

RABBI'S MESSAGE: WHAT DO WE WANT?

Most of us belong to the synagogue because we are committed to a set of Jewish values by which we want to live and by which we want our children to live. At many a Bar or Bat Mitzvah service, I say to the new adult Jew, "my hope is that some combination of what you learned at home and what you've learned in religious school, will lead you on a path to a full Jewish life."

Many of you have heard the story of a Bar Mitzvah early in my career that follows: It was two-weeks before the Bar Mitzvah. The student was prepared to lead the service, he knew his Torah portion, and his speech was written. I happened to ask him, "What is another name for the contents of the Torah?" He stared at me with a blank look, so I prompted him, "The Five Books of ...". He maintained the blank look, so I volunteered, "Moses?" To this he responded, "Who is Moses?"

I recently found out that this individual is now well into his 30's and is not actively practicing Judaism. But why would I expect differently? Except for the required Friday night service attendance plus religious school, this young man had no context for his Judaism.

Our school can't compensate for the absence of Jewish context in one's life. In a recent quiz at one of my classes, the question was: Name 2-port cities in Israel. I was amused when one student wrote "Haggadah", so I asked the class, "Who can tell me what a Haggadah is?" I was shocked when 2-weeks before Passover, not one of the students in the class knew what a "Haggadah" really was.

Our school can teach about the "Haggadah" and Moses, but whether the students remember these and other "Jewish stuff" beyond the quiz is all about context. Assuming, that the April newsletter comes out on time, it is now the middle of Pesach. If you haven't already done so, take bread and pasta off the menu for the duration of the holiday. The abstractions of Judaism are graspable by adults, but the foods of Passover are the kind of concrete symbols or glue that will keep your family tied to the abstractions of Judaism.

Betenu Alumni Confirmands and their Parents: On May 21st, 7:30PM, our annual "Betenu Confirmand reunion" occurs as we welcome our new confirmands and welcome back our alumni confirmands. Please let your adult children know about this event and if possible, have them join us that night. I can better prepare for the evening if I know in advance who is coming. To help me, RSVP to rabbi@betenu.org with names of attendees.

Be-ve-ra-cha,

Joshua L. Segal, Rabbi



BETENU INFO

SPECIAL NOTE: Some members of Betenu are physically sensitive to certain aromas coming from perfumes, colognes, hairsprays the like. These aromas can cause migraines and a host of other problems. Please be aware of that when you come to Betenu.

Please **DO NOT** bring scented items for the SHARE donation bin.

Betenu has natural cleaning products available for use. Please **DO NOT** bring your own cleaning products for oneg or other cleanup.

Thank you!



AND FOR ONLINE SHOPPING... TEXTBOOKS AND A MILLION OTHER THINGS...

Don't forget to shop through Betenu's link to Amazon.com. Betenu will receive a percentage of the purchase price.

You can shop for books and a million other things through this link. Just go to our website: www.betenu.org, put your cursor over "Search new and used, Amazon.com", and when the cursor changes, click. Or you can enter your search right there and click "Go".

It's that simple! And don't forget to purchase your textbooks here!

We receive about \$20 a month from this program - Thank you & keep shopping!!!!

BETENU NOW ACCEPTS MC, VISA & Discover!

You can use MasterCard, VISA or Discover card to pay membership fees, school tuition, gift store purchases, or even to make a donation! Call the office (or stop in) to arrange the charge and let us know the amount and what it's for.



CONGREGATION BETENU

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or rabbi@betenu.org

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or president@betenu.org

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VP Educ: Sheryl Liberman 603-424-4609

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Trustee: Michael Goldstein 603-424-9953

Trustee@Large: Sara Murphy 603-465-7119

Past Pres: Elsa Conrad 603-879-9189

Newsletter Editor: Elissa Kahn



April 2010 (5770)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Pesach	2 7:30 pm Rabbi-led 1st Friday Service / Torah Study Pesach	3 Pesach
4 9:30 am Religious School #26 Pesach	5 Pesach	6 Pesach ends	7	8	9 7:30 pm Lay-led Service	10 12:30 pm Kabbalah at TBA
11 9:30 am Religious School #27 Yom HaShoah	12	13	14 Rosh Chodesh: Iyar	15 Rosh Chodesh: Iyar	16 7:30 pm Rabbi-led Service	17
18 9:30 am Religious School #28	19 7:30 pm General Bd Mtg—All are invited Yom HaZikaron	20 Yom Haatzma'ut	21	22	23 7:30 pm Lay-led Service	24
25 <u>NO</u> Religious School	26	27	28	29	30 7:30 pm Lay-led Service	



May 2010 (5770)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 12:30 pm Kabbalah at Betenu
2 9:30 am Religious School #29 Lag B'Omer	3	4	5	6	7 7:30 pm Rabbi-led 1st Friday Service & Torah Study	8 5 pm Pajama Havdallah with Sandra & Rahel
9 9:30 am Religious School #30 Mothers Day	10 7:30 pm Executive Board Meeting	11	12 Yom Yerushalayim	13	14 7:30 pm Lay-led Service Rosh Chodesh: Sivan	15
16 9:30 am Religious Snow Day 1 7:30 pm Betenu Annual Meeting	17	18 Erev Shavuot	19 8:30 pm Shavuot Torah-thon Shavuot	20 Shavuot	21 7:30 pm Rabbi-led Shavuot / Confirmation Service	22 5pm Revelation & Celebration with Rahel
23 9:30 am Rel. Sch. Snow Day 2	24	25	26	27	28 7:30 pm Rabbi-led Service	29 Sarah Goldstein Bat Mitzvah
30	31 Memorial Day					



COMING UP AT BETENU

ANNUAL MEETING PREPARATIONS

The Betenu Annual Meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, May 16**. Elections will be held for President; Administration VP; Education VP; Treasurer; and two Executive Trustees. Anyone interested in running for office is invited to contact the temple office: 886-1633 or betenu@betenu.org.

Anyone proposing bylaw amendments should have them to the temple office by the end of the day, **Tuesday, April 13**. This will allow time to prepare the proposal for presentation.

IMPORTANT: We need a quorum to hold this meeting. Proxies count as part of this quorum. So, please plan to attend or give your proxy to someone who will be there. You may use the sample proxy below.

Congregation Betenu Annual Meeting May 2010

Proxy Voting Form

I (we), _____ (name(s)),

Being entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting,

Hereby appoint _____ (*name of appointed person)

as my proxy to vote on my behalf at the 2010 annual meeting.

Signed _____ (signature)

_____ (date of signing)

*Assign one person only

*A member can only vote the proxy for 2 other members. Please make sure this person can have your proxy.



COMING UP AT BETENU continued...



**RABBI-LED
FIRST FRIDAY SERVICE**

Friday, April 2nd, 7:30pm

- ✧ family-friendly service followed by an
- ✧ oneg followed by
- ✧ Torah study with Rabbi.



TOT SHABBAT is POSTPONED

April 17th

This event will be postponed. We will let you know the make up date.

GENERAL BOARD MEETING

April 19th, 7:30pm

All are invited to attend the general board meetings which are even months (February, April...), usually the third Monday at 7:30pm. Talk to Dave Spokane ahead of time if you are interested in putting something on the agenda.



**RABBI-LED
FIRST FRIDAY SERVICE**

Friday, May 7th, 7:30pm

- ✧ family-friendly service followed by an
- ✧ oneg followed by
- ✧ Torah study with Rabbi.



**PAJAMA HAVDALLAH
WITH SANDRA & RAHEL**

May 8th, 5pm

Families are invited to enjoy stories, music, crafts & Israeli folk dancing for children with Sandra and Rahel. We finish with a short Havdallah service. Please bring a nosh!





HOLD THESE DATES

May 16th, 7:30pm: Betenu Annual Meeting. Please attend or send a proxy form. See previous page.

May 19th, 8:30 - 11:30pm: Shavuot Torah-thon.

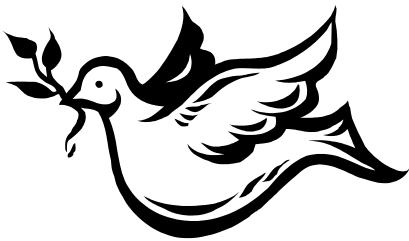
May 21st, 7:30pm: Rabbi-led Shavuot and Confirmation Service. Join us as we honor our confirmand and celebrate the Shavuot holiday.

May 22nd, 5pm: Revelation and Celebration: A Post-Shavuot Musical Meditation with Rahel.

The festival of Shavuot is a celebration of the revelation of Torah at Sinai and comes to remind us that Torah is the origin and the very essence of Jewish life. Join Singer/songwriter/Cantorial soloist, Rahel, for a post-Shavuot musical healing meditation for spiritual inspiration, reflection, revelation and celebration. The meditation is followed by a short Havdallah service and joyous Melave Malkah sacred dance session in celebration of the Torah. All are welcome.

May 29th: Sarah Goldstein's Bat Mitzvah.

BETENU PAGES



תורה

DONATIONS

Congregation Betenu acknowledges with appreciation the following contributions made during the month of February

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Roberta & John Pavoll

General Fund

Elissa Kahn

In memory of Stella G. Leczynski,
Pam Blotcky's aunt

Joel & Elaine Silberberg

For Dr. Burstein's complete recovery

Sunday School Programming

Harold & Doretta Shapiro

BETENU THANKS

- ✧ March oneg hosts: Lessard (Danklef), Rubin-Baker & Rice families and all who contributed to the onegs.
- ✧ Rahel Limor & Elissa Kahn for chairing Shabbat Across America / Canada.
- ✧ Roberta Pavoll for the hamantaschen.
- ✧ David Stern for fixing the upstairs toilet.
- ✧ David Stern & Dave Spokane for dealing with attic insulation issue.
- ✧ Mike Goldstein, Dave Spokane and David Stern for setting up tables and chairs for the 2nd seder.
- ✧ Dave Spokane and David Stern for representing us at the condo association annual meeting.



BETENU PAGES

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of Stella G. Leczynski, Pam Blotcky's aunt, who passed away on February 28th. May the Holy One bring peace to all who mourn.



**YAHARZEITS FOR
APRIL**



Irving Starr	father of Jen Starr	April
Edward Jenner	step-father of Deborah Spear	April
Bernard Rubin (Ben Tzion ben Yorachem Fischel)..	
.....	father of Davida Rubin-Baker	April
Daniel Gribetz	father of Jeff Gribetz	April
Waldemar Schaffer	father of Paula Ellis	April 1
Edward David Finkelstein	April 3
Edith Fisher	grandmother of Karen Satz	April 3
Augusta Levinson	grandmother of Paula Silver	April 5
Steve Meltzer	cousin of Joel Mascott	April 7
Frances Krohn Fries	April 8
Betty Werner	grandmother of Sonia Ascher	April 10 (Nisan 26)
Felix Werner	grandfather of Sonia Ascher	April 10 (Nisan 26)
Heinz Werner	uncle of Sonia Ascher	April 10 (Nisan 26)
Robert August	cousin of Elaine Silberberg	April 16
Louise Levine	mother of Dan Levine	April 19
Rachel Miriam Gatland	mother of Marcella Dube	April 19
Alfred White	father of Rowena Burstein	April 20
Arnold Dickes	father of Ellen Lubitz	April 21
Arthur Stewart	father of Jamie Stewart	April 22
Edwin Sleight	father of Kim Rimalover	April 24
Guy Darrow	father of Dara Smolski	April 25
Rabbi Solomon Segal	father of Joshua Segal	April 30
Merrill Jay Gross	April 30

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

	Alison Chakuroff	Jamie Danklefs
	Ali Sagon	Mark Sagon
	Alexander Dube	Samuel Dube
		Jessica Goff
		Annaliese Thomas



ADULT EDUCATION

HEBREW LANGUAGE INSTRUCTION, TORAH STUDY AND MORE

Bar / Bat Mitzvah... not the end of the road! There's Torah study with the Rabbi, Hebrew language instruction with Rahel, Kabbalah Havruta with Eitan Zeira, and plenty of other learning opportunities throughout the year. Maybe you have an idea, or would even like to teach a class. If so, contact the office 886-1633 or Betenu@nii.net.

Quench your thirst — jump into the well of Judaic studies.

(Rahel's classes are offered at a discount to Betenu members.)



ROSH CHODESH FOR WOMEN

Join the Rosh Chodesh group for a short service, group discussion and nosh. For more information contact Sheryl Liberman 424-4609 or SAML54@comcast.net.

KABBALAH GROUP

Saturdays at 12:30pm—once a month
April 10th at TBA
May 1st at Betenu

Congregation Betenu and Temple Beth Abraham have a Kabbalah group. The suggested book is Inner Space by Kaplan. For more information contact Sheryl Liberman 424-4609 or SAML54@comcast.net.

Video of Sh'ma Meditation by Rabbi Aryeh Kaplan:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=x9bwEFS7Btk&feature=related





EDUCATION

Sunday Religious School Personnel:

VP Education: Sheryl Liberman

Principal: Rahel Limor

Hebrew: Sonia Campeanu

Jewish Studies: Don Wunderlich

Grades 1 & 2: Sandra Whitman

Assistant Teacher: Nina Matouka

Madrichim: Dan Thompson, Alison Chakuroff, Rachel Liff, Izzy Starr



ACCEPTING STUDENTS REGULAR RELIGIOUS SCHOOL / POST HEBREW SCHOOL

Registration is ongoing for 2009-10 for our weekly Sunday classes in Jewish studies, Hebrew, Music and Bnei Mitzvah preparation for Grades 1-7 and our Rabbi-taught post Bnei Mitzvah classes for Grades 8 & 9. For questions or to get a registration form please call the temple office at 886-1633 or contact Rahel at rahel@rahelmusic.com.

BETENU PAGES

ONEG SHABBATS

To host an Oneg, one brings the desserts, fruit, and challah, and sets up and cleans up.

To sponsor an Oneg, one pays \$54 and the Oneg committee will purchase the food, set up and clean up. Either way you do it, you can honor a birthday, an anniversary, or any other special event in your life, by choosing the Oneg closest to that special date. Or you can remember the Yahrzeit of a loved one by hosting or sponsoring the Oneg on the Shabbat when you come to say Kaddish. If you have a date in mind, please call Roberta Pavoll at 672-9820.

The following Onegs will be hosted by:

April 2: Open—Note: Passover food only

April 9: Open

April 16: school - Coolidge & Orenberg families

April 23: Open

April 30: Open



Won't you please choose an Oneg date and help foster the sense of community at Betenu? Thank you.



COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

FOOD NEEDED!

The food pantries are in desperate need this year. Any donation would be appreciated. You may bring a food item directly to SHARE or the Nashua Soup Kitchen. If it is nonperishable, you may drop it off at Betenu (no scented products please) and we will deliver it to SHARE.

Wish lists: www.sharenh.org/food.html and
www.nsk.org/CurrentWishList.asp

OTHER ITEMS

For a list of other items needed please see:

www.sharenh.org or 603-673-3660: seasonal clothes and new socks and underwear
www.nsk.org/CurrentWishList.asp Questions? Call Carol at 889-7770 ext 21



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Voice of ISrael Initiative of New Hampshire

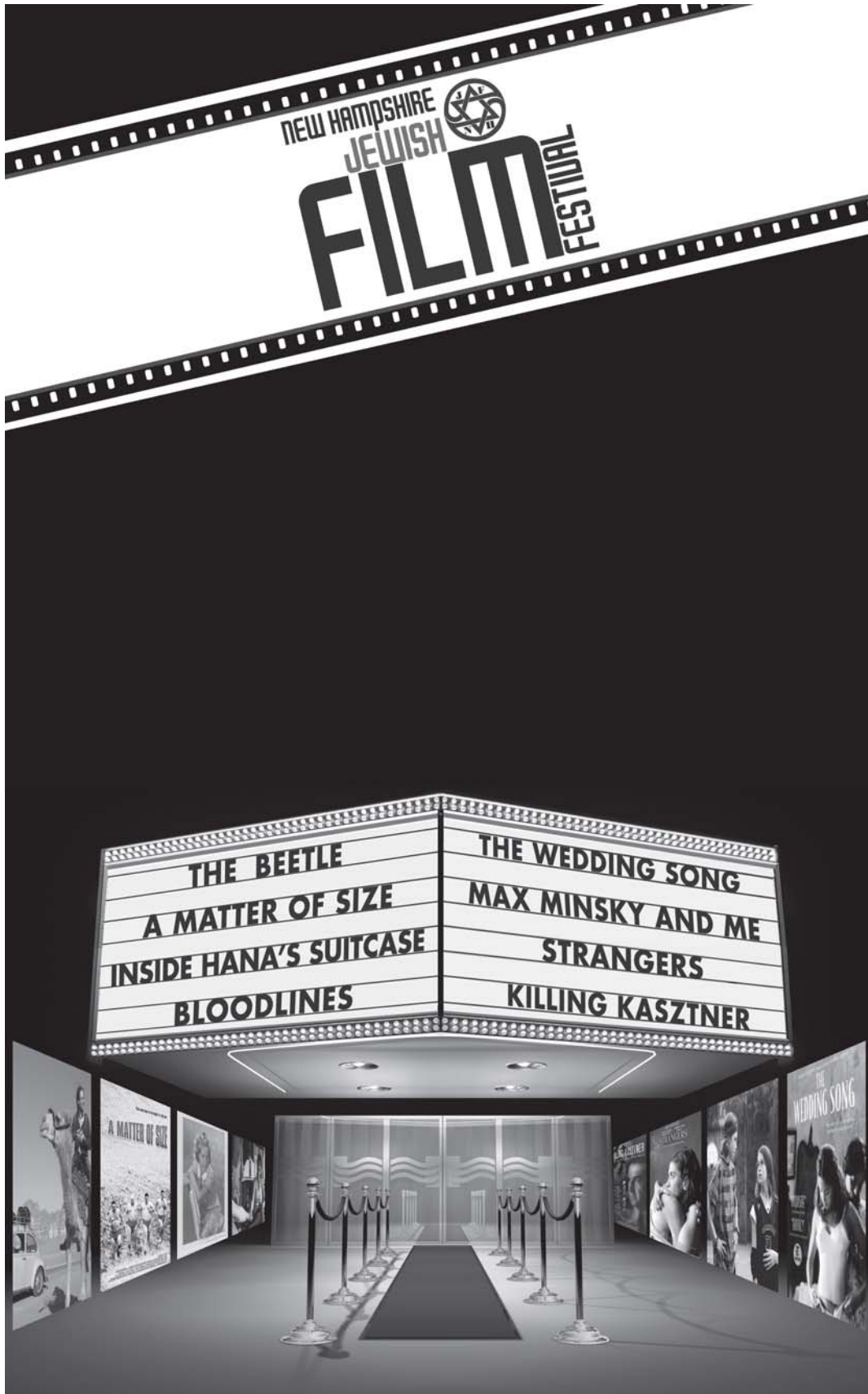
Check the website for the next **VISION MEETING** and other important information. Meetings will be held on Wednesdays and Thursdays this year! All friends Israel are welcome.

Check out www.nh4israel.org for more upcoming events, articles and more...

SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE JEWISH MENS CLUB

Membership form: <http://snhjmc.home.comcast.net/~snhjmc/resources/SNHJMCFORM.pdf>

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS





**CONGREGATION BETENU
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