

The South Street Temple **BULLETIN**

OCTOBER 1993

THISHRI / CHESHVAN 5754

THE CANTOR'S MESSAGE

Our Jewish tradition is very interesting. We have just come through the cycle of our High Holy Day observances with all of their ceremony. We have engaged in self evaluation, judging ourselves, trying to determine just what kind of people we are. We have heard the ancient sound of the shofar calling us to acknowledge our faults, to think about ways we might correct them, and to promise to work hard at avoiding the same mistakes in the future. We have sought the forgiveness of our friends and families for the harm we may have done to them. We have offered our own forgiveness to those who may have wronged us. And, we have asked the Holy One, the God of our ancestors and of all the universe, to forgive us the sins we may have committed. And when all of that was over we went our separate ways.

It is my hope that this year we will take the sound of the shofar, in particular the *t'kiah g'dolah*, the final sound of the shofar to heart. The final call is supposed to remain with us until next year, when once again we hear the stirring sound. Each time we make a decision that might affect the well being of another person, let us hear the sound of the shofar reminding us to be loving. Each time we act on one of

our decisions let us hear the sound of the shofar reminding us to be honest and fair. Each time we are tempted to do the wrong thing, in any area of our lives, let us hear the sound of the shofar reminding us to do the right thing in every area of our lives.

The sound of the shofar can be a powerful symbol for us. It can help us to be engaged in the building of a better world, a world of hope, a world of kindness. It can help us to reach our full potential as Jews - partners with God in the correction of the world, co-creators of a bright new future.

As it is written in our holy Torah:

*"You shall be to Me a nation of priests,
a holy people, a light to the nations."*

Let us all put these words into practice in our lives. Let us take to heart the many words of faith we spoke during the High Holy Days. If we were to adopt just the idea of a continuing return to God, an ongoing *t'shuva*, we would find that our lives would be better than before, and we would find that the lives of all those with whom we came into contact would be better as well. This is an idea that was repeated many, many times in the liturgy of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. This year, make the words you spoke, the words you prayed, come alive within you.

TODAH RABAH/MANY THANKS TO HIGH HOLY DAY PARTICIPANTS

We are all very grateful for the wonderful participation on the part of many of our congregants during the recent High Holy Day observances. We are especially grateful to the members of the Pulpit Committee for their hard work in coming up with the list of persons to participate, making the many phone calls, and mailing out the confirmations. The members of this year's committee were:

Charles Griffin
Estelle Kominsky
Kim Kuklin
David Schor

We are thankful to those who served as ushers during the High Holy Days:

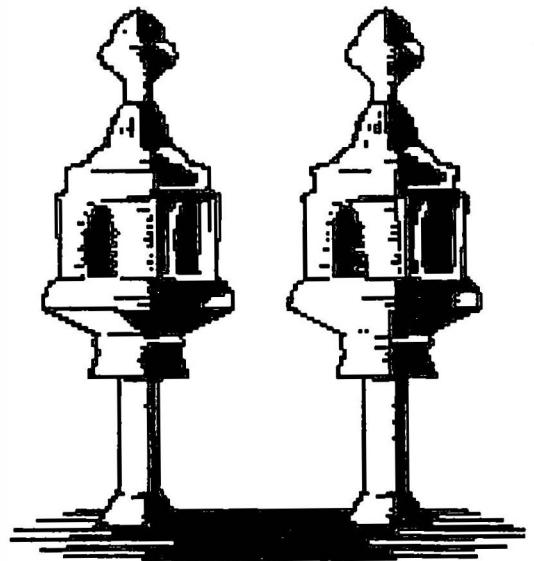
Alan Frank, Sim Gurewitz, Peter Hoffman, Suzanne Kalish, Bonnie Lapin, Bob Nefsky, Eva Sartori, Beth Schenker, Barbara Straus, and Vicki Weisz.

There were many other persons who took part in the services. Some of them were readers who helped with the liturgy, while others opened and closed the Ark, helped with the Torah scrolls, or recited the yahrzeit list during the memorial service. We are hopeful that no name was omitted and grateful to all for helping to make our services more meaningful and beautiful:

Rita Babbitz, Penny Berger, Gaby Berger, David Berkowitz, Audrey Berman, Bob Bleicher, Stacey Bleicher Beatty Brasch, Michael Cohen, Shirley Colombe, Abe Crable, Joe Eisenberg, Millard Eisler, Alan Frank, David Gasser, Cybele Gasser, Ben Gelber, Josh Griffin, Charles Griffin, Sandy

Grossbart, Susan Hall, Becky Hanna, Heidi Hergott, Nancy Intermill, Jerry Kohn, Rick Kohn, Simon Kominsky, Gary Kuklin, Kim Kuklin, Art Lapin, Sam Lipkin, Sadie Meyer, Rick Meyer, Nancy Meyers, Jess Nadelman, Robert Nefsky, Steve Robinson, David Rosenbaum, Ilse Rosenberg, David Rosenberg, Marsha Rosenberg, Marge Ross, Abby Schor, Allen Schreiber, Sue Schreiber, Dottie Shapiro, Robert Shapiro, Regina Simon, Graham Spanier, Linda Steinman, Michael Steinman, Sheldon Stick, Roberta Stick, Laurie Tavlin, John Tavlin, John Tenopir, Jim Thompson, Fran Thompson, Alan Tomkins, Debbie Ullman, B. J. Wallen, Elaine Wolf, Jim Wolf, Jay Wolf, and Leslie Young.

We are also extremely grateful to Michelle Schreiber for organizing the *Break the Fast* festivities, and to all those who responded to her calls.



A SPECIAL THANK YOU

George Hiatt has served as our organist for the past couple of years. He has been a tremendous asset to the Temple. Largely because of his efforts, which often extend well beyond what could be reasonably expected, we have been blessed with very beautiful music for our High Holy Day services. George has gone the extra mile, scheduling extra part rehearsals, providing carnations for the members of the choir, arranging for the services of Tom Kelly, the wonderful trumpeter who played during Rosh Hashanah services, rehearsing with our cellist, Tracey Sands, and in general being a real part of our Temple Family in so many ways.

George, thank you from all of us here at Temple. May you be blessed with many happy and healthy years. May we be blessed with your presence for many years to come.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Celebration For Peace

Come join us for the first event planned by the Temple Program Committee, **Sunday October 24** in the social of the Temple! To celebrate the recent events in the Middle East we thought it would be fun to have a party. Decorations will be compliments of our kids in Sunday School.

The festivities begin at 4:00 p.m. with folk dancing. Our leader is Orly Gilat and **EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE.**

Immediately following our dance session will be a pot luck dinner - with all Middle Eastern foods! If you need some suggestions for dishes to bring, here are a few: baba ganouj, baklava, couscous, felafel, humus, mousakka, spinach pie and tabouli. And if there's no time for cooking you can always bring pita bread, greek olives, feta cheese, or drinks.

Please call Audrie Berman (488-6885), Eva Sartori (486-1976) or Beth Schenker (435-6696) for more food ideas and to RSVP. We hope you can make both parts of this special event, but if not, our dinner will probably begin about 5:45 p.m. Hope to see you all there!

The Program Committee

SUKKOT CELEBRATION

**5:00 P.M., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2
5810 RANDOLPH STREET**

Once again, as it has been for the past five years, our Congregation will celebrate the Festival of Sukkot with a brief liturgy under the sukkah and a pot luck dinner at the home of Cantor and Julie Weissner. Each year this celebration has attracted more and more of our members. Last year nearly one hundred attended.

We hope that each of you will come to **5810 Randolph Street at 5:00 O'clock on Saturday, October 2nd** to join in the festivities.

A SUKKOT/SIMCHAT TORAH ODDITY

Scholars have revealed a strange coincidence in the close similarity between the Jewish observance of Sukkot/Simchat Torah and the "Green Corn" ceremony of the Yuchi Indian tribe. This tribe was expelled from Georgia in 1836 and settled in Oklahoma, where it continues to maintain its ancient religious traditions. Dr. Cyrus H. Gordon, head of Mediterranean studies at Brandeis University, drew this parallel:

As in Leviticus 23, the Yuchis celebrate (1) an eight day festival, (2) that starts on the fifteenth day (the full moon) of the holy harvest month; throughout the holiday, they (3) live in booths, (4) at the cultic center, where (5) they nurture a sacred fire. To this day the Jews also observe the first three of these features. They have given up the fourth, because after the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem and their dispersal throughout the world, they had no cultic center to which the pilgrimages could be made. The Jew have also discontinued the fifth point, the fire, because it is associated with the sacrifice, all of which have been suspended since the loss of the Second Temple in 70 C.E.

Like the Yuchis, observant Jews start their holiday on the full moon and dwell in booths. The latter are constructed with open spaces in the roof which are covered during the festival with branches, foliage, fruits and vegetables, much like the Yuchi booths.

Both the Jews and Yuchis form processions making circumambulations on the festivals. The Jews do this in the synagogue, the Yuchis, around the fire in the sacred cultic area. In the Yuchi processions, a couple of men carry each a large, foliage crested branch, as they accompany the

community in its procession. At other times during the celebration, larger numbers of people shake such foliage crested branches. The Jews have a similar custom: on Sukkot they shake the lulav, a foliage crested palm branch.

According to Dr. Gordon, the comparison is not intended to prove that the Yuchis are descendants of the "Ten Lost Tribes," but that the Yuchi celebration, like the biblical Festival of Sukkot, had its origin in the ancient Mediterranean area. Substantiating evidence is derived from the discovery in Georgia, in 1966, of the Metcalf Stone, inscribed with ancient Aegean writing, believed to reached America through the Mediterranean and the Gulf of Mexico.

Food for thought?

GARAGE SALE A SUCCESS!

This article should have run in last month's bulletin. We regret the omission.

Our Temple garage was a great success thanks to the efforts of Julie Weissner, who organized the event, and all of her helpers:

Rita Babbitz
Sara Doran
Bonnie Lapin
Renee Meyers
Jessica Meyers
Brian Spannier
Fran Thompson
Cantor Weissner
Dina Weissner

Many thanks to all of those who helped to make the sale a success, and many thanks to all who donated all of the items for the sale.

Vahrzeits

October 1

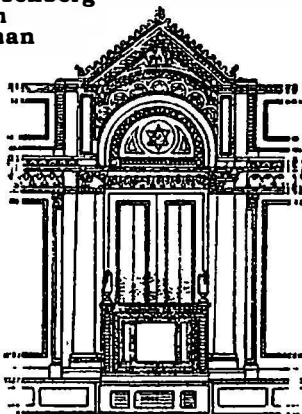
Lena Greene
Samuel Will Lew
Dov Osprat
Solomon Price
Hymen Rosenberg
Irwin Dubinsky

October 8

Louis E. Pepperberg
Robert Sage
Alex Messer
John Roth
Frances Storch Rosenberg
Lisa Barash
Emil J. Salzman

October 15

Stacy Lynn Berry
Adele Speier
Gabriel Ellinger
Tobie Bernstein
Flora Strodel



October 22

Lena Liepold
Gertrude Rodenberg
Sadie Sarbach
Ray Putzel Baum
Walter L. DeButts
Joan Hoffman

October 29

Jennie D. Bogen
Bess Katleman
David Diamond
George Morgan
Jake Breslow
Libby Halpern
Abram Quincy Schimmel

November 5

Wlter Wessel
Max Lehman
Norman Weiss
Wolfe Fink
Abraham Davidson
Lewis J. Messer
Joseph David Goldberg

May the Memory of the Righteous be for Blessing.

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE NEWS

Lincoln's Annual Crop Walk 3 Miles or 6.2 Miles Sunday, October 10, 1:30 p.m.

Please join your fellow Temple members for Lincoln's annual Crop Hunger Walk: Sunday afternoon October 10. Last year many Temple members enjoyed a beautiful Autumn afternoon of sunshine, exercise, and community fellowship with thousands of Lincolniters for a good cause. This year's walk promises an even more scenic choice of 2 new walking paths: 3 miles (with a Wendy's Restaurant conveniently located at the 1/2 way point, or a more vigorous 6.2 miles for the hearty. Both start from nearby Sheridan Lutheran Church at 3700 Sheridan Boulevard, beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Here in Lincoln, 25% of all Crop Walk are used by our own People's City Mission and the Lincoln Food Pantry system. Walkers can designate their remaining 75% among national Crop Walk participants: including the American Joint Distribution Committee, Project Hope, and CARE.

The first Crop Walk was held in 1979 in Bismark, North Dakota, and last year there were over 1,918 Crop Walks across America involving some 3.3 million people as participants and donors. More than 3,800 food banks and pantries received over \$3 million dollars from participants. In addition, national partner agencies provided food and other relief supplies, refugee assistance, and preventive health care in more than 70 countries from these donations.

You may register by calling Temple member **Millard Eisler (477-1415)**, or by coming to the Temple's Registration Desk at Sheridan

Lutheran before beginning your walk. There is no minimum registration fee; you may donate whatever you feel is appropriate. By registering early, Millard can send you a Sponsor Envelope to collect walk pledges from your friends and family.

Cant make it to the walk this year? You may still donate by pledging a per/mile or fixed amount to any Crop Walker. Please call soon with your registration or your pledge.

Only you can help your Temple's Social Action Committee to be a successful component of this great city wide effort.

Sincerely,

The Social Action Committee
John & Beatty Brasch
Millard Eisler
Linda & Michael Steinman

RECENT DONATIONS

The following donations have been made recently to our Congregation:

Memorial Fund

In memory of Robert Simon by
Fran & Jerry Milder

In memory of Samuel Bervin by
Sarah Bervin

Discretionary Fund

In memory of Robert Simon by
Robert Nefsky

In memory of Pauline Lipkin by

Robert Nefsky

In memory of Zella Rosenberg by
Robert Nefsky

In honor of the Temple by
Bill Brda

In honor of the Temple by
Quentin Mortensen

Thanks to Cantor Weissner by
Mt. Sinai Cemetery Association
of Hastings

Many thanks also to **Charles Griffin** who arranged with Christ United Methodist Church to provide baby sitting services during our High Holy Day worship. Members of our Congregation will return the favor during the Easter and Christmas seasons.

We are grateful to Robert Nefsky who provided flowers for our pulpit during the Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services. Thank you very much from all of us at Temple.

TODAH RABAH/MANY THANKS

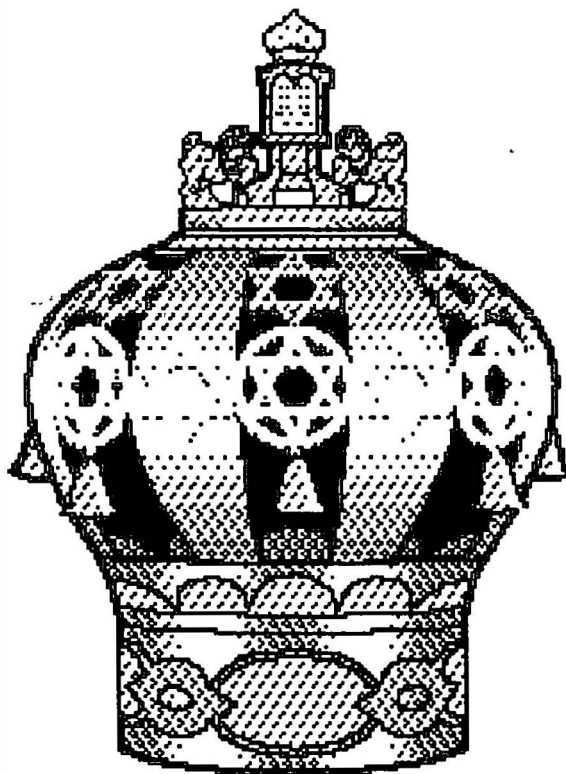
Our thanks are due to the following persons for their generous donation of a sound system for our sanctuary:

Ros Dubinsky
Sarge & Gayle Dubinsky
Joy & Jim Rodenberg
Bonnie & Art Lapin

All of us thank all of you very much for your wonderful contribution.

We are also grateful for the expertise and the labor of **Michael Cohen** and **Joe Eisenberg**, who installed the sound system mentioned above. Thank you very much.

A special thank you is due to **Eva Sartori** for arranging for the reception following our Rosh Hashanah Evening Service. We are all grateful to Eva for her service to the Temple.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

The shofar has sounded for the last time, the High Holy Days have passed, and the new year has begun. I would personally like to thank all those who contributed to making the holidays a meaningful experience for our Congregation. They are recognized by name elsewhere in the *Bulletin*, but I wanted to add this personal note of appreciation.

Judging from the early endeavors of the Temple's committees, the new year promises to be one filled with activity. The **Religious School** committee has seen its summer-long efforts come to fruition. More than 40 students are enrolled in the Religious School, and they are being instructed by a dedicated staff of teachers guided by an innovative and creative curriculum. The committee's Sunday morning New York Deli has also been a success. A lively group of parents and others filled the library on the first Sunday of Religious School and exhausted the supply of bagels.

The **House** committee has recently had an engineer study the building and is working on fixing the roof and restoring the round stained glass window that graces the front of the Temple. The committee will have a full report in the November issue of the *Bulletin*. Also in the November *Bulletin* will be a list of new members of the Congregation who have joined the Temple thanks to the efforts of the **Membership** committee.

The **Social Action** committee, which sponsored the food drive during the High Holidays, is currently in charge of the Temple's participation in the annual CROP Walk. I hope that many in our Congregation, especially our youth, will participate in this worthwhile event.

The **Ways and Means** committee has undertaken a major fundraising event -- the selling of Happenings Coupon Books. My family has purchased these books for several years, and we have found them to be real bargains. I hope you will too. Finally, the **Program** committee is planning an Israeli folk dance and Middle Eastern pot luck supper for later in the month. Details about all these events are elsewhere in the *Bulletin*. See you at the Temple.

Alan H. Frank
President

LAST DAY OF SUKKOT
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6
YIZKOR SERVICE - 10:00 A.M.

It has been a tradition among the Jewish People to observe Yizkor on the final day of the Festivals. Yizkor, Remembrance, is a special time set aside for recalling those who have gone before us. Those who wish to remember their loved ones in the company of others will gather at the Temple for a brief memorial service which will include special prayers of remembrance. Although Yizkor is not a custom that has gained wide observance among the members of our congregation it is, nevertheless, an important time for some of us. Those who plan to attend will be most appreciative if others who have not attended in the past would join them in celebrating the lives of those who have gone before them. Please take the time from your busy schedules to help make the Yizkor service more fulfilling for all.

**SIMCHAT TORAH
CELEBRATION
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7,
7:00 P.M.**

Everyone should come and "Rejoice in the Torah" on Simchat Torah. This post biblical holiday is observed, in Reform Judaism, on a biblically ordained special day known as *Sh'mini Atzeret* (the Eighth Day of Assembly). In reality it serves as the final conclusion of the High Holy Day season following, as it does, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Sukkot.

Simchat Torah is the time when we finish the reading of the Torah by chanting the last few verses of the Book of Deuteronomy and then begin the reading of the Torah anew by chanting the first few verses of the Book of Genesis. It is a wonderful symbol of the eternal continuity of the message of Torah and a sign of the continuity of our lives as Jews.

During the Simchat Torah celebration each person will have the opportunity to hold a Torah scroll as we make our seven *hakafot* (circuits) around the sanctuary. Thus shall we attach ourselves to the teaching of the Torah.

Please, each of you, young and old, plan on attending our Simchat Torah Celebration on **Thursday, October 7, at 7:00 p.m.**, and Rejoice in the Torah.

**SIMCHAT TORAH
by Ruth F. Brin**

We have finished the Torah now,
reading of our Teacher, Moses,
and we have begun to read again.

We have moved from Israel's story
to the creation of light,
resolved to make a new beginning
in our study of Torah.

Before God created us,
God created time,
evening and morning.

God created the stars and planets
and the patterns of motion
for earth and sun and moon.

God created plants and birds,
animals and creatures of the sea,
each with its beginning,
its flowering, and its ending,
its rhythm of death and life.

Though we move in cycles,
like every work of God's
we are not bound to a wheel
moving on a fixed axis;
we can move forward in the path
of Torah Moses taught us.

Inspire us, O God,
to continue the cycle of Torah,
strengthen us to renew our lives,
and bring Your light to all;
speed us toward
the bright morning of peace.

ADULT EDUCATION NEWS

The Tuesday Class

Tuesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. is the time for all of you who are interested in expanding your knowledge of the Jewish experience to come to Temple. Cantor Weisser presents a different topic each week from our Jewish heritage. The discussion is often lively and people who attend come away from the experience a little bit richer in their knowledge.

Won't you come and be a part of the Tuesday evening Adult Education program. All are welcome!

Torah Study

There have been several requests to reinstate our program of study on Sabbath mornings. Beginning on **Saturday, October 15, at 10:00 a.m.**, we will resume our sessions of worship and Torah study.

Each week we will enjoy a brief liturgy and follow it with a study of the traditional Torah reading. Selections from Mishna and Talmud will also be utilized.

We hope there will be interest enough to sustain this important activity.

Please come out and enjoy this wonderful Sabbath activity with other members of your Temple Family.

CANTOR TO BE OUT OF TOWN OCTOBER 8 - 11

Cantor Weisser will be in Florida during the weekend of October 8 - 11. He will be attending and conducting the Bat Mitzvah service of Morgan Smith, the child of, Peter and Joey Smith, who were members of his congregation in North Carolina. Cantor Weisser is honored that former congregants have asked him to participate in this way.

During his stay in Florida he will also speak with a Jewish group about the experiences he and his family had with Larry Trapp, may he rest in peace.

MAZEL TOV!! CONGRATULATIONS

The entire Temple family joins in wishing a hearty "mazel tov" to **Dr. Michael Steinman**, who has recently been named Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

All of us share a sense of pride in the accomplishment of our member, Dr. Michael Steinman.

NOTICE

As of the September Bulletin, Cantor Weisser is the author of all of the articles except those submitted by others and which are noted. Sam Wineberg is currently doing the publishing & graphics only.

DO A FAVOR FOR THE TEMPLE AND YOURSELF

PURCHASE THE HAPPENINGS COUPON BOOK AND SELL THEM TO YOUR FRIENDS

The Temple is pleased to announce a new fundraising effort that will benefit both the Temple and you. We are selling the **Happenings Coupon Book**. This promotion has been used successfully by many Lincoln groups, and a number of your fellow congregants have purchased the book and have saved money by using it. **So please help the Temple's budget and your own by purchasing a Happenings Coupon Book for \$18.00. Do your friends a favor too by introducing them to the book.** For each book sold, the Temple receives \$5.50 to \$6.00.

The Happenings Coupon Book is a terrific bargain. For \$18.00 you receive coupons worth many more times that in discounts. This year's book contains coupons for restaurants, fast food places, stores, dry cleaners, car washes, and many more including the Green Gateau, Julio's, LaPaloma, T.J. Cinnamons, da Vinci's, Junior Shoe World, Lawlor's, Tyrells Flowers, the Vickedge, Adventure Golf, and the Lincoln Community Playhouse. In addition, you receive discounts at national hotel chains, car rentals, and amusement parks.

We are asking you to do two things: First, **BUY A BOOK FOR YOURSELF**. Second, **SELL A BOOK TO YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS**. You can pick up as many coupon books as you need. Those you cannot sell can be returned without cost and without risk to you or the Temple. **PICKUP IS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3 AND SUNDAY OCTOBER 10 BETWEEN (:00 AM AND NOON AT THE TEMPLE.** If you cannot pick up your books at that time, please call Peter Hoffman at 483-5210 in the evening and we will arrange delivery. Please take advantage of this easy way to help the Temple.

WEEKLY SERVICES

Tuesdays
Adult Education
7:30 P.M.

Thursdays
Choir
7:30 P.M.

Fridays
Shabbat Eve Services
7:45 P.M.

Saturday
Torah Study & Service
10:30 A.

Sunday
Hebrew School
9:00 A.M.
Religious School
10:00 A.M.

©OCTOBER EVENTS

2 October
SUKKOT Celebration & Pot Luck
5:00 P.M. (at the Cantor's Home)

6 October
Yizkor Service
10:00 A.M.

7 October
Simchat Torah Celebration

24 October
Program Committee
Middle East Event
4:00 P.M.

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