

RELIGIOUS SERVICE Friday, May 29, 1987, 8:15 p.m.
THE REVEREND EDWARD McCARTHY
Archbishop of Diocese of South Florida
Guest Speaker

CONGREGATIONAL TORAH SERVICE

Saturday, May 30th, 11:15 a.m. Torah Portion: Bemidbar, Numbers 1:1-4:20

Beth Am Commentator

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

Archbishop McCarthy Speaks At Beth Am Friday, May 29th At 8:15 p.m.



MAY 31st IS BLOOD BANK SUNDAY AT BETH AM

The South Florida Blood Service Mobile unit will be at our Social Hall on Sunday, May 31, between 8:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Please come and donate a pint of blood.

Your blood is urgently needed to help those in critical need. A very few minutes of your time may save a life.

Brotherhood will serve a delicious breakfast to all donors (no lines) and we promise to get you in and out quickly.

From the President of the UAHC

"When one looks at the American Jewish community, it becomes clear that standing at its very heart is the synagogue. Who will assure that there will be a Jewishly educated, Jewishly committed generation two decades hence? Who will provide the teachers and the rabbis and the scholars for that generation? Who will assure those other communal and national Jewish organizations a reservoir of Jews on which they will be able to draw for their membership a score of years hence? Who will provide the State of Israel with a continuing corps of understanding Jews? The answer, in every case, of course is the synagogue. It has to be the synagogue—..."

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler



Rabbi Mark Kram Assumes Post as Associate Rabbi at Temple Beth Am



Rabbi Mark S. Kram, director of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at the University of Miami, will become Associate Rabbi at Temple Beth Am on July 1, according to Barry Goldstein, chairman of the Personnel Committee. Rabbi Kram, who was enthusiastically recommended by Rabbi Schoolman to the Committee and the Board of Directors, is a member of Temple Beth Am and his two children are students in our Day School.

Since assuming the Miami Hillel directorship in 1980, Rabbi Kram has been instrumental in reviving Jewish communal life on the Miami campus. He has served as campus rabbi to more than 2000 Jews, counseling, teaching, performing life-cycle ceremonies. He is well known for his creativity and the warmth of his ministry on campus. Rabbi Schoolman said, "Mark Kram brings to us a different dimension of experience. His religious leadership on the Miami campus has been hailed by all who have come in contact with him. Several U of M faculty members who are Beth Am members had nothing, but the highest praise for him and his abilities. His counseling experience, his work with teens and young adults, and his high level of Jewish scholarship will all make him a wonderful addition to the rabbinic team at Beth Am. I am delighted that the Board of the Temple shares my pleasure that he has accepted our invitation to serve with me."

Rabbi Kram, a native of St. Louis, was ordained at the Cincinnati School of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in 1978. Prior to serving Miami Hillel, he was the director of the Hillel at the University of South Florida in Tampa. He is married to the former Mindy Fixler.

Please join us at Shabbat services on Friday evening, July 3 to welcome Rabbi Kram and his family at their first official Friday evening service.

The Committee of 100

The following families have rejoined the Committee of 100 for the fiscal year which begins July 1st:

Robert and Francyn Berrin
Robert and Leta Garvett
Robert and Barbara Gittleman
Michael and Joyce Kaplan
Lewis and Barbara Levin
Joel and Mary Magazine
Laurans and Arlene Mendelson
Joseph and Norma Reisman
Ian and Jodi Reiss
Randy and Paula Rieger
Ronald and Marilyn Shapo
Peter and Michele Sobel
William and Barbara Sussman
Mark and Bonnie Webman

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From the Rabbi's Study



The Rewards of Being a Rabbi

By means of this column, I have probably reached more of you more often than through my sermons. I have interpreted the position of Rabbi as that of a teacher, and this column has given me the opportunity to speak on a broad range of subjects. Enough of you have indicated that you read these essays that I have been encouraged to write seriously from the heart. I will miss writing this column that ends with this essay—after thirty years. Rabbi Schoolman will no doubt take over this space soon.

Dr. Orlinsky, my professorial tutor and friend, has suggested that the old columns be collected for a book. That will be among the writing projects I will consider for my creative work during my "retirement". There are at least three other books "on file" in my mental computer. I will keep busy with those and will share them with you at the appropriate time. Meanwhile, if you really miss the Baumgard prose, you can get a copy of my last book, "Loving What Is Close", at my office, or pick up one of dozens of pamphlets (all free to members).

What shall I say in this last column but that my years as a Rabbi have richly rewarding. I can emphatically affirm that the rabbinate is, indeed, "a job for a Jewish boy (or girl)", a remarkably rewarding job. In no other kind of job does one have such an opportunity to study Jewish sources. To be a Rabbi means to immerse oneself in Jewish wisdom and experience. Since the Jews are such an ancient people this study process necessarily propels the student into the origins and development of human history. As a follower of the Jewish journey, one inevitably joins the search of humankind for a life of meaning.

To teach the Torah every Saturday morning, year in and year out, is to share a learning experience that makes one an integral part of Jewish yearning and suffering. The story of Joseph's travail and victory becomes your personal story; the prophetic vision of a world at peace becomes your dream. It is the cyclic aspect of Jewish study, the requirement to dig ever deeper into the ancient tales, laws, and teachings that becomes so enriching. The Rabbi who takes seriously the mandate to make the old seem new is challenged to be both a scholar and a creative teacher, and to think that for doing these rewarding things, so constructive to himself, the Rabbi is paid a salary!

If a Rabbi understands his role rightly, he lives in the sacred texts of Judaism. He also lives in the swirling vortex of human society. How many people are able to participate in so many life-cycle events. baby namings, bar (bat) mitzvah ceremonies, weddings! A Rabbi has much practice in the celebration of life. He also learns to cry often, as he shares with his congregants funerals, illnesses, and psychological pain. From you my members, I have learned how to experience sorrow nobly and how to find courage when all resources seem to have been depleted. How many other professions provide such training and rewards!

In America, the rabbinate has proven to be a hazardous profession for many. In many congregations the membership requires the Rabbi to be a public relations specialist and inhibits his creativity and independence. Thank God, this has not been the case at Beth Am. I have been granted freedom of the pulpit, which I have tried not to abuse, and I have been encouraged to forge new paths in the Religious and Day Schools. If exciting things have been done at Beth Am, it is because the membership responded positively to our attempts to find new ways to present Jewish education and new ways to heighten interest at Religious Services.

I am immensely grateful to have shared in an unusual partnership with an especially sensitive membership. We have met often on this page, in this column. We shall find other places to meet.

- A Note of Thanks From The Stuarts

We would like to thank all those who participated in the lovely dinner in our honor, those who attended the moving Tribute Service and the wonderful Oneg Shabbat that followed. Thank you also to all those who expressed kind remarks on our forthcoming retirement. Its nice to be loved and appreciated.

Janice & Dave Stuart

Beth Americans New Generations And Troubadours In Concert Sunday, May 31st



The three youth singing groups of Beth Am, Beth Americans (5th and 6th graders), New Generation (7th and 8th) and Troubadours (9-12th) will hold their annual end of the year concert under the direction of Don Bennett and his assistants. The free concert will be held on Sunday, May 31st at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Refreshments will follow in Suchman Social Hall. These talented young people have been traveling everywhere to great acclaim, and we will now have the pleasure of hearing them. If you have never heard our wonderfully talented young people, and especially if you have, you are in for a treat. Everyone is invited and we hope to see all of you.

Keyboard Player Wanted

The Troubadours are looking for a keyboard player for the 1987-88 school year. If you are in 10-12th grade and are a skilled player, please contact Sandy Sherman at the Temple.

Sisterhood's "Ideas Through Books"

The next session will be our last for this season. As usual, it will be a covered dish function, and it will feature a review by one of our annual favorites. BE SURE TO CALL to tell us what you are bringing so everyone doesn't bring dessert. We will meet a little later in the morning for brunch, and a little earlier in the evening for dinner. This is the info:

BOOK: 'A HANDMAID'S TALE" by Margaret Atwood. Available in

paper at Bookworks for \$4.95.

REVIEWER: RITA DEUTSCH, Teacher of Women in Literature at the

University of Miami.

DATE WEDNESDAY, MAY 27th, 1987

10:00 a.m. for brunch and review (review first) 7:00 p.m. for dinner and review (dinner first)

PLACE: MORNING: Home of Mazie Donolow

90 Edgewater Drive, Gables, #926

R.S.V.P. 661-0753

EVENING: Home of Doreen and Byron Krulewitch

8138 S.W. 83 St. R.S.V.P. Gail at 667-6667

P.S. For the morning session, there is valet parking for \$1, or you can park on Edgewater Drive.

P.P.S. Please be sure to bring your food with serving utensils, ready to serve. If it is hot, wrap to keep warm, since we will be having the review first in the morning.

11:15 a.m.

B'nai Mitzvah

Greg, son of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Friedman

Saturday, May 30



Brian, son of Mrs. Fran Sokolowicz and Dr. John Sokolowicz