



From the Rabbi's Study

The most recent issue of *Reform Judaism* featured, as its cover story, a series of articles dealing with the issue of *Bar and Bat Mitzvah* in contemporary Jewish life. This series of articles comes at a time when our Reform movement is exploring the role of ritual in our lives. In a more pointed sense, it comes at a time when the forces of materialism have seemingly overtaken a ritual which for many has become the primal Jewish life-experience.

As the article in *RJ* notes, last May the UAHC Board of Trustees adopted a resolution declaring that "due to excessive and inappropriate celebration, *bar/bat mitzvah* has become an occasion for idolatry and the relentless commercial colonization of our sacred events." The resolution goes on to decry the "excesses of wasteful consumption...glitzy theme events, sophisticated entertainment...and expensive party favors." The bottom line of this resolution is that it calls upon members of the UAHC to promote celebrations which are characterized by "family cohesion, authentic friendship, acts of *zedakah* and parties suitable for children." The resolution calls for the adoption of guidelines on a congregation by congregation basis.

A friend and colleague of mine, Rabbi Jeffrey Salkin, has recently published what is quickly becoming a Jewish best-seller - *Putting God on the Guest List: How to Reclaim the Spiritual Meaning of Your Child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah*. The book, like the UAHC resolution and *Reform Judaism* series is a call to the American Jewish community to awaken and take a look at its very life. Can we reclaim the spiritual and *mitzvah*-oriented dimensions of our lives, and the lives of our children. Or, are we prepared to continue down the path of conspicuous consumption, emptying our religious lives and rituals of their meaning.

Along with Cantor Bornstein-Howard and our Educational Director, Karen Weiss, I have been reviewing our *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* program, and by extension, our Religious School program. As Temple has always been, we are committed to giving our children the very best Jewish education we can. We are committed to making their "*Bar/Bat Mitzvah* best" experience one in living Judaism, and not merely preparing to perform on our *bimah*.

To me, this newly refocused attention on *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* is part of a larger, movement-wide reconsideration of our spiritual health, the role of ritual in our lives, and the ways in which we live out our religious commitment. I wonder what you think. I invite you to put your thoughts about these issues in writing. Where should we draw lines? What should be our emphasis? How can we help ourselves to reclaim or re-invigorate our spiritual selves? I would love to hear from you. And to share what I hear within our congregation.

TEMPLE EMETH BULLETIN

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



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BULLETIN PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Copy Deadline Publication Date

February 25	March 18
April 8	April 29
May 13	June 3

TEMPLE EMETH BROTHERHOOD'S NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA THE BEST EVER

That was the opinion expressed by many of the celebrants. Was it because of Irving Hauptman's superb cooking? Or because of the large, uncrowded dance floor that made dancing to the flowing rhythms of the band a delight? Or because of the happy spirit that pervaded every corner of the room?

Pauline, Stan, and Matthew Hecht, Mary and Irv Hauptman and Marianne Berg, the dance committee, deserved the approbation they received from the attendees, many of whom stayed for the last dance, just after 1 A.M. trooping home with their party hats, horns, streamers and balloons.

B'NAI MITZVAH SCHEDULE 2

March 6 Jesse Krakower
Sally and Robert Krakower
March 13 Bret Mazzei
Dale Ellen and Allan Mazzei

SHABBAT SCHEDULE



January 29/30 Bo
February 5 Family Service 7:30 Tu B'Shvat
February 6 B'Shalah-Shira
February 12/13 Yitro
February 19/20 Mishpatim-Sh'Kalim
February 26/27 T'Rumah
March 5 Family Service 7:30
March 6 T'Tzave-Zachor
March 12/13 Kee Tissa-Parah

BAZAAR

A great big *THANK YOU* to everyone who supported our 1992 Bazaar and helped to make it such a great success. It was wonderful to see the cooperation and dedication of so many new and old members. Special thanks go to our committee: Micki Grunstein, Fran Hyman, Melissa Joseph, Rose Kneeter, Bryna Nosenchuk, Jean Loeb, Muriel Pader, Joan Paul, Diane Winer and Judy Wolinetz; as well as Cathy Bicosky, Pauline Hecht, Pauline Jacobs, our treasurers and accounting team, Senior League, booth chairs, workers, merchandise contributors, cooks, bakers and, of course, our great office and custodial staff.

Marianne Berg Cyndy Friedland

SUPER SUNDAY 1993

The United Jewish Community
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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As is well known, our own very fine youth program -- consisting of Senior League, Junior League, and the new Kids Club -- is enriched greatly by the programs (including camps, conclaves, and trips to Israel) of the National Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY) and its regional affiliate, the New Jersey Federation of Temple Youth (JFTY). It is a well established fact that participation in NFTY and JFTY activities is one of the very best ways to nurture active and committed Reform Jews. Today the new rabbis, cantors, educators and lay leaders of Reform Judaism are drawn largely from the ranks of those who were active in national and regional as well as local youth programs.

For these reasons, it has long been Temple Emeth's policy to encourage as many of our young people as possible to take an active role not only in our own youth programs, but also in those of JFTY and NFTY. One of the ways that we encourage such participation is through our youth scholarships. The Board of Trustees recently created a new Youth Scholarship Committee to reorient our approach to youth scholarships and to rationalize the process for making awards.

The new Committee will solicit contributions to our scholarship funds, invite applications from interested students, award scholarships, and arrange that scholarship recipients be appropriately honored within the Temple. The committee is encouraged to award scholarships not only to those who apply, but also to others, in order to encourage maximum participation.

The criteria for deciding who should receive youth scholarships and how much they should receive will include: membership and level of participation in one of Temple Emeth's youth groups; participation in Temple Emeth's Religious School or in the Bergen Academy of Reform Judaism; financial need; the expected contribution of the scholarship to the student's commitment to Judaism and Temple Emeth and to his/her leadership development; and service to the Temple. Only members of Temple Emeth will be eligible to receive youth scholarships.

It is the hope that this new committee, with its clearly stated criteria, will result not only in more of our students attending NFTY and JFTY programs, but also in attracting more money for scholarships.

I would like to thank all those who participated in the development of this new and exciting approach to youth scholarships.

Ted Greenwood

Changes In Temple Officers

I want to inform the congregation of two changes in our officers. In late September, with great reluctance, I accepted Roger Hoffman's resignation for personal reasons as our Third Vice President. Following the procedures specified in our constitution, the Board of Trustees subsequently approved the Executive Committee's recommendations that Joe Boonin be selected as Third Vice President and that Deborah Taylor be selected as Assistant Secretary to replace Joe Boonin. Roger Hoffman has been appointed to the Board to fill the position vacated by Deborah Taylor.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Roger Hoffman for his dedicated service to Temple Emeth. We all look forward to his continued participation as a Trustee. I would also like to thank Joe Boonin and Deborah Taylor for their willingness to assume new responsibilities.

Ted Greenwood

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NEWS FROM THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

4

Our rabbis taught—and we sing on many a Shabbat—

על-שלשה דברים העולם עומד: על התורה, ועל העבודה, ועל גמילות חסדים.
Al shlosha devarim ha-olam omed: al ha-Torah, v'al ha-avodah, v'al gemilut hasadim.

The world is sustained by three things: by the Torah, by worship, and by loving deeds.

The students of the Religious School demonstrate this teaching every week, as they study together, pray together, and perform *mitzvot* together. Perhaps the most conspicuous *mitzvah* they participate in is that of giving *tzedakah*. As many of you know, our school made a three-year commitment to support Operation Exodus through their classroom *tzedakah* giving. Now in our final year of fulfilling that promise, we are proud to report that our 1st semester student donations totalled almost \$360, with our 4th grade alone contributing an astonishing \$92.53.

Why mention these dollar amounts? We teach the students that it is not how much they give, but the fact that they give, which matters. Even so, the numbers reflect the seriousness with which our children take their responsibility to help those in need. They deserve to be praised—and emulated!

Mensch Awards for the months of Heshvan & Kislev went to:

Pre-K/K: Paul Kantor, Steven Pazan

1st: Lindsey Darwish, Amanda Montalbano

2nd: Justin Friedland, Joseph Stern, Amy Stokes

3rd: Matthew Fox, Marc Vogel, Derrick Wendt, Andrew Wilson

4th: Jessica Firshein, Jeffrey Kozeradsky

5th: Jessica Grabiner, Bret Hopman, Mark Jaffe, Jason Libas, Casey Warmbrand

6th: Sam Adler, David Atlas, Jeffrey Balkin, Samantha Herman, Peter Silberstein

7th: Matthew Klein, Michele Levy, Benjamin Schlosser, Matthew Silver

MAZAL TOV TO ALL OUR MENSCHEN!



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Saturday, January 30, 3—5:30 p.m.
Pre-K through 4th Grade Family Education Day: "Shabbat and Havdalah"
- Saturday & Sunday, February 6 & 7, 10:30—12:30 a.m.
Environmental Fair presented by Senior League
- Sunday, February 7, 9 a.m.—noon
5th through 7th Grade Family Education Day: "Judaism and the Environment"
- Friday, March 5, 6:30 p.m.
5th through 7th Grade Family Shabbat Dinner and Shabbat Evening Services
- Saturday & Sunday mornings, March 6 & 7
Pre-K through 4th and 5th through 7th Grade Purim Shpiels
- Sunday, March 28, 9:15 a.m.—3 p.m.
5th through 7th Grade Field Trip: Ellis Island
- Friday, April 2, 6:30 p.m.
3rd and 4th Grade Family Shabbat Dinner and Shabbat Evening Services

Karen Winkler Weiss, Religious School Director

NEWS FROM THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

Recently, most of my energies have been focused on registration for next year. I have enjoyed meeting with perspective parents and children who are looking at our program. It has been exciting to escort them to our classrooms and observe the joyous faces of the children actively engaged.

The numbers of parent inquiries for our two and three year old classes have increased significantly from last year. We have not advertised our program. This increased interest has been a product of our E.C.C. parents talking very favorably about our school.

Our parents have been extremely instrumental in creating the positive atmosphere we experience at Temple Emeth's Early Childhood Center. Their involvement in our school has been on many different levels.

E.C.C. parents donate three challahs during the year to support the celebration of Shabbat in each classroom, and read a story or share a talent with their child's class when they volunteer to be Shabbat Mom or Dad.

Our Parents' Association coordinated by Carrie Golden, sponsored two well attended family events this school year. Mindy Egber and June Cohen co-chaired our Sukkot pot luck dinner. Laura Gurvis and Melissa Joseph co-chaired our Chanukah party. At both events our volunteers worked diligently to create fun holiday oriented family activities. E.C.C. coordinated their efforts with Rabbi Gurvis and Cantor Bornstein-Howard and they provided wonderful programming for the children.

We have had two very successful fund-raisers. Mindy Egber, Marsha Scharf and Carrie Golden organized and worked at an Election Day bake sale. Karen Ouriel and Rachel Wysoki co-chaired our annual book fair. These events brought in a profit of \$733.49.

We also have a parent education committee chaired by Ellen Schwartz and Amy Stern. The committee is in the process of organizing a parent and teacher resource library. We also have plans to establish a lending children's library. If you have any picture books you would like to donate to our library please bring them to our office.

A CPR workshop will be scheduled during the first week of February. If you are interested in the CPR workshop please call our office.

To many parent volunteers who I have not mentioned by name and have made valuable contributions, we are most grateful for their time, energy and commitment.

REMINDER: Priority registration for Temple members ends January 31.

Laura Schneider, Director Early Childhood Center



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A MESSAGE FROM THE CANTOR

On December 12 through December 14, I had the privilege of attending my first meeting of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations' meeting of the Commission on Religious Living (formerly, the Commission on Worship) in Palm Beach, Florida. I cannot tell you how impressed I was by the serious nature of the committee and by the importance of our mandate. The Commission is chaired by Rabbi Sanford Seltzer and Daniel Schechter and is comprised of several rabbis, several lay leaders, educators and two cantors. It is an eclectic mix of professionals and highly involved lay leaders who, together, struggle to understand and address the needs of congregants.

Our agenda began with an update on the two kallot held by the commission at Brandeis and at the University of California-Santa Cruz. These kallot consist of four days of intensive study, worship, work, music and art, whose premise is that if Reform Jews engage in serious religious study, they will be better able to discuss and make decisions on Reform religious living. There are two kallot planned for July, 1993 at which time the Canadian Council of Reform Judaism, *Koleil*, will hold their kallah. It was suggested that regions or congregations consider organizing *family kallot* to include children's activities as well as adult classes.

Our next discussion was about Personal Prayer and Personal Religious Observance...what do we do *outside* of temple activities? What is the nature of our religious identity...how do we talk with G-d...do we pray privately? Can we find holiness in ordinary moments...in sexuality...We, the Commission, are working on assisting our congregants in finding meaning in personal prayer and discovering our own rituals for our religious feelings.

The Liturgy Committee, as well, functions under the auspices of the Commission. They shared with us that the newly revised *Gates Of The House* will be used at UAHC camps this summer, therefore exposing our young people to the new language. Interim *gender sensitive* books will be available to prepare us for the prayer book of the 21st century, which is already well in motion. As well, a booklet of *b'rachot* for all occasions will be ready for use at the upcoming biennial. The committee is in the process of translating the Shabbat prayerbook into Russian. There is an ongoing discussion of the final form of the Hebrew text of the *Avot*. The Liturgy Committee continues to examine what people's hopes are for prayer and spirituality.

A project has been designed to enhance the prayer life of congregants and their involvement in liturgical worship materials. To that end, we have been awarded a Lilly Grant whose purpose is to develop and test methods of involving congregants in the process of producing a contemporary and meaningful prayerbook that will enhance personal and communal worship.

One of the main discussions of the commission was about the present day practices of the Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Issues of worship, decorum and style of celebration were discussed with reference to Rabbi Bronstein's recent referral of many current styles of celebration as *idolatry*. Attention was given to the purpose of our religious schools, the after Bar/Bat Mitzvah drop-out rate and Confirmation. Some view it as an issue of lavish materialism vs spirituality. The UAHC will, therefore, compose a *position pamphlet* stating the Reform Movement's position on Bar/Bat Mitzvah. The goal is to bring the religious, the spiritual and the transcendent *back* into the ceremony...to stress *values* rather than aesthetics, keeping in mind that Bar/Bat Mitzvah is a religious experience and an entrance into the community and the covenant.

Other discussions took place concerning the role of the Commission at the San Francisco Biennial next year and the workshops we might offer. They range in topic from the *Reclamation of Shabbat* to *Bringing Men Back Into Religion* and *Religious Obligation of the Lay Leaders* and many others.

Finally we discussed social action with regard to religious living. We reaffirmed our belief that prayer and study must lead to righteous living....that G-d and humankind are in partnership making every one of us, although not guilty, responsible.

The breadth of the meeting of the Commission is really too vast to describe. However, you ought to know that I am convinced that the Commissions of the UAHC are deeply committed, hard at work and continually searching for ways to enhance our worship and keep accessibility, spirituality, authenticity and comfort a priority.

I am proud to have been invited to sit on the Commission For Religious Living, to represent the American Conference of Cantors, Temple Emeth and our People. May we continue, with dedication and seriousness of purpose, to work towards all that which brings us closer to G-d, to each other and to the stability and spirituality of our People.



KALLAH 1992 ICED OUT

Icy roads prevented our Kallah, planned for the Black Swan Inn in December, from taking place. One of the subjects planned for discussion was "What A Reform Jew Should Do". Your Editor was supposed to lead this discussion with the participation of the other 42 expected attendees.

Now all of us have this opportunity:

My own belief does not necessarily include an omniscient and omnipotent God
By focusing on what I believe is the little bit of God

In every person, many decisions are not too hard.

Unless I'm very wrong it's no mistake
That life should be a matter of give and take.
If life is a process of giving and receiving
Of being believed and also of believing
This is a sample of what I would expect
Of respecting and in turn receive respect.

By giving of ourselves, we satisfy ourselves
By respecting each other we gain self esteem
Is that enough?

Life's not as simple as it may seem

Social justice and social action are but a part
If we are truly to be Jews within our heart
*People want rituals that tie them to the past***
That is one approach that makes religion last
And in *tikkun olam* we make our world a better place

Get close to God and feel God's warm embrace

We must create some time that's just our own
Light candles, have *havdallah* in our home
Study *Torah* and/or observe *Shabbat*
Who's to say what's right and what is not?

Wearing *talit*, eating kosher food
No matter what's the best..for all are good!
At this point, let my chatter pause
You've heard some of my thoughts..

WHAT ARE YOURS?

****Diane Winston in *Searching For Spirituality*
Bob Spiwak**

TELL OUR ADVERTISERS

THAT YOU SAW IT

IN THE BULLETIN

TROUBLE WITH GRANDFATHERS by Bob Spiwak

*Joshua fit the battle of Jericho
And the walls came tumblin' down*

The walls we erect among ourselves
Make a body more than frown

Some erect a wall of silence

Impenetrable...so tough

That others' attempts to break it

Are never strong enough

Some erect protective walls

To shield loved ones from pain

These walls are worth preserving

With all our might and mane

But walls that we erect

That aren't really needed

May injure rather than protect

They should be quickly weeded

When shielding people from the world

It makes them slow to learn

How best to protect themselves

Their own insights to gain

It can distort their vision

To see what's wrong or right

By tearing down these walls of love

We can improve their sight

Before erecting any walls

It's true that we should strive to know

How best to serve the ones we love

And strengthen them..before we go!!



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GOOD AND WELFARE

Mazel Tov to:

Eleanor and Myron White on the birth of their grandson Jacob Noah to
Nina and Jonathan White

Grace and Bob Jacobs on their 50th Wedding Anniversary

Bryna Nosenchuk on the birth of her granddaughter Emily

Sandra Leeds on the birth of her granddaughter Tracey Robin to Ronnie and Jim Kerstein

Joanne and Mike Lax on the engagement of their daughter Rachel to Mark Spektor

Bryna Nosenchuk on the engagement of her son Neil to Jill Clarvit

Bea and Alan Westin on their son Jeremy's having passed the Bar exam

Irmgaard and Walter Hann on their daughter Barbara's having received her

Doctor of Education Degree from the University of Missouri

Get well wishes to: Rosalie Brownstein Elliot Brummel
Miriam Clachko Bernice Slotkin

Condolences to:

Gloria Barsky on the loss of her beloved aunt, Rachel Gold

Eleanor White on the loss of her beloved uncle, Jacob Schaffer

Lenore Berck on the loss of her beloved mother, Helen Firestein

Joan Rubenstein and Marjorie Landau on the loss of their beloved father, William Abrams

Charles Lund on the loss of his beloved father, Leslie Lund

Eileen Nahm on the loss of her beloved uncle, Sydney Neadle

Joan Paul on the loss of her beloved mother, Dorothy Marks

Steve Traiman on the loss of his beloved aunt, Ruth S. Friedberg

Dawn Uferer on the loss of her beloved aunt, Gertrude Pliss

Jerald Siegel on the loss of his beloved father, David Siegel

CONTRIBUTIONS

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Carla and Larry Silver in gratitude to Rabbi Gurvis

Grace and Bob Jacobs in honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary

Grace and Bob Jacobs in memory of William Abrams, father of Marjorie Landau

Deficit Reduction Fund

Sydell and Sy Yegelwel in honor of the marriage of Carol Loeb to Bill Meyers

Sydell and Sy Yegelwel in honor of the bar mitzvah of Matthew Silver

Diane and Howard Winer in memory of Rachel Gold, aunt of Gloria Barsky

Micki and Mike Grunstein: in memory of Dorothy Marks, mother of Joan Paul

sending get well wishes to Bernice Slotnick

in memory of David Siegel, father of Jerald Siegel

Carol and Howard Kaplan in honor of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Grace and Bob Jacobs

Carol and Bob Heischober in memory of Dorothy Marks

Carol and Bob Heischober in honor of the engagement of Rachel Lax

Estelle and Bob Spiewak: in memory of Rachel Gold

in honor of the birth of Jacob Noah White, grandson of Myron and Eleanor White
thanking Brotherhood for an outstanding New Year's Eve Party

in honor of their 8th "Metaversary" having met

8 years ago at our own Adult Kallah

(Celebration will take place at noon, February 28 at the Tower Restaurant at
301 Harrison St. at the Boardwalk in Hollywood Beach, Florida. Any Temple
members planning to be near there are cordially invited. Please let us know by
February 15th at (305) 920-5133)

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

Carl and Larry Silver in gratitude to Cantor Bornstein-Howard
 Cathy and David Bicofsky in memory of Alex Gerson, father of Beth Monheit
 In gratitude to Cantor Bornstein-Howard from Amy, Carrie, Cyndy, June, Marsha and Mindy
 Gloria and Marvin Barsky in gratitude to Cantor Bornstein-Howard
 Elsie Rose in memory of her beloved husband, Gilbert Rose

Social Action Fund

Susan and Otto Perl in honor of the marriage of Carol Loeb to Bill Meyers
 Ruth, Peter, Susan and Ellen Adler in honor of the marriage of Carol Loeb
 Beverly and Harold Katz in honor of Barbara, daughter of Irmgaard and Walter Hann receiving her
 Doctorate in Education from University of Missouri

Adult Education Fund

Joan and David Paul in memory of Rachel Gold, aunt of Gloria Barsky
 Muriel and Mort Pader in memory of Dorothy Marks, mother of Joan Paul

Early Childhood Center

Gloria and Marvin Barsky in honor of Emily, the new granddaughter of Bryna Nosenchuk
 Grace and Bob Jacobs in honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary

Barbara Straussman Memorial Fund

Janice and Larry Lipsitz in memory of Alex David Gerson, father of Beth Monheit

Library Fund

Grace and Bob Jacobs in honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary

Soviet Jewry Resettlement Fund

Grace and Bob Jacobs in honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary

Museum Fund

Bunny and Nat Ritzer: in memory of Helen Fierstein, mother of Lenore Berck
 in memory of Bertha Weinstein, mother of Leila Fallet
 in honor of the birth of Max Joseph Mendelson, grandson of
 Esther and Milton Mendelson

Mazon Fund

Dr. Bert Kuerer in honor of the marriage of Carol Loeb to Bill Meyers
 Elaine and Stan Kotkin: in honor of the marriage of Carol Loeb
 in memory of Betty Frank, mother of Roz Hantman
 in memory of Alex Gerson, father of Beth Monheit
 in memory of Joanne Winer, sister of Howard Winer
 in memory of Marvin Tuck, brother of Mitzi Yuzek
 Grace and Bob Jacobs in honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary
 Anne and Bob Finger in honor of Jeremy Westin, son of Bea and Alan Westin, passing the Bar Exam

Judith Yablonka

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Religious School Fund

Carla and Larry Silver in gratitude to the School for all the help given to Matthew in preparation for his Bar Mitzvah

Abe Golomb Scholarship Fund

Anne and Bob Finger in memory of Joanne Winer, sister of Howard Winer
Judy and David Fox in honor of the marriage of Carol Loeb to Bill Meyers

Youth Fund

Sandra Leeds in honor of the birth of her granddaughter, Tracey Robyn Kerstein
Roz and Alan Hantman in memory of Alex Gerson, father of Beth Monheit
Jennifer and Michael Flatte in gratitude to Rabbi Gurvis and Cantor Bornstein-Howard and in honor of their daughter, Devra Tamar

Prayerbook Fund

Enid and Sid Broder in memory of William Abrams, father of Marjorie Landau and Joan Rubenstein

Music Fund

The Adult Choir in honor of the birth of Jacob Noah, grandson of Eleanor and Myron White
Barbara and Paul Kaufman in memory of Rachel Gold, aunt of Gloria Barsky
Alan Kaplan in honor of Carol and Howard Kaplan
Carol and Howard Kaplan in honor of Dorothy Marks, mother of Joan Paul
Temple Emeth Adult Choir in memory of Dorothy Marks

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The United Jewish Community (UJC) Resettlement Committee is seeking people who have job openings or know of someone who can offer employment to highly skilled emigres who are anxious to become productive members of the community.

In many cases, companies can hire emigres at half salary during the period they are being trained. The other half of the salary will be picked up by Federally funded programs. Volunteer mentors are also needed to help emigres understand the job search process.

People who can help emigres obtain employment should call Paulina Likhachev, UJC's Soviet Resettlement Coordinator, at 488-6800.

TEMPLE WILL SPONSOR 4TH SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE WEEKEND APRIL 23-25

Dr. Michael Morgan, Professor of Philosophy and Jewish Studies at Indiana University, will be Temple Emeth's Scholar-in-Residence. A specialist in modern Jewish thought, Dr. Morgan is also an ordained rabbi.

This year, for the first time, Temple Emeth will share its Scholar-in-Residence weekend with Congregation Beth Am.

A member of the faculty of Indiana University since 1975, Dr. Morgan is presently on sabbatical and is completing a book on post-Holocaust Jewish thought in the context of American life during the Cold War, and in relation to the Six Day War.

Paul Kaufman and Myron White are co-chairmen of the Scholar-in-Residence weekend which is being sponsored by Temple Emeth's Adult Education Committee, chaired by Joan Paul. More details about the program, and information on how to participate, will be provided in future Temple Bulletins and in mailings to the congregation.

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CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR OF THE TREES AT THE TU B'SHEVAT SEDER

Temple Emeth will again celebrate *Tu B'shevat*, the New Year of the Trees, with its second annual *Tu B'shevat* seder -- a festive family meal -- on Saturday, February 6th at 12:30 pm following Shabbat Service. All Temple families, including children, are invited to participate. The event is being sponsored by the Temple Emeth Committee on the Environment.

Like the traditional Passover seder, *Tu B'shevat* seder involves the ritual eating of special foods. These include fruits and nuts with certain characteristics-- fruit with shells (nuts, oranges, pomegranates), fruit with pits (dates, olives), and entirely edible fruits (figs and raisins). We will follow the *Tu B'shevat Hagaddah*, published by the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR), which features special blessings and songs.

The seder includes a lunch priced at \$7.00 for adults and \$3.50 for children (under 11). This amount includes a contribution to Mazon. Baby-sitting will be available, at no charge, for young children who will not be participating in the program.

Send checks, payable to Temple Emeth, to Paul Kaufman, Chairman, Temple Emeth Committee on the Environment, at the Temple.

Tu B'shevat -- the 15th day of the Hebrew month *Shevat* -- is a day of celebration for the renewal of trees and for all of nature. By the month of *Shevat*, the winter rains in Israel are mostly over and the period of budding and flowering is just beginning. Jewish literature of the first several centuries C.E. tells us that *Tu B'shevat* was the new year for trees. It was the anniversary for deciding when the trees in Israel were mature enough so that their fruit could be harvested. This date was also the new year for the annual tithe on fruit trees.

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SYMPOSIUM '93

WHO WILL TEACH OUR CHILDREN?

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 1993

7:00-10:00 P.M.

Temple Beth Shalom, Fair Lawn

SOCIAL ACTION NOTES ...

Food of the Month Club

As you may have noticed, Social Action has introduced a Food of the Month Club, as part of our ongoing food drive. Every month, we are focusing on a particular food or product that is desperately needed. The food for January is Powdered Milk - an important item for the many children receiving assistance.

Why a Food of the Month Club? Because we know that you want to help, but are sometimes not sure what is needed. We hope that by focusing your attention on one particular food needed, you'll add it to your weekly grocery list, and bring it to Temple on a regular basis. So please join our Food of the Month Club and help us feed the hungry.

Where does the food go?

All the food we collect goes to the Center for Food Action in Englewood. A "client" is referred to the Center from public and private agencies. A nutritionally balanced three-day emergency package is prepared, which provides staples necessary to make three meals a day. Also provided are paper products, such as toilet paper and napkins, and baby and infant products. The client and the CFA advocate discuss ways to avoid food emergencies in the future, and where else to turn for help. Each client is allowed four emergency food packages a year. In 1991, the CFA provided these 3 day emergency food packages for 10,244 people.

Sunday Night Shelter

Every Sunday night in February and March, Temple Emeth will be hosting a homeless shelter. If you would like to help, either by donating time cooking and serving dinner or sleeping over, or by donating money to cover expenses, please call Rhonda Goodman at 833-4345.

Thank you to the local establishments who generously contributed food to our October Shelter: Sammy's Bagels, Noah's Ark, Jerusalem Pizza, Hunan II, Ma'adan and Napolitano's.

Stanley Simrin

Temple Beth El Shofar, Bakersfield, CA

As I was growing up in the Bronx, there was no religion in my home. I never saw the inside of a synagogue until I moved to California at the age of 30. Sure, my mother only bought meat at a kosher butcher, and I knew I was Jewish, but Judaism was never mentioned and was of no importance.

For some reason my parents enrolled me in a religious school when I was about nine years old. It was called a "cheder" and instead of being there on Sunday I had to attend every day after school for an hour. After about a month, I had a conversation about it with my father. "Pop", I said, "this cheder is really a pain. I get out of school at 3, come home and grab a snack and change clothes and get there at 4. They let us out at 5 and I get home finally at 5:30. I don't have any time to play ball". "What's more important?" my father asked, "playing ball or going to cheder?" "Playing ball" I responded. "So quit," he said, *and I did.*

I was always proud of my father for letting me choose, and I did exactly the same thing when my kids were old enough to go to religious school, and I was proud of myself also, because I let my kids choose. And then I learned something about Judaism and its value to the world, but it was too late for my kids.

My father was wrong, and I was wrong. Kids, children, don't know what's best for them. Major decisions shouldn't be made by them, and they shouldn't be the boss of the household. We don't let them decide whether to go to regular school, and if we have any sense they don't decide who to live with. We make the major decisions, or at least we should. Or at least we used to. That's why they are *minors* after all. Regardless of current trends and psychology there is a major difference between children and adults. Children are not miniaturized adults, they are children, and a home is not a democracy. We adults have responsibilities, and we should try to fulfill them.



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TEEN SUMMER TRIP TO ISRAEL

Over 1,000 Reform high school students are expected to participate in the 1993 NFTY IN ISRAEL summer programs. Culminating in the first-ever March to Jerusalem with 1,000 teens from across America, NFTY in Israel promises to be a fun, exciting and educational 37-day adventure. "The trip was the best experience I've had in a long time, maybe the best ever," reflects one teen participant. "I made many great friends and had the most complete background tour of Israel I could get...I learned about myself as a person and as a Jew...With each new person I met I became more confident in my religion and my feelings."

Spending time with Israeli teens at their homes was just one of the unforgettable moments on the NFTY Israel program. Experiences in Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa and Galilee are also high points. The groups spend several days at one of Israel's outstanding nature centers, they camp in the Negev desert, and they enjoy a taste of Israeli Kibbutz life.

Security is a high priority on the NFTY trips, each led by experienced American and Israeli adults. For information call Rebecca Steinberg or Rima Shindler at 599-0080.

COW-A-BUNGA!! ADOPT A COW

On Kibbutz Lotan, one of only two Reform Kibbutzim, its 45 members live Reform Judaism twenty-four hours per day. In 1989 Kibbutz Lotan started a state of the art dairy with 80 cows which at present have increased to about 200. However, as a result of the recent influx of Russian Olim, Lotan's milk quota vis-a-vis other dairy farms in Israel had to be dramatically increased. In order for Kibbutz Lotan to fill its quota of milk production and to be totally self-sufficient, the funds needed for purchase, housing, proper care and feeding that each cow or calf requires, Lotan has created an *Adopt a Cow* program. For the price of \$2.00 per share, *Mootual* shares are available to adopt all or any portion of an animal. For 375 shares you can adopt a whole cow, name her, receive a certificate of her production statistics and get a bi-annual *Moosletter* which will follow her progress. Young or old adoptive parents have full visitation rights whenever they may find themselves in the vicinity of Kibbutz Lotan which is located about 35 miles north of Eilat.

Bert Kruer



CAN 40 MILLION AMERICANS BE WRONG?

A recent survey revealed that a shocking 20% of all Americans, or nearly 40 million adults, hold strongly anti-Semitic views. An additional 40% of all Americans, or 80 million people, hold at least some views that are unfavorable to Jews.

The results of this survey by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) tell us all what can occur when ignorance about Judaism is not countered early with historical fact and cultural perspective. And it reminds us that, while the Jewish Chautauqua Society has reached over 2 million students in its first 100 years of existence, we've still got a long way to go.

In JCS' centennial year, we couldn't have been given a more dramatic or difficult sign of the value of JCS' activities, which are designed to foster "Understanding Through Education." JCS programs provide students with the tools to dissect and discard the myths and falsehoods about Jews that lead to prejudicial thinking and action.

The ADL report reminds us that the myths about Jews are, sadly, a lot better known and believed than we might have suspected. The survey used an 11 item index of belief statements to gauge the opinions of the respondents. The index included statements such as "Jews are more loyal to Israel than America," "Jews have too much control and influence on Wall Street" and "Jews don't care what happens to anyone but their own kind."

Your membership in JCS can make a difference. JCS will then reach college students with the truth and arrange interfaith seminars to influence religious leaders.

Please send your \$50 membership check for Jewish Chautauqua Society to Temple. It's an investment in the war to overcome anti-Semitism.

Sam Allar, JCS Brotherhood Chairman

WOMEN SEXUALLY ABUSED AS CHILDREN

Jewish Family Service of Bergen County will soon begin a group for women who were sexually abused as children. A few more members are needed to begin.

Experienced senior female and male clinical social workers will co-lead the group. For more information, please contact Ellen Estrin or Robert Ornstein at 488-8340.

ISRAEL BONDS FOR YOUR IRA

It is not too late to purchase State of Israel Bonds for an IRA or Keogh.

Investors are finding Israel's securities attractive investment opportunities. IRA funds currently invested in CDs can be invested in an Israel Bond when the CDs mature. Israel offers three bonds which may be suitable for IRAs: the Individual Variable Rate Issue Bond and the Zero Coupon Bond.

The Individual Variable Rate Issue (IVRI) Bond at the minimum subscription for IRAs is \$2,000 or \$2,500. The annual rate is 5.00% plus half the excess of the average prime rate over 5.00%. The IVRI Bond matures 12 years from the issue date, but can be redeemed by employee benefit funds after three years, and by others after seven years -- on 120 days notice.

The Zero Coupon Bond matures on December 31, 2001 at \$6,000. The current price is \$3,384 through March 19, 1993, with an annual yield to maturity of 6.60%. Both the yield and price are subject to change April 1, 1993, then quarterly.

Bond money assists in the development of every aspect of Israel's economy, including agriculture, commerce and industry. Throughout its history, Israel has maintained a perfect record on the payment of principal and interest on securities.

Robert Udowitz

ARZA: TIME TO BE RECOGNIZED

ARZA is the Reform movement's representative in the World Zionist Organization. The WZO is important for two reasons: Firstly, it cements our attachment to the Zionist idea and the State of Israel. Secondly, it is the place where decisions are made how to spend millions of the dollars raised in campaigns worldwide.

Apparently it is legitimate for Reform Jews to provide a large part of the financial contributions to the WZO, but not to have a say in the decision-making process.

It is time to question this approach at the appropriate forums. When Simcha Dinitz or his representatives come to town, ask them why it is that there is discrimination against the Reform movement. Do they truly think that they can continue to take Reform Jews for granted?

RAISING JEWISH CHILDREN IN A CONTEMPORARY WORLD

by Steven Carr Reuben
Reviewed by Rabbi Frank Muller



Parenthood is a special privilege and a sacred responsibility. Parents not only love and care for children, but teach them ethics, values and traditions enabling them to become healthy, well-adjusted individuals, leading good lives.

Raising Jewish Children in a Contemporary World is a practical guide to transmitting Jewish ethics to children and raising them with a positive Jewish self image in today's assimilated environment. It is based on the conviction that, to feel emotionally secure with their Jewishness, children need to understand the most compelling features of their heritage and culture.

Rabbi Reuben believes children learn about Jewish culture by living it. To develop in children a strong, positive sense of Jewish identity, parents must enable them to experience a "critical mass" of Jewish culture, including religious rituals, art, music, plays, books, food, language and dance.

The book is supportive and sensitive to needs of both Jewish and mixed married couples, offering practical advice on creating a warm and loving Jewish home while maintaining a modern outlook.

Those who know little about Judaism as well as those with extensive Jewish knowledge will find much of worth in this book.

INTERRELIGIOUS FELLOWSHIP FOR THE HOMELESS

Permanent solutions to homelessness must address its fundamental causes: the shortage of affordable housing, inadequate income to meet basic needs, the lack of social services, and political disenfranchisement. New policies must ensure these things.

The IRF reports that there are over 100 homeless families in Bergen County of which children comprise 47.9%. The IRF recently subsidized rental of an apartment for a family of 13. Financial donations to the IRF are needed and pledges to be paid monthly, quarterly or yearly can be arranged. Please send your pledge or donation to Temple. Thank you.

Sam Allar, IRF Board Social Action
Committee Representative

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