



# SONS *of* ABRAHAM

LAFAYETTE, IN  
*Established 1889*

May, 2007- Iyar 13 - Sivan 14

Post Office Box 2671  
West Lafayette, IN 47996-2671  
661 N. Seventh Street  
Lafayette, IN 47901  
Phone (765) 742-1135  
[www.soalafayette.org](http://www.soalafayette.org)

**Co-Presidents: George Horwich  
and Alan Garfinkel**

**Send bulletin items to:**  
[a.garfinkel@insightbb.com](mailto:a.garfinkel@insightbb.com)

**Sisterhood Co-Presidents:**  
**Cyrelle Simon and Harriet Diamond**

## Gratitude & Congratulations

Kudos and many thanks go to Heather Moskowitz and the team of Sisterhood members who have worked to plan the Israeli Independence Day carry-in supper which will take place April 22. Similar thanks to the Sanders family who brought reinforcements from Chicago to assure minyanim for Pesah. Also, many thanks to Juliana Saddock Savino and her Dad, Dr. Joseph Savino, for visiting the shul on Friday night, April 13. Friday the 13th (which is not bad luck in Jewish tradition) brought good luck in that we enjoyed meeting these friends from Cleveland and Dr. Savino gave us brief talk on his Chicago origins and Lafayette when he went to school here. Ms. Saddock, an accomplished professional musician, was interested in seeing the shul because she was born in Lafayette and because she is related to the Spector family that sponsored some of the stained glass windows in the shul. If you would like to contact our visitors, their e-mail is [sadocksavino@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sadocksavino@sbcglobal.net)

## An Open Letter to the Sons of Abraham Congregants

Dear Rabbi and Juliette Radinsky,

In times of tragedy, and for tribulations that are unexplainable, it is difficult to understand, from either a religious or secular point of view, why Mark David's death happened.

Each of us, whether secularists or religionists, attempts to deal with horrors like this in a way that will best ease the pain of a loved ones death. Iris and I have tried to do just that, and we, individually and collectively, are still trying to find a small degree of peace. Our current Rabbi, Michael Rascoe, has been central in this respect.

Yours, and the many other expressions of condolences, have been much appreciated, and are helping us to get through this period of mourning. Ultimately, time will soften the hurt but, of course, we will never forget our first born son. We will continue with our lives, albeit changed, but as functional human beings.

Iris and Irwin Treager

## Rabbi's Calendar

Rabbi Rascoe will be in Lafayette May 4-6 and May 11-13. He also plans to officiate at the Barash unveiling on May 27.

## May Candle Lighting Times

(source: Rabbi Rascoe)

May 5: 8:31 PM  
 11: 8:38 PM  
 18: 8:45 PM  
 22: 8:49 PM (1st Day Shavuot)  
 23: 9:56 PM (2nd Day Shavuot, an hour later)  
 25: 8:51 PM

## Refuah Shelemah

Almighty God, we offer prayers for health and long life to Cyrelle Simon.

## Rabbi's Reflections:

**"Seeing God as an Adult"**

This is the title of a column by my first rabbi, Kenneth Bromberg, z"l. Part of my interest in education, and adult education in particular, may come from him. He gave very long, very good sermons, through which I slept as a child. For those who liked to think, he was priceless. My first long seder was at his house, where I played with other children.

In Oak Ridge, Tennessee, his first pulpit, he noted that his well-educated congregants, mostly nuclear scientists and engineers, had equally opposing naive views of religious thought. Over time in different places, he (and I have) found that highly learned, often quite urbane, Jews usually retain the "same physical, tactile, unsophisticated vision of God they held in childhood." Most children, picture God as a larger-than-life human being, often in a vaguely celestial setting, sitting on a throne atop a cloud. While his (and my) congregants might not

have been (be) at a seven-year-old level, their thought and ability to talk about religion and God certainly did (do) not often extend beyond a thirteen-year-old level since most Jews stop formal religious education then.

What prompted his thoughts, was a column in the St. Petersburg Times on children's drawings of God and the accompanying article that observed that most kids see God based on their experiences of their parents and teachers. As children, we depend on them for security, what we need, and what we know. This seeming omniscience colors our thoughts on God. Unfortunately, when we stop religious education at thirteen, we have just begun to think conceptually. Then we are like what Sean Connery, playing Indiana Jones's father in *The Last Crusade*, later said about when his young son left him, "you left just when you were becoming interesting." The article continued that we need a developmental scheme for religious faith, and also offered practical measures, like praying in front of your children (Rabbi Bromberg asks if "junior congregations" are really good for religious development), encouraging children to pray, and going beyond the image of God as "that great moralist in the sky." (James W Fowler [Stages of Faith, 1981] posits six stages, but please do not make the mistake of saying that stage one is bad and stage six is good and everyone should be there—about all one can say is that stages one to two are more descriptive of children and three through six of adults.)

If you see yourself in any of this, I also agree with Rabbi Bromberg's prescription: "the corrective lies in adult education." In other lines from towards the movie's end, the knight tells of one that he "chose poorly" and of the other that he "chose wisely." The Bible in Deuteronomy asks us to choose wisely. Shavuot (Weeks/Pentecost) presumes such a development, and that freedom is meaningless without obligation and vision. Given a high school or college education, and a lifetime of accumulated experiences, you should be able to catch up quickly, assuming that you are not like the ultra-orthodox or the secularists who are happy with a low level of religious thought. Happy Shavuot. Hag Same-ah. Mo'adim l'simhah. (The reply is: haggim u-z'mannim l'sason).

## A Fly in the Coffee

What happens when a fly falls into a coffee cup? The Englishman throws the cup and walks away. The American takes out the fly and drinks the coffee. The Chinese eats the fly and throws away the coffee. The Japanese drinks the coffee with the fly, since it was extra. The Israeli sells the coffee to the American, the fly to the Chinese, and buys himself a new cup of coffee. The Palestinian blames the Israeli for the violent act of putting the fly in his coffee, asks the UN for aid, takes a loan from the European Union to buy a new cup of coffee, uses the money to purchase explosives, and then blows up the coffee house where the Englishman, the American, the Chinese, the Japanese are all trying to explain to the Israeli that he was too aggressive.

(This was in my e-mail; source not known)

## Shavu'ot

(Judaism 101)



You shall count for yourselves -- from the day after the shabbat, from the day when you bring the Omer of the waving -- seven shabbats, they shall be complete. Until the day after the seventh sabbath you shall count, fifty days... You shall convoke on this very day -- there shall be a holy convocation for yourselves -- you shall do no laborious work; it is an eternal decree

in your dwelling places for your generations. -Leviticus 21:15-16, 21

Shavu'ot, the Festival of Weeks, is the second of the three major festivals with both historical and agricultural significance (the other two are Passover and Sukkot). Agriculturally, it commemorates the time when the first fruits were harvested and brought to the Temple, and is known as Hag ha-Bikkurim (the Festival of the First Fruits). Historically, it celebrates the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai, and is also known as Hag Matan Torateinu (the Festival of the Giving of Our Torah).

The period from Passover to Shavu'ot is a time of great anticipation. We count each of the days from the second day of Passover to the day before Shavu'ot, 49 days or 7 full weeks, hence the name of the festival. See The Counting of the Omer. The counting reminds us of the important connection between Passover and Shavu'ot: Passover freed us physically from bondage, but the giving of the Torah on Shavu'ot redeemed us spiritually from our bondage to idolatry and immorality. Shavu'ot is also known as Pentecost, because it falls on the 50th day; however, Shavu'ot has no particular similarity to the Christian holiday of Pentecost, which occurs 50 days after their Spring holiday.

It is noteworthy that the holiday is called the time of the giving of the Torah, rather than the time of the receiving of the Torah. The sages point out that we are constantly in the process of receiving the Torah, that we receive it every day, but it was first given at this time. Thus it is the giving, not the receiving, that makes this holiday significant.

Shavu'ot is not tied to a particular calendar date, but to a counting from Passover. Because the length of the months used to be variable, determined by observation and there are two new moons between Passover and Shavu'ot, Shavu'ot could occur on the 5th or 6th of Sivan. However, now that we have a mathematically determined calendar, and the months between Passover and Shavu'ot do not change length on the mathematical calendar, Shavu'ot is always on the 6th of Sivan (the 6th and 7th outside of Israel).

Work is not permitted during Shavu'ot.

It is customary to stay up the entire first night of Shavu'ot and study Torah, then pray as early as possible in the morning.

It is customary to eat a dairy meal at least once during Shavu'ot. There are varying opinions as to why this is done. Some say it is a reminder of the promise regarding the land of Israel, a land flowing with "milk and honey." According to another view, it is because our ancestors had just received the Torah (and the dietary laws therein), and did not have both meat and dairy dishes available. See Separation of Meat and Dairy.

The book of Ruth is read at this time. Again, there are varying reasons given for this custom, and none seems to be definitive.

List of Dates

Shavu'ot will occur on the following days of the Gregorian calendar:

- \* Jewish Year 5767 : sunset May 22, 2007 - nightfall May 24, 2007
- \* Jewish Year 5768 : sunset June 8, 2008 - nightfall June 10, 2008
- \* Jewish Year 5769 : sunset May 28, 2009 - nightfall May 30, 2009
- \* Jewish Year 5770 : sunset May 18, 2010 - nightfall May 20, 2010

© Copyright 5756-5766 (1995-2005), Tracey R Rich

## Let My People Eat

Leah Hadashi

Let's talk Tabouli. Tabouli is one of my favorite Middle Eastern side salads that I was introduced to when I lived in Israel. I found that in Israel there are always many freshly made salads prepared and served as an accompaniment to the main meal. Tabouli is often to be found on Israeli, Lebanese and Brazilian tables and is now working its way toward becoming an American favorite. I found a recipe at a café on the Boardwalk in Tel Aviv. It features a simple variation on the classic recipe.

- 2 cups cracked wheat
- ½ cup fresh lemon juice
- 2 cups very hot water
- ¾ cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1 cucumber, chopped
- 1 tablespoon pepper
- 2 small tomatoes, chopped
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1 bunch green onions, (3-5) chopped
- 2 oz. chopped nuts, add more to taste
- ½ cup fresh chopped mint,
- 1 pkg. crushed feta cheese
- 2 cups fresh chopped parsley
- ½ - 1 jar marinated sweet peppers
- 1 clove garlic, minced

1. Soak Wheat for 30-45 minutes. The wheat should absorb most of the liquid. Drain any excess after time allotted.
  2. Combine first 8 ingredients in a bowl. Starting with wheat and ending with garlic.
  3. Combine your dressing ingredients in a separate bowl. Lemon Juice, Olive Oil Salt and Pepper; Pour over wheat mixture
  4. Cover and let sit in refrigerator for 2 hours for flavors to blend.
  5. Add in last 3 ingredients before serving.
- Makes about 8 cups.

## Yahrzeits

Name	English Date	Name	English Date
Salzman, Jacob	May 1	Goldstine, Leo	May 24
Horwich, Rose	May 1	Klatch, Louise Solomon	May 25
Berk, Jean	May 5	Bass, Samuel	May 27
Goodman, Dora	May 8	Roger, Louis J.	May 27

Name	English Date	Name	English Date
Laivy, Paul, L.	May 9	Altman, Maynard	May 27
Mc Murray, Paul	May 12	Zovod, Eda	May 28
Feinstein, Jacob	May 14	Singer, Bessie	May 30
Winsky, Ab	Sivan (date unknown)	Tzucker, Esther	June 1
Levine, Harris	Sivan (date unknown)	Elkin, Lucille	June 2
Goodman, Samuel	May 21	Brodsky, Jacob	June 7
Litman, Max	May 21	Barash, Moshe	June 7
Spector, Jacob Aaron	May 22	Brown, Ree	June 10
Berger, Mose	May 23	Leventhal, Luba	June 13
Salzman, Freida	May 24	Spector, Hannah E.	June 13

## Shul Board to Meet

The Board of Directors of the Congregation is scheduled to meet on **Thursday, April 26** at 8:00 P.M. The meeting is open to all congregants.

## Barash Unveiling

At 11:00 A.M. on Sunday, May 27, a minyan will meet at the Sons of Abraham Cemetery for the unveiling of the gravestone of former congregant, Moshe Barash. A longtime member of the faculty of the school of Industrial Engineering, Professor Barash was admired and respected by one and all for his unique combination of scholarship based on a wealth of knowledge with a caring, warm and receptive attitude toward all of those with whom he met. Rabbi Michael L. Rascoe will officiate. The family invites the entire community to a lunch at the

Barash residence (124 Pawnee Drive, West Lafayette) that will take place after the ceremony.

## Calendar

The electronic calendar so ably prepared by Mickey Harris supplements the announcements in the bulletin. For those who do not read e-mail, here goes an attempt at imitating Mickey which just plain is not as good as the virtual thing.

Israeli Independence Day Carry-in Dinner. Sunday, April 22 at the shul.

Monday, April 23. Yom Ha Atzmaut / Israeli Independence Day.

Shul Board Meeting. Thursday, April 26. 8:00 P.M. at the shul

Sisterhood Board Meeting. Tuesday, May 8. 8:00 P.M. Home of Harriet Diamond

Sisterhood Closing Luncheon. Wednesday, May 9 at noon. Lafayette Country Club. Chairman: Madelyn Lillianfeld

Oneg Shabbat to Honor Graduates. Friday, May 11 after services. Host (s): Parents of graduates

Shavuot, Wednesday and Thursday, May 23 and 24

Unveiling of grave stone for Moshe Barash. Sunday, May 27 starting at the cemetery at 11:00 A.M. A lunch is to follow at the family residence, 124 Pawnee drive, WL.

Shavuot Dairy Luncheon. Wednesday, May 23 at the shul after services. Chairman: Sylvia Cember

Shul Picnic. June 10. Happy Hollow Park. Details to follow. Chairmen: Roxana Silvian and Marjie Gold-Vukson

Sisterhood Board Meeting. Tuesday, June 12. 8:00 P.M. Home of Jo Gartenhaus

## Building Repairs

Several repairs to the shul building have been done recently. They range from plumbing repairs in the mens room and work on the door closer for the main entrance to a new water heater to replace the 1984 unit. That repair revealed the need for work on the floor drain in the social hall and that was completed. We have had an electrician who does small scale work in homes look at the electrical system. He was sure that we are worshipping in a firetrap.

So, there was a need to determine the degree to which he was accurate. It does seem that we do have safety problems in the electrical system. This was determined by Huston Electric. They were chosen for the assessment work because Purdue uses them and because co-President, Alan Garfinkel, knows one of the firm's owners and he came out to supervise the job. Here is a summary of what will be reported to the board on April 26. The good news: There is a lot of old-fashioned wiring (that goes back to 1916 when any electricity at all was state-of-the-art) which will not have to be replaced. The not so good news: Our electric service box is antiquated and dangerously hot (in temperature). Replacing it and some of the old circuits (which have exposed, uninsulated wires) is just plain necessary. The cost will be around \$10,000. There are relatively painless ways to pay for this without tapping weekly budgets. Some retired and partially retired Purdue faculty members, for example, might consult with financial advisors to see how.

## Sad News

As many of you read in Sunday's Journal and Courier, and as the Temple Israel secretary has announced: Eleanor Gerns has passed away, on April 13. Graveside service will be at noon on Friday, April 27th, at the Jewish Cemetery, with a memorial service that day, at Temple Israel, officiated by Rabbi Audrey Pollack. Please contact the Temple for more information. Shul members send heartfelt condolences to the family. The Journal and Courier announcement notes that memorial contributions may be made to the West Lafayette Public Library. **Reported by Mickey Harris**

## Lafayette Jewish Community Religious School News

Shalom from the Principal's Office:

The LJCRS school year continues to fly by with the closing assembly around the corner. On May 20th, our two ninth graders, Akiva Sanders and Rebecca Howland will graduate. Hopefully they will also continue their connection by joining in the teachers' aide program sponsored by a JFGL grant.

For Holocaust remembrance, the sixth graders and their teacher Fred Gimble viewed and discussed the exhibit "Shoes". The classes will soon pair up for activities related to Israel Independence day including historical- political video and discussion in the Film course led by Phil Fanwick. In addition to our regular curriculum, the mini-courses have again provided new ideas and experiences for the upper level students. I'm pleased also that we've had a special Art class this year.

Many of the teachers are returning for the 07-08 school year. Josh Frank will become the music specialist. Karen Fanwick is retiring after ten years of devoted service to LJCRS. I look forward to hearing from you with your interest in teaching. We are still especially looking for Preschool, 4th /5th grade and second semester kindergarten teachers. We also appreciate guest teachers and visitors in the classes. It takes our whole community to bring the next generation forward. Please call me or email at the current LJCRS address [ljcrs@templeisraelwlaf.org](mailto:ljcrs@templeisraelwlaf.org), 463-3455.

Our spring fund-raiser is the bulb sale headed by Ann Cohen. Please call her or the office for information. Thank you.



**CONGREGATION SONS OF ABRAHAM**

**Post Office Box 2671  
West Lafayette, IN 47996**

**The latest Sons of Abraham news to:**