



beth am commentator

MAY 19, 1978

MIAMI, FLORIDA

RABBI HERBERT M. BAUMGARD

SOME REACTIONS TO THE FILM, "THE HOLOCAUST"
Friday, May 19, 8:30 p.m., RELIGIOUS SERVICE

Saturday, May 20, 11:15 a.m., TORAH SERVICE

BAFTY LUNCHEON

9th, 10th, 11th and 12th Graders
at the beautiful
COSTA DEL SOL COUNTRY CLUB

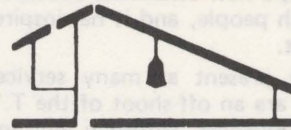
Sunday, May 21, at 11:00 a.m.

Cost of complete luncheon: \$5.00

All ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth graders are invited
to help celebrate the final affair of the great 77-78 year.

R.S.V.P.: Gayle at 264-7897 or Bruce at 661-9414

Transportation will be provided
from Beth Am at 10:30 a.m.



The Committee Of 100

COMMITTEE OF 100 SEEKS MEMBERS

In a special appeal to members the past two weeks, nine new families have volunteered to join the Committee of 100 for the fiscal year which starts on July 1, 1978. In addition, one new member of the congregation who has registered membership for next year has also joined the committee.

All members of the congregation should thank these families whose names are printed below, since it is only by contributions like this that our budget ends up in balance. There is no limit to the number of families needed for this committee. All are welcome--can you join?

The Committee of 100 is happy to welcome to their ranks the following new member families:

Alan and Carole Chase

Charles and Dahliah Gans

Norman and Renee Goldenberg

Dr. Allen and Joanne Katz

Dr. Terry and Marcia Reisman

Ferdinand and Frieda Rosenthal

Sy and Myra Schulemson

Larry and Myrna Silver

Dr. William and Marcia Silver

Steven and Norma Stone

Summer Program

Registration

Reaches New High



Registration for the summer program at Beth Am is moving along very nicely in all age groups. We have more children registered at this time than we had at the same time last year.

Extensive improvements in the programming for the coming year are planned by Rose Ashbes, our camp director. Rose is an experienced teacher in the county school system. She has more than 16 years of teaching and camping experience.

Summer program runs for eight weeks, starting on Monday, June 19. There will be full day activities for four to 14 year olds. For three year olds, we have a half-day program. You can send your child for a four week session or for the full eight weeks.

GROUPS FILLING RAPIDLY

The various groups in the program are filling up rapidly. Temple members receive first preference in registration and fees. In an effort to fight inflation, the fees for this year were kept to a minimum. Registration will be open to non-Temple members, on an unrestricted basis, starting May 29. If you want to reserve a space for your child, register now. Call Rhoda Bernheimer in the Temple office, 667-5587, for more information.

ALL MUST RE-REGISTER FOR NEXT YEAR

Re-registration Forms To Be Sent June 1

In about three weeks, we will be mailing membership registration forms for the fiscal year 1978-79. The membership registration and Religious and Hebrew School registration forms have been incorporated into one form.

Temple fiscal policy will not allow us to mail forms for new registration to members in arrears on their current year's fees or pledges. Everyone owing monies to the Temple has received a statement. The last statement before our re-registration on June 1 is in the mail. Watch for this last statement if you have a past due balance.

TEMPLE BETH AM FISCAL POLICY

The fiscal year of the Temple begins July 1 and ends June 30.

1. Registration forms for membership and Religious Schools will not be offered to members until all past due accounts are paid.

2. One-half of the dues is due on July 1. All balances are due by December 31.

3. Registration fees for Religious and Hebrew Schools are due at the time of registration.

4. Registration for nursery-kindergarten, day school, or summer camp will be honored for those members of the Temple who are current in their dues and fees.

5. Capital fund pledges are due on July 1 of the year for which you are registering.



FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

Concerning The Holocaust

If the T.V. series on the Holocaust did nothing else, it has given people, Jews and Christians, a new awareness about the decimation suffered by the Jewish people, and it has inspired much discussion and reaching out.

In recent days, I have been present at many services, meetings, and discussions which are an off-shoot of the T.V. presentation. On the first day of Passover, Saturday morning, we held a discussion on the holocaust as part of our regular service. Many of our members attended and expressed their feelings. We presented a special reading on the subject. I think all who attended felt a little better after the service. A Christian girl in attendance came up to me and said, "I want to attend the conversion classes."

On Tuesday evening, April 25, I was one of the many speakers at Temple Or Olam as part of a rally to protest the desecration of that synagogue by Nazi-type hate-mongers. Several rabbis, the director of the Anti-Defamation League, a Baptist minister, and an Episcopalian priest spoke. The mood was clear--Americans will not permit this kind of hoodlumism to go on. You might like to know that our Temple President Sam Steen has pledged a thousand dollars from Beth Am to Or Olam for repairs on that synagogue.

On Wednesday, April 26, I was part of the Christian-Jewish dialogue meeting held at the office of the Jewish Federation. Both ministers and rabbis wore yellow stars and addressed themselves to the subject of the holocaust. The response of people like Archbishop McCarthy and Bishop Duncan, along with many other concerned ministers, was all that might be hoped for. Miami is fortunate in having liberal leaders of both Catholic and Episcopal dioceses. Other Christian denominations were represented and spoke with determination to see that "it can't happen here."

On Thursday, April 20, the Rev. George Miller and I addressed a large group of Baptists and Jews convened in the Shenandoah Baptist Church as part of the annual meeting of the South Florida Baptist Association and the Anti-Defamation League. The Rev. Miller courageously expressed his unhappiness about those Christian evangelists who come after Jews. The theme of the assembly was mutual respect and cooperation.

There is much more going on in Miami today in the way of interfaith cooperation than when I first came here in 1956. For example, the Catholics never joined in an interfaith meeting until about 1960, but since then, they have been very active and a prime force in this movement. It wasn't until a year or so later that we had our first interracial clergy meeting. Now blacks are an essential part of our regular dialogue sessions.

Synagogue desecrations to the contrary, Dade County has come a long way in the last 20 years. There is, of course, a great deal of underlying bigotry and hatred. This will surface from time to time. But America is not Germany. If we are aware of the destruction that unrestrained prejudice can produce, and if we are determined to act quickly to squelch it when it erupts, we will not lose the great advantages of the American society. On the other hand, we have to do what we can on a day by day basis to inform and to teach and to reach out. One of the most important things we can do is to become better Jews, more understanding of our faith, and therefore living illustrations of what the Jewish people really is.

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY, JUNE 4 CONFIRMANDS PREPARING PROGRAM

The first Sunday in June is the date of our Confirmation exercises, which mark the culmination of ten years of religious study. Nearly 120 students will be participating, making this one of the largest Confirmation classes in the world! All of our confirmands will have completed the eighth through tenth grades of the religious school, but most have been with us since kindergarten.

Rabbi Fred Davidov is supervising the Confirmation program which this year is entitled "Pippin's Journey" and is the story of the quest for meaning in a confusing world. The confirmands themselves are writing the dramatic narratives, preparing the music, dance and art work. Each student has a responsibility for some aspect of the program. All of our Rabbis and the full teaching staff are involved as well.

ADULTS TO BE CONFIRMED AT SHABBAT SERVICE

For the second year, we have extended to the adults of the congregation an opportunity for adult confirmation. Why should the children be the only ones permitted the privilege of Jewish study? Over 50 adults have participated in the various courses offered in the adult program, and those who have completed all requirements will be honored during the original service that the young confirmands are preparing for Friday evening, June 2.

The first weekend in June will mark our 22nd Confirmation exercises. We anticipate that it will be an exciting and joyous occasion for the entire congregation.

CONVERSATIONAL HEBREW AT BETH AM

A comprehensive beginning and intermediate accredited course in Modern Conversational Hebrew is being taught under the auspices of Coral Park Senior High Adult Education at Temple Beth Am on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

The teacher is Mrs. Cohen, who has a Hebrew University in Jerusalem Certificate, and a Bachelor of Science degree from Florida International University. She is certified by the State of Florida Department of Education, and is an experienced teacher. There is a \$5 registration fee. Senior citizens free.

JOAN'S GEMS

By JOAN SCHWARTZMAN

Flash--right off the presses--we are proud to announce that Joel, son of Ron and Adele Benjamin, won the Silver Knight award in art. . . . I've noticed articles in the Miami Herald featuring Beth Amites. Elayne Wershil was featured in the gourmet cooking section, and Martin Aronow was featured in an article in the Neighbor's Section. . . . Kudos to Judy M. Gilbert who is the recipient of this year's Hannah G. Solomon award, which was presented by the Greater Miami Section, National Council of Jewish Women. Judy is currently serving on the GMJF community relations committee task force on the single parent family.

Our own Sandi Goldman had an art show recently at the Mimi Gallery at the University of Miami.

Bnai

Mitzvah

Saturday
May 20
11:15 a.m.



Kenneth, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Cohen
Ronald, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Marks