

January 16, 1987
Volume 14, Issue 2

RELIGIOUS SERVICE Friday, January 16, 1987, 8:15 p.m.

Rabbi Leonard A. Schoolman
"MAKING IT BIG OR BIGGER:
IVAN BOESKY, DENNIS LEVINE AND THE REST"

CONGREGATIONAL TORAH SERVICE
Saturday, January 17, 11:15 a.m.

Beth Am Commentator

5950 North Kendall Drive, Miami, Florida 33156 • Telephone 667-6667
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"Hasidism Yesterday and Today" Discussion By Chief Hasidic Rabbi of Florida at Congregational Breakfast Forum January 18th

"HASIDISM YESTERDAY AND TODAY" will be the topic of a most interesting discussion by the chief Lubavitch Rabbi of Florida, Rabbi Abraham Korf, on Sunday morning, January 18th, at 9:30 a.m. in the Temple Youth Lounge.

Those ancient Hasidic stories of such places as Chelm reflect a rich Jewish culture of yesterday. The Hasidic movement today is being carried on in Florida by the Lubavitch Jewish community of which Rabbi Korf has been the leader for 25 years. There are also many questions from the Reform movement concerning the Lubavitch efforts to change the Law of Return in Israel.

Admission to this all-you-can-eat Breakfast Forum is \$3 for members and \$3.50 for all non-members. Everyone is invited, including your friends and neighbors, male and female.

New After School Program Starts January 12th

New AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS will begin on January 12th. Classes will include pottery, karate, arts and crafts, printmaking, dance, tumbling, gymnastics and a New Spanish program, taught by the Berlitz Language Centers.

Classes are held daily, and after school care is available in addition to the enrichment programs. This program is for children in pre-school through 6th grade, who either attend Beth Am Day School or neighboring schools. A new brochure will be mailed to all Temple members. If you have any questions about this program call Nancy Weinfeld at the temple between 1:00 and 6:00 p.m.

Parent-Tot Classes at Beth Am

Come join the fun! Play with your children and help them to learn at the same time.

Meet new friends. Watch your children play and grow.

Social time, circle time, project time, discussion time and more.

Registration \$25... once a year only
Three five week sessions. \$25 each
Make checks payable to Temple Beth Am
Call for details: School office: 665-6228



First Session: January 20, 27, February 3, 17, 24
Second Session: March 3, 17, 24, 31, April 7
Third Session: April 21, 28, May 5, 19, 26

REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____ BIRTH DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: _____ CLASS REQUESTED: _____

SESSION REQUESTED: _____

Class Schedule: Tuesdays: Older Toddlers - 9:15-10:15 a.m.
Younger Toddlers - 10:20-11:20 a.m.

Winter Term of Adult Education

Three adult education courses taught by members of Temple Beth Am will highlight the spring study season, Gilbert Roston, committee chairman, announced.

What Makes Jews Different Starts January 27

"What Makes Us Jews Different?" will be taught by Professor Robert Sandler of the University of Miami English Department. His classes will meet on six Tuesday nights, beginning January 27 and continuing through March 3. Professor Sandler will respond to the questions: What is our Jewish inheritance and why should we continue to be different?

Roots of Anti-Semitism Starts February 4

"Roots of Anti-Semitism" will be taught by Dr. Helen Fagin, former chairperson of the Jewish Studies Department of the University of Miami. The course will last four weeks, and will begin on Wednesday evening, February 4, and will meet on February 11, February 18 and February 25. The session will begin at 8:00 p.m.

Jewish Life Cycle Ceremonies, March 4th and 11th

"Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Jewish Life Cycle Ceremonies," will be team taught by Dorothy Herman, long-time principal of our Religious School, and Rabbi Schoolman. The first session, on March 4, will deal with birth, circumcision, baby naming, and other related issues. The second session on March 11 will deal with Bar Mitzvah, Confirmation and the Jewish education of your children. March 18 will be devoted to engagement, marriage and divorce. The final session on March 25 will be concerned with death, burial and mourning customs. Sessions begin at 8:00 p.m.

Sisterhood will sponsor

"The Five Scrolls" on Wednesday mornings

a series of Wednesday morning Bible classes taught by Rabbi Schoolman on the theme "The Five Scrolls." He will relate the books of Esther, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes and Song of Songs to our lives today. These sessions will begin at 10:00 a.m. on four Wednesdays, beginning on February 25.

Introduction To Judaism

In addition, the "Introduction to Judaism" classes team-taught by Rabbi Schoolman, Rabbi Baumgard, Rabbi Norman Lipson and Joan Schwartz continues every Wednesday evening at 7:30 throughout the year.

Plan For Some Significant Dates

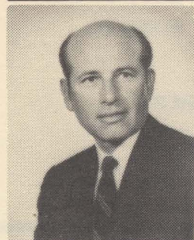
February 27 - Friday night - Special musical program honoring Selma Baumgard

March 20th - Friday night - Special service with Al Vorspan, Vice President of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations as featured speaker

May 2nd - Saturday night - Gala Dinner-Dance Testimonial to Rabbi Baumgard. (No speeches.)

Watch the Commentator for further details.

January 19, 1987 - Martin Luther King's Birthday - Office and School Closed



From the Rabbi's Study

What Liberal Jews Believe

(Excerpted from High Holiday Sermon Available in Rabbi's Office)

Some people can accept only a religion which guarantees them that all the answers are in and known. My feeling is that if God can be defined in a formula, then he is not God at all but an idol. What excites me about Biblical Judaism is that it starts with the assumption that God cannot be completely known. God says to Moses, "I am what I am. I shall be what I shall be". That is to say, I am not a God you can see and define precisely, and I am not a God to be manipulated by Magicians and incantations.

What excites me about Liberal Judaism, which is derived from the scripture, is that it calls us to go in search of this God who is ever beyond us, even while He is closer than breathing. Great ideas are sometimes communicated best by stories. Bear with me then while I tell you a story which I have told you before, because it is an essential story for the person of Liberal Jewish faith. The story is that a disciple of the Hasidic Rabbi asked him, "Master, how is it that God sometimes seems to be so far away?" The Rabbi answered, "How is it that a parent attempts to teach a child to walk? If the parent always held on to the child's hand and stayed close, the child would always be dependent and would never learn to walk. So what does the wise parent do, he stands away from the child and beckons to him. And what does the parent do after the child has taken his first steps towards him? Why the parent moves away and beckons again. So it is with God and his children", taught the Hasidic master. "God wants us to grow towards Him. To become like Him. So He stands away from us and beckons to us. And then what does He do after we move forward? Why He recedes and beckons again". The implication in this classic story is that each time we walk towards God, we take some of His qualities into ourselves, we become more God-like. And as we become more God-like, we become capable of conceiving of a more expansive God idea, which is to say, God seems once again to recede. And so the interaction goes on and on and on.

This is why the religious life of the Liberal Jew can be so exciting. It is a journey that never ends. It is a perpetual growing. It is an eternal seeking. As one Jewish sage, Maimonides taught, "It is in exalted seeking that you experience eternity".

Dec. 14th - An Outstanding Evening of Music

December 14th was an outstanding concert featuring Arnold Steinhardt, violinist/violist and Victor Steinhardt, Pianist. Those who attended were privileged to hear music from two superb artists. We hope to present them in a return engagement in the not too distant future.

Left to right: Leonard Kaplan, Marcia Simon, Dr. Sanford Ziff, Victor Steinhardt, Helene Ziff, Doreen Krulewitch, Arnold Steinhardt, Selma Baumgard, Rabbi Baumgard.

Front row: Flower girls, Dina Greenberg, Becky Blum

(Photos by Aronow)



Liberal Reform Ideas Camp Coleman Rally Sunday, February 1st

Please note on your calendar that there will be a special Dade County Camp Coleman Rally on Sunday, Feb. 1, 1987, at 4 p.m. at Temple Beth Shalom on Miami Beach. This "Rally" will be for old campers, new campers, prospective campers, parents, and anyone else interested. There will be a special slide presentation, refreshments, door prizes, etc.

JOAN'S JEMS by Joan Schwartzman-Rothstein

Kudos to Ronni Bogaev Greenstein who's latest works of her oil paintings will be shown at the Sherry French Gallery January 7th thru Feb. 1st. The Gallery is located at 41 West 57th St. N.Y.C... We are indeed proud of Pamela Suchman, daughter of Cliff and Betty. Pam has been admitted early acceptance to Dartmouth College... Congrats to William Altfield, son of Perry and Florence who graduated the University of Florida College of Law. Bill will begin his practice as a member of the State's Attorney office... Laura Battle graduated the University of Florida with a B.S. with honors and has been accepted to graduate school for physio-psychology. She is the daughter of Sharon Battle and granddaughter of Frank and Helen Tryson. Mazel! Did you read the wonderful article about our students at Day School featured in "Neighbors" section of the Miami Herald on Thursday, December 24th. Made one very proud... Ellen and Lane Genet are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Stephanie weighing in at 6 lbs. 8 ounces. Proud grandparents once again are Barbara and Saul Genet...

Fourth Grade Shabbat Dinner

The Fourth Grade will have their annual Family Shabbat Dinner in the Social Hall on Friday, February 6th at 6 p.m.

We look forward to celebrating the Shabbat with Fourth Grade families; grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, and siblings are welcome.

The Fourth Grade classes will participate in the Family Service following the dinner.

Send in your reservation now!

Beth Am Basketball Banquet Feb. 1st

The Beth Am Basketball League annual banquet will be held this year on Sunday, Feb. 1st. There will be a catered buffet dinner at 6 p.m. at a cost of \$8.50 per person. Seating is limited so get your reservation in early. There will be special awards and door prizes as well as fun favors. Your check must be in by Jan. 26th - your check is your reservation.

Do You Need Sick Room Equipment? Do You Have Sick Room Equipment?

The Caring Committee in conjunction with Sisterhood has instituted a lending system for sick room equipment and equipment for the handicapped. This service is available to temple members and their families.

We are also looking for donations to increase our inventory. For more information or to make a donation call Mary Ann Deaktor at 251-0477 or 667-6667.

B'Nai Mitzvah

Saturday, January 17th

11:15 a.m.



(No Photo Available)

Annie, daughter of
Dr. and Mrs. Ralph Marcus

Dean, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Warhaft