

BHBIRochester.org
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Congregation Beth Hamedresh – Beth Israel

BULLETIN

Editor: Stan Schaffer

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February President's Message

Friends,

I have to admit, I didn't expect much from Rabbi Ishmael. After all, my only exposure to him had been the rather dry and hard to understand set of logic rules he gives for explaining Torah (p. 48 in our Siddur) and his horrible death at the hands of the Romans which we read on Yom Kippur (p. 382 in our Machzor). As I read about him, I found that he really speaks to me. He was a contemporary of the Rabbi Akiva, active in the time running up to the Bar Kochba rebellion (against the Romans, who else?) of 132-136 CE.

Akiva and Ishmael often had opposing views, just like Hillel and Shammai of a century earlier. Generally, Rabbi Akiva's views are more represented in the Mishna. Rabbi Ishmael was responsible for the Sifra, an exposition of Leviticus. Rabbi Akiva taught that every dot in the Torah has a meaning, that every word that is repeated must teach something different the second time around. Rabbi Ishmael taught that the Torah speaks with a human voice, that figures of speech may just be figures of speech and that the superficial meaning of the text is often more important than deep and hidden meanings. His rules of logic show that he looked for hidden meanings too, but it was a matter of degree. He wanted every ruling to be firmly anchored in the text. Incidentally, his rules of logic are not actually that hard to understand. The Birnbaum Siddur has a nice discussion with examples (there's a copy in the lectern at shul).

Another way that Akiva and Ishmael differed was in the place of Torah study in life. Akiva stayed away from his impoverished wife for decades in order to study. Ishmael taught that action is more important than study. He taught that the Torah says "you shall gather in your grain" (Deut. 11:14) meaning that you have to earn a livelihood, you can't just study all the time. We should live by the Torah, we find time to study, but we don't study all the time.

If you are looking to spend some time studying there are many ways to do it. You can study online. There are numerous talks and classes in our community. There are books everywhere. Our library was recently blessed with six boxes of books that were given away by the JCC library. These include a set of the Mishnah, the Midrash Rabbah, multiple tractates of the Talmud, and several history books. Our friends Paul Rosenfeld and Sylvia Rose got the books from the JCC and gave them to BHBI. If you'd like to look them over, you can see them on Shabbat or on Sunday morning, when the building is open. I'm considering opening the building at another time during the week as well. If you have a time you'd like to have access to the building for study on a regular basis, please let me know.

Please note that the next Jewish Muslim dialogue is coming up on February 9th at the U of Rochester chapel. We'll discuss Religion and Science. Please join us.

Leon Metlay



"United by Faith"



*Our Jewish – Muslim Dialogue Series continues with a discussion of
'Religion and Science'*

Sunday, February 9th, 2:00 pm

University of Rochester Interfaith Chapel, River Level Room

Refreshments will be served following the discussion.

BHBI CALENDAR OF EVENTS – FEBRUARY 2014

Saturday	Feb 1	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service Torah: Terumah
Sunday	Feb 2	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Friday	Feb 7	7:00 PM	Joint Shabbat Evening Service with Temple Beth Am at Beth Am Light candles at 5:12 PM
Saturday	Feb 8	9:30 AM	Joint Shabbat Morning Service with Temple Beth Am at BHBI Torah: Tetzaveh
Sunday	Feb 9	9:00 AM 2:00 PM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion 'Religion and Science' – A Jewish-Muslim Interfaith Discussion in the River Level Room at the University of Rochester Interfaith Chapel
Monday	Feb 10	7:30 PM	Monthly Meeting of the BHBI Board of Trustees
Friday	Feb 14	7:00 PM	Shabbat Evening Service Light candles at 5:21 PM
Saturday	Feb 15	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service Torah: Ki Tisa
Sunday	Feb 16	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Wednesday	Feb 19	7:30 PM	Small Conservative Shul Collaborative Torah Study at BHBI
Friday	Feb 21	7:00 PM	Shabbat Evening Service Light candles at 5:30 PM
Saturday	Feb 22	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service Torah: Vayakhel
Sunday	Feb 23	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Friday	Feb 28	7:00 PM	Shabbat Evening Service Light candles at 5:39 PM

FREE 3-MONTH TRIAL MEMBERSHIP FOR FIRST-TIME NEW MEMBERS

Let your friends know about BHBI's special [free 3 month trial membership](#) (available to prospective first-time new members only). Have them contact BHBI at 244-2060 or BHBIRochester@gmail.com and we will be happy to give them information about BHBI and this great offer!!

BHBI WEBSITE

Have you checked out the BHBI web site lately? If you haven't there is a lot that you're missing. The web site at www.BHBIRochester.org provides information about many aspects of our congregation, lists the BHBI calendar, has electronic versions of this and previous bulletins going back several years, has an extensive history of our congregation along with historic photos, includes photos from several BHBI dinners, picnics and other special events, and has the unique Adon Olam Songbook with information on over 100 melodies for Adon Olam.

SMALL CONSERVATIVE SHUL COLLABORATIVE TORAH STUDY

Our next Small Conservative Shul Collaborative Torah study session will take place at BHBI on Wednesday, February 19th at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

DONATIONS THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

GENERAL FUND

In honor of Ralph Rose's 96th Birthday
Paul Rosenfeld and Sylvia Rose

In memory of Rona Luxemburg
Sue Ann Baker

In memory of Lottie Fink
Jack and Sondra Fink

In memory of Leila Markus
Mitchel Markus

In memory of Louis Gastel
Ruth and David Polur

In memory of Jacob Swartz
Sue Ann Baker

In memory of Bessie Gold
Linda Adams

In memory of Lillian Levy
Paul and Rose Israel

The Wolk Foundation

THANK YOU TO OUR KIDDUSH SPONSORS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY

January 4	The Congregation
January 11	Paul Rosenfeld and Sylvia Rose in honor of the 96 th birthday of Sylvia's father, Ralph Rose
January 18	Jill Clark-Foulkes in memory of her father, Stanley Clark
January 25	Leon Metlay and Nina Klionsky

GOODSEARCH.COM

Goodsearch.com is an on-line internet search program that pays non-profit organizations like BHBI a fee every time someone uses their search service. Go to www.goodsearch.com, enter the search term that you want and put in BHBI on the line where it says Who Do You Goodsearch For? BHBI will benefit from each search you make!

BRIGHTON FOOD CUPBOARD

The Brighton Food Cupboard is very low on breakfast cereal, pasta and tuna. Please consider donating to them. There is a box in the BHBI lobby where you can drop off your donation or you can drop food items off at either the Brighton Board on Education Building or at the former Brookside School in Brighton.

EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

The Jewish Federation's Israel 2014 Series begins with Anat Hoffman presenting 'Women of the Wall – From the Back of the Bus to the Top of the Agenda' at Temple B'rith Kodesh on Thursday evening, January 30th at 7:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

The JCC presents Family Fun Night on Saturday evening, February 1st. There will be lots of activities for families with young children beginning at 4 p.m.

Chabad presents 'To Be a Jew in the Free World – Jewish Identity Through the Lens of Modern History' This 6 week course on Wednesday evenings starts on Wednesday, Feb. 5th. Fee: \$70. Attend the first class free. For more information call 271-0330 or e-mail nvogel@chabadrochester.com

The Jewish Federation's Israel 2014 Series continues with Middle East expert Avi Melamed presenting 'The Middle East – Winds of Change and Quick Sand' at Temple B'rith Kodesh on Thursday evening, February 27th at 7:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

/giv/

/giv/ is an organization for teens to learn how to initiate, organize and lead community service events. Teens will connect with Rochester area non-profits to plan and attend community service events once a month.

The mission is to create relationships between teens and their community, instilling within them the notion that their actions can make a difference in the world.

When: Sunday, February 2, 2014 from 1-2:30 p.m.

What: **/giv/** kickoff event featuring local non-profit organizations that have agreed to work with us and tell us about what they do!

Why: Sign up to be on the Board, or become a member of this non-denominational teen volunteer group so that your actions can make a difference in our community!

Where: Temple Beth El
139 Winton Rd South, Rochester, NY 14610
Rsvp to: office@tbdrochester.org by Thursday, Jan 30th

Sponsored by Temple Beth David

Temple Beth Am Has Invited Us to the Beth Am Shabbat Across America Dinner

March 7, 2014 • Dinner: 6:15 pm • Services : 7:30 pm

Cost: Adults \$10 • Children (under Bar/Bat Mitzvah) \$5 • Family \$30

Send RSVP, with number of adults and children, and Payment in advance to:

**Temple Beth Am
PO Box 177
Henrietta, NY 14467**

Must be in Temple Beth Am Office by February 26th



Please detach and mail in with check to Temple Beth Am, POB 177, Henrietta, NY 14467 to reach office by February 26th

Name(s): _____ email: _____

Address: _____ City, St., Zip _____ Phone: _____

Beth Am/BHBI Members: #Adults @ \$10 __ # #Children @ \$5 _____ or Family @ \$30 Total Amount for Dinner \$_____

Dietary restrictions: _____ (a committee member will contact you to discuss)

Yahrzeits

At the following Shabbat Services, we will read the names of our late loved ones whose Yahrzeits will occur on that Shabbat or during the following week.

Jan. 31 – Feb 1	Adar I	February 7-8	Adar I	February 14-15	Adar I	February 21-22	Adar I
Sam Finkelstein*	1	Edith Berkowitz*	10	Gussie Gillenson		Percy Cohen*	22
Werner Schaffer	2	Samuel Goldstein*	10	Bernstein*	15	Julie Feuerberg	24
Philip Schiff*	3	Fanny Tecler Levinson*	10	Irvin Boyar*	15	Ida Sallerson	
Betty Glaser	4	Max Metlay	10	Stanley Muszynski*	15	Levine*	25
Anna Ruderman*	4	Rose Riwkin*	13	Haskell Isaac Smith*	15	Barnet Stern*	26
Hyman		Aaron Baker	14	Abraham Alderman*	16	Harris Priceman*	27
Sablowsky*	4	Marion Carton Gulack	14	Muriel Hobel*	17	Rebecca Cohen*	28
Celia Lapides*	5			Edna Astrachan*	19	Eva Friedman*	28
Dora Newell*	6	Feb 28 – Mar 1	Adar I – Adar II	Sam Malina*	19	Sarah Shulsky*	28
William Schwartz	6			Anna Steinmetz*	19		
		Karoline Hess*	29	Louis Rickler*	20	*Denotes name memorialized on BHBI Memorial Plaque	
		Sadie Rose	29	Harry Aronow*	21		
		Mary Weinrib*	1	Leila Markus*	21		
		Emma Sarachan*	4	Herman Sarachan*	21		

We pray that our mourners will be comforted among all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem and that the memory of the deceased continues to be a blessing to all who knew them.

*Rochester's
Jewish Funeral Home**Establishing
a New Tradition*

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Now respectfully maintaining the PARSKY records.*

Jarrold M. Krieger
owner & 4th generation Rochesterian
www.BrightonMemorialChapel.com**427-8520**
3325 Winton Road South
S/W corner of Jefferson & Winton Rds

So far our **TOPS** Gift Card fundraiser has been quite successful. Remember, **TOPS** Gift Cards are now available through BHBI in \$50 denominations. To purchase **TOPS** Gift Cards, contact Stan Schaffer at 473-8072 or by e-mail at stanschaffer@frontiernet.net

MEMORIAL PLAQUES

You can also memorialize a friend or loved one on a BHBI memorial plaque. Our memorial plaques are very reasonably priced. For more information, contact Stan Schaffer at 473-8072 or stanschaffer@frontiernet.net

MAKE YOUR PURCHASES AT AMAZON.COM AND SUPPORT BHBI AT THE SAME TIME!

Why not contribute to BHBI while making on-line purchases? It's easy to make purchases on-line at Amazon.com and support BHBI financially at the same time. Just go to the BHBI web page at www.BHBIrochester.org and click on the Amazon.com link. Each time you make a purchase after linking to Amazon.com from our web page, BHBI gets a percentage of the purchase price. The more you buy in this way, the more BHBI makes!

AD SPONSORS

We are always looking for additional businesses that are interested in placing an ad in the BHBI Bulletin. If you know of someone whose business or company may be interested, contact Stan Schaffer at 473-8072 or by e-mail at stanschaffer@frontiernet.net

OFFICE: The synagogue office is checked regularly for mail and messages. The synagogue phone is 244-2060. For urgent issues, call Steve Teitel at 473-5741 or Stan Schaffer at 473-8072. You can also e-mail us at BHBIRochester@gmail.com

WANT TO REMEMBER OR HONOR SOMEONE OR A SPECIAL OCCASION? *Consider sponsoring a kiddush or making a donation to any one of our funds* (General Fund, Kiddush Fund, Harry Rogachefsky BHBI Building Fund, Torah Fund, Rabbi Aaron Solomon Scholarship Fund, Special Events Fund or the Sam Malina Memorial Fund). Please indicate which fund you would like your donation to go to and we will send out an acknowledgement card as you indicate and print an announcement in this bulletin. A standard sponsored kiddush at BHBI costs just \$40 while a larger enhanced kiddush is just \$50.

BULLETIN CONTENT What do you enjoy reading in the BHBI Bulletin? Is there something that you would like added (or taken out)? If so, please let Stan Schaffer know. We always appreciate feedback.

DID YOU MISPLACE YOUR BULLETIN? Don't worry. BHBI Bulletins going back several years can now be found on our web page: www.BHBIRochester.org

WANT TO GET YOUR BULLETIN HOT-OFF-THE-PRESS? Consider having us e-mail it to you! Contact Stan Schaffer at: stanschaffer@frontiernet.net

Congregation Beth Hamedresh-Beth Israel
1369 East Avenue
Rochester, NY 14610