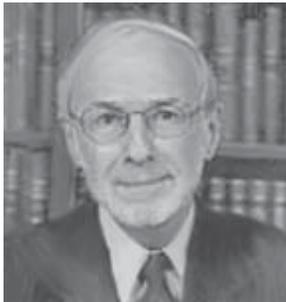




BETH EL NEWSLETTER

The Heights Synagogue

October, 2006
תשרי \ חשוון 5767



Rabbi Moshe Adler

Harvest Home

The fall holiday season climaxes with Sukkot, one of the three pilgrimage festivals, each of which has both an agricultural and a historical aspect.

Passover is the spring harvest festival, Shavuot the summer harvest festival, and Sukkot the feast of ingathering, known in this country as “harvest home.”

At the same time, Passover celebrates the Exodus, Shavuot the giving of the Torah, and Sukkot the providential care G-d took of the Israelites during their forty years in the wilderness. Of the three, it is Sukkot that most clearly demonstrates both these aspects, the agricultural and the historical. Here is how the Torah (Leviticus 23.39-43) characterizes Sukkot:

“Mark, on the fifteenth day of the seventh month, when you have gathered in the yield of your land, you shall observe the festival of HaShem to last seven days: a complete rest on the first day, and a complete rest on the eighth day. On the first day you shall take the product of *hadar* trees, branches of palm trees, boughs of leafy trees, and willows of the brook, and you shall rejoice before HaShem your G-d seven days. You shall observe it as a festival of HaShem for seven days in the year; you shall observe it in the seventh month as a law for all time, throughout

the ages. You shall live in booths seven days; all citizens in Israel shall live in booths, in order that future generations may know that I made the Israelite people live in booths when I brought them out of the land of Egypt, I HaShem your G-d.”

Combining the four species – *etrog*, palm, myrtle, and willow – and waving them around the compass centers us in nature, symbolically making us the channel through which G-d’s bounty flows downward from heaven, and through which our thanks flows upward to G-d. We become singularly aware of our own creaturehood and of how the Creator’s benevolence nourishes us.

Living in a *sukkah* makes us aware that no man-made home, however strong, is impervious to the vagaries of nature or of human perverseness. Last year the people of New Orleans experienced the near loss of their beloved city to a pitiless storm. This year our brothers and sisters in Israel experienced anew the fragility of a man-made home in at the hands of ruthless terrorists. In the final analysis, every man-made home is essentially a *sukkah*. Our real home is G-d’s providential care, which our sages midrashically describe as “a *sukkah* made of clouds of glory.”

(Continued on page 7)

מועדים
לשמחה



Moadim
l'simcha

Beth El - The Heights Synagogue builds vibrant Jewish community.

We welcome all in participatory, traditional, egalitarian worship and learning.

Rabbi Moshe Adler ♦ Saturday Morning Services at 9:15, 3246 Desota Ave., Cleveland Hts., OH 44118 ♦ ☎216-320-9667



Jack Valancy

**QUESTIONS?
CONCERNS?
COMMENTS?
COMPLAINTS?**

As always, please do not hesitate to contact your President by e-mail president@bethelheights.org or home telephone (216) 371-1439

HELP US STAY IN TOUCH! Please be sure we have your current contact information: phone number and home and e-mail addresses. Send changes to Blanche Valancy, blanche@valancy.com or call her at (216) 371-1439

E-Mail Newsletter: If you'd like to get the pdf e-mail version, contact news@bethelheights.org (You must have the free Acrobat Reader in order to open the attachment.)

Our Tapestry

Happy to be among friends one recent Shabbat morning, I recalled the lyrics of Carole King's *Tapestry*:

*My life has been a tapestry of rich and royal hue,
An everlasting vision of the ever-changing view,
A wondrous, woven magic in bits of blue and gold,
A tapestry to feel and see, impossible to hold.*

At Beth El-The Heights Synagogue, we weave threads of worship, learning, and community to create "a wondrous, woven magic." We feel and see the tapestry on Shabbat morning, when we are davening together in our sanctuary or with our kids in Junior Congregation. We experience it when our sanctuary is full on the High Holy Days, and when we gather for a minyan at a house of mourning. As we lead each other in prayer, our memories extend our tapestry to our parents, grandparents, the world we knew as children, and our ancestors.

We color our tapestry with the simchas we celebrate with family and friends and the support we offer one another in times of need. Food is often part of these gatherings, and whether a regular kiddush, a bountiful buffet, or a joyful and elegant meal, we are well nourished!

Learning together, we gather intellectual threads for our tapestry from classical and contemporary topics. We learn during d'vrei Torah, in Learners' Services, around a discussion table after kiddush, in Lunch and Learn and mini-series programs, and in our homes.

We pass our knowledge to our children and grandchildren, extending our tapestry to future generations. Here, our love of

learning spreads beyond our congregation. Our congregation's parents and children are woven into Jewish and public school communities. We are part of other communities through sports, music, scouting, and other activities. Watching our children learn and grow is a joy!

Some of us are students, expanding our formal knowledge and skills. Some of us are established in our careers; others are retired. We are woven into our work, jobs, and professions.

We are part of the tapestry of our neighborhoods and communities. We see each other on the street and in stores, in the library and the coffee shop. We are engaged in local government and a variety of civic, educational, and artistic organizations. We weave our tapestry through recognition, small favors, and deep friendships. We support and participate in organizations that build our diverse Jewish community. We are engaged nationally and internationally, in organizations that work to make our world a better place - tikkun olam. Our tapestry spreads across continents!

The tapestries of our lives begin with each of us. Together, we are creating the "wondrous, woven magic" that is Beth El -The Heights Synagogue

Rabbi David Genuth Memorial Lecture

On Becoming a Jew: Conversion and Its Meaning

Professor Leon Gabinet's talk "On becoming a Jew-Conversion and its Meaning" will be the highlight of an event to honor the memory of Rabbi David Genuth, the founder of the old Temple Beth El.

In the final years of Temple Beth El's existence, the synagogue held two very successful memorial lecture events which increased support and community participation (including membership) for Temple Beth El. Hopefully, it was primarily because of the lectures on "The Marranos of Spain" by Marvin Warshay and the fine Jewish lecture by Harold Ticktin, two years earlier, and not simply because of the free breakfast provided.

Rabbi David Genuth founded a Modern Orthodox Synagogue in the early 1950's which attracted Jews of all types, including the secular. He was very personable, very scholarly, and very caring. He was also quite unique; a European trained Orthodox Rabbi who later earned a masters degree in theology from Yale University. His legacy was the community shul he established, which continued to function for twenty years after his death, and mostly without

a rabbi. In the manner he had established, Temple Beth El was known in the community to be a very warm shul that was also made up of intellectuals (an exaggeration, but nice to hear).

Leon Gabinet was one of the members of Temple Beth El who was instrumental in keeping this unique synagogue going. A professor of law for his "day job", he led services, read Torah, and delivered outstanding Jewish commentaries from the pulpit. Because of Rabbi Genuth, Leon joined the shul right after he came to Cleveland in the 1960's. It is fitting that he deliver the Rabbi Genuth Memorial Lecture.

In a real sense, Beth El-The Heights Synagogue is a continuation of Rabbi Genuth's legacy. It is the hope that annual or biennial events in Rabbi Genuth's memory will contribute to the strengthening of BETHS. This year's event will be held on Sunday morning, October 29. Please join us to daven the morning services at 8:30 AM. We progress to a bagel breakfast at 9:00 AM, followed by Leon's talk at 10:00 AM.

The Rabbi Genuth Memorial Lecture will be held on Sunday morning, October 29.

8:30 AM – Morning Minyan 9:00 AM – Bagel Breakfast 10:00 AM – Lecture

The event is free and open to the entire community, but reservations are requested so that we can properly prepare for both the breakfast and lecture.

Please call Beth El-The Heights Synagogue at 216-320-9667, by October 25, and leave the following information if you plan to attend:

Family Name: _____

Number Attending: _____

Number of children who require babysitting during the lecture: _____

(Babysitting will be provided for this event.)

Adult Education at Beth El

Our Adult Education Committee has planned
a very ambitious year for adult education at BETHS!

Shabbat
Liturgy
Available on
CD

Want to learn to
lead part of our
Shabbat service?
CDs of Shabbat
liturgy are now
available.

Contact
Lisa Berusch
at 397-9060
or
[lberusch@
sbcglobal.net](mailto:lberusch@sbcglobal.net)

Lunch and Learn: Join us for a warm, vegetarian-friendly lunch after Shabbat morning services and stay to learn with a featured speaker from 1:00 to 2:30 PM. Free to members and friends, no RSVP required. Babysitting provided.

- **Saturday, October 21** – Lila Newman will speak on “The Jewish Influence on the Field of Fashion.”
- **Saturday, November 18** – Harold Ticktin will talk about “Unlikely Jewish Wives”
- **Monday, December 25** – Brunch and Learn – Zev Valancy will discuss “Jewish Influences in Musical Theater” – come and sing!

Wine, Food and Midrash: Food for Body and Spirit: What is Midrash? Is it simply a collection of stories and sayings, or is there something more to it? How does Midrash bring the Torah “up close and personal”? Come join Rabbi Moshe Adler during Kiddush on November 4 and share some insightful, inspiring, and challenging Midrashim on the weekly Torah portion.

Movie Series: Looking for good company, stimulating discussions and something to nosh on a Saturday night? Come to our movie series – taking place while Shabbat ends early enough to still party. You don’t even need to hire a sitter for your older school aged kids. Bring them along for fun with their friends. Movie nights are planned for Saturdays, November 11, December 9, January 20, February 10, and March 10.

Learners’ Services : Does the davening leave you in the dust? Or do you leave services with more questions than answers? Come to our break-out learners’ service, on the 1 st and 3rd Shabbats of month November through May (except as noted), beginning November 4. Practice praying at a slow pace. Ask questions and get answers. Meet around 10:20 AM and rejoin the main service for the d’var Torah.

The Adult Education Committee Presents...
Continuing in 5767...

Have I Got a Match for You! Learn How To Daven

(Jewish prayer meanings, ritual practices,
conventions and mechanics)

Choose a mentor from
Beth El – The Heights Synagogue
for one on one guided learning experiences.

~ OR ~

Volunteer to mentor a member of our
synagogue.

For more information please contact
David Shutkin
(216) 371.3145 dshutkin@jcu.edu



We wish Cheryl, Eric, Esther and Aliza Mack well, as they begin their new lives in eretz Israel.



Wine Tasting a Success

Sophisticated jazz flowed like a fountain from the Ben Bloom Trio at our fundraiser on September 10. Dozens of BETHS members and friends gathered to sample a variety of kosher wines and a superb complement of hors d'oeuvres prepared by Executive Chef Marvin Palevsky and Social Chair Merry Lugasy. President Jack Valancy, his wife, Blanche, and their son, Zev generously provided their beautifully refurbished home and garden as the venue for this event. Zev even added his voice to the Trio for several songs. Friends caught up with one another, acquaintances became better known, and conversation bubbled throughout this delightful early fall evening. Best of all, we joyously supported the mission of BETHS to be welcoming to all. Special thanks to all who helped make this event a success. ~Emily Dennis



NEWS FROM BETH EL

חדשות

Social Committee Plans

The Social
Committee plans
a Comedy Night,
a Dinner Dance,
and a
Pancake Breakfast
over the winter.

If you would
like to help,
please contact
Merry Lugasy
at
216-397-9305.

Welcome, New Member:

- Vicki Spalding-Rosales

Thanks for the help to:

- Bill and Carol Bruml, who installed windows in our fire doors, making them safer for those who pass through.
- Joe Buchwald Gelles, who created the High Holy Day program books and the Book of Remembrance.
- Karen Kugelman, who compiled information and collected donations for the Book of Remembrance.
- Blanche and Jack Valancy, who hosted our recent wine tasting fundraiser, which was a smashing success.

Thanks for the donations to:

- Bill and Carol Bruml, who donated a hand-crafted challah knife and a Havdalah set.
- Frank and Jeanette Buchwald, who donated three frames of Chagall prints.
- Marvin Palevsky, for hanging recently-donated works of art.
- Lila Newman, who hand-crafted a new High Holy Day cover for the reading table.

Thanks for Kiddush sponsorship to:

- September 9 – Henry and Marjorie Goldhirsch
- September 16 – Debby and Ed Small, in honor of their new daughter, Tori.

Thanks for contributions to the Israel Relief Fund to:

- Leon Gabinet
- Merry and Nissim Lugasy
- Philip Samuels
- Marsha Weisberg
- Alisa Warshay and Italo Gonzalez

Yasher Koah to:

- Shelley Costa Bloomfield, who has a book deal for *101 Things You Didn't Know About Edgar Allan Poe*, due out next spring, before the summer release date of a new movie about Poe, starring Robert Downey, Jr.

Thanks for the contributions to:

- Ken Bardach
- Carol and Howard Berusch, in honor of Lisa and Russell Berusch's anniversary.
- Michael and Shelley Bloomfield
- Valeriy Elnatanov
- Joel Falck and Julie Rabin Falck
- Sandra Falck
- Henry and Marjorie Goldhirsch
- Gabi Hays
- Laura Gooch and David Kazdan
- Daniel Lindner
- Gary and Harriet Mann, in honor of Julie Rabin Falck's birthday
- Joe and Lila Newman, in memory of Lila's mother, Sarah Rottman Z"L.
- Toby Oshuns, in memory of Joe Oshuns Z"L and Charles Marfisi Z"L
- Solomon Rabinovich
- Cynthia and Kyle Rose
- Caren and Eran Shiloh
- Ieda and Marvin Warshay
- Anonymous, to the Adult Ed. Fund.

Thanks to those who gave contributions or assisted with Kiddush sponsorship, in honor of Cheryl Birkner Mack:

- Lisa and Russell Berusch
- Henry Bloom and Marilyn Malkin
- Joe and Mia Buchwald Gelles
- Robin Dubin and Richard Krueck
- Shulamith Magnus
- Stephen Pepper and Linda Tobin
- Caren and Eran Shiloh
- Blanche and Jack Valancy
- Beth and Scott Wachter

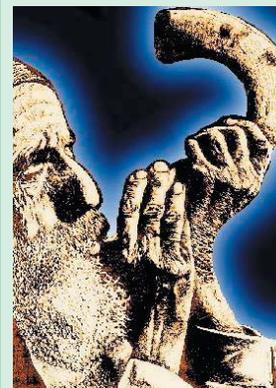
(Harvest Home, continued from page 1)

The Torah bids us to rejoice on Sukkot because for another year our granaries, vats, and wine cellars are full. It is a gift from our Creator, to be savored but never to be taken for granted. Every one of life's basic pleasures is another opportunity to recognize G-d anew and express our thanks for life itself.

Of G-d's gifts to human beings, there is one that is uniquely ours: the Torah. When the Jerusalem Temple still stood, the cycle of Torah reading was triennial. At the end of two cycles, in the seventh year, the

Sukkot pilgrims would assemble in the Temple and hear the king read the Book of Deuteronomy, which encapsulates the entire Torah. Since that time, we complete the entire Torah in a single annual cycle and celebrate at the end of Sukkot. The celebration is called Sim_hat Torah.

Harvest home, a bounty of food, wine, and oil, and of knowledge and insight: nourishment for the body and for the soul. It is a time for rejoicing. May HaShem grant us peace and joy throughout the new year.



Thanks for High Holy Day ticket donations to:

- Abraham and Muriel Chasin
- Cheri Elowitz
- Gary and Marilyn Magden
- Charlotte Price
- Donna and Gerald Rosen
- Menachem Shoham
- Pam and Shirley Weiss, Matt Goss



Yahrzeits, October 2006

תשרי \ חשוון 5767

OCTOBER 1 TO OCTOBER 6

9 TISHRI TO 14 TISHRI

Blossom Levit	9 Tishrei 5721
Marcella Wachter	10 Tishrei
Harry Abrams	12 Tishrei 5716

Eva Naiman	24 Tishrei 5713
Freida C. Brody	26 Tishrei 5701
Leo Guzik	26 Tishrei 5735
Mirmie Ginsburg	27 Tishrei 5734
Henry A. Hollander	28 Tishrei 5725

OCTOBER 7 TO OCTOBER 13

15 TISHRI TO 21 TISHRI

Irene Cowan	15 Tishrei 5732
Harry Dolusky	15 Tishrei 5694
Carola Jacobs	19 Tishrei
Jared B. Klein	20 Tishrei
Bertha Shifrin	21 Tishrei 5721

OCTOBER 21 TO OCTOBER 27

29 TISHRI TO 5 HESHVAN

Mary Ann Gordon	29 Tishrei 5731
Ethel Neuger	29 Tishrei 5734
Sam Tepper	29 Tishrei 5703
Sam Dworkin	30 Tishrei 5732
Marvin Dubin	30 Tishrei
Ben Tepper	2 Heshvan 5718
Rose Zeisler	4 Heshvan 5723
Louis Brody	5 Heshvan 5713

OCTOBER 14 TO OCTOBER 20

22 TISHRI TO 28 TISHRI

Pearl Peninah Pasternak	22 Tishrei
Herbert Oppenheimer	22 Tishrei
Isaac Warshay	22 Tishrei
Lenore Singer	23 Tishrei 5760
Blema Beitman	24 Tishrei 5706

OCTOBER 28 TO OCTOBER 31

6 HESHVAN TO 9 HESHVAN

Rashe Sobel	8 Heshvan 5716
Joseph Weiss	8 Heshvan 5747

“Some one

ought to do it,

but why

should I?” -

“Some one

ought to do it,

so why not I?”

Between these

two sentences

lie whole

centuries of

moral evolution.

Annie Besant

**Beth El – The Heights Synagogue
Board and Committee Contacts
October 2006**

Name	Position	E-Mail	Phone
Board Members			
Officers:			
Jack Valancy	President	president@bethelheights.org	216-371-1439
Leon Gabinet	Vice-President	lxg5@po.cwru.edu	216-751-7444
Robin Dubin	Secretary and Scheduling	rad4@po.cwru.edu	216-382-8848
Laura Gooch	Treasurer	lgooch@alum.mit.edu	216-932-1002
Committee Chairs:			
Mia Buchwald Gelles	Adult Education	miabgelles@gmail.com	216-321-6717
Marilyn Malkin	Chesed	mxm74@po.cwru.edu	216-932-1949
Marty Gelfand	Communications	offblue@wruw.org	216-371-8827
Emily Dennis	Development	glendennis@sbcglobal.net	216-589-0663
Joe Buchwald Gelles (non-Board)	Family Education	jbgelles@gmail.com	216-321-6717
Ditte Wolin	House and Operations	adwolin@dasa93.net	216-932-9907
Mickey Greenberg	Membership	mickeygreenberg@sbcglobal.net	216-291-1805
Leon Gabinet	Ritual	lxg5@po.cwru.edu	216-397-9060
Merry Lugasy	Social	mlugasy@core.com	216-397-9305
At-Large:			
Lisa Berusch	At-Large	lberusch@sbcglobal.net	216-397-9060
Shelley Bloomfield	At-Large	s_bloomfield@sbcglobal.net	440-247-9415
Stacia Dearmin	At-Large	stacia113@adelphia.net	216-321-4327
Sue Klein	At-Large		216-321-6541
Scott Wachter	At-Large	wachter@nacs.net	(216) 932-5964
Other Committee Contacts			
Rabbi Adler		moshetzvi@earthlink.net	216-291-2404
Carol Bruml	Newsletter	news@bethelheights.org	216-932-9155
Ari Klein and Ditte Wolin	Publicity	Ari@dasa93.net adwolin@dasa93.net	216-932-9907
David Shutkin	Webmaster	dshutkin@jcu.edu	216-371-3145
Blanche Valancy	Data Base and Mailing	blanche@valancy.com	216-371-1439
Marvin Palevsky	Executive Chef	mpalevsky@mybunnies.com	216-382-7622

Please save this revised contacts list for your future reference!



BETH EL

The Heights Synagogue

Short Stories by Jewish Authors Reading/Discussion Group

New season begins Sunday, October 22

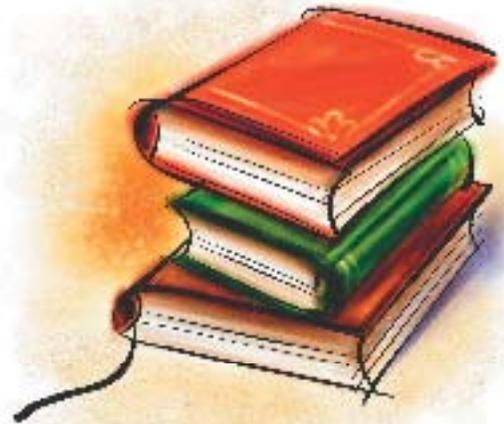
Meets 8-9 times a year

Sunday evenings—7:00—8:30 p.m.

Participants suggest author/stories for next meeting

Some authors read to date:

- *Sholom Asch*
- *Saul Bellow*
- *David Bezmozgís*
- *E.L. Doctorow*
- *Joan Leegant*
- *Amos Oz*
- *Cynthia Ozick*
- *Grace Paley*
- *S.J. Perelman*
- *Philip Roth*



New members are welcome.

Contact Sondra Jacobs 216-397-1481 or

sondrajacobs@sbcglobal.net

CALENDAR, OCTOBER 2006

תשרי \ חשוון 5767

- Sunday, October 1 – Erev Yom Kippur
6:51 PM – Candle Lighting
7:00 PM Kol Nidre
- Monday, October 2 – Yom Kippur
8:00 AM – Morning Services with Yizkor
5:00 PM – Re-convene for concluding services
6:30 PM – N'ilah – 7:41 PM (Dark) – The shofar is sounded, and Yom Kippur ends.
- Friday, October 6 – Erev Shabbat and Erev Sukkot
6:42 PM – Candle Lighting
- Saturday, October 6 – Shabbat and Sukkot, First Day
9:15 AM – Morning Services
7:41 PM – Dark, Candle Lighting
- Sunday, October 8 – Sukkot, Second Day
9:15 AM – Morning Services
4:00 PM to 6:00 PM – Sukkah hop, starting at Kugelmans', 2904 Washington Blvd.
(Watch your e-mail for details of other sukkahs we may be able to visit.)
7:39 PM – Dark, Yom Tov ends
- Thursday, October 12, 6:00 PM – Dinner in the Sukkah
Reservations requested: Adults – \$10.00, Children 4-12 – \$7.00, 3 and under free.
- Friday, October 13 – Erev Shabbat and Erev Sh'mini Atzeret
6:30 PM – Candle Lighting
- Saturday, October 14 – Shabbat and Sh'mini Atzeret
9:15 AM – Morning Services with Yizkor
7:30 PM – Dark, Candle Lighting
8:00 PM – Evening Service with Hakkafot
- Sunday, October 15 – Simhat Torah
9:15 AM – Morning Services with Hakkafot
6:28 PM – Dark, Yom Tov ends.
- Saturday, October 21 – Lunch and Learn – Lila Newman will speak on “The Jewish Influence on the Field of Fashion.”
- Sunday, October 22, 7:00 to 8:30 PM – Short Stories by Jewish Authors Discussion Group will meet at the home of Sondra and Harvey Jacobs.
See page 9 for more information.
- Sunday, October 29 – Rabbi Genuth Memorial Lecture
8:30 AM – Morning Minyan
9:00 AM – Breakfast (Reservations requested, see page 3 for details.)
10:00 AM – Leon Gabinet will lecture on “On Becoming a Jew: Conversion and Its Meaning”
- Saturday, November 4
About 10:20 AM – Learners' Service
At Kiddush – Study at Kiddush with Rabbi Moshe Adler
“Wine, Food and Midrash: Food for the Body and Spirit”

ערב יום כפור

כול גדרי

יום כפור
יזכור

שבת חול המועד

סוכות

שבת ויום- טוב

שמיני עצרת
יזכור

שמחת תורה \ הקפות

שמחת תורה
הקפות



Join us
for dinner
in the
shul sukkah,
Thursday,
October 12,
6:00 PM.

Adults –
\$10.00

Children 4 to 12 –
\$7.00

Children under 4
Free

Please call
Merry Lugasy at
216-397-9305,
by October 9,
with your
reservations,
so quantities
of food can
be planned
appropriately.

FAMILY / YOUTH COMMITTEE (NEW THIS YEAR!)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, NOVEMBER 26 – CHALLAH MAKING CLASS with Ari Klein and Mia Buchwald Gelles

10:30 AM to Lunch time!! We will eat our Challah for lunch!

For: families with children over 5 years old
(no cost, but we need to know how many – please fill out the form below)



Saturday, DECEMBER 16 – HANUKKAH PARTY

Candle lighting, dreidel making, Israeli dancing, and more!
(in cooperation with the social committee!)

TIME: TBA

For: EVERYONE!

Sunday, FEBRUARY 4 – MEZUZAH MAKING WORKSHOP – by Rabbi Yossi of Chabad
(Cost is \$5 for each person making a Mezuzah)

12:30 – 2:30 PM

For: Children 5 and up – parents may assist their children with the project
(please fill out the form below)



Other events in the works for Winter/Spring:

Skating party

Tallit making workshop (for ages 10 and up)

We would like to attend the following activities:

CHALLAH MAKING: Family name _____ Number attending _____

MEZUZAH MAKING: Family name _____ # of children making mezuzot _____

Please return this tear slip with \$5.00 per Mezuzah your family plans to make. Mail to:

Ditte Wolin, c/o Beth El–The Heights Synagogue, 3246 Desota Ave, Cleveland Hts, OH 44118

(Checks should be made out to Beth El–The Heights Synagogue, please.)