

## MESSAGE FROM THE RABBI

### Our moves, transitions and the possibility of discoveries

We are missing half of what goes on in life because we are afraid to break out of our tried and true routines. Yet every now and then something comes along to jolt us from our lethargy and propel us into new worlds of discovery. For some people that catalyst is a stroke, for others it might be a new job, or a new child in the family, a recent marriage or a move into a new community. Every person who experienced a move knows that transitions are not as easy as they seem. No one escaped a move unscathed. It brings the trauma of saying goodbye to old friends and familiar places. In our decision to move, we decide to brake with our routine and are more open to discoveries...until we settle into our new routine. I believe that this transitional time is important to appreciate.

Just a few weeks ago, we read in the Torah about Abraham's transition. He left his father's ancestral home in Ur and traveled to Haran and from there to Canaan. Apparently, we could think, Abraham was a reluctant traveler. God had to come to him saying "Lech Lecha, Go forth". God had to 'push him' to leave his father's house and all that was familiar to him. But the Rabbis propose a different translation to "Lech Lecha". Instead of 'Go forth' they suggest a new translation, 'Go to yourself' or 'walk towards yourself'. This new interpretation is more psychological. It assumes that in order to 'move' one has to search inside to find the strength, to dream about the possibilities and to overcome the fears that we may have. And then, and only then, we are able to move.

If we read the story in this way, certainly we can identify with Abraham. I am not only talking about a geographical move. To be able to be open for the possibility of discovery by changing the way we have behaved with our loved ones. To be able to be open to 'Lech Lecha, Go within yourself' and discover what we could become, if we only would allow ourselves to be more reflective about our routines.

For me, Judaism is about God's call to Abraham (and to us) so that we will shatter our routines from time to time. Geographical changes are not necessary. Each one of us can allow ourselves to make this therapeutic move. Lech Lecha, God said to Abraham. Take advantage of that which forces us or allows us to change. As I begin to know you and all what Temple Emeth does, my prayer is that we will see our Temple as a safe home where we can go inside our soul and rise to the call... Lech Lecha... Go inside yourself so that we can emerge with a wider and deeper faith.

From my heart to yours,  
Rabbi Kalfus

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**\* Scrip can be purchased during regular Temple office hours and in the Judaica Shop on Sundays from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm when Religious School is in session.**

Bulletin			Mid-Month Mailing	
Month	Deadline	Pub. Date	Deadline	Pub. Date
December			December 1	December 8
January	December 14	December 28	January 4	January 11
February	January 11	January 25	February 2	February 9
March	February 8	February 22	March 2	March 9
April	March 8	March 22	April 5	April 12
May	April 12	April 26	May 3	May 10
June	May 10	May 24	June 7	June 14

Although material to be included in the Bulletin and Mid-Month mailing is not only welcome, but essential, it is necessary to honor the deadlines as listed. **For Bulletin mailings, all materials must be in the Bulletin Box in the Temple Office by 8:00 p.m. on the date of the deadline.**

**For Mid-Month Mailings, all materials for inclusion, either camera-ready or information to be included in the body of the Mid-Month Sheet itself are due by 12:00 noon on the date of the deadline.**

Any material submitted after these deadlines will not be accepted, will have to wait for the next publication. Please cooperate as these deadlines are necessary in order for the office staff and Bulletin editors to have sufficient time in order to meet the publication deadlines. Thank you!

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 Bob Spiewak, Editor



To Sing Or Not To Sing

At this time every year I am overwhelmed by phone calls and congregants stopping into my office or pulling me aside in the hallway, each of them asking me the same question: "What should I do about my child singing Christmas music in the school chorus?" I suppose that I am not surprised by this question, in fact, I think it is terrific that many of you have a concern. However, I think that each of us, especially those who have not attended elementary or high school in the past ten years, should feel a bit more comfortable knowing that most schools, especially in the tri-state area, have a fairly good balance of both Christmas *and* Chanukah music in their December concert programs. As I tell my students here at Temple Emeth, if that is not the case, I will gladly send your school music teacher Chanukah music for their choir.

Let's be honest though, it isn't really the *balance* of Chanukah/Christmas music that we're worried about, is it? No, it's our children singing...well you know...*that* word...the "J" word... ..yes...Jesus!!! The irony is, that since those students who are uncomfortable singing Christmas music do not believe in Jesus as a deity, then the name becomes only a word, like any other word sung in any other song. The music itself is no less beautiful when the words that we sing are not part of our belief system. Any student who plans on pursuing music as a career, will eventually attend a music college or be part of a college choir in which they will be expected to sing many of the great musical works of our time. Those compositions of Bach and Handel, to name a few, which regularly include lyrics based on Christian scripture, Bible and prayers, are pertinent to the very structure and development of Classical music as we know and love it. Even those young students who do not wish to become professional musicians, during this time in their musical development, will gain a true appreciation of music which will last their entire lives. Music of other cultures and religions will surely add to this appreciation and understanding of musical and vocal lines and phrasing.

Lastly, I must point out that we need not believe everything we sing. Many songs are just that...songs! They are fun to sing and we can learn through them what a composer thinks and feels, what is important to someone else. It is rare that I have someone come to me upset that their child just got the part of "Annie," but has never been an orphan, or the part of Maria in "The Sound of Music" but has never been in a convent, or for that matter, the part of any leading man or lady in any show, but has never been in love. It is possible to sing and enjoy music whose lyrics do not necessarily speak to the person singing them. We have all seen many an opera singer and Broadway star do this quite effectively.

People are often surprised that I never wanted a career in opera or theater. One of many reasons that I chose to use my voice as a Cantor is because each time that I have sung music of other venues, while it may have been fun, I was uncomfortable that I never *believed* what I was singing. It seemed almost impossible to relay a message to a listener when I did not believe the words coming from my mouth. What a blessing to have an opportunity to use my voice to sing words of truth, prayers that I not only believe every word of, but I truly want to share with and teach those words to others. And so, I say, to you and your children, sing...have fun...learn! Be sure also, to teach the music of the Jewish people to others who may not know it. It is through this that music brings people together, sharing feelings that may not otherwise be shared. A Happy and Healthy Chanukah from Eve and I!

*Cantor Ellen Cohen*

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENTS

Dear Friends,

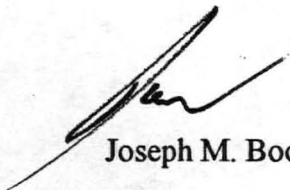
We don't reveal any great secret when we say that there are times when being President (or even Co-President) of a congregation is a great burden. However, for every one of those moments, there are literally entire days (even weeks!) when the job brings pleasure and great joy.

The first weekend of November was such a time. Along with well over a dozen other members of Temple Emeth (one of the largest contingents), we spent it at the Rye Town Hilton in Westchester, at the Biennial Convention of the New Jersey-West Hudson and Greater New York Councils of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. It is indeed a magic moment when upwards of a thousand Reform Jews join in Friday evening and Saturday worship together. The Friday service, which was primarily a musical one, found our own Cantor Cohen sharing the Bimah in leading the service. Carol Shansky, our talented resident flutist, played extensively. We sang in the choir Saturday morning, along with Nancy Boonin, Nancy Plotkin, Adele Hirschman and Paul Kaufman.

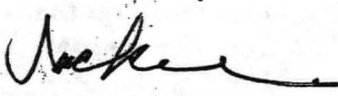
While we attended as your official representatives, the truth is that, in many ways, it's better to go if you're *not* an officer. You have no "command performances", but can pick and choose your sessions from a huge list of the spiritual, the scholarly and the practical.

We studied with some of the great teachers of the Reform movement. We discussed problems of synagogue life with professionals from the regional and national UAHC offices and, perhaps equally important, with colleagues from other congregations in this area. Many of the latter we had come to know through e-mail and we were thrilled to put faces (and bodies) to the names on our computer screens. We *kvelled* as Paul Kaufman and Pauline Hecht were honored, with the entire regional staff, for their magnificent job keeping the region intact during nine months without a director. We further *kvelled* when Diane Winer was installed as Regional Executive Vice-President and Barbara Kaufman as a Regional board member. Altogether, it was a mad weekend which began literally at 7:00 a.m. both Saturday and Sunday and went until well after 10:00 p.m. Late on Sunday afternoon, after dragging home to Teaneck, Joe called it *exhilarating exhaustion*.

Why are we sharing this with you? It is in the way of a very early notice. The National UAHC Biennial will be held in Boston next year. You will begin to read about it in *Reform Judaism* magazine as early as this coming spring. Think about attending – either for the full convention or for a day or two. Boston is a short drive away. You will find yourselves re-invested with enthusiasm for Judaism, the Reform movement and, by logical extension, Temple Emeth. Talk to "first-timers" Nancy and Elliot Plotkin if you want to hear more. We're already eagerly awaiting Boston. It's a great way to acquire the knowledge and desire to become more involved with *your* synagogue. As the old T.V. ad used to say, "Try it! You'll like it."



Joseph M. Boonin



Jacqueline S. Guttman



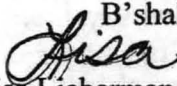
## Temple Emeth Religious School

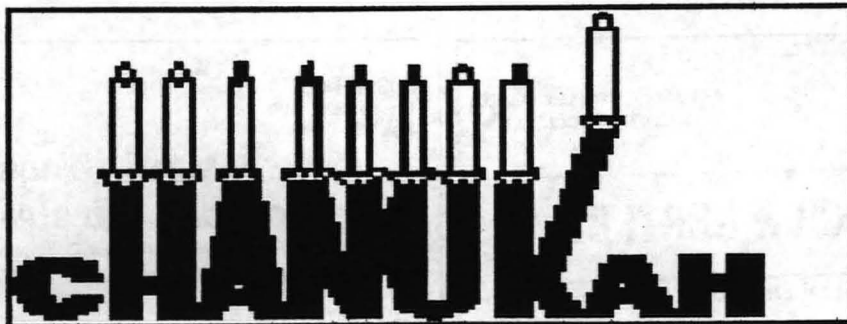
We are approaching that season again. The one when Route 4 becomes a parking lot and the stores are overcrowded. Our children are bombarded by advertisements for all sorts of items we would rather never see on TV, let alone in our home. Yes, I am talking about the Chanukah season, which this year coincides with Christmas. As always, it will be particularly difficult to remember what this holiday is really about. Chanukah is about the small group of Jews overcoming the large Greco-Syrian army, about ending war and creating peace, about rededication of the Temple and ourselves to one another.

During these past months we have also been bombarded by daily reports of terrorism, destruction and anger in the Middle East. At this writing Arafat and Barak are once again coming, each on his own, to meet with President Clinton. I would like to think and hope that perhaps this time we will begin to find an answer for peace. Do not think that I am naive or idealistic, I am a realist. No attempt at peace will be easy, yet if we can think in the spirit of Chanukah we should rededicate ourselves to the idea and ideals of peace.

As Chanukah draws closer and the days get shorter. Let us look up at the stars and remember the divine sparks of light within each of us. We all have the ability to make the world better. We may not be the one who will create peace in Israel or other places around the world where there is strife, but we can work to rededicate ourselves to one another. We can rededicate ourselves to the idea and ideal that we can make peace around us and make the world a better place to live. It may not be easy, but it is our responsibility.

Morris, Matti, Zari and Avi join me in wishing you a Happy Chanukah filled with love, laughter and peace.

B'shalom,  
  
Lisa Lieberman Barzilai, RJE  
School Office 833-8466  
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## From the Early Childhood Center...

## To Tell the Truth

As Americans and Jews, we have many opportunities to celebrate holidays and pass on traditions to our children. For most early childhood programs, this is the core of the curriculum - not only for projects and celebrations, but as a golden opportunity to further reinforce many of our most fundamental values. However, when examined closely, many of the historical and religious events that lend themselves to our greatest celebrations are often rife with controversy and contain elements of which we may not be so proud.

The holiday of Thanksgiving is a prime example of this dilemma. On the surface, this is simply a time to take a moment from our busy lives to stop and think about all that we have to be grateful for - food, shelter, clothing, family, and friends. However, there are people who view this day as the beginning of the destruction of their people and heritage. In many Native American communities, Thanksgiving is a day of mourning as it marks the beginning of the onset of Western civilization - and the end of their own. As a people that have known hatred and oppression, it is difficult to just ignore this component.

So what is an early childhood program to do? The children are too young to understand the implications of the whole truth. The best we can do is to offer them the parts of this truth that build a better understanding and tolerance of different peoples. It is our obligation to go beyond the turkey songs and feathered headdresses. The two themes we celebrate on this day are Giving Thanks and Forming Friendships. We say thank you throughout our day and week for the foods we eat, the beauty of nature, and the families that take care of us. We consciously and conscientiously work on skills that help us learn to share, listen, respect, and cooperate with our friends. Thanksgiving is a wonderful opportunity to focus on these themes - as long as we make sure that we continue to develop them throughout the year and our lives. These are the truths that will help us all build a better world together.

B'Todah, Shalom, V'Emet,

*Beth Rosen*  
Beth Rosen

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**BAT MITZVAH**

Shalom! My name is Jennifer Saloway. I live with my mother, Deborah Saloway and my grandmother, Ruth Meissner, and my three cats in Bergenfield.

My favorite subjects are Math, Band, Art and Music. I'm in the 7th grade at Roy W. Brown Middle School. I enjoy bike riding and hanging out with my friends. Drawing is my hobby and I play basketball. My favorite color is blue.

Vayetze is my Torah portion. It is about the marriage of Jacob and Leah. It comes from Genesis passage 28. Please join us on December 9th for Shabbat services and to celebrate my Bat Mitzvah.

**ATTENTION NEW MEMBERS -**

If you couldn't make it to our New Member Brunch or Tea - please pick up your copy of *On the Doorpost of Thy House*. If you haven't received your New Member Guide in the mail, please pick it up also.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for  
INTERFAITH SEDER**

Volunteers are needed for B'Yachad Interfaith Community Seder scheduled for April 1.

Please contact Sy Lazar at 498-9563 or Art Lerman at 836-9469 or Lerman2@idt.net. Special request: We want to reach out to non-Jewish houses of worship that have not yet participated in our Seders. Let Art and Sy know your suggestions.

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**Trouble with  
Grandfathers**

by Bob Sniewak

**NEVER TOO OLD TO LEARN**

**(Never too young to teach!)**

Watch the young lad climb the tree

The lassie on the swing

It wasn't long ago since they

Could not do either thing.

Each must have tried a dozen times

To reach this little goal

Let's hope that their persistence stays

To strengthen these young souls!

We all have heard that ancient cry:

"Don't give up the ship!"

Another inspiration

To prevent a losing trip

We can learn a lesson from our kids

They can teach us all

To go on with our efforts

Keep our eyes upon the ball!

We hold our future in our hands

If failure we resist

And tie our will with iron bands

**Persist! Persist! Persist!**

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# Temple Emeth

## December 1 - 14, 2000



### Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>

### Shabbat Toledot

*Candle-lighting - 4:11 p.m.*

*The Oneg Shabbat will be sponsored by Amanda Jill Graizel in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of her sister, Dana Graizel*

**Family Shabbat Services at 7:30 p.m.**

### Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>

### Shabbat Worship at 10:30 a.m.

### Bat Mitzvah of Dana Graizel

*Torah Portion: Genesis 25:19-28:9*

*Haftarah Portion: Malachi 1:1-2:7*

Sat. Dec 2	9:15 am	Torah Study
	10:30 pm	Shabbat Services B/M Dana Graizel
	6:30 pm	BAZAAR
Sun. Dec 3	9:00 am	Religious School
	10:00 am	BAZAAR
	11:15 am	Outreach Comm. Mtg.
Tue. Dec 5	4:00 pm	Religious School
	7:30 pm	Mini University

Tues. Dec 5	8:00 pm	Exec. Comm. Mtg.
	8:00 pm	House Meeting
Wed. Dec 6	4:00 pm	Religious School
	6:15 pm	Etz Chayim
	8:00 pm	Adult Choir
Thurs. Dec 7	12:00 pm	Lunch & Learn

### Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>

### Shabbat Vayetze

*Candle-lighting - 4:11 p.m.*

*The Oneg Shabbat will be sponsored by Deborah Saloway in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of her daughter Jennifer*

**Services at 8:30 pm**



### Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>

### Shabbat Worship at 10:30 a.m.

### Bat Mitzvah of Jennifer Saloway

*Torah Portion Genesis 28:10-32:3*

*Haftarah Hosea 12:13-14:10*

Sat. Dec 9	9:15 am	Torah Study
	9:15 am	Tot Shabbat
	10:30 am	Shabbat Services B/M Jennifer Saloway
Sun. Dec 10	9:00 am	Religious School
	10:00 am	Parent-Teacher Conf. B'yachad Breakfast
Tues. Dec 12	4:00 pm	Religious School
	7:30 pm	Mini University

Wed. Dec 13	4:00 pm	Religious School
	6:15 pm	Etz Chayim
	8:00 pm	Adult Choir
	8:00 pm	Rel. School Comm. Meeting
Thurs. Dec 14	12:00 pm	Lunch & Learn
	8:00 pm	Bd. Of Trustees Mtg.

# December 2000

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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17 9:00 AM Rel. School 11:00 AM Library/School Read. Prog. 5th Grade Fam. Ed. Day	18	19 4:00 PM Religious School 8:00 PM Social Action Mtg.	20 4:00 PM Religious School 6:15 PM Etz Chayim 6:30 PM ECC Chanukah Dinner 8:00 PM Adult Choir 8:00 PM Adult Ed. Mtg.	21 12:00 PM Lunch & Learn Chanukah Begins	22 6:30 PM Congregation Chanukah Supper 8:30 PM Shabbat Services ECC Vacation Begins No School	23 9:15 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Shabbat Svcs																																																																																				
24 No Religious School Closed for vacation	25 Building Closed ECC Closed for vacation	26	27	28 8:00 PM Ritual Comm. Mtg. No Lunch & Learn	29 8:30 PM Shabbat Services	30 9:15 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Shabbat Svcs																																																																																				
31 New Year's Eve	<div><div>November 00</div><table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td></tr><tr><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td></tr><tr><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td></tr><tr><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table></div> <div><div>January 01</div><table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr><tr><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table></div>						S	M	T	W	T	F	S				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30			S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			
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***RABBI JOSHUA TRACHTENBERG MEMORIAL LIBRARY  
TEMPLE EMETH***

**CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

In preparation for a book exhibit and bibliography on Jewish History through Novels, we need to find some titles that are out of print. If a congregation member has a copy of any of the following titles and would like to contribute them to the library, we would be most appreciative.

THE SETTLERS by Meyer Levin

JOSEPHUS by Lion Feuchtwanger

THE BROTHERS ASHKENAZI by I.J.Singer

EXODUS by Leon Uris

THE MARRANOS by Liliane Webb

DREAMERS OF THE GHETTO by Israel Zangwill

BREAD GIVERS by Anzia Yezierska

---

BULLETIN---PLEASE RETURN THE FOLLOWING BOOK TO THE LIBRARY:

IN MY BROTHER'S IMAGE BY EUGENE PAGONY

## Entertainment Books

Just a reminder that B'yachad is selling Entertainment Books. The new books, which are now available in the Temple Office, contain discounts on dining, travel, shopping, movies and more. They may be used immediately and are valid thru November 1, 2001. The cost of the books has been **reduced to \$20**. The books may be purchased during Temple office hours. Contact David Fox (836-0260) for further information or to arrange other times to buy the book.

### \*\*\*\*\* Bazaar \*\*\*\*\*

December 2      6:30 pm - 10:30 pm

December 3      10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Come and Shop!!!



Come and Work!!!

Come and Eat!!!



Bring the family!!!



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## Good & Welfare

### Heartfelt Condolences To...

Steve Rosenthal on the loss of his beloved cousin, Glen Rosenberg

Aaron Kaplan on the loss of his beloved sister, Helen Kaplan

### Temple Emeth Book Club

The next meeting of the Book Club is scheduled to meet on December 14, 2000 at Bobbi Lewis' house located at 566 Illingworth Ave., Englewood. We will be discussing the book Delta Wedding by Eudora Welty.

### Support Group

Dru Greenwood, National Outreach Director for the UAHC and member of Temple Emeth is leading a support group at the synagogue. Rabbi Arturo Kalfus will also participate in this group. This series will continue with meetings on 12/7/00, 1/4/01, 2/1/01, 3/1/01, and 3/29/01. The group is intended for those who have converted, are in the process of doing so, or are considering conversion. Individuals and couples are welcome. Anyone with questions or interested in registering should contact the event chair, Jim Veach at [veachjdz@juno.com](mailto:veachjdz@juno.com) or call him at 212-804-4233.

## RABBI JOSHUA TRACHTENBERG MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Temple Emeth      Circulation Procedure

**Follow these 5 simple steps to take out a book from the library**

1. Remove book card from the book pocket of the book.
2. Write your name, phone number and date due (M/D/Y) on the book.
3. File the card in the wooden card tray on the desk **BY TITLE BEHIND THE LETTER.**
4. Fill out a date due slip as a reminder and insert it in the book pocket. (Slips on desk)  
4 weeks for regular library shelves, 2 weeks for a new book (red dot) and 1 week for videos
5. When a book is due, return it to the library in the box provided or to the Temple office.



**CHANUKAH, SO SOON?!****You Bet!**

Save the date now! Reservations will be limited! On December 22nd the Membership Committee will be hosting a Chanukah Supper in honor of our new members and prospective new members, and you're all invited!

The cost will be \$6 per member, children under 12 and invited guests will be free!

Reservation forms will be coming soon, but it's not too early to sign up, so drop us a note to reserve a spot for you now!

**Calling all latke makers:** Anyone interested in helping make home made latkes for this event please leave your name and number in the membership box!

**ADULT KALLAH - 2000**

Join us for this wonderful annual weekend of study, prayer and socializing February 9th to 11th at the Pearl River Hilton.

The cost is \$190 per person, double occupancy and \$250 per person, Single (not sharing a room). King, queen and double beds.

Shabbat Dinner Friday night, three scrumptious meals on Saturday..breakfast and lunch on Sunday.

Call Bev Lazar at 498-9564 or

**Carlene Fleishman at 836-0226**

**RESPONSES TO YOM KIPPUR SERMON**

I enjoyed reading the Rabbis thoughts and feelings on the current situation in Israel. I too am in great desire for a true and everlasting peace to descend on my beloved Israel (the land and the people). In fact, several months ago I believed that a juncture in history of Biblical proportion was at hand. I believed that the peace I dreamed of (the reunion of the brothers) was being realized. It appears I was wrong.

I appreciate the Rabbis thoughts on land versus peace versus spirituality, etc. Here is the dilemma. You can not detach Israel the people from her land or holy sites. God inextricably attached them through our inheritance. The Rabbis position appears to promote this and the Arabs applaud this. Barak offered them our legs and arms. The Arabs want our heart (Jerusalem). Even if we do not see this, Adonai does. No entity can function without its heart. **Robert Bernstein**

Rabbi: I tend to agree with most of your position. I have been to the Kotel as well and prayed there. But my life as a Jew has not been strongly tied to Jerusalem. It has been tied to our traditions, our culture, our concepts, our synagogue, our families and parents. Our religion, all religions, should reside in the people who believe in it, not primarily in buildings. It does sound a little idolatrous. If we think that God created the whole world, then which piece of property is not holy?

Further, I like to think "outside the box." Objectively speaking, the Temple Mount has been a Moslem prayer site for the last 1400 years. They believe in their faith, we believe in ours.

It is easier to make peace between near equals than between victor and vanquished. the spilt blood of the past weeks silences the moderates and makes the extremists bolder. Even Israelis, I suspect, feel sympathy for the young teens caught in the crossfire. Of course, the slaughtering of the 2 Israeli soldiers hardened all Jewish hearts. I have asked our elected officials to have American non-lethal crowd control weapons sent to the Israelis. Of course, some would object that the deaths of the demonstrators is deserved, but it is their grieving families that justify further demonstrations.

I actually believe that Israelis and Palestinians can find a way to live and work and prosper. Full separation is nearly impossible anyway. **Art Vatsky**

## **BECOME AN EMETH BUDDY**

**Hillel taught : Do not separate yourself from the community**  
**Pirkei Avot 2:4**

Hillel's words remind us that every Jew has an obligation to be a part of the community. In an effort to help our new members ease into our community, the Membership Committee is proud to announce our newly revamped "Buddy Program."

Become an Emeth Buddy. Sign up below and let us know who we should pair you (and your family) up with. We will be conducting Buddy classes and will support your efforts in every way.

What would we expect of you? Just to keep in touch...talk to your Buddy about their interests and what might interest them at Emeth, answer questions about who to call for what, invite them to share a shabbot service or attend a B'yachad breakfast...Keep them posted on upcoming events...Be a resource and maybe even a friend.

Become an integral part of your community by helping us continue to cultivate a welcoming, friendly atmosphere, so that our new members have a positive experience in their new community.

-----  
I/WE WOULD LIKE TO BECOME AN EMETH BUDDY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name, Telephone Number, E-mail address

Return to the Membership Box in the Emeth Office.  
Thank you for your participation. We'll be calling you soon!

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## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL and LIBRARY COMMITTEE

## Children's Chanukah Celebration

Storytelling sessions, cosponsored by the library committee and the religious school, will begin Sunday morning December 17<sup>th</sup> in the Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library. Michael Farhi, Vivian Gaits, and Andrea Winters will read Chanukah stories to children in the lower grades. Several newly purchased Chanukah picture books will be available for circulation after the 17<sup>th</sup>.

These books deal with miracles, religious freedom, and Jewish families. They explain the Chanukah story in simple terms, emphasize cross-generational bonds, and explore community celebrations, especially those in Eastern European shtetls. Parents reading these tales to their children can expand on them by bringing personal histories into the conversation.

The Miracle of the Potato Latkes by Malka Penn is a fanciful version of the holiday legend. Instead of a small amount of oil lasting for eight days, here potatoes are in short supply.

Inside-Out Grandma by Joan Rothenberg. A simple question ("Why are you wearing your clothes inside out, Grandma?") takes us on a trip back in time to reveal past Chanukah celebrations.


Grandma's Latkes by Malka Drucker. Holly's grandma recounts the holiday story as they prepare the latkes.

The Ugly Menorah by Marissa Moss. Rachel is appalled by her grandmother's ugly homemade menorah until she learns about the love it represents.

Chanukah in Chelm by David Adler. A foolish caretaker searches for a table on which to rest the menorah. He doesn't notice the one right under his nose! The witty text is well matched to the pen and watercolor illustration, capturing the feeling of Chelm with humor and affection.

Latkes, Latkes Good to Eat by Naomi Howland. Sadie and her brothers live on the outskirts of a tiny village with no chance of getting anything to eat. But—a miracle happens! Because of Sadie's generosity, she is given a magic frying pan that cooks sizzling hot, delicious latkes.

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## CREATE CHANUKAH TRADITIONS IN YOUR HOME

Chanukah celebrates our religious survival in spite of attempts to force us to assimilate into the mass culture of society at large. The dedication and struggle of the Maccabees should inspire us to work to create a nurturing Jewish environment in our homes, lest we allow the media and marketplace to accomplish what the Syrian-Greeks could not.

Each family member can create or purchase a personal Chanukiyah (Chanukah Menorah).

Children can make Chanukah decorations yearly.

Every dinner during the week can feature a special Chanukah food (latkes, sufganiot [donuts]).

Precede the daily candle lighting with a brief family reading or song from the CCAR Chanukah book *Haneirot Halalu*.

Have an annual Chanukah party for friends and/or family you do not see often.

Collect Chanukah "gelt".

In the days of greatest winter darkness, the warmth of Chanukah and its lights can add a special warmth and beauty to your home, and create positive Jewish memories that will be remembered for a lifetime.

## BECOME A SHALOM BABY VOLUNTEER!

Help newborns and their families get off to a great start! Shalom Baby is a new program to welcome babies to the Jewish community. The program will reach out to Jewish families in our area who have recently experienced the birth or adoption of a child. Trained volunteers will contact these families and bring them a welcome gift package.

By becoming a Shalom Baby Volunteer you will make a difference in the lives of Jewish babies and parents in our community.

Contact Frieda Herschman Huberman - 488-1507x348

[www.jewishbergen.org/shalombaby](http://www.jewishbergen.org/shalombaby)

## STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO HELP ISRAEL

UJA Federation recommends:

1. Advocate...write when you see biased and inaccurate media coverage...Send op-ed pieces in support of Israel...Contact your legislators to sign on to a resolution expressing solidarity with Israel... Contact Consulates and UN Missions of nations who voted for the resolution to condemn Israel for "acts of violence"... See [www.jewishbergen.org](http://www.jewishbergen.org) for addresses, sample letters and details.
2. Reach Out...Call, write to or e-mail your Israeli friends and family members, and let them know you care...See [www.jewishbergen.org](http://www.jewishbergen.org) for ideas on how to involve your school, synagogue, agency and family in reaching out to Israelis who have been affected by the violence.

## SPIRITUALITY KALLAH

The annual Regional Spirituality Kallah will be held at Barnert Temple, Franklin Lakes on Saturday February 3 from 9 am to 5 pm.

### Temple e-mail addresses

You may want to make note of the following e-mail addresses. All these accounts are now active.

Marion Schechter, Temple Administrator  
mschechter@carroll.com

Tsilla Thumim, Temple Controller  
tthumim@carroll.com

Lisa Lieberman Barzilai, Religious School  
Director llbarzilai@carroll.com

Beth Rosen, Early Childhood Center  
Director brosen@carroll.com

Barbara Sabella, School Administrator  
bsabella@carroll.com

and, of course, we are

J&J jboonin@carroll.com  
jguttman@carroll.com



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## CANTORS DISCRETIONARY FUND

-Beth and Herb Lazarus in honor of Rebecca's Bat-Mitzvah

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND

-Micki and Mike Grunstein: in honor of the engagement of Kenny Kotkin, son of Elaine and Stan; in honor of the engagement of Melissa Butensky, daughter of Fran and Irwin; in honor of the engagement of Emily Loft, daughter of Sandy and Herb; in honor of the marriage of Melissa Brecher, daughter of Madeleine and George; in honor of the marriage of Caroline Newman, daughter of Debby and Mike; in memory of Frances Bressman mother of Joan Snider

-Muriel Pader sending get well wishes to Howard Kaplan  
-Estelle and Bob Spiewak: sending get well wishes to Howard Kaplan; sending get well wishes to Aaron Maltin

## CARING COMMUNITY FUND

-Robbie Liblit in memory of Helen Abrams

## LIBRARY FUND

-Nancy Plotkin in memory of Vince Caruso  
-Linda Poskanzer

## MARGERY ROTHSCHILD ISRAEL FUND

-Margie and Bob Aerenon: Mazel Tov to Milly and Murray Beer on the birth of their new grandson; sending get well wishes to Aaron Kaplan; sending get well wishes to Howard Kaplan; in honor of the special birthday of Ruth Meyer

## MAZON FUND

-Cindy Kitzinger: in memory of Richard Kitzinger; sending get well wishes to Howard Kaplan

## MUSIC FUND

-Elaine and Richard Manberg in memory of Morris Manberg  
-Jackie and David Cohen in honor of the new home of Gladys and Aaron Kaplan  
-Joan and David Paul in memory of Edwin Hartman father of Margo Anagnostis  
-Beulah Warshaw in memory of Beryl Barth

## MUSEUM FUND

-Gloria and Marvin Barsky in memory of Max Kaplan, husband of Muriel  
-Marilyn Brummel in honor of the birth of Quetzal, new granddaughter of Naomi and Tom Blumenfeld  
-Robbie and Jerry Liblit in honor of the birth of Quetzal, new granddaughter of Naomi and Tom Blumenfeld

## PRAYERBOOK FUND

-Enid and Sidney Broder  
-Beth and Herb Lazarus in memory of Jan Trenholm

## RABBIS DISCRETIONARY FUND

-Muriel Pader in memory of Rose Tarshis  
-Beth and Herb Lazarus in honor of Rebecca's Bat-Mitzvah  
-Ronald and Linda Klempner in memory of Leon Klempner  
-Marvin, Randi and Michael Hopman in memory of Patricia Hopman  
-Robert, Chantal and Harriet Wolf in memory of Ben Wolf  
-Micki and Mike Grunstein in gratitude to Rabbi.  
-Elliot Plotkin in memory of Florence Plotkin  
-Linda Klempner in honor of Jason's arrival from Israel

## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

-Jeanette and Michael Goodman in memory of Patricia Hopman, mother of Michael Hopman

## SOCIAL ACTION FUND

-Judith and Gary Schumer in memory of Leon Klempner, father of Ron Klempner

## BARBARA STRAUSSMAN YOUTH FUND

-Elaine and Stan Kotkin: in honor of the engagement of Julie Lipsitz; sending get well wishes to Micki Grunstein

## TEMPLE EMETH FUND

-Laura and Dan Kirsch: in memory of Florence Plotkin, mother of Elliot; sending get well wishes to Howard Kaplan  
-Carlene and Seymour Fleishman: in honor of the marriage Stephen Yegelwel; in memory of the grandmother of Michelle Sawicki  
-Suzanne Keusch in memory of Isabel Hammel  
-Suzanne and Phil Keusch in memory of Frances Bressman, mother of Joan Snider  
-Sydell and Sy Yegelwel: in memory of Frances Bressman; in memory of Max Kaplan  
-Selma Kumin: sending get well wishes to Sy Yegelwel; in honor of the marriage of Stephen Yegelwel  
-Beverly and Sy Lazar sending get well wishes to Sy Yegelwel

## TORAH REPAIR FUND

-Sally Gellert in memory of Abraham Cooper  
-Rose and Charly Kneeter in honor of the marriage of Francine to Jon Graff, daughter of Loretta Weinberg  
-Barbara and Paul Kaufman: in memory of Max Kaplan, husband of Muriel Kaplan; sending get well wishes to Sy Yegelwel

## YAHREZEIT CONTRIBUTIONS

-Beth Clarke in memory of Sam Kessler  
-Robert Reitman in memory of Seymour Reitman  
-Beatrice and Stanley Isaacs in memory of Rose and Morris Weissman  
-Brenda Cooper in memory of Harold Cooper

## CONTRIBUTION FORM

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Enclosed \$10 minimum contribution)

Fund \_\_\_\_\_

Please send to: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Message: (In honor/memory of, thank you to) \_\_\_\_\_

Contributor: \_\_\_\_\_

### THE EMETH FUNDS

Contributory Funds: contributions are deposited in the Temple Emeth Funds Account and are drawn for current use by designated committees.

Adult Education Fund

Albert and Mildred Otten

Institute for Living Arts

Caring Community Fund

Children's Worship Fund

Early Childhood Center Fund

Environment Fund

Abe Golumb Religious

School Scholarship Fund

Inscribed Prayerbook Fund

Israel Bond Int. Fund (def. red)

Library Fund

Museum Fund

Music Fund

Outreach Fund

Prayerbook Fund

Religious School Fund

Ritual Fund

Margery Rothschild

Memorial Israel Fund

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Social Action Fund

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Torah Repair Fund

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Memorial Lecture Fund

Yahrzeit Fund

Youth Committee

Program Fund

Endowed Funds: - contributions are added to principal held by the Temple Emeth Endowment Foundation and income from the funds is distributed yearly.

Adult Kallah Scholarship Fund

Honigberg/Howard Religious School Scholarship Fund

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Alfred and Helen Levin Youth Award Fund

Rabbi Louis J. Sigel Endowment Fund

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Youth Scholarship Fund

Tzedakah Funds: - contributions are distributed to various beneficiary agencies by the Social Action Committee.

General Grants

Mazon

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Other Funds: - contributions are used at the discretion of the recipient.

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 Tel(202)456-1414      Fax(202)224-9707

Franklautenberg@lautenberg.senate.gov

Fax(202)456-2461  
 President@whitehouse.gov

Senator Robert Torricelli      Rep. Steve Rothman  
 113 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.      1607 Longworth Off. Bld  
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 Tel(202)224-3224      Tel(202)225-5061  
 Fax(202)224-8567      Fax(202)225-5851  
 senator@torricelli.senate.gov      steven.rothman@mail.house.gov

Dear \_\_\_\_\_  
 (name of elected official)

The violence against Israeli civilians by the Palestinians threatens not only the State of Israel but also affects the entire Middle East region. Please continue your support for the State of Israel in its effort to achieve a safe, secure and lasting peace.

Thank you.

(Signature) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Please print name) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (address)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 (city, state, zip code)

## **FROM the MAIL BOX:**

Every year I carry stones from my garden to my parents grave. The stones are placed upon a larger stone that marks the resting place of my parents. I pray there. I meditate. To me this is sacred ground.

So it is with the Western wall. A place sacred because it is part of my heritage. The historic stones that bind me to generations past. I have prayed there.

Praying at the wall is not idolatrous worship. Nor is praying at any other religious shrine in Israel. All are hewn from rock by generations long gone. I respect every inch.

Provocation comes in many forms. With words, with stones, with bombs.

Israel exists because Jews have a legitimate historic right to the land. I will defend every rock. For if I don't all of Judaism will perish.

**Murial Kaplan**

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