



# Beth Am COMMENTATOR

MIAMI, FLORIDA

JUNE 16, 1972

## RELIGIOUS SERVICES



FRIDAY, JUNE 16  
8:30 p. m.

Rabbi Baumgard

'What Is Happening To  
The Father? Does He  
Still Have A Role  
To Play?'

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FRIDAY, JUNE 23  
8:30 p. m.

Rabbi Baumgard

'Religion And Politics  
Can They Be Integrated?'

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TORAH SERVICE  
11:15 a. m.

Saturday, June 17 and June 24

## Summer Program Begins June 19 Some Openings Available

Parent-Counsellor Night Scheduled for Wed., June 14

A fun summer is about ready to start for all those youngsters enrolled in Temple Beth Am's summer program. The program will start this coming Monday, June 19, and there is still time to enroll your youngster in certain selected groups.

This year's staff again is under the direction of our outstanding director, Al Schlazer. Al has been in the Dade school system for many years and has a broad background in recreation, camping, and coaching. Our assistant director again will be Rose Ashbes, who is also in the Dade school system and has been with Beth Am for eight years. The director of the pre-school group once again will be Selma Fisher, who does yeoman work with the young children in Beth Am's Nursery-Kindergarten school. The rest of the staff has been selected for their skills and abilities to enhance a well rounded program.

The program includes Red Cross swimming instruction, arts and crafts, athletics of all types, such as baseball, golf, tennis, with individual instruction in each case. Also, baton twirling, bowling, modern dance, folk singing and dances, field trips, movies, and other special events.

Large, air conditioned rooms for indoor activities, three large pools, an arts and crafts center, and a large social hall for group activities, beautiful fields, tennis courts, and a golf course will be available for our young people.

There will be a pre-camp meeting of counsellors and parents at the Temple on Wednesday evening, June 14. If you have plans to enroll your child and want to meet his counsellor and the camp directors before camp, contact Rhoda Bernheimer at the Temple office, 667-5587.

## Post Confirmation Club Has Big Splash

The culminating retreat for the Post-Confirmation Club was held at the Carlton Hotel, in Palm Beach, on the weekend of May 6 and 7. Rabbi Baumgard took a group of 17 young people to the resort hotel. The group had several informal discussions, a mood havdalah service to end the Sabbath, singing sessions, meals together, beach parties, and informal socials.

The Club consists of young people who have been confirmed and who voluntarily have participated in discussions with our Rabbis on a once a month basis. About 30 youngsters comprise the group.

Among those taking the trip were David Ross, President, Daniel Baumgard, Mark Newman, Carl Ellins, Bob Blumenthal, Adriane Sommers, Jolie Eisenberg, Debbie Sneider, Marilyn Teitelbaum, Lorna Brass, Lauri Kalser, Lori Rosen, Pam Kessler, Beth Efronson, and Margo Geller. Chaperons included Selma Baumgard and Jordan and Judy Bittel.

## COMMENTATOR Goes Bi-weekly

With this issue, the COMMENTATOR will be published on a bi-weekly basis through the summer. The next issue of the COMMENTATOR will be mailed to all congregants on June 27 and will be dated June 30.



FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

## The Role Of Israel

An excerpt from a sermon available in the office.

Few students of ancient history would dispute the fact that the people Israel has played an important part in the development of mankind. Through the influence of the Bible, through the personal effort of Jews, and through the efforts of our daughter religions, Christianity and Islam, the basic ideas of Israel have permeated the Western world and much of the East. Wherever cultured people speak of "one world," of "one mankind," of "one God," they pay their tribute to the first teachers of this doctrine, the people Israel. Wherever men speak of justice, of charity and peace, they speak, in part, with inflections and nuances borrowed from the Hebrews. In recent years, many informed Christians have ceased to speak merely of the "Christian tradition." They, now, forthrightly recognize their debt to Israel, and we hear more frequently of the "Judaic-Christian tradition." We need not debate here today the question of whether in the past our people has given something of value to the world. What we need to ask ourselves is--what shall be our future contribution to the world?

### *The Wealth of the Nations*

Short years ago, the gifted French poet, Andre Gide, complained that the Jews of France were a drag on the development of a pure French literature. Said Gide, "The Jews do not write as Frenchmen. They bring in ideas and expressions that are not French." The complaint of Mr. Gide gives us an insight into the function of Jews. While we have always been good nationalists, we are better internationalists. Because of our wanderings throughout the world, we have been influenced by the ideas and cultures of many nations. The Jews in France, for example, represent an internationalist kernel, in the midst of a country becoming, under De Gaulle, increasingly self-centered and nationalistic.

What is true of the Jews of France is true also of the Jews of the Soviet Union. They have been the most difficult of peoples for the Communists to indoctrinate and to dominate. The ties of the Russian Jews to an internationalist tradition and their ties to Jews in other lands have made it impossible for them to believe that Communism contains all of the truth. So, the Jews have remained a thorn in the Russian side. In one way or another, they have opposed the idea of a total Soviet nationalism.

The State of Israel is so virile today, precisely because it pools the accrued culture of ideas of many diverse peoples. Eighty-two languages are spoken in this tiny country today. The democratic principles at work there were carefully sifted from many different kinds of societies. At the heart of the intense Israeli nationalism is the cultural and ideational wealth of many nations. When the late Eleanor Roosevelt spoke here in Beth Am a few years before her death, she told us of the great influence Israel was having among the new and smaller nations of Africa and Asia. To these infant nations, the Israelis are bringing democratic ideas and modern industrial techniques. The Israelis are not great in number, but their potential influence for good amongst the smaller nations is unlimited.

## **Regular Friday Services During Summer**

Following its customary policy over the summer, the Temple will maintain regular services on Friday evening over the summer at 8:30 p.m., beginning with the first Friday in July. Since Rabbi Steinberg has gone to his new pulpit, and since Rabbi Altman will not come to Miami until the middle of August, services from July 1 to August 15 will be conducted by laymen with our regular cantorial soloist, Steven Dubow, participating.

Saturday morning services on July 8 will be conducted by Rabbi Emmet Frank as guest Rabbi and will also be available for weddings and other rabbinical functions.

Rabbi Baumgard will be on vacation during July and will return to the pulpit, following his usual custom, at the end of August. Members are put on notice that the High Holidays are very early this year. Rosh Ha-shanah begins September 8. Accordingly, it is suggested that you register your family for membership as soon as possible.

## Joan's Gems



By JOAN SCHWARTZMAN

Kudos to Byron Cherkas, who was chosen Man of the Year by the Miami Chamber of Commerce. . . . Congratulations to Col. Arthur and Frances Conn upon the occasion of their 32nd wedding anniversary. . . . Phil and Betty Singer are most proud of her daughter, Lanie Traurig, who received the highest award at Palmetto Senior High. Lanie received the American Legion Award for recognition in leadership, service, and scholarship. We're proud of you too, Lanie.

Joan and Erwin Ravich, new Beth Amites, were gracious enough to house six kids for the recent S.E.F.T.Y. presidents workshop recently. . . . Here we go again. Ross, son of Bern and Evelyn Goodman, was elected president of the National Junior Honor Society. Congratulations to everyone.

## *B'nai Mitzvah*

SATURDAY, JUNE 17  
11:15 a.m.



Phyllis Ann, daughter of  
Dr. and Mrs. Herbert Bockian  
Wayne, son of  
Mr. and Mrs. Howard Horwitz

SATURDAY, JUNE 24  
11:15 a.m.



Kenneth, son of  
Mr. and Mrs. Gunther Karger  
William, son of  
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Pearson