



June 2008

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The Miracle, at 60

By Charles Krauthammer

Washington Post

Friday, May 16, 2008

Before sending Lewis and Clark west, Thomas Jefferson dispatched Meriwether Lewis to Philadelphia to see Benjamin Rush. The eminent doctor prepared a series of scientific questions for the expedition to answer.

Among them, writes Stephen Ambrose: "What Affinity between their [the Indians'] religious Ceremonies & those of the Jews?"

Jefferson and Lewis, like many of their day and ours, were fascinated by the Ten Lost Tribes of Israel and thought they might be out there on the Great Plains.

They weren't. They aren't anywhere. Their disappearance into the mists of history since their exile from Israel in 722 B.C. is no mystery. It is the norm, the rule for every ancient people defeated, destroyed, scattered and exiled.

With one exception, a miraculous story of redemption and return, after not a century or two, but 2,000 years. Remarkably, that miracle occurred in our time. This week marks its 60th anniversary: the return and restoration of the remaining two tribes of Israel -- Judah and Benjamin, later known as the Jews -- to their ancient homeland.

Besides restoring Jewish sovereignty, the establishment of the State of Israel embodied many subsidiary miracles, from the creation of the first Jewish army since Roman times to the only recorded instance of the resurrection of a dead language -- Hebrew, now the daily tongue of a vibrant nation of 7 million. As



Erev Shavuot

Sunday, 6:30 PM June 8

Torah Study

The Book of Ruth

Join us for blintzes

historian Barbara Tuchman once wrote, Israel is "the only nation in the world that is governing itself in the same territory, under the same name, and with the same religion and same language as it did 3,000 years ago."

During its early years, Israel was often spoken of in such romantic terms. Today, such talk is considered naive, anachronistic, even insensitive, nothing more than Zionist myth designed to hide the true story, i.e., the Palestinian narrative of dispossession.

Not so. Palestinian suffering is, of course, real and heart-wrenching, but what the Arab narrative deliberately distorts is the cause of its own tragedy: the folly of its own fanatical leadership -- from Haj Amin al-Husseini, the grand mufti of Jerusalem (Nazi collaborator, who spent World War II in Berlin), to

June & July Services 7:00 PM

continued on page 6

W

e keep hearing about the challenges of keeping our minds alert and functional as we age, but what we don't hear enough about is the positive impact of Torah study on our minds, our hearts and our souls. So:

You are invited to the 2nd annual Shavuot Eve study of the Book of Ruth, Sunday, June 8. Last year we concentrated on careful reading of the text itself. This year we will focus on the characters of Naomi, Ruth and Boaz. Each of these personalities has much to teach us about ourselves and the lives we lead. The evening will start with the traditional cheese blintzes at 6:30 p.m., along with informal conversations with those attending. Rather than just listening to the views of scholars and biblical commentators, we will divide into small groups who will during the course of the evening represent one of the three characters, Naomi, Ruth and Boaz. So bring your imagination and your willingness to explore the beautiful story of Ruth. You don't need to know Hebrew or have read the story ahead of time.

On the subject of invitation to study, it is never too late to come by our synagogue 6:30 PM on Thursday evening for an hour of Torah Study. We start promptly at 6:30 PM and conclude at 7:30 PM. We focus on the Torah portion of the coming Shabbat, but never turn away from questions that may take us far afield. We have open before us the new Women's Commentary to the Torah as well as the traditional Stone Chumash, and the open minds and curiosity of those attending. Using these widely different commentaries makes for quite interesting discussions. All you need to gain from this hour is to be there!

Among the comments made by those who have come to the study session is that it makes our weekly Shabbat Torah reading much more meaningful. And I must confess, it forces me to pay more attention myself to the text and the various levels of meaning therein.

A word of thanks to our members and our guests who have made that special effort to join our services at 7:00 PM. At the least, we are discovering that people can make this earlier start time. Participation of those coming is as enthusiastic and inspiring to Cantor Linder and me as it is during the services which started at 7:30 PM. As they say, "the jury is still out" as we are allowing ourselves

Purchase a
Calcutta Ticket
A chance to win \$5,000.00

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Proceeds go to
**Congregation
Beit Tikva**

**Saturday,
September 13, 2008**
B'Nai Mitzvot 10:30 AM
Evening Party Calcutta

**Congregation
Beit Tikva**

three months to determine whether we stay at 7:00 PM or go back to 7:30 PM.

As supporters of Israel, we are thankful that this country so dear to our hearts is able to celebrate the sixtieth anniversary of its independence even as it continues to struggle against its surrounding enemies and challenges of enabling all its citizens to enjoy the hope of its founding pioneers.

Finally, with the tragedies of Myanmar's devastating cyclone and China's destructive earthquake, we should keep these countries and their surviving populations in our prayers, and even in our charitable contribution lists.

RABBI NICOLAS L. BEHRMANN



505.988.2107
NLBEHRMANN@AOL.COM



In Loving Memory
 David DeChadenes
 1952-2007
 Father of Valerie
 Husband of Audrey
 Son-in-law of
 Irma & Ralph Thaler

**JNF, THAT LITTLE
BLUE TIN BOX**



When you were growing up do you remember “The Blue Tin Collection Box” that sat in a prominent place in your home to collect your loose coins? I do. And I still have one, pretty full right now. It is money for “The Jewish National Fund” and it’s purpose is the redemption of the land of Israel. Some of those trees we always talk about! “Make the land bloom,” that’s what the box that I have has emblazoned on it. So although I always say think globally, but act locally, I always add my support for Israel as much as I possibly can. And this 60th year is a time to wear that badge proudly.

I recently found out that our member, Doreen Hurtig, is off to Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada mid-June for a 60th anniversary celebration where the Jewish National Fund of Canada is honoring her brother at this year’s Negev Gala. Her brother Larry Hurtig is a man who has dedicated his life to community service. A polio survivor he still has been able to be president of the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg and has been instrumental in relocating Jewish Argentinians to the Winnipeg area and also is the founder of Shalom Residences for mentally-challenged Jewish adults. Proceeds from this Negev Gala will go to support a sport, recreation and play park in Israel for people with disabilities. They plan to raise at least \$200,000.00 in Winnipeg, pretty impressive for a town that size. So I will be giving her the money in my blue tin box and if any of you want to join in that effort for Israel and support the Jewish National Fund call Doreen Hurtig at 466.0252 or her cell at 469.3302.

Thank you Gail Rapoport

Dear Congregants and Friends:

As most of you know, 2008 marks the thirteenth year of the existence of Congregation Beit Tikva in Santa Fe. Like most fortunate “teenagers,” we have experienced growing pains, but have learned to stand on our own while continuing to receive support and guidance from those who raised us. As our Congregation symbolically enters into Jewish “adulthood,” we honor those dedicated members who have supported us financially and have guided us toward achieving our goals.

On Saturday, September 13, Congregation Beit Tikva will formally celebrate its B’Nai Mitzvot with a special service beginning at 10:30 a.m., followed by a light luncheon at the synagogue. That evening, like any good son or daughter of the commandment, we will have our very own B’Nai Mitzvot party in our synagogue. This will be an evening of joy and laughter, of music and dancing. Hors d’ oeuvres and beverages will be served. This evening also will be our major Fundraising event for 2008. Our goal is to raise at least \$12,000 to support our operations into the next fiscal year. In addition to generous gifts from our membership, we are planning a silent auction and will be holding a calcutta. Tickets for the calcutta cost \$100 each, and can be obtained from any board member or by calling the synagogue

office. A total of 150 tickets will be sold and the winner will receive a cash prize of \$5,000.

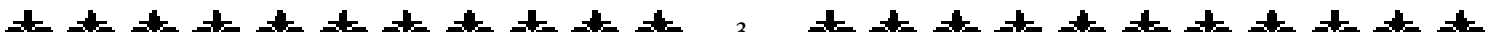
In order to make our B’Nai Mitzvot celebration a success, we need the help of you, our members. Gail Rapoport has generously volunteered to oversee party preparations, and the entire board will be participating in selling calcutta tickets, but we need members who can give a few hours of their time to assist with the planning and organizing of the party. Please call Gail or me directly to let us know how you can help.

On behalf of the congregation, I would like to thank the faculty and staff of the Congregation Beit Tikva Religious School, which is now wrapping up its school year, for their hard work and dedication to our youngest members. They are already busy planning for the next school year, which will begin in September. Please help us spread the word by letting friends and relatives with young children know about our religious school program. For more information, interested parents should contact Barbara Cohen, 995.0999 or batyahan@earthlink.net.

Shalom,

PAUL GRACE

505.466.7177
 PGRACE2003@COMCAST.NET



CONGREGATION BEIT TIKVA

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

JUNE 6

“Insights into Reading the Hebrew Scriptures” – When it comes to reading the Torah, the Prophets and the Writings of the Hebrew Scriptures, Jews are not fundamentalists and we do not restrict ourselves to taking the text literally! Our willingness to find multiple and even contrasting points of view has kept us alive as a people able to adapt ourselves to changing times and places.

JUNE 13

“Listening to our own Prayers” – Whether following the traditional formulation of blessings or the more personal expressions of our hearts, it is as important for us to listen to our own prayers as it is to hope that someone or some power in the universe is listening. There are those who believe that the creator of the universe will only respond to our prayers after we ourselves have taken the first steps towards achieving or obtaining what we ask in our prayers.

JUNE 20

“Ask the Rabbi” – Rather than a formal sermon for this Shabbat, Rabbi Behrman will entertain questions from the congregation. No question will be considered a stupid question as there will be people who are grateful that someone has asked it. Please feel free to also bring the most challenging of questions as well.

For the Kindergarten class, we worked through My Weekly Sidrah by Melanie Berman and Joel Lurie Grishaver (Torah Aura Productions) from Vayetze, Genesis 28:10 – 32:3 through to Behar, Leviticus 25:1 –26:2, only missing a few weekly portions due to school holidays and student absences. Each Sunday, the students bound their parsha lesson with front and back cover to share with their family at home.

Curriculum enrichment came in different ways, sometimes lessons for the parents from CHAI Learning for Jewish Life by Joanne Doades; a Sunday morning Challah dough shaping and baking experience for a five and six year old; and a lesson about the new moon, and Rosh Chodesh when 1 Nissan coincided with April 6th, a Sunday School day.

After building trains and towers from wooden blocks, we read Look At Me: I Can Do a Mitzvah, a 2007 Behrman House publication, learning key Jewish values in addition to having fun with stickers. From late August through May, Congregation Beit Tikva's outdoor play set was the perfect place for Sunday morning recess.

We prepared our religious school with songs, stories and art projects for these Jewish holidays: Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Hanukkah, Tu B'Shevat, Purim, Pesach, and Shabbat and Shabbat Across America in class as well as during Friday night services and a Saturday Purim Party. During our weekly Shabbat time the children learned the blessings for the Sabbath candles, the “wine”, and the challah, as well as contributing to tzedakah, which will be donated to St. Elizabeth's Shelter in Santa Fe.



Barbara Cohen, Sandra Levine, Noah Santi-Unger, Jacqueline Bell, Jacob Wohl, Jessica Wohl, Joseph Santi-Unger



Jacqueline Bell, Jessica Wohl, and Noah Santi-Unger

Photos by Lance Bell

We look forward to growing as teachers and growing and improving the Congregation Beit Tikva Religious School this coming school year, beginning 10a.m. to noon, Sunday, August 24th, with a Parent/Teacher Open House on Sunday, August 17 at 10:00 a.m.

Over the summer, please contact Barbara Cohen at 995.0999 or cell 660.7655 or email: batyahan@earthlink.net.

Next month we will feature an article on the first grade, taught by Sandra Levine, and their accomplishments over this past religious school year.

Congratulations to
 Hila Landau
 graduating from
 Santa Fe Preparatory School
 Hila will be attending
 Brandeis University

Congratulations to
 Noga Landau
 graduating from
 Washington University
 College Honors
 Performing Arts Department
 College of Arts & Sciences



JUNE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

**Rabbi Behrmann
 will bless those with
 June anniversaries and
 birthdays
 on Friday, June 20**

Congratulations to
 Andrew Proyect
 graduating from
 Vanderbilt University
 Law School

Kevin Brouse	June 8
Wendy Lane Henry	June 8
Jane Hochberg	June 14
Stephen Hochberg	June 9
Melanie Hornstein	June 30
Dr. Jules Levine	June 9
Mary Swartzberg	June 6
Leonard Torobin	June 23
Joy Weber	June 24
Jessica Wohl	June 21

Congratulations to
 Molly Rapoport
 graduating from
 Princeton University

Major: Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
 Minor: Woodrow Wilson School of Public Policy

Julia & Lance Bell	June 27
Barbara Cohen & Al Chapman	June 19
Kristen & Steve Flance	June 26
Joyce & Jeffrey Harris	June 22
Susan & Burton Krohn	June 11
Joyce & Gerald M. Levine	June 7
Bunny & Paul Lichtenstein	June 9
Julianne & Robert Sherman	June 28

DONATIONS

GENERAL FUND

Julia & Lance Bell - In memory of Roger Raphael, uncle of Julia and brother of Rita Linder
Susan & Lee Berk - In memory of Roger Raphael, brother of Rita Linder
Susan & Lee Berk - In memory of Beverly McNickle, sister-in-law of Connie Rosenberg
Lillian Bristol - In memory of Bernie Marco
Barbara Cohen & Al Chapman - In memory of Bernie Marco
Barbara Cohen & Al Chapman - In honor of the birth of Solomon Jonas Bielsky, great-grandson of Ethel Gold & Esther Rapoport
Zoe Gayl - In memory of Bernie Marco
Zoe Gayl - In honor of the 80th birthday of Reggie Klein
Michael Maloney - In memory of William Maloney, his father
Dr. Edward Okun - In memory of Morris Okun, his father
Fredri & Louis Proyect - In honor of the graduation of Andrew from Vanderbilt Law School
Esther Rapoport - In memory of Roger Raphael, brother of Rita Linder
Esther Rapoport - In honor of the grandson of Gail & Elliot Rapoport and great-grandson of Ethel Gold
Esther Rapoport - In honor of Eva Wohl
Esther Rapoport - In memory of Bernice Marco

Gail & Elliot Rapoport - In honor of the graduation of Molly from Princeton University
Fred Reid - In memory of John Reid, his father
Santa Fe Handball Association - In memory of Bernie Marco
Santa Fe Opera Guild
Bee Schulman - In memory of Roger Raphael, brother of Rita Linder
Bee Schulman - In memory of Beverly McNickle, sister-in-law of Connie Rosenberg
Edie & Ernie Schwartz - In honor of Solomon Jonas Bielsky, grandson of Gail & Elliot Rapoport
Haskel Sheinberg - In memory of Bernie Marco
Cookie & Jim Svingos - In honor of the birth of Solomon Jonas Bielsky
Cookie & Jim Svingos - In memory of Bernie Marco
Irma & Ralph Thaler - In memory of David DeChadenedes, son-in-law of Irma & Ralph
Irma & Ralph Thaler - In memory of Gussie Cobert, mother of Irma
Cathy Turner - In honor of the graduation of Molly Rapoport
Linda & George Wilson - In memory of Bernie Marco

BUILDING FUND - GUARDIAN

Barbara Cohen & Al Chapman

BUILDING FUND - PILLAR

Abigail Davidson

BUILDING FUND - SPONSOR

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PRAYER BOOK FUND

Young at Heart - In memory of Bernie Marco

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*Please contact Gail Rapoport
at 820.2991
to make your donations
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JUNE TORAH PASSAGES

June 7 <i>Naso</i>	Numbers 4.21-7.89 The priestly blessings
June 14 <i>Beha' alotecha</i>	Numbers 8.1-12.16 The menorah, departures from Sinai
June 21 <i>Shelach</i>	Numbers 13.1-15.41 The spies and their report
June 28 <i>Korach</i>	Numbers 16.1 - 18.32 Rebellion of Korach and his family, Moses pleads with God

JUNE SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

June 6 Friday 7:00 PM	Rabbi Behrmann <i>Insights into Reading the Hebrew Scriptures</i>
June 8 Sunday 6:30 PM	Rabbi Behrmann Torah Study -The Book of Ruth Join us for Blintzes
June 13 Friday 7:00 PM	Rabbi Behrmann <i>Listening to our own Prayers</i>
June 20 Friday 7:00 PM	Rabbi Behrmann <i>Ask the Rabbi</i>
June 27 Friday 7:00 PM	Rabbi Helman will lead the service
July 4 Friday 7:00 PM	Rabbi Helman will lead the service

