

RELIGIOUS SERVICES, Friday, May 21, 1982, 8:15 p.m.
RABBI HERBERT M. BAUMGARD
 "JOSEPH AND HIS AMAZING TECHNICOLOR COAT"
 TORAH SERVICE, Saturday, May 22, 1982, 11:15 a.m.

Beth Am Commentator

4950 North Kendall Drive, Miami, Florida 33156 • Telephone: 667-6667

Day School Shabbat-For Jerusalem Day May 21st

Students of the Day School will lead the congregation at Friday Night Services, May 21, 8:15 p.m. in honor of the 15th anniversary of the reunification of Jerusalem.

The students study the siddur (prayer-book) as part of their curriculum and they are encouraged to write their interpretations of the prayers. They will be using a special student siddur that was created from their thoughts. They will also sing special songs for the service.

Religious School Teachers Honored on Fri., May 21st

David Halberg, a teacher in the Beth Am Religious School for the last ten years, will be honored at our Annual Teacher's Sabbath on Friday evening, May 21st, at 8:15 p.m. David has been teaching in the upper grades on the weekends and the Monday Night School. His special areas of expertise are anti-Semitism and the Holocaust.

In addition, Sam Hollander and Raisa Edelman will be honored for their 15 years of service to the Temple.

Knute Krassenstein and Rose Sobol Receive Honors

Knute Krassenstein will be given a special award for his service to the Hebrew School. Rose Sobol, who has served as our Assistant Librarian for many years also will be honored for her service.

High School Graduation and Confirmation at Exercises Sunday, May 30, 9:45 a.m.

On Sunday morning, May 30th, at 9:45 a.m., Beth Am will honor 15 graduates of its High School program and 86 graduates of its Confirmation program.

The Confirmation Class will produce its original version of a musical-narration entitled, "Who Am I?" 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.

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

BETH AM CONFIRMATION CLASS - 1982

CONFIRMAND

Judy Albert
 Joyce Alpert
 David Ames
 Susan Baer
 Karen Beiley
 Josef Blumenfeld
 Craig Brand
 Karey Breslauer
 Hope Sherry Breslaw
 David Chase
 Debra Chase
 Joy Clein
 Staci Clein
 Brett Cohen
 Anthony Cooper
 Howard Demsky

Karin Engel
 Kim Engel
 Ellen England
 Beth Feinberg
 Mary Feldman

Betsy Fishman
 Lisa Forman
 Lisa H. Fox
 Joselyn Frank
 Laurie Friedland
 James Gelsey
 Leslie Gittess
 Laura Gittleman
 A. Michael Glick
 Randee Godofsky
 Jackie Gross
 Patti Haiman

Rochelle Halpern
 Stuart Herman
 Leslie Jacobson
 Lisa Kaiser

PARENTS

Ron and Susan Albert
 Barry and Pat Alpert
 Stuart and Fran Ames
 Ken and Sandy Baer
 Stanley and Marcia Beiley
 Fred and Fran Blumenfeld
 Barry and Madeline Brand
 Gerald and Gail Breslauer
 Gerald and Emma Breslaw
 Alan and Carole Chase
 Stephen Chase and Abbey Chas
 Robert and Judy Clein
 Michael and Carol Clein
 Denny and Judith Cohen
 Bennett and Joan Cooper
 Mark E. Demsky and Sharla Demsky

Joseph and Dolores Previti
 Joseph and Dolores Previti
 Arthur and Deedee England
 Mike and Brenda Feinberg
 Bennett Feldman and Nancy Green

Lawrence and Suzanne Fishman
 Michale and Ann Forman
 Gloria Fox
 Howard and Merle Frank
 Edward and Nan Friedland
 Daniel and Myrna Gelsey
 Ron and Carol Gittess
 Robert and Barbara Gittleman
 Henry and Frances Glick
 Lawrence and Thea Godofsky
 Jerry Gross and Elsie Manton
 Barry Haiman and Barbara Lefcourt

Barry and Sheila Halpern
 Jack and Dorothy Herman
 Sanford and Adrienne Jacobson
 Jay and Ellie Kaiser

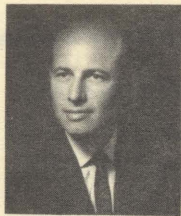
The Committee of 100

The following members of "The Committee of 100" have rejoined for the fiscal year starting in July:

Richard and Barbara Litt
 Herman and Shirley Marks
 Doreen Marx
 Laurans and Arlene Mendelson
 Sanford and Terri Moret
 Mark and Nedra Oren
 Barry and Terri Packar
 Larry and Sandra Perl
 Terry and Marcia Reisman
 Sigmund and Elaine Rosen
 M. William and Francine Ross
 Sherwin and MaryInn Ross
 Jay and Bernice Rossin
 Richard and Cessy Rubinson
 Richard and Phyllis Sandrow
 Norton and Teddi Segal
 Martin and Elaine Shane
 Harold and Cecily Silberman
 Philip and Betty Singer
 Peter and Michele Sobel
 Sam and Shirley Steen
 Sanford and Betty Susman
 Stanley and Stella Young

More members of the "Committee" are needed

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SILENT IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Modern people find it difficult to pray. Jewish prayer is based on the hypothesis that you can hold a conversation with the Source of Life; that this Source is interested in you and cares about you; that you need no intermediary to reach It. Our concept of prayer assumes that God is ideal love and justice and that God beckons to us to come to Him (It). That is, prayer is part of the process through which we take the qualities we associate with God into ourselves.

Prayer, then, is serious business. It is part of a process of becoming, becoming like God. As in anything else, to participate in prayer properly, one must train for the moment. One must prepare to pray. In all religions it is believed that this preparation stage must be one of silence, i.e. one tries to shut out all the sounds and thoughts associated with routine living, and one tries to concentrate on thoughts of God. The Christian thinks of Jesus. The Eastern mystic thinks of nothing. The Jew tries to think of ideal love and justice, a living love.

When my mother used to light the candles, she would put herself in such a mood. For several minutes she would stand there at the candles, quiet, sincerely reaching for the highest of which she was capable of conceiving. When I was in Israel last I ventured into the synagogue area to the left of the Western Wall. Far into that area, in a remote corner, I found a bearded man praying with such K'vanah (intention) that every bone and muscle in his body was involved. He was saying the traditional prayers but with a spontaneity of his own creativity.

I inevitably contrast the spirit of praying people with the attitude and practice of many people who come to Beth Am for Shabbat Services. For many of these people the Sanctuary is just like any other room, an auditorium perhaps, a meeting place, anything but a special place in which one prepares to meet God, in which one attempts to reach out to the Source of our being.

Some adults come to me to complain about young people who have no understanding of what a prayer service should be, and indeed there are many youngsters who have to learn that the Sanctuary is a special place where one rehearses-quietness. But I cannot help feel that these youngsters are merely reflecting the attitude of their parents and other adults who treat the Sanctuary with disrespect.

I am quite aware of the fact that in Eastern Europe, the Synagogue was never a Cathedral. It was indeed a meeting place where village folk related to each other in an intimate if unsophisticated fashion. There is something good about this, and I have never anticipated the icy silence of a Cathedral in the Synagogue. But there is a limit to informality and bounds which even warm folksiness must observe.

Beth Amites, who are ordinarily so attentive once a service begins, must learn how to prepare for prayer in appropriate quietness. We must start with the adults. If we can train them, then the young people will come along.

Israel Bonds Brunch Honoring Joe Solomon & Robert Miller June 6th - 10 a.m. at Temple Beth Am

Another Beth Amite currently teaching in the Beth Am Religious School is Sheila (Mrs. Howard) Golden. Sheila, the mother of three wonderful children, has developed her own course in Midrash for the ninth graders on Monday night (Midrash includes Rabbinical interpretations of what the Bible says). Sheila's purpose is to acquaint the young people with the Book of Genesis and to get them to interpret the scripture themselves, with imagination. Sheila has a rare talent for what she does.

Sheila performed in community theater in three cities, Baltimore, Atlanta, and Miami. She currently serves as a volunteer in recording for the blind and is teaching English to Russians (older people).

Sheila is one of the prime products of our Adult Education program. She has studied under five Rabbis and is one of the hardy few studying Bible on Tuesday mornings on a creative level.

This is Sheila's third year teaching in the Monday Night School.

Re-registration Forms to be Sent June 1st

In a few short weeks we will be mailing membership registration forms for the Fiscal Year 1982-83 to all members in good standing. Membership registration and Religious and Hebrew Schools registration have been incorporated into one form. The Temple fiscal policy (listed below) will not allow us to mail forms for the new registration to members in arrears on the current year's fees or pledges.

Temple Operating in the Red

Due to the fact that many members have not lived up to their commitments to the Temple and have not honored their pledges for the current year, the Temple will be operating in the red this year. Everyone owing money to the Temple has received several statements. If you have a past due balance, please honor your commitment now. This will not only help the Temple meet its budget, but will allow us to mail new forms to you for next year.

Temple Beth Am Fiscal Policy

The fiscal year of the Temple begins July 1 and ends June 30. Fair Share Dues for the forthcoming year become due on July 1.

- 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.

B'Nai Mitzvah

Saturday, May 22



Allison, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Harold Deutsch



Lisa, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Pekar

11:15 a.m.