near Beersheba). Recently I came across a speech delivered by Leonard Fein, the founding editor of *Moment* magazine and the founder of Mazon, the Jewish response to hunger. I was so moved by what he had to say that I want to share with you a short excerpt (the full speech will be available on the bulletin board in Ratner Hall).

Speaking of the terrorism and challenges of life in Israel, he says, “There are Jews, these days, who have grown weary... We have them all – indifferent Jews and angry Jews, right-wing Jews and left-wing Jews and perhaps most of all confused, uncertain Jews...

“What is at stake today in our relationship with Israel is not how we respond to this morning's headlines or tomorrow's. What is at stake is...our capacity to dream. Since our very inception, we have been a people of dreamers. And above all our other dreams has been our dream of the end of days, of a promised time ...of the swords being beaten into plowshares and the spears into pruning hooks...of justice in the gates of the city...And I tell you with every ounce of conviction that I have that the day we give up on that...promise, we lose our...capacity for survival...

“The State of Israel is the boldest and the most challenging project of the Jewish people in our time...In the work of sustaining the dream, we and our kinfolk in Israel are blood brothers and sisters...With all its tensions and with all its traumas, the homeland we call Israel remains...the Jewish people's refutation of despair.

“The real question that daily confronts us all, Israelis and Diaspora Jews alike, is whether we have grown too tired..., whether the realization that our State, like our people, is imperfect, leads us to abandon the project or induces us to redouble our efforts. In my view, the choice is obvious...we keep at it, we stiff-necked people, because the stakes, beginning with our own self-respect, are so very high.

“Other generations of Jews have been tested in other ways (*think of the Maccabees*), and others still, too many others, were never given the chance to choose. What is at stake in the challenge before us, before our generation...is the character of the Jewish people... Our parents and our grandparents...had every excuse to wallow in the ashes, to weep and to wail by the banks of the Danube or the Jordan or the Hudson; instead, they rose up and laid the foundations of the Jewish state. And we? We have no excuse at all. We have only the challenge, the promise of a wakeful dream. I believe we mean to keep that promise. I pray we do.” And I can only add: Amen.

Have a very happy Chanukah – and may its celebration inspire you to “dedicate” or “rededicate” (*that's what the word Chanukah means*) yourself to do all you can to keep the dream of the People and the State of Israel alive.

*Rabbi Lettovsky*

## Education Notes ☆

*"Chanukah, O Chanukah, A festival of joy..."*

As we enter the month of December, our thoughts turn to the holiday of Chanukah. In the 1990 Jewish Population Study, when asked which Jewish holidays they celebrated and how, most respondents answered with family seders for Passover and lighting the menorah for Chanukah. Traditionally, Chanukah is not considered a major holiday in the Jewish year and... we actually exchange gifts during the holiday of Purim! But as time went on, and the larger holiday celebrations went on around us, Chanukah took on greater importance and a larger meaning. Interestingly enough, today's challenges of being Jewish in the larger non-Jewish world brings us full-circle to the original Maccabean struggle with assimilation.

Adults and children alike will have a number of opportunities this month to learn more about and explore the identity issues around the celebration of Chanukah – Tot Shabbat, Parent Talk, Pre-Chanukah Assembly, Unity Choir at Tower City, Chanukah/Shared Shabbat Services. Hope you can join us as we learn and celebrate together.

Enid C. Lader, Director  
Congregational & Family Education  
Community Funded Position

### Chanukah Tot Shabbat

**Saturday, December 6 (10:30 a.m.)**

Parents and tots (toddlers through our Kinder-Class) are invited to join in the Shabbat and Chanukah fun as we sing songs, share a Torah story, make ourselves into Dancing Dreidels, and enjoy a festive Kiddush.

*RSVP to the temple office (216-941-8882).*

## Chanukah Events Sunday, December 14

*Parent Talk with Rabbi Lettofsky  
Vicky's Café (10:15 a.m.)*

*"Chanukah and Christmas in Inter-Faith Families:  
Exploring the Questions and Challenges of the  
Season."*

*All-School Pre-Chanukah Assembly  
Sanctuary (11:30 a.m.)*

All students and parents will come together as each class offers a special Chanukah presentation. Sufganyot for all following the assembly.

*Unity Choir Performs  
Tower City (1:00 p.m.)*

Come lend your support to our 2<sup>nd</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup> graders as they join voices with over 150 children across the religious spectrum of Cleveland's Jewish community in a concert of music for Chanukah.

**Annual Latke Supper (6:00 p.m.) [See insert]**

**Shared Shabbat and Chanukah Service  
Friday, December 19 (7:30 p.m.)**



Bring your menorahs as we celebrate Shabbat and the first night of Chanukah...

Featuring our special guests:  
The Gospel Choir from St. Paul's AME Church will join us in singing Chanukah songs ... and singing some selections on their own.

Followed by a festive Oneg.

### Religious School's Winter Break

No Classes December 21, 23, 28, 30  
(Classes Resume – January 4, 2004)



## Torah Talk ☆

*Torah Study continues each Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m. Join us as we explore family dynamics, sibling rivalry, sexual favors denied, palace intrigue, prison blues, and the rise to the top... And it's not on daytime TV!*

### Dec. 6– Vayetze – Gen. 28:10-32:3

Jacob sets out from Be'er Sheva and travels to Haran to seek a wife from his mother's family. He spends the night at Beth El and dreams of a ladder reaching to heaven, with angels moving up and down on it... and with God at its top. Jacob is surprised at God's presence in this place – "God was in this place and I, I did not know it." What does it take for us to be aware of God's presence?

### Dec. 13– Vayishlach – Gen. 32:4-36:43

With wives and children in hand, Jacob returns to his home, finding Esau waiting for him on the way. Jacob wrestles with a man... an angel... his

thoughts... God??? And in doing so, provides a model for us of struggle with God and the difficulties in our lives.

### Dec. 20– Vayeshev – Gen. 37:1-40:23

From this parashah through the end of Genesis, the Torah tells the story of Joseph beginning with the favoritism shown to him by his father. Jacob's first born is Reuben, yet Joseph, number eleven, is the one who will be heir to his father's position in the line that began with Abraham; Jacob's will is the future of the family... and the Jewish people.

### Dec. 27– Miketz – 41:1-44:17

When no one is able (or wants) to interpret Pharaoh's dreams, Pharaoh's cupbearer remembers Joseph (who has been in prison all this time). Joseph is called to provide an interpretation and offers some practical advice regarding the future food shortage. Joseph rises to the position of vizier, marries, has two sons, and the famine begins... and brothers will be reunited, but Joseph has the upper hand this time...

## PRACTICAL FINANCIAL PLANNING

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private school (K-12)?  
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## **The Book Corner ☆**

By R.S. Roth

### ***A PICTURE OF GRANDMOTHER***

By Esther Hautzig

(Ages 9 - 12)

Set in pre-war Vilna and seen through the eyes of a child named Sara, this book portrays a cultivated Jewish family who were part of a thriving community on the eve of unthinkable disaster.

### ***THE LIFE AND DEATH OF ADOLPH HITLER***

By James C. Giblin

(Ages 12 - 15)

This outstanding biography of the twentieth century's greatest monster includes information about his legacy of hatred, which is carried on today by neo-Nazis and skinheads.

### ***THE KID'S CARTOON BIBLE***

By Chaya M. Burnstein

(Ages 6 and up)

Award-winning author-illustrator Chaya Burnstein combines her talents as storyteller and artist to bring alive the Bible to young readers. Opening with The Five Books of Moses, her colorful and imaginative drawings vividly tell the story of the earth's creation, Moses' triumphs over Pharaoh's magicians, the building of the first Temple, the long journey through the desert, and God's blessing of Joshua before the deliverance to the promised land.

### ***RACHEL'S GIFT***

By Richard Ungar

(Ages 7 and up)

Spring has come to the fabled town of Chelm, and everyone is making things clean and fresh for Passover. At Rachel's home, a special gift has arrived: Bubbie from Bialistok has sent along the

recipe for her amazing matzo ball soup. Rachel's mother is thrilled. Maybe the fragrance of the soup will lure Elijah the prophet to their poor home, and he will bestow good fortune on them.

### ***THE BOOK OF KLEZMER: The History, The Music, The Folklore***

By Yale Strom

Klezmer is Yiddish music, the music of the Jews of Europe and America, a music of laughter and tears, of weddings and festivals, of dancing and prayer. Born in the Middle Ages, it came of age in the 'shetl' (the Eastern European country town), where "a wedding without klezmer is worse than a funeral without tears." Klezmer has been reborn, with dozens of groups, often mixing klezmer with jazz or rock, gaining large followings throughout the world.

### ***SCHINDLER'S LIST (A two-part video)***

*Schindler's List*, a Steven Spielberg film, is a cinematic masterpiece that has become one of the most honored films of all time. The film presents the incredible true story of the enigmatic Oskar Schindler, a member of the Nazi party, womanizer, and war profiteer who saved the lives of more than 1,100 Jews during the Holocaust.

### ***THE TIME OF OUR LIVES: A Teen Guide to the Jewish Life Cycle***

By Nina Cardin

(Ages 11 - 13)

*The Time of Our Lives* artfully brings the Jewish lifecycle alive for 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> graders, in terms that will inspire their interest.

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## December Celebrations ☆

### Birthdays

(12/7) Jillian Kaufman - 12th  
(12/9) Kathleen Fullerton - 6th  
(12/12) Joel Pendery - 18th  
(12/14) Victoria Belanger - 16th  
(12/16) Cameron Ashley Hoffman - 1st  
(12/16) Trevor J. Levin - 7th  
(12/22) Alex Keller - 16th

### Anniversaries

(12/3) Mr. & Mrs. John Goodworth - 26th  
(12/10) Mr. & Mrs. Don Bogart - 53rd  
(12/10) Dr. & Mrs. Arnon Chait - 20th  
(12/12) Mr. & Mrs. Mark Atzenhoffer - 10th  
(12/13) Mr. & Mrs. Edward Folkman - 28th  
(12/15) Mr. & Mrs. Sandu Leibovici - 18th  
(12/19) Mr. & Mrs. Robert Goldberg - 4th  
(12/22) Mr. & Mrs. Martin Rosenberg - 2nd  
(12/24) Dr. & Mrs. Theodore Provder - 42nd  
(12/27) Mr. & Mrs. Michael Gillam - 17th  
(12/31) Mr. & Mrs. James Feldman - 36th

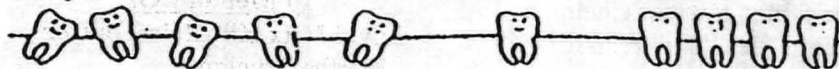
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## **Yahrzeiten ☆**

### **November 30 - December 6, 11 Kislev**

- 11/30 James Curran (Dee Lazarus)  
11/30 Dan Samuelson (I. Lowell & Marilyn Grossman)  
11/30 Marion Weidenfeld  
12/1 Sarah Pallik (Harold & Ruth Friedman)  
12/2 Michael Button (Susan Button-Winsa)  
12/2 Mordecai Klein (Robert & Kati Roth)  
12/3 Rose Hertzberg (Fredric & Thelma Goldberg)  
12/3 Helen Klein (Robert & Kati Roth)  
12/4 Nathan Alterovitz (Samuel & Dalia Alterovitz)  
12/4 Rose Wexler (Leonard S. Singer)  
12/5 Meyer Jaffe (Michael & Beryl Palnik)

### **December 7-13, 18 Kislev**

- 12/9 Fannie Melnick (Braanda & Barbara Schwartz)  
12/13 Samuel Donofrio Bruckman (David & Mimi Bruckman)  
12/13 Oscar Sattinger (Sidney & Lisa Feldman)

### **December 14-20, 25 Kislev**

- 12/14 Riva Posternak (Regina Olbinsky & Jack Garforth)  
12/14 Lida Smole (Maria Bloom)  
12/15 Fred Pyritz  
12/18 Sam Berman (Jerome & Judith Weiss)  
12/20 Judd Seldin (Rhea Seldin)

### **December 21-27, 2 Tevet**

- 12/23 Lillian Feigenbaum (Richard Feigenbaum)  
12/23 Anna Fodor (Louis Fodor)  
12/26 Trudy Isaac (Charles & Rivienne Levin)  
12/27 Max Finkelstein (Phyllis Seltzer)  
12/27 Irving Gilbert

### **December 28-31, 9 Tevet**

- 12/28 Sam Lewis (Willy Idar & Phyllis Sapell)  
12/29 Al Gluck (Rose Gluck)  
12/30 Bracha Alterovitz (Samuel & Dalia Alterovitz)  
12/31 Janet Slatkin (Myrna & John Pendery)  
12/31 Robert Welch (Rose Priesand)

## **Contributions ☆**

*We gratefully acknowledge  
the following contributions:*

### **GENERAL FUND**

**A donation from Valerie & Joseph Tate**

#### **In Honor Of**

**60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary of  
Les & Lee Ackerman  
Doris Rieff**

#### **In Memory Of**

**Joseph Butensky  
Betty Butensky  
Maurice S. Coslow  
Sydel P. Coslow  
Jessie & Dan Samuelson  
Marilyn Grossman  
Frieda Provder  
Theodore Provder**

### **LIBRARY FUND**

**The Library gratefully acknowledges recent  
contributions made by Martha Bruckman,  
Chandra Morgan-Henley and Don & Marilyn  
Bogart.**

#### **In Honor Of**

**Hyman & Molly Lader  
Harry & Enid Lader**

#### **In Memory Of**

**David Max Klipstein-Hauser  
Martha Bruckman**

### **DAVID MEMORIAL FUND**

#### **In Memory Of**

**Helen Gold**  
Art & DeDe Gold

### **MILLER ART FUND**

#### **In Memory Of**

**Myron Metzel**  
Alice Mark

### **RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND**

**In Honor of Robin Shapiro, Leslie Guria, Enid Lader and Rabbi Lettotsky**  
From the Parents of the Consecration Class

**In Honor of Robin Shapiro's Reading of the Haftorah on the Anniversary of her Bat Mitzvah**  
Robert & Roberta Ball

**In Honor of Emily Olbinsky Garforth's Hebrew Naming**  
David & Mila Olbinsky

**In Honor of the Consecration of Granddaughter, Ashley Kramer**  
Susan & Art Stiefel

### **LONG-RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Laura and David Stout

### **New Members ☆**

*Please join us in welcoming the following new members to our congregation:*

**Joel & Linda Keller**  
32723 Fallhaven Circle  
North Ridgeville OH 44039  
(440) 748-4704  
e-mail: [joelslc@comcast.net](mailto:joelslc@comcast.net)

**Sandu & Adriana Leibovici**  
Daughter: Daniela (6/10/93)  
19402 Knowlton Pkwy #205  
Strongsville OH 44149  
(440) 268-0577  
e-mail: [sandu@adelphia.net](mailto:sandu@adelphia.net)

**Luis Fernandez & wife, Barbara Feldmar**  
276 Forest St.  
Oberlin OH 44074  
(440) 775-3301  
[luisfernandez@oberlin.net](mailto:luisfernandez@oberlin.net)

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### **Address and Name Changes ☆**

**William Pappas**  
89 Greencroft  
Bedford OH 44146  
(440) 232-9250

Sally Spitz has married and her new name is  
Sally Vinikoff.  
3410 Mark Drive  
Broadview Hts OH 44147

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### **Upcoming Events ☆**

**Beth Israel Hanukkah Party**  
*Sunday, December 21 (4:00 - 8:00 p.m.)*  
*Bayway Cabin , Bay Village*  
See Bulletin insert for more information

See "Education Notes" (page 3) for additional events.



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## Congregation Notes ☆

### **Note from Rhoda and Dick Rosen**

We want to thank everyone who sent *Refuah Shleimah* support through cards, phone calls, food and short visits. Being a part of such a caring community means so much at all times, but most especially during the difficult times in our lives. Todah Rabah!

### **Note from Raymond Feliciano, Beth Israel's Ritual Chair**

High Holy Day services have come and gone, and I would like to thank the following people who made them run so smoothly:

*To all the congregants who performed their parts throughout the services.* I know there were some people that we inadvertently omitted for parts. I apologize for this and we will try to make sure this doesn't happen again.

*To the finest people to staff a committee I know.* Martha Bruckman, Vinnie Coleman, Maryellen Cudney, Marilyn Grossman, Paula Jacobson, Dee Lazarus, Scott Machol, William Pappas, Myrna Pendery. You are the best!

*The sukkah builders:* John Pendery, Barry and Jessica Schecter, Alex and Rick Keller, Mark Magda, Sam and Nate Jacobson, Bernie Wanger, Harry Lader, James Levin, Sandu Leibovici, and Jackie Crossland.

*Linda Schwin* for her floral arrangements.

*Beryl Palnik and the choir* for their music.

*Mike Palnik and his usher staff.*

*Pat Outlaw* for her outstanding office support.

And especially the *Rabbi* for his words of inspiration and the *Board* for their support.

If you would like to participate in the Ritual Committee this year, please contact me at 216-221-3528 or via email ([r.feliciano@sbcglobal.net](mailto:r.feliciano@sbcglobal.net)) Your help is greatly appreciated.

### **Our Kitchen Runneth Over**

HELP! Our kitchen has become the repository of assorted baking pans, casserole dishes, salad bowls and other large items that were used to bring things to share at potluck dinners. If you ever brought any kitchenware to the temple, please remember to take it home the next time you come. We have teetering towers of trays, a bevy of bowls and limited storage space. Thank you.

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## Community Notes ☆

### **Meals on Wheels Volunteers Needed**

West Park Meals on Wheels needs your help to deliver food to the hungry and the homebound in your congregation and surrounding area. If you can give one hour a week to help, please call Shirlee Bakos at 216-251-6255 between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Thank you,  
Howard Schreiberman  
Board President (West Park Meals on Wheels)

### **"Ner Shel Tzedakah" – A Special Program for the 6<sup>th</sup> Night of Chanukah**

The UAHC has joined with the Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA) and the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism in sponsoring an initiative to fight poverty. We are asking Jews across North America to consider the deplorable fact that *one in ten American families lives in poverty*. In order to alleviate the suffering of the poor this winter, we are encouraging individuals, families and congregations to devote the sixth night of Chanukah to learning about the problem of poverty. As they light the "Ner Shel Tzedakah"

we hope they will donate the value of the gifts (or the gifts themselves) that they would otherwise exchange on that night to organizations that assist the poor.

More information about this valuable effort can be found on the JCPA website at: [www.jewishpublicaffairs.org](http://www.jewishpublicaffairs.org).

### **Join Jewish Volunteers in action on Thursday, December 25, 2003**

Volunteering to perform acts of kindness is at the core of our Jewish tradition. You and your family can join hundreds of volunteers participating in *tikkun olam* - making the world a better place. Sign up today! Space is limited! Register online at [www.jewishcleveland.org](http://www.jewishcleveland.org). You will receive a confirmation e-mail or card from JVA with your volunteer site. Questions? Call JVA at 216-566-9200 (ext. 264) or e-mail [jva@jcfccleve.org](mailto:jva@jcfccleve.org).

### **The "Who" "What" and "How" of UAHC's 10 Minutes of Torah**

#### *Who?*

Reform Jews committed to having Judaism inform their daily lives. Congregational officers, board members, committee chairs and adult learners are encouraged to participate.

#### *What?*

10 minutes a day of personal connection to a Jewish text, issue or topic, including Torah (Monday), Social Action (Tuesday), Israel Connections (Wednesday), Jewish Ethics (Thursday), and Jewish World (Friday).

#### *How?*

Each weekday morning beginning November 24, an e-mail will be delivered to your inbox for you to study at your convenience. The process is simple. You choose the time to study and the Union's Department of Lifelong Jewish Learning will provide the resources.

To sign up for 10 Minutes of Torah, please visit [www.uahc.org/torah/ten](http://www.uahc.org/torah/ten)

## **Editor's Notes ☆**

If you have any information that you would like included in the January 2004 Bulletin, please e-mail me by Wednesday, December 10 at [thebulletin@excite.com](mailto:thebulletin@excite.com).

Thank you,  
Lisa Dvorin

## **BULLETIN**

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216 346 7233  
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# Gathering Around the Holiday Table

## The Hanukkah Blessings

- Candles are added to the hanukkiah from right to left but are kindled from left to right. The newest candle is lit first.
- Light the Shamash- the helper candle set higher or lower than all the rest of the candles - first using it to kindle the rest of the Hanukkah lights; say or sing:

*Ba-ruch a-ta Adonai, Eh-lo-hei-nu  
meh-lech ha-o-lam a-she-  
ki-d'sha-nu b'mitz-vo-tav v'tzi-va-nu  
l'had-lik ner shel Hanukkah.*

We praise You, Eternal God, Sovereign of the universe: You make us holy with Your Mitzvot, and command us to kindle the Hanukkah lights.

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו  
מלך העולם אשר  
קדשנו במצותיו וצונו  
להדליק נר של חנוכה.

*Ba-ruch a-ta Adonai, Eh-lo-hei-nu  
meh-lech ha-o-lam, sheh-a-sa ni-sim  
la-a-vo-tei-nu l'i-mo-tei-nu  
ba-ya-mim ha-heim ba-z'man ha-zeh.*

We praise You, Eternal God, Sovereign of the universe: You showed wonders to our fathers/mothers in days of old, at this season.

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו  
מלך העולם שפעשה נסים  
לאבותינו/לאמותינו  
בימים ההם בזמן הזה.

On the first night only we add:

*Ba-ruch a-ta A-do-nai, Eh-lo-hei-nu  
meh-lech ha-o-lam, she-heh-cheh-ya-nu,  
v'ki-y'ma-nu, v'higi-anu,  
la-z'man ha-zeh.*

We praise You, Eternal One, Sovereign God of the universe, for giving us life, for sustaining us, and for enabling us to reach this season.

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו  
מלך העולם שהחיינו  
וקיימנו והגיענו  
לזמן הזה.

*On the Shabbat of Hanukkah, kindle the Hanukkah lights first and then the Shabbat candles.*

*If you celebrate Havdalah at the conclusion of Shabbat, this is observed first and then the Hanukkah candles are kindled.*

## Dreidel

Begin play by having each of the players ante up into a common pot, using plastic chips, pennies or peanuts in the shell. Each player takes turns spinning the dreidel and wins or loses depending on what letter shows when the spinning stops!

- נ Nun - take nothing    ה Hey- take half  
ג Gimmel - take all    ש Shin- put in



## Books

Spend an evening of Hanukkah sipping hot cocoa, eating soofganiyot - jelly doughnuts - which are the standard Israeli Hanukkah treat - and reading a pile of Hanukkah books with family and friends!

Check with your local or on-line bookseller, public library and/or your temple library for these and other Hanukkah titles:

*The Jar of Fools: Eight Hanukkah Stories from Chelm*  
by Eric A. Kimmel

*Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins*  
by Eric A. Kimmel

*Latkes and Applesauce: A Hanukkah Story*  
by Fran Manushkin



# DECEMBER 2003

## KISLEV / TEVET 5764

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 6 Kislev	2 7 Kislev	3 8 Kislev	4 9 Kislev	5 10 Kislev 8:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service	6 11 Kislev 10:00 a.m. Torah Study 10:30 a.m. Tot Shabbat 10:45 a.m. Shabbat Service
7 12 Kislev Staff Meeting	8 13 Kislev Long-Range Planning Meeting	9 14 Kislev	10 15 Kislev Bulletin Deadline  7:30 p.m. Board Meeting	11 16 Kislev	12 17 Kislev 8:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service	13 18 Kislev 10:00 a.m. Torah Study 10:45 a.m. Shabbat Service
14 19 Kislev 10:15 a.m. Parent Talk 11:30 a.m. Pre- Chanukah Assembly 1:00 p.m. Unity Choir performs at Tower City	15 20 Kislev	16 21 Kislev	17 22 Kislev	18 23 Kislev	19 24 Kislev 6:00 p.m. Dinner 7:30 p.m. Shared Shabbat and Chanukah Service  <i>Erev Chanukah</i>	20 25 Kislev 10:00 a.m. Torah Study 10:45 a.m. Shabbat Service  <i>Chanukah</i>
21 26 Kislev No Rel. School 4:00-8:00 p.m. Community Chanukah Party (Bayway Cabin)  <i>Chanukah</i>	22 27 Kislev <i>Chanukah</i>	23 28 Kislev No Hebrew School  <i>Chanukah</i>	24 29 Kislev <i>Chanukah</i>	25 30 Kislev <i>Chanukah</i>	26 1 Tevet 8:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service  <i>Chanukah</i>	27 2 Tevet 10:00 a.m. Torah Study 10:45 a.m. Shabbat Service
28 3 Tevet No Religious School	29 4 Tevet	30 5 Tevet No Hebrew School	31 6 Tevet			

## SHABBAT HONORS SCHEDULE

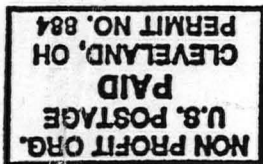
December\_ 2003

DATE	SERVICE LEADER	USHERS	CANDLES	HAGBAH	ALIYAH	GALILAH	ONEG HOSTS
Fri. 12/5	Rabbi Lettofsky	Rebecca Jacobson Paula Jacobson	Barbara Rolleston				George & Barbara Rolleston Lou & Evy Rosenblum
Sat. 12/6	Luis Fernandez	Rebecca Cutrona Gloria Cutrona		Jason Abady	Barbara Schwartz	Megan Abady	Cutrona Family
Fri. 12/12	Shosh Ault	Jackie Crossland Robert Crossland	Judith Weiss				Willy & Phyllis Sapell Shauna & Sujal Saraiya
Sat. 12/13	Rabbi Lettofsky	Robert Brehm Andrew Brehm		Andrew Brehm	Sid Feldman	Sarah Brehm	Brehm Family
Fri. 12/19	Enid Lader	Ben & Jacob Schreiber Larry Schreiber	Linda Schertzer				Barry & Barbara Schecter Jay & Linda Schertzer
Sat. 12/20	Enid Lader	David Levin Rivienne Levin		Shaina Friedman	Rivienne Levin	Rachel Pankiw	Levin Family
Fri. 12/26	Scott Machol	Brianne Ellis	Rhoda Rosen				Richard & Rhoda Rosen Morris & Laura Schonhiutt
Sat. 12/27	David Bamberger	Alex Drippon Laura Drippon		Joel Pendery	Alex Drippon	Myrna Pendery	Drippon Family

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE-J  
CLIFTON AVENUE  
CINCINNATI OH 45220

Affiliated with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations

BETH ISRAEL - THE WEST TEMPLE  
14308 TRISKETT ROAD  
CLEVELAND OH 44111



## **SERVICE SCHEDULE -- DECEMBER, 2003**

### **Friday, December 5**

Erev Shabbat Service 8:00 p.m.

### **Saturday, December 6**

Torah Study 10:00 a.m.

TOT Shabbat 10:30 a.m.

Shabbat Service 10:45 a.m.

### **Friday, December 12**

Erev Shabbat Service 8:00 p.m.

### **Saturday, December 13**

Torah Study 10:00 a.m.

Shabbat Service 10:45 a.m.

### **Friday, December 19**

Shared Shabbat & Chanukah Service  
7:30 p.m.

### **Saturday, December 20**

Torah Study 10:00 a.m.

Shabbat Service 10:45 a.m.

### **Friday, December 26**

Erev Shabbat Service 8:00 p.m.

### **Saturday, December 27**

Torah Study 10:00 a.m.

Shabbat Service 10:45 a.m.



BETH ISRAEL - THE WEST TEMPLE  
COMMUNITY HANUKKAH PARTY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2003  
4:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

BAYWAY CABIN  
BAY VILLAGE



GAMES  
LATKES  
MUSIC  
FUN



FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL  
ROBIN SHAPIRO 440-930-2066  
LESLIE GURIA 440-933-2260



*Come light your Menorah with your  
Beth Israel—The West Temple Family  
Dinner & Shabbat Services*

*December 19, 2003*

*Dinner will begin at 6:00 p.m. followed by  
Shared Shabbat Family Service at 7:30 p.m.*



*Chicken & Potato Latkes will be served*

*Please bring a non dairy dish to pass and your Menorah*

*Price: \$4.00 per person Maximum \$15.00 per family*

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To help us better prepare for the dinner, please send your reservations to  
Lynn Atzenhoffer, 3395 Spruce Court, Avon OH 44011 along with your  
check payable to Beth Israel—The West Temple.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Adult # \_\_\_\_\_

Children # \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Total Submitted

Item you wish to pass \_\_\_\_\_ for 10 people.

If you have any questions please call Lynn at 440-937-5588

I am willing to help \_\_\_\_\_

# EVENTS OF NOTE

We are fortunate to count among our members **David and Carola Bamberger**, founders of Cleveland Opera, and **James Levin**, founder of Cleveland Public Theater. This year we have the opportunity to attend two timely and thought-provoking productions of special interest at these important venues.

On **Thursday, May 20**, at 8 p.m. we'll go to Cleveland Public Theater for **NICKEL AND DIMED: ON (NOT) GETTING BY IN AMERICA**, one of our nation's most critically acclaimed new plays. The play is based on the book by Barbara Ehrenreich, who went "undercover" as a newly divorced unskilled woman seeking to make a living in modern America. Her minimum wage journey made for one of America's most engrossing social commentaries. All are encouraged to read this eye-opening book and meet for a discussion one week before the show, on **Thursday, May 13, at 8 pm** in Ratner Hall. The book discussion is open to all. Tickets for the performance are \$14 per person. For details visit [www.cptonline.org](http://www.cptonline.org).

On **Saturday, June 12, at 8 p.m.**, please join us for a unique double bill at Cleveland Opera, honoring the 75<sup>th</sup> birthday of Anne Frank. **THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK** is a one-act opera composed by Grigori Frid, a Russian who was so moved by her story that he wrote the opera and smuggled it to the West. This moving work is paired with **COME TO ME IN DREAMS**, a companion piece created by Cleveland Opera's General Director David Bamberger from the beautiful songs of American composer Lori Laitman. Following the performance, we'll meet backstage for a **dessert reception and discussion**. Tickets for this special evening are \$50 per person. For details visit [www.clevelandopera.org](http://www.clevelandopera.org).

**IMPORTANT:** Seating is limited, so your **paid reservations must be received at the temple office by Monday, December 8**. Use the form below to order.

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## EVENTS OF NOTE TICKET ORDER FORM

**YES, I want to attend...**

- ☐ *Nickel and Dimed* at Cleveland Public Theater, Thursday **May 20** at 8 p.m.

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ tickets @ \$14 per ticket = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ *The Diary of Anne Frank* and *Come to Me in Dreams* at Cleveland Opera, Saturday, **June 12** at 8 p.m. (followed by dessert reception and discussion).

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ tickets @ \$50 per ticket = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Paid reservations must be received at Beth Israel – The West Temple, 14308 Triskett Road,  
Cleveland, OH 44111 by Monday, **December 8**.

**Please make checks payable to Beth Israel – The West Temple.**



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW...

**So you won't miss these important upcoming events at Beth Israel.**  
*For items marked with an asterisk, make **reservations** now (see reverse).*

### JANUARY 2004

8 Circle of Friends  
**25 Semi Annual Congregational Meeting (12:30 p.m.)**  
31 Havdalah at Lake Erie Nature & Science Center

### FEBRUARY

7 Tu B'Shevat Seder  
23 Circle of Friends  
27-28 Congregational & Family Retreat

### MARCH

6 Purim Ball  
7 Megillah Reading & Schpiel, Costume Parade & Carnival  
14 Board meeting (12:30 p.m.)

### APRIL

6 Community Seder  
17 Brianne Ellis Bat Mitzvah  
22 Circle of Friends  
25 Israel Learn-In & Israeli Luncheon

### MAY

**8 GALA**  
13 Book Discussion: *Nickel & Dimed*  
**20 Cleveland Public Theater: *Nickel & Dimed: On (NOT) Getting by in America* \***

22 Shabbat Michpachah & Kiddush Lunch  
23 Religious School - Concluding Assembly & Volunteer Luncheon  
25 Confirmation  
29 Max Griswold Bar Mitzvah

### JUNE

4 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Pot Luck  
**6 Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting & Board Election (11 a.m.)**  
**12 Cleveland Opera: *The Diary of Anne Frank* and *Come to Me in Dreams* \***  
18 Board Induction Shabbat  
21 Circle of Friends

### JULY

2 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Potluck  
16 & 30 Neighborhood Shabbat

### AUGUST

6 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Pot Luck  
20 Prospective Member Shabbat in the Park  
23 Circle of Friends

### SEPTEMBER

**15 Erev Rosh Hashanah -- the anniversary of the first service celebrated by our congregation 50 years ago**

**NOTE: The Board of Trustees** meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted above.

**The deadline for the Bulletin** is the 10<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month or the Friday before the 10<sup>th</sup> if it falls on a weekend. The Bulletin for June/July is a combined issue.