

MY VISIT TO THE MIKVEH

A Baby-Naming Celebration at
the Mayyim Hayyim Living
Waters Community Mikveh





Today I am going to the Mayyim Hayyim Mikveh for a baby-naming celebration.

What is a Mikveh?

A Mikveh is a special pool which Jewish people visit to celebrate important events like a baby-naming ceremony.





On the way, I stop to see the container where the rain water or melted snow collects.

The path leads to the main entrance of the Mikveh building. I walk in.

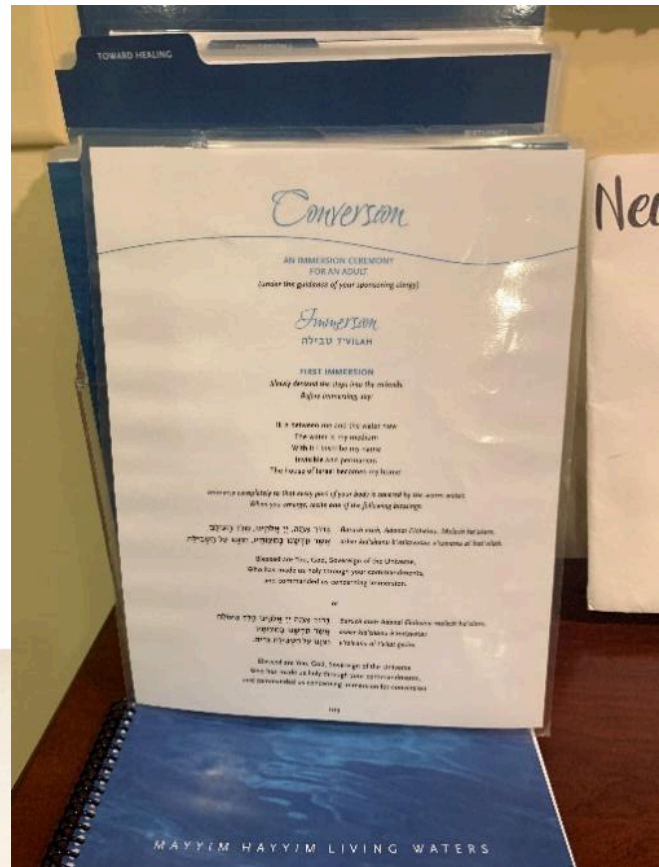


A nice lady greets me at the entrance. She invites me to take a seat in the waiting room.

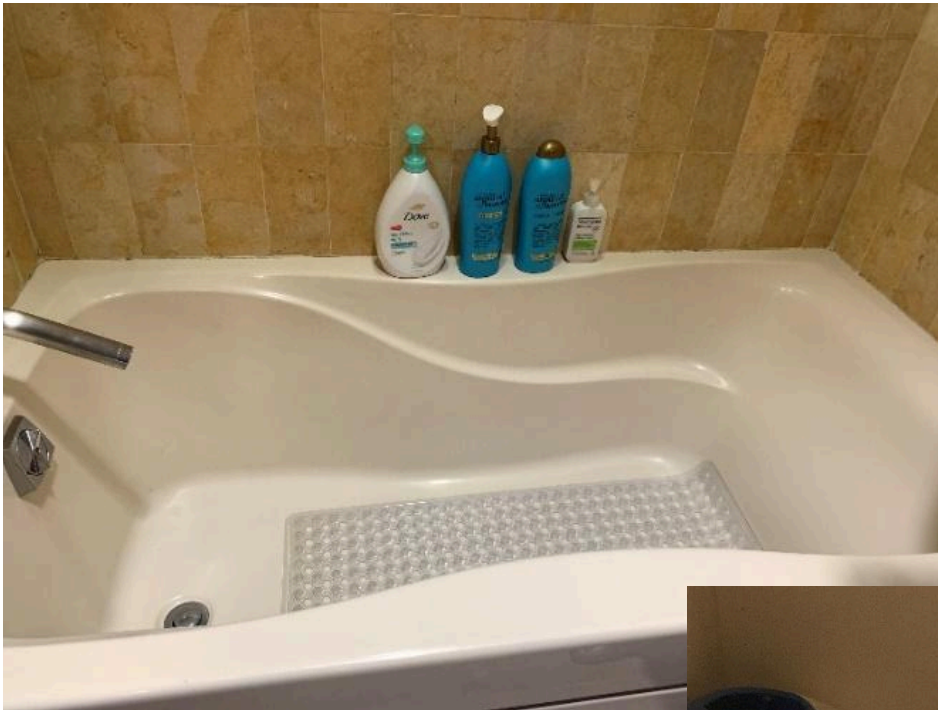


It is a nice and very comfortable room.

The parents of the baby are in the waiting room. They are choosing the different blessings for the baby.



Now we go into the preparation room where the parents and baby wash up and take a bath before they enter the Mikveh waters.



There is also a special preparation room for babies. They have nice animal towels!



Now, the parents and the baby go through the big brown, wood doors into the Mikveh.



This is the Mikveh pool. It is small.
The water is warm and very clean.
It has regular water and rain water.



There is no lifeguard in the Mikveh.



Oh, and there are no fish in the Mikveh!



To enter the water, the parent has to walk down seven stairs.



The parents can choose who they want to take the baby into the Mikveh. It can be:



- the mom



- The dad

- or sometimes both parents take the baby into the Mikveh!



If the baby has older brothers or sisters, they can also come into the Mikveh to watch the ceremony.



During the baby-naming ceremony the parent dunks the entire body of the baby quickly into the water.



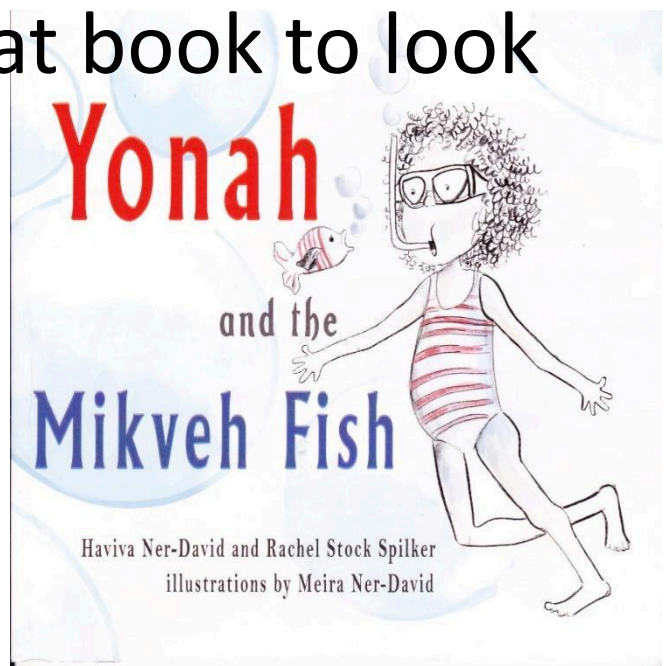
This is done three times. Each time a different blessing is said over the baby.

I didn't know how long the ceremony will take, so I go back to the waiting room.

They have a basket with books.



And I find a great book to look through!



After the ceremony, the parents and the baby leave the Mikveh to dry off and get dressed.

When they come out, I see that the baby's hair is still wet!



We then all gather in the celebration room to celebrate the baby's new Jewish name.

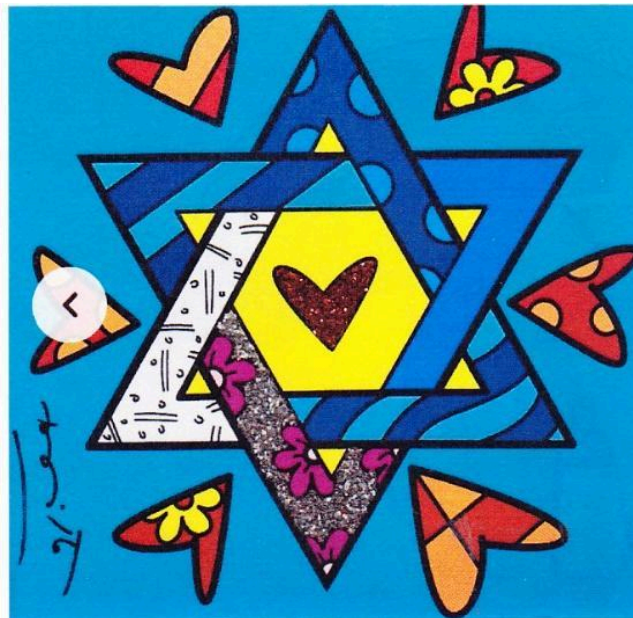


We make a kiddush, sing songs
and, of course, there is a lot of
good food!!!



When the party is over, we all say
goodbye!

I had a great time at the Mayyim
Hayyim Mikveh!



Acknowledgements:

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Mayyim Hayyim

LIVING WATERS COMMUNITY MIKVEH
PAULA BRODY & FAMILY EDUCATION CENTER

