

November 2008
Cheshvan-Kislev
5769

The Temple Tablet

Congregation Beth Aaron/ 406-248-6412

cbabillings@yahoo.com

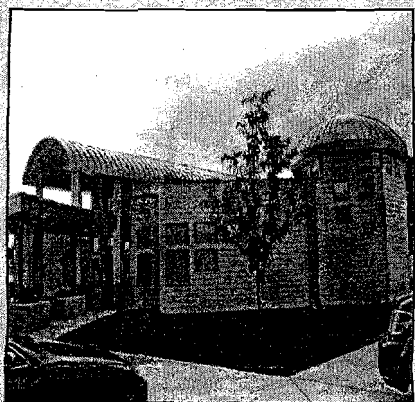


Photo by Rachel Schaffer, c. 2006

Candle-Lighting Times

Friday, Nov. 7:	4:34 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 14:	4:26 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 21:	4:19 p.m.
Friday, Nov. 28:	4:14 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 5:	4:12 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 12:	4:12 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 19:	4:13 p.m.

Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER

Wednesday, November 5

7:00 p.m.: Adult Hebrew

Wednesday, November 12

7:00 p.m.: Adult Hebrew

Friday, November 14

7:30 p.m.: Shabbat service with Rabbi Keren

Saturday, November 15

3:00 p.m.: Intro to Judaism

4:00 p.m.: Adult Ed

Wednesday, November 19

7:00 p.m.: Adult Hebrew

Friday, November 21

6:00 p.m.: Kosher Hot Dog Thanksgiving

7:30 p.m.: Slide show by Jeff Lakier

DECEMBER

Friday, December 5

7:30 p.m.: Shabbat service with Rabbi Keren

Saturday, December 6 & Sunday, December 7

Symbols of Survival: Money and Stamps from the Holocaust—at CBA

Friday, December 12

7:00 p.m.: Movie night: *Ushpizin*

Friday, December 19

Chanukkah party, time TBA

A Message from the President

The things that most concern me at CBA are . . .

I am most pleased with the fact that Beth Aaron . . .

These and other relevant questions were presented to CBA members by Rabbi David Fine when he visited in September. Participants shared that we are pleased with our new building, family-like atmosphere, and the opportunity to talk about our future. We are concerned about maintaining our membership, divisions among the members, and newcomers not feeling welcome. Many feel that a full-time rabbi would bring membership growth, consistency and spiritual growth to CBA. Others recall from the past that when we had a rabbi, our congregation was no larger in size and new challenges arose. Many wondered how we could afford a rabbi.

This dialogue helped me to understand that there is no single

“magic formula” for meeting all of our needs at CBA. Sometimes life at a synagogue is like trying to make the perfect matzo ball. We may have read the directions and have all the ingredients, but we still think our finished matzo ball isn't perfect. So, we look for different recipes and try again. Our matzo ball may never be as good as our grandmother's but it brings a sense of warmth and a taste of our culture. So, let's all keep appreciating our fantastic synagogue and practice on some new recipes for the future. The Board and Rabbi Search Committee will do its best to keep you informed of options for creating a rabbinic presence at CBA. All members are encouraged to continue to reach out to newcomers and bring any ideas on improving this process to the Board. A variety of classes and programs will continue to be offered to fill your spiritual hunger and . . . I have to go—I smell some matzo ball soup simmering. I hope to see you soon.

L'shalom
Diane Kersten

Kosher Hot Dog Thanksgiving and Slide Show

Join us Friday, November 21, at 6:00 p.m. for our second annual Kosher Hot Dog Thanksgiving. The synagogue will provide the kosher hot dogs; A-L bring side dish or salads; M-Z bring desserts. This is a great opportunity to meet and visit with “strangers” in our midst, encouraging those old and new in our congregation to get better acquainted.

At 7:30 p.m., after dinner, we will be fortunate to have a slide show presented by Jeff Lakier, a member of CBA who was born in South Africa, is a self-taught photographer, and has traveled extensively. He will share slides and commentary on his trip to Uganda, highlighting its scenic beauty and varied and unique animals and birds.

Holocaust Exhibit Coming to CBA

The award-winning Holocaust Exhibit “Symbols of Survival: Money and Stamps from the Holocaust” will be displayed at CBA on Saturday, Dec. 6, and Sunday, Dec. 7. This collection includes envelope, postcards, letters and specially-designed postage stamps used exclusively by WWII concentration camp inmates, Jewish ghetto residents, and prisoners of war. Counterfeit Bank of England banknotes created by slave labor during “Operation Bernhard,” the Nazis' failed plot to undermine Britain's economy, will also be on display. The Austrian movie *The Counterfeiters*, available at Hastings, is based on Operation Bernhard.

This exhibit is sponsored by the Florence and Laurence Spungen

Family Foundation for the purpose of Holocaust education. For additional information on the exhibit, you can check out the Spungen Foundation website: www.SpungenFoundation.org.

Our congregation is extremely fortunate to be able to view this remarkable piece of history. The exhibit is invitation-only to members and supporters of CBA and other synagogues in Montana. We are also coordinating aspects of the display to be available to local high schools. Our hope is that with the success of this exhibit, we will coordinate with other groups in Billings to bring the exhibit back for a community-wide event.

For more information, contact the following committee members: Ellen Alweis, Rondel Smith, Al Page, and Diane Kersten.

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.cbamt.org

Useful links on the Web:

URJ weekly Torah series
<http://urj.org/torah/#cprFor%20Webmasters>

Weekly newsletter of the
Reform movement
<http://urj.org/enews/ita/>

Weekly "Ten Minutes of
Torah"
<http://urj.org/torah/ten/>

**CONGREGATION
BETH AARON
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A Big Interfaith Hospitality Thank You!

Many thanks to Thelma Lakier and Gail Grossman and her children for "hosting" Interfaith Hospitality Network "guests" at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd the week of October 19-25. Our Beth Aaron volunteers joined Good Shepherd volunteers and IHN families for dinner and socializing afterwards. Both Gail and Thelma said that the Good Shepherd volunteers (who have been doing this for four years) were well organized, very friendly, kind, and supportive. Gail's 11-year-old daughter Maddy (Quarles) and four-year-old Madi, who is one of our IHN children, had a wonderful time playing together after dinner. Gail's son Evan (Quarles) also made an IHN friend. According to Gail, the "act of giving was a positive experience," and Thelma said she "would definitely do it again." You too can participate—feel welcome to bring your

children—and "host" for an evening. The next opportunity will be the week of January 4-10. Please call Carol Newman at 245-4631, and she will be happy to help you find a shift that fits your schedule.

Adela Awner



Photo copyright Gail Grossman 2008

Maddy and Evan Quarles enjoy Shabbat al fresco at Emerald Lake in August.

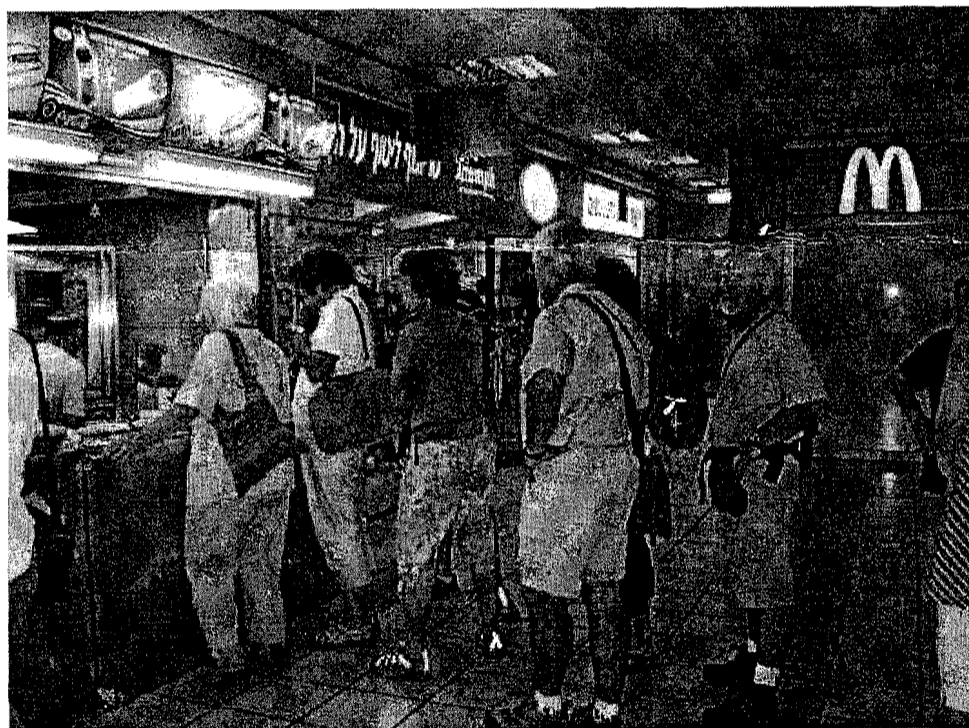


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Mickey D's, Hebrew style, during the July 2008 Soul Train seminar in Israel.

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