

Lincoln Square Synagogue Bulletin



150 West End Ave.

New York 23, N. Y.

Vol. I, No. 1

November 20, 1964

Kislev 15, 5725

*You and Your Friends
are Cordially Invited
To Attend Our
Gala Chanukah Party
See Page 3*



CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

November 4, 1964

Lincoln Square Synagogue
150 West End Avenue
New York, NY 10023

I was delighted to hear that you will be dedicating
your temporary synagogue on November 29th.

In these difficult times we are counting heavily on
the spiritual values that our religious institutions bring to
our lives. I know that the Lincoln Square Synagogue will make
an important contribution not only to the religious life of the
West Side community, but will concern itself with civic affairs,
as well.

My very best to all of the congregation and my hopes
that you will soon be moving into your permanent headquarters.

Sincerely,

Robert F. Wagner
MAYOR

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Lincoln Square Synagogue

150 WEST END AVENUE
New York 23, N. Y.
Telephone 874-8825

Steven Riskin *Rabbi*
Daniel Mars *President*
Sidney Trompeter *1st Vice President*
A. David Weisgal *2nd Vice President*
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EDITOR

Henry Cohen

Bulletin Telephone: SU 7-8696

**PRAYER SCHEDULE****Fridays Dec. 11 - 18****KABBALAT SHABAT**

(Welcoming the Sabbath).....4:15 U.M.

Oneg Shabbath8:30 P.M.

Saturdays Dec. 12 - 19

Sabbath Morning Service.....8:45 A.M.

Kindling The Sabbath Light

Friday, Dec. 114:11 P.M.

Friday, Dec. 184:13 P.M.

**U.N. ISRAELI INDEPENDENCE DAY
NOVEMBER 29**

The United Nations on November 29, 1947 voted to partition Palestine and set up a Jewish State. This decision climaxed many years of efforts and brought joy to all Jewry.

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FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

The festival of Chanukah, which will be celebrated from the evening of November 29 through December 7, contains a special significance for the Lincoln Square Synagogue this year. The historical parallel between the battle of the Maccabees of old and the struggles of the religious leaders today is too striking to be overlooked.

The second century before the Common Era witnessed the *ascendancy* of Hellenism throughout the world. Even a segment of the small community of Judea had begun to agitate for an abandonment of the ancient Jewish traditions and an acceptance of Greek culture, ethics and morality. Has the time not come to transform Jerusalem into a city-state (Greek-*polis*) and exchange the Torah for Plato?, was the argument heard on almost every street-corner. Of course, the religionists endeavored to impress the citizens with the eternal truths of Judaism and the deep-abiding values of our faith. However, a civil war rapidly developed. The Hellenists received the aid of the Syrian Emperor Antiochus IV, and attempted to destroy the Jewish religion from its roots.

Judah the Maccabee (Hammer) led that religious party in a battle which was physical in appearance though ideological in import. Despite overwhelming odds the religionists were successful. Hellenism had been conquered and Judaism was to continue to teach its message for thousands of years to come.

As a symbol of the Maccabean victory, a *Chanukah HaBayit* (Rededication of the Holy Temple) was celebrated and the *Menorah* (candelabra) was kindled. The eight-day dedication of the Temple — symbolic of the victory of Jewish tradition over the forces of Hellenistic assimilation — has been eternalized by our kindling of the Menorah for the eight days of the festival of Chanukah each year.

Twentieth-century life has witnessed the same cries of assimilation which characterized ancient Judea. The leaders of the Lincoln Square Synagogue,

(Continued on Page 3)

Gala Chanukah Celebration

Co-Sponsors - B'nai Brith

Lincoln Community Lodge and Chapter

DEDICATION OF OUR TEMPORARY SYNAGOGUE

to be held

At The

Community Room
303 West 66th Street

Sunday, November 29, 1964 - 8 P.M.

Michael Sternberg - Soloist

Address by Rabbi



Rabbi
Steven Riskin



Daniel Mars,
President

Latkes Refreshments

Hostess - Estelle Margett

Rabbi's Desk (Cont'd)

mindful of the fact that our community is in the cultural center of America, are dedicated to the ideal that the truths of our religion must be preserved and emulated if justice and morality are to dominate contemporary life. We feel that the message of Torah-true Judaism is as

significant today as it was in Hellenistic times two thousand years ago. What a marvelous coincidence it is that the dedication of the temporary quarters of our synagogue will correspond to the date of the dedication of the Holy Temple by the Maccabees during the very first Chanukah in history!

ADULT EDUCATION

The first meeting of our Adult Education Institute will be held on Wednesday evening, December 9, in our Synagogue at 8:30 P.M. Rabbi Riskin will deliver the first session of a series entitled:

GIANTS OF TRADITION

Men who molded Jewish History. The possibility of enlarging the Institute, to include classes in Hebrew and Jewish Philosophy, will be discussed during this meeting.

HONOR LISTING OF NAMES

To those that helped us make our High Holy Day Services so grand.

Rabbi Steven Riskin
Cantor Joseph Brown
Bal Tfila, Rev. Bernard Marenbek
Samuel Rachlis, Ritual Chmn.

Bernard Skolnick, Chairman of the Ticket Committee, who was ably assisted by Herman Kaplan, Estelle Margett, Eva Margolis, Maria Rubini, and Andrew Weiss.

President's Message

The coming of the New Year brought with it several exciting things for our Synagogue, one of which is our fine Rabbi. His direction of the services was incomparable and our congregants unanimously agreed that they were both inspired and enlightened by him. Those present at the close of services heard your Pres. sound the Shofar. It was an honor I will never forget! (I guess (I guess neither will the ears that heard it.)

Another is the opening of our temporary Synagogue at 150 West End Ave.

And still another recent event was meeting of our Trustees and officers, when it was unanimously adopted that we form a Board of Governors, members to consist of all Trustees and Officers and such others as a majority may elect. At this meeting several new members were elected.

Sisterhood Committee

Maria Rubini TR 7-0697

Men's Club Committee

Jack Weber TR 3-1484

Dinner Committee

Henry Winston TR 4-4796

Ritual Committee

Samuel Rachlis TR 7-1864

Constitutional Committee

Samuel Weinbaum TR 7-7761

Fund Raising Committee

Jack Goldstein MO 3-0700

Building Committee

Jacob Jacobson TR 7-6718

Membership Committee

Henry Cohen SU 7-8696

These are committee chairmen that are looking for volunteers to assist them in their work. Please contact them directly.

I wish them good luck and hope that you will communicate with these Committee Chairmen expressing your ideas and impressions so that they may be guided in making decisions and suggestions at future meetings.

Our sign on the site of our future home has generated many inquiries. But there is no substitute for word of mouth; please tell your friends of our plans and invite them to come to our services and functions. I am confident that once they see our activities, they will share our enthusiasm in the building of a Synagogue, in our growing community.

Join with us in this inspiring enterprise, and you will have a rewarding experience in our lifetime, as well as an edifice for those who will follow us.

Religion and Culture

A new era is beginning in our community with the formation of a new synagogue. This significant occasion was the result of several farsighted and community-minded men and women. They saw this need in this new and revitalized area. Thus the LINCOLN SQUARE SYNAGOGUE (LSS) was formed.

Great enthusiasm was manifested at our High Holy Day services. Our synagogue meetings have shown the will and determination to work together to build a true House of Worship and a Workshop for leadership for our youngsters.

The main objective of our program is the strengthening of the traditional way of Jewish life in our community creating a social environment in which a healthy synthesis between Torah-true Judaism and the American way of life can be realized. Our program aims to create a spiritual climate designed to fill the social needs of the Jewish child, adolescent, and adult. With the varied experience that a good many of our members possess, we are, G-d willing, assured of a successful implementation of this program.

When the new buildings are completed and occupied in the midst of the largest cultural center in the world, it is only fitting that we implement it with a religious institution. In our time we have seen that culture alone without religion cannot endure, as the Nazi's tried in Germany — disaster, destruction and death followed.

On behalf of Lincoln Square Synagogue, I wish to thank the Mayor for his kind message, and the courtesy shown to me at his office.

Let us get to work as pioneers and dedicate this synagogue to America.

Editor

B'nai Brith Lincoln Community Lodge and Chapter welcome all our members and their friends to join with them in the strengthening of our Jewish community. Contact

A. David Weisgal — TR 7-2011

Blanche Blumenfeld — EN 2-5979

NEW DIMENSIONS

The synagogue in American Jewish life today is a complex structure gradually incurring additional community responsibilities which are separate and apart from its spiritual functions. At the turn of the century with a massive in-pouring of Jewish immigration, it served as the focal point for the orientation of friendless new arrivals. These people arriving in countless number found helping hands in the spirit of "Landsmanschaft", which represented an important aspect of synagogue purpose. Beyond this and congregation services the synagogue had limited scope.

In "Shtetl" life in middle and eastern Europe, the role of the synagogue was cloaked with greater importance. The separation of the Jewish community from the social and educational worlds existing in these areas, in addition to the status of Jews as second class citizens, required the synagogue to serve as a quasi-public institution. Matters pertaining to the Jewish community were the responsibility of synagogue leadership. Usually these matters were decided by general vote unless objected to by the Rabbi on "Halachic" grounds, but it was through the synagogue that the Jewish community was governed.

The synagogue to-day encompasses a much broader area. The "Cheder" and the "Melamed" have been replaced with the talmud torah and the day school. Sunday school, adult education, bible classes, forums, all of these are now a part of synagogue life. Those institutions autonomous in fields of Jewish education still rely in great measure upon the financial support of the synagogue, and through its appeals to its parishioners. While the synagogue has taken over every aspect of the religious life in the community (to the exclusion of only that practiced in the home), it has gen-

erally refused to become involved in the secular and civic issues involving the community as a whole.

Why then this limitation of the function of the synagogue to-day? Where is the line of demarcation that defines spiritual and community responsibility? The synagogue can no longer exist and flourish if it is concerned with such limited function, and this lack of interest in general community problems is one of its shortcomings. Since when has Judaism distinguished between the religious and the political? Civil Rights, Social Welfare, Medicare, Nuclear Testing, Juvenile Delinquency — these are all issues which may be discussed in the light of Jewish law and should be seen as an integral part of religious life.

When we speak of synagogue responsibility in essence we mean the corpus of the institution. We mean the Rabbi, the officers, the trustees, the "Gadolim," — we mean all who conduct the every-day life of the synagogue including the rank and file members as well. We mean a recognition and an attempt at correction of all evils existing within a community as part of synagogue program. Corruption in government, Social problems, better housing, — an endless list of community problems to be openly debated within the synagogue.

The argument is often submitted that these are not synagogue responsibilities but rather that of government. This argument is specious since good government is the end result of good religious training and is part of Jewish law. The synagogue can no longer remain isolated

(Continued on Page 6)

SCHOOL?

Reminder!

We have sent you an important questionnaire relating to the opening of our Hebrew School. Please respond promptly.

NEW DIMENSIONS

(Continued from Page 5)

and concerned with spiritual life alone. The question of right from wrong is a hazy atmosphere in our present moral codes. It is no longer a matter of the righteous path but rather the untangling of twisted moral values that present these "New Dimensions" to synagogue purpose.

It is a community obligation to build and to support its synagogue. A community without a place of worship is a lifeless community. It is, furthermore, the obligation of family life within the community to actively participate in all of the services and work of the synagogue. Its leaders must come forward and offer their talents to the various facets concerned with such work. We in Lincoln Square are unique as a new community in our ability to serve as an example for such forward thinking. We are an enlightened community, with a good standard of educational background. Perhaps, we can gather and show by example what a synagogue could and should be in an American way of life. The traditional synagogue has the capacity to meaningfully respond to each and every challenge, be it religious, intellectual or political. There is a share in all of these activities for each and every one of us.

Sidney Trompeter,
First Vice-President



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NEWS AND NOTES

Doris and Shelley Cohen have given us a new member, Karen Elise Cohen (Tikva Elka). Mazel-Tov. Doris, who will have 'Much Ado About Baby' will aid in proof-reading of the LSS Bulletin. Shelley, the father, in spite of the mental pains, designed our masthead.

* * *

Our President and his loving wife Emma celebrated their wedding anniversary on Nov. 4th. Many, many more.

* * *

Thanks to Cele Edelman for the experienced assistance given to our Constitutional Chairman, Sam Weinbaum.

* * *

Blanche and Charles Blumenfeld graciously welcomed our executive committee at their home.

* * *

Maria Rubini is qualified to get the critics' critic award for her choice of Lincoln Square Synagogue's theatre parties "Hello Dolly" and "Fiddler on the Roof."

* * PLEDGES * *

Please Remember your pledge to the synagogue . . . send your checks.

Our new address:

150 WEST END AVE.

* * *

We wish to thank Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Lortch for their most generous contribution of a Sefer Torah in memory of William Joachim.

We extend to Mr. & Mrs. Lortch our blessings for a long life together of health and happiness. A dedication ceremony in honor of the Torah is being planned for the near future.

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WORDS OF OUR SAGES

When Adam and Eve were banished from the Garden of Eden, Adam came before the Almighty with a complaint. "Master of the Universe," he cried, "how can you expect us to face the many trials and tribulations of the outside world with nothing to protect us?"

God replied: "I shall grant you two gifts by means of which you will acquire the necessary strength. The first is called a tear. No matter how great the pain, the tear will always bring relief. The second gift is a pair of Sabbath candles. No matter how difficult the week may have been, these candles will bring comfort and peace. Kindle the Sabbath lights each week, through them your home will be graced with warmth, love and radiant hope."

(Based on a Midrash)

All members are urged to send us data of their Simchas, Birthdays, Wedding, Anniversaries.

Please send us Yahrzeit information, so we can send you reminders.

Lincoln Square Synagogue
150 West End Ave. (Att. Bulletin)

Greetings

Dr. Harvey Strauss

— P o d i a t r i s t —

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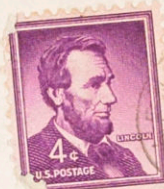
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