

Rabbi Herbert Kumin
Rabbi Emeritus

Robert Sacks
Rabbinical Assistant

Michael Markowitz
Cantor

Berniece Kumin
Choir Director

P.O. Box 6956 Columbia, MD 21045 410-730-CALAH (2252)
www.calahcongregation.com

Calah Congregation



May/June 2008 ~ Nisan/Iyar/Sivan 5768

Services Held at Owen Brown Interfaith Center, 7246 Cradlerock Way, Columbia

Please Note: All Friday Night Services Now Start at 7:30 p.m.

- May 9, 7:30 p.m.** Friday night Shabbat service. May birthdays and anniversaries celebrated. Bring cake if you are celebrating a simchah.
- May 30, 7:30 p.m.** Friday night Shabbat service and oneg Shabbat.
- June 13, 7:30 p.m.** Friday night Shabbat service. June birthdays and anniversaries celebrated. Bring cake if you are celebrating a simchah.
- June 27, 7:30 p.m.** Friday night Shabbat service and oneg Shabbat.
- July 18, 7:30 p.m.** Friday night Shabbat service. July birthdays and anniversaries celebrated. Bring cake if you are celebrating a simchah.
- August 15, 7:30 p.m.** Friday night Shabbat service. August birthdays and anniversaries celebrated. Bring cake if you are celebrating a simchah.



Membership Discount

*Look for the blue insert in this newsletter for your 2008–2009 membership form.
Send in your dues postmarked on or before June 30, 2008, and get a 10% discount!*

New Phone Number

*Calah has a new phone number: 410-730-CALAH (2252).
The calls will go to Jordan and Claire Alpert's house.*

*Calah services will not be held when Howard County Schools are closed due to inclement weather.
Check local stations for updates, or visit www.calahcongregation.com*

Pastoral Thoughts by Rabbi Herbert Kumin

Longevity

A man who lived to a ripe old age was asked to what he ascribed his longevity. He answered the following:

“The reason for my longevity is because I made a good ‘shidduch’ (a match). My wife and I get along beautifully. When we were married, we made an agreement that as soon as one party started a quarrel, the other should walk out and wait until things cooled off. As a result, I have enjoyed so much fresh air that it made me sturdy. That’s why my longevity.”

Prayer

The definition of *prayer* from the Latin means entreating, petitioning, while the Hebrew meaning is self-judgment, analysis, and evaluation.

Torah

I do not know whether Torah will save the world, but I am convinced that without it, the world cannot be saved.

Where Is God?

Yehudah Halevi hundreds of years ago said, “God is as near as you bring Him to you.”

Please pray for my wife, Berniece (Breine, daughter of Chana), and for me (Chayim, son of Rachmiel). You also have my prayers for all of you.



The congregation sends caring thoughts and prayers of healing to all our members who are ill, including Helen Alpert, Rebbetzin Berniece Kumin, Rabbi Herbert Kumin, and Andrea Paskin.



Update on the Kumins

As of this writing, Mrs. Kumin continues to recover at Lorien Nursing and Rehabilitation Center (Room 233) on Cedar Lane in Columbia. She is expected to return home soon. Rabbi Kumin is at home. Cards, phone calls, visits, prayers, and good thoughts are welcome.

Feel better! We love you and miss you!



Tzedakah

Please look for our beautiful, handmade *tzedakah* box with the butterfly plaque on the *oneg* table at every service. Calah’s *tzedakah* recipients are Camp Sunshine, a camp in Maine for critically ill children and their families, and Magen David Adom, the Israeli emergency medical service.

Dates for Services

A complete schedule of services and Sunday School for the upcoming year will appear in the next newsletter.

Ch-Ch-Ch-Changes

Some of Calah's most active members plan to move out of state this summer. Our congregation needs members to step up and take on some duties. Some of these tasks can be shared. Contact any trustee for more information or to express your interest.

- **Oneg Shabbat Coordinator** This is a **volunteer** position. Our custom is to offer an oneg after each service. Rocky Baker has been doing everything, but the job could be shared. Duties include maintaining the stock of paper goods and beverages in our OBIC storage closet; buying food (reimbursed) for non-birthday onegs; setting up; overseeing clean-up. Plan B: no onegs.
- **Bimah Helper** This is a **paid** position and requires some physical labor. This job can be shared. Duties include setting up our Torah ark; placing tablecloths, microphones, and other materials needed by the clergy; setting out prayer books and kippahs; and putting everything away after the service.
- **Sunday School Teachers** Teachers are **compensated** with the cost of a one-person Calah membership—currently \$325. Contact Cantor Markowitz at 410-455-6434.

The volunteer position of **newsletter editor** has been filled. Beginning with the July–August edition, **Kira Lis** will be our newsletter editor. Please send your news to Kira at openflower@verizon.net and tell her Liz Lean says thank you!!

Next Board Meeting

The next Calah board meeting will be held Sunday, June 29, 7 p.m. at Bob Sacks's office, 7125 Thomas Edison Drive, Suite 105, in the Columbia Gateway Office Park. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. Special thanks to **Cynthia Daniels** and **Bill Fidel**, who attended the May meeting

Calah Dues—Your Only Expense That Is NOT Increasing

Your trustees have voted not to increase dues for the coming fiscal year. In addition, you can take 10% off your dues by mailing your check on or before June 30. Look for the blue insert with this newsletter.

Give Those Trustees a Vote of Confidence!

Please see page 5 of this newsletter for the slate of candidates for Calah Congregation's board of trustees. Each adult Calah member can cast a vote for or against the entire slate. Please mail your ballot to the P.O. Box, or give it to Liz Lean or any other trustee at the next service you attend.

Save the Date for the Howard County Jewish Festival/Israel Celebration

Sunday, June 22, is the day to celebrate Israel's 60th anniversary and Jewish life in Howard County. The day kicks off at 9:30 a.m. with a Walk for Israel, starting at Federation offices at Century Plaza 1000, Suite 400, 10630 Little Patuxent Parkway. The walk ends at Howard Community College, where the festival runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$5 per person; \$20 per family; free for children under age 5. Entertainment, games, food, and vendors. Info: 410-730-4976 x101.

Fore!

Calah members **Michael Markowitz**, **Jordan Alpert**, and **Gerald Scala**, with friend **Richard Smith** are a foursome for the Jewish Federation's Golf Tournament May 19 at Waverly Woods Golf Course. This is a major fundraiser for educational scholarships and teen trips to Israel. Thank you, gentlemen!

A Wealth of B’Nai Mitzvot

It has been a busy season for Calah’s younger members. **Lindsay Goldstein** became a bat mitzvah on May 4 in a havdalah service. **Michael Baker** will become a bar mitzvah on June 7, and **Sean Jones** will become a bar mitzvah on June 21. Mazel tov to these fine young people and their families!

A New Look at Jewish Life in Germany

Those who attended the March 7 service were treated to a presentation by **Al Estrin** and **Ulrike** and **David Jaller** about Germany’s efforts to improve life for its Jewish population, including the country’s welcoming of large numbers of Jewish émigrés from the former Soviet Union. Al offered some historical context, then the Jallers shared their personal experiences of the growth and vitality of Jewish life in Ulrike’s hometown of Wuppertal.

The Graduate

Peter Alpert graduates this month with a degree in physics from the University of Maryland. Peter is headed to graduate school, likely to SUNY Stony Brook, according to his dad, Jordan. Congratulations!

The Thespian

Anna Jaller has a leading role in Muhlenberg College’s production of “Dog Meets God.” Anna, currently a sophomore, will spend part of her junior year in London studying at Queen Mary University.

The Hong Kong Opinion Maker

Nicole Alpert, who has made her home in Hong Kong for the last few years, has a new job there with Lion Rock, a pro-business think tank. Nicole writes editorials for the organization.



Kosher Recipe from Berniece Kumin

Berniece’s Cranberry Meat Balls

1 can cranberry sauce (jellied or whole berry)

1 can tomato sauce

Meat Balls

1-1/2 lbs chopped meat

ketchup to taste

salt and pepper (optional)

1 egg

bread crumbs, oatmeal, or matzoh meal

Mix together ingredients and form meat balls.

Heat cranberry sauce until it boils. Add tomato sauce slowly. Simmer for 5 minutes. Add meat balls and cook for 1 hour over low heat.

A variation of this recipe can become unstuffed stuffed cabbage. Begin with a pot of cut-up cabbage and the cranberry and tomato sauces. Cook for 20 minutes on low until cabbage boils and cooks down a bit. Then add meat balls and cook for 45 minutes to 1 hour, until they are soft.

Official Ballot for Calah Congregation Board of Trustees

Please cast a vote for or against the entire slate of trustees. The nine current trustees are on the ballot, along with two new candidates: Debra Eyring and Bill Fidel. The new term begins July 1, 2008. Please mail your ballot to Calah Congregation, P.O. Box 6956, Columbia, MD 21045 or give the ballot to Liz Lean or any trustee the next time you attend services. The trustees elect a president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary.

Slate of Trustees

Jordan Alpert
Richard Armon
Rocky Baker
Debra Eyring
Bill Fidel
Lynn Green
David Jaller
Elizabeth Lean
Robert Sacks
Ronald Singer
Jeffrey Weisfeld

I vote FOR the slate of candidates.

I vote AGAINST the slate of candidates.

Gas Is Too Expensive...

Calah Runs on Volunteers!

Many, many thanks to the volunteers who keep
Calah Congregation running strong:

Rocky Baker

Marilyn Singer

Lynn Green

Ron Singer

Alex Estrin

Elinor Weisfeld

Michael Baker

Karen Armon

Robert Markowitz

Jonathan Lazar

David Jaller

Kira Lis

Bob Sacks

Liz Lean

Jordan Alpert

Debra Eyring

Kate Silverberg

Andrea Sacks

Barton Kershbaum

Jeff Weisfeld

Claire Alpert

Sara Markowitz

Rich Armon

Rachel McCracken

Bill Fidel

Libby Kumin Lazar

Cynthia Daniels

Spencer Lean

Sharon Chaiklin

Ulrike Jaller

Tom Lis

Ed Horwitz

...and everyone else who
volunteered this year!