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Temple Emeth Bulletin

THE OLDEST REFORM CONGREGATION IN BERGEN COUNTY

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PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Kudos to our Board of Trustees for their devotion to Temple Emeth! Very, very early on Saturday, September 21, more than thirty members of this Board gathered in the parking lot to board a bus bound for the Connecticut home of Jackie and Howard Guttman.

This was the start of a Shabbaton designed for prayer, study and leadership training. Vice-President Ted Greenwood conceived and developed the day-long program, ably assisted by Alan Hantman, Fran Hyman, Artie Pazan, Elaine Polakoff and, of course, Vice-President Jackie Guttman.

The day was truly wonderful, exceeding all of our expectations. After bagels and coffee we participated in a Shabbat morning service, led by Artie and Alan and Artie's guitar. Artie expertly read from the Torah lent to us, for the day, from Emeth's ark. The Guttman's home, in an idyllic lakeside setting, set a very special tone for our worship experience.

Rabbi Renni Altman, Director of the Task Force on the Unaffiliated at the UAHC, conducted several workshops, spaced throughout the day, which caused us to focus on our purpose, goals and objectives as synagogue leaders. We delved further into issues of membership recruitment and retention and also explored effective leadership techniques and ethical concerns.

We ate well and frequently, in typical Temple fashion. We played a bit...walking, boating and one of us even swimming, on this brisk September day. A moving Havdalah service, beautifully led by Fran Hyman, brought a very special conclusion to a memorable day. Weary, but inspired and enriched, we trudged back to the bus and returned to Teaneck late Saturday night.

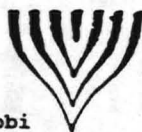
Membership on the Board of our synagogue is not an empty honor. The dedication and devotion to task of our Trustees attests to this. Their participation in this Shabbaton is just one example of that devotion. And so, we salute our splendid Board as it strives to ever more effectively serve Temple Emeth.

Micki and Diane



TEMPLE EMETH BULLETIN

Temple Emeth
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SHABBAT SCHEDULE

November 8/9	TOLEDOT
November 15/16	VAYAYTZAY
November 22/23	VAYISHLAH
November 29/30	VAYAYSHEV
December 6/7	MIKAYTZ-HANUKKAH
December 13/14	VAYIGOSH

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BULLETIN PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Copy Deadline	Publication Date
November 27	December 19
January 9	January 30
February 27	March 19
April 9	April 30
May 14	June 4

DATES TO REMEMBER

November 14	TER to South St. Seaport
November 15-17	Adult Kallah
November 23-24	BAZAAR
December 1	Hanukkah 1st candle
December 12	TER Hanukkah party
December 25	Brotherhood Hospital Visitation

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NOTES FROM THE CANTOR

This promises to be an especially exciting year at Emeth with regard to the musical celebrations we have planned. To begin with, our junior choir, "Etz Chayim", will be offering their participation during three Family Friday Night Services. I am proud to say that we have nearly TRIPLED in number and have an excited and talented group of young artists who are anxious to share their musical gifts with you.

Our Adult Volunteer Choir continues to flourish, offering new musical settings to familiar liturgical pieces. We have, as well, grown in number, welcoming several "old" choir members back into the group. We have lots of surprises planned for you this year, so stay tuned!!

A hearty fifty of us enjoyed a "Jewish Choral Workshop" at Temple. It was led by the well-known choral conductor, Matti Lazar, and sponsored by our Adult Education Committee with the assistance of the Lazar Educational Endowment Fund. Singers and non-singers alike thrilled to Matti's passion for music, his ability to inspire and uplift us and his vast knowledge.

I was privileged to conduct two "Bima Workshops" attended by enthusiastic members of our congregation who are anxious to be able to fulfill their "Call" to the Torah with greater ease. Following a brief history of the bima and some background on styles, they walked through the "blocking" of the Torah Service. It was a great help to be able to practice lifting the Torah, re-placing the Torah into the ark, doing Hakafoth, lifting the Torah et al.

I have been invited to be a presenter at the upcoming Biennial in Baltimore, where I will participate in a workshop on "How to work with your Volunteer Choir." There will, I'm certain, be a great deal to report upon my return.

Lastly, I implore you to support our Temple Choirs and musical functions throughout the seasons. They serve to enrich our Temple life and enhance the meaning of our worship.

After all, the Torah says "Sing a New Song Unto God".

Cantor Annie L. Bornstein

SHABBAT: THE PURSUIT OF SOMETHING MORE by Rabbi Steven Kushner

"An island in time," Heschel called it. Shabbat is the purest embodiment of kedushah (holiness) we know. It is the surest way to spirituality we have. Shabbat is our way of saying to the world, to the work of our hands--Stop. For a moment we are given sanctuary. Shabbat is not an obligation, it is an opportunity.

Shabbat is the essence of Judaism. Shabbat is not simply a day of rest. It is not a day-off. On the contrary, Shabbat is a day-on. It is a day on which we direct ourselves to the things that matter most: Our selves, our families, God. Above all, God.

Most of us are familiar with the philosophical query: if a tree falls in a forest and no one is around to hear it fall, does it make a sound? In a similar vein, we must ask ourselves: does Shabbat exist independently of us, or must we make Shabbat? Is spirituality something out there, or is it within us?

Just once a week, we can stop our lives and admit that there is something more important than work and television and money and entertainment. There are somethings more important than our agendas.

Once a week, on Friday nights, light candles, recite the blessings, break challah, sit down to a special family meal and acknowledge that there is a higher agenda in this world. Shabbat--the brightness that exists in the separation of the holy from the mundane.

NEWS FROM THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

It's been a great season of haggim (holidays)! Grades K through 7 observed Rosh HaShanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, and Simhat Torah by studying the meanings, symbols, and customs of the holidays in their classes, by singing holiday music and participating in school religious services, and by being outdoors and in the sukkah, where we shared the ceremony of the lulav and etrog. We did everything from making New Year's resolutions to dancing with the Torah.

Some highlights of life at school: Kindergarteners made Shabbat wheels showing how busy they are each week and how special Shabbat candles, challah, and rest are to them. The 1st graders learned about Noah and built their very own model arks, while 2nd graders made gorgeous Simhat Torah flags and waved them joyfully at the exciting Simhat Torah Evening Services. The 3rd graders began the aleph-bet and learned about what a brit (covenant) is and about the special brit God made with Abraham. Our 4th graders explored the story of creation and began preparing to lead a Shabbat morning service that took place on October 26. The 5th graders learned "Hatikvah," Israel's national anthem, and discussed its meaning for American Jews. (They now sing "Hatikvah" every week!) The 6th graders prepared to enter the world of Jewish history by studying how the Bible teaches us about the early life of our Jewish people. And our 7th graders got started on an in-depth course on the Shoah (Holocaust) and ably led a Shaharit (morning) service, which many of their families attended.

Shabbat evening, November 1 students participated on the bimah singing Shabbat songs, teachers gave a special blessing to children with November birthdays, and we all enjoyed the Oneg Shabbat following services.

B'Shalom,

Karen Winkler Weiss, Director

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

It is with great excitement I write my first article as Temple Emeth's Early Childhood Center director. So many new and wonderful things are happening to enrich our school. Parents are becoming more involved in our school and our first Parents Association meeting was held last month. We had a very successful family Sukkot pot luck dinner which was well attended and enjoyed by all. We thank Rabbi Sigel and Cantor Bornstein for inviting the children onto the bima and sharing their knowledge about Sukkot, the parents who prepared the food, and Roberta Seltzer for entertaining the children.

I am pleased to report our school is fully enrolled with eighty adorable nursery school students. Our classrooms have been spruced up with a variety of new materials, bookcases and rugs. The children have settled into their new classes and are more comfortable with new teachers and friends.

We are pleased to report Michelle Brauntuch again is the facilitator for our parenting programs. These programs have become extremely popular due to Michelle's expertise and professionalism. We have eight Mommy and Me classes along with a class designed for mothers of more than one child. We are currently forming a support group for new mothers and babies. If you know anyone interested please have them call 833-8466. Non-members are accepted into this program.

On a personal note, I would like to thank everyone at Temple for so warmly accepting me and supporting me in preparing for the new school year.

We look forward to a successful year and having the opportunity to report our developments throughout the year.

Laura Schneider, Director

SIMCHAT TORAH

What a delightful evening was spent in Temple Emeth on Simchat Torah Monday, September 30th. Simchat Torah actually means "joyous Torah", and joyous it was to see the newest and youngest students of the religious school on the bimah, being consecrated, blessed by Rabbi and accepting their own personal Torah scrolls. The holiday celebrates the conclusion of the reading of the final chapter of the bible, immediately followed by the reading of the very first verse in Genesis. And so, it is the beginning of Jewish education for these youngsters, and how wonderful to see so many encouraging and committed parents, with their children and families. How fitting to start their education in the sanctuary, on a note of gladness and rejoicing in study, in prayer, dancing with the Torah, singing and praising its worth. It's symbolic in that, while we see that there is no ending or beginning to the study of Torah, we see among the young, eager, and not fully-understanding faces, those of the schooled, the wise, and those who see the Jewish educational journey as always-continuing, always with room to learn more, digest more, gain more profound insights. I am saying, we are all always students, and the opportunity to learn alongside the children as well as from them as they learn can be a wonderfully enriching, familial experience. I urge you all to take advantage of the weeks and months remaining before Rabbi retires from our bimah, to benefit from the rich way he teaches and instructs, pulls every bit of information apart to explain and enlighten to make learning exciting all the time. At any age or stage, Jewish education can begin; and to become knowledgeable in order to share the joy in Jewish rituals and learning with our children, is truly to share the "simcha" in "Torah". **Pamela Ritzer**

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EMETH'S ISAIAH RATING

At the High Holy Days we read Isaiah's instruction to: "offer compassion to the hungry", but also to shelter the homeless.

And our congregants responded by sharing the many blessings and bounty with our Bergen County neighbors in need. Nearly 300 shopping bags were filled with groceries and delivered to the Center for Food Action in Englewood, where their contents will help feed the many hungry families in the months ahead.

This raised our awareness to the continuing need to help throughout the year. On the "Isaiah Scale", our rating went way up!

Now we still have to satisfy Isaiah in housing the homeless. In past years, a small dedicated few in our congregation gave time to staff our shelter programs, either in the Overflow Shelter for singles in our Youth Lounge or at the Emergency Family Shelter at St. Cecelia's Church in Englewood. We hope to have done this again this year.

We are committed to taking the single homeless into our Youth Lounge on Sunday nights during Feb. and March. Volunteers who have served in the past have found this to be a very heart-warming and educational experience. We would hope that others would like to share the experience now. It involves arriving at 6 pm and leaving at 7 am. Call now to volunteer one night. Hedy Geller, our Overflow Shelter Program Volunteer Coordinator is waiting to hear from you at 836-4690.

Temple Emeth has derived tremendous admiration in the community for these humanitarian activities. We do more than pray to help the hungry and the homeless--we do it and we need everyone to participate.

When we successfully complete this part of Isaiah's commandments, then can we see our "Isaiah Rating" skyrocket and the fulfillment of his prophesy:

"Then shall your light shine in the darkness and your gloom shall be like noonday". Isaiah 58:10

Sam Allar, Social Action Chairman

SUN SHINES ON TER

T.E.R happily announces an increase in membership this year.

On October 10th eighteen of us ventured to the Storm King Art Center where we roamed their beautiful grounds and viewed many interesting items of modern sculpture displayed in tasteful outdoor settings. The ride up provided a vision of colors of leaves turning at the height of their beauty.

Prior to the experience at the museum we enjoyed a delicious Japanese meal at Gasho Restaurant, and were entertained by the sleight of hand of our smiling chef.

When you read this we will have travelled to Ringwood for a picnic and a visit to Skylands.

On November 14, we plan to lunch and sight-see at South St. Seaport.

We're planning our annual Hanukkah Party for December 12.

For further information call Walter Hann, our Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary at 837-2731.

**Co-Presidents: Gladys Kaplan
Lotte Wolf**

MORE ABOUT THE BUNIMOVITCH FAMILY

Bryna, Natasha, Mark and Evelyn are happily settled in their own apartment at 78 Walraven Drive. They welcome phone calls and visitors.

Please phone 833-8138

MAZON FEEDS HUNGRY

The MAZON plan is for us to donate 3% of the bill for expenditures on celebrations--weddings, bar/bat mitzvahs, dinners out, shows, parties, etc. Temple Emeth affairs serving food will have a reminder to remit this 3% voluntarily in addition to the cost of the affair.

Sam Allar

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Sam Allar
Social Action Chairman
holding one of the 288
bags of food collected
during the High Holidays
and brought to the
Center For Food Action
in Englewood



GOOD AND WELFARE

Mazel Tov To:

Lenore and George Kramer on the engagement of their daughter,
 Michelle to Michael Meisner
 Nancy Winseck and Bernie Steinberg on their recent marriage
 Pat Paterson on the engagement of her daughter, Beth to Richard Rosler
 Shirley and Boris Bierstein on the birth of their twin grandsons,
 Orran Micah and Aaron Raphael
 David Bicoovsky on his election to membership to the College of Fellows of
 the Public Relations Society of America
 Penny and Sam Allar on the birth of their first grandson, Benjamin
 Stuart Case, son of Charlotte and Jerome Case on graduating as a
 Mechanical Engineer from the University of Virginia
 Joi and Richard Rothschild on the birth of their daughter, Jillian Meryl
 Tammy Hecht on being elected Freshman Senator at Bergen Community College

Condolences To:

Leo Feather on the loss of his beloved sister, Minnie Swartz
 Jackie Maltin on the loss of her beloved mother, Dorothy Becker
 Bunny Ritzer on the loss of her beloved uncle, Louis Young
 Ken Rutz on the loss of his beloved grandmother, Helena Rutz
 Beverly and Harold Katz on the loss of their beloved cousin,
 Charles Rattner
 Gloria Barsky on the loss of her beloved sister-in-law, Ethel Platt Rose

The congregation mourns the loss of our beloved member, Bea Howard, and
 extends condolences to her husband, Jerry, and her father, Irving Honigberg

Get Well Wishes To: Elfie Goldsmith, Jacqueline Guttman and Gidon Yablonka

CONTRIBUTIONS

Music Fund:

Vera Bornstein in gratitude to Temple Emeth
 Myra and Howard Cantor in memory of Dorothy Becker, mother of Jackie Maltin
 Maria and Bill Thurnauer in memory of Fred Stein
 Joan and David Paul in memory of Dorothy Becker
 The Choir sending speedy recovery wishes to Jacqueline Guttman
 Vicky Farhi and Deborah Taylor in memory of Ethel Platt Rose,
 sister-in-law of Gloria Barsky
 Florence Sultzer in memory of Moses Sultzer
 Bert Kuerer in memory of Fred Stein
 Chuck and Marge Rothschild in memory of Fred Stein
 Barbara and Paul Kaufman in honor of the marriage of
 Nancy Winsick and Bernie Steinberg

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:

Alyssa and Barry Schwartz in gratitude to Rabbi Sigel
 for officiating at their wedding
 Lester Block
 Jackie Maltin in gratitude to Rabbi Sigel
 Cyndy Friedland in gratitude to Rabbi Sigel
 Phyllis and Stuart Littwin in memory of Fred Stein
 Ilse and Fred Halden in gratitude to Rabbi Sigel

Social Action Fund:

Bea and Alan Westin in memory of Bea Howard
 Temple Emeth Retirees: in memory of Charles Ratner, cousin of
 Beverly and Harold Katz
 in honor of Adam Hann-Bird, grandson of
 Irmgaard and Walter Hann

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Cantor's Discretionary Fund:

Cyndy Friedland in gratitude to Cantor Bornstein
Larry Liebster in gratitude to Cantor Bornstein

Early Childhood Center:

Joi and Richard Rothschild in honor of the birth of their daughter,
Jillian Meryl

Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Fund:

Etta Peck in memory of all her relatives

Youth Fund:

Vera Bornstein in memory of Bea Howard

Albert and Mildred Otten Institute for Living Arts:

Fran and Irwin Butensky sending get well wishes to Jackie Guttman
Temple Emeth Retirees in gratitude to Mildred Otten
for the tour of her wonderful home

Nancy and Laurence Sideman sending get well wishes to Jackie Guttman

Ruth and Peter Adler: in memory of Bea Howard

Sending get well wishes to Jackie Guttman

in memory of Helena Rutz, grandmother of Ken Rutz

in memory of Ethel Platt Rose, sister-in-law of Gloria Barsky

in honor of the birth of Annie Leigh Ornstein, granddaughter of
Rhoda and Eliot Gordon

Deficit Reduction Fund:

Mimi and Dave Joseph in memory of Fred Stein

Sheila and Laurence Steinberg on the occasion of Yizkor Services

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Beth and Carl Monheit in memory of Leah Bakel, grandmother of Sam Gronner

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Margie and Bob Aerenson in memory of Julian Handler,
brother of Morton Handler

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Marge and Chuck Rothschild in memory of Ethel Platt Rose,
sister-in-law of Gloria Barsky

Lazar Education Fund:

Esther and Milt Mendelsohn in memory of Fred Stein

High Holiday Choir Fund:

Adele Kohn in memory of her beloved husband, Sidney I. Kohn

Special Mention:

Thank you to Dr. Paul Bookstaver for contributing 50 "Gates of Repentance"
to Temple Emeth in time for our High Holiday Services.

Monday evening, November 11 at 8PM, at Temple Emeth, the Holocaust Lecture Series, sponsored by Ramapo College and the United Jewish Community of Bergen County will present a panel discussion "Christian Rescuers".

Dr. Mordecia Paldiel, Director of the Department of the Righteous at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, Dr. Lillane Gaffney, Professor of Linguistics at FDU and Ms. Lore Baer who was hidden by a Catholic family will be on the panel.

November 24 at 8PM at Temple Sinai in Tenafly, will be the 3rd of this series, "The Canadian Experience" by Dr. Harold Troper, Professor at the Ontario Institute.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Jewish Family Service of Bergen County is seeking volunteers for older adult clients, to help them feel less isolated. By becoming a friendly visitor, telephone reassurance caller, or helping in other ways, you can provide a lifeline. Supervision and training will be provided. Call Carol Ramer, ACSW at 488-8340.

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"Viewing Paintings and Not Really Seeing Them" was the theme of an art lecture and slide presentation given by Charlotte Gluck of Teaneck on October 3. Sponsored by the Adult Education Committee, this program was attended by ninety-five people. There was no charge for this wonderful community service. Mrs. Gluck has been an art historian in New Jersey for 25 years and is a good friend of Temple Emeth.

B.A.R.J. ANNOUNCES TWO EXCITING CLASSES FOR 11TH AND 12TH GRADES

The Holocaust- Through discussions and reading, this class takes an in depth look at the Holocaust, anti-Semitism and racism, survivors, the resistance, and the social and political climate from which these events rose.

A History of Redemption- This class will cover several different topics through the course of the year, including Shtetl life, emigration of Jews to America and Israel, current issues in Soviet Jewry, the Arab/Israeli conflict, and American Jewry today. The class will be conducted seminar-style.

If you or someone you know is interested in attending a class at the Bergen Academy of Reform Judaism, please contact Juliet Barr at 599-0080.

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NEW UAHC INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM CLASS

A 16-session course designed to give participants a basic understanding of Jewish belief and practice will be offered Wednesday evenings at Temple Beth El in Closter beginning November 6. The class is open to all: individuals (with Jewish partners if applicable) who are considering conversion to Judaism; interfaith couples; and Jews by birth and non-Jews who wish to obtain a basic adult-level knowledge of Judaism. Taught by Rabbi Kenneth Brickman, the course will approach Jewish tradition--faith, people, way of life--through a study of the holiday and life cycles of Judaism. A basic reading knowledge of Hebrew will also be included.

Class will meet once a week for 16 weeks from 7:45-9:45 pm through March 11. A single registration fee includes tuition and one set of books and materials for an individual or a couple.

Introduction to Judaism is sponsored by the Outreach Program of the New Jersey-West Hudson Valley Council of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and its 58-member congregations. For further information on this and other programs for intermarried couples contact Kathryn Kahn at the UAHC office 599-0080.

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Institute for Living Arts Fund

This form has been included in the Bulletin for your convenience. Clip out and mail back to Temple to honor or memorialize friends and relatives.

TELL OUR ADVERTISERS

THAT YOU SAW IT

IN THE BULLETIN

My father died suddenly, but not unexpectedly, so I rode to the airport, flew to Florida, rented a car and drove fifty miles alone to my parents' home. It was a trip of 1500 miles into a well-known yet unfamiliar land. Mom and I made the appropriate arrangements. My brother flew from California, driving the last 90 miles from Miami. We went through the necessary procedures, the receiving of friends, the words, the ceremony. The days went by. I returned home.

Only home, only here in our sanctuary on that following Friday night, did I finally come to some peace, some fulfilling of my needs. Only then did I say Kaddish for my father; for me.

I am a Jew by choice, who like many other Jews by choice, live with a foot in another world. My life and my family are Jewish. My larger family and former life patterns are not. When these two areas of life come together in joy or sorrow, we are often emotionally thrown about, with no one who understands and can offer help and a feeling of shared experience. When the needs of our larger family prevail, we often find ourselves in situations that are all the more painful because of the isolation. I can no longer find comfort in the words and rites of the past. My family cannot begin to know or understand my present, especially at such a time.

I am glad to be who I am, where I am, but sometimes I wish for the presence in my life of others, who have walked this way, too. Perhaps their understanding could help me. Perhaps mine could help them.

*** Carole Richards and many other Jews by choice can be nurtured and supported through temple Outreach efforts.

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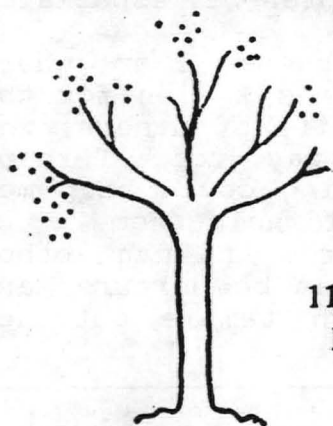


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