



June 5, 1981

RELIGIOUS SERVICE, Friday, June 5, 1981, 8:30 p.m.
CONFIRMATION CREATIVE SERVICE
 TORAH SERVICE, Saturday, June 6, 1981, 9:15 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

Beth Am Commentator

5950 North Kendall Drive, Miami, Florida 33156 • Telephone: 667-6667

Re-Registration Forms Mailed To All Members

Re-Registration forms for the year 1980-81 have been mailed to all members who are "Current" in their Fair Share dues payments to the Temple. If you have not received your new Registration Forms and your account with the Temple is "Paid-In-Full" call the bookkeeping department at 667-6667.

All members are urged to send back their Registration forms now: before they are misplaced, before vacations, before we get to a crisis as far as Religious and Hebrew School is concerned.



The Committee of 100

The following members of "The Committee of 100" have rejoined for the next fiscal year. There is no limit to the number of families needed for this committee. All are welcome.

- Dr. Mark and Nedra Oren
 - William and Helen Rafkind
 - Jose and Hortense Rapaport.
 - Drs. Kenneth and Judith Ratzan
 - Joseph and Norma Reisman
 - Dr. Ian and Jodi Reiss
 - Phil and Muriel Revitz
 - Earle and Gaylen Rifas
 - Judge Steven Robinson
 - Sigmund and Elaine Rosen
 - Sherwin and Marlynn Ross
 - Dr. M. William and Francine Ross
 - Jay and Bernice Rossin
 - Dr. Richard and Cessy Rubinson
 - Dr. Richard and Phyllis Sandrow
 - William and Frances Sanes
 - Seymour and Myra Schulemson
 - Norton and Teddi Segal
 - Martin and Elaine Shane
 - Dr. Harold and Cecily Silberman
 - Dr. William and Marcia Silver
 - Dr. Bernard and Elaine Silverstein
 - Charles and Sandra Simon
 - Dr. Gilbert and Natalie Snyder
 - Dr. Peter and Michele Sobel
 - Donald and Rose Sobol
 - Sherman and Irene Squire
 - Sam and Shirley Steen
 - Dr. Wayne and Linda Tobin
 - Sanford and Betty Susman
 - Brian and Carole Weiss
 - Dr. Peter and Judy Weissman
 - Allan and Barbara Wolk
 - Stanley and Stella Young
 - Dr. Lloyd and Mardi Zand
- (More Rejoinees Next Week)

High School Graduation and Confirmation at Exercises Sunday, June 7th, 9:45 a.m.

On Sunday morning, June 7th, at 9:45 a.m., Beth Am will honor ten graduates of its High School program and 98 graduates of its Confirmation program. The High School graduation for those who have earned at least six full college credits in our Judaica Studies program are the second such class in the history of Beth Am. This program is co-sponsored with the Central Agency for Jewish Education. The Senior Graduates are: Stacy Bloom, Suzanne Cohen, Jay Freedman, Leslie Friedland, Jilly Goodworn, Linda Golob, Rosanne Model, Monica Rawicz, Kimberly Ross and Lee Waldman.

The Confirmation Class will produce its original version of a musical-narration entitled, "What Will the World Be Like When the Messiah Comes?" The Rabbinical staff and corps of teachers are involved in the enterprise which includes a chorus, dancers, and narration. There is also special art work for the Sanctuary.

Minimum requirements for Confirmation include satisfactory completion of the 8th, 9th, and 10th grades.

Confirmation occurs at Shavuot time which is the anniversary of the epochal event at Mt. Sinai when the Hebrews received the Ten Commandments.

In addition to the Confirmation Exercises on June 7th, Beth Am will have a special Shavuot service on Monday morning, June 8th, at 10 a.m. Shavuot formally begins on Sunday evening, June 7th, at sundown, when candles are lit, and continues in the Reform calendar to Monday evening. Orthodox Jews observe two days.

Friday Evening Creative Service June 5th at 8:30 p.m. Sandy Goldstein to be Honored at This Time

As part of the final Confirmation program, the Confirmation Class will present its original service on Friday evening, June 5th, at 8:30 p.m. Please note that although this is the first Friday of the month, the service will be at the late hour. The Singles Service usually held on the first Friday of the month will be cancelled because of the late hour.

Sandy Goldstein, who has been a teacher at Beth Am for many years and the Youth Group Director for many years, will be honored at this service. Sandy has been a teacher in the Day School, the weekend school, and the Monday Night School. She is leaving for Boca Raton where her husband, Sammy, also a former teacher in the school, will become the Administrator of the Reform Congregation there.

BETH AM CONFIRMATION CLASS - 1981

CONFIRMAND

Allison Abisch
 David Albert
 Michelle Baren
 Lonny Barkow
 Jonathan Barry
 Julie Behren

PARENTS

Robert and Estelle Abisch
 Lawrence J. and Myrna Albert
 Milton and Gloria Baren
 Robert and Diane Barkow
 Richard and Helen Barry
 Richard and Leta Behren

(Continued on Page 3)

SHAVUOT SERVICES in Sanctuary, Monday Morning, June 7th at 10:00 a.m.



Shavuot

Shavuot - a Holiday of Rejoicing Begins Sunday Night, June 7th

Did You Stand At Sinai?

Originally one of the major agricultural festivals of ancient Israel, Shavuot is observed in modern times by Jews around the world as the time when Moses received the commandments on Mt. Sinai. It has become a time when Jews dedicated themselves to the observance of the moral law. This is why Reform Judaism holds its Confirmation ceremony at this season.

Since Shavuot, which begins at sundown on June 7th, commemorates the giving of the Commandments at Mt. Sinai, it is fitting to read the following excerpt from "Loving What is Close" by Rabbi Herbert M. Bumgard. The excerpt is from the essay, "The Mystical Requirements for Being a Jew."

The second mystical step required of a Jew is that he stand with Moses at Mt. Sinai. The Bible tell us that all Jews stood at the holy mountain with Moses. Those who were present in the flesh were joined, we are told, by those who were dead and by those Jews yet to be born. The brit Abraham made with God on an individual basis was offered to all the Hebrew people at Mt. Sinai. They were asked if they would accept it as their own or reject it, for they had that privilege. The Abrahamic brit was a brief one. Moses added dozens of moral laws to the covenant before he presented it to the people, for there is a difference between personal religion and societal religion. Abraham taught us how to act in a one-on-one relationship with God. Moses taught us how to act as members of a dedicated society, as an "ahm kadosh", as a "holy people".

When a convert is accepted into the faith at Beth Am, we always ask him or her, "Did you indeed stand at Mt. Sinai? Were you there in spirit? Do you identify yourself with the efforts of this slave people to fashion a new kind of human society dedicated to justice and compassion? Do you accept their suffering and sacrifices as your own?" we ask of the convert. "Do you accept their goals and teachings? Do you join yourself to this people, to its experience and to its fate?" Today, I ask you the same question we ask of a convert. "Did you stand at Mt. Sinai? Did you hear the deafening thunder and see the panoramic lightning? Did you see the mountain belching fire and smoke, and did you cower with the others in trembling and awe? Did you stand there, indeed, alongside Moses and Miriam? Did you see the souls that once bore the names of Abraham and Isaac? Did you see the unformed souls of those yet to be born, those who were to carry the banner of Judaism through pogroms and holocausts yet to come? Did you see the soldiers there, Joshua in the flesh and those souls of bodies yet to be slain, the Maccabees at Modin, the heroes of the Warsaw Ghetto, and the Israelis at the Suez Canal, on the Golan Heights, and in Maalot and Munich? Did you stand there with the great Prophets, like Isaiah and Jeremiah, and with the grandmothers who would take such joy in blessing candles? Were you aware that Freud and Einstein were there too, standing side by side with other geniuses who would be buried in nameless graves, and who would never be permitted to give what they had to give in such abundant measure?" It is important that you place yourself at Sinai, for only when we are all together in that historic moment does Judaism seem to take on its more dynamic form. Only when we are all at Sinai together does the Jewish people attain to the remarkable eternal strength God meant for it to have.

Special meals are held in the home on Shavuot eve, which is at eventide on Sunday, June 7th. There are the usual festival benedictions which follow for your information and use:

1. Thanksgiving: Thanks be to You, Oh Lord, who has kept us alive and sustained us and enabled us to experience this celebration.
Baruch Ahtah Ahdonai Eloheynu Mehlech Ha-Ohlam She-Hech-Chey-Yah-Nu; Key-May-Nu V'Higgi-Ah-Nu Lahz-Man Ha-Zeh
2. Blessing Over the Candles: Thanks be to You, Oh Source of Light, Who Urges Us to Bring Light Into the World.
Bahruach Ahtah Ahdonai Eloheynu Mehlech Ha-Ohlam Asher Kid'Shanu B'Mitzvahtav V'Tzivahnu L'Hadlik Nare Shel Yom Tov.
3. Blessing Over the Wine: Oh Creator of This Wine and All Things that Grow From the Earth, We Thank You and Dedicate Ourselves to be Creators of Good Things.
Bahurch Ahtah Ahdonai Eloheynu Mehlech Ha-Olam Boray P'ri Ha-Gafen

Shavuot Services will be held at the Temple on Monday morning, June 8th, at 10 a.m. Confirmation services are Sunday morning, June 7th, at 9:45 a.m.

Adult Bar Mitzvah Set For June 19

Two members of Beth Am, Ms. Linda Golob and Mr. Barry Hechtman will be called to the Torah at Friday evening services on June 19th. Both have completed the requirements as established by the Adult Education Committee for Hebrew Language studies as well as for courses in Judaica.

Both were unable to have their Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremonies at the usual age of 13. In the case of Linda a trip to Israel was the inspiration for her decision to achieve now what she was disinterested in doing then. She is now determined to know Hebrew fluently and continues to attend classes in the Judaica High School Program here at Beth Am. Barry has also pursued his Jewish Education aggressively this year.

All Adults who have not experienced the Bar/Bat Mitzvah ceremony or who have not been confirmed are urged to take advantage of our Adult Education Program in order to enjoy the fulfillment of these rituals which so enrich Jewish lives.

Blood Drive Report

We have some extra special people at Beth Am - to be exact - 186 of them! These are the members who generously donated at our recent Blood Drive. They have helped some very sick people receive fresh, healthy blood. Additional pledges have been made, bringing our total collected to 200 pints!

My sincere thanks to the many women on the Telephone Committee, without whom none of this would have been possible. Special mention should be made of the work done by New Beginnings and BAFTY. They were great, as were the hostesses who guided and helped the donors.

Thank you DONORS and WORKERS. (I wish I could mention each one of you by name). You made this drive so successful.

Doreen Marx, Blood Drive Chairman

B'Nai Mitzvah

Saturday, June 6

9:15 a.m.



Faye Elizabeth, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. David Katzin



Dana, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Stephen Kulvin

11:15 a.m.



Daniel, son of Dr. and Mrs. Joe Levi



Richard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Spero