

The Latest News from Congregation Agudas Achim Anshei Sfard

BE HAPPY, IT'S ADAR - AND PURIM IS HERE

elebrate Purim this year at Adams Street Shul! Because Purim is on Saturday evening and Sunday, March 6-7, the Fast of Esther takes place on Thursday, March 4th. Purim festivities at the shul start on Saturday evening, March 6th at 6:30 PM with Havdalah, followed by Ma'ariv, Megillah reading, and a Purim party. Costumes and masks are highly encouraged, and plan to have fun when you arrive! Purim services will continue on Sunday morning, March 7th at 8:00 AM, with Shacharit and Megillah reading.

Be sure to fulfill these four mitzvot on Purim:

Listen to the reading of the megillah on Saturday evening and again on Monday morning.

Send mishloach manot (food baskets) containing at least two different ready-toeat foods to at least one friend.

Give charity to at least two people, families or other needy causes.

Eat a festive meal in honor of the Purim holiday.

Adult Education Lectures in March

s part of the Adams Street Shul's adult education program, two lectures by local scholars are scheduled at the shul in March.

Dr. Jan Feldman will speak on, "Religion in the Public Square" on Sunday, March 21st beginning at 7:30 PM. Dr. Feldman received her PhD in government and political theory, with minors in public policy and city and regional planning, from Cornell University. She is currently a visiting associate professor of social studies at Harvard University. She has taught at the University of Vermont and McGill University, and was a visiting professor at Petrozavodsk State University in Karelia, Russia. Dr. Feldman has published numerous scholarly political science articles in both English and Russian. Two of her recent book chapters are entitled, "Liberalism and the Challenge of Multicultural Accommodation" and, "Proceedings of the Third Annual Kent State University Symposium on Democracy; Democracy and Religion: Free Exercise and Diversity".

Dr. Alfred Tauber will speak on, "Medical Ethics vs. Ethical Medicine" on Sunday, March 28th at 7:30 PM. Dr. Tauber is the Zoltan Kohn Professor of Medicine and Professor of Philosophy, as well as Director of the Center for Philosophy and History of Science, at Boston University. Although primarily teaching and writing on the philosophy of science, he originally trained as a biochemist and hematologist, and continues to practice medicine at Boston Medical Center.

Aside from his research publications in immunology, Dr. Tauber has published extensively on 19th and 20th century biomedicine, contemporary science studies, and ethics. He is the author of The Immune Self, Theory or Metaphor? (Cambridge, 1994), Confessions of a Medicine Man, An Essay in Popular Philosophy (1999), and Henry David Thoreau and the Moral Agency of Knowing (California 2001), as well as co-author of Metchnikoff and the Origins of Immunology (Oxford, 1991) and The Generation of Diversity, Clonal Selection Theory and the Rise of Molecular Immunology (Harvard, 1997). His most recent collaborative work is a translation project, The Evolutionary Biology Papers of Elie Metchnikoff (Kluwer, 2000).

Both lectures take place in the shul's sanctuary. Everyone is invited to attend these events, free of charge.

March 2004 Adar / Nisan 5764 Shalom 5764/5765 Volume 12, No. 3

March Calendar

Candle lighting:

3/5:	5:21 PM
3/12:	5:30 PM
3/19:	5:38 PM
3/26:	5:46 PM
4/2:	5:54 PM

Shabbat Services:

Friday evenings

3/5:	5:15 PM
3/12, 3/19:	5:30 PM
3/26, 4/2:	5:45 PM
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Saturday mornings

at 9:00 AM

Saturday afternoons

 3/6:
 5:00 PM

 (Followed by Megillah reading after Havdalah)
 3/13, 3/20:
 5:15 PM

 3/26, 4/2:
 5:30 PM
 5:30 PM

Purim Schedule: Ta'anit Esther (Fast of Esther)

Thursday, March 4th

Purim Services:

Saturday evening, March 6: 6:30 PM Sunday,

March 7: 8:00 AM

Sunday Mornings

at 8:00 AM

The Adams Street Shul will be participating in a Purim program on Sunday morning March 7 at 10:30 AM with the residents of the Chetwynde Nursing Home. Please join with us in this important mitzvah of cheering up some delightful seniors on Purim. For further information, contact our president, Aryeh Cheses at 617-527-7967.

Chess Tournament on March 21st

The 8th Annual Adams Street Chess Tournament will take place at the shul on Sunday, March 21st. Registration opens at 9:30 AM, with play beginning at 10:00 AM. The tournament will once again be run by Mr. Steven Frymer, former president and current vice president of the Massachusetts Chess Association.

The tournament is open to players of all ages. There will be both a junior division (children up to age 10) and senior division (ages 11 through adult), and trophies will be awarded to the top players. Players are asked to bring their own chess set and clock.

There is a suggested donation of \$10 per participant. Refreshments will be available throughout the day. For more information, call the shul or, for Russian speakers, Mr. Boris Krasik (617-527-2917).

THE MITZVAH OF MATANOT L'EVYONIM

By Aryeh Cheses, President

One of the important commandments of Purim is "matanot l'evyonim" (gifts to the poor). Maimonides, in his famous Mishna Torah, described this commandment as follows: "One is duty bound ON THE DAY OF PURIM to distribute to the poor." However, it is very difficult to fulfill this commandment when we do not personally know any poor people.

The Adams Street Shul has made special arrangements with Yad Chessed Charity Fund to allow us to carry out this mitzvah. We will be collecting donations on Purim (or you may send a check directly to the shul) for Yad Chessed for matanot l'evyonim. The funds will be distributed in the following ways:

IN THE BOSTON AREA: Between 150 and 200 households will be given gift certificates that can be used at kosher grocery stores. (These certificates cannot be used until noon on Purim day.) Also, a number of people from the former Soviet Union who have arrived in the Boston area in the last year, will be mailed certificates that can be redeemed for food at kosher grocery stores starting at noon on Purim day.

IN ISRAEL: Assistance will be given to a number of needy families in Israel on Purim.

All funds that are collected will go towards helping the poor; none of these funds will be used for overhead.

Receipt Program at The Butcherie

As you do your Purim shopping (and begin to stock up for Passover!) at The Butcherie in Brookline, remember to ask for your receipts to be stamped for "Adams Street Shul." Then, send your stamped receipts to the shul, we will turn them in and The Butcherie will donate 5% of your receipt total (3% for credit card purchases) to the shul. You will be supporting a great cause!

פורים סמהן פורים סמה פורים ס **Shul Directory** Shul main office: (17) 630-0226 Fax: (617) 244-4667 Phbli Zeman Curlow

Recent Events

The weekend of January 9-11, 2004 was a festive one at Adams Street when Rabbi Herschel Worch — artist, musician, dramatist and poet — joined us. Rabbi Hershy led the davening and enlightened us with his talks during Shabbat. On Saturday evening, the shul's sanctuary and social hall overflowed with music and joy as Rabbi Hershy and Fishel Bresler entertained us with songs and stories during the Malaveh Malka. "Yasher ko'ach" to Tzvi and Debbie Rubinstein who arranged the events and hosted Rabbi Hershy for the weekend. And special "thank you" to all of the donors whose generosity helped defray part of the expenses for the weekend.

On Friday evening, February 6th, the Adams Street community was able to celebrate Shabbat and Tu B'Shevat together at our annual Shabbat dinner. Tzvi Rubinstein delivered a lovely "drash" on the meaning of Tu B'Shevat, after which we all were able to partake of the best part of the evening – eating the delicious traditional (and non-traditional!) fruits associated with the holiday. Yasher ko'ach to Beth Drapkin, Debbie Rubinstein, and Tsila Sloane for arranging the this event.

Rabbi Zalman Gurkow (617) 559-0394 rabbi@adamsstreet.org For information on the status of the eruv (781) 446-9797 To report yahrzeits or special occasions (when you might need an aliya or to say kaddish) Ritual Chair Tzvi Rubinstein (617) 244-3775 ritual@adamsstreet.org To sponsor Kiddush or a festive meal Harvey Lipsky (617) 354-8426 kiddush@adamsstreet.org For membership information Membership Chair Elinor Levy (617) 965-2471 membership@adamsstreet.org For donations **Development Chair Aryeh Cheses** (617) 527-7967 president@adamsstreet.org Shul Web site: http://www.adamsstreet.org Newsletter Editor: Robin Walker newsletter@adamsstreet.org Newsletter Design: Vitaly Krichevsky vitaly@krichevsky.com Web Master: Michael Partensky partensky@attbi.com

Eruv Update: Sponsor a Shabbat information about it, see the shul's website.) Similar to sponsoring a

The shul is pleased to offer sponsorship of the Nonantum Eruv each Shabbat for \$72. Although you may not think of the eruv as a recurring event, providing it is actually very much a weekly occurrence. In conjunction with the Greater Boston Eruv Corporation, specially trained employees inspect the entire boundary of our eruv and call in repair orders on Thursday afternoon. On Friday, repairs to the eruv are made by an electrician in a basket truck. Finally, the status message (which

Kiddush Sponsorship

Did you know that for as little as \$36, you can sponsor a Shabbat kiddush at the shul? Consider sponsoring a kiddush in memory of a loved one, or to celebrate a special milestone in your family. Contact Harvey Lipsky for kiddush sponsorship information. Thank you to the following persons, who recently sponsored kiddush/Seudat Shelishit: Dr. Leonard & Audrey Berman Julia Carmel, IHO son David's 1st birthdav Ronny & Beth Drapkin, IHO their anniversary Rabbi Schmuel & Sheri Feld, IHO son Cailev's birthday Bert & Polly Grand, IMO Harry Grand Tzvi & Deborah Rubinstein Jordan & Sarah Wagner, IHO Sarah's new job Oleg Weber & Yelena Temkin

Library Donations

Are you looking for a way to donate to the shul? There is a "wish list" for the shul's reference library consider making a donation towards the purchase of a book. Contact Lloyd Cohen for details. you can hear on Friday afternoons at 781-446-9797) is updated. This process ensures that our eruv is "up" almost every Sabbath. Just as the shul's volunteers work behind the scenes to provide kiddush, a third meal, and a Torah reader on Shabbat; so too does the shul maintain the eruv.

Providing a Shabbat eruv is much appreciated, as it enables more people to participate in our Shabbat services and join our community. (For a map of our eruv, and more

Community News:

Mazal Tov, Mazal Tov!

To Burt Freedman on his marriage to Revital Yefidoff of Raana, Israel.

To Jordan and Sarah Wagner on the purchase of their new home.

To second graders Doron Cheses, Liorah Rubinstein, and Rena Walker on receiving their first chumashim at the Maimonides School's "Hagigat HaChumash" (Torah Celebration") on February 10th.

Condolences

Our condolences to the family of Ann Burak, who passed away on January 9, 2004. Ann was a long-time member of the Adams Street Synagogue for many years and a generous donor. She is survived by her brother Bertram Grand, past President of the shul and Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Our condolences to the family of David Rosengard, who passed away at the end of January. Bert Grand, Chair of the Board of Directors writes, "Our shul lost a longtime friend when Dave passed away last month. A successful shoe manufacturer and past member of our Board, Dave attended our Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur services for close to 50 years, and for 30 straight years opened the ark for Neilah. Only age prevented him from continuing with this beloved honor."

May their families be comforted among the mourners of Zion, and may their memories be for a blessing.

Thank You to Our Donors

Saul & Alice Aronow Dr. Leonard & Audrey Berman information about it, see the shul's website.) Similar to sponsoring a kiddush or third meal on Shabbat, eruv sponsorship is an opportunity to honor an individual, memorialize a loved one, or celebrate a simcha.

To reserve an Eruv Sponsorship, contact our treasurer, Jordan Lee Wagner, at Treasurer@AdamsStreet.org or

617-953-6787.

Thank you to the following recent Eruv sponsors:

Jordan & Sarah Wagner

Victor Berman (Restoration Fund) Dr. Sheldon & Marilvn Binder, IMO

Rabbi Schmuel & Sherry Feld, IHO son Cailev's birthday

Abraham Binder, Ida Binder, Sidney Binder, Bessie Goldman, Hyman Taylor Sarah Drapkin Margery Freedman (Restoration Fund) Leonid & Liliya Furina, IMO Altah Gihsya bat Zalman Vladimir & Tanya Geisberg Bert & Polly Grand, IMO Harry Grand Russell & Marcia Grand Jessie Karp, IMO Laurie Herman Anatoly Kleyman & Nataliya Raevich Yosef Kroll Meir Lakein & Orit Kent Olga Landa Victor & Galina Partensky Charles & Leonard F. Shnabel David & Tsila Sloane, IHO Richard Sloane passing the Bar exam (Eruv Fund) Michael & Robin Walker Oleg Weber & Telena Temkin Robert & Joan Weinstein Israel Bonds David & Tsila Sloane, IMO Irving L. Landau Edwin H. & Helen N. Cohen John & Eleanor Pearlman, IMO Hyman Stoller Oleg Weber & Yelena Temkin Endowment Fund

Elinor & Charles Levy David & Tsila Sloane



Congregation Agudas Achim Anshei Sfard 168 Adams Street, P.O. Box 600371 Newtonville, Massachusetts 02460



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