



2010-11 RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

The first day of class is Sunday, September 12, 2010

Beth Adam's Religious School is a place that nurtures Jewish learning and community. We are eager to welcome your children into our classrooms this fall.

Enrollment is open to children who are:

- Age three by September 1st (Preschool)
- In grades K-12

Childcare is available for children under age 3.

If your children were enrolled in our Religious School last year, look for a registration form and calendars in the mail. You can also download the form from www.bethadam.org or call the office to receive a hard copy.

REGISTERING

1. Complete the information on *both pages* of the form with information about each child who is enrolling.

Please note that parents are notified in advance of Religious School trips

2. Please send the completed form and all applicable fees **by August 27, 2010** to:

Congregation Beth Adam
10001 Loveland-Madeira Rd.
Loveland, OH 45140

TEEN PROGRAM (Grades 8-12)

Beth Adam's teen program is open to all students in grades 8-12 and is a great opportunity for community service, socializing, and learning. A Bar/Bat Mitzvah is not a prerequisite.

Teens will talk about issues they face as young adults, engage in community service projects, enjoy arts and sporting events in the larger community, and spend social time together. This group meets approximately two Sundays each month.

OPENING DAY

On September 12, we're having a beach party! All students should wear bathing suits and bring towels and a dry change of clothes!

Please stay after school for a (rain-or-shine) picnic on **Sunday, September 12th**. Bring your own lunch and other picnic supplies. We'll provide games and entertainment for all! We'll also have a special dessert to celebrate Beth Adam's 30th year!

BETH ADAM GOES TO A CINCINNATI REDS GAME!

After Religious School on Sunday, October 3 we're going to a Red's game. They are playing the Brewers at 1:10 PM. We'll be serving pizza lunch at 11:30 at the congregation for everyone who is heading to the game. Tickets are \$11 (this is a group rate). Please submit your reservations and payment along with your Religious School registration.

CHILDCARE

Childcare is provided during Religious School for children **under the age of three**. There are two payment options. You may enroll your child for the entire year for \$50.00 on the Religious School application form.

Alternatively, you may use the childcare on an as needed basis, for a fee of \$10 per child per session (assuming that there are other children registered weekly).

BAR/BAT MITZVAH PROGRAM

The first day of Bar/Bat Mitzvah class is Wednesday, September 15, 2010

Beth Adam's Bar/Bat Mitzvah program is open to students who turn 13 years old by 9/30/12 and are currently enrolled in sixth grade or above in school. Students who are enrolled in the Bar/Bat Mitzvah Program must also attend Beth Adam's Religious School. Bar/Bat Mitzvah classes meet Wednesday afternoons from 4:30-6:30 PM. It is a two-year course of study in preparation for Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

FAMILY EDUCATION

Students and parents learn together during Family Education Days. This gives our students the opportunity to share their religious education with their parent(s), and a chance for parents to experience a special day in the classroom.

The Family Education dates for each class are:

- Grades PK/K/1: February 13, 2011 (10:30-11:30)
- Grades 2/3: January 23, 2011 (9:30-11:30)
- Grades 4/5: January 9, 2011 (9:30-11:30)
- Grades 6/7: February 6, 2011 (9:30-11:30)

SERVICES FOR ALL AGES

Please note that these services will be geared to children of all ages. Consider coming to a service even if your child is not participating. And please invite friends!

These services begin at 7:15 PM with a pizza dinner at 6:30 PM.

- **Grades PK/K/1:** May 6, 2011
Children's Shabbat Service for All Ages
- **Grades 2/3:** December 3, 2010
Hanukkah Service for All Ages
- **Grades 4/5:** March 18, 2011
Purim Service for All Ages
- **Grades 6/7:** November 19, 2010
Interfaith Thanksgiving Service for All Ages

OTHER SPECIAL PROGRAMS

This year we will join together for several congregational events. These activities are open to members of all ages. Mark your calendars! Details will be in our monthly newsletters.

- **November 21: Mitzvah Mall**
- **March 20: Purim Carnival**
- **April 17: Chocolate Seder**

YOUTH CHOIR

We are really hoping to grow our Youth Choir this year. If your child is interested in singing with us, email rabbibaum@bethadam.org to let us know. Stay tuned for more info!

CURRICULUM

This year, students will be learning about exciting topics at Religious school.

- **Pre-K:** Holidays, Values, Beth Adam
- **Grades K/1:** Holidays, Hebrew, Israel, Shabbat, Torah
- **Grades 2/3:** Torah
- **Grades 4/5:** Bible/Midrash
- **Grade 6:** American Jewish Experience and the Religious Experience
- **Grade 7:** History, Prejudice, and Great Books

PAINT YOUR TILES!

Past and present students, teachers, and principals are encouraged to design a tile using the theme *What Beth Adam Means to Me*. Tiles can be decorated with words, pictures, and or symbols – and can be painted at any paint-your-own-pottery store. For further information, please call the Beth Adam Office at (513) 985-0400.

CLASSROOM TEACHERS & ASSISTANTS

Members of Congregation Beth Adam teach all classes so that our children see us as part of the learning process. We strongly encourage every family to be involved in the classroom by volunteering to teach or to be a classroom assistant. *There are still openings for teaching assistants and subs*; please call Rabbi Baum at the office if you are interested. (513) 985-0400.

BAD WEATHER/SNOW POLICY

On both Sundays and Wednesday: In questionable weather situations, please err on the side of safety. Please call the office if you have any doubts about making the trip.

Closing information will be updated on Beth Adam's online calendar. Go to www.bethadam.org and click on the calendar link. If school is cancelled, you will see the word CANCELLED on the relevant date. On Sunday mornings, this information will be posted by 8 AM.

Closings should also be posted on WKRC (ch. 12), WCPO-TV (ch. 9), WCPO.com, WLWT (ch. 5),

and Fox (ch. 19). You may also call the office to see if school is closed.

Weather On Wednesdays:

If Loveland Schools (LPS) have cancelled school because of bad weather, Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class is CANCELLED. If LPS bus service is cancelled because of bad weather or snow, Bar/Bat Mitzvah Class is also cancelled unless the road conditions improve and are safe to travel.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL GOALS

- Provide a basic knowledge of Jewish history, life cycle events, and holidays
- Provide an understanding of Jewish values and ethics, theology, and the Jewish relationship to Israel
- Instill a positive, liberal Jewish identity and a sense of pride in one's self, in Beth Adam, and in the Jewish community
- Promote family education and opportunities to learn together through the Religious School, through Adult Education, and in Family Education Day activities
- Identify the English, Hebrew, and Yiddish words and sayings that inform the Jewish subjects taught in class
- Incorporate and reinforce key Jewish values throughout the curriculum
- Recognize the practical application of these teachings as consistent with religion's role in helping people function in society
- Recognize the value of scientific thinking and reason in learning about the Jewish and human experience
- Identify the skills and knowledge learned in class that can be applied outside class
- Define the rights and responsibilities of students and teachers—such as attendance and conduct—that affect the learning environment
- Promote a humanistic, personal responsibility approach to problem-solving and growth experiences
- Use age-appropriate perspectives for the Religious School curriculum
- Provide parents with explanations, information, and the plans of the Religious School to meet its goals

S.E.E.D. Program

Some of the educational programs in Beth Adam's Religious School are made possible by S.E.E.D. (Synagogue Education Excellence Directive), an initiative of the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati.



For directions and up-to-date calendar information, please visit www.bethadam.org.

Please consider sharing this newsletter with a prospective Beth Adam member. We would be happy to send you another copy! Just call the office.