



FAMILY WORSHIP SERVICE, Friday, February 3, 1984, 7:30 p.m.  
 RABBI HERBERT M. BAUMGARD  
 "WHY IS ELIJAH BETTER THAN SANTA CLAUS?"  
 CONGREGATIONAL TORAH SERVICE, Sat. Feb. 4, 11:15 a.m.

# Beth Am Commentator

5950 North Kendall Drive, Miami, Florida 33156 • Telephone: 667-6667  
 Affiliated with U.A.H.C. Subscription Price \$2.50 yearly

## Havurahs Want You! Come February 7th!

For all those interested in joining a Havurah there will be an "Everything You Wanted to Know About Havurahs But Were Afraid to Ask" meeting on Tuesday, February 7th, 1984, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in Room 101. Please call Rhoda at 667-6667 to let us know that you are coming.

## Birthdays Blessings at Family Service Feb. 3rd

Parents are urged to call in the names of their children to the Temple Office if they celebrate their birthdays during the month of February. Bring your child to the Family Service this Friday night, Feb. 3rd, at 7:30 p.m. for their special blessing.

## Holocaust Educators and Survivors Conference

There will be a Conference for Holocaust Educators and survivors sponsored by Zachor Institute for Holocaust Studies of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation on Sunday and Monday, February 26th and 27th, at the Seville Hotel on Miami Beach. This is a statewide gathering of Holocaust survivors and their children, and an Educators' conference on teaching about the Holocaust.

Keynote speaker will be Mark Talisman, who is Vice-Chairman of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council. Included will be an exclusive showing of "The Precious Legacy" exhibit at the Bass Museum. There will be workshops, symposiums, panel Discussions, lectures, etc., during both days.

Registration fee is \$10 per person, not including meals. For more information, call Zachor Institute at 576-4000, ext. 359.

## Beth Am Basketball Banquet

### Sunday, February 5th

Bob Berney, our Basketball Commissioner, announces the annual end of year Basketball League Banquet will be held on Sunday, February 5th, at 6 p.m. in the Temple Social Hall. There will be prizes awarded in all leagues, door prizes, and favors for all attendees. (We would appreciate any prize donations, by the way.)

This is a very popular function and we have limited seating capacity, so if you plan to attend you had better respond FAST! The form below MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEBRUARY 1ST. Your check is your reservation.

Temple Beth Am  
 5950 N. Kendall Drive  
 Miami, Florida 33156  
 Attention: Basketball

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

No. People Attending \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

## Nominations Open for Temple Officers & Board

Al Leibert, Chairman of the Temple Nominating Committee, has issued a call for nominations to serve as an Officer of the Temple or to serve on the Board of Directors. Any Temple member willing to serve is eligible. Please submit nominations, in writing, to the Temple Office, attention Al Leibert.

The Nominating Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 15th. Please submit names of those who truly want to get involved in the planning and governance of the Temple.

### Board Activities

The Temple Board meets monthly to supervise the activities of the professional staff. They act on the budgets for the Temple, the Religious School and the Day School. They make policy for the religious activities of the Temple, personnel practices, social action areas, and they plan for fund raising and the usual policy making decisions involved with the Temple operation.

### Board Meetings Open to All

All members of the Temple are invited to attend any Board Meeting. Board Meetings usually are held on the third Tuesday of the month. The dates for the next two meetings are Feb. 21st and March 20th. Feel free to attend these meetings to see how your Temple Board operates.

## Calendar for February

- Adult Education ..... Wed. Feb. 1, and three more weeks (L. Kipper, "Hebrew") Rm. 24, 7:30 p.m. Beginners, 8:30 p.m. Intermediate
- Family Worship Service ..... Fri. Feb. 3, 7:30 p.m., Sanct.
- Congregational Torah Svce. .... Sat. Feb. 4, 11:15 a.m.
- Contemporaries ..... Sun. Feb. 5, 2-4 p.m. Youth Lge.
- Annual Basketball Banquet ..... Sun. Feb. 5, 6 p.m., Social Hall
- Adult Education ..... Mon. Feb. 6, and 3 more Mondays, (R. Sandler, "Wisdom of Sages") 7:30 p.m., Chapel
- Adult Education ..... Tue. Feb. 7, and following Tuesday (Rabbi Simon, "Jewish Law & Contemp. Issues") 8 p.m., Rm. 28
- Religious Service ..... Fri. Feb. 10, 8:15 p.m., Sanct.
- Congregational Torah Svce. .... Sat. Feb. 11, 9:15 & 11:15 a.m.
- Sisterhood Meeting ..... Wed. Feb. 15, Rm. 101, 10:30 a.m.
- Contemporaries Shab. Dinner .. Fri. Feb. 17, 6 p.m., Youth Lge.
- Contemp. Creative Service ..... Fri. Feb. 17, 8:15 p.m., Sanct.
- Congregational Torah Svce. .... Sat. Feb. 18, 9:15 & 11:15 a.m.
- Brotherhood Bkfst. Forum Sun. Feb. 19, 9:30 a.m., Youth Lge.
- A New Beginning ..... Sun. Feb. 19, 7:30 p.m., Social Hall
- NO MONDAY NIGHT SCHOOL, NO HEBREW SCHOOL, --  
 MON. FEB. 20
- Temple Board Meeting ..... Tue. Feb. 21, 7:30 p.m., Rm. 101
- CAJE Holocaust Film ..... Wed. Feb. 22, 8 p.m., Rm. 101
- Adult Education ..... Thu. Feb. 23, 8 p.m., Rm. 101 (B. Schechterman, "Current Arab-Israeli Problems")
- "Ideas Through Books" Thu. Feb. 23, 9:30 am & 7:30 pm, away
- Religious Service ..... Fri. Feb. 24, 8:15 p.m., Sanct.
- Congregational Torah Svce. .... Sat. Feb. 25, 11:15 a.m.
- BAFTY Torah-Thon ..... Sat. Feb. 25, 8 p.m. on, Gym
- Mothers & Toddlers ..... Wed. Feb. 29, 10 a.m., Rm. 31, Gym



## FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

### Give and Take with Caspar Weinberger

*Israel*

One of the functions of the Synagogue Council of America is that it serves as a contact with government officials in behalf of American Jewry. To that end, the SCA maintains "our man in Washington", but in addition, the SCA provides a forum for key government officials who wish from time to time to make a direct contact with the Jewish community.

In November of this past year, Caspar Weinberger agreed to meet with SCA leaders (representing the three branches of Judaism in America). At that time, there was a strengthening view that Weinberger was Israel's adversary and that he stressed too much the Arab side of things. We assumed that Weinberger wanted to correct this impression. We believed it important to have this intimate contact.

Weinberger spent about an hour and a half with the Rabbis and lay Board members of the SCA, and said things like this (in paraphrase):

I recognize that barbaric attacks, such as that directed against the Marines in Beirut, have been directed against Israel many times in the past... I know that Israel has many times offered peace and the offer has been answered by aggression... I have been to Israel and know that the presence of the Soviet Union represents a growing threat... There are even parts of Syria where the Soviets ban the Syrians and will not let them in...

First we have to make certain that Lebanon is restored as a stable national state... We want to assist the Jordanian Government to develop some kind of atmosphere in which the President's peace initiative can be put into effect.

Our President has affirmed the moral obligation of our nation to assure the continued existence of Israel as a nation. Israel shares our democratic values and is a formidable force in the Middle East that has to be reckoned with... We have an invader in the Middle East, the Soviet Union, which has invaded Afghanistan and has an enormous military presence in Syria. We think the ultimate aim of the Soviet Union is to deny the West access to the oil fields.

I am a strong supporter of Israel. Finally, and this is the crucial point, the U.S. cannot afford to have any one of our friends in the region, including moderate Arab nations conclude that we are unreliable, as it would seem if we were to abandon Israel.

I would like to deny the allegation that I personally or that American commanders in the field rejected an Israeli offer of help and medical assistance after the attack on our marines. The Israeli offer came two hours after the attack, and our commanders thought we had the situation under control... that there were not so many killed or hurt... and that the wounded could be handled on board ship or in Cyprus which is closer than Haifa.

America tries to maintain good relationships with the moderate Arab states, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, because all of these countries can do a great deal to preserve the stability of the region.

Some people in either the State or Defense Departments may have a different view of things than the President, but once he has made a decision, that becomes government policy... Sales to Saudi Arabia have been only defensive weapons... The Israeli administration may be against the President's peace plan, but the Labor Party, and many other Israelis are not... It seems to us that it is better to try to improve the relationship of Israel with its neighbors than to accept the fact that there is going to be permanent hatred.

Vis a vis the Soviets, the real danger is that they might perceive that we lack the will or the capability of deterrent strength. We do not increase the possibility of war by building up our arm strength to parity with the Soviets.

My feeling is that Arafat is irrelevant now. He is a tool of the Soviets... Grenada was intended as another Soviet Base in the Americas.

*(Note the above is a paraphrase and not a direct quote of the Secretary. The important fact about the meeting was that the Secretary was anxious for the meeting and wanted above all to correct the notion that he was an enemy of Israel. It does seem that the experience of the U.S., in Lebanon has brought them closer to the Israelis.)*

## It's Time to Think of the Summer of '84

Plans are under way for the Temple Beth Am Summer Camp. Teddi Segal, Chairperson of our Summer Program, is happy to announce that our Summer Camp will start this year on Monday, June 18th. The fee schedule is essentially the same as last year. There has been a slight increase in fees to cover salary increases due our staff, but the increases are minimal.

### Special Fees for Early Registration

As we did last year, we are offering special discounts to early registrants. If you register before March 31st there is a discount of approximately 10% in the cost. We have found this results in a sizable saving in our cost of operation because it allows us to purchase supplies and hire the staff in the proper way. This saving will be passed on to early registrants.

Watch for the camp brochure which has been mailed to all Temple members.

### Last Chance To Apply For Coleman Scholarship

The deadline for applying for a Camp Coleman Scholarship for your child is February 10, 1984. If you have not yet applied, call Rabbi Simon immediately and he will give you all pertinent information. After February 10, the Committee cannot accept any new applications.

### "New Beginnings" House Party Feb. 3

House Party (Pot Luck Dinner) - February 3, 1984. Sunrise Point Clubhouse at 7:30 PM - \$2.00 per person. Women bring covered dish, Men bring wine or other beverage.

Dance Class Lessons begin, February 5, 1984. \$50.00 per person for 9 weeks of 2 hr. classes. Deposit \$10 required before January 25th. Make check payable to: A New Beginning, Temple Beth Am, 5950 N. Kendall Drive, Miami, Fla. 33156.

### Temple Beth Am Grove in Israel

Last year Temple Beth Am completed a three year project of buying 1,000 trees so that we could have our own Grove in Israel. This year we are beginning a new Grove in the U.A.H.C. Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler Forest. Trees may be purchased for \$5.00 from the Religious School and Day School offices. Help keep Israel Green - Plant a tree in honor or memory of someone you love.

### Contemporaries Plan Service Friday, Feb. 17th

On Friday evening, Feb. 17th, the Contemporaries of Temple Beth Am, our senior social group, is planning a creative service. Rabbi James L. Simon has been working with the group for this occasion. The service, which begins at 8:15, will be led by our active satisfied seniors. They will be holding a Shabbat Dinner at 6 p.m. in the Youth Lounge prior to the service. This service has always been a source of inspiration to all who attend.

B'Nai Mitzvah

Saturday, February 4

11:15 a.m.



Adam, son of  
Mr. and Mrs. Alan Chotiner



Jeffrey, son of  
Dr. and Mrs. Donald Siegendorf