



Dear B'nei Mitzvah Family:

Your Child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah is rapidly approaching and will be upon us before you know it! There are a number of ways in which Congregation Beth Am works with you to prepare for the Bar/Bat Mitzvah, among them is private tutoring sessions and the careful planning of the worship service itself.

One other important way for you to prepare for the big day is to attend worship services; both B'nei Mitzvah services and Friday evening worship services. By attending regularly prior to your family service, you will become familiar with our worship format as well as more knowledgeable of and comfortable with the worship service itself.

It is for these reasons that Beth Am maintains a requirement of attendance at a **minimum of ten worship services** during the 12 months prior to the Bar/Bat Mitzvah (Note the following services which do not count towards meeting this requirement: High Holy Day Services and Festival Services, as well as any service there is no Torah service.) At least three worship should be services in which a Bar/Bat Mitzvah takes place, with the remainder being Friday night worship. At these services, it is expected that parents will accompany their child. Services at which you are a helping family do count toward the required ten services. Please note that **five** worship services may be attended at another synagogue. When you attend worship services elsewhere, pay close attention to the similarities and differences to that synagogue and Congregation Beth Am.

At each worship service that you attend at Beth Am, please bring one of your Service Attendance Cards (these are in your Yellow Folders). Be sure to fill in the date, as well as what synagogue you attended in the center of the Jewish Star. At the conclusion of the service, you should give your card directly to Rabbi Bellows or Rabbi Prass as you wish them a *Shabbat Shalom*. We count on your full cooperation in this matter and look forward to seeing you at worship services on a regular basis.

B'Shalom,

Rabbi Lisa Sari Bellows