

# The Messenger

The Voice of Congregation B'nai Israel

901 MAMIE STREET

HATTIESBURG, MS 39401

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RABBI URI BARNEA



"Ben Azzai used to say: Do not scorn anyone, and do not dismiss anything; for there is no person who has not his hour, and there is no thing that has not its place."  
*Mishnah, Avot, Chapter 4, Mishnayah I*

## Kol HaRav - The Rabbi's Voice



Welcome to the 21<sup>st</sup> century!

There is "something in the air" nowadays that is hard to

pinpoint exactly, but that I believe we all sense, namely, that Americans are undergoing severe economic, political, cultural, and even religious turmoil, and for many real trauma. Whether one is an optimist or a pessimist, it is quite clear that the present pain will stay with us, even if perhaps to a lesser degree, for several years to come. And, when such low points occur in our lives, we need to find the fortitude to not only survive these shocks, but to succeed and excel as we did in years past.

For at least 235 years, Americans have experienced a recurrent roller coaster that moved between crises of self-confidence on one hand, and some of their most fundamental convictions that is often referred to as "American exceptionalism." It seemed that no matter how bad things

got, Americans have always maintained a strong conviction that the political phenomenon known as the United States is in many ways "different" from all other countries in the world. That bedrock belief has survived wars both at home and abroad. It survived internal conflicts over race, ethnicity, gender, and religious bigotry. It survived struggles to improve the conditions of the working class, of women, immigrants, and minorities. And, in the last 20 years or so, it survived even the most horrific acts of terrorism.

On the eve of WW I, self-absorbed Americans, weary of global conflicts believed they could and should retreat into a protected isolation between the boundaries of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, safely and securely secluded from less fortunate nations. Some still feel that way, but such a view is surely as naïve a strategy now as it was then.

A generation later, following the end of WW II, America embarked on a new experiment, reaching out in an act of both good will and self-

interest to help and rebuild the countries of their former enemies, especially those of Germany and Japan. Empowered by its victory, its huge natural and human resources, and its democratic value-system, America became a superpower second to none, and the prevailing notion was that there was nothing America couldn't do.

While we still try desperately to cling to that post-war optimism, what's changed in the last decade is growing cynicism across the board at the same time when many Americans see the luster fading almost on a daily basis. There are serious cracks in the walls around – what the early Jewish immigrants in America termed as – our “New Zion.” It is too heavy a burden, they claim, for one nation to carry. Many wonder now, perhaps for the first time in American history, whether our best days are, indeed, behind us, not ahead of us. Some people still yearn for another 20<sup>th</sup> century, when we enjoyed world supremacy and more certainty in our daily lives. Others think we will never achieve it again.

That is why, in these unsettled times, the nation cries out for new leadership in all areas of life,

leaders that can comfort, console, and yet encourage and strengthen a polarized nation that is trapped in an unrealistic nostalgia or in hopelessness about the future.

Now is the time to discover the new Joshua who confidently declared: “Be strong and of good courage.” Or the new Jeremiah, who preached realistic hope to a once proud people; or the new Isaiah, who offered authentic faith and consolation; a new Zechariah who urged his fellow Jews to be “prisoners of hope”; or modern Ezras and Nehemiahs who taught their bewildered people to reconstruct their faith and national identity and pride.

Now is the time to find new leadership that will enable us once again to find our inner spiritual strength, that offers realistic hope, and provides comfort for a nation living under the shadows of self-doubt. I believe that this inner strength is still with and within the American people; all we have to do is recognize it and determinedly bring it back into our lives in 21<sup>st</sup>-century America.

*Rabbi Uri Barnea*

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#### Rabbi Uri Barnea Office Hours

Tuesday	1:00PM - 4:00PM
Wednesday	1:00PM - 3:00PM
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## November Adult Education Session

### Wednesday, November 16 at 7:00pm

**Topic: Jewish Authors and Illustrators in the de Grummond Collection at the University of Southern Mississippi**

**Speaker: Ellen Ruffin, Curator of the de Grummond Collection**

Location: We will meet at the COOK LIBRARY ROOM 204, USM (parking should be no problem on a Wednesday night)

Ellen has served as the curator of The de Grummond Children's Literature Collection for the past seven years. She was elected to the John Newbery Medal Committee for the year 2009, and was selected in a nationwide election for the post among members of her profession. The Newberry Medal is considered one of the most prestigious awards in children's literature.

The de Grummond Collection is THE PREMIER children's literature collection and one of North America's leading research centers in the field of children's literature. The collection, founded in 1966 by Dr. Lena Y. de Grummond, holds the original manuscripts and illustrations of more than 1300 authors and illustrators, as well as 180,000+ published books dating from 1530 to the present.

To prepare for this presentation, you may want to uncover some of yours or your children's books and reread them, such as those written by Ezra Jack Keats, Maurice Sendak, and Margaret and H.A. Rey, all represented in the de Grummond collection and all Jewish.

As with all Adult Education sessions, unless specified, this session is open to those 13 years of age and older.

There will not be an Adult Education session in December.

- Barbara Keller

## Annual Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service

The annual Thanksgiving ecumenical service will take place this year at St. Thomas Catholic Church, 3117 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street in Hattiesburg, MS, on Sunday, November 20, at 7:00 PM.

Please join Rabbi Uri and several other clergy for this important and inspiring service that brings the community together in thanksgiving and charity to others. Good will Offering will benefit Breadbasket.

**B'nai Israel Sisterhood Campers Fund**  
**Help send our Children to Camp!**

**Free and Easy way to raise funds for B'nai Israel Sisterhood.**  
**All funds raised, earmarked for Sisterhood Campers Fund, to help**  
**make it possible for our children to attend HSJ Camp**

**This is going to be the easiest thing we've ever asked you to do!**

We are signed up with GoodSearch.com and now every time you shop online or search the internet, a donation will be made to B'nai Israel Sisterhood.

Here's how:

GoodShop.com works with more than 2,500 stores (including Target, Apple, Pet Smart etc..) and every time you purchase something, a percentage will be donated to us!

And, even more exciting, GoodShop also offers over 100,000 of the most up-to-date coupons and free shipping offers so you can save money at the same time.

It's win win.

GoodSearch is a Yahoo powered search engine which makes a donation to us each time you do a search.

Join the rest of our community in using these sites to help us easily raise money for our children to attend Jacobs Camp.

Get started by clicking the "Become a Supporter" button on our profile page: <http://www.goodsearch.com/?bnaiisraelsisterhood>

To learn more, go to: [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com)

Ladies and gentlemen, Start the Search Engines, shop and load up for those holiday gifts!!  
We need everyone's support to be successful....

Thank you !

B'nai Israel Sisterhood

GoodSearch: <http://www.goodsearch.com/bnaiisraelsisterhood> Bnai Israel Sisterhood (no apostrophe)

Example of money raised using the search engine on GoodSearch?

Charity or School Size - Small

Number of Supporters - 100

Average Searches Per Day - 2

Estimated Revenue/Year - \$730

Listed below are the many examples we can use:

Fill in our organizations name Bnai Israel Sisterhood .

THINGS YOU CAN DO

FOR TBI WEBSITE

FOR MEMBERS

Email Friends — Send an email out your family and friends. [»](#)

Email Your Organization's Supporters — Let all of your supporters know to start using GoodSearch on your behalf.[»](#)

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Blog — Write about GoodSearch on blogs and message boards.[»](#)

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2011 Newsletter		2012 Newsletter	
Deadline		Deadline	
Sep - Oct	Aug 20	May - Jun	Apr 20
Nov - Dec	Oct 20	Jul -Aug	Jun 20
2012 Newsletter		2012 Newsletter	
Deadline		Deadline	
Jan - Feb	Dec 20	Sep - Oct	Aug 20
Mar - Apr	Feb 20	Nov - Dec	Oct 20

# 2011 B'NAI ISRAEL YAHRTZEITS

## 2011 November Yahrzeits

- 1 Irma Meyer Dreyfus
- 2 Hilda Katz Kelsey
- 10 Charles Aubrey Sievers
- 13 Sarah Botnick  
Hazel Cramer Kraus
- 15 Mollie Gurwitch
- 19 Oscar Buchalter
- 24 Ada Miller  
Mali Spector
- 26 Herbert Adler
- 28 Jack Gurwitch

## 2011 December Yahrzeits

- 1 Jean Cargill  
Annie Lee Pelman
- 4 Fannie Wigransky
- 6 Chana Sackler  
Mollie Stolin
- 8 Miriam Meyer Dreyfus  
Rose Newman Cramer
- 12 Sidney Levine
- 14 Selma Krell
- 16 Moise Stolin
- 17 Esther Shor  
Harold M. Matison
- 18 Elsie S. Miller
- 21 Julius Joseph Glass
- 23 George Krell
- 24 Millie Marcus Stamm  
Fannie Kresteel
- 27 Sam Shemper
- 28 Adele Matison Freeman  
Stanley Cohen
- 29 Yetta Rubenstein
- 30 Jacob Frank Pelman  
Milton A. Schlesinger

## TEMPLE FUNDS

### ERS FUND

In honor of Esther R. Shemper - with Interest used to help with Temple expenses

### MARVIN SHEMPER BUILDING FUND

In honor of Marvin's constant maintenance and loving care for our building

### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

To be used at the discretion of the Rabbi

### RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

Materials & books for Religious School

### TREE OF LIFE

In memory of Marvin Reuben for the Marvin Reuben maintenance fund

### GENERAL FUND

General maintenance and upkeep of TBI Building

### CEMETERY FUND

Upkeep of the cemetery

### SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

To care for our own, Jews everywhere and the rest of the world

### TEMPLE B'NAI ISRAEL ENDOWMENT FUND

For the existence and operation of the

## Camp Scholarship Fund

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILIES  
WHOSE CHILDREN WANT TO ATTEND HENRY S. JACOBS CAMP.  
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT LOU GINSBERG: 601-584-8878

IN MEMORY OF

ADDRESS

IN HONOR OF

ADDRESS

OTHER

ADDRESS

*Send To:*  
*Treasurer, TBI*  
*P.O. Box 15636*  
*Hattiesburg, MS*  
*39404-5636*

**THANKS TO JONATHAN SHEMPER FOR THE PHOTOS!**



# November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 6pm - Shabbat Service and covered dish	5  <b>Return to Standard time; fall back an hour.</b>
6 9:45am - Religious School 12:15pm - Hebrew I 1pm - Hebrew II	7	8	9	10	11 7:30pm - Shabbat Service	12 10am - Torah Study
13 9:45am - Religious School 12:15pm - Hebrew I 1pm - Hebrew II	14	15	16	17	18 7:30pm - Shabbat Service	19
20 9:45am - Religious School 12:15pm - Hebrew I 1pm - Hebrew II 7pm - Ecumenical	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving	25 7:30pm - NO Shabbat Service	26
27 9:45am - NO Religious School 12:15pm - NO Hebrew I 1pm - NO Hebrew II	28	29	30			

# December 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 10am - Torah Study
4 9:45am - NO Religious School 12:15pm - NO Hebrew I 1pm - NO Hebrew II	5	6	7 7pm - Board Meeting 8pm - Congregational Meeting	8	9 7:30pm - Shabbat Service	10
11 9:45am - Religious School 12:15pm - Hebrew I 1pm - Hebrew II	12	13	14	15	16 7:30pm - Shabbat Service	17
18 9:45am - Religious School 12:15pm - Hebrew I 1pm - Hebrew II	19	20 5pm - Hanukkah Party - First Candle	21	22	23 7:30pm - NO Shabbat Service	24
25 9:45am - NO Religious School 12:15pm - NO Hebrew I 1pm - NO Hebrew II	26	27	28	29	30 7:30pm - NO Shabbat Service	31