

BETH EL CONGREGATION of the South Hills

DEDICATION

OF

LEIZER BALK-AHAVAS ZEDECK CHAPEL

June 12, 1983

Rosh Hodesh Tammuz 5743

The family of Leizer Balk has chosen to perpetuate his name and legacy in the living setting of our Beth El Chapel.

Personal Reminiscences by

Leslie Clifford

Howard Minsky

Casey Neuman



Stephen E. Steindel, Rabbi

Herman Weisberg, Cantor

Moshe Betan, Educ. Director

Bernice Silver, Admin. Sec'y

Dr. Ralph Schmeltz, President

Brenda Orenstein, Decorating Chmn.

Marvin Leibson, House Chairman

Maurice Rosenberg, Ritual Chairman

THE SYNAGOGUE NURTURES THE ETERNAL VISION

It is the synagogue which in every community stands as the witness to God, as the testimony of our faith that the world is not a meaningless accident, that there is a Power making for justice and mercy in the world, and that we live well only as we permit that Power to enter into our hearts, and to form our thoughts and our deeds. The synagogue is the visible embodiment of the soul's irrepressible cry, "Oh Lord, our God, how glorious is Thy name in all the earth." It is in the synagogue that man is constantly admonished to meditate on the high purposes of his life. It is from the synagogue that there emanates daily into the thoughts and life of the body politic the admonition, "It is not by human might, and not by human power, but by the Divine spirit within us that man ultimately prevails. Thine, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, Thine are riches and honor and Thou art Sovereign over all." The synagogue nurtures within us the eternal vision of Jacob's dream, the vision of an earth joined to heaven, of a human society distinguished by its divine attributes, the vision of an earth in which no one shall have to flee from the wrath of his brother, for it shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord "as the waters cover the sea." That service the synagogue must be prepared to perform for us today as human beings, as Jews, and as citizens of America.

LEIZER BALK-AHAVAS ZEDECK CHAPEL

The Leizer Balk-Ahavas Zedeck Chapel is an expression of the Beth El Synagogue in Beechview and the Ahavas Zedeck Congregation of Hazelwood, which was brought to Beth El in the early 1960's. The Holy Ark, Eternal Light, Bima Chairs and Bima Lecterns are from the O'Have Israel Congregation of Brownsville and the wooden pews were given to us from the Tree of Life Congregation of Monongahela. The beautiful stained glass windows that make up the outside wall as well as the lions above the Ark are from the original Beth El in Beechview. The cooperation of leaders of all those Western Pennsylvania Jewish communities has enabled the members of Beth El Congregation to fashion this magnificent Chapel. Everyone who enters can feel the spirit of all previous generations of worshippers, thus continuing Jewish life in our Pittsburgh Jewish community.

Torah Scroll from O'Have Israel of Brownsville

Torah Yad contributed by friends of Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Schwartz in honor of their 40th Wedding Anniversary

Bima Chairs restored in memory of Maurice Grossman by his family

The names memorialized on the Yahrzeit Tablets of O'Have Israel Congregation are announced during Friday evening services at Beth El. Family members continue to receive notice of these Yahrzeit dates and the tablets are lit each week.

We acknowledge with thanks contributions from

Brownsville Friends of Beth El

Mr. & Mrs. Irvin Berger	Mr. & Mrs. Mike Herman
Mr. & Mrs. Max Berger	Mrs. Rae Karpen
Freda & Jake Berkovitz	Dr. & Mrs. Barry Kart
Mr. & Mrs. Abe Berky	Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Kart
Mr. Max Berky	Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Kart
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Mrs. Warren Friedlander	Mr. & Mrs. Theodore Schwartz
Mr. Irving Goldstein	Dr. & Mrs. A.M. Silberstein
Mr. & Mrs. Alvin Greenfield	Mrs. Nathan Silver
Mrs. Maurice Grossman	Mr. & Mrs. Ozzie Zelkowitz
Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Herer	

Our thanks to all of the following people who assisted in making our beautiful Chapel a reality.

Pearl Berger	Marvin Leibson	Lucille Rubinstein
Harriet Brahm	Leonard Messer	Sidney Rubinstein
Harry Brahm	Avi Orenstein	Debbie Scheimer
Leslie Clifford	Brenda Orenstein	Alan Scheimer
Maurice Deul	Ron Orenstein	Buzz Scheimer
Steve Greenberg	Tina Reiger	Lin Toder
Jack Ketler		Helene Weinstein
Ruth Lederman		Alvin Weinstein