



RELIGIOUS SERVICE Friday, November 21, 1986, 8:15 p.m.

Rabbi Herbert M. Baumgard
 "PRENTICE RASHEED, HERO OR MURDERER."

Adult Choir Under the Direction of Selma Baumgard

CONGREGATIONAL TORAH SERVICE
 Saturday, November 22nd, 9:15 & 11:15 a.m.

Beth Am Commentator

5950 North Kendall Drive, Miami, Florida 33156
 Affiliated with U.A.H.C.

Telephone 667-6667
 Subscription Price \$2.50 yearly

**An Evening of Music
 with Arnold Steinhardt,
 Sunday, December 14th,
 at 7:30 p.m.**



Beth Am Concert series presents an evening of music with ARNOLD STEINHARDT, violin, viola, on Sunday, December 14th at 7:30 p.m.

Arnold Steinhardt, a founding member of the world-famous Guarneri String Quartet will appear at Temple Beth Am in a rare violin-viola recital. This is the second concert in our five-concert season. Victor Steinhardt, will be at the piano. Mr. Steinhardt's program will include works by Schubert, Schumann, Britten and Faure. Mr. Steinhardt, is equally at home with both the violin and viola.

General admission \$10.00, \$5.00 - for students and senior citizens.

Our third concert will be on February 8th, featuring the outstanding young Italian pianist, CARLO GRANTE.

SISTERHOOD CORNER

SISTERHOOD says Thank You for helping us make our opening Paid-up Members Luncheon and Fashion Show such a success. Again let me thank OUR models, Bess Gerzog, Jean Kamus, Joan Schwartzman-Rothstein, Edie Speigal, Betty Suchman, Ilene Rieter, Mimi Cohen and Evelyn Goodman. You ladies looked FANTASTIC. Following is our calendar of events so far, for the coming year. Continue to watch the Commentator for details.

My gratitude again to all who joined **SISTERHOOD** at our opening luncheon. If you missed this delightful day you really missed a special time, but you can always catch us at our upcoming programs, and of course, you can make plans to attend next year's Paid-up Members Luncheon and Fashion Show. Who knows maybe you can be one of our Models.

Thank you, Judith Solomon.

Sisterhood Calendar

November 20 — Annual Jewish Book Fair at Signature Gardens. The speaker will be Francine Klagsburn, Author. This will be at 10:30 a.m. and the charge is \$20.00. Please see Selma Rappaport for tickets. We would like to have a table from Beth Am.

December 17 — 10:00 a.m. in Social Hall - Chanukah meeting.

January 14 — Evening meeting at Temple.

February 18 — Combined Dade County Sisterhood Meeting and Luncheon including Temple Beth Am, Temple Beth Sholom, Temple Judea, and Temple Israel at Temple Beth Sholom. We will go by bus from Temple Beth Am.

Beth Am and 4 Churches Participate in Thanksgiving Interfaith Service Wednesday, Nov. 26th

Rabbi Baumgard will give the sermon at the annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service to be held this year on Wednesday, November 26th at 7:30 p.m. at the Kendall United Methodist Church, 77th Avenue at 104th Street.

Selma Baumgard will lead the Beth Am Adult Choir at the service. Other choirs from different congregations will participate.

The Riviera Presbyterian Church, Pinecrest Presbyterian Church, St. Louis Catholic Church, First United Methodist Church and Temple Beth Am, will participate in the service.

Ministers from the participating congregations will share various aspects of the brief worship service.

The Interfaith Service has been going on for many years and is always well attended. Beth Amites are urged to come in support of our Rabbi and Choir and to enjoy what is always a wonderful experience. Refreshments will be served.

The Committee of 100 and You

The success of our fiscal needs is due largely to the success of "The Committee of 100". On page 3 of this issue we list all those members who are this distinguished "Committee." All members of Beth Am should be proud and thankful for this group. They represent less than 20% of our membership but contribute over 40% of our Fair-Share dues. If you can, join this group and raise your level of Fair-Share dues to \$1750. If you can't afford this level of giving (and we know not everyone can) contribute whatever you can at this time.

This Year Is Different

Remember that there has been a major change in the tax laws effective January 1, 1987. A contribution to the Temple this year may "Cost" less than the same contribution next year. It may be advisable not only to increase your contribution this year but to pay 1 or 2 years "Dues" in advance. In any event talk to your accountant or tax advisor, and remember we need all the support you can afford.

Chanukah Menorah Contest

The Annual Family Chanukah Menorah Contest is one of Temple Beth Am's most unique traditions. Each year families create daring and delightful entries. Entries will be judged by experts on the basis of originality, appearance, beauty, and creativity. Prizes will be offered in four categories: Pre-School through Kindergarten, 1st-3rd, 4th-6th, and 7th-10th. All entries will receive a prize.

Deadline is Monday, December 15th. Menorahs will be on display at Friday Shabbat services December 19th. **Contest open to all Temple members.**

Have You Sent In Your Ad For The Commemorative Journal?

reform Jewish ideas

We Give Thanks. . . .

FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY



What Liberal Jews Believe

(The following is an excerpt from the Yom Kippur eve sermon by Rabbi Baumgard. Copies of all high holiday sermons of our Rabbis are available in the Rabbis' office).

If you were to ask me, "Do you believe in Heaven", I would answer, "of course": but I mean something entirely different by that term than the Fundamentalists who have a very literal interpretation for it. In a funeral eulogy, I often speak of the individual person as the river and God as the ocean. I believe that each of us is an outlet of the divine spirit. I believe that God lives through each of us, rejoices with us, achieves with us, and suffers with us. What happens to each of us is of critical importance to the world, because what happens to each of us is also happening to God. The person who lives by this faith will measure his deeds by a more exacting standard, and he will understand that he does not suffer alone. Our prayerbook says, "God is closer than breathing". Can this mean that the Divine and the human are part of the same essence: that "chayay olam, eternal life is indeed within us?!

Anyone who has watched a large body of water at high tide knows that if the water cannot go this way, it goes that way. Similarly, if one source of life closes down, another opens up. If the divine spirit, the great thrust of life, cannot live in this body, then it bursts forth in a new baby. Which is a way of saying that to the extent that the life force within us is the life force of God, our life force will burst forth in another outlet when our lungs and mind shut down. To the extent that our individual life is the stuff of the universe, we can never die.

But most of us are concerned with a more specific kind of eternity. It is not enough for us to know that our cells survive in our children and grandchildren. It is not enough for us to know that we are part of a life force which never ends. We want to know that that which is distinct about Herbert Baumgard, John Smith and Mary Goldberg somehow has its personal ongoingness. Here again the Liberal does not want to accept easy and unsupportable answers. He can, however, acknowledge the fact that all kinds of possibilities exist, even if we cannot prove any of them absolutely right now.

Consider for a moment what the human mind really is. The human mind is a computer, no more or less. What we call the mind is made up of a lump sum of our personal experiences perpetually recorded on our brain. The human mind, so to speak, is the computer at the local station. Suppose now that there is a computer of greater power at a central station. Suppose that this computer, this greater mind, absorbs all of the experiences which are recorded on our individual computers and stores these experiences forever. Our personal computer may disintegrate when our body disintegrates but this greater computer, this ever-living mind, may keep our experiences, our personality, alive forever. Improbable you say, but human beings have created just this sort of minor to major computer installations. In fact, we have computers in outer space talking to computers in Houston, Texas, hundreds of thousands of miles away.

Is it not possible, nay probable, that the reality principle we humans have just discovered concerning computers has long been in existence and on a much more profound scale than we can imagine?

In Liberal Judaism, it is possible to entertain varying theories about the unknowables like God and life after death. But if this is so, you might well ask, if it is possible to have different hypotheses, how can we believe anything at all with conviction? To this, there is a simple reply. If one knows all the answers, there is no need of faith. I believe with Einstein that we will always be as infants in comprehending the universe, and ultimately one has to make a leap of faith as to what the probabilities are and as to how one chooses to live ones life.

RABBI'S FUND

Flo & Perry Altfield in memory of Julia Gerber
Dr. Eugene & Joan Bloom in memory of Robert Bloom
Harold & Jill Gaffin in memory of Gloria Frankel's mother
Dr. Melvin & Joan Levinson in memory of Louis Levinson
Stanley & Marcia Philips in memory of Nat Hankoff
Harry & Janet Schumacher in honor of the birth of a grandson from their children, Dr. Robert & Carol Schumacher

HEARING ENHANCEMENT FUND

David Kates in memory of Harold Pomerantz
Albert & Gloria Levine in memory of Teddy Levine
Leola Michaels in memory of Frances Greenberg

MITZVAH FUND

Mary Ann & Darryl Deaktor in memory of Edith Solomon
Dr. Mark & Nedra Oren in memory of Gloria Frankel's mother

LEARNING CTR/TEENAGE BLDG FUND

Jay Moskowitz in memory of Sylvan Moskowitz

Yahrzeit Fund

Mrs. T. Ellis in memory of Ida Tischler
Linda Glass Gallant in memory of mother, Gilda Glass
Carole Heller in memory of Max Levy & Lenore Joseph
Karen & Mort Kass in memory of the recent passing of Herman Kane beloved husband of Mrs. Pauline Kane
Tulia Levy in memory of Samuel Wolcovinsky
Larry & Audrey Seidler in memory of Pearl Seidler

GENERAL FUND

Paul & Felice Dubin in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter Michelle
Arline Finkel in memory of Herbert Cole
Louis G. Katz for the Temple Concert Series
Paul & Lorraine Silverstein in appreciation to Rabbi Baumgard, Rabbi Schoolman and the Hebrew staff in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of daughter, Melissa

ROSE WARNER/ALBERT ARKY CARING FUND

Ed & Carolyn in memory of Jack Wallach

PARENTING PROGRAM

Stephen Malove in honor of Rabbi Schoolman

TROUBADOR FUND

Janice & Dave Stuart to thank Rosita & Herschel Levy for their thoughtfulness
Janice & Dave Stuart to wish a complete & speedy recovery to Marvin Rosen

CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Andy Hodes in memory of Edith Solomon
In honor of Ira Pozen & Ralph Cohen for the kindness of Brotherhood to Religious School
Temple Beth Am Sisterhood in memory of Edith Solomon

For Singles

"I'm O.K. - You'd Better Be Perfect"

Featuring William Novak

Author of the book bearing that title,
Co-author of "Lococa" with Lee Lococa
Popular lecturer on Jewish Singles in N.Y. area

Wednesday, November 19th, 7:30 p.m.
In cooperation with S. Dade Jewish Community Center
Beth Am Sanctuary

B'nai Mitzvah

9:15 a.m.



Ross, son of
Mrs. Valerie Katz and
Dr. Bart Ketover

Saturday, November 22

11:15 a.m.



Mark, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Goldstein

Have You Sent In Your Ad
For
The Commemorative Journal?