

Kehilath Jeshurun Bulletin



Volume XLIV, Number 5

December 3, 1976

11 Kislev, 5737

Rabbi of Black Community To be Guest Speaker

The first evening meeting of the K.J. Sisterhood will have as guest speaker Rabbi Hailu Moshe Paris, an Ethiopian emigrè. The topic for the evening is "The Falashas". Rabbi Paris will illustrate his talk with a slide presentation.

The meeting will take place this Monday evening, December 6, at 8:00 p.m. The Sisterhood invites men as well as women to this meeting.

Chairman of the evening is Mrs. Roz Zuger.

THE FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

The Friendship Circle has been functioning successfully since its inception in September of 1975. This group, started by Dr. Majer Landau and Dr. Wolf Zukerman and under the direction of Hannah Low, has offered a variety of programs to those who attend the Wednesday afternoon meetings. There have been afternoons devoted to the history of Jewish music, reports on trips to Persia, Africa and Russia, assertiveness training sessions and much more. This week the Circle visited the Jewish Museum.

This group is comprised of people who care about each other and extend their caring to others. This year they are planning to go on visits to those who would enjoy their company but find it difficult or impossible to leave home.

Please call Hannah Low at 289-5913 if you would like more information about the Friendship Circle.

Chanukah Begins Thursday Evening, December 16th

Some of the Chanukah candles sent from the congregation carried the wrong date for the start of the festival. We apologize for an inadvertent, early, Purim prank.

By all means use the candles in good health but please don't light them until Thursday night, December 16th. Until that date, it's "lights out," or, as Shakespeare would have said: "Out out brief candle."

Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun

cordially invites you to

Shabbat Services

on December 4th

Our Guest Speaker will be



Hon. Meir Shamgar

Justice of the Supreme Court of Israel

Justice Shamgar was born in Danzig in 1925 and immigrated to Palestine in 1939 with his parents. A graduate of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and the Law School of London University, he was a fighter in the Underground during the days of the British Mandate and a soldier in the Israel Defence Forces after 1948.

A former legal advisor to the Ministry of Defence and a lecturer in the faculties of law of Tel-Aviv University and the Hebrew University, he served also as Attorney-General of Israel from 1968 until his appointment to the Supreme Court on July 1, 1975.

ART AUCTION

Saturday evening, December 11, the Sisterhood of Kehilath Jeshurun will sponsor an Art Auction in the Kamber Auditorium. The art which will be auctioned at 9:00 p.m. will be available for viewing by patrons at 7:45 p.m. and all others at 8:30 p.m.

The auction will include works of Edna Hibell, Leonardo Nierman, Sica, Calder, Dali, Shepard, Rubin and many others. Patron donation \$25.00 per couple. General admission \$2.50 per person.

WITHIN OUR FAMILY

Birth

Mazel Tov to Dr. and Mrs. Samuel Stromberg on the birth of their first grandson, Matthew David. Matthew and his two sisters are the children of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Stromberg.

Communal Service

Debbie Milstein, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Milstein is representing the North American Jewish Youth Council at a world conference in Jerusalem sponsored by the World Zionist Organization.

Debbie is the editor of the Hillel publication at Hunter College where she is an honor student.

Communal Service in Israel

We are very proud to congratulate our esteemed members, Mr. and Mrs. Saul H. Nack and their children Emanuel and Daniel, who this summer took an active role in the dedication of a Synagogue in Even Shmuel, Israel, which was made possible by their own generosity and the help of others from the Bnai Israel Jewish Centre of East Flatbush of which Mr.

Nack is President. This was a splendid contribution to religious life in Israel and we are gratified that our members played such leading roles in bringing the project to fruition.

Academic Advancement

We are pleased to congratulate — if belatedly — Miss Kaye Ellen Zuckerman, the granddaughter of Mrs. Lillian Zuckerman, upon her graduation from Kent University, cum laude. She is now a student at the Graduate School of Social Work in the University of Michigan.

Academic Appointment

We are proud to announce that our Honorary Trustee, Hyman I. Bucher was appointed Adjunct Professor in Communications Law at the University of Miami.

Condolence

Our condolences to Benjamin Kaufman, an esteemed Trustee of the congregation, on the passing of his revered mother. May he be comforted among all of us who mourn for Zion and Jerusalem.

BAT-MITZVAH



Andrea Fastenberg

Mazel Tov to Dr. and Mrs. William Fastenberg upon the forthcoming celebration of the Bat-Mitzvah of their daughter Andrea at a Seudah Shlishith which will be held in her honour on Shabbat afternoon, December 4th.

Andrea, who is a gifted student in Form I at Ramaz will deliver a D'var Torah at the Seudah. The entire congregation is invited as the guests of the Fastenberg family.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Junior Congregation Officers

We would like to thank our officers for the month of Heshvan, who were:

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| Burt Rosen | President |
| Joshua Rochlin | Vice-President |
| Dana Gross | Secretary |
| Hannah Robins | Kiddush Hostess |
| Kenneth Rochlin | Gabbai |

Junior Congregation Trip

The Junior Congregation's first trip of the year comes on Sunday, Dec. 5. All regular members are welcome to come bowling at 11:00 a.m. at East End Bowl (80th St. and York Ave.). Bowling will be followed by Carvel ice-cream at 85th Street and First Avenue. We should return to the synagogue at about 1:00 p.m. The total cost is estimated to be about \$3.50.

J.K. Minyan - Shabbat Luncheon

A special high-school minyan will be held in the 6th floor Chapel on December 11, to be followed by a Shabbat lunch. The cost is \$2, and reservations *must* be made in advance. Speak to Beth (249-4118) or Rachel (787-8793) for more details.

J.K. Babysitting

J.K. resumes its babysitting referral service this year. If you would like to babysit or know someone who needs a babysitter, call Mindy at 628-0340. The rate is \$1.75 an hour of which 25¢ goes to the J.K. Tzedakah Fund.

make sure that it is made in Israel.

Remember that this Chanukah you can more than fill your quota of \$50 as your contribution to reducing the Israel trade deficit with the United States. Then continue all year to buy Israeli products for your personal use and as gifts.

MAZEL TOV DR. SHUDOFSKY

Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun and Ramaz School are very pleased to congratulate Noam Shudofsky, Administrator of Ramaz and a valued co-worker in the congregation, on receiving the degree of Doctor of Education from the Ferkauf Graduate School of the Humanities and Social Sciences of Yeshiva University.

Dr. Shudofsky successfully defended his dissertation last week before a faculty committee of the Department of Jewish Education. The title of his

Thesis is: "The Nature and Role of Guidance in the Jewish All-Day Senior High School. The author has been involved in guidance work at Ramaz during his thirteen year tenure at the school.

We congratulate Noam on this great achievement and we invite the congregation to Kiddush in his honor on Shabbat, December 11th, as the guests of the Shudofsky children: Binny, Rachel and Leora. A warm Mazel Tov, too, to Nechi on this proud and happy moment in the life of her family.

A Reminder for Chanukah: Israel Needs Your Business!

Israel's exports to the United States have jumped from \$185 Million to \$310 Million in the last five years. During the same period, Israel's imports from the United States have soared from \$430 Million to \$833 Million. The current trade deficit for Israel with America is \$500 Million.

Were every Jew in America to spend \$50 a year (one dollar a week) on Israeli products, this deficit could be more than cut in half. Chanukah presents us with a splendid opportunity to enlist in this effort.

Why not, therefore, buy only Israeli products as your Chanukah gifts this

year to all the people to whom you normally send such gifts. Some examples follow:

1. Israeli wines and liquors.
2. Israeli products which are available in the supermarket. The A & P has a special on them from December 5 through December 11.
3. Israeli dresses, gloves, bags, suits, coats, leather goods, stockings and other such items.
4. Start someone on a collection of Israeli stamps or coins.
5. Israeli cosmetics and perfumes.
6. Israeli toys, records or books.
7. If you purchase a religious item,

A BIKKUR CHOLIM SOCIETY IN THE MAKING

During the past few weeks, a group of people has been meeting for the purpose of creating the Kehilath Jeshurun *Bikkur Cholim Society*. The organization of this Society and the launching of its work have taken place without any publicity. It is time, however, to notify the entire K.J. community about the purpose and the program of the Society. We invite your active participation in all phases of the work.

I. The Meaning of Bikkur Cholim

The principle of *Bikkur Cholim* is the Torah requirement: "Love thy neighbor as thyself." It is also a way of saying that all Israel are brothers and sisters and that every human being is entitled to respect, concern and love.

II. The Purpose of the Bikkur Cholim Society

The Society's purpose is to serve the community and to fill a need, or a series of needs, that exist at the present time and that cannot be filled by other agencies.

The members of the Society also have as their goal the fulfillment of the mitzvah quoted above, a mitzvah which, according to Rabbi Akiva, is the most basic tenet of the Torah. There is no religious act that has more meaning or fundamental significance than an act which fulfills the requirement to love another person as you love yourself, or to do for another person that which you would want done for yourself.

A final purpose of the Society is to encourage its members to give in the sense of *G'milut Chesed she-ba-Guf* — kindness which is dispensed with one's person rather than with one's wealth. Like many acts of kindness, the act of visiting the sick, while it involves giving, also provides a great personal reward for the participant himself or herself.

III. The Activities of the Bikkur Cholim Society

A) Shabbat Services at Memorial Hospital

Every Shabbat morning, an abbreviated service is conducted by members of the *Bikkur Cholim Society* at Memorial Hospital on East 68th Street. This project was conceived and is directed by Dr. Albert Hornblass. The first such service was held on October 23rd, *Shabbat Bereshit*.

A team of five works on a rotating basis once every two months. One member of the team conducts the service while four canvass all the Jewish patients in the hospital and escort them to the service. The hospital bulletin provides information to all the patients concerning this religious activity.

As part of the service, there are *kipot*, *tallitot* and *siddurim* available. *Kiddush* is served at the conclusion. Patients who cannot attend the service have kiddush brought to their rooms.

B) Home Visits

A program of home visits is under the direction of Alice Geisler and Rosalie Kleinhaus with the help and cooperation of our Friendship Circle. Visits are made not only to people who are ill but also to those who would welcome contact with members of the congregation and the *Bikkur Cholim Society*. As part of this home visit program, members of the congregation who are ill in neighboring

hospitals are also visited in their rooms.

C) The Lenox Hill Project

A program under the direction of Samuel Silverstein and Sue Robins is now being planned with Lenox Hill Hospital. It is contemplated that a team of our volunteers will be trained by the hospital for the purpose of visiting all the Jewish patients at Lenox Hill on a regular basis.

D) The Mount Sinai Program

Under the direction of David Bernstein, Shabbat visits to Jewish patients at Mount Sinai are undertaken by members of the J.K.'s (the teen-age group of the congregation).

E) Shabbat Hospitality

From time to time, relatives of patients in the hospital have to be accommodated in the neighborhood. We have a list of homes at which such people can be accommodated and where the relatives will feel comfortable.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

The *Bikkur Cholim Society* invites all members of the community to share in this mitzvah. We need help in each of the areas outlined above. The more people who are involved in this project the better we will be able to serve the needs of the community.

We have included in this Bulletin a form which we ask you to fill out and return to Tova Bulow, Chairman of the *Bikkur Cholim Society*, at the synagogue office. Please think about our work and join us if you possibly can.

Please fill out and send to our office

- A. **Memorial Hospital**
 - Conduct services
 - Canvass and escort patients
- B. **Home Visits**

I would welcome:

 - a) phone calls
 - b) visits
 - c) I can be a visitor
- C. **Lenox Hill Project**
 - K. J. Volunteer
- D. **Mount Sinai Project**
 - I can visit on Shabbat
 - I can help patients to put on tefillin
- E. **Shabbat Hospitality**
 - I can offer my home

For more information, please call Tova Bulow — 534-0151
Sue Robins — 744-0995

Name

Address Tel.

A Modern Mikvah

is Located in Our Community at

232-4 West 78th Street

(east of Broadway)

Telephone number

799-1520

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Friday, December 3rd

Lighting of Candles 4:10
 Evening 4:15

Saturday, December 4th

Morning 9:00
 Junior Congregation 10:15
 Pre-School Service 11:00
 Weekly Portion: Vayetze
 Haftorah: Hosea 12
 Evening 4:00
 Conclusion of Sabbath 5:09

Friday, December 10th

Lighting of Candles 4:10
 Evening 4:30

Saturday, December 11th

Morning 9:00
 Junior Congregation 10:15
 Pre-School Service 11:00
 Weekly Portion: Vayishlah
 Haftorah: Obadiah 1
 Evening 4:30
 Conclusion of Sabbath 5:09

Weekday Services

Morning 7:30
 Sunday Morning 8:30
 Father and Son Minyan 9:30
 Evening 4:30
 Begin saying *Tal u'Matar* on Saturday night, December 4th.

RIVERSIDE MEMORIAL CHAPEL

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WHAT IS A SIMCHAT BAT?

A number of readers have inquired about the institution of a *Simchat Bat* which we inaugurated in our congregation a couple of weeks ago, on the occasion of the birth of Jessica, the daughter of our Youth Directors, Ricki and David Bernstein. A *Simchat Bat* is a new institution that has developed over the past couple of years which serves to highlight and celebrate the birth of a daughter in a religious manner.

The increased sensitivity to the needs and status of women has made apparent the fact that such a celebration in the case of a daughter is indicated. When a son is born, there is a *Shalom Zachar* (a gathering on the Friday night following the birth at which general happiness is felt and Divrei Torah are expressed), a B'rit Milah and, in the event that the son is the firstborn of his mother, a *Pidyon ha-Ben*. While one need not create duplicate celebrations for girls, some religious occasion to express happiness over the birth of a daughter would seem to be appropriate.

Here is the way the Bernstein's *Simchat Bat* was observed:

1. Ricki Bernstein made the *Gomel* blessing at the conclusion of the regular service on Sunday morning,

thanking God for the fact that she gave birth in health and in happiness.

2. Following *N'tillat Yadayim* and a *Motzi*, a Sunday morning *seudah* was served in the Auditorium. Appropriate songs were sung during the meal.

3. Rabbi Haskel Lookstein offered a *D'var Torah* which he concluded with a special *Mi she-Berach* for the baby, using her Hebrew name, Yaffa Malka.

4. Ricki then explained the choice of the two names for her daughter. Both names have been taken from members of the family who were killed by the Nazis during the Holocaust. Following this explanation, Ricki read Psalm 100, the Psalm of Thanksgiving, which she indicated was in place of a voluntary sacrifice which would have been offered during the days of the Temple in celebration of such an occasion.

5. David Bernstein then recited a blessing over wine and a blessing of *she-Hecheyanu*, indicating his happiness at God's gift of life. He also explained that, in ancient days, the Talmud describes the custom of planting a tree following the birth of a daughter. The branches of the tree were cut down before her *Chupah* and used to create the canopy for her marriage. David announced that trees were being planted in Israel in commemoration of this happy event.

6. Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein brought the ceremony to a conclusion with a *D'var Torah* and with a special blessing for Jessica.

The celebration ended with singing, dancing and *Birkat ha-Mazon*.

**KEHILATH JESHURUN BULLETIN
 CONG. KEHILATH JESHURUN**

125 East 85th Street
 New York, N.Y. 10028
 HA 7-1000

Synagogue Officials

Joseph H. Lookstein*Senior Rabbi*
 Haskel Lookstein*Rabbi*
 Avrum Davis*Cantor*
 Israel D. Rosenberg*Ritual Director*
 Mrs. Marcia Barany*Executive Sec'y*

Officers of the Congregation

Harry W. Baumgarten*Hon. President*
 Max J. Etra*Hon. President*
 Nathan Salzman*President*
 William G. Lebowitz*Vice President*
 Samuel M. Eisenstat*Secretary*
 Edward Low*Treasurer*
 Mrs. Walter Koppel*Pres. Sist'd*
 Milton Berkowitz*Pres. Men's Club*
 Mrs. Charles Cohen*Pres. Couples Club*