



Beth Am Commentator

February 17, 1978

Miami, Florida

Rabbi Herbert M. Baumgard

"SADAT AND BEGIN--WHAT'S GOING ON?"

Friday, February 17, 8:30 p.m., RELIGIOUS SERVICE

Saturday, February 18, 9:15, 11:15 a.m., TORAH SERVICE

Janet Reno At Breakfast February 19

In her first address since her appointment as the best choice for the position, Janet Reno, newly appointed Dade State Attorney by Governor Askew to replace outgoing Richard Gerstein, will be the speaker at the next Brotherhood breakfast forum on Sunday morning, February 19, at 9:30 a.m., in the Youth Lounge. The position of Dade state attorney is said to be the most difficult job in the state. Miss Reno will talk to us on what she hopes to accomplish and what she sees ahead in the continuous battle in fighting crime and criminals. All of us can contribute in some way with suggestions and ideas to assist in that fight. Chairman for this discussion will be Circuit Court Judge Seymour Gelber.

Admission to the breakfast is \$1.50 for Brotherhood members and \$2.00 for non-members. Your friends and neighbors are also invited. The ladies, of course are always welcome.

Toast And Roast Joannie On Schwartzman Sabbath, February 24

Joan Schwartzman will be honored at Friday night services, February 24, at 8:30 p.m., for her 20 years as a staff member of the Temple.

Beginning as Rabbi Baumgard's secretary and as the Temple's only staff member, Joan's duties were myriad.

Involved in all Temple activities over the years, her responsibilities grew with the Temple and she now holds the position of assistant to the administrator.

A "Roast" for Joan at the Oneg Shabbat will feature the high lights of her escapades and career at the Temple.

Come to congratulate Joan and join in the fun afterwards.

Michele Levin Katz Plays

At Mitzvah Luncheon

On Wednesday, March 1



Michele Levin Katz, renowned pianist, will appear in concert at Sisterhood's elegant Mitzvah Luncheon, Wednesday, March 1, 11:30 a.m., in the Kings Bay Country Club.

Michele has been a soloist with such orchestras as the Philadelphia Symphony, the Boston Pops and the Miami Philharmonic. She is, among many other awards, the winner of the Bach International Piano Competition. Her graceful style at the baby grand is as much a pleasure to see as it is to hear her gifted playing.

The luncheon was planned to honor and benefit the children of the Beth Am Schools, Religious, Day and Hebrew. It is called the "Mitzvah" Luncheon because it is a blessing to attend on behalf of the children. Proceeds will provide needed equipment to be used by all the children and schools.

Admission to the luncheon as a Patron is \$15, an Angel, \$25, a Philanthropist, \$50. Mothers, grandmothers and friends are all welcome.

A Multitude Of Adult Courses Ready To Begin In March

Response to our programs has been so positive that we have on occasion been overwhelmed--overwhelmed with requests to repeat courses or to offer new courses, overwhelmed with the sheer numbers of students who have appeared without registering. So, some bad news and some good news. The bad news: we are going to have to limit registration in some of our courses; the good news: we will be offering more courses, and repeating those in which the demand is great.

Our philosophy remains the same. We search for the finest teachers and ask them to teach whatever excites them the most, and we find that the excitement in the classroom is contagious. Jewish study becomes an exhilarating experience. Our desire is to make this experience available to as many people as possible.

This spring, we expect to have as many as six of our familiar four week mini-courses, and, in addition, a few significant happenings to involve you for a single evening. In April, Rabbi Chefitz will repeat his symposium on Death and Dying and the Jewish Tradition. Lenore Kipper will repeat her Hebrew from Scratch in Only Four Weeks. And we hope to have a course in Yiddish and Yiddish culture. The schedule for April and May will appear shortly, but it is already time to register for the courses beginning in March, and they are:

ORIGINAL INTENTIONS: A TREATMENT OF GENESIS.

Four Wednesday evenings, 8 to 10 p.m., beginning March 8, in Room 27. Rabbi Morris Kipper, the founding director of the high school in Israel program, will begin in the beginning with the creation story and work through the text to Abraham. Rabbi Kipper offers a new perspective to Bible study. Enrollment limited to 20.

TWENTIETH CENTURY JEWISH LITERATURE.

Four Thursday evenings, 8 to 10 p.m., beginning March 16, in Room 27. Susan Panoff writes a weekly column for the Jewish Floridian and is much in demand as a book reviewer and teacher of literature. We are fortunate to have her at Beth Am, even if for only four weeks. Book lists will be circulated to those who register. Enrollment is limited to 20.

ETHICS AND THE JEWISH FRAMEWORK.

Four Tuesday evenings, 8 to 10 p.m., beginning March 14, in Room 26. Rabbi Chefitz will repeat his foundation course in rabbinic source materials, ranging from Midrash to Mishnah to Maimonides. If any of that is strange to you, you owe it to yourself to take the course. Hundreds have already found it an exciting experience. Enrollment limited to 40.



FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

The Need For Rules and Standards

As a boy, and as a young man, I never had a sense that my life was restricted or confined. Nonetheless, I can see today that I lived my life according to clear rules and standards. I understand now that because I accepted these standards as being logical and important, I never considered them to be restrictions. The rules were aides and friends, not jailors and opponents.

In modern times, parents seem afraid to raise their children by firm rules and standards. There seems to be two main reasons for this reluctance.

First of all, we live in a time when every old standard is being questioned, so we wonder if we know what is right. We are hesitant when we teach our children. We are lukewarm in our belief and in our authority.

Secondly, we are afraid that our children will not love us if we are firm with them. We are concerned lest they run away from home and ignore us for the rest of our lives and theirs. We are not sure of our children's loyalty.

Let's face it; we are the most insecure generation of parents that has ever lived and with good reason. The old values seem to be in disrepute, but they are the only values we know, and in such a prosperous and mobile society, our children are not dependent on us for room and board. We don't have the hold on our children that parents used to have.

This is the dilemma, and it is real, but other facts are just as clear. Society has not benefitted from the collapse of the old standards, and our children are not happy in their new-found freedom. Freedom is a wonderful word when it means freedom to choose responsibility. When freedom means the license to do whatever you want and "to hell with society and family," it is a dangerous word.

A Rabbi, like a social worker, and a psychologist or psychiatrist, is in an ideal position to measure what is happening in society and to individuals. All of the specialists to whom I have talked are saying one thing--there is more unhappiness in the world with our burgeoning freedom, there is more desperation. All of us who deal with broken lives tend to agree--we need a return to rules and standards. We need a return to parental firmness and to family loyalty.

This is not to suggest that all of the rules must be exactly those rules such as those administered by our parents. Some liberalizing of their standards is in order, but the present openness is sheer madness. It is also true that exceptions to rules are necessary in special situations, but flexibility is different from license. One can be firm and loving at the same time.

This is not an invitation for parents to be autocratic. The old notion of the parent as dictator is passe. Parents have to understand the needs of children and encourage them to express their fears, their needs, and their opinions. Nonetheless, parents must sometimes require their children to act in ways the children might choose to oppose. Teenagers, especially, need limitations and strong guidance. Young people really need their parents to be parents, that is, to be models of right conduct and guides to right conduct.

Sooner or later, the splits now tearing society apart will make necessary a reversal of the current rush to hedonistic living. Meanwhile, each of us must try to do what he can in his own household. We must stand firm--with loving understanding.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER RUTH SHACK AT SISTERHOOD BRUNCH FEBRUARY 15

County Commissioner Ruth Shack, noted for her recent stand on gay rights and for her ongoing activities in behalf of minorities and women, will be feature speaker at the forthcoming Sisterhood brunch:

- .. Wednesday, February 15.
.. 9:30 a.m. in the Social Hall.
.. Brunch will be served (\$2.50 per person)
.. Everyone is invited.
.. Topic: Dade County at the Crossroads.
.. Call in reservations to Rhoda Bernheimer at the Temple office, 667-5587, or to Sandy Cook, 595-5980.

P. A. T. I. O.

(Parents and Teachers Involvement Organization)

and the

PRINCE STREET PLAYERS

present

Cinderella

March 12
4:00 p.m.

Beth Am Social Hall
Admission: \$2.00

Buy your tickets now for the famous rags-to-riches tale of Cinderella, produced by the well-known Prince Street Players. All your favorite characters will be there, the wicked stepmother and stepsisters, Cinderella, Prince Charming, and the fairy godmother.

Tickets are available for \$2.00 each by sending your check, made out to Beth Am P.A.T.I.O., to the Temple office, 5950 North Kendall Drive, Miami, Florida 33156.

Name _____

Address _____ Zip _____

No. Tickets _____ Check enclosed for _____

B'nai Mitzvah

Saturday, February 18

9:15 a.m.

11:15 a.m.



Karen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Korn



Jonathan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Odell (No photo available)



Gregg, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Markowitz

Andrew, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Matus