

Adath Israel Congregation

B'NAI MITZVAH PARENT HANDBOOK



Revised August 2016

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Dear Parents,

Mazal Tov on your upcoming simcha! You and your child have worked hard to reach this day. The entire Adath Israel Congregation community takes pride in your child's accomplishments and shares in your joy.

The purpose of this handbook is to answer your questions and help you and your child get the most enjoyment and satisfaction from this occasion. This document will help guide you through the planning process, let you know what will be expected of you and your child, and offer ideas on things you can do to enhance the experience.

No written document can ever answer every question. The Rabbi, Hazzan, officers, teachers, school administration, and office staff are all committed to making this the best possible experience for you and your child. If you have any questions, concerns, or special requests, please do not hesitate to ask.

This guidance is offered in the hope that it provides enough information to help you plan a simcha that is meaningful and spiritually fulfilling to you, your child and the congregation.

If there are any questions or any kind of help you need, please inquire at the synagogue office.

Upon becoming a bar or bat mitzvah, your child becomes a full-fledged member of the congregation. This is epitomized by being called to the Torah for the first time, but that is just the beginning. Your son or daughter counts toward a minyan and should be encouraged to continue to participate in services. The Rabbi and Hazzan would be delighted to have your child participate in future services and to extend to him/her a Torah honor. We look forward to your child's continued involvement, together with you, in our congregational community.

Rabbi Benjamin Adler

Hazzan Arthur Katlin

Hanina Ruttenberg, Director of Synagogue Operations

TABLE OF CONTENTS

B'NAI MITZVAH CONTACT INFORMATION	Page 1
WHAT IT MEANS TO BECOME A BAR OR BAT MITZVAH	Page 2
GETTING STARTED	
Prerequisites	Page 2
Family Meetings	Page 2
Parent & Student Seminars	Page 2
Scheduling B'nai Mitzvah Lessons	Page 2
Special Circumstances	Page 3
REQUIREMENTS	
Service Attendance	Page 3
Mitzvah Project	Page 3
Financial Obligations	Page 4
THE B'NAI MITZVAH SERVICE	
Your Child's Role at the B'nai Mitzvah Ceremony	Page 4
Parent's Role at the B'nai Mitzvah Ceremony	Page 5
Tallit & Tefillin	Page 5
Honors	Page 5
Participation of Non-Jews in the Ceremony	Page 6
The Evening Before	Page 6
On the Day of the Service	Page 6
Other Celebrations at the B'nai Mitzvah Service	Page 7
Etiquette in our Sanctuary & Throughout Our building	Page 7
Next Shabbat	Page 7
After the B'nai Mitzvah	Page 8
PLANNING YOUR B'NAI MITZVAH CELEBRATION	
Avoiding Hurt Feelings	Page 9
Invitations	Page 9
Kippot	Page 9
Throwing Candy	Page 9
Flowers – JFCS Baskets	Page 9
Judaica Items	Page 10
Special Handouts at the Bar/Bat Mitzvah	Page 10
Information for Your Guests and Dress Code	Page 10
Contributions in Honor of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah	Page 10
Tree of Life	Page 10
How Can I Get More Help	Page 11
CATERING & RENTALS	
Friday Night Oneg & Shabbat Morning Kiddush	Page 12
Kashrut	Page 13
Deliveries	Page 13
Private Rentals	Page 13
Approved Caterers	Page 14
Insurance: Vendor & Event Requirements	Page 14
Music & Photography	Page 14
Candle Lighting	Page 15
Easels, Sign-in Boards & Other Equipment	Page 15
FORMS	
Becoming a Bar & Bat Mitzvah: A Chronology	
B'nai Mitzvah Checklist	
Aliyah & Honors Form	
Vendor List	
Facility Rental Form	
Etiquette in Our Sanctuary & Building	
Room Set Up Sheet	
Directions to Adath Israel	

B'NAI MITZVAH CONTACT INFORMATION

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WHAT IT MEANS TO BECOME A BAR OR BAT MITZVAH

The bar or bat mitzvah ceremony is a celebration of a rite of passage for your child. Having reached the age of bar or bat mitzvah, your child assumes the responsibilities of a Jewish adult. In the time leading up to the bar or bat mitzvah, we encourage you to explore with your child what this means to him or her. This is a time to discover what it means to be Jewish and to live life in a Jewish way. The more you can help your child focus on and appreciate the process of becoming a bar or bat mitzvah, and not just the event of the bar or bat mitzvah, the more meaningful the experience will be. If you talk to your child about what it means to become a Jewish adult, and to make decisions and commitments, the meaning and significance of this rite of passage will be greatly enhanced. As he or she reflects upon it, your child will be more confident and feel the pride of how much he or she has learned and grown in the process of becoming a bar or bat mitzvah.

GETTING STARTED

PREREQUISITES

Your child is expected to complete five years of Jewish education, which is the equivalent of grades Gimmel through Zayin at our Adath Israel Religious School. For the year prior to the bar/bat mitzvah service, the student must be attending the Adath Israel Religious School unless he or she is enrolled in a recognized Hebrew Day School. Each student is expected to continue his/her education through the end of the fifth year (grade Zayin at the Adath Israel Religious School).

There is a bar or bat mitzvah fee which covers nine months of weekly, personalized tutoring with the Hazzan in your child's Torah and Haftorah portions. The balance of the fee must be paid in full before your child begins lessons with the bar/bat mitzvah instructor.

All other financial obligations to Adath Israel must be up-to-date: paid in full or being paid off monthly. This includes dues, building fund, religious school tuition, plaques and tribute cards. If you have special arrangements, you must be meeting your obligation. Your account must be current no later than ninety days prior to the bar/bat mitzvah day. If you have any questions about your account, please contact the synagogue office.

MEETING WITH INDIVIDUAL FAMILIES

Shortly after the B'nai Mitzvah dates are given out, a family meeting will be held with Rabbi Adler, Hazzan Katlin, Stephanie Loesberg and Hanina Ruttenberg. The meeting will review the B'nai Mitzvah process and training, ritual expectations, kiddush expectations and financial obligations.

There will be a family meeting with the Rabbi three months before the B'nai Mitzvah date. The Rabbi will review the structure of the service, discuss honors, make sure that the student's preparation is on track, discuss the D'var Torah (speech), and answer any questions the family may have.

There will be a meeting with the Rabbi and student one month prior to the event to finalize the D'var Torah.

PARENT AND STUDENT SEMINARS

A series of seminars will be held during religious school hours for parents and students beginning in Vav (6th grade). The purpose of the seminars is to thoroughly acquaint the parents and students with the process of preparing for a bar or bat mitzvah and to engage the family in meaningful thought and discussion about the significance of the event.

SCHEDULING B'NAI MITZVAH LESSONS

The Hazzan will contact you approximately ten months prior to your child's bar or bat mitzvah to schedule lessons. Your child will receive regular lessons with the Hazzan beginning approximately nine months before the bar or bat mitzvah date. You are required to attend the initial meeting with the Hazzan to discuss your goals and objectives and any special needs or requests your child may have. The Hazzan will structure your child's lessons to help meet your and your child's needs and goals.

Lessons are usually held weekly and last approximately thirty minutes. Lessons will be given in person, face-to-face. It is important that your child arrive promptly for these lessons, so that he or she does not miss valuable instruction.

time. You are also encouraged to come into the synagogue to pick up your child at the end of his or her lesson, so that you may get immediate feedback from the Hazzan. If you have any special concerns or there are special circumstances for your child, do not hesitate to contact the Hazzan.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

The experience of becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah provides you with a wonderful opportunity to focus on what your child can accomplish.

We understand that children do not develop at the same rate and believe that every child has the right to celebrate their Bar/Bat Mitzvah in a meaningful way that is appropriate to their particular ability. For this reason our clergy will develop an individual approach to the studies and ceremony with each child.

Preparing and studying for the Bar/Bat Mitzvah is a serious and major commitment and we strive to provide each child with a positive and fulfilling experience.

REQUIREMENTS

SERVICE ATTENDANCE

We cannot stress enough the importance of you and your child attending Shabbat evening and morning services regularly prior to your child's bar or bat mitzvah ceremony. You are especially encouraged to attend as many bar and bat mitzvahs as possible. This serves a number of purposes:

- Your child will learn the structure and meaning of the Shabbat evening and morning services. Many parents also find this a tremendous learning experience.
 - You and your child will become comfortable with the practices and traditions of Adath Israel.
 - Your child will improve his or her Hebrew reading ability by following along in the Siddur (prayer book) and Chumash (Torah and Haftarah).
 - You and your child will get to know the people who make up the Adath community of Shabbat "regulars".
 - Your child will be exposed to the teachings of our tradition, including Torah, ethics, practices, and the wisdom of our sages.
 - You'll experience other bar or bat mitzvahs at Adath, learn what other families do, and, perhaps, generate new ideas of ways to make the bar or bat mitzvah experience more meaningful for you and your child.
- By your presence, you signal to your child that this has meaning for you and is important. For parents who are less familiar with Hebrew and the Shabbat service, it shows your child the Jewish value of life-long learning.

MITZVAH PROJECT

Your child is expected to complete a Mitzvah Project. The Mitzvah Project is a hands-on opportunity for the student to do good in the world. Students are expected to select a meaningful project that benefits those in need or otherwise demonstrates *tikkun olam*, healing the world. Some examples of recent projects include:

- Raising funds for a new ambulance in Israel
- Collecting sporting goods for children in need
- Volunteering at an animal shelter
- Collecting used eyeglasses for those in need

There are numerous sources of ideas on the Internet. However, the most meaningful projects are those that have a special connection for your child.

The Rabbi will have a minimum of two meetings with your child in the months preceding the bar or bat mitzvah day.

- There will be a family meeting with the Rabbi three months before the date. The Rabbi will review the structure of the service, discuss honors, make sure that the student's preparation is on track, discuss the D'var Torah (speech), and answer any questions the family may have.
- There will be a meeting with the Rabbi and student one month prior to the event to finalize the D'var Torah.

FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

It is long-standing Synagogue policy that all accounts of members (including dues, school fees and Building Fund obligations) must be made current at least 120 days (4 months) in advance of a Bar/Bat Mitzvah. If you are not current 90 days (3 months) from the Bar/ Bat Mitzvah a letter from the Dues Committee will be sent. If you are not current 60 days (2 months) from the Bar/Bat Mitzvah a certified letter from the President will be sent notifying the family of the cancellation of the Bar/ Bat Mitzvah. Exceptions will only be made by the Dues Committee and/or President of the Congregation.

B'nai Mitzvah training will not begin until all training fees are paid in full.

It is a mitzvah for the congregation to welcome your child as an adult member of our community and celebrate this wonderful milestone with your child and family. As such, each family is asked to pay a \$500 Kiddush fee which is applied to both the Friday night Oneg and the Shabbat morning Kiddush. For more information about the Kiddush, see page ??

Should you wish to discuss any outstanding balances due or arrange for a payment plan, please contact Hanina Ruttenberg in the synagogue office.

THE B'NAI MITZVAH SERVICE

YOUR CHILD'S ROLE AT THE BAR OR BAT MITZVAH CEREMONY

Most bar or bat mitzvah ceremonies are held during regular Shabbat morning services. Under certain circumstances, generally at the request of parents, the bar or bat mitzvah may be held during other services at which the Torah is read.

There are abundant opportunities for your child to participate, both during services on Friday night and during services Saturday morning.

Your child may participate in the following aspect of the Friday night service:

- Lead the Kabbalat Shabbat and Evening service
- Lead the congregation in Kiddush

Your child will have the opportunity to participate in the following aspects of the Shabbat morning service:

- Lead the Torah Service
- Take part in the procession of the Torah to the *bima*
- Read from the Torah
- Recite the Torah blessing for the Maftir *aliyah*
- Deliver a D'var Torah – a short lesson on the day's Torah portion
- Read the Haftorah and its blessings
- Take part in the procession to return the Torah to the Ark
- Lead the concluding prayers
- Lead additional parts of the service – please talk to the Rabbi and Hazzan if you and your child are interested in leading more.
- Please consult the Rabbi for additional ideas.

All children who are celebrating their bar or bat mitzvah on Shabbat morning will read the day's Haftorah. Most children will also read some Torah. Children who are celebrating their Bar or Bat Mitzvah at an alternate service at which the Haftorah is not read, will only read from the Torah.



THE PARENT'S ROLE AT THE BAR OR BAT MITZVAH CEREMONY

Parents also have a role. While not as involved as that of your child, it does require some level of preparation.

Parents have the opportunity to participate in the following aspects of the service:

- You will have an *aliyah* (generally the seventh *aliyah* immediately before your child's *aliyah*).
- You may read Torah. Older siblings or other relatives may also read.
- You may make a brief speech.

You will be filled with pride and receive the well-deserved mazal tovs of the congregation, your family, and friends.

TALLIT AND TEFILLIN

Jewish tradition provides not only a text for prayer but a uniform for prayer as well. The *tallit*, a four-cornered garment with special fringes called *tzitzit*, is worn at morning services every day of the week. The Torah instructs us to "look at it [the fringes] and remember all the commandments of the Lord." (Numbers 15:39) The *tefillin*, two black leather boxes attached to leather straps, one worn on the head and the other on the arm, are worn at morning services every day except for Shabbat and holidays. Inside of these boxes are verses from the Torah, including the *Shema*. Wearing these verses allows us to physically place God's words in our hearts and minds.

One begins to wear both the *tallit* and *tefillin* at the age of b'nai mitzvah. There are many types of *tallitot* available at the gift shop, in stores, and online. Finding a pair of *tefillin* can be a challenge. The Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs sells affordable sets of different sizes and quality. For more information, see their website, <http://www.fjmc.org>. The *tallit* and *tefillin* should be purchased at least six months before the date of the bar or bat mitzvah. Your child will learn how to put on these items in Religious School and at the B'nai Mitzvah Seminars. However, learning to put on *tefillin* can be difficult so we suggest scheduling a few sessions with the Rabbi to go over and perfect the process.

Boys must have a *tallit* which they will wear at their bar or bat mitzvah at Adath Israel. Girls are strongly encouraged to wear a *tallit*. Boys are also required to have a pair of *tefillin*. While the *mitzvot* of *tallit* and *tefillin* traditionally were restricted to men, in recent decades more and more women are wearing *tallitot* and *tefillin*. We strongly encourage girls to acquire a set of *tefillin* as well so that they can engage in a mitzvah that adds depth and intensity to daily prayer. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Rabbi.

Honors

Honors provide a way to allow the special people in your child's life to participate in the service. There are up to 18 honors in total available to your friends and family. At least two of these honors are for Adath congregants. If some of those you wish to honor are Adath members, you may make all the selections. The others go to congregational members who are commemorating Yahrzeit or celebrating events such as engagements, naming, etc. These honors will be assigned by the Gabbai (ritual assistant) of the service.

The official honors consist of:

- Seven *aliyot* – reciting the blessing before and after each Torah reading. A husband and wife may be called together for a single *aliyah*. This is in addition to the *aliyah* received by the bar or bat mitzvah child.
- *Hagbah* (raising the Torah) and *Gelilah* (wrapping the Torah). Some of the Torah scrolls are heavy, so be sure to select someone with the strength and stability to lift and carry a heavy object. We recommend that the person given *Hagbah* has prior experience.
- Opening the Ark for the Torah procession. Up to three people may be called for this honor.
- Carrying the Torah for the Torah procession
- Opening the Ark to return the Torah. Up to three people may be called for this honor.
- Carrying the Torah when returning the Torah
- Prayers for the congregation, country, and peace
- Representative from the Adath Israel community who will present the gift to your child on behalf of Women's League

For each person having an *aliyah*, you should provide the Rabbi or Gabbai with the person's English name (and Hebrew name, if desired, including the name of the person's father, and, if desired, mother). For any male you wish to honor, please ascertain in advance if he is a Kohen, Levi or Yisrael.

Please be sure the individual whom you wish to honor with an *aliyah* knows how to read or chant the blessings fluently, so that there will be no embarrassment for your guest in front of the congregation. The Rabbi will discuss this with you when you meet with him. Please do not promise any honors to relatives or friends until after you have discussed it with the Rabbi.

After you have met with the Rabbi, notify those who will be receiving honors so that they are aware of the honor and the time they should be present.

Do not worry if you cannot or chose not to supply people for the various honors. The Gabbai will offer those honors to members of the congregation.

In addition to these "official" honors, there are a number of other creative ways in which to honor your loved ones. Some examples include:

- Guiding the bar or bat mitzvah in putting on the *tallit* for the first time at the Friday Evening Service
- Leading the part of the service (if able)
- Passing the Torah from generation to generation in the family as the Torah is returned to the ark
- Reading Torah (if able and approved by the Rabbi)
- Assisting with or making the *hamotzi* immediately following services
- Passing out the candy, if the family desires to participate in the tradition of throwing candy. This is ideal for younger children.
- Leading the congregation in *Ein Keloheinu* or *Adon Olam* (ideal for children below bar or bat mitzvah age)

Please discuss any questions or requests for honors, including the unofficial honors, with the Rabbi. The Rabbi will provide a form (see Appendix 2) to be used to provide the English and, where required, Hebrew names of those receiving honors.

PARTICIPATION OF NON-JEWS IN THE CEREMONY

It is not unusual for one parent of the bar or bat mitzvah to be non-Jewish, or for the bar or bat mitzvah family to have relatives who are not Jewish. Adath Israel warmly welcomes non-Jewish parents or other family members. We will endeavor to make your family and guests feel welcome and, as much as possible, a part of the ceremony.

In the case of a parent of the bar or bat mitzvah child who is not Jewish, the Rabbi will recognize and congratulate both parents on the *bima*, and both parents will be given the opportunity to give a speech. A non-Jewish parent may join the Jewish parent for an *aliyah*, but will not recite the blessing.

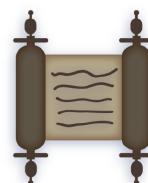
Only Jewish people may receive Torah honors, including *aliyot*, *Hagbah*, *Gellilah*, carrying the Torah, leading services or prayers, and opening and closing the Ark. Jewish children may lead *Ein Keloheinu* or *Adon Olam*. Non-Jewish family and friends are offered the opportunity to recite English prayers on the *bima*.

THE EVENING BEFORE

We ask that your family join us for services on the evening before your child's bar or bat mitzvah service. We will acknowledge the child from the *bima*. The bar or bat mitzvah child may lead parts or all of the Kabbalat Shabbat and/or Evening service.

ON THE DAY OF THE SERVICE

You should be in the building by 9:15 AM on Saturday and be seated in the main sanctuary before the services begin at 9:30. The bar or bat mitzvah will come up to the *bima* when the Torah service begins and join the processional when the Torah is removed. The front rows of seats are reserved for the family. You should advise your guests to try to arrive at the beginning of services as late-comers disrupt the services and disturb the worshippers. Those having special honors should be encouraged to arrive early in order to maintain the necessary continuity of the service.



In order to be fair to your child who may be somewhat tense as well as to the congregation, no one will be admitted to the sanctuary while the bar or bat mitzvah is chanting the Haftarah or delivering the *D'var Torah*. Worshippers are not permitted to enter the sanctuary during the Rabbi's sermon and during certain other parts of the service.

OTHER CELEBRATIONS AT THE B'NAI MITZVAH SERVICE

The family should be aware that it is possible that there will be other congregants celebrating simchas, for example, aufruf, birthdays, anniversaries, baby namings, etc. There also may be synagogue sponsored programming. Please understand that this in no way diminishes the celebration for the bar or bat mitzvah. If you have any questions, please contact the Rabbi.

ETIQUETTE IN OUR SANCTUARY AND THROUGHOUT OUR BUILDING

Adath Israel Congregation is a "*Makom Kadosh*", a holy sanctuary. As such, there is appropriate decorum and dress when visiting and/or worshipping in our sanctuary. We request that you demonstrate your respect by adhering to the following guidelines:

Decorum

Conduct yourself with respect for the members of the congregation and the holiness of the sanctuary.

- It is inappropriate to enter or exit the sanctuary when the congregation is standing.
- In the context of a worship service, applause is inappropriate.
- Refrain from running, shouting, and inappropriate language.

Modest Attire is appropriate.

- Bare midriffs, strapless tops, shirts with inappropriate language, pictures or gestures, torn clothing, baseball hats, shoes with wheels or cleats should not be worn.
- It is customary for all men and boys (and optional for women and girls) to wear *kipot* (*yarmulkes*) and for Jewish males (optional for females) to wear *tallitot* (age of *Bar /Bat Mitzvah* and older).

Cell Phones

- All **electronic devices** should be turned off or placed on vibrate mode **prior to entering the building** during *Shabbat* and Holidays.

Photography is permitted on *Shabbat* or Holidays **one hour after** the conclusion of the *Oneg Shabbat* or *Kiddush*.

We welcome and encourage you to bring children to services. Help them learn appropriate behavior in the sanctuary. Please do not permit children to:

- Stand on the furniture.
- Run in and out of the sanctuary.
- Bring disruptive toys, games, drawing, and crafts into the sanctuary.
- Mishandle *siddurim* (prayer books) and other sacred texts.
- Eat, drink or chew gum in the sanctuary.

Please direct your questions to Rabbi Benjamin Adler.

We are very appreciative of your attention and wish you *Shalom*!

THE NEXT SHABBAT

Please join us in services the week following your child's bar or bat mitzvah in recognition of his or her new obligations as a Jewish adult. It is an Adath Israel tradition to offer an *aliyah* to the child on the Shabbat following his or her bar or bat mitzvah celebration.

AFTER THE BAR OR BAT MITZVAH

Here are some ideas on how your child can embrace his or her new responsibilities in a positive and fulfilling way:

- Continue to study Torah and Judaism in our Confirmation program
- Commit to support those who are in mourning or commemorating yahrzeits by helping to make minyan on a regular basis
- Offer to read Torah or Haftarah at upcoming services
- Learn a new service, such as Kabbalat Shabbat or Musaf, and lead the congregation in prayer
- Give tzedaka to support the causes in which your child believes
- Volunteer time in support of causes that make the world a better place
- Be active in USY
- Serve as a madrich/madricha assistant in our Religious School
- Attend a Jewish camp such as Camp Ramah
- Participate our local Jewish Community Youth Foundation and Gesher LeKeshet programs



PLANNING YOUR B'NAI MITZVAH CELEBRATION

AVOIDING HURT FEELINGS

Given the small size of our Religious School classes, we urge you to invite every child in the class to the bar or bat mitzvah service and to the reception held in his or her honor. To exclude one or more children may cause hurt feelings.

INVITATIONS

We ask that invitations include the start time of services (9:30 AM for Shabbat morning services) and a statement of our dress code and code of conduct. The Rabbi would be happy to suggest appropriate Hebrew text or Biblical verses (in English or Hebrew) for use on the invitation. Should you desire them, printing services are available by contacting the gift shop.

When planning your simcha, please be mindful of the Religious School schedule so that there will be no conflicts. Sunday celebrations should begin after 1:00PM.

When planning your simcha, please be mindful of the Religious School schedule so that there will be no conflicts. Sunday celebrations should begin after 1:00PM.

A sheet with directions to Adath Israel as well as our dress code and code of conduct that can be included with invitations is available in the synagogue office.

KIPPOT (YARMULKES)

The synagogue provides plain, black *kippot* for all those attending services. Personalized *kippot* in your choice of colors can be special ordered through the Adath Gift Shop. You may also order these on your own through the vendor of your choice.



THROWING CANDY



It is traditional but not mandatory for wrapped soft kosher candy to be thrown at the Bar/Bat Mitzvah after his/her completion of the Haftarah. You can obtain these candies, wrapped and tied with ribbon to match your color scheme, for a fee of \$75.00 for 100 pieces, \$113.00 for 150 pieces, or \$150.00 for 200 pieces by contacting Women's League. They will also provide up to four decorated baskets for your candy for \$18.00.

All you need to do is provide several pretty baskets and arrange for two to four family members (usually younger children) to pass the candy out to the congregation. Please instruct them to keep noise to a minimum when handing out the candy to minimize disruption.

Candy should be passed out as the Rabbi is introducing the Haftarah.

If you prefer to wrap the candies yourself, please adhere to these rules:

- All candy must be kosher and approved by the Rabbi
- All candy must be soft and individually wrapped
- Chocolate is not permitted since it tends to stain the carpet

FLOWERS – JFCS BASKETS

The Bar/Bat Mitzvah family provides fresh or dried flowers or plants for the Bimah. These flowers may be used in the Social Hall after services on Shabbat morning. **If you wish to have flowers donated to the Greenwood House after your affair, please let the Synagogue know in advance.**



As an alternative to flowers, we encourage you to consider Jewish Family and Children's Services' program that provides beautiful Tzedakah baskets for use on the Bimah and as centerpieces. A donation to the area's Kosher food pantry performs a valuable mitzvah and will dress up your event too. You may contact JFCS directly or through the Adath Israel Catering Chair.

JUDAICA ITEMS

Judaica items and religious supplies are available in our Adath Israel Judaica Shop. If there is something that you want but do not see, it can easily be ordered by Fran Abramson.

The Judaica Shop also has a Bar-Bat Mitzvah Registry (Wish List). Fill out the form with Fran and it will be kept on file in the so that your guests can purchase gifts for your child.

Gift certificates are also available.

SPECIAL HANDOUTS AT THE BAR/BAT MITZVAH

Many families choose to personalize their simcha by preparing a special pamphlet or other writing to distribute to the congregation as part of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah service. These hand-outs traditionally include information for relatives and friends (members and non-members alike) about the service, the Torah and Haftarah readings, the Bar/Bat Mitzvah process, often the Bar/Bat Mitzvah project, etc. All hand-outs must be submitted to the Rabbi for his prior approval to ensure accuracy and appropriateness.

Copies of hand-outs distributed in the past at Bar/Bat Mitzvah services are available in the office. In addition, we have available a brochure describing services at Adath Israel which can be distributed to your guests. The family is responsible for the printing of the hand-outs (programs).

INFORMATION FOR YOUR GUESTS AND DRESS CODE

Your guests should be advised that:

- In the context of a worship service, applause is inappropriate.
- Modest attire is appropriate. Bare midriffs, strapless tops, shirts with inappropriate language, pictures or gestures, torn clothing, baseball hats, shoes with wheels or cleats should not be worn.
- It is customary for all men and boys (and optional for women and girls) to wear *kippot* (*yarmulkes*) and for Jewish males (optional for females) to wear *tallitot* (age of *Bar /Bat Mitzvah* and older).
- Cell phones and all electronic devices should be turned off or placed on vibrate mode prior to entering the building during shabbat and holidays.

CONTRIBUTIONS IN HONOR OF THE BAR/BAT MITZVAH

Because Tzedakah is such an important part of the Jewish tradition, it is customary to make a contribution to the congregation in honor of a child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Such a contribution can be in any form you choose--for example, a leaf on the Tree of Life, the Development or General Fund, the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, the Hazzan's Music Fund or the Religious School Fund. Contributions also are traditionally made in honor of the simcha by your friends, as well as to mark your own child's accomplishments.

TREE OF LIFE

You may wish to have your child's name and bar or bat mitzvah date on our Tree of Life in the lobby outside the sanctuary. For information on the minimum donation required for this purpose, contact the synagogue office.



ADATH ISRAEL CONGREGATION IS A NO SMOKING FACILITY

HOW CAN I GET MORE HELP?

Everyone here at Adath Israel is eager to help you plan and conduct a celebration that will be meaningful and memorable. Please feel free to consult with our staff and willing volunteers as often as necessary. There are also a number of books offering guidance on how to plan a Bar/Bat Mitzvah celebration, most of which are available in the Synagogue library, including the following:

Davis, Judith. *Whose Bar/Bat Mitzvah Is This, Anyway?: A Guide for Parents Through a Family Rite of Passage*

Goldin, Barbara Diamond. *Bat Mitzvah: A Jewish Girl's Coming of Age*

Jeiven, Helen. *Checklist for a Perfect Bar Mitzvah*

Kimmel, Eric. *Bar Mitzvah: A Jewish Boy's Coming of Age*

Lanckton, Alice K. *Bar Mitzvah Mother's Manual* (includes a chapter on children with special needs)

Lewit, Jane and Epstein, Ellen R. *The Bar-Bat Mitzvah Planbook*

Salkin, Rabbi Jeffrey K. *Putting God on the Guest List: How to Reclaim the Spiritual Meaning of Your Child's Bar or Bat Mitzvah*

Mazel Tov

CATERING

While our emphasis always remains upon your child's participation in our religious services, we also know that this is an occasion for partying and celebration. These celebrations include hosting the Friday evening Oneg Shabbat and the Saturday morning Kiddush and could extend to using the facilities of the Adath Israel Social Hall for a luncheon or dinner for your guests or even for a kids' party in the evening after the Bar/Bat Mitzvah. As you and your family attend services regularly in the year before the Bar/Bat Mitzvah, you will be able to observe the wide variety of celebrations that are possible in our building. Come often, look, ask questions and use your creativity!

We are here to help you prepare for these important events. This Handbook describes the general rules that apply to the use of Adath Israel's facilities. However, because every occasion and every family is unique, please feel free to contact our office for guidance and to discuss any questions you might have about the Social Hall, catering, music, etc.

The office staff would be more than happy to assist you in anyway, but please be conscientious of their time and if you have several questions or concerns, please call and make an appointment. In addition, please notify the office in advance of planned meetings at the Synagogue with caterers and other vendors to ensure that the facility is open (remember that, after business hours, volunteers open and lock the building, so please be considerate). The office hours are Monday – Thursday 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM and Friday 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

As you plan your celebration, please remember to BE SENSITIVE to the feelings of your fellow Synagogue members and, especially, the other children in your child's class.

FRIDAY NIGHT ONEG & SHABBAT MORNING KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP

COST

- The cost of sponsoring the Friday night Oneg and Shabbat morning Kiddush is \$500. This cost will cover you for the congregation plus 50 of your guests.
- If you are expecting 50 to 100 guests, the cost is \$8 per person.
- If you are inviting over 100 guests, your Kiddush must be catered by one of our approved caterers.
- You must inform the Director of synagogue Operations and Catering Chair of your plans 3 months prior to the B'nai Mitzvah date..
- All Oneg and Kiddush fees must be paid in full 30 days prior to the B'nai Mitzvah date.
- If you are sponsoring a Kiddush lunch for the entire congregation, you will only be charged a \$180 fee for the Oneg.

Friday Night Oneg

It is the responsibility of the family of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah to host the Oneg Shabbat for the entire congregation following Friday evening services. The Oneg can be as plain or fancy as you wish. The standard Oneg includes fruit, a variety of baked goods, coffee, tea, hot water, paper goods, set up and clean up. All baked goods and creamer products for Friday night are parve (neither meat nor dairy), as well as kosher.

As you make your plans for the Oneg Shabbat, please be aware that Women's League has bud vases available for your use and that the tables can be arranged in the Social Hall as you specify.

Please provide the office with your proposed table arrangements/floor plan at least one week before the simcha (if you are using a caterer, coordinate floor plans with him/her).

Enhanced Oneg or Kiddush

Should you wish to expand your Oneg or Kiddush options, our in-house catering staff will be delighted to meet with you to accommodate greater customization of your menu. Pricing for an enhanced Oneg or Kiddush is based on your food selection and staffing requirements.

Kiddush After Shabbat Morning Services

It is also the responsibility of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah family to host the Kiddush for the entire congregation after Shabbat morning services. Again, this may be as simple or elaborate as you wish. The kiddush includes a light luncheon featuring a warm entrée, salads, sweets and fruit, all necessary staffing, paper/plastic goods and plastic table cloths. Our facilities have been designed to facilitate hosting a luncheon for your guests in the Social Hall after services while permitting the entire congregation first to enjoy the Kiddush together in the Chandelier Hall outside the Sanctuary with the Bar/Bat Mitzvah family and their guests. You also might want to consider hosting a Kiddush luncheon for the entire congregation in place of the traditional congregational Kiddush and separate lunch. Few events can serve better to strengthen your child's ties to Adath Israel than to have the entire bar/bat mitzvah celebration within the building.

Services end on Saturday morning between 12:15 PM and 12:30 PM. If you are going elsewhere to celebrate with your family and guests, you are still required to have a Kiddush for the congregation. Also, you should stay long enough to greet the congregants and receive their mazal tovs. Remember we are a community.

Catered Kiddush

If you are inviting more than 100 guests or wish to cater a luncheon for the entire congregation you will not be charged the \$500 Kiddush fee. You will be charged \$180 for your Oneg fee.

Please remember that all deliveries must be made to Adath Israel by 1:00 PM on the Friday afternoon of the simcha, unless an earlier time is required due to a Yom Tov or other event.

KASHRUT

Adath Israel has a talented in-house catering staff to deliver tasty and tasteful meals and is a wonderful option that is both quite competitively priced and a help to the synagogue. It is important to note that Adath Israel's kitchens are strictly kosher and no outside food may be brought in unless it is through an approved kosher caterer or sealed with a hechsher and inspected by the Kitchen Manager, Catering Chair or the Rabbi. We ask that you please understand that no food may be brought from home, even if you keep kosher at home.

DELIVERIES

Flowers, decorations, *kippot* (yarmulkes), centerpieces, balloons all food and drink and any other deliveries must be brought to the synagogue before 1:00 PM on Friday (unless an earlier time is required due to a Yom Tov or other event --please double-check the delivery times with the office in advance of your simcha). No items can be brought to the synagogue after Shabbat has begun. Also, please note that nothing can be removed from the synagogue until after the end of Shabbat. This includes centerpieces and leftover food and beverages. Please make sure that all involved (family, guests, caterer, florist and others) are aware of these policies.

PRIVATE RENTALS

The Social Hall is an ideal setting for a Bar/Bat Mitzvah celebration. It can accommodate 250 persons at a sit-down meal, with room for a dance area. Tables and chairs are available, to be arranged as you like. **YOU MAY ONLY CONTRACT WITH ONE OF OUR APPROVED CATERERS.** Please come to the Adath Israel office to obtain more information about our beautiful facilities. In addition, the office has photographs of various simchas held at Adath Israel showing the versatility of the Social Hall and the wonderful atmosphere that can be created within our own facility.

The Social Hall and Chandelier Hall are quite flexible and allow a wide range of décor. Several rental companies in the area are familiar with Adath Israel and can assist with everything from lighting to pipe and drape screening. All vendors accessing the building – be they band, DJ, caterer, florist, etc. – must have a current insurance certificate on file with the Adath Israel Office.

Adath Israel has a small but tasteful assortment of linens available for rental. The charge for linens is currently \$10 per piece. In order to preserve the building we ask that no decoration be hung from the walls. Hanging items from the ceiling would require the involvement of our custodial crew and may incur additional fees for their time.

We think you will find Adath Israel's rates for private event usage very competitive as compared with other venues throughout Mercer and Bucks Counties. If you are a member of the congregation currently in good standing, we ask for a \$750 flat room rental fee. This includes use of tables and chairs, setting up and breaking down the room and a

standard custodial service following the event. Use of the kitchen by an approved caterer is also included. At 50% deposit will hold the space on the calendar. Any exceptional conditions may result in an additional custodial cleanup fee.

Priority use of the Social Hall is reserved for the family of a Bar/Bat Mitzvah--but we need to know your plans at least **six months to one year before the event**. Contact the office to formally reserve the space for your simcha as soon as you begin to make your plans. After reserving the use of the Social Hall, a formal contract for use of the Synagogue facilities must be submitted no later than **six months** prior to your simcha. Copies of the facility usage agreements, together with a list of all fees, are attached to this Handbook. Please cooperate with our office by sending the contracts to us as soon as possible and making sure that the office is apprised of all your plans (caterer, music, etc.) as they are finalized.

Please note that the Memorial Gallery may not be used.

APPROVED KOSHER CATERERS

Barclay Catering

10960 Dutton Road, Philadelphia, Pa. 19154 (215) 612-2837
Barclaycaterers.com

Betty the Caterer

7037 North Broad Street, Philadelphia, PA 19126 (215) 224-8400
PeterO@bettythecaterer.com

18 Carat Caterers / Lox Stock & Deli

228 Ryders Lane, Milltown, NJ 08850 (732) 214-8900
JR18caratcaterer@aol.com

Panache Catering

4510 Adams Circle, Bensalem, PA 19020 (215) 633-7100
Foodarama.com

Signature Creations/Deli-King of Linden

628 W. Saint Georges Avenue, Linden, NJ 07036 (908) 925-3909
eddie@signaturecreationscaterers.com

LIABILITY INSURANCE

Vendor Insurance

For the protection the Synagogue, we require that all vendors (caterer, musicians or DJ, photographer, etc.) carry liability insurance. As you make your plans, please be sure that such insurance is in effect and provide this information to the office well in advance of the event. Vendors who frequently work at Adath Israel will most likely have their insurance information on file in the office - but be sure to double-check before you sign any contracts for such services. Vendors are required to list Adath Israel by name as an additional insured.



Event Insurance

In order to protect and preserve the synagogue and our relationship, we require that all private events be insured with an event liability insurance policy holding Adath Israel harmless in the event of an injury or damage. This is commonly known as "wedding insurance" and can even be bought on-line or a rider provided by your insurance company. A copy of the completed policy naming Congregation Adath Israel as the event location should be furnished to the synagogue administrator along with final payment 30 days prior to your event. The policy should carry a \$1 mil limit and should specifically name Adath Israel as an additional insured. This coverage will protect you and Adath in the event of damage or personal injury.

MUSIC & PHOTOGRAPHY

Music in the Social Hall is permitted one hour after the conclusion of the Friday evening or Shabbat morning service. All entertainment must be "in good taste" and must be approved by Rabbi Adler. A DJ can be permitted on Shabbat afternoon, subject to Rabbi's approval.



Photography and audio-visual recordings are also permitted on Shabbat one hour after the end of Friday evening or Shabbat morning services. Sound recording may be arranged in consultation with Hazzan Katlin.

Since photography is not permitted before or during services on Shabbat, please call the synagogue office to make arrangements for your photographer to come and take photographs during the week prior to the bar or bat mitzvah service. If you wish your child to have a photograph taken with the Rabbi and Hazzan, speak with them directly.

CANDLE LIGHTING

Please be aware that lighting of candles on a Bar/Bat Mitzvah cake is not permitted on Shabbat. Family and friends can be honored by placing a flag or flowers in the cake or placing flowers in a vase.



EASELS, SIGN IN BOARDS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

Although there can be no sign-in board in the Synagogue on Shabbat, guests can be asked to pin their place cards to a board. Feel free to speak with the Rabbi for other suggestions and ideas to add to the specialness of the occasion.

There are easels available for pictures and other visual displays. Please contact the office in advance to arrange for an easel.



FORMS

BECOMING A BAR AND BAT MITZVAH:

A Chronology

Adath Israel Congregation

The following is based on a typical student. Your exact dates may vary.
For student with learning differences, accommodations will be made.

Late Winter of 5 th Grade	Dates for B'nai Mitzvah are mailed out (approximately 2 years in advance)
Spring of 5 th Grade	Orientation meeting for parents: Bar/Bat Mitzvah Handbook is distributed
6 th Grade – 7 th Grade	Shabbat Attendance Children who attend 30 or more services in the year prior to the Bar/Bat mitzvah receive a special kippah
6 th Grade	Family B'nai Mitzvah Seminars: Discuss B'nai Mitzvah expectations. Learn about the Shabbat Service, D'var Torah, Tefillin, Mitzvah Projects, etc. Parents and children required to attend
Fall of 6 th Grade	Hazzan's Trope Class Approximately 6 sessions Sunday mornings and Tuesday afternoons (for both Religious School and Day School students)
Winter of 7 th Grade: 1 Sunday	Family Seminar What's next? the Post B'nai Mitzvah Experience
12 months before Bar/Bat Mitzvah	Choose a Mitzvah Project With the guidance and assistance of the Rabbi and/or Hazzan
9-10 months before	Weekly tutoring begins with initial family meeting with the Hazzan Once a week half-hour lessons
9-10 months before	Initial family meeting with the Rabbi An opportunity to discuss the Mitzvah Project, as well as any questions
3 months before	Family meeting with the Rabbi: Ask any questions, go over details, preparation of the d'var Torah, schedule follow-up meetings
1 month before	Student will have completed studies preparing for the Bar or Bat Mitzvah
1 month before	Meeting with Student and Rabbi to finalize the D'var Torah
1 week before	Final Run-Through in the Sanctuary with the Hazzan
1 week before	Pictures in the Sanctuary with the Rabbi and Hazzan
Your Bar or Bat Mitzvah Date	MAZAL TOV!!!

Please remember that all dates are approximate. Your chronology may be different based upon the holiday calendar, school vacations, summer scheduling, synagogue events, etc.

For any questions, contact Rabbi Adler at 609-896-4977 or rabbiadler@adathisraelnj.org

B'NAI MITZVAH CHECKLIST

ONE TO TWO YEAR COUNTDOWN:

- _____ Choose reception location – (Adath Israel or other)
- _____ Choose caterer from approved caterer list
- _____ Select Disc Jockey/Band
- _____ Decide on other entertainment
- _____ Parent meeting

SIX MONTH TO ONE YEAR COUNTDOWN:

- _____ Send in Contract Form to Adath Israel
- _____ Select Florist
- _____ Select Photographer
- _____ Select Videographer
- _____ Select Decorator/Party Planner
- _____ Order Tallit and Tefillin for Bar/Bat Mitzvah Child

FOUR MONTH COUNTDOWN:

- _____ Send Vendor List Form to Adath Israel along with a copy of the vendor's liability insurance.
- _____ Select/Order Invitations (Please ask for a proof of invitation for accuracy)
- _____ Make hotel arrangements for out-of-town guests (It is nice to send out the information with invitations.)
- _____ Design maps and directions to Adath Israel and reception facility if not having affair at Adath Israel.
- _____ Select favors

THREE MONTH COUNTDOWN:

- _____ Set-up appointment with Rabbi to discuss service, honors, and child's speech
- _____ Bar/Bat Mitzvah child should start speech
- _____ Address invitations
- _____ Order favors
- _____ Order Kippot

TWO MONTH COUNTDOWN:

- _____ Mail invitations
- _____ Start preparing personalized pamphlet for Services (optional)
- _____ Let Adath Israel Office Staff know of any changes in your contracted plans
- _____ Let Adath Israel Office Staff know time vendors need to be in building for staff scheduling

B'NAI MITZVAH CHECKLIST (CONTINUED)

- _____ Order candies to throw
- _____ Prepare parent's speech

ONE MONTH COUNTDOWN:

- _____ Appointment with Rabbi to finalize speech
- _____ Order baked goods and other items for Oneg Shabbat & Kiddush
- _____ Purchase non-food items for Oneg & Kiddush (See list)
- _____ Make arrangements for transportation for children & out of town guests (If reception is not at Adath Israel)
- _____ Make final arrangements with caterer
- _____ Make final arrangements with florist
- _____ Make final arrangements with decorator
- _____ Make final arrangements with disc jockey/band
- _____ Make final arrangements with photographer/videographer
- _____ Decide on table assignments/number of centerpieces
- _____ Write place cards/alphabetize
- _____ Wrap favors for children
- _____ Let the Adath Israel Office Staff know the day and time of formal photos
- _____ Let the Adath Israel Office Staff know the Women's League gift the Bar/Bat Mitzvah child would like. (Kiddush Cup or Candlesticks)
- _____ Decorate baskets for candies, kippot, and toiletry items for the Ladies Lounge all to be put out on Saturday morning
- _____ Make your own checklist for things to remember to bring to Adath Israel and reception location, if applicable

ONE WEEK COUNTDOWN:

- _____ Call Adath Israel Office Staff with your final guest count if you are having your affair here.
- _____ Submit floor plan or remind caterer to submit floor plan to Adath Israel by Tuesday before the Bar/Bat Mitzvah (Fax number: 609-896-1071)
- _____ Remind all vendors of delivery time by 1:00 PM on Friday. **This is very important!!!**
- _____ Bring Oneg Shabbat & Kiddush items after Tuesday of the week of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah

**TRY TO REMEMBER TO JUST RELAX!
THINGS REALLY DO GO SMOOTHLY!**



Aliyah and Honors Form

There are up to 18 honors in total available to your friends and family. At least two of these honors are for Adath congregants. If some of those you wish to honor are Adath members, you may make all the selections. The others go to congregational members who are commemorating Yahrzeit or celebrating events such as engagements, naming, etc. These honors will be assigned by the Gabbai (ritual assistant) of the service.

DATE: _____

SIMCHA: _____

Will there be a Tallit Presentation on Friday evening before the service begins? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If yes, who will present the Tallit? _____

Will there be a Generational Passing of the Torah at the conclusion of the Torah service? ☐ YES ☐ NO

HONOR	ENGLISH NAME	HEBREW NAME IF DESIRED Plus father and mother's Hebrew name Please indicate COHEN or LEVI
OPEN ARK		
CARRY TORAH		
1 st KOHEN		
2 nd LEVI		
3 rd SHELISHI		
4 th REVI'I		
5 th CHAMISHI		
6 th SHISHI		
7 th SHEVI'I (PARENTS OF BAR/BAT MITZVAH)		
8 th ACHARON*		
MAFTIR (BAR/BAT MITZVAH)		
HAGBAH (lifting the Torah - should be someone who is strong and experienced)		
G'LILAH (dressing the Torah)		
PRAYER FOR COUNTRY		
PRAYER FOR ISRAEL		
PRAYER FOR PEACE		
ADATH REPRESENTATIVE WHO WILL PRESENT GIFTS FROM THE WOMENS LEAGUE		
CARRY TORAH		
CLOSE ARK		

VENDOR LIST

Date of Affair/Event: _____

Type of Affair: _____

Name: _____

Home Phone: _____

Address: _____

Work Phone: _____

E MAIL: _____

CATERER: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Fax: _____

BAND/D.J.: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Fax: _____

FLORIST: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Fax: _____

DECORATOR: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Fax: _____

PHOTOGRAPHER: _____ Phone: _____

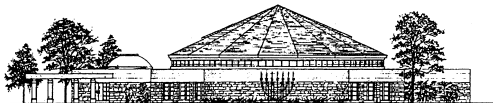
Address: _____ Fax: _____

VIDEOGRAPHER: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Fax: _____

Please fill out completely and return to the Adath Israel Congregation office within 6 months of your affair or event along with the necessary certificates of liability. If the sole service provided is delivery of items already prepared (not on synagogue premises), such as baked goods or floral displays, no certificate of liability insurance is needed.

Adath Israel Congregation, 1958 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648,
Phone: 609-896-4977 Fax: 609-896-1071



Adath Israel Congregation

B'NAI MITZVAH FACILITY RENTAL FORM

DATE OF AFFAIR: _____	NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____	
HOME PHONE: _____	WORK PHONE: _____
EMAIL: _____	CHILD'S NAME: _____

Check all that apply:	Rental Fee	Total
Oneg Shabbat & Kiddush Fee: _____	\$500.00	_____
Private Shabbat Dinner: _____	\$250.00	_____
Luncheon/Reception: _____	\$450.00	_____
Dinner/Reception _____	\$750.00	_____
(includes social hall 1, 2, 3, & Chandelier lobby):		
Administrative Hallway: _____	\$250.00	_____
Outside Area: _____	\$250.00	_____
Over contracted time: _____	\$100.00/hour	_____
Staffed Coat Room: _____	\$100.00	_____
Wall to be moved: _____	\$150.00	_____
Security (for over 75 people) _____	\$45.00 hour	_____
Subtotal:		_____
Deposit Received (50%):		_____
Balance Due:		_____

Facilities Required:

(Please check all that apply)

Sanctuary: _____	Chapel: _____	Kitchen: _____
Social Hall: _____	Library: _____	

Approximate number of guests: _____

Start Time: _____ Hours Needed: _____ Contracted Caterer: _____

All fees are non-refundable. Contract must be submitted with 50 percent deposit. Balance is due no later than 6 months prior to affair. If contract is signed less than 6 months prior to affair all fees are due in full. Except additional kitchen staff and over-time hours which will be billed separately. Vendor list must be submitted 6 weeks before affair.

Applicant is required to conform to our ritual and dietary laws (Kashrut). Any catered affair must be arranged with one of our approved caterers. No individual is permitted to prepare food in the synagogue kitchen. Under no circumstances may an individual prepare food at home for use in the synagogue.

Applicant(s) is/are responsible for any damage to the synagogue property.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Approved by: _____ Date: _____

Office Staff for Catering Committee

All food left in the Adath Israel kitchen will be donated to the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen or used for and Adath Israel event.



Adath Israel Congregation

ADATH ISRAEL CONGREGATION

1958 Lawrenceville Road, Lawrenceville, New Jersey 08648

ETIQUETTE IN OUR SANCTUARY AND THROUGHOUT OUR BUILDING

Adath Israel Congregation is a “*Makom Kadosh*”, a holy sanctuary. As such, there is appropriate decorum and dress when visiting and/or worshipping in our sanctuary. We request that you demonstrate your respect by adhering to the following guidelines:

DECORUM

Conduct yourself with respect for the members of the congregation and the holiness of the sanctuary.

It is inappropriate to enter or exit the sanctuary when the congregation is standing.

In the context of a worship service, applause is inappropriate.

Refrain from running, shouting, and inappropriate language.

MODEST ATTIRE is appropriate.

Bare midriffs, strapless tops, shirts with inappropriate language, pictures or gestures, torn clothing, baseball hats, shoes with wheels or cleats should not be worn.

It is customary for all men and boys (and optional for women and girls) to wear *kippot* (*yarmulkes*)
and

for Jewish males (optional for females) to wear *tallitot* (age of *Bar /Bat Mitzvah* and older).

CELL PHONES and ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES should be turned off or placed on vibrate mode prior to entering the building during *Shabbat* and Holidays.

PHOTOGRAPHY is permitted on *Shabbat* or Holidays one hour after the conclusion of the *Oneg Shabbat* or *Kiddush*.

We welcome and encourage you to bring children to services.

Help them learn appropriate behavior in the sanctuary. Please do not permit children to:

Stand on the furniture.

Run in and out of the sanctuary.

Bring disruptive toys, games, drawing, and crafts into the sanctuary.

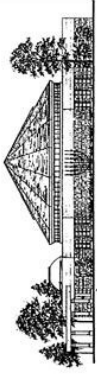
Mishandle *siddurim* (prayer books) and other sacred texts.

Eat, drink or chew gum in the sanctuary.

Please direct your questions to Rabbi Benjamin Adler.

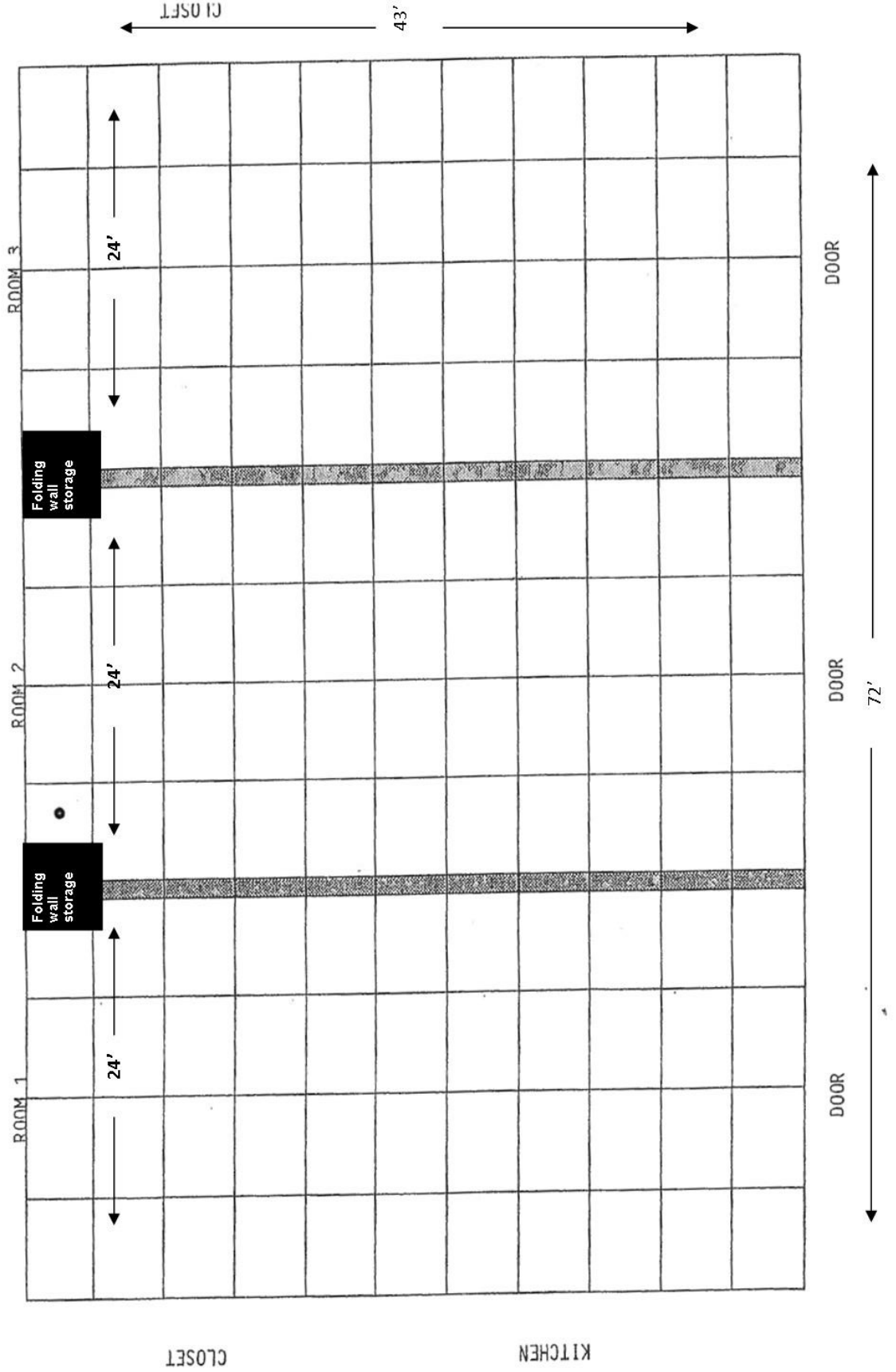
We are very appreciative of your attention and wish you *Shalom!*

ADATH ISRAEL CONGREGATION SET UP SHEET



EVENT NAME:
 CONTACT PERSON:
 PHONE #:
 EVENT DATE:
 EVENT TIME:

FLOOR LAYOUT FOR SOCIAL HALL THREE SECTIONS



Directions to Adath Israel

1958 Lawrenceville Road Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

From Pennsylvania, Maryland and Hopewell Township

- Take I-95 North to New Jersey
- Exit 7A, Route 206 South toward Trenton
- Proceed .8 mile on 206 South. Adath is on the left, just after the second gate to Rider University.

From New York and Northern New Jersey

- NJ Turnpike South to Exit 9 (New Brunswick)
- After toll, bear right to Route 18 North toward Route 1 South (stay in left lane).
- Take Route 1 South toward Trenton for approximately 22 miles.
- After passing the Quakerbridge Mall, take I-95 South (sign reads I-95 South to Philadelphia).
- Take Exit 7A, Route 206 South toward Trenton.
- Proceed .8 mile on 206 South. Adath is on the left, just after the second gate to Rider University.

Alternate route from New York and Northern New Jersey

- Take New Jersey Turnpike south to Exit 7A, the junction with route 195.
- Take route 195 west towards Trenton.
- At junction 295 North take 295 towards Pennsylvania, becomes route 95.
- Take Exit 7A, Route 206 south toward Trenton. Ignore the fact that you will have previously passed Trenton exits.
- Proceed on 206 south 0.8 mile to Adath Israel Congregation, which is on the left