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# Calah Congregation



**March/April 2008 ~ Adar I/Adar II/Nisan 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.**

**March 7, 7:30 p.m.** Friday night Shabbat service. March birthdays and anniversaries celebrated. Bring cake if you are celebrating a simchah.

**March 28, 7:30 p.m.** Friday night Shabbat service and Purim celebration! Children, wear a costume and get a prize! *Megillah* reading, groggers, musical accompaniment, and hamantashen! Big fun for all.

**April 11, 7:30 p.m.** Friday night Shabbat service. April birthdays and anniversaries celebrated. Bring cake if you are celebrating a simchah.

~ **April 20 Second Passover Seder at Kings Contrivance Restaurant** ~

**April 25, 7:30 p.m.** Friday night Shabbat service and *pesachdich* oneg Shabbat.

**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.

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*See page 3 of this newsletter for a full schedule of Friday night services and Sunday School.*

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***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](http://www.calahcongregation.com)***

## Thoughts by Rabbi Herbert Kumin

### Charity

Charity is a strange word to the Hebrew language. In English, "charity" denotes philanthropy. In Hebrew, the word is *tzedakah*, righteousness. Charity, then, in the prophetic sense, means doing what is right, what God requires of every human being.

Open a hand of compassion to the poor. Say not, "I will miss what I give." Be like the sheep, who give their wool and have no less the next year because they have given.

### Bedtime Prayer

Dear God,

I tried today to be as good  
As you and I both know I should.  
But if I've failed in any way,  
I'll try my best this coming day.  
One thing, dear God, I ask of you.  
Please be with me in all I do.

Amen

### Beliefs and Deeds

I believe that what I believe is less important than what I do. I believe that much of what I do is the result of what I believe. I say, "I believe," as, "I wish to believe, to shape my life that it is a living testimony bespeaking what I believe."



Calah Congregation extends deepest sympathy to Andrea and Robert Sacks and family on the death of their aunt, June Blumenthal. May her memory be for a blessing.



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



### Tzedakah

Calah's board of directors voted at the February 24 meeting to continue the current *tzedakah* recipients for another year. The two organizations are Camp Sunshine, a camp in Maine for critically ill children and their families, and Magen David Adom, the Israeli emergency medical service. Please look for our beautiful, handmade *tzedakah* box with the butterfly plaque on the *oneg* table at every service.

**Trustee elections are coming up, and candidates are needed to join the slate! Please see page 4 of this newsletter for full information. Ballots will be sent with the May/June newsletter.**

***Reminder: Calah Friday night services now start at 7:30 p.m.  
This includes regular Shabbat services and special holiday services.***

**Calah Congregation Services, Owen Brown Interfaith Center**

March 7, 2008 7:30 p.m.	May 30, 2008 7:30 p.m.
March 28, 2008 7:30 p.m.	June 13, 2008 7:30 p.m.
April 11, 2008 7:30 p.m.	June 27, 2008 7:30 p.m.
April 25, 2008 7:30 p.m.	July 18, 2008 7:30 p.m.
May 9, 2008 7:30 p.m.	August 15, 2008 7:30 p.m.

**Sunday School Schedule for 2007–2008 School Year**

March 9 and 30  
 April 13 and 27  
 May 4 and 18



**You're Invited!!!**

**Congregation-Wide Pizza Party**  
**Sunday, May 18, 12:30 p.m.**  
**CiCi's All-You-Can-Eat Pizza, Pasta, Salad, and Dessert**  
**6473 Baltimore National Pike, Catonsville**  
**(Shopping Center with Office Depot)**  
**Free for All Calah Members!**  
**Free for All Sunday School Families!**  
**Free Game Tokens for Children!**  
**Come Socialize, Play, Celebrate Spring,**  
**and Enjoy All the Delicious Food You Can Eat**

**RSVP ASAP to Lynn Green 410-792-8029**



## **Trustee Elections Are Coming Soon We Need Candidates to Add to the Slate**

Some Calah trustees will be leaving the board when the current term ends this June. Adult members in good standing who have been a member of Calah Congregation for at least two years are eligible.

If you are a longtime member, great! We can use your knowledge and insight. If you are a relatively new member, perhaps with children in Sunday School, great! We can use your fresh ideas and vision for Calah's future.

Trustees attend monthly board members and a couple of annual trustee meetings; vote on Calah policy, programs, and financial issues; and elect officers—president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer.

Trustee candidates will be part of a slate that includes some of the current trustees. A ballot that asks members to vote for or against the entire slate will be mailed with the May/June newsletter.

Please contact Rich Armon, president of Calah Congregation, with any questions or to express your interest. Contact Rich at 410-776-7704 or at richardarmon@comcast.net

### ***We Need a New Treasurer, Pronto***

Calah's current treasurer, Jeff Weisfeld, will resign as treasurer as of March 31. He will be available during April to assist the new treasurer.

Please consider serving as treasurer of Calah Congregation. The treasurer's duties include receiving and depositing all congregation income; issuing checks that are signed by two trustees; presenting regular financial reports to the board; answering membership inquiries; managing the congregation's certificates of deposit and bank statements; and collecting the contents of the post office box on a regular basis.

It is a demanding position, and its duties are essential for Calah's operation. Please contact Calah president Richard Armon at 410-776-7704 or at richardarmon@comcast.net with questions or to express your interest.

**The Next Board Meeting Is on Sunday, March 30, at 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.**

### **Help Sought for E-Mail Newsletter Production**

Liz Lean, who has been preparing Calah's newsletter for the last few years, would like to turn over the job to another member. The newsletter is published every two months. Currently, Liz gathers material from several sources, types up the newsletter, and makes the copies at Kinko's. Richard Armon handles the mailing: printing labels, stuffing envelopes, applying postage, and mailing the newsletter.

Calah's board would like to move to an electronic newsletter, with only a few printed copies for members who don't have e-mail. This would save money for the congregation and get the news out more quickly and efficiently.

We need a volunteer ASAP, either to take over preparation of the printed newsletter or to begin the electronic publishing.

Calah is a volunteer-run congregation. We have many more members than volunteers, so please seriously consider volunteering. Contact Liz Lean at 410-203-2660 or [lizlean@hotmail.com](mailto:lizlean@hotmail.com)

Thank you.

### **Barry Louis Polisar Headlining Howard County Purim Carnival**

Singer-songwriter Barry Louis Polisar, a longtime favorite for family entertainment and now a best-selling recording artist with the song "All I Want Is You" on the *Juno* soundtrack, will appear at the Jewish Federation of Howard County's Purim Carnival on Sunday, March 9.

The festival will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. at Reservoir High School on Scaggsville Road in Fulton. Admission is \$5 per family; game tickets are 50 cents each.

The Barry Louis Polisar concert starts at 4 p.m. and will require a separate ticket: \$8 in advance and \$12 at the door. For concert ticket information, e-mail [eric@templeisaiah.org](mailto:eric@templeisaiah.org)

Calah will be represented by **Rich Armon**, who will run children's games with kosher candy prizes, and **Rocky Baker**, who will staff an information table about our congregation.

### **"Celebrating Israel at 60" at HCC on June 22**

The Jewish Community Festival of Howard County, with the theme "Celebrating Israel at 60," returns Sunday, June 22, on the campus of Howard Community College.

Activities begin at 10:30 a.m. with a 1-mile Walk for Israel. Register for the walk at [www.walktheland.org/register-60](http://www.walktheland.org/register-60)

The festival runs from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., with food, entertainment, games, and vendors. The cost of admission has not been determined yet.



### **Who Are the Calah Trustees?**

Rich Armon, *president*  
Ron Singer, *vice president*  
Jeff Weisfeld, *treasurer*  
Liz Lean, *secretary*  
Jordan Alpert  
Rocky Baker  
Lynn Green  
David Jaller  
Bob Sacks



### Congregation News

**Madelin Weisfeld** is serving an internship at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida. She portrays a costumed character from a Disney movie; company policy prohibits us from telling you which one!

**Judith and Byron Marcus** have a third stateside grandson, in addition to their four grandchildren who live in England. The family welcomed **Steven Lofft** on July 18, 2007; he joined twin big brothers **Adam and Ben**, and parents **Susan and Jim Lofft**. *Mazel tov* to all!

**Sam Caplan** becomes a bar mitzvah on Saturday, March 8. Sam and his family—parents **Kim and David** and sister **Rachel**—are a tremendous asset to the congregation. Many of us have enjoyed watching Sam come up through Calah's Sunday School. Sam helped lead us in prayer at the February 22 service, and did an excellent job. We congratulate Sam and the Caplan family!

Thanks go once again to **Rocky Baker**, who coordinated the January 25 Tu B'Shevat seder and prepared the platters of luscious fruits and nuts. The **Weisfelds** supplied the red and white wines. It was a lovely celebration of "Jewish Arbor Day."

### Support Groups for Caregivers, the Bereaved

Beginning Tuesday, March 4, a 6-week Bereavement Support Group will meet Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the offices of the Jewish Federation of Howard County. An ongoing weekly Caregivers Support Group meets on the second Monday of each month from 6:30 to 8 p.m., also at the federation offices. The groups are sponsored by Jewish Family Services of Howard County. The federation offices are in the Century Plaza 1000 building, Suite 400, 10630 Little Patuxent Parkway, in Columbia. Contact Liz Schoen, 410-730-4976 x120 or [lschoen@jfs.org](mailto:lschoen@jfs.org)

### Model Passover Seder at HCC

The Jewish Student Union at Howard Community College will hold a model Passover seder on Tuesday, March 25, from 12:30 to 1:45 p.m., in the Kittleman Room (ELB 100). Contact Sue Bard, 410-772-4887.



### Kosher Recipe from Berniece Kumin Peanut Chicken in 15 Minutes Flat (meat)

1 onion, finely chopped	2 tsp Dijon mustard
1 clove garlic, crushed	1 Tbsp curry powder
1/4 cup chunky peanut butter	pinch of ground cardamom
1/2 cup low sodium chicken broth	dash of Tabasco or hot pepper sauce
1/4 cup honey	4 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves (6 to 8 oz. each, rinsed, patted dry, and cut into 1/2-inch cubes)

Combine the onion and garlic in a 1-1/2 quart microwave-safe dish. Microwave uncovered on high for 2 minutes. Stir in the peanut butter, chicken broth, honey, mustard, curry powder, cardamom, and Tabasco. Add the chicken cubes. Microwave uncovered on high for 6 minutes. Stir, then microwave on high until chicken is cooked through, another 6 minutes. Serve hot. Serves 4

*Note:* Microwave wattage varies, so times may be longer or shorter than specified.