

Temple Beth El Men's Club



M E D I A A L E R T

MEN'S CLUB ANNOUNCES PLAN TO REMEMBER LOST CHILDREN OF THE HOLOCAUST

For Immediate Release

West Palm Beach, FL (September 9, 2011) — Temple Beth El Men's Club today announced the inauguration of a landmark program aimed at remembering the "lost children of the Holocaust." The program, called "Remember A Child," pairs young victims who perished during the Nazi genocide with participants who agree to recite prayers in their memory on a regular basis. It is customary for Jews to memorialize lost loved ones by reciting a special prayer, known as "Kaddish," on the anniversary of the loved one's death plus during four Jewish holidays throughout the year. In the case of these young Holocaust victims, it was often the case that the entire family was murdered, leaving no one behind to recite the memorial "Kaddish" in their behalf.

"By reciting Kaddish in memory of these young victims, we are not only fulfilling a commandment," commented Men's Club president, Marvin Adler, "we are also performing a powerful act of reaffirmation that will serve to strengthen the memory of the Holocaust." The program's organizers point out that the Remember A Child program builds Holocaust awareness in a unique and very personal way. Participants are provided with an information packet containing background data about their assigned child. In this way the magnitude of the crime is brought down to a personal, and more meaningful, level.

"I believe it was Josef Stalin who said that one man's death is a tragedy, but the death of a million men is merely a statistic," commented Temple Beth El Rabbi Leonid Feldman. "The cruel murder of one and a half million innocent children, all under age eighteen, is such an enormous image that the mind simply cannot grasp it. This program makes remembering the Holocaust a one-to-one proposition."

There is no cost to enroll in the program. The only qualification is that the participant be a Jewish adult over Bar or Bat Mitzvah age. Participants are asked to sign an agreement in which they agree, to the best of their ability, to reciting the Kaddish prayer, and lighting a memorial (Yahrzeit) candle five times each year. In addition to the background testimony and a photo of the child, if available, participants receive a certificate confirming their commitment along with a wallet card listing the upcoming dates when they are asked to recite the Kaddish prayer in memory of their child. Participants are asked to locate another person to carry on the commitment when they are no longer willing or able to do so.

The Temple Beth El Men's Club initiative is the first fully implemented program of its kind in the country. "We regard this as a pilot program," said Carl Willner, chairman of the Remember A Child committee,

himself a Holocaust survivor. “We have generated great interest in Remember A Child from other men’s clubs, both local and around the country, as well as from other sorts of organizations. Once the program is fully up and running, it is our intention to make it available to other groups. Unfortunately there is an ample supply of victims in the database.”

Willner was referring to the Central Database of Names operated by Yad Vashem, the Israeli Holocaust memorial center in Jerusalem. Yad Vashem has, for many years collected the names and background information about Holocaust victims. The Remember A Child program searches for young victims in the database and then assigns each to a participant.

The Remember A Child program will be unveiled to Temple Beth El congregants during this week-end’s Sabbath services. Members will be invited to sign up and participate. Rabbi Feldman will explain that there will be a special portion of the upcoming Yom Kippur service in memory of the young victims and that Remember A Child participants will be asked to rise and recite the Kaddish prayer in unison.

“The Talmud teaches us,” Rabbi Feldman observed, “that ‘Whoever destroys a soul, it is considered as if he destroyed an entire world. And whoever saves a life, it is considered as if he saved an entire world.’ There is no more appropriate way of embodying this teaching than via this program. By saying Kaddish the death of the child will be imparted with meaning and the horror of the Holocaust will become more focused and far less anonymous.”

For further information and to obtain a Participation Agreement, please visit:

www.rememberachild.com

or contact:

Temple Beth El
2815 N. Flagler Drive
West Palm Beach, FL 33407
Ph.: (561) 833-0339
Email: julesbethel@bellsouth.net

The following individuals are available for interviews:

Marvin Adler, President
Temple Beth El Men’s Club
madler19@gmail.com
Ph.: 561- 281-9163

Rabbi Leonid Feldman
Rableonid@aol.com
Ph.: (561) 833-0339

Carl Willner, Chair
Remember A Child Committee
carlwillner@yahoo.com
Ph.: 561- 585-4143



TEMPLE
BETH EL
MEN'S
CLUB

2815 N. Flagler Drive
West Palm Beach, FL 33407

T (561) 833-0339

julesbethel@bellsouth.net
www.rememberachild.com

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. Who may participate in the program?

A. Any Jewish adult.

Q. What does it cost to participate?

A. Enrollment is free. Participants are invited to make a contribution to the Men's Club to help defray the costs of operating the program.

Q. How is it decided which child will be assigned to me?

A. Victims are assigned on a random basis.

Q. What will be expected of me?

A. You will be asked to recite the Kaddish prayer during the Yizkor service four times per year plus on Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day). In addition, you will be asked to light a Yahrzeit (memorial) candle in memory of your child at those times.

Q. What do I do if I am no longer willing or able to continue my participation.

A. You will be asked to locate another individual willing to take over your commitment and to notify the Men's Club about the change.

Q. How may I learn more?

A. By visiting our website at www.rememberachild.com or by contacting Marvin Adler at madler19@gmail.com or Rabbi Leonid Feldman at rableonid@aol.com.

Q. What do I do next if I wish to participate?

A. Go to the website and download a Participation Agreement, or pick one up at the Temple Beth El office. Complete and submit it. You will shortly receive a Participant's Packet containing information about your assigned child, a wallet reminder card and a certificate, suitable for framing, documenting your participation.



TEMPLE
BETH EL
MEN'S
CLUB

2815 N. Flagler Drive
West Palm Beach, FL 33407

T (561) 833-0339

julesbethel@bellsouth.net
www.rememberachild.com

WHO: Temple Beth El Men's Club

WHAT: Remember A Child Program linking participants with "lost child" Holocaust victims

WHERE: Temple Beth El, 2815 N. Flagler, West Palm Beach

WHEN: To be unveiled at Sabbath services at 7:30 pm, Friday, Sept. 9, 2011

WHY: To personalize a crime of extreme magnitude. To promote Holocaust awareness. To fulfill Jewish teachings and commandments.

HOW: Each participant agrees to say a memorial prayer in behalf of his or her assigned child victim five times per year.



Temple Beth El Men's Club President,
Marvin Adler



Rabbi Leonid Feldman
Temple Beth El, West Palm Beach



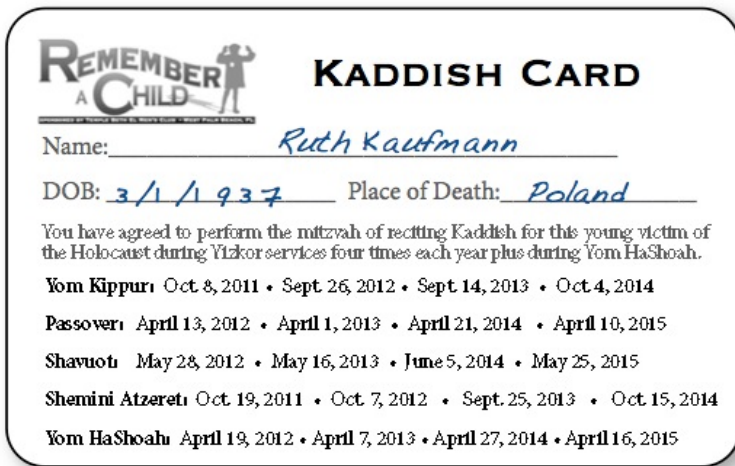
Chair of the
Remember A
Child Program
and Holocaust
Survivor,
Carl Willner



Remember A Child Logo



Sample certificate (reduced size)



Sample Wallet Card (actual size)

NOTE:
 High Resolution versions of all images available upon request.
 Contact: Peter Weisz
peter@peterweisz.com