

# Centennial Program

## 7:00 Friday Evening

*Welcome* - Marjorie Ostrov, President and Board Members

*A short musical program*- presented by the Northern Lights Chamber Players  
Veda Zuponcic, Artistic Director

*Reception* - In the Berman Social Hall to greet friends, old and new

## 10:00 am Saturday Morning

*Shabbat Service* - Led by the Bonnie Reznick, Alan Milavetz & family with participation by B'nai Abraham Board members and guests (Thank you Bonnie for organizing this.)

*Kiddush* - lunch following the service sponsored by Barry and Jean Ostrov Steiger in honor of their 49th wedding anniversary

## 1:00 - 3:00 pm Saturday Afternoon

*Open House* - view the various exhibits relating to the history of the Virginia Jewish Community and B'nai Abraham Synagogue

*Art historian, Marilyn Chiat Ph.D.* who will provide historical perspective

*Mike Blehert*, project manager, and Larry Rude, stained glass artisan who will speak about the history and restoration of the windows

*Self guided tour of Jewish historical sites in Virginia* - arranged by Marilyn Chiat will follow

## 6:00 and 8:00 pm Saturday Evening

*Klezmer Concerts* - Millie and the Mentshen

1909-1910 under construction



1927 in use



**B'nai Abraham**, built during 1909-1910, is the last remaining synagogue structure on the Minnesota Iron Range. Built of red brick with beautiful stained glass windows, it was described in the local press at the time of its dedication as, "the most beautiful church (sic) on the Iron Range." Placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1985, the only synagogue in Minnesota to be so honored, B'nai Abraham continued to function as a synagogue until the last decade of the 20th century. The building was closed and deteriorating when a group of concerned people decided that an effort should be made to preserve it.

The **Friends of B'nai Abraham** was organized in 2005 and received not-for-profit status. Its mission is to restore and reuse the historic synagogue building as a museum and cultural center. The museum tells the story of the Jewish presence on Minnesota's Iron Range. The Friends partner, The Virginia Area Historical Society assists in the administration of the Museum and Cultural Center and its cultural and educational programs.

For more information go to: [www.IronRangeJewishHeritage.org](http://www.IronRangeJewishHeritage.org)  
Please help continue the resoration and provide for the future of B'nai Abraham. Click on the web site's "HOW YOU CAN HELP" link.



community reuse during restoration in 2009



mid-restoration spring of 2010