



# Beth Am Commentator

February 11, 1977

Miami, Florida

## RELIGIOUS SERVICE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 8:30 p.m., RABBI BAUMGARD

"Roots"

Human rights in America

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 9:15, 11:15 a.m., TORAH SERVICE

## BAFTY'S BIGGEST BEST RETREAT

Join us and the youth of Temple Beth Shalom  
for a weekend of learning and fun

FEBRUARY 25-27 SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

TEMPLE ISRAEL RETREAT CENTER COST: \$25

Applications available from Rabbi Cook

### Blood Bank Time, Sunday, Feb. 27

Honored by Mount Sinai Medical Center, and helpful to many of our congregants, the Temple Beth Am Blood Bank is having its annual drive for blood on Sunday, February 27, in our Youth Lounge.

Beginning at 9:00 a.m., your Brotherhood, who administers the Blood Bank, will welcome you and will provide a bountiful breakfast to those who participate. It is reiterated that even if you cannot donate blood, if you are a congregant, you can call on this blood bank for assistance.

### Sisterhood Intra-faith Meeting Feb. 16

Sisterhoods from all over Dade--Reform, Conservative, and Orthodox--will hold a joint meeting on February 16, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., at Temple Emanuel, 1701 Washington Avenue, Miami Beach. Admission is free.

The topic for discussion will be "Survive! Why and How Should Judaism Survive in Our 20th Century Civilization?" Leading the discussions will be Abraham Gittleson, the Honorable Elaine Bloom, Brenda Shapiro, and Edith Geiger. Everyone is invited. To join the Sisterhood group and car pool over to the Beach, please call the Temple office, 667-5587, and let us know you will be joining the group. Car pools will leave the Temple parking lot at 8:45 a.m.

### Registration For Nursery-Kindergarden and Day School

Now Open For Temple Members

Enrollment in our schools is limited and is  
on a first come, first served basis

Call the School Office, 665-6228  
for registration forms and information

**PRIORITY REGISTRATION FOR MEMBERS  
ENDS ON MARCH 15, 1977**

## Religious School Luncheon

February 9, 1977 Kings Bay Country Club

Entertainment By

**THE METROPOLITAN BRASS**

(A quintet of symphonic artists from the  
Miami Philharmonic and Florida Symphony Orchestras)

Make reservations at the Temple office, 667-5587

Patroness \$15 Angel \$25 Philanthropist \$50

Sponsored by the Beth Am Sisterhood  
10% Star Credit given

### You Can Help The Migrant Worker Now

**HOW:** By donating clothing, especially children's  
blankets, bedding, canned or dried food, cash.

**WHERE:** Temple Youth Lounge, BAFTY Room.

**WHEN:** Friday night, February 11

Saturday a.m., February 12

Sunday a.m., February 13

Any construction materials, old beds, mattresses, employ-  
ment--call migrant agencies OMICA, 248-4711, Redlands  
Christian Migrants Association, 247-6269.

Thousands of migrants, destitute and without jobs for the  
next three months because of the crop freeze, need your  
help. Your usable discards are most welcome.

### Summer Program Will Be A Unique



### Experience For Your Child

Details and costs will be forthcoming in the brochure to be  
mailed shortly to all members. Call Rhoda Bernheimer in the  
Temple office, 667-5587, to answer any questions.

### Beth Am Purim Carnival

Sunday, March 6, from 11:30 to 3:30

Games, Food, Hamentaschen, Popcorn

Cotton Candy, Moonwalk, Ponies

Anthony, The Great Magician

Plant and Cake Sale

Advance ticket sale starts February 25  
in Religious School office





## FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

### Do You Have To Leave Home To Love The World?

"Why do I have to be a Jew?" the young lady said, "It's time for something new and better." The young lady was obviously well educated and she had had the benefit of exposure to some of the more exciting kinds of "new" therapies. She was clearly a fine person with a high sense of values. It was also clear that she wanted to separate herself from her family and her people. She and some of her non-Jewish friends were all agreed. Christianity and Judaism belonged to the past. It was time for the universal faith.

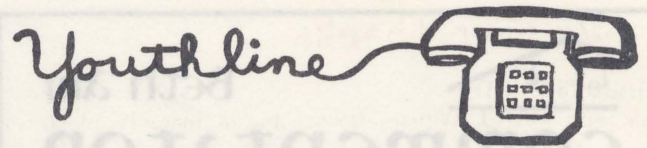
I asked the young lady why she could not follow the lead of the Hebrew prophets and affirm universalism, even while she remained a Jew. "Why do you have to cease to be yourself in order to love mankind?" I asked her. "Why do you have to turn your back on your family in order to love others?" Many young people today cannot understand the logic of this question. For some reason, they are convinced that they must cut all their ties to the past in order to create a brave, new world.

It is interesting to me, as I study the history of Christianity, that the fathers of the Church from the fourth century on found it necessary to cut themselves off from their Jewish past. For centuries thereafter, there was a progressive denying of the motherhood of Judaism and the isolation of the New Testament as something standing by itself. In recent decades, Christians have been forced to reclaim the Old Testament and their Jewish heritage, for it is precisely the Hebrew Bible which is most geared for this scientific and universalistic age.

Some of the young Jews, who despise their heritage without even knowing what it is, come back to the Jewish people when their panaceas evaporate. Still others are victims of the new groups which they join and half create. It is important for us to know that the conditions of our society are such that a young person is under constant pressure to cut himself loose from his family and his past. This is all the more true of young people who go to college and get caught in the crucible of "the new world." In the college cauldron, many young Jews join esoteric groups that offer "new" solutions (some of these new groups are thousands of years old). Other young Jews become their own guru and initiate off-shoots of these exotic (because they are different) groups.

As I have indicated, one primary reason for this deviationist tendency is that this is the spirit of the age. Sirens call and our young people are trained to answer, not to resist. A second important reason that our young people are not able to resist the call to leave their spiritual home is that they are abysmally ignorant of the content of Judaism. They may not be more ignorant than you and I when we were their age, but you and I were not pulled away as they are. As their parents, you must know more about Judaism than your parents. You can't give them as little as your parents gave you. You must give a great deal more! One of the things you have to teach them, through the Jewish sources, is that you can be a universalist (as were Jeremiah, Isaiah, etc.) and still be true to your own tradition, your own loved ones.

Indeed, the true test of one's ability to love is the adjustments one is willing to make for the sake of those close at hand. It is easier to love mankind than to love those near to you. That's why it's always easier to cut ties and run away in pursuit of "ideal" goals.



### Basketball Playoffs

In the senior division, the Orange team, led by Gregg Victor and Mitch Wodom, are off to a great start in the playoffs. The Yellow team, led by Bill Pearson, will play against the Green team, led by Steve Glick. The winner of the Yellow and Green game will play in the finals against the Orange team.

In the junior division, the Purple team, led by Alan Segal, will play the Orange team, led by Tommy Rubinson. The other playoff game will have the Dark Blue team, led by Steve Franco and Ross Siedler, play the Light Blue team, led by Jeff Mann and Michael Keyes.

Good luck to all from Coach Barry Friedman.

### Midget League Basketball Newsletter

As the regular season ended, the Light Blue team, coached by Donnie Klein and Josh Sirkin, lost a few close games, and were eliminated from the playoffs. The team had moments of greatness where they could beat anyone, but they never could put their good play together long enough to qualify for the playoffs. The team was led by the scoring of David Josefsberg, Mark Salzberg, and Greg Goldfarb, the aggressive hustle of Kenny Klein, Scott Sirkin, and Eric Gould, and the fine defensive play of Doug Rubenstein and Greg Stone. As this article goes to press, the Maroon team, coached by Jerry Levine and Marty Butwin, and the Green team, coached by Mike Jackson and Harold Taylor, are definitely in the playoffs, and the other three teams are battling down to the wire for the other two playoff spots. The league game, for all players, and the team championship game will be played on Thursday, February 10, at 6:15 and 7:30 p.m., respectively

### Camp Coleman Opens

Only a few openings remain for children in the first month for Camp Coleman, our marvelous camp for Reform Jewish children, in the mountains of north Georgia. Hundreds of Beth Am children go each year and universally regard it as a great experience. Call 379-4553 for further information.

### B'nai Mitzvah

Saturday, February 12

9:15 a.m.

11:15 a.m.



David, son of  
Mr. and Mrs.  
Peter Spirer



Ron, son of  
Mr. and Mrs.  
Harouzi Wainshul



Arthur, son of  
Mrs.  
Mary Silberman



Gail, daughter of  
Mrs.  
Leslie Silverman