

B'nai Israel Synagogue Bulletin
November 2014- January 2015 (5775)

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November 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 7:00pm Shabbat Services, led by Victor Lieberman (14 Cheshvan)	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 (21 Cheshvan)	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 7:00pm Shabbat Services, led by Ari Naveh (28 Cheshvan)	22 1:00 Torah Study 2:00 Adult Ed
23 10:00am Children's Education (1 Kislev)	24	25	26	27 Thanksgiving	28 (6 Kislev)	29
30						

December 2014

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5 7:00pm Shabbat Services, led by Ari Naveh (13 Kislev)	6 1:00 Torah Study 2:00 Adult Ed
7 10:00 Children's Education	8	9	10	11	12 (20 Kislev)	13
14	15	16 Chanukah Begins at Sundown	17 1 st Day of Chanukah	18	19 7:00pm Shabbat Services, led by Ari Naveh (27 Kislev)	20 10:00 Torah Study 11:00 Adult Education, 3:00pm Latke Making, 5:00 Chanukah Party
21 10:00 Children's Education	22	23 (1 Tevet) (Light 8 Chanukah Candles)	24 8 th Day of Chanukah	25	26 (4 Tevet)	27
28	29	30	31			

January 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
					(11 Tevet)	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
					(18 Tevet)	10:00am Board Meeting
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
					7:00pm Shabbat Services, led by Victor Lieberman (25 Tevet)	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
			(1 Shevat)		(3 Shevat)	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
					(10 Shevat)	

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

With the High Holidays behind us, we have a chance to catch our collective breath and ease in to the new year. Thanks to all those on the synagogue board and others among the congregation for assistance and volunteering done to make all our activities and services happen so smoothly.

Some quick updates on congregation happenings ...

Siddurs

At our last board meeting, we reviewed and decided to update the "daily & festival" siddurs we regularly use in the synagogue. We decided to continue with the current prayer book, *Sim Shalom*, which in its most recent printing (2012 and beyond) seemed very pleasantly and thankfully updated in its translations. This was one of the concerns we had at the last review (about 5-6 years ago), where we noted that English translations and readings had not been noticeably updated to be more inclusive and gender-neutral. Selections from the new siddur were used at a previous service held late this summer, and a full copy of the prayer book was examined by the board.

The board also reviewed the new reform prayer book, *Mishkan T'filah*. Of concern to some on the board, including myself, was that it frequently excerpts prayers to include only what is typically done in a public worship setting, rather than include the entire text (psalm, liturgical poem, readings, etc.). While we note that the prayer book is very attractively laid out, and includes thorough transliteration directly adjacent or following Hebrew selections, the editorial decision limits our ability to be flexible in the type of service we do. Having full Hebrew and English texts present for a more-complete service as *Sim Shalom* does lets the congregation conduct a broader range of service (conservative or reform), and include Hebrew or English as preferred instead of limited to what may be present.

When purchased, the congregation will make available transliteration booklets as we presently do for the current *Sim Shalom* edition, that will show English renderings for those Hebrew texts which do not them included in the siddur. Creating this booklet ourselves will also afford us the opportunity to have it more accurately track the service typically done at B'nai Israel. The current transliteration booklets will not be practical for the new editions, as the services and texts have been rearranged.

We have tentative plans to seek other congregations in our area (or more widely if needed) who may wish to receive our older prayer books.

Tree

I believe (hope) that I already extended a warm and heart-felt thanks to our "Tu B'Shevat Committee," Susan Raatz, for taking care of the arrangements with the Grand Forks Park District on getting our donated tree in the ground. Old-growth forests have flourished and died in the time it took us to accomplish this. And I thought this might be all things tree that we would have to attend to for a while (or at least until the next Tu B'Shevat).

Alas.

The synagogue was contacted by its next-door neighbor concerning a tree along the alley between our two properties. Apparently the negligent foliage is arching a bit too precipitously above their garage. Based on our careful measurement of our property line, it seems that the vee-ing trunk is squarely atop the boarder of us both. One side to us, the other to our neighbor. A problem, surely, of Talmudic proportions.

Part of the tree "v's" over the neighbor, and part over the synagogue. It would seem a shame to have to cut down such a grand and magnificent plant, and we are currently in touch with Xcel Energy (whose wires traverse the

many branches) to see if they might care to do some trimming that will attend to the problem and satisfy us all. If not, perhaps we can see if just the divergent side might be attended to.

We will keep everyone posted on the tree situation. And we will check various Talmud tractates about who is responsible for blood-goring oxen, or broken oil containers, etc., to determine if there is some rabbinic (or higher) guidance for us on this circumstance.

Our Many Obligations and Responsibilities

Elsewhere in this newsletter we are all reminded—"Pogo"-like—that we have indeed met the congregation, at it is us. Please consider helping us out if you are able with the various tasks and assistance we need to keep events joyfully chugging along. Or at least adequately so. Consider sponsoring a Friday-night oneg, hosting our student rabbi, Ari Naveh, for a Shabbat dinner on one of his upcoming visits (see schedule) or assisting with the planning of various events (Hanukah party, pot lucks, etc.). Your service make our services happen, as it were.

Dues are also due, so please also consider us in your immediate financial planning. It's hard to read the siddurs in the dark. And it gets cold in January.

We Are Computerized

Kicking and screaming, we have launched the synagogue into the 20th century, if maybe not quite the 21st. We recently purchased a desktop computer and printer/scanner for the synagogue, which has been set up in the office toward the rear of the building. This computer will be used to maintain financial and membership records for the congregation, and assist our visiting student rabbis and other clergy with making copies for education programs, discussion groups, etc. We can also print copies of *Bulletins*, and use it for other synagogue business activities. Thank you to our treasurer, Linda Baeza Porter, for selecting and setting it up.



We look forward to seeing as many of you at services and activities as can come. It is always enjoyable to fill up the synagogue and have time to socialize before and after (maybe a bit during) our events. Check the calendar in this *Bulletin* for children's and adult education activities, services, and our Hanukah party. And join us for celebrations, learning, and eating. If not necessarily in that order.

Victor Lieberman

Synagogue President

Have some fun and do a mitzvah!

Lately, the board has almost exclusively hosted the student rabbi for Shabbat dinner and provided the oneg after services. We enjoy it, but want to spread the fun so we hope you will join us in hosting Ari for Shabbat dinner or providing the oneg after services. Neither is very hard to do, and you're sure to make at least one new friend by volunteering. If you've not done it before and are concerned, don't be we'll be happy to help with any questions. So give me a call on 701-757-1458 or email me at ruth@haruth.com.

Warmest regards to all,
Ruth Leichter, Hospitality Chair



Candle Lighting Times for Grand Forks, ND Hebrew Year 5775 (2014 - 2015)

www.hebcal.com

Sep 24	Rosh Hashana	7:03	Mar 20	Vayikra	7:23
Sep 26	Ha'Azinu	6:58	Mar 27	Tzav	7:33
Oct 3	Yom Kippur	6:44	Apr 3	Pesach	7:43
Oct 8	Sukkot	6:34	Apr 9	Pesach	7:52
Oct 10	Sukkot	6:30	Apr 10	Pesach	7:53
Oct 15	Shmini Atzeret	6:21	Apr 17	Shmini	8:03
Oct 17	Bereshit	6:17	Apr 24	Tazria-Metzora	8:13
Oct 24	Noach	6:04	May 1	Achrei Mot-Kedoshim	8:23
Oct 31	Lech-Lecha	5:53	May 8	Emor	8:33
Nov 7	Vayera	4:42	May 15	Behar-Bechukotai	8:42
Nov 14	Chayei Sara	4:33	May 22	Bamidbar	8:51
Nov 21	Toldot	4:26	May 29	Nasso	8:58
Nov 28	Vayetzei	4:21	Jun 5	Beha'alotcha	9:05
Dec 5	Vayishlach	4:18	Jun 12	Sh'lach	9:09
Dec 12	Vayeshev	4:17	Jun 19	Korach	9:12
Dec 19	Miketz	4:19	Jun 26	Chukat	9:13
Dec 26	Vayigash	4:23	Jul 3	Balak	9:12
Jan 2	Vayechi	4:30	Jul 10	Pinchas	9:08
Jan 9	Shemot	4:38	Jul 17	Matot-Masei	9:03
Jan 16	Vaera	4:47	Jul 24	Devarim	8:55
Jan 23	Bo	4:57	Jul 31	Vaetchanan	8:46
Jan 30	Beshalach	5:08	Aug 7	Eikev	8:36
Feb 6	Yitro	5:19	Aug 14	Re'eh	8:24
Feb 13	Mishpatim	5:30	Aug 21	Shoftim	8:12
Feb 20	Terumah	5:41	Aug 28	Ki Teitzei	7:58
Feb 27	Tetzaveh	5:52	Sep 4	Ki Tavo	7:44
Mar 6	Ki Tisa	6:03	Sep 11	Nitzavim	7:30
Mar 13	Vayakhel-Pekudei	7:13	Sep 13	Rosh Hashana	7:26

B'nai Israel Synagogue Chanukah Latke Party

Join us for the
Annual B'nai Israel Synagogue Chanukah Latke Party!



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 20

3:00pm Latke Cooking (Men's Latke Brigade)
5:00pm Potluck and Party
It's a potluck too!

Please bring a dairy or pareve dish, salad, or dessert to feed 8 people.

(No meat or meat ingredients, please)

Yahrtzeits



Sam Kessler (Cheshvan 6)

Simon Heller (Cheshvan 8)

Morris Gutnik (Cheshvan 14)

Sarah Gull (Cheshvan 15)

Mildred Kessler (Cheshvan 16)

Barney David Gutnik (Cheshvan 18)

Arthur Banick (Cheshvan 20)

Gussie Seeger (Cheshvan 20)

Jacob Freedman (Cheshvan 22)

Max Kanovsky (Cheshvan 23)

James Howard Levine (Cheshvan 24)

Ben Kaufman (Cheshvan 27)

Morris Lizst (Cheshvan 27)

David Grossman (Cheshvan 28)

Jennie Pollman (Cheshvan 29)

Harry Osnowitz (Kislev 2)

Bessie Freeman (Kislev 3)

William Rosenberg (Kislev 3)

Abraham Heimann (Kislev 8)

Sylvia Hoffman (Kislev 9)

Irvin Mandel (Kislev 10)

Ann Rubin Themann (Kislev 11)

Fanny Gershman (Kislev 13)

Esther Osnowitz (Kislev 15)

Maury Rothkopf (Kislev 15)

Rose Rubin (Kislev 16)

Dora Frankel (Kislev 17)

Moshe Meretsky (Kislev 18)

Mendel Heller (Kislev 21)

Simon Dickel (Kislev 22)

Havim Lieberman (Kislev 23)

Barney Gull (Kislev 24)

Jack Friedland (Kislev 28)

David Osnowitz (Kislev 28)

Benjamin T Miller (Kislev 29)

Clemens Brand (Tevet 5)

Sam Freeman (Tevet 5)

Elijah Judah Freeman (Tevet 13)

Rubin Greenberg (Tevet 14)

Rebecca Pistner (Tevet 15)

Moselle Meyer (Tevet 16)

Bessie Meretsky (Tevet 19)

Adolf Adler (Tevet 20)

Paul Pollman (Tevet 20)

Ann Kushner (Tevet 21)

Samuel Dauer (Tevet 25)

Jake Cooper (Tevet 26)

Lilian Graff (Tevet 26)

Chanah Panovitz (Tevet 26)

Thelma Silverman (Tevet 26)

Anna Perlman (Tevet 28)

Margot Stern (Tevet 28)

Sam Silverman (Tevet 29)

Fanny Grossman (Shevat 2)

Sophie Hoffman (Shevat 6)

Revian Mandel (Shevat 6)

Elizabeth Lewis (Shevat 9)

Irma Stern (Shevat 9)

Libby Schwam (Shevat 11)