

SIM SHALOM

OUR NEWSLETTER

Cheshvan-Kislev 5771

November-December 2010

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Happy Chanukah!



SHABBAT/ CHANUKIAH SERVICE

Friday, Dec. 3,
at 7:30 p.m.

Bring your
Chanukah
to light!

From the President

Last weekend we enjoyed two talks by Ron Bernstein, emissary of Israel's Jewish National Fund for the southwest US. He spoke of JNF's commitment to developing agriculture in the Negev (desert), and of his 33 years of kibbutz living on Israel's first reform kibbutz. Thanks to Janet and Barry Wilder for hosting Mr. Bernstein at their home.

We can consider a donation from the temple toward a park or other project

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CALENDAR

Wednesdays, 7 p.m.

Hebrew for Adults

Sunday, Nov. 21

Religion School 10 a.m.

Chanukkah

Begins sundown Dec. 1

Friday, Dec. 3Shabbat/Chanukah
Service 7:30 p.m.**Sunday, Dec. 5**Religion School 10 a.m.
Party will be held in
Brownsville.**Friday, Dec. 10**

Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 11Shabbat Service 9 a.m.
Havdallah/Basic Judaism
class 6:30 p.m.**Sunday, Dec. 12**

Religion School 10 a.m.

Friday, Jan. 7

Shabbat Service 7:30

Sunday, Jan. 9

Religion School 10 a.m.

Sunday, Jan. 16

Religion School 10 a.m.

Thursday, Jan. 20

Tu B'Shevat

Friday, Jan. 21

Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 22Shabbat Service 9 a.m.
Havdallah/Basic Judaism
class 6:30 p.m.**Sunday, Jan. 23**Religion School 10 a.m.
Tu B'Shevat Picnic**Sunday Jan. 30**

Religion School 10 a.m.

Friday, Feb. 4

Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m.

NEWS AND NOTES

■ SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, February 19, 2011, Testimonial Dinner for Rollie & Amy Koppel and Lewis & Dena Levine, and a silent auction benefiting the temple.

■ SHABBAT/CHANUKIAH SERVICE, Friday, Dec 3, 7:30 pm.

Bring your own Chanukiah. The Religion School will celebrate Chanukah with the students at Temple Beth El in Brownsville. Gather at the Harlingen temple at 10 a.m. for services and to arrange carpools.

■ Remember to attend the 20-minute daily Morning Service, Mon.-Fri., at 7:25 a.m., led by Fernando.

■ SPECIAL THANK YOU TO DYAN BANKS for the donation of a pew "in joyful celebration of Dyan Fridkin Banks' 40 years of membership in Temple Beth Israel." Congratulations!

The candle sale was very successful, and the candles have arrived.

I have several copies of the catalog with all kinds of Judaica. There are some lovely items that would make great gifts or additions to our homes. There is also an assortment of handmade silk and other fabric tallitot. Many of them perfect for a bar or bat mitzvah. The catalog also offers some beautiful and unique Jewish-themed jewelry.

The company we are working with deals in Israeli items at better prices than on-line companies. Their primary mission is to help small congregations in areas where there is nothing available at the retail level. Any items purchased through the gift catalog will benefit Temple Beth Israel.

Anyone wanting to see the catalog can contact me at 423-2910 or via email at kelliepoodle@yahoo.com.

— Janet Wilder

ONEGS

Thank you for participating in our temple onegs. Everyone's contribution is greatly appreciated. If there is a conflict with your scheduled date, please take the well-timed initiative to trade with another member. Contact Laurel Berg or Veronica Huff if you need a phone number.

The following families are scheduled to sponsor onegs:

November 19

*Nivea & Stan Fisch
Judy & Steve Jones
Susie Weisberg & Monica Stewart

December 10

*Janet & Barry Wilder
Susan Ander
Deborah Lozano

January 21

Potluck Shabbat Dinner – contact Laurel to coordinate
(956) 371-8205

**The Coordinator is responsible for organizing the group and its duties (who brings and does what, when and where).*

DONATIONS

BUILDING FUND

■ Wolf Family: Bert, Jamie, Brett and Zachary, in honor of Madeline Wolf on her 85th Birthday

GENERAL FUND

■ Gonzales Warshowsky Family for Shabbat Breakfast

■ A. and J. Jones (Parents of Steve Jones) for Shabbat Breakfast

■ Mary H. Warshowsky for the General Fund

YIZKOR FUND

■ Fernando & Alma Russek

PEWS

■ Ron & Dyan Banks: In Joyful Celebration of Dyan Fridkin Banks Member for 40 years of Temple Beth Israel

■ Wolf Bert & Jamie

Happy Thanksgiving!



"There is a strong thread which runs from the Israelite wilderness experience to that of the Pilgrims and the harsh years they endured as they strove to sink roots in this new land. Like the ancient Israelites of

whom they read in the Bible, they were people of great faith who believed themselves to be sustained through God's great mercy and beneficence.

That they should rejoice and give thanks at harvest time was as natural an impulse for the Pilgrims as it was for the ancient Israelites."

Thanksgiving: A Harvest Festival with Roots in Sukkot

By Rabbi Elias Lieberman

<http://www.interfaithfamily.com>

From the President

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in Israel. Last year, we donated as a community to Haiti after their disaster, and it would be good to have a temple Tsedakah donation each year.

Temple Beth El of Brownsville has invited our Religion School families to a Chanukah Party in Brownsville on Dec. 5. It will be nice for the Jewish kids of the Valley to meet and play together. Last March, Brownsville kids came to our Purim service and party, and we all had a good time, and they are invited to return this coming Purim.

Meanwhile, we will be having our temple's Shabbat Chanukah service on Friday, December 3 at 7:30 pm. Bring your own Chanukah (Chanukah Menorah), and we will all light our candles together. Remember, Chanukah begins on December 1 at sunset.

Which leads me to say thank you to all who participated in the candle fundraiser. We made over \$400 for the temple. Who would have guessed that we would sell more Havdalah can-

dles than Chanukah candles?! They have arrived and you can contact me to get your order. If we are satisfied with these candles, we can order again next year. Thank you to Janet Wilder for thinking of this idea and organizing it. We also have ordered Elite chocolate "gelt" bags, through Veronica Huff, which we will sell for \$1.25, both milk chocolate and bittersweet dark chocolate.



Please Save the Date for the Testimonial Dinner that the temple is planning for February 19 to honor Rollie and Amy Koppel, and Lewis and Dena Levine. It will be held at the temple along with a silent auction. We will need volunteers, so let Fernando or me know if you want to help with planning, and see Janet Wilder or Dyan Banks to help with the auction.

And welcome to our new Winter Texan members, Victor and Judy de Leon, who summer near Seattle, Washington. It is great to have you as part of our congregation.

I want to wish everybody a Happy Thanksgiving.

B'Shalom,

Laurel Steinberg, President