

The South Street Temple **BULLETIN**

DECEMBER 1993

KISLEV / TEVET 5754

THE CANTOR'S MESSAGE

Last week Julie and I, along with our friend Rita Babbitz and her daughter Sara Doran drove up to Minneapolis together. We went there because a theater company, In the Heart of the Beast, had created a puppet and mask production entitled "Befriended by the Enemy," a play about the experiences my family had with Larry Trapp.

On the day before the opening I had the opportunity to speak at the University of Minnesota where, a week earlier, there had been a violent confrontation between neo-nazis and those who were protesting their activities. A nice crowd turned out to hear my remarks, and there was the inevitable round of interviews of Julie and of me by the broadcast and print media.

As the time drew near for the opening of the play we didn't know what to expect, but the production turned out to be amazing. The visual presentation was stunning. The voices of the actors captured the pathos of the various incidents that were portrayed. It was eerie to see myself

and Julie speaking through the mouths of the puppets. Feelings of joy and pain, all of the emotions we felt during the time we spent with Larry came flooding back into our consciousness. We laughed and we cried along with the rest of the audience. There was a power in the play and that power was transmitted to those who watched.

When the play was over, we, along with Larry's sister Candy, were invited up to the stage. We embraced the members of the cast, with tears streaming from our eyes. I wondered just why the story was so powerful, and I realized at the same moment that it was powerful because of the truth it conveyed: Love is more powerful than hate.

I look forward to the time when the message, so long proclaimed by our prophets and sages, that love is the answer will prevail.

Chanukah came early for us this year. What a gift we received in Minneapolis!



THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

On Saturday Nov. 20, members of the Board of Trustees and committee chairs met at Suzanne Kalish's home for a Temple leadership retreat. Under the able guidance of Nancy Myers, those in attendance discussed a wide-range of issues.

One topic that received considerable discussion was the organization of the Temple. Many suggestions were made about how the membership could assist Cantor Weissner in administrating the Congregation's activities. Themes included finding an editor who would work with Cantor Weissner and Sam Wineberg in producing the Temple Bulletin, finding additional office help, forming a committee to solicit Oneg Shabbat sponsors, improving communications with the membership, finding volunteers to help with the many tasks that need to be done, allowing greater access to the building while assuring that the building is kept secure, and ensuring that ideas and proposals would be followed through to completion.

Another topic was fundraising. The efforts already made by the Ways and Means Committee were recognized. At both the retreat and the November Board of Trustees meeting, attention was paid to the question of acknowledging donations. Beginning in the 1994 tax year, taxpayers who have donated more than \$250 to any one organization will need to have a written receipt from that organization in order to claim a deduction on their tax returns. Efforts will be made to provide members with an annual statement of all contributions made to the Temple, and timely acknowledgements will be sent to all contributors and those whom the contributions are meant to honor.

The Temple's social and cultural programs were a third general topic. A suggestion was made to have monthly speakers or discussions at the Temple on Sunday morning or Friday evenings. The first discussion -- on the "December Dilemma" of Christmas celebrations -- will take place on Sunday December 19 at 10:30 a.m. See the announcement elsewhere in the *Bulletin*. Another idea was to form gourmet cooking and book and movie discussion groups. An all-Temple wine and cheese party and a resumption of monthly family dinners and services were also discussed.

A final topic was member relations. Recommendations included establishing an annual Mazel Tov award to recognize outstanding contributions to the Congregation, featuring a member or family monthly in the *Bulletin*, publishing a booklet containing information about and pictures of each member, having members wear name tags on occasion, paying greater attention to the Congregation's history by, among other things, having longtime members share their recollections, having Religious School classes help with Friday evening services, and welcoming new members in a more meaningful way.

The retreat was a great success. The challenge will be to channel the energies of each of us toward the fulfillment of these goals. I thank Nancy Myers for her invaluable leadership, and I thank all of you for your past and future contributions to our Congregation.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees I wish you all a very happy Chanukah!

MY FAVORITE LATKES

Ingredients

4 Potatoes, large
1 Onion, medium
2 Eggs
1¼ tsp. Salt
1⅛ tsp. Pepper
2 tbs. Flour
(2tbs. Matzah Meal)
4 tbs. Oil

Procedure

In the old days my grandmother Sophie used a box grater when she made potato latkes. This worked well, but unless you were very careful your knuckles would be bleeding by the time you were finished. The greatest boon to traditional Jewish life has, however, been invented: the food processor. That is what I use; you may scrape your knuckles if you wish but I will stick to Cuisinart!

Process the potatoes and onion until they have become a fine pulp. Squeeze the liquid out of the potatoes. Add the eggs, salt, pepper, and flour (or matzah meal) and mix well. Heat oil in a heavy skillet and drop potato mixture by spoonful. Flatten and fry until golden. Turn and fry other side until golden. Drain on paper toweling. Serve with sour cream or apple sauce.

You can vary this recipe by eliminating the onion and substituting apples for the potatoes. If you do this you will need to use more flour or matzah meal in the mix.

I have used Pam to make latkes and the result has been excellent.

B'te-avon - Bon Appetit - Enjoy!

DECEMBER 25 WHAT DOES A JEW DO ON CHRISTMAS MORNING?

Brunch anyone?

This year the 25th of December falls on a Saturday. So, of course, we will have our regular Torah study session at 10:00 a.m. This is as it is every Sabbath morning. But on this particular Sabbath it will be different.

Torah study will end at 11:00 and then everyone is invited to stay at Temple for a brunch of bagels & lox, scrambled eggs, something sweet, coffee and conversation. If your family is one with two religious traditions you may want to come to Temple at 11:00 following your Christmas celebration to share some joy with your Temple family.

If you plan on being at Temple to take in some food for tummy and keppe, please let Cantor Weisser know by calling 435-8004 with your reservations so there will be enough goodies to go around. There is no charge for brunch, but a donation will be accepted to cover the costs.

CHANUKAH GREETINGS

May this festive season bring joy and fulfillment to you. With each light of the Chanukia may the light of happiness be kindled for each of you.

All of us at Temple wish all of you a Happy Chanukah!

COME TO THE PARTY !!!!

THERE WILL BE LATKES, MUSIC, GIFTS, AND GAMES GALORE!

Join us on Saturday, December 11th at 6:00 p.m. for the Annual Temple Chanukah Dinner Party. If you've never attended before - - - you're in for a treat. If you're a regular, you know this is one night you won't want to miss!

Highlights?

- Menorah Lighting - be sure to bring your family Menorah and candles along, so you can take part
- Holiday Dinner as good as Mom used to make, with brisket, latkes, and all the trimmings
- Gift Exchange - bring along a gift if you want to take part and mark it for adult or child as appropriate (\$5.00 price range, please)
- Dreidel! Dreidel! Dreidel! - this year for the first time, children are encouraged to bring a 25 cent donation to "ante up", and the proceeds will be donated to charity.

So? You're convinced? Then be sure to call the Temple at 435-8004 with your reservation for each child and adult who plans to attend. \$4.00 for each child and \$8.00 for each adult will be collected at the party.

PLEASE remember to **RSVP** - and do it early - our limited spaces will fill up fast! **We're looking forward to seeing you there!**

Gahrzeits

December 3

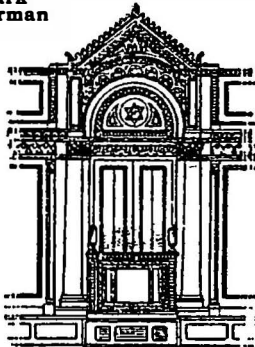
Edmund G Dittmer
Frida Schlesinger Drew
Nathan Hill
David Jacobs
Nella S Kohn
Frances Kline Novick
Louis Plotkin
Joseph Simon
David Storch

December 10

Kate Cohen
William Gold
E. J. Lehmann
Charles Mayer
David Nefsky
Bertha L. Newmark
Manassah Scheurman
Sara I. Simon

December 17

Carrie Bixler
Sara Friend
Sidney Kaplan
Florence H. Lieberman
Pauline Lipkin
Louis Lynn Lundholm
Jacob Meyer
Jack Meyer
Helen Sherman Ne
Sarah Lea Rosenberg
Fannie Schanfarber
Henry Schlesinger
Addie Simon
Abraham Wittenberg



December 24

Edgar Adler
Samuel Berwin
Emma Davidson
Samuel Harris Nefsky
Theodore Roberts
John Sandlovich
Charles Schimmel

December 31

Pauline Mayer Gold
Sophie Kenyon
Joseph Lapin
Simon David Mayer
Barbara Chesen Zeavin

January 7

Judy Barash
Pauline Ellinger
Mathilde Friend Froesch

May the Memory of the Righteous be for Blessing.

TODAH RABAH/MANY THANKS

Our thanks are due to Sue Schreiber for her continuing support of our Temple Library. Sue has recently donated several new titles to the library.

Thanks are also due to Sue Kelly, a recent member of Temple. Sue has begun the process of recataloguing our library. It is a gigantic task. We are very grateful for Sue's efforts.

Many thanks to David Rosenbaum for having taken over responsibility for the "New York Deli" on Sunday mornings. David picks up the bagels and sees that everything is ready for our Sunday morning schmoozers.

Thank you Griff (Charles Griffin) for continuing to operate our gift shop in the absence of a Sisterhood group. We are all grateful that you continue to provide us with the opportunity to purchase items of Judaica at very reasonable prices.

Many thanks to Nancy Myer for taking on the role of facilitator during the Board and Committee Chairperson retreat that was held on November 20.

Thank you to Elaine Selig for her help in the office. Elaine has volunteered her Thursday morning time to help the Temple.

We are all grateful for the efforts of Leslie Young who conducted our Sabbath evening worship service during the Cantor's absence.

Thank you to Nancy Intermill for taking on the job of organizing the Temple's annual Chanukah dinner and celebration.

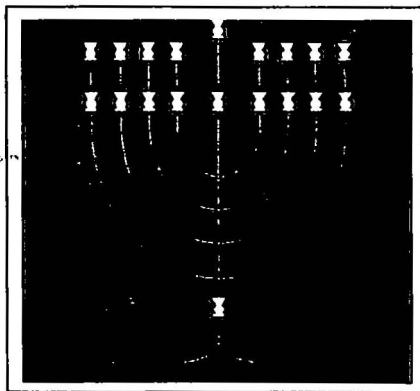
Thank you to Deb Wineberg for the work she does in recruiting Oneg Shabbat sponsors. We are also grateful for her volunteer service answering the phone at Temple.

We are so blessed as a Temple by the work that is done by so many. If you would like to volunteer for an hour or for a special project, please call. Let your hands be among those who work for the betterment of our congregation.

BULLETIN COMMITTEE BEING FORMED

As many of you know, the Bulletin has been primarily written by Cantor Weisser during the past five years. For the Past year or so the production and mailing of the Bulletin has been handled by Sam Wineberg. We have come to the conclusion that the time has come for a committee to take over much of the writing, editing and production of the Bulletin. Therefore, we are in the process of putting together a Bulletin Committee. Watch for changes in the months to come.

If you would like to be a part of the Bulletin Committee please contact Cantor Weisser by calling the Temple at 435-8004.



"DECEMBER DILEMMA" DISCUSSION

On Sunday December 19 from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m., Barb Straus and Vicky Weisz will lead a discussion about what it is like being Jewish and raising Jewish children in this intensely Christian time in this predominately Christian community. Issues facing both Jewish and interfaith families will be raised. Please come to the Temple, buy a bagel and a cup of coffee, and join us for this discussion.



NEW BULLETIN FEATURE NEXT MONTH

Beginning next month the bulletin will profile one of our members. The subject of the first profile will be Paula Williams, a long time member of the Temple. We hope you will all find this feature enjoyable. If you have suggestions for future profile subjects please get in touch with Suzanne Kalish (477-2022) who is coordinating this effort.

I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A DONATION

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____ (Please Type or Print)

To the

Memorial Fund

General Fund

Discretionary Fund

Library Fund

Choir fund

Prayer Book Fund

Happy Day Fund

YOUR NAME: _____

(Please Print or Type)

Please Return this form with your donation to
The South Street Temple, 20th & South Streets, Lincoln, NE 68502

Thank You !

WEEKLY SERVICES

TUESDAYS

Adult Education 7:30 P.M.

THURSDAYS

Choir Practice 7:30 P.M.

FRIDAYS

Shabbat Eve Services 7:45 P.M.

SATURDAYS

Torah Study & Service 10:30 A.M.

SUNDAYS

Hebrew School 9:00 A.M.

Religious School 10:00 A.M.

DECEMBER EVENTS

5 - Good-bye party for Cybele & David
6:00 P.M.

6 - Federation Board Meeting 7:30
P.M.

7 - Board Meeting 7:30 P.M.

11 - Chanukah Dinner 6:30 P.M.

25 - Torah Brunch

**NO HEBREW OR RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
ON THE 12 OR 26**

Congregation *B'nai Beshurun*



The South Street Temple
20 * & South Streets
Lincoln, NE 68503

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Paula Williams

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

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HEBREW UNION COLLEGE
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CINCINNATI OH 45220

CR 2021