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Temple Emeth Bulletin

THE OLDEST REFORM CONGREGATION IN BERGEN COUNTY

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From the Rabbi's Study

Shanah tovah! I hope that your Holy Days were rewarding and that the year ahead will be one of blessing for all of us!

I am sure that like me, many of you found it disturbing to awaken the morning after *Yom Kippur* to read of renewed hostilities on the West Bank between Israeli troops and Palestinians. Even as this New Year gets underway there are reminders that peace and understanding are a ways off. Even as Israel and her neighbors face the challenges of building peace, conflict and violence continue. Would that this New Year could have begun in peace.

In her short history Israel has compiled a long list of accomplishments of which we, as Jews, can and should be proud. Yet, in that same short history she has faced more than her fair share of difficulties. Like all things in life, we must accept the good with the bad. As I discussed in my sermon on *Rosh Hashanah* morning, I believe that it is important that we continue to work together with and in support of our brothers and sisters in Israel. We must walk with Israel in good times and in difficult times. It is not always easy. We each have our questions. For many there is a need to better understand Israel, her history, the challenges she faces, and the ways in which we can help her face the future. As announced during the Holy Days, we want to foster the asking of questions and the search for answers. In order that we might do so we are creating a focus group which will meet to discuss our Israel-related concerns. This focus group will be guided by our ARZA committee, under the leadership of Margery Rothschild. ARZA, I am sure you know, is the Association of Reform Zionists of America. It is our hope that through coming together to learn more about Israel and discuss the issues and our concerns we can become better informed participants in the drama of Israel's existence and in her future. Our first gathering will be on Sunday, November 1st at 10:00 a.m. Mark your calendar. Plan to join us for what I hope will be the beginning of a meaningful and fruitful dialogue. Ultimately we are all a part of *Yisrael*. In the words of the Psalmist: *Sha-alu shalom Yerushalyim* - "(Let us) seek peace for Jerusalem!" Let us pray that the New Year and years to come hold peace for *Yisrael* -- both the people of Israel, and the land of Israel.

Again, *Shanah Tovah!* Best wishes for a good year...a year of peace!

TEMPLE EMETH BULLETIN

Temple Emeth
1666 Windsor Road
Teaneck, N.J. 07666



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BULLETIN PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Copy Deadline

Publication Date

November 19	December 10
January 7	January 28
February 25	March 18
April 8	April 29
May 13	June 3

BAZAAR DECEMBER 5-6

Are you able to obtain any new merchandise: We are in need of: Men's/Women's/Children's Wear, Shoes, Hats, Handbags, Toiletries, Jewelry, Linens, Gift Items, Fabrics, Notions, Handcrafted Items, Stationery, Books, Records/Tapes/Videos, Toys, Groceries, Housewares/Appliances, Lamps/Shades Greeting Cards, Giftwrap and any other new merchandise.

We will also need food items for the snack bar, as well as homemade baked goods.

Please bring your contributions to Temple marked BAZAAR with your name clearly printed, or call us to pick up your donation.

WE ARE COUNTING ON YOU TO MAKE THIS BAZAAR A HUGE SUCCESS!!

Thank you, Bazaar Committee

Marianne Berg
385-1998

Cyndy Friedland
836-2317

B'NAI MITZVAH SCHEDULE 2

November 7 Renee Winkler
Ethel and Edward Winkler
November 14 David Eyerman
Eileen and Steven Eyerman
November 20 Matthew Silver
Carla and Lawrence Silver

SHABBAT SCHEDULE

October 30/31 NOAH
November 6 Family Service 7:30
November 7 LEKH L'KHA
November 13/14 VA-YAYRA
November 20/21 HAYAY-SARA
November 27/28 TOLDOT
December 4 Family Service 7:30
December 5 VA-YAYTZAY
December 11/12 VA-YISHLAH

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As Rabbi Gurvis emphasized in his sermon on erev Yom Kippur, our tradition demands that each of us engage in *ma'asim tovim*, good works, throughout the year. At Temple Emeth there are many ways to do this. Of particular importance are the programs of our Social Action Committee and our Caring Community Committee. The former are directed outward, to the community beyond Temple Emeth. The latter are directed inward, to the Temple Emeth community itself.

The congregational response to the now annual request for food for the Center for Food Action and to the special appeal for money to support the Hurricane Andrew and Somali famine relief efforts was very gratifying. Some 350 bags of food were brought to Temple and within a week had been sorted and delivered to the Center for Food Action. We sent over \$1200 to the Joint Distribution Committee to help Abby Nathan build a tent city for Somali refugees and the rest to help victims of Hurricane Andrew. But there is much more to do through our Social Action program!

We collect canned and boxed food for the Center for Food Action throughout the year. If each of us remembered to bring a can or a box each time we came to Temple for a meeting or a service and sent one with our children when they come to Religious School or a youth program, we could replicate our Yom Kippur success through the year.

We will be running our overflow shelter for the homeless at Temple Emeth again on Sunday nights this winter and we need volunteers to cook and to stay overnight. If you can do either one, please call one of the Social Action co-chairs, Vicky Farhi (343-3984) or Rhonda Goodman (833-4345).

As Rabbi mentioned erev Yom Kippur, we have reorganized and reinvigorated our Caring Community Committee. Under the overall direction of committee chair, Carol Heischober, we will focus on the following activities:

- * continuing to send notes of condolence, best wishes and congratulations to our members;
- * calling members who are hospitalized and their families and members who are elderly, infirm, or leave home rarely, to offer assistance and support (co-chaired by Marylou Goldstein and Lotte Wolf);
- * cooking and baking for houses of shiva, for a family when a family member is hospitalized, and at other times as needed (co-chaired by Melissa Joseph and Harriet Finder);
- * offering transportation to services and other Temple activities, to doctors appointments, or for shopping and other errands (chaired by Wendy Furman);
- * visiting the sick and infirm in hospitals or at home, when appropriate.

For this new effort to be successful, two things must happen. The first is that members of the congregation must volunteer to help. Everyone received a questionnaire in the bi-weekly sheet in early October and others were distributed erev Yom Kippur. If you did not fill out and return this questionnaire, you need only call the Temple office or Carol Heischober (837-0458) to indicate your interest.

The second way to make our caring community effort work is for members to inform the Temple Office or Carol when they would like to make use of the services that are available. The willing volunteers can only offer assistance when the Committee knows that is needed.

I hope to see more and more of our members participating in these important opportunities to perform good works throughout the year.

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The 2nd grade was the first class to complete a Mitzvah Project this year. They made *Rosh HaShanah* baskets, decorated with honeybees and apples, and sent their gifts to the Jewish Home and Rehabilitation Center in River Vale. *Mazel tov* to the students, and thanks to their teacher Penny Soussa, and to Jane DeVries for making the *mitzvah* happen.

Todah rabbah—thanks so much—to

Estelle & Bob Spiewak

Gladys & Kurt Preuss

The Urfirer-Miranda Family

Suzanne & Philip Keusch

The Wolff Family

The Taylor Family

for your donations of equipment, materials, & books to the Religious School.

Still on our "Wish List" are:

- VCR
- Hats & wigs
- TV (17-inch or larger)
- Jewish storybooks (esp. for ages 5-9)

"What a *mensch*!" How often we use this phrase to describe someone whose deeds we appreciate and admire. This year, the Religious School faculty continues to recognize *menschlekite* in our students with *Mensch-of-the-Month* awards. By highlighting the many ways students can shine, we learn to take pride in each other's accomplishments as well as our own. We hope our students will learn to recognize *menschlekite* wherever it occurs!

So what is a *mensch*? We gave the entire student body a questionnaire, and, to quote them, a *mensch* is someone who...

- Shares with others, plays nicely, gives tzedakah (**Pre-K/Kindergarten**)
- Helps people, participates, has good manners (**1st grade**)
- Is a citizen, works hard, cooperates, cares for people, makes friends, helps someone who needs it (**2nd grade**)
- Listens to the teacher, is nice to other people, helps classmates and parents, has a good heart (**3rd grade**)
- Brings tzedakah or food for the homeless, respects other people (even if you don't like them), puts effort into your work, is kind, is enthused by Jewish history and language, doesn't abuse privileges, is a friend to someone new (**4th grade**)
- Respects teachers and classmates, takes pride in what you do, tries his/her best, encourages classmates, is understanding, is not a smart-aleck (**5th grade**)
- Does many *mitzvot*, improves in some ways, cooperates with others, behaves well, offers to help, is mature, learns well, acts appropriate and participates, is lovable, respects himself and others (**6th grade**)
- Is responsible about doing your work, isn't a pest, participates enthusiastically, sets a good example (**7th grade**)

Mensch-of-the-Month awards for Elul went to:

Pre-K/K: Sammy Satler, Marlana Urfirer-Miranda

1st: Amanda Bicofsky, Stephen Leff

2nd: Jonathan Balkin, Jessica Hopman, Leah Reiner

3rd: Alana Bernstein, Jack Christal-Gattanella, Seth Klein, Alison Leibowitz, Nicole Marks, Ross Reitman

4th: Leslie Pazan, Jesse Urfirer-Miranda, Beth Wolff

5th: Blake Butler, Joshua Schlachet, Emily Smith, Alex Wolff

6th: David Atlas, Jerry Christal-Gattanella, Myles Commike, Marisa Groveman, Rebecca Lerman, Bari Rosenberg, Stuart Schwartzapfel, Joshua Stabiner, Joshua Thal-Pruzan

7th: Alexis Barad, Sharon Jacoby, Ben Schlosser

Mazel tov to all, and we look forward to more student *menschlekite* next month!

Karen Winkler Weiss, Religious School Director

The school year has started on a very positive note. Our wonderful and dedicated staff warmly welcomed the children to this new school year. The children are settling into their classes and are becoming more comfortable with their new teachers and friends.

The Early Childhood Center has grown considerably. We now have two classes for four year olds and three classes for three year olds. A transitional class has been introduced for two year olds who are not ready to begin the year in a traditional classroom setting.

Programming has been expanded to meet the diversified needs of our school community. We now have an extended day for our four year olds. Sixteen four year olds are now able to stay after school. A diversified program has been designed which includes art, science, cooking, drama and dance activities. We also introduced an optional lunch program for our three year olds. Twenty-three of our children enjoy eating lunch in school after their regular school day ends.

We welcome back our staff and it is a pleasure to announce our new staff members. Lynn Casner, Diane Selevan, Susan Siegel and Ossie Weber are our new teachers for the three year olds. Peggy Amicucci and Denise Zaft-Rocech are teaching the two's.

We thank Rabbi Gurvis and Cantor Bornstein-Howard for inviting the children onto the bema and sharing information about Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. The children especially enjoyed singing Happy Birthday to the World, encouraging the Rabbi to blow the shofar, hearing the Rabbi's wonderful storytelling and singing with the Cantor. We look forward to celebrating the many other holidays together.

We are looking forward to a very successful school year. It will be a pleasure to share some of our experiences throughout the year.

Laura Schneider

Director of the Early Childhood Center

MAZON: A JEWISH RESPONSE TO HUNGER

Yom Kippur 1992/5753 Mazon conducts its fund raising effort to help relieve the hunger in our country as well as abroad.

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FROM THE MAILBOX

To: Sam Allar
Dear Sam,

September 4, 1992

As you step down as Chair of our Social Action Committee, I want to express to you my own gratitude and that of the entire congregation for your devotion and many years of dedicated service to Temple Emeth and the important work of *Tikkun Olum*. With your guidance and under your leadership Temple Emeth has long been in the forefront of social action activity in Bergen County and this has been well recognized by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, among others. Our work with the Center for Food Action, Mazon, the Interreligious Fellowship for the Homeless, including the Overflow Shelter, the Emergency Family and the Walk-in Soup Kitchen, as well as other projects would not have been as successful or perhaps even possible without your inspiration and your direction.

I would add, Sam, that it has been my personal pleasure and privilege to work with you as a volunteer and as vice president liaison to the committee. While you leave the leadership of the Social Action Committee in the capable hands of Vicky Farhi and Rhonda Goodman, I know that you will not cease being a strong promoter of and active participant in the continuation of your work. Temple Emeth continues to need you and looks to you for guidance and inspiration.

B'shalom, Ted Greenwood, President

CONGREGATION BETH SHOLOM JEWISH BOOK FAIR



Congregation Beth Sholom in Teaneck plans to present another Jewish Book Fair to our community on Thursday, December 3, and Sunday, December 6, during Jewish Book Month.

The NEW books were selected by professional librarians and writers, and comprise approximately 150 juvenile titles and 150 - 200 titles for adults in the fields of Fiction, Biography, Judaica (including Customs, Torah, Talmud, Philosophy etc), History, Israel, Cookbooks, and others.

In addition to books, we will offer Jewish art, i.e. lithographs and prints by U.S. and Israeli artists, and audio tapes of Jewish music for both children and adults.

On Sunday, browsers can enjoy live music, and we plan some activities for children, so that parents (and grandparents) can make their selection leisurely. There is no admission fee.

The Jewish Book Fair is intended as a service to bring books of interest to the attention of the entire Jewish community. Your support of our second year effort will encourage us to plan it on a yearly basis.

OTTEN ARTS INSTITUTE SPONSORS 6 RENOWNED STORYTELLER

SAVE THE DATE! The Oneg Shabbat on **December 18** features the well-known storyteller, Peninnah Schram. The program is brought to Temple Emeth by the Albert & Mildred Otten Institute for Living Arts, which sponsors arts programs at Temple throughout the year.

Ms. Schram is also a teacher, recording artist and author and is Associate Professor of Speech and Drama at Stern College. She draws on legends, parables and folktales from Biblical, Talmudic, Midrashic and other oral and written Jewish traditions.

The program, scheduled for the Shabbat that precedes the first night of Chanukah, is suitable for adults and for children ages 10 and up.

"ILA", as the Institute is known, is a unique committee within Temple that was generously endowed by the late Albert Otten and his wife, Mildred, to bring quality arts programs to Emeth and the community. Most recently it helped underwrite the Sephardic weekend. Please call Lucy Brody at 837-3852 if you would like to join the "ILA". If you would like to earmark your donations to these events that help make Emeth a special place, be sure to mark them for "ILA".

BLACKS AND JEWS IN AMERICAN HISTORY PRESENTED BY JULIUS LESTER

The Adult Education Committee of Temple Emeth in co-operation with seven Teaneck Synagogues and the Teaneck Jewish Community Council sponsors a noted convert to Judaism Julius Lester of the University of Massachusetts, professor of Judaic studies to speak on "Blacks and Jews in American History", Tuesday evening November 10 at 7:30 pm at Thomas Jefferson Middle School on Teaneck Road. Admission is \$3 per person.

Temple Emeth participation is critical to ensure programs of this nature and dialogues with our fellow synagogues to continue to flourish.

Joan Paul Adult Education
Committee Chairperson

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A THOUGHT FOR THE NEW YEAR

Life is a challenge...meet it.

Life is a gift...accept it.

Life is an adventure...dare it.

Life is a sorrow...overcome it.

Life is a tragedy...face it.

Life is a duty...perform it.

Life is a game...play it.

Life is a mystery...unfold it.

Life is a song...sing it.

Life is an opportunity...take it.

Life is a journey...complete it.

Life is a promise...fulfill it.

Life is a beauty...praise it.

Life is a struggle...fight it.

Life is a goal...achieve it.

Life is a puzzle...solve it.

7 TROUBLE WITH GRANDFATHERS by Bob Spiewak

AMY'S WEDDING

How beautiful the sky was lit
To celebrate our nation's birth
Colors exploding in the night
Adding to the wedding's mirth
Yet looking up at it all, thought I
The best was the crescent in the sky
Man can never call the tune
To match the glow of nature's moon

The above was written after a
July 4th wedding where guests
had a roof-top view.

LIVE SHULES AND DEAD SHULES

Live Shules are constantly changing;
dead shules don't have to.

Live shules have lots of noisy kids who run
around and disturb the service and
drive the rabbi bats;
dead shules don't.

Live shules expenses always exceed their income;
dead shules take in more than they spend.

Live shules are constantly
thinking about the future;
dead shules worship their past.

Live shules focus on people -
keeping them growing;
dead shules focus on the building -
on keeping it neat and clean and quiet.

Live shules are filled with tithers;
dead shules are filled with tippers.

Live shules dream great dreams;
dead shules rehearse nightmares.

Live shules don't have "can't" in their vocabulary;
dead shules have nothing else but.
author unknown

Leslie K. Rosoff

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GOOD AND WELFARE

Condolences To:

Carol Bratman on the loss of her beloved uncle, Jack Buchwald
 Mitzki Yuzek on the loss of her beloved brother, Marvin Tuck
 Howard Winer on the loss of his beloved sister, Joanne Winer
 Barbara Salkind and Patty Crane on the loss of their beloved mother,
 Mildred Hochhauser
 Rose and Charly Kneeter on the loss of their beloved niece, Carol Bruno Masty
 Roz Hantman on the loss of her beloved mother, Betty Frank
 David Paul on the loss of his beloved uncle, Sol Paul
 Stephen Traidman on the loss of his beloved aunt, Helen S. Ringel
 Mike Lax on the loss of his beloved mother, Margaret Ruth Lax
 Estelle and Bob Spiewak on the loss of their beloved cousin, Sidney Bloom

Get well wishes to: Gloria Jerome

Mazel Tov to:

Micki and Mike Grunstein and Grandmother Rita Crollick on the engagement of their son and
 grandson John to Helene Jacobson
 Cantor Bornstein on being appointed the ACC Liaison to the UAHC Region
 Marianne and Fred Berg and Bert Keurer on the marriage of their children,
 Cheri and Daniel Berg
 Evelyn and Dick Harris on their 50th Wedding Anniversary
 June and Bob Mandelkern on the birth of their granddaughter, Talya Frances
 to Cindy Dimenstein and Nick Mandelkern
 Ann and Ken Rosenthal on the birth of their grandson Andrew
 Robert Rutz on his recovery after surgery
 Elaine and Stan Kotkin on the engagement of their son Edward to Katherine Leibowitz
 Sybil Silberman on the engagement of her son Stuart to Alison Schack
 Shirley and Kenneth Heller on the birth of their twin granddaughters Molly and Anna to Alexis and
 Michael Birnbaum
 Natalya and Mark Bunimovitch and sister Evelyn on the birth of their son Zachary
 Grace and Irving Borowitz on the marriage of their daughter Lisa to Carl Ensfield
 Audrey and Norman Muehsam on the birth of their grandson Jacob Norman to
 Marilyn and Edward Muehsam
 Ruth Meissner on the marriage of her son Jeffrey to Jodi Gansler
 Mary and Irving Hauptman on the engagement of their son Edward



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Music Fund

Eva and Rolf Mandeau in honor of the new grandson of Ann and Ken Rosenthal
Irmgaard and Walter Hann in honor of Andrew, grandson of Ann and Ken Rosenthal
Muriel and Mort Pader in honor of the birth of Dena Buckman, granddaughter of Leila and Norman Fallet
Bea and Alan Westin in honor of Cantor Bornstein's marriage to Jerry Howard

Prayerbook Fund

Enid and Sidney Broder
in honor of Andrew, new grandson of Ann and Ken Rosenthal
in honor of John Grunstein's engagement to Helene Jacobson
in memory of Etta Peck
in honor of Larry Lipsitz being named Senior Fellow to the
International Systems Institute of Carmel, California

Rabbi Gurvis Discretionary Fund

The Commike family in memory of Mrs. Rose Commike
Jean and Eric Loeb in honor of the marriage of Cheri Kurer and Daniel Berg
Judy and Gary Schumer in honor of the Bat Mitvah of Lauren Bratman,
the first at Emeth for Rabbi Gurvis
Judy and Gary Schumer in honor of daughter Lauren's re-election to Chaplain of JFTY
Bea and Alan Westin
in honor of Debbi Kaplan's marriage
congratulating Ted Greenwood on his Presidency
in gratitude to Micki and Diane for service to Temple Emeth as co-Presidents
in honor of Carol Loeb's future marriage
in honor of Debbi Hantman's marriage
in welcoming Rabbi and Laura Gurvis to Temple Emeth
in honor of their son Jeremy's graduation from Law School
in honor of Jonathan Beer's engagement
Etta Fidlow in honor of Harry Fidlow's special birthday
Etta and Harry Fidlow
in honor of the naming of their grandniece, granddaughter of Nettie and Leonard Feuchs
in honor of the Kurer-Berg wedding
Nettie and Leonard Feuchs in honor of the milestone birthday of Harry Fidlow

Cantor Bornstein-Howard's Discretionary Fund

Judy and Gary Schumer in honor of Lauren Schumer's being re-elected as
Chaplain of JFTY
Marianne and Fred Berg and Bert Kurer in gratitude to Cantor
Sara and Conrad Berke in Gratitude to Cantor
Muriel and Mort Pader congratulating Marianne and Fred Berg and Bert Kurer
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Bea and Alan Westin in memory of Florence Arenstein, mother of Elaine Kotkin
Shirley and Richard Norman in honor of the engagement of John Grunstein to Helene Jacobson
Joan and David Paul in honor of the engagement of Edward Kotkin
Carol and Howard Kaplan in honor of Devra Tamar Flatte, granddaughter of Laura and Dan Kirsch
Carl and Beth Monheit in memory of Joanne Winer, sister of Howard Winer
Janice and Larry Lipsitz in memory of Betty Frank, mother of Roz Hantman
in memory of Robert Cohen, husband of Harriet Cohen
in memory of Joanne Winer, sister of Howard Winer

Mazon Fund

Judy and Gary Schumer in honor of Lauren's continuing as NFTY representative to the Board of Mazon

Landscape Fund

Ruth Meissner in honor of the marriage of her son Jeffrey to Jodi Ganzler

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Laura and Dan Kirsch

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to Natalya and Mark Bunimovitch and sister Evelyn

Margie and Bob Aerenson in honor of Dena Buckman granddaughter of
Leila and Norman Fallet

Estelle and Bob Spiewak in honor of Dena Buckman

TER in memory of Carol Bruno Masty, niece of Rose and Charly Kneeter

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Irmgaard and Walter Hann in honor of the marriage of Lisa Borowitz
to Carl Ensfield

Sy and Sydell Yegelwel

in honor of the engagement of Esther Sandroff

in memory of Etta Peck

sending get well wishes to Bob Remer

Micki and Mike Grunstein

in memory of Betty Frank, mother of Roz Hantman

in memory of Margaret Lax, mother of Mike Lax

in honor of Eddie Kotkin's engagement to Katherine Liebowitz

Carol and Bob Heischober in memory of Sol Paul, uncle of David Paul

Diane and Howard Winer in memory of Betty Frank

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Diane and Howard Winer in memory of Margaret Ruth Lax, mother of Mike Lax

Estelle and Bob Spiewak in honor of Eddie Hauptman's engagement. He is the
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OUTREACH - AN INVITATION by Dr. Richard Lewis

I would like to share with you some questions, questions of a Jew for his or her non-Jewish spouse, questions usually unspoken:

Is there a way to say that I value you as you are right now--exactly as you are right now, in your particular cultural and religious identity--and at the same time to say that I would rejoice if you became Jewish? Is there a way to say that I love you because of the intensity of your religious beliefs and feelings, because of the sincerity of your search, and the selflessness of your giving--and at the same time to say that my people would be strengthened if your fervor and your commitment, your energy and your vision were grafted Jewishly into our peoplehood? Is there a way to tell you honestly how I have grown in my own Jewishness and how our children's existence has inextricably become bound up in my own and how beautiful and enriching my heritage has become for me--while at the same time honoring your background and, indeed, protecting it from any thoughtless attempts on the part of my fellow Jews to denigrate anything non-Jewish? Is it possible for me to invite you to share my Jewish prayers and my journey toward an understanding of my covenant with God--and still make it clear that, even if you reject my invitation, I could not possibly love you one iota less?

Do you see the dilemma? How does the Jewish spouse invite the non-Jewish spouse to share the Jew's deepest core--with love? And is it loving not to ask, not to share, not to confront that terribly important but terribly frightening area of spirituality?

Those were some of the questions with which Outreach grapples--never entirely successfully, to be sure--in fact, with limited, but treasured, success. Those are questions I am left with. Are there answers?

Let's reach out to one another at Temple.

Submitted by Deborah Taylor, Chairperson

TOP RANKING UAHC OFFICIALS TO ADDRESS REGIONAL BIENNIAL CONVENTION

Rabbi Daniel B. Syme, Senior Vice President of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC), will deliver the keynote address during the upcoming Regional Biennial Convention of the UAHC New Jersey-West Hudson Valley Council scheduled for the weekend of November 13-15. The conference will be held at the Sheraton International Crossroads Hotel at the junction of Route 17 and the New York State Thruway in Mahwah, NJ.

Rabbi Syme's address during Shabbat evening services on Friday, November 13th, will keynote the assembly of 400 representatives from 58 area Reform Congregations. Rabbi Syme, will offer his expertise and insights during Saturday morning's Idea Exchange Breakfast and an afternoon study session entitled "Bringing God Back Into Our Lives."

Melvin Merians, National Chairman of the UAHC Board of Trustees will address the delegates during the Shabbat Luncheon. Participants in the Biennial will also have the opportunity to dialogue with Mr. Merians during Saturday and Sunday morning program breakfasts.

The theme for the Convention, "Sharing Our Strengths: Planning Our Future" will be explored through a variety of workshops led by area and national experts. Seminar topics range from Spirituality and Adult Jewish growth to "nuts and bolts" management issues of interest to synagogue board members. Judaica exhibitors will include bookstores and artists. Additional featured speakers include HUC-JIR Professor Lawrence Hoffman and Boston Federation executive Barry Schrage. Special concerts of Jewish music are planned for Friday and Saturday evenings.

All members of Reform Congregations are welcome to attend the conference. For more information contact Ted Greenwood or call the UAHC regional office at 201-599-0080.

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Mingled Roots: A Guide for Jewish Grandparents of Interfaith Grand-children by Sunie Levin Reviewed by Sharon Forman

In her handbook, Mingled Roots, Sunie Levin gently offers advice to Jewish grandparents who wish to convey their love of Judaism and tradition to grandchildren who may or may not be raised as Jews. Throughout the book, Levin, an expert in grandparenting, maintains that grandparents must honor any promises not to proselytize their grandchildren. She reminds well intentioned grandparents "...never--never take the child to the synagogue without first discussing it with his parents."

Levin provides a variety of suggested independent and joint activities for grandparents and their grandchildren. Creating a family picture album, writing a monthly family newsletter with anecdotes about family holiday celebrations, giving a child a special scrapbook to hold a grandparents' letters, calling or sending cards, books, or games for Jewish holidays, and sending a tape of the grandparent telling a Jewish story are among the activities the author recommends. Even if grandchildren are not being raised as Jews, they can learn about their grandparents' religion in a non-threatening and non-confusing way.

Mingled Roots is written in bold print and unsophisticated language. A helpful bibliography of resources for interfaith couples and books appropriate for differing age levels rounds out this useful handbook.

The book may be obtained by sending a check or money order for \$13.95 (including postage) to the publisher, B'nai B'rith Women, 1828 L. St., NW, Washington, DC 20036 or by calling, toll free, 1-800-BBW-4664.



JCS FIGHTS ANTISEMITISM

Historically, in difficult economic times there has been a tendency to blame society's troubles on a variety of scapegoats, especially Jews. As our country enters a deepening recession, it is thus all the more crucial that we redouble our commitment to educating non-Jews about Jews and Judaism.

How can education be a defense against anti-semitism? As non-Jews assimilate information about us, our humanity is strengthened. At the same time, the negative stereotypes of Jews so central to anti-semitism are rendered less potent.

A special educational project of the National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods (NFTB), the Jewish Chautauqua Society (JCS) was founded on the principle that anti-semitism, the cancer of the Jewish faith, is most effectively countered by educating our neighbors, and ourselves, with positive information about Judaism.

Under the banner of "Understanding Through Education," JCS sponsors seminars, lectures and presentations for college, seminary and primary and secondary school students.

We've accomplished a great deal in our first 100 years of fighting anti-semitism the positive way--through education. But much, much more remains to be done.

To give you an idea of the profound power a JCS class can have, here is an excerpt from a field report by Rabbi Albert Plotkin, Temple Beth Israel, Phoenix, Arizona, "I was pleased to have in this class two Muslim students from Malaysia who had no (positive) ideas about Israel (as) the Arab influence in Malaysia has given them a totally negative perspective. I felt I was able to straighten out their thinking." Rabbi Plotkin's experience is echoed by JCS sponsored rabbis in the deep south and the midwest in Black, Hispanic and Asian communities where many people have never met a Jew.

You can help us continue to open more doors of "Understanding Through Education" by sending your contribution today.

A base \$50 membership helps buy Jewish reference books for Chicano students in Mission Viejo College in California. A \$125 contribution allows Black students at Talladega College in Alabama to hear a rabbi explain the differences and similarities between Jews and Christians. A \$1,000 Torch Bearer membership funds a scholar in residence at a seminary where future clergymen are trained. Send your check to Temple Emeth.

Thank you. Sam Allar JCS Chairman

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