

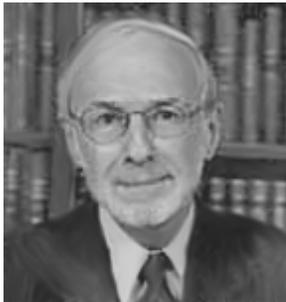


BETH EL NEWSLETTER

The Heights Synagogue

September 2007

אלול 5767 \ תשרי 5768



Rabbi Moshe Adler

What Would We Do Without Us?

At the start of Yom Kippur, two people stand by the prayer leader, one on each side, as Kol Nidre is recited. The same practice applies to the daytime recitation of the Avodah, which poetically describes the Yom Kippur service in the Holy Temple.

as that of the people. As such, he could not accomplish Israel's collective atonement on his own, but had to be accompanied by two other people.

Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, of blessed memory, associates this practice with the biblical account of the battle of Amalek. At that event, says the Torah (Exodus 17:10-13),

Similarly, says Rabbi Soloveitchik, "even Moses himself could not approach HaShem on his own to ask Him to rescue the Jewish nation from Amalek. Moses needed two others to demonstrate that his entreaty represented the will of the whole nation" (*Before HaShem...*, p. 76).

Moses, Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed; but whenever he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses' hands grew heavy; so they took a stone and put it under him and he sat on it, while Aaron and Hur, one on each side, supported his hands; thus his hands remained steady until the sun set. And Joshua overwhelmed the people of Amalek with the sword.

And who is this Amalek, whose presence inhibits HaShem's sovereignty in the world? Amalek, says Rabbi Soloveitchik, is the remnant of the primordial *tohu va-vohu*, the formlessness and void, out of which HaShem created the world. "Some of this primordial entropy was allowed to remain, so that man, through his own effort, could...actively play a role in destroying it" (*ibid.*, p. 78).

In a lecture of his (cf. Arnold Lustiger, ed., *Before HaShem You Shall Be Purified*, pp. 76-78), Rabbi Soloveitchik explains why Moses alone could not accomplish Israel's triumph over Amalek, but needed the help of Aaron and Hur. He cites the Yom Kippur service in the Holy Temple, during which the High Priest was accompanied by two assistants. On Yom Kippur, the High Priest was acting both as G-d's agent and

Amalek is the *tohu va-vohu* that resides within each of us. "During the Days of Awe, the imperative of the battle is the destruction of sin from within ourselves.... Each Yom Kippur is a replica of that first pivotal battle with Amalek, when Aaron and Hur supported Moses during his prayer. Evoking this imagery, two elders of the congregation stand adjacent to the cantor, to this day" (*ibid.*). (*continued on page 5*)



From Nili and me to the entire BE-THS family:
 ל'שנאֹה טובאֹה
 תיקאטעו -
 מאַי יאָו בֵּי
 ווּרִיטן דאָן
 פֿאַר אַ גוטן יאָר.

לשנה
 טובה
 תכתבו
 ותחתמו

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?**

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.

Send changes to Blanche Valancy, blanche@valancy.com or call her at (216) 371-1439

JOIN THE BIGLIST!

Send an e-mail to Bethel-sub@valancy.biglist.com and confirm by replying to the message you will receive, or visit <http://valancy.biglist.com/sub>

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 from Adobe in order to open the file.)

You Can't Buy a Ticket to Our High Holy Day Services.

We have never sold a ticket to our High Holy Day services. "*You don't have to pay to pray,*" is one of our founding principles. We took this stance after hearing many stories of inappropriately aggressive synagogue financial policies. We vowed to do things differently.

Our fledgling congregation welcomed several hundred worshippers to our first High Holy Day services in 1999/5760. We rented chairs to accommodate everyone in our temporary home in the Mayfield JCC. We have welcomed High Holy Day worshippers every year since. In 2003/5764, we moved to our permanent home, and in 2005/5766 we opened the doors in our new accessible main entrance.

Each year, our dedicated members organize our High Holy Day services. This year, Lisa Berusch and Stacia Dearmin, in consultation with Rabbi Adler, organized our worship services. They coordinated dozens of members and friends to lead services, read Torah, and more. Joe Buchwald Gelles and Ari Klein organized our Junior Congregation.

As always, Karen Kugelman published the Book of Remembrance, produced our flyers and tickets, organized our usher corps, and attended to countless logistical details. Ditte Wolin coordinated preparing our building to welcome worshippers, including arranging the replacement of seven of our sanctuary windows. Blanche Valancy coordinated 14 members who assembled High Holy Day ticket packets for distribution. Dozens of other members

helped produce our High Holy Day services, as well.

Why do we do this?

We all lead busy lives, yet we dedicate ourselves to building our community. We do this to honor HaShem. We do this to honor each other. We have become a spiritual community, a learning community, and a social community.

We invite you to worship with us during holidays, and encourage you to return throughout the year. Worship with us each Shabbat morning. Come to our monthly Friday evening Kabbalat Shabbat services and dinner. Participate in our twice-monthly Shabbat morning Learners' Services, our monthly Lunch and Learn programs, and our other educational programs. Our Junior Congregation and baby sitting are family friendly. Socialize at our Hanukkah party on Sunday, December 9, and at our December 25 Pancake Breakfast.

Our founding principles guide us as we build our community. We welcome all. Join us in participatory, traditional, egalitarian worship and learning throughout the year.



Sanctuary Window Replacement

The list was long. Violations upon violations to fix in the building that we bought. So was the list of things we dreamed we could fix! Among them: replacement of the windows in the sanctuary.

The window issue became more pressing in late November, when several people noticed a gap between two of the Plexiglas pieces that made up one of the south facing windows. Upon closer inspection, three of the windows were sliding down, and there was no good quick fix.

So the contractors filed through, showed their wares, proposed their configurations,

and presented their estimates. A company called Integrity Windows won the contract based on not only their windows, but their attention to detail AND their attention to us. Every call was returned promptly and every question, answered!

Seven windows were replaced on July 10 (yes, all in one day!!): all of the windows on the south side of the sanctuary (including one in the Berkeley stairwell). Four large windows remain. We are also looking into replacing the windows in the Desota stairwell, the library and the robing room. These will be ordered once we have raised the necessary money.



*Photos by
Laura Gooch*



S'lichot

סליחות

Begin the High Holy Days at Beth El on Saturday, September 8, with an evening of learning, followed by S'lichot services.

Havdalah, at 9:00 PM, will be followed by Rabbi Moshe Adler's presentation of "T'shuvah in the Thought of Rabbi Soloveitchik."

S'lichot service at 11:00 PM.



Event Planning

Do you have an upcoming event that you want to celebrate at Beth El? B'nai Mitzvah? Sponsor a kiddush for an anniversary, birthday, yahrzeit?? Contact Merry Lugasy to schedule it (216-337-4761 or mlugasy@gmail.com)!

Do you have an idea for an event for the synagogue? Bring the idea to the Board. Better yet, get involved in our Adult Ed Committee, our Child/Family Committee, or our Social Committee! We can use people to help plan and run our holiday events, such as our Hanukkah party, and special events, such as the Challah Baking class we ran last year. Volunteers are needed! If you are interested, please contact Ditte Wolin at 932-9907 or adwolin@dasa93.net.



HIGH HOLY DAY BABY SITTING



Beth El -- The Heights Synagogue is pleased to welcome your child to our High Holy Day services for 2007/5768. Your child is welcome to sit with you during all services. Realizing, however, that even the most patient child may need an occasional break, we are offering baby sitting for several of our holiday services:

- Baby sitting is for pre-schoolers ages 18 months to 5 years.
- Baby sitting will be offered on: the first and second days of Rosh Hashanah, Sept. 13 and Sept. 14 from 10:00 AM until 1:30 PM and Yom Kippur day, September 22, from 9:00 AM until 1:30 PM.
- Care will be provided by experienced teens.
- Kosher snacks will be served (including on Yom Kippur).

Cost of baby sitting is \$9.00 per child per day, with a maximum total cost per family of \$50.00 for all three days. Because we are not permitted to write or handle money on the holy days, it is **mandatory** that you pre-register your child using the form below and pre-pay by check.

We will also have High Holy Day programming for grade-school age children from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM on the same days as above. Kosher snacks will be served, including on Yom Kippur. No advance registration is required, and this programming is free.

AGAIN THIS YEAR: We will have free, supervised, drop-in child care on Erev Yom Kippur for all ages, from 7:00 PM to 9:30 PM. No advance registration is required.

Full name of each child	Date(s) for baby sitting

Name of parent(s): _____ Phone No.: _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Send form and payment by September 10 to:

Marilyn Malkin

3018 Scarborough Rd.

Cleveland Hts. OH 44118

Questions? Call the Beth El High Holiday Hotline, 216-320-9667.

NEWS FROM BETHEL חדשות

Congratulations to: מזל טוב!

➤ **Menachem Shoham**, whose newest granddaughter, Adi, was born July 23, 2007, in Beersheva, Israel, to his son Yaron and Yaron's wife, Chagit.

Congratulations to: יישר כוח!

➤ Harold Ticktin who chaired "A Flourish of Yiddish," the annual conference of the International Association of Yiddish Clubs, which took place in Cleveland in August.

Refuah Sh'lema to: רפואה שלימה!

➤ **Lynda Siff**

Thanks for Kiddush sponsorship to:

➤ July 7 – **Laura and Marty Rabinowitz**, in honor of their daughter Miriam's birthday and bat mitzvah anniversary.

➤ July 21 – **Robin Dubin and Richard Krueck**, in honor of their anniversary.

July 28 – **Leah Gold and Casey Stella**, in honor of their Aufruf and wedding.

➤ August 4 – **Marvin and Miriam Palevsky**, in honor of Arielle and Caitlin becoming b'not mitzvah.

Thanks for Contributions to: תודה!

➤ **Lisa and Russell Berusch**

➤ **Henry Bloom and Marilyn Malkin**

➤ **Robin Dubin and Richard Krueck**

➤ **Eric Fryxell**

➤ **Joel and Julie Falck**

➤ **Leon Gabinet**

➤ **Henry and Marjorie Goldhirsch**

➤ **Gabi Hays**, in memory of parents Julius Weil and Helen K. Weil.

➤ **Daniel and Naomi Klarreich**

➤ **Elliott Magalnick**, to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund.

➤ **Joe and Lila Newman**, in memory of Lila's mother, Sarah Rottman, and Joe's father, Pincus Newman.

➤ **Party 411**, in honor of Sam Falck's becoming a bar mitzvah.

➤ **Stephen Pepper and Linda Tobin**, in honor of Caitlin and Arielle Palevsky becoming b'not mitzvah

➤ **Cynthia and Kyle Rose**

➤ **Deborah Smith**, in honor of the birth of Menachem Shoham's granddaughter, Adi Shoham.

➤ **Blanche and Jack Valancy**, in honor of Bill and Carol Bruml's milestone anniversary; to the window fund.

➤ **Beth and Scott Wachter**, to the General Fund and the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund.

➤ **Ieda and Marvin Warshay**, in honor of Leon Gabinet's 80th birthday.

➤ **Ieda and Marvin Warshay**, in memory of Jack Valancy's mother and Joel Falck's mother.

➤ **Marsha Weisberg**

➤ **Anonymous**, toward the Memorial Plaque.

➤ **Anonymous**, toward Adult Education.

Thanks for August newsletter and High Holy Days ticket mailing help to: תודה!

➤ **Gerson and Kimberly Carr**

➤ **Robin Dubin**

➤ **Celia and Emily Jennings**

➤ **Karen Kugelman**

➤ **Marilyn Malkin**

➤ **Karen Paydock**

➤ **Alicia, Jillian, and Vicki Rosales**

➤ **Lynda Siff**

➤ **Blanche Valancy**

(What Would We Do Without Us? ctd. from p. 1)

We are saying: *Tikkun olam* begins with me, and I can't do it without us.

May we all be written and sealed in the Book of Life, and may the sore world be healed. -Rabbi Moshe Adler

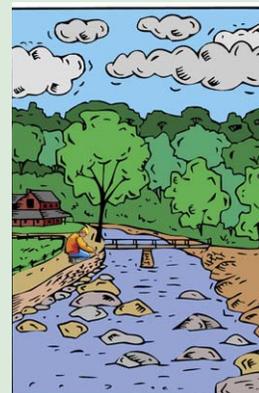
Tashlikh

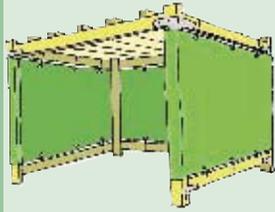
תשליך

Tashlikh is a symbolic acting-out of the biblical verse, "You will cast our sins into the depths of the sea" (Micah 7.19).

On the first day of Rosh HaShanah (or on the second, if the first falls on a Shabbat), one goes to a body of water and recites the passage in which this verse occurs.

Meet at the Kugelmans', 2904 Washington Blvd., at 5:00 PM on Thursday, September 13, and proceed together to Coventry School.





Decorate the Sukkah

Come help
complete the
congregational
Sukkah and
decorate it.

Join us on
Sunday,
September 23,
from
2:00 to 4:00 PM,
on the patio.

Cemetery Preservation Project

Live Generously! Honor the Past...and VOLUNTEER!... to participate in the Jewish Community Federation's Community-Wide Cemetery Preservation Project, co-sponsored by Beth El-The Heights Synagogue.

What: Weed, rake, prune, beautify the grounds, inventory and evaluate the condition of the headstones.

When: Sunday, September 9, 2007, from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM.

Where: Chesed Shel Emeth Cemetery, located at 3740 Ridge Road in Brooklyn Hts.

Directions from east suburbs: Take I-271 South to I-480 West. Exit I-480 West at the Ridge Road exit, turn right onto Ridge Road and head north about 2 miles. From the Heights: Take Cedar Hill to Carnegie, west into downtown, and stay on Carnegie across the Lorain-Carnegie Bridge. Continue on Lorain, turn left onto W. 73rd St., left onto Denison and right onto Ridge Rd.

What: This a pre-High Holiday clean-up and a very family-friendly event, with snacks, water and a little talk in the middle of the event about the mitzvah of caring for the dead. There are about 24 other groups and congregations participating, and it is a wonderful opportunity to beautify this old cemetery, which was established in 1904 for Jews who could not afford a proper burial. Participants should bring shovels, clippers, hedgers, gloves, and other gardening tools, although some are provided. For those unable to do some of the gardening work, there is the job of taking inventory and evaluating headstones. Let's show our support for this worthwhile event!

Wear old clothes, sun protection and gardening gloves. Bring rakes, lopping shears and clippers. Families and children welcome.

RSVP to Marilyn Jacobs at JVA (Jewish Volunteers in Action), 216-566-9200 ext. 264 or mjacobs@jfcleve.org. Let her know that you are volunteering with Beth El-The Heights Synagogue. Or just show up and participate in this great project!! Questions? Contact Beth Wachter at 216-932-5964.



Short Stories Group Grows New Members Welcome!

With the presence of several new readers in addition to regulars, the Short Stories by Jewish Authors Reading/Discussion Group enjoyed an enlarged discussion of the second set of stories by Israeli author, Savyon Liebrecht. As a child of the Holocaust, Liebrecht expresses much emotion through her intricately woven tales, relationships, and complex character studies. There were a variety of points of view regarding the author's intentions, many interpretations were voiced, and the group was thus gifted with much to contemplate.

SSBJA has selected Sunday, September 30, 7:00 to 8:30 PM, for the next meeting. Watch the BigList and your e-mail, for an announcement of the author to be discussed. For information/details, please contact Sondra Jacobs, 216-397-1481, or sondrajacobs@sbcglobal.net.

Yahrzeits, September 2007

אלול 5767 \ תשרי 5768

אלול ELUL

Sarah Rottman	9 Elul 5734
Rochelle Claunch	18 Elul
J. Marianne Simon	18 Elul 5747
Louis Gilden	19 Elul 5718
Sylvia Haskin	19 Elul 5729
Samuel Holtz	19 Elul 5737
Henry Lederer	19 Elul 5730
William Linderman	19 Elul 5732
Benzion Broner	20 Elul 5732
Adele Reiss	20 Elul 5741
Stanley Rabinowitz	20 Elul
Myer Siff	20 Elul
Milton Collin	22 Elul 5736
Martin Simon	22 Elul 5729
Mildred Fromson	23 Elul 5737
Ida Olshansky	23 Elul 5724
Margaret Buchwald	26 Elul
Isaac Mendelow	26 Elul

תשרי TISHREI

Pincus Newman	1 Tishrei 5711
Albert Weinstein	2 Tishrei 5730
Sara Weinstein	3 Tishrei 5726
Eric Falck	5 Tishrei 5758
Elias Greenhut	7 Tishrei 5718
Carl Wasserman	7 Tishrei 5720
Blossom Levit	9 Tishrei 5721
Marcella Wachter	10 Tishrei
Harry Abrams	12 Tishrei 5716
Irene Cowan	15 Tishrei 5732
Harry Dolusky	15 Tishrei 5694

If you wish to add or update any Yahrzeit information for members of your family, please send e-mail to Karen Kugelman, kkugelman2@aol.com.

Book of Remembrance

Memorialize your loved ones in our Book of Remembrance, which will be distributed at each of the four Yizkor services during this upcoming year, beginning with Yom Kippur, September 22, 2007. The contribution for each name is \$10.00.

Listings must be received by September 10, 2007, in order to be published in this year's book.

Donor: _____

Phone Number: _____

Names to be listed (*Please print clearly!*):

Amount enclosed: _____

Mail c/o

Karen Kugelman
2904 Washington Blvd.
Cleveland Hts., OH 44118

Questions? Need another form? Call the High Holiday Hotline, 216-320-9667.

Sukkah Hop



Our annual Sukkah hop will be held on Sunday, September 30, beginning at 2:00 PM.

Would you like to have your sukkah be one of our 2007 Sukkah Hop stops?

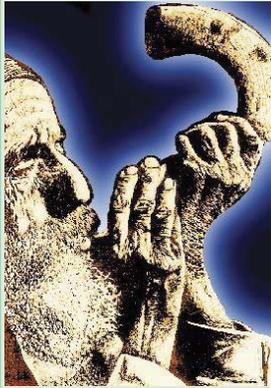
Please contact Merry Lugasy at 216-337-4761 or mlugasy@gmail.com

The host families' names and addresses will be published on the BigList and in the October newsletter, which ought to reach your homes in time for you to hop along.



CALENDAR, SEPTEMBER 2007

אלול 5767 \ תשרי 5768



Tickets are required for all Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services.

Tickets are complimentary.

Please call the synagogue office to request yours, if you have not yet received them.

216-320-9667



Monday, September 3, 10:30 AM – Gabriel Schmitt will become Bar Mitzvah.

The congregation is invited to join the family for morning services.

Saturday, September 8 – Shabbat

שבת

9:15 AM – Morning service

9:00 PM – Havdalah, followed by learning. Rabbi Moshe Adler will present “T’shuvah in the Thought of Rabbi Soloveitchik.”

11:00 PM – **S’lihot service**

סליחות

Sunday, September 9, 9:30 – 11:30 AM – Community-wide Cemetery Preservation Project, sponsored by the Federation, see page 6 for details.

Wednesday, September 12 – Erev Rosh HaShanah

ערב ראש השנה

7:24 PM – Candle lighting

8:00 PM – Evening service

Thursday, September 13 – Rosh HaShanah, First Day

ראש השנה

8:30 AM – Morning service

5:00 PM – **Tashlikh תשל"ך** – Meet at the Kugelmans', 2904 Washington Boulevard, and proceed together to Coventry School.

8:30 PM – Evening service:, followed by candle lighting

(8:21 PM – Earliest time for candle lighting, if you are lighting candles at home.)

Friday, September 14 – Rosh HaShanah, Second Day

ראש השנה

8:30 AM – Morning service

7:20 PM – Candle lighting for Shabbat (at home)

Saturday, September 15 – Shabbat Shuvah

שבת

9:15 AM – Morning Services

Shabbat ends no earlier than 8:17 PM.

Sunday, September 16, Fast of Gedalia

צום גדליה

Friday, September 21 – Erev Yom Kippur

ערב יום כפור, כול נדרי
כול נדרי

7:08 PM – Candle lighting, followed by **Kol Nidre**

Drop-in child care available, free, 7:00 to 9:30 PM.

Saturday, September 22 – Yom Kippur

יום כפור
יזכור

8:30 AM – Morning Services with Yizkor

5:00 PM – N'ilah service begins

Approximately 8:05 PM – the **shofar** will be blown to signal the end of Yom Kippur.

This will be followed by Ma'ariv, Havdalah, and a light congregational break-fast.

Sunday, September 23, 2:00 to 4:00 PM – Sukkah building and decorating

Wednesday, September 26 – Erev Sukkot

ערב סוכות

7:00 PM – Candle lighting (at home)

Thursday, September 27 – Sukkot, First Day

סוכות

9:15 AM – Morning service

After 7:56 PM – Candle lighting (at home)

Friday, September 28 – Sukkot, Second Day

סוכות

9:15 AM – Morning service

6:56 PM – Candle lighting for Shabbat (at home)

Saturday, September 29 – **Shabbat Hol HaMoed**

9:15 AM – Morning service

Shabbat ends no earlier than 7:53 PM.

Sunday, September 30,

2:00 PM – **Sukkah Hop** – Watch the BigList and the October newsletter for hosts' names and addresses.

7:00 to 8:30 PM – Short Stories by Jewish Authors Discussion Group (see page 6)

Tuesday, October 6:00 PM – **Dinner in the Sukkah.** Reservations required. (See p. 10)

Wednesday, October 3 – **Hoshana Rabbah** (last day of Hol HaMoed)

6:48 PM – Candle lighting (at home)

Thursday, October 4 – **Sh'mini Atzeret**

9:15 AM – Morning Services with Yizkor

7:45 PM – Candle lighting, followed by evening service with Hakafot

Friday, October 5 – **Simhat Torah**

9:15 AM – Morning service with Hakafot

6:44 PM – Candle lighting for Shabbat (at home)

Saturday, October 6 – **Shabbat B'reshit**

9:15 AM – Morning service: 9:15 AM

Shabbat ends no earlier than 7:41 PM

שבת חול המועד

הושענא רבה

שמיני עצרת

יזכור

הקפות

שמחת תורה

הקפות

שבת



All services held in our fully accessible building at 3246 Desota, Cleveland Heights.

Parking available on the street, or in nearby Boulevard Elementary School lot.

For more information, call Beth El – The Heights Synagogue at 216-320-9667.

Torah Readers Needed

If you would be willing to read a Torah portion, at any time during the coming year, please contact Sue Klein, 216-321-6541 or sue1028@dasa93.net.



BETH EL
The Heights Synagogue

You don't have to pay to pray.

**We know, it's "customary" to charge for High Holy Day tickets.
And sometimes "custom" becomes law.**

But we don't do it that way.

It's not as if we don't need the money. It's just one of our founding principles.

We conduct traditional services with full participation for women and men. When we set out to build our home for worship, learning, and community we decided to welcome all Jews, regardless of their financial circumstances.

We welcome you and hope you will make it your home, too.

If you think you might like this kind of place, give us a call.

Beth El-The Heights Synagogue

216-320-9667

מועדים לשמחה!

Dinner in the Sukkah

Join Us
for a Vegetarian, Dairy Dinner
Tuesday, October 2
6:00 PM

\$10.00 per adult, \$7.00 per Child 6-12
Children 5 and under, free
(Reservations required!)

For more information call Merry Lugasy, 216-337-4761.

In case of rain, the appropriate brochat will be said
in the sukkah, but dinner will be indoors.

Yes, we are coming to the dinner in the Sukkah, Tuesday, October 2, 2007

Name

Phone number

Number of: Adults (\$10.00 each)

Number of Children, ages 6-12 (\$7.00 each)

Number of Children, ages 5 and under

Total amount enclosed

Reserve your spot by Tuesday, September 25, by sending in payment
with response forms (to help us keep track of what your check is for!) to:
Beth El-The Heights Synagogue, 3246 Desota Rd.
Cleveland Heights, OH 44118

מועדים לשמחה!

