



# The MESSAGE

HOUSTON, TEXAS    DECEMBER 21, 2008    24 KISLEV 5769    VOL. XLIV, No. 9



## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26

Hanukkah VI

Candlelighting Time 5:12pm

5:00pm J.B. Greenfield Chapel

6:00pm Shabbat Renewal

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27

Parashat Miketz

Hanukkah VII

8:30am J.B. Greenfield Chapel

9:15am Museum Minyan

9:30am Sanctuary Service

11:30am Weekly Torah Study

4:45pm J.B. Greenfield Chapel

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 2

Candlelighting Time 5:16pm

5:15pm J.B. Greenfield Chapel

6:00pm Friday Night Alive!

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 3

Parashat Vayigash

8:30am J.B. Greenfield Chapel

9:15am Museum Minyan

9:30am Sanctuary Service

11:30am Weekly Torah Study

4:45pm J.B. Greenfield Chapel

## A Funny Thing Happened On the Way to the Bimah!

Please join us for  
Congregation Beth Yeshurun's  
2009 Annual Meeting/Dinner



An Evening of  
Music and Laughter  
Honoring  
**HAZZAN DAVID  
PROPIS**  
On His Upcoming  
Installation as  
President of  
The Cantors Assembly

## BBQ by our own Gary Swartz!

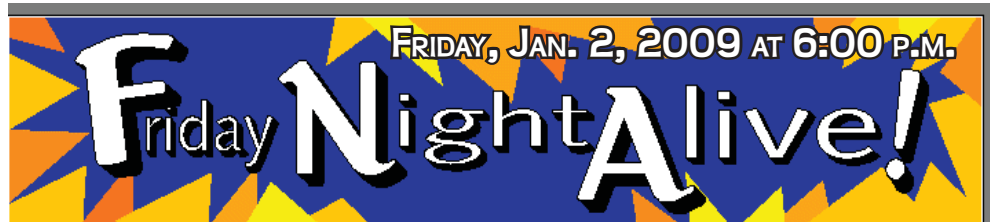
Couvert: \$40 per person

Sunday, January 25, 2009

6:00 PM

Congregation Beth Yeshurun

4525 Beechnut



# FAMILY ALBUM

## ■ Birth

Kimberly and Marty Price, along with big sister, Marley Rebecca, are delighted to announce the birth of their son and brother, **Blake Hayden Price**. Blake was born Saturday, Nov. 8. He weighed seven pounds and was 19 inches long. His joyous and grateful grandparents are Dr. Harry and Donna Price of Houston and Mrs. Nancy Doyle of San Antonio and the late Richard Doyle. His great-grandmother is Gisela Price of Houston. His great-grandparents of blessed memory are Leo Price and Herman and Ethel Zweiban. Blake's Hebrew name is Chaim in loving memory of his great-grandfather, Herman Zweiban.

## ■ Anniversaries

- |       |    |                                   |       |                                |                                    |
|-------|----|-----------------------------------|-------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 12/21 | 39 | Jack and Ell Camhi                | 28    | Alan and Hope Malowitz         |                                    |
|       | 56 | Robert and Clara Gold             | 55    | Joe and Evelyn Sandler         |                                    |
|       | 6  | Mark and Ali Katz                 | 58    | David and Sarah Schwartz, Jr.  |                                    |
|       | 28 | Martin and Barbara Lindenberg     | 12/28 | 50                             | Seymour and Betty Aronowitz        |
|       | 56 | Robert and Sondra Shapiro         | 17    | Eric and Lisa Hardee           |                                    |
| 12/22 | 51 | Kenneth and Charlotte Croft       | 39    | Stephen and Diane Kaminsky     |                                    |
|       | 34 | Steven and Elaine Epstein         | 36    | Arnold and Olivia Ostrin       |                                    |
|       | 25 | Keith and Sandi Marine            | 39    | Louis and Carol Ringold        |                                    |
|       | 6  | Jeffrey Plastrik and Mara Gittess | 12/29 | 29                             | Kenneth and Judy Arfa              |
|       | 34 | Jerry and Faye Wender             | 23    | Richard and Rae Friedman       |                                    |
| 12/23 | 18 | Isaac and Dana Aboulafla          | 34    | Jeffrey and Lesley Katz        |                                    |
|       | 35 | David and Deborah Bergeron        | 17    | Andrew and Karen Middleman     |                                    |
|       | 52 | Louis and Esther Farber           | 34    | Eric and Lesley Solomon        |                                    |
|       | 24 | Albert and Eugenia Greenfield     | 35    | Glenn and Dolly Stange         |                                    |
|       | 20 | Paul and Leah Katz                | 12    | Albert and Emily Stein         |                                    |
|       | 30 | Dean and Patricia Solomon         | 45    | Jerry and Evelyn Yellen        |                                    |
|       | 36 | Jerald and Denise Turboff         | 12/30 | 57                             | Jack and Shirley Alter             |
| 12/24 | 36 | William and Davida Avery          | 52    | Lyusyen and Rema Berkovich     |                                    |
|       | 13 | Michael and Karen (Foux) Buxbaum  | 46    | Irl and Marsha Bernstein       |                                    |
|       | 36 | Rick and Joyce Garfinkel          | 57    | Robert and Tiby Bernstein      |                                    |
|       | 41 | Al and Estrella Garson            | 35    | Daniel and Sharon Brener       |                                    |
|       | 25 | Sandy Gotsdiner and Sam Manning   | 1     | David and Jackie Janco         |                                    |
|       | 33 | Michael and Gila Kaufman          | 13    | Daniel and Janet Kleban        |                                    |
|       | 30 | Joe and Laura Rice                | 36    | Steven and Sharon Lehrer       |                                    |
|       | 41 | Jerry and Dana Robinson           | 2     | Neville and Allison Leibman    |                                    |
|       | 41 | Thomas and Priscilla Roosth       | 37    | Chris and Sandy Rich           |                                    |
|       | 14 | Roger and Linden Sofer            | 36    | Steve and Adriana Rosenbaum    |                                    |
|       | 39 | Howard and Jan Stomel             | 46    | Irving and Hava Rothman        |                                    |
| 12/25 | 48 | David and Beverly Sufian          | 29    | Allen and Wendy Shapiro        |                                    |
|       | 47 | Sheldon and Myrna Zwickel         | 12/31 | 5                              | Marc and Syndy Gold                |
| 12/26 | 54 | Sigmund and Pearl Altman          | 41    | Marvin and Sharon Katz         |                                    |
|       | 37 | Sidney and Marsha Gerber          | 1/1   | 8                              | Robert Lamm and Celia Schwarz-Lamm |
|       | 5  | Joseph and Jennifer Goetz         | 17    | Bruce and Linda Ruzinsky       |                                    |
|       | 38 | Leon and Rebeca Halfon            | 53    | Don and Elaine Schindel        |                                    |
|       | 44 | Donald and Margaret Plotkin       | 59    | Scott and Leslie Stange        |                                    |
|       | 54 | George and Sandra Rosen           | 8     | Bernard and Ruth Szeinbach     |                                    |
|       | 37 | Gary and Maureen Tucker           | 15    | Albert and Kathleen Wiesenthal |                                    |
|       | 41 | Robert and Sylvia Wagman          | 1/2   | 10                             | Rabbi Brian and Lisa Strauss       |
| 12/27 | 24 | Meir and Maria Ben-Ezra           | 21    | Vincent and Jackie Wedelich    |                                    |
|       | 47 | Abraham and Frances Friedman      | 1/3   | 28                             | Joseph and Deborah Freilich        |
|       | 16 | Michael and Alissa Leightman      | 55    | Myron and Helen Levy           |                                    |
|       |    |                                   | 28    | Sergio and Claudia Soroka      |                                    |


## ■ Mazal Tov

To **Marilyn Hassid**, on the decision by the Jewish Community Center to establish the Marilyn Hassid Emerging Authors Program Endowment in honor of her extraordinary leadership in creating cultural, literary and artistic programs at the JCC.

## ■ Condolences

*The congregation extends its sincerest condolences to the families of --  
Don Jacobson, Marcus Leuchter, Suzanne Tarlo  
May their memories be for a blessing.*

# January at Beth Yeshurun

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>B/M:</b> Bar/ Bat Mitzvah <b>CLT:</b> Candle lighting <b>HHS:</b> Hillel High Sch. <b>MM:</b> Museum Minyan <b>RS:</b> Relig. School <b>YA:</b> Young Adults <b>YF:</b> Young Families				New Year's Day Syn. Office Closed  Chapel 8:00 am 5:15 pm	Friday Night Alive! 6:00 PM  CLT: 5:16 PM Chapel 7:00 am 5:15 pm	MM 9:15am Sanctuary 9:30am  Chapel 8:30 am 4:45 pm
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
RS Resumes  Chapel 8:00 am 5:15 pm	Security Cmte.  Chapel 7:00 am 5:15 pm	HHS Resumes Membership Cmte.  Chapel 6:45 am 5:15pm	Chapel 7:00 am 5:15 pm	Chapel 7:00 am 5:15 pm	Shabbat Renewal 6pm  Shabbat Yachad 6:15pm  <i>HHS Retreat</i>  CLT: 5:21 PM Chapel 7:00 am 5:15 pm	B/M: Lily Morgan MM 9:15am Sanctuary 9:30am Jr. Cong. 9:30am Tot Shabbat & Mini Minyan 9:30am <i>HHS Retreat</i>  Chapel 8:30 am 4:45 pm
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
Akiba 2 <sup>nd</sup> Term Begins  Rabbi Strauss at Boker Tov @ benjy's  Chapel 8:00 am 5:30 pm	Budget Cmte.  Chapel 7:00 am 5:30pm	Chapel 7:00 am 5:30pm	100 Jewish Men  Chapel 7:00 am 5:30 pm	Chapel 7:00 am 5:30pm	Shabbat Renewal 6pm  Shabbat Yachad 6:15pm  CLT: 5:27 PM Chapel 7:00 am 5:30 pm	B/M: Lauren Grenader Jonathan Rosen MM 9:15 am Sanctuary 9:30 am Jr. Cong. 9:30 am  Chapel 8:30 am 5:00 pm
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
Akiba  Chapel 8:00 am 5:30 pm	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  Syn. Office Closed  Chapel 7:00 am 5:30 pm	Exec. Committee Brd. of Trustees  Chapel 7:00 am 5:30 pm	YES Study Session with the Rabbi  YES Luncheon  Investment Cmte.  Chapel 7:00 am 5:30 pm	Chapel 7:00 am 5:30 pm	Shabbat Renewal 6pm Shabbat Jam 6:15 pm  Sisterhood Shabbat Dinner  CLT: 5:33 PM Chapel 7:00 am 5:30 pm	MM 9:15am Sanctuary 9:30 am  Jr. Cong. 9:30 am  Chapel 8:30 am 5:00 pm
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>
Akiba L'Mazel for expectant Jewish Parents  RS 6 <sup>th</sup> gr. Parent Seminar  Annual Dinner  Chapel 8:00 am 5:30 pm	Rosh Chodesh  Chapel 6:45 am 5:30pm	Chapel 7:00 am 5:30pm	Chapel 7:00 am 5:30 pm	YA Wine Tasting Event  Chapel 7:00 am 5:30pm	Shabbat Renewal 6pm  Shabbat Yachad 6:15pm  CLT: 5:39 PM Chapel 7:00 am 5:30 pm	B/M: Joseph Kuperman MM 9:15am Sanctuary 9:30 am Jr. Cong. 9:30 am  Chapel 8:30 am 5:15 pm

Visit [www.bethyeshurun.org](http://www.bethyeshurun.org) for details and updated times

# Akiba Class Schedule Winter 2009



## SUNDAYS

2<sup>nd</sup> Term: January 11, 18, 25 February 1, 8, 22 March 1

*\*Invitation to Judaism does not meet on February 8*

*\*A Rabbi Looks at Jesus with Rabbi Rosen does not meet on February 8*

*\*Invitation to Judaism will also meet on March 8*

Class	Instructor	Location
9:00 – 10:00		
<b>Invitation to Judaism</b>	Rabbi Morgen	Stein East
<b>Recipe for Holiness</b>	Rabbi Nimchinsky	Zubowski A
10:00 – 11:00		
<b>A Rabbi Looks at Jesus</b>	Rabbi Rosen	Stein East
<b>Nuts &amp; Bolts II</b>	Rabbi Strauss	Zubowski A
<b>Beginning Hebrew</b>	Cantor Dorf	Zubowski B
<b>Understanding God's Creation</b>	Rabbi Horwitz	Board Room
11:00 – 12:00		
<b>Adult B'nei Mitzvah Hebrew</b>	Cantor Dorf	Zubowski A
<b>Discovering the Power of Prayer</b>	Rabbi Horwitz	Board Room

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS FOR CLASSES:

**Invitation to Judaism with Rabbi Morgen:** This is a yearlong course geared especially for those thinking about conversion to Judaism. Major beliefs, holidays, life-cycle and other practices will be discussed.

**Recipe for Holiness with Rabbi Nimchinsky:** In this engaging class, Rabbi Nimchinsky will examine the holiness code of Leviticus through the lens of several classical commentaries.

### **A Rabbi Looks at Jesus with Rabbi Rosen**

**Nuts & Bolts II with Rabbi Strauss:** Reconstruct your understanding of Judaism. This is the second year of a two-year course which will survey Jewish beliefs, holidays and life-cycle events. It is designed to enrich your understanding of the Jewish way of life and thought. It will also serve as the second year of the Adult B'Nei Mitzvah program.

**Beginning Hebrew with Cantor Dorf:** Hebrew for the absolute beginner. Learn to recognize and read the aleph-bet, develop fluency in reading and jump into reading of Hebrew prayers in the Siddur.

**Understanding God's Creation with Rabbi Horwitz:** Explore how our sages interpreted the Book of Genesis using the text Bereshit Rabbah. Copies will be available at the first session.

**Adult BM Hebrew with Cantor Dorf:** For those participating in the Adult B'nai Mitzvah program, this course will teach you how to lead the prayers for Shabbat morning and to read your Torah and Haftarah portions.

**Discovering the Power of Prayer with Rabbi Horwitz:** Uncover the deeper meanings of the prayers we recite on Shabbat and weekdays. In addition, by learning a very small vocabulary of Hebrew words and a pinch of grammar,

# CELEBRATE YOUR LIBRARY!



For any occasion that you feel like celebrating wouldn't it be nice if it was enjoyed and remembered long after the special event had passed. Your library can create such a lasting memory for you. For a donation of \$18, a book will be purchased and a bookplate placed inside displaying your name and the name of the recipient. An announcement is mailed to the honored person telling them that you have honored them and the occasion for being honored. They are also the first person allowed to check out the book.

So whether it be a birth, birthday, anniversary, wedding, graduation, Bat/Bar Mitzvah, Hanukkah present or a special thank you to your child's teacher, it is a great gift. In addition we also accept memorial donations in memory of a loved one.

By supporting your school library, you are giving a gift that is enjoyed and appreciated not only by the person it honors, but by everyone who uses the library. Thank you in advance for your continuing support.

I am donating \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to purchase book(s) in honor/memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Please make your check payable to Beth Yeshurun and mail it with this form to 4525 Beechnut, Houston, TX 77096.)

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Please type or print clearly)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

The Bookplate and Acknowledgment Card will read as follows:

Donated By: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City / Zip: \_\_\_\_\_



## The MESSAGE

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## SISTERHOOD HITS A MAJOR NOTE!

For years, our programming here at Beth Yeshurun needed a beautiful grand piano in the Barg Sanctuary. Well, our dreams have come true thanks to the generosity of a major gift from our Sisterhood in combination with a gift from Carolyn & Jeff Karp. This wonderful instrument has now brought our musical performances up to the same level as we have in the Freedman-Levit Sanctuary. Todah Rabbah!



*Accompanist Brian Granquist (left), Hazzan David Propis (right) and Sisterhood President Elyse Schultz with the new Barg Sanctuary grand piano.*

## PLATELETS NEEDED - GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE!

Dr. Beryl Harberg, husband of Barbara and a recent bone marrow recipient, has advised Beth Yeshurun that M.D. Anderson is in desperate need of platelets. When donating platelets alone, platelets plus red blood cells or red blood cells alone - the complete process takes between one and a half to three hours, with collection taking one to two and a half hours. Collection of platelets or red blood cells is done using a special machine by a process called apheresis. When donating platelets, your red blood cells are re-infused - you get them back!



If you wish to donate or would like more information about the donation process, please contact M.D. Anderson at (713) 792-7777 for an appointment.

## A GIFT FOR BETH YESHURUN



Did you know that if you are 70-1/2 years old or older during 2008, you may make a charitable gift to Beth Yeshurun by using funds rolled over from your IRA? Under the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, this gift would not generate any federal taxable income to you and it would not be tax deductible. If you will be 70-1/2 in 2009, the same rules will apply. All gifts must

be received by Congregation Beth Yeshurun by Dec. 31, 2008 or December 31, 2009!

Under this extension of the Charitable IRA Rollover Law, you may transfer up to \$100,000 for 2008 directly from your IRA to Beth Yeshurun. This opportunity may have particular benefits to you if (a) you are required to take a

distribution from your IRA; (b) your charitable gifts already equal 50% of your adjusted gross income; (c) you are subject to the 3% rule that reduces your itemized deductions; or (d) you do not itemize deductions. A direct transfer from an IRA account to Beth Yeshurun will count as part of your annual IRA minimum required distribution. Your gift can be directed to pay a current pledge, including current or future dues, or could be used as a new pledge for BY2000, the new Endowment program, or another program of your choice. You may not receive any goods or services (e.g., tickets to a fundraiser or other event) in order to be entitled to the tax benefits provided by this law.

In order to realize the benefits provided by this new law, please keep in mind that your gift must go directly from your IRA to Beth Yeshurun; it cannot come to you first. Beth Yeshurun will provide a contemporaneous written acknowledgement of the contribution so that you will be able to take advantage of this new law.

Consult your tax advisor today - and please think of Beth Yeshurun.

### WEEKDAY SERVICES IN THE J.B. GREENFIELD CHAPEL

Dec 21-26: Sun 8am, Mon-Wed, Fri 6:45am (Hanukkah), Thu 8am (Holiday), Sun-Thu 5:15pm  
Dec 28-Jan 2: Sun 8am (Rosh Chodesh), Mon 6:45am (Hanukkah VIII), Tue-Wed, Fri 7am,  
Thu 8am (Holiday), Sun-Thu 5:15pm

### Upcoming Message Deadlines:

Dec 29 for the Jan 18 issue  
Jan 12 for the Feb 1 issue  
Jan 26 for the Feb 15 issue