

A Message from Rabbi Steven Sirbu



"If you search for the Eternal your God, you will find Him, if only you seek Him with all your heart and soul." This verse from the Book of Deuteronomy, which we are now reading, encompasses not only the modern spiritual quest, but also the introspective message of the High Holy Days.

Allow me to elaborate. One of the overarching themes of Deuteronomy is devotion to the one God. (Not surprisingly, then, the Shema comes from Deuteronomy as well.)

Put yourself in the shoes of an Israelite who escaped slavery in Egypt and followed Moses in the desert. You'd have to agree that monotheism might be a perplexing idea for our ancestors. After all, they had no theological role models in Egypt. When they crossed safely through the Red Sea, they sang, "*Mi chamocha ba'elim Adonai?*—Who is like you, O God, among the gods that are worshipped?" Even their song of thanksgiving was one that acknowledged the existence of other gods.

The early Israelites' difficulty with monotheism echoes through most of the Torah. Evidently, God was not fulfilling all of what we would call today, "their spiritual needs." So finally in Deuteronomy 4:29, God approaches the situation from another angle.

By telling the Israelites that if they seek earnestly, they will find God, the Torah is saying that it is not just a responsibility, but an opportunity. Finding God is not as difficult as it might seem. The key to finding God is simply looking with the proper intention and devotion.

This perhaps best sums up the season we are about to enter. Every year some people take offense to the Book of Life imagery in the High Holy Day liturgy, especially the part that says, "who shall live and who shall die." As Jews, however, we take things figuratively far more often than we take them literally.

For someone who follows the lesson of Deuteronomy and seeks God, the result is bound to be finding God. I believe that finding God and being written in the Book of Life are synonymous. We live when we search and find and search and find; we die when we roam this earth disconnected from our loving Creator.

As we consider how the Israelites accepted the new concept of monotheism, it is appropriate as well to consider how you, the membership of Temple Emeth, will accept me as your new rabbi. Suffice to say I have put great effort into meeting you and setting priorities for us to move forward in the coming year.

I believe that my tenure at Temple Emeth will be a long and fulfilling one. More importantly, I believe that this is a congregation that indeed seeks God. Part of my role is to make sure that together we are seeking with all our heart and soul.

L'shanah Tovah—To A Sweet and Healthy New Year!

Temple Emeth
1666 Windsor Road
Teaneck, NJ 07666
833-1322 School 833-8466

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Page

3	From the President
4	From the Cantor
5	Welcome new Board Members
6	From the Early Childhood Center
7	From the Religious School
8	B'yachad - UAHC
9	Publicity Committee - Trouble
10	Kallah 2004 - Milestone Membership
11-12	Wilford Weill Memorial Essay Winner
13	Letters to the Editor
14	Renaissance Group - House Committee
15	Bazaar - Scrip Stud
16	Trachtenberg Library
17-18-19-20	Contributions
21	Emeth Funds - Forms

TEMPLE EMETH BULLETIN
ADVERTISING RATES

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For info: Call 201-836-3369 Bob Spiewak, Editor

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THAT YOU SAW IT IN THE BULLETIN

Month	Bulletin Deadline	Pub. Date	Mid-month Deadline	Pub. Date
September			August 29	September 15
October	September 4	September 23	September 25	October 8
November	October 9	October 24	November 4	November 10
December	November 13	November 26	November 27	December 10
January	December 11	December 26	January 6	January 15
February	January 8	January 23	February 4	February 12
March	February 12	February 24	March 3	March 11
April	March 11	March 26	April 7	April 14
May	April 15	April 23	May 5	May 12
June	May 13	May 21	June 9	June 16

Material for the bulletin is not only welcome, it is essential for the success of the publication; HOWEVER, it is necessary to honor the deadlines as listed. For the Bulletin mailings, all material must be in the Bulletin Box at the Temple Office by 8:00 pm on the date of the deadline.

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

Is Your Emeth Tzedakah Box Full??
Send your collection to the Emeth Tzedakah Fund. Please indicate where you would like your donation to go. Remember: all of this money goes to charity!

Phone _____ Name _____

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☐ Center for Food Action
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HEAR THE BUZZ

If you have been to the Temple during this summer, there is a distinct and exciting buzz in the air. It's the buzz of congregants and staff talking as Rabbi Sirbu, our new Rabbi, goes about the business of meeting with and learning about us and who we are, and we do the same with him. The buzz is invigorating and infectious, as a new vitality and energy emanates from services, Torah study and meetings as we worship, study and plan for the future.

To say that Rabbi Sirbu has hit the ground running is an understatement. Although his time with us officially began July 1, in actuality he started in May, as he and I had a series of meetings to learn about each other, give him information about Temple Emeth and begin planning for the new year. Then the Transition Committee, chaired by Dan Firshein, worked with Rabbi Sirbu to plan a number of meetings and "Meet Rabbi Sirbu" events.

On June 17 and 18, Rabbi Sirbu had a series of over 20 back to back hour and half-hour meetings with many of our committee chairs and our staff in order to further understand our programming needs and desires. At that time, he also met with the families of our students who are scheduled to become a Bar or Bat Mitzvah in September or October.

Many of you have attended the "Meet Rabbi Sirbu" events that have taken place throughout July and August, some at member's homes, some at the Temple as part of an extended Oneg Shabbat or Lunch and Learn. Thank you to the Westin, Packles, Isaac, Bernard and Moss families for making their homes available to us.

Rabbi Sirbu has been busy on many other fronts as well, including reaching out to the local Jewish and Interfaith communities, meeting our children at summer camp at Camp Harlam in the Poconos and Camp Eisner in the Berkshires, and planning for a commemoration service on September 11 and the Trachtenberg Lecture on October 24. Of course, he has also been working closely with Cantor Tilem to plan for the High Holy Days.

But the real excitement happens every Friday night and Saturday morning at Shabbat services and at Torah study. If you haven't been there yet, speak to someone who has. Even better, come yourself. See what the buzz is all about.

B'Shalom
Larry Silver,
President

MESSAGE FROM THE CANTOR

Eve had been praying every night before bed for a long time now. Starting around age five, Eve started asking for a baby brother or sister. And each time she asked when she would get to be a big sister, my husband and I encouraged her to ask God right after she said Sh'ma to "put a baby in Mommy's belly." More than a year later, we were thrilled to tell her that her prayers had been answered, that in fact, she would be a big sister before she knew it. Her face lit up immediately as she exclaimed, "*God is my best friend!*" As you may already be aware, the title "best friend" is a very high honor in the life of a six-year-old. I realized after hearing my child say this that I have rarely heard an adult refer to God in such comfortable and familiar terms.

What is it that keeps us from allowing God into our lives on such a personal level? Why do we choose to keep God at a distance much of the time by using terms such as "Our Maker," "Our Ruler," "High and Holy One?" While certainly God can and should be all of these things to each of us, we often cheat ourselves of truly knowing God as a friend. When talking to adults about prayer, I find that many adults complain that they do not "know how" to pray. I remind them, as I remind you now that prayer does not need to be formal and composed, rather, we can begin to pray by speaking to God as a friend. For instance, "Hi God, I'm having a rough day and I need someone to talk to." That, in itself, is the beginning of prayer.

On the High Holy Days, we sing "*Ki Anu Amecha*" a prayer set to music in which we refer to God as our friend. If we are to truly experience this familiarity with God then we need to believe that God is someone we can talk to as if we were picking up the phone to call a good friend. I will assume for a moment that each of us has at least one other person in our life with whom we are totally honest. If we cannot be totally honest with God as we would with that friend, than how will we be able to experience a full sense of *T'shuvah*? Repentance and change can only come through complete honesty and openness regarding our past sins. Speaking to God openly and frankly can help us to ask forgiveness for our sins as we would ask a friend to forgive a wrongdoing. As Rashi said, "A man may hide himself from his enemies, but not from his friends."

When Eve tells me that she was not very nice on the playground or did not share her Barbie dolls with her friend, I tell her to go back to that person and ask for forgiveness. Only then will she enjoy true friendship, only then will the slate be cleared and she and her friend can start over. So too, do we, on the High Holy Days, clear the slate with God and be able to begin again. Often, we are surprised to see how quick in mercy and great in forgiveness God is, that God can, be our best friend.

Peter and Eve Join Me In Wishing You
L'Shana Tova, A Happy, Blessed and Sweet New Year!


Cantor Ellen Tilem

Steve Chaiken has been a member of Temple Emeth for approximately eleven years. He has been active in social action as well as with fundraising. While Steve has volunteered and participated in many of the fundraising events, he has been most active in the Temple Emeth Gala "Sky's the Limit" Auction.

Steve is the owner of a data processing company, Chaiken Systems, based in New York City. Married to Lynn and father of two children, Max, 17, and Toby, 14 - the entire family has been involved in various temple activities throughout the years. Steve would like to help find ways to keep our kids and their families more involved in Temple life after their B'nai Mitzvahs.

Marc Chelemer began his involvement with Judaism at age 8 in a modern orthodox temple in Pittsburgh, PA. The next year, he transferred to a Reform temple, and, finding that too radical a change from his first year experience, finished his studies at a Conservative Schul. Thereafter Marc practiced "cultural Judaism" keeping as many commandments about being Jewish in the home as possible. As his daughter, Micaela, reached the age where she needed to attend Hebrew school, Marc and his wife, Carol Shansky, joined Temple Beth Am in Teaneck. There, Marc discovered a love of Torah study and an ability to read Torah unbeknownst even to him. After two years at Beth Am, Marc and his family decided to join the Emeth family. Since coming to Emeth, Marc has expanded his involvement in Judaism through teaching in the Emeth Religious School, tutoring students as they prepare for their B'nai Mitzvot, and leading services both as stand-in Cantor and Service Leader. He also sings in the Temple Emeth Adult Choir for High Holy Day services.

Marc works in the world of recycling, where he manages several Tire Recycling facilities up and down the East Coast. These facilities process scrap tires into useful products. He is also an avid birdwatcher, bicyclist, and gardener.

I'm **Jim Sandler**. My wife, Alissa and I have lived in the same house on Brinkerhoff Avenue for 18 years since we moved to Teaneck. Katy (15) and Matthew (11) both attend the public schools.

I have been the owner of a small industrial manufacturing and an export management business in Englewood until early 2002. Since then, I have had one consulting job as Sales and Marketing Manager of an airfreight trucking company. Currently out of work, I am looking for a full time opportunity in marketing, new business development or corporate management.

I am a certified Ice Hockey coach, holding advanced coaches certification with USA Hockey. My son, Matthew plays travel hockey, which I coach and have been treasurer and president of the Longfellow Working Parents Association.

I am currently on the Finance Committee of Temple Emeth, and Chairperson of the Scrip Committee. While I am socially liberal, I believe that financially, we have a responsibility when entrusted with other people's money. Programs must be able to pay for themselves and people must believe that they are getting value for their money. On a recent job interview, I was told that one of my positive qualities is that I am "forceful". I hope to use this skill in order to help steer the Board of Trustees to make the right decisions for all of Emeth.

I hope to meet more Temple members. I will be happy to deliver scrip to you. Call (201) 836-3134.

Pamela Etzin lives in Hillsdale with her husband Jeffrey and Kimberly, 10 and Carly, 7.

For the past year she has assisted Debby Newman in bringing new merchandise to the Emeth gift shop and is now the co-chairperson.

Very active in the Hillsdale PTA, she is in charge of numerous fund raising and social activities.

Pam is a long time member of Jewish Women International and had a 15 year career in showroom sales in the NYC dress industry.

As the co-chairperson, with Debby Saloway, of the membership committee, Pam said she believes the enthusiasm and excitement of a new Rabbi will catch on and really help to increase membership.

FROM THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

"ALL BEGINNINGS REQUIRE THAT YOU
UNLOCK NEW DOORS"

-Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav

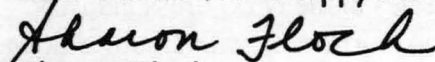
Dear Temple Emeth Member,

It is my pleasure to introduce myself as the new ECC Director. I began what I hope will be a long and productive tenure at Temple Emeth at the end of July. In this brief period of time I have been touched by the warmth and support of Temple and ECC staff, members and parents. Coming on board while summer camp was still in session provided me with the opportunity to spend some time in the classrooms and witness the excitement of our children "at work", and the nurturing environment in which they spend their days here.

For those of you to whom I am still a "stranger," let me share some of my background with you. Educationally, I have a BA from SUNY Binghamton and an MS in Education from the University of Pennsylvania. I worked as a Head Teacher in the Early Childhood program at the YJCC in Washington Township for 9 years and then went on to Director of Education at the Emerson branch of a national supplemental learning center where I spent 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ years. On a more personal note, I moved to Mahwah from Hillsdale about a year ago and am the proud mother of 21-year-old twin girls who will, G-d willing, graduate from their respective colleges in the spring. I feel fortunate to have inherited a program of such high quality and reputation, and am pleased to become a part of the Temple family. I hope you will feel free to stop by at any time. I am here to share your concerns, answer your questions and provide whatever support I can.

As we approach a season of new beginnings as Jews, I look forward to my beginning at Temple Emeth, and to our unlocking many new doors together.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year,


Sharon Floch

From the Religious School:

"Each person makes a spiritual journey in his or her lifetime."

In Temple Emeth Religious School, our students in Kindergarten through 7th grade gain the tools, knowledge, and experiences that enable them to embark and continue on his/her Jewish journey.

Our students experience a curriculum that evokes the spirituality of Jewish life through Jewish texts, rituals, prayer, history, music, and art. Our students learn mitzvot and midot (values) that elevate and honor each human being as well as life itself. Midot (values) such as welcoming guests, feeding the hungry, taking care of the sick, pursuing peace, and acts of loving kindness are modeled and taught as conduits and pathways for living a good and just life. Our Religious School is committed to "Torah, Avodah and Gmilit Chasadim" - the study of Torah, worship, and acts of loving kindness. Our teachers teach and model the concept that mitzvot and midot (values) are opportunities for us to get closer to G-d and to each other. "Live a Mitzvah - Be a Mensch" is a theme we will continue working on this year.

Special events of our 1st Day of Religious School - Sept. 7

Grades 4-7

9:00 - 9:30 a.m. - All parents are invited to join their children for a special "Welcome Back Service" ("Bruchim Habaim") with Rabbi Sirbu, Mora Dora and staff in the Sanctuary.

9:30 a.m. - Meet and greet Rabbi Sirbu in the Social Hall.

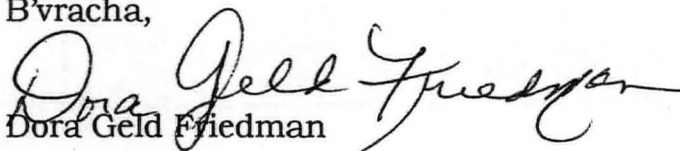
Grades K-3

11:00 - 11:30 a.m. - All parents are invited to join their children for a special "Welcome Back Service" ("Bruchim Habaim") with Rabbi Sirbu, Mora Dora and staff in the Sanctuary.

11:30 a.m. - Meet and greet Rabbi Sirbu in the Social Hall.

On behalf of our faculty and staff and from my family to yours, I wish for you and your families a world that is "new every morning and to feel reborn and renewed each day!" Shana Tova!

B'vracha,


Dora Geld Friedman

Temple Emeth B'Yachad

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The Reform Movement and You

Temple Emeth is a proud member of the UAHC,
the umbrella organization for Reform Judaism.
Each month, this space will highlight programs or
events sponsored by the Reform movement.

**UAHC Biennial Convention, November 5-9,
2003 in Minneapolis:** Every other year, over
4000 Reform Jews from across the U.S. and
Canada gather to pray, study, and discuss
the future of our movement. The theme of this
year's biennial is "Go Forth and Discover."
Log on to uahc.org/minnesota for more
information.

**Introduction to Judaism Class, Mondays
beginning October 13 in Fair Lawn:** As part of
Reform Judaism's commitment to education
and outreach, our region is sponsoring a 16-
session course designed for those who are
curious about Judaism or interested in
conversion. Details can be found at
uahc.org/njwhvc/Intro_Schedule.html, or by
calling Rabbi Sirbu at the Temple.

NEED HOUSEKEEPING?

BABY SITTING?

*** Call Bernarda Garcia *
*201-968-0020***

**Temple Emeth Member reference
Dru Greenwood 201-692-8156**

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE NOTES

We have enlarged the Publicity Committee to include Carla Silver (writeups), Leslie Sonkin (writeups + photography), Johanna Sturm (photography).

They will kindly back us up, especially when we have to be away. Also, will all committee chairs please send copy of upcoming events to us as early as possible. Send/bring copy, preferably on the provided forms available in the office, to our box at TE. If necessary e-mail us for a form or any questions: gborowit@cybernex.net. Thank you all.

Grace and Irving Borowitz

Dear Auction Maven-

It's hard to believe that it has been over a year since the Sky's the Limit Auction! We just enjoyed our special auction purchase - a wonderful evening with Cantor Tilem and her family, feasting on a home cooked meal of Mediterranean style stuffed peppers and luscious chocolate dessert! The conversation flowed from politics to parenting, the children enjoyed each other's company, a truly a special evening.

I've already marked my calendar for the next Auction - Saturday, May 22, 2004. Hope you have too! Sincerely, **Audrey Seares**

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Friday 11am-3pm

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**BEGINNINGS**

A baby's cries - A child's first words
Wakening at dawn to the sounds of the birds
Love's first kiss and warm embrace
Our first glance at a brand new place
And now as it happens each September
A new Emeth year for us to remember
This one's special-we've made a new start
With a new Rabbi to take to our heart!

Scrip is Available from Captains:

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Teaneck, NJ 07666- 201-692-8156

Don Kaplan 145 Stonehurst Drive

Tenafly, NJ 07670- 201-568-5189

Jim Sandler 29 Brinkerhoff Avenue

Teaneck, NJ 07666- 201-836-3134

Sy Lazar 280 Prospect Ave-#3K

Hackensack, NJ 07601-201-498-9563

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Temple Lobby 10:30am-11:30am Sunday morning

Gift Shop 10am-1pm Sunday

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FEBRUARY

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8 9 10 11 12 13 14
15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26 27 28
29

Save the Date:

Fri.-Sun., February 13-15, 2004
The Pearl River Hilton.
Pearl River, NY

The **Adult Kallah** (Hebrew for "study retreat") is a chance to spend a weekend in study and being led in prayer with our new Rabbi Steven Sirbu. It is a great way to experience the Temple Emeth community. Come join us.

Questions?

Please call Bev Lazar (201) 498-9563 or
Carlene Fleishman (201) 836-0226

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Temple Emeth

September 1 - 18, 2003 4 - 21 Elul 5763

Mon. 1	Labor Day	Office Closed	Thurs. 4	7:30 pm	ECC Parent Orientation
Wed. 3	6:00 pm	Religious School		8:00 pm	Bd of Trustees Mtg.
		Faculty Orientation			
	7:30 pm	Social Action Mtg.			
	8:00 pm	Kol Emeth Rehearsal			



Friday, Sept. 5

Shabbat Ki Tetze

Candle-lighting - 7:02 p.m.

Family Services at 7:30 p.m.

The Oneg Shabbat is being co-sponsored by Ewa & Leonard Benamy
in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Gabriel Benamy

and

Gwen & Martin Dubno in honor of the baby naming of their granddaughter,
Tai Bailey Weiss, daughter of Gayle & Steve Weiss.

Saturday, Sept. 6

Shabbat Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Bar Mitzvah of Gabriel Benamy

Torah Portion: Deut. 21:10-25:19 Haftarah Portion: Isaiah 54:1-10

Sat. 6	9:10 am	Torah Study	Wed. 10		BARJ 8 th grade Orientation
	10:30 am	Shabbat Services		8:00 pm	Kol Emeth Rehearsal
Sun. 7	9:00 am	Religious School Begins	Thurs 11	7:30 pm	9/11 Commemoration Service
Mon. 8	9:00 am	ECC Begins			

Friday, Sept. 12

Shabbat Ki Tavo

Candle-lighting - 6:51 p.m.

Shabbat Service at 8:30 pm

The Oneg Shabbat is being sponsored by Laaren & Leonard Hort
in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Sophie.

Saturday, Sept. 13

Shabbat Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Bat Mitzvah of Sophie Hort

Torah Portion: Deut. 26:1-29:8

Haftarah Portion: Isaiah 60:1-22

Sat. 13	9:10 am	Torah Study	Wed. 17		First Day of BARJ
	9:30 am	Tot Shabbat and Bagel Breakfast		8:00 pm	Kol Emeth Rehearsal
	10:30 am	Shabbat Services		8:00 pm	Finance Mtg.
Sun. 14	9:00 am	Religious School	Thurs. 18	7:30 pm	Membership Mtg.
	10:00 am	B'Yachad Breakfast		8:00 pm	Book Group meets in Temple Library to discuss "John Adams" by David McCullough

September 2003 4 Elul 5763 – 4 Tishre 5764

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 4 ELUL Labor Day OFFICE CLOSED	2 5 ELUL	3 6 ELUL 6:00 pm Religious School Faculty Orientation 7:30 pm Social Action Mtg. 8:00 pm Kol Emeth Rehearsal	4 7 ELUL 7:30 pm ECC Parent Orientation 8:00 pm Bd of Trustees Mtg. BULLETIN DEADLINE	5 8 ELUL 7:02 7:30 pm Family Services	6 9 ELUL Ki Tetze Shabbat Ends: 8:11 10:30 am Shabbat Services Bar Mitzvah of Gabriel Beramy
7 10 ELUL 9:00 am Religious School Begins	8 11 ELUL ECC Begins	9 12 ELUL	10 13 ELUL BARJ 8th Grade Orientation 8:00 pm Kol Emeth Rehearsal	11 14 ELUL 8:00 pm 9/11 Commemoration Service	12 15 ELUL 6:51 8:30 pm Shabbat Services	13 16 ELUL Ki Tavo Shabbat Ends: 7:59 9:30 am Tot Shabbat 10:30 am Shabbat Services Bat Mitzvah of Sophie Hort
14 17 ELUL 10:30 am B'Yachad Breakfast	15 18 ELUL	16 19 ELUL	17 20 ELUL 1st Day of BARJ 8:00 pm Kol Emeth Rehearsal 8:00 pm Finance Mtg.	18 21 ELUL 8:00 pm Membership Mtg. 8:00 pm Book Group meets in Library	19 22 ELUL 6:39 6:30 pm Pot Luck Supper 7:45 pm Musical Shabbat	20 23 ELUL Nitzavim - Vayelech Shabbat Ends: 7:47 10:30 pm Shabbat Services Bat Mitzvah of Ariel Greene SELICHOT SERVICES 7:30 pm Family Services 8:30 pm Havdalah and Oneg 10:00 pm Selichot Services
21 24 ELUL 9:00 am 7th grade Family Ed Day 10:00 am Caring Committee Mtg. 1:00 pm Religious School Teacher Development	22 25 ELUL	23 26 ELUL	24 27 ELUL 8:00 pm Kol Emeth Rehearsal	25 28 ELUL	26 29 ELUL Erev Rosh Hashanah 6:27 6:30 pm Family Oriented Services 8:00 pm Erev R.H. Services	27 1 TISHRE Rosh Hashanah - Day 1 Shabbat Ends: 7:35 10:00 am Morning Services K-7gr. Parallel Services 3:00 pm Children's Service 4:00 pm Tashlich
28 2 TISHRE Rosh Hashanah - Day 2 Yom Tov Ends: 7:34 10:00 am Morning Services No Religious School	29 3 TISHRE Fast of Gedalyah	30 4 TISHRE				

9:10 AM TORAH STUDY EVERY SHABBAT IN THE LIBRARY

GOOD & WELFARE

Condolences to....

Deena Sandel, on the death of her beloved mother, Shirley Cohen.

Herb Lazarus, on the death of his beloved father, Milton Lazarus.

Mazel Tov To

Teri & Fred Binder on the birth of their grandson, Jaydon Binder Smith.

Fran Butensky, on the birth of her grandson, Ian Matthew Kaplan.

Gail & Bob Levy, on the marriage of their son, Brian Jarred Levy to Marisa Ivy Cohen on 8/16/03

Welcome to Membership.....

Suzanne & Howard Berelson

Tammy & William Chesney

Sue, James, Shira & Dina Gelsey

Peggy, David, Nicole, Ryan and Jessalyn Gerber

Kariann, Brian, Ella & Jacob Hamburger

Geri Kaufman

Deborah, Howard, Jeremy, Isabel & Daniel Scher

Ellyn, Fred, Haley and Victoria Small

Get Well Wishes to....

Ken Heller

David Paul

Marc Chelemer

**URGENT
USHERS NEEDED FOR
THE HIGH HOLY DAYS
AND THROUGHOUT THE YEAR**

**PLEASE FILL OUT THE BLUE
USHERING FORM
AND
RETURN TO THE
TEMPLE OFFICE**

Service of Remembrance

Please join us
Thursday 9/11
at 7:30 pm for a special
Commemoration Service

The event of September 11, 2001, profoundly changed our world and our concept of what it means to be an American. At this service we will remember our losses and pray for continued strength and unity.

SELICHOT SERVICES Saturday September 20th

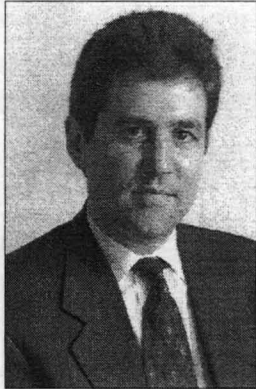
7:30 pm	Family Services
8:30 pm	Havdalah and Oneg
8:45 pm	Adult Study Session
10:00 pm	Selichot Services

ENTERTAINMENT 2004

Temple is once again selling **Entertainment** books. The new books, which are now available in the Temple office, contain discounts on dining, travel, shopping, movies and much more. They can be used immediately and are valid thru November 1, 2004. The books, which cost \$22, may be purchased during Temple office hours. Contact David Fox (201) 836-0260 for further information or to arrange other times to buy the book.

**Save the
Date!**

Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Lecture



Rabbi Ammiel Hirsch will
speak on “Problems and
Potential in Reform-
Orthodox Dialogue.”

Rabbi Ammiel Hirsch is the Director of ARZA/World Union, North America, the umbrella organization for Reform Judaism in Israel and around the world. He is the co-author with Yosef Reinman, an Orthodox rabbi, of *One People, Two Worlds: A Reform Rabbi and an Orthodox Rabbi Explore the Issues that Divide Them*, published in 2002.

Friday, October 24, 2003 at 8:30 p.m.

Two Types of War by Max Strum

The Torah tells us that there are two main kinds of war: A commanded/obligatory war (*milchemet mitzvah*), and a discretionary war (*milchemet reshut*). The Bible states examples of these types of wars and tells us what we should and shouldn't consider morally justifiable. Although the world has changed dramatically since biblical times, it is still the same world in which we value morality. Therefore, we are able to use the Bible to give us guidelines to one of mankind's most complicated situations, war.

In order to judge the morality of the two distinct types of war, one must know what each one means. A "commanded war" is defined as "a war fought to assist the Jews against enemies who have attacked them." A "discretionary war" is "a war fought against other nations to expand Israel's borders and to enhance its greatness and reputation." From these definitions, a commanded war is clearly a defensive war, and a discretionary war is an offensive war. Unfortunately, not all wars are either completely defensive or completely offensive.

In the area of a commanded war (*Milchemet Mitzvah*) is the so-called "preemptive war" which, according to most interpretations, may be morally justifiable but which nevertheless requires the approval of a great legislative body - in Rabbinic times, the Sanhedrin; in our own day, our Congress or the entire United Nations. That is, a preemptive war could not be declared by a head of state acting alone without legislative authority. The preemptive war is an attack on a nation that is arming itself for battle, and one may assume that it will use these arms and commence hostilities, for which reason it is thought that a first strike is appropriate.

Closer in spirit to the discretionary war (*Milchemet Reshut*) is the "preventive war," a war against a nation that might some day pose a threat but no evidence exists that there is, at this moment, a clear and imminent danger. Such a war can never be considered morally justifiable.

A great lesson about our own Reform tradition may be learned from the statement issued to Reform rabbis by the Responsa Committee of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. It first outlines definitions, then places them in a historical context, and finally puts forth a given platform or point of view, presumably to be adopted by rabbis from the pulpit. No sooner is this perception presented but the entire equation is viewed from one or more other sides. In the words of Sholem Aleichem, immortalized in *Fiddler on the Roof*, "but on the other hand...." In these few words and in this great and noble attitude, we find embodied the very best of Reform Jewish liberalism. Missing only is the very final proposition: but on the other hand —long pause —there is no other hand!

The case of the Iraq war has created so much controversy that we —rabbis and lay people alike - must conclude that, according to Jewish values, it remains open to various interpretations and conclusions. It is this insistence on allowing all sides of an issue to be thoroughly examined before leaping to rash and, all too often, violent means that make us different from the terrorists and fundamentalists of any persuasion.

Much has been said and written about the U.S. decision to go to war against Iraq - with or without the United Nations, and only with the partnership of England and a few others. We have become the objects of much criticism, some from countries whom we have helped or even saved. the weapons of mass destruction, cited as a principal reason for our preemptive war, have not been found - by the U.N. inspectors and not by our occupying forces.



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Two Types of War (cont)

Have we than been guilty of a war which, according to Jewish precepts, is morally unjustifiable?

My own opinion is that evidence of weapons of mass destruction may or may not be found, but that the Iraqi government of Saddam Hussein was clearly guilty of causing the death of thousands upon thousands of his own people, and that, if he was not ousted, additional thousands - Kurds, Shiites, anyone suspected of opposing this cruel dictator - would be slaughtered. In that sense, our military effort was both a *milchemet mitzvah*, a commanded/obligatory war, and a *milchemet reshut*, a discretionary war.

For the Bible tells us that silence and inaction in the face of brutality and injustice is a sin. We are commanded to speak out and, if need be, to take action.

But the overriding Jewish precept - now and always - is peace *shalom*. The Responsa Committee's careful analysis to its rabbis reads: "May the One Who makes peace in the high heavens grant peace to us, to all Israel, and all the world."

Over the course of my almost sixteen years, I have learned a lot about ethical decision-making. In Hebrew school, I was challenged by Debbie Rutz to look upon all the different sides of a simple situation, and then make the best decision. This past year in school, I took an ethics class in which we discussed more complex topics, such as abortion, death penalty, and homosexual marriage. When studying the Iraq war from Jewish perspectives with Rabbi Kalfus, I concentrated on which types of war in given situations were morally justifiable and which were not. The process of becoming a confirmand has enriched my ability to make ethical decisions in my everyday life, I use these values and morals, which can only make me a stronger person at heart.

My confirmation is just another milestone in my Jewish life and education. I have been at Temple Emeth since I was two years old, gone through many years of Hebrew school, had my Bar Mitzvah here, and then have gone to BARJ. I hope to take what I have learned thus far to challenge myself as a Jew. I wish to continue learning and questioning and practicing Judaism in the future by going to temple and, if possible, by traveling and seeing how Jews elsewhere live. In this way, I hope to grow even more as a Jew, and later in life - quite a bit down the road - to send my children to Hebrew school so they may be taught the lessons that I so greatly value today.

As I become a confirmand today, I leave you with the ending lines of my favorite Frost poem:

*Two roads diverged in a wood - and I -
I took the one less traveled by
And that has made all the difference.*



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

the CARING COMMUNITY COMMITTEE REALLY CARES!

The winter of 2003 was not only the coldest, snowiest and generally most dismal in recent history, but also the scariest and most painful of my life. After falling down a flight of stairs in my own house, I was rushed to the hospital in the middle of a frigid January night. When various test revealed a pelvis broken in two places and a shattered elbow, my doctor sent me to a rehab/nursing home several days later. Except for a weekend off at another hospital for surgery on the elbow, I was to spend the entire month of January and the first week in February there in the rehab. While I received excellent care and physical therapy each day, I know that my recovery was also due in large part to the Temple Emeth family, especially through the kind auspices of the Caring Committee, which immediately surrounded both my husband and me.

What did they do? Everything from calling, sending cards, visiting, and offering comfort on a daily basis. And, when I finally did come home, with a cane and an arm in a sling, delicious meals, often including appetizers, entrees, and desserts, were delivered to our door. Sometimes we didn't even know the cooks before they called, but we certainly got to meet some wonderful people, and we ate very well. Others also volunteered to drive me to my therapy appointments. As I continued to heal, I thought a great deal about how much I was helped spiritually by the love and care that was expressed in so many ways. Now that I am driving again and just about back in my normal routines, I have joined the committee to which I feel so indebted. At the first meeting I attended, I was able to thank the committee once again. By the way, we could use some more volunteers. Please contact Elinor Buchbinder and let her know you are available. She can be reached at 201-837-0694 or at elinorcb@optonline.net. You may also leave a note in the Caring Committee's box at Temple.

Susan Barnett

Dear Bulletin Editor:

The Jewish Association for Developmental Disabilities (J-ADD) has the perfect mitzvah project for everyone! Join J-ADD's first Annual Walkathon on September 21 in the Englewood Boat Basin recreational area. Call Michele Grasso at 201-457-0058 x17 or Walk2003@j-add.com.

The NORTH AMERICAN JEWISH CHORAL FESTIVAL: FANTASTIC!

It is jointly sponsored by the UAHC and the Zamir Choral Foundation and is held annually in early July at the Nevele Hotel in Ellenville, NY. Six people from Temple Emeth attended this year - a record number: Myron White, Marc Guttman, Adele Hirschmann, Andrea Winters, Paul Kaufman and me. Myron was kind enough to share some random thoughts with me, as follows:

"I certainly learned a lot - about breathing, learning to sing new music almost at sight, and techniques for mastering tricky parts. It was exciting to sing every morning in the ice rink with two- or three- hundred singers under the direction of several wonderful choral directors. And the instant ensemble! ...50 singers, five 90-minute rehearsals, a warm-up and then we sang 3 non-trivial pieces very well to a ballroom full of singers and experts. A real thrill."

It culminated in a morning concert featuring each of the five choirs, followed by a luncheon barbeque and an exhausted but elated trip home.

Regarding the non-musical aspects, there were meals and conversation with a few friends and lots of new people from all over the US and Canada. We built up our stamina walking back and fourth from the Nevele to the Fallsview, or jumping on a shuttle when it rained.

We also *kvelled* over Adele and Marc, each of whom sang in the evening concerts, with *Shira* and the *Jewish Peoples Philharmonic Chorus*, respectively.

You might enjoy this; families are welcome also.

As Marc put it, "It's not just a festival, it's an adventure."

Jacqueline Guttman

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Temple Emeth **Renaissance Group**

The Temple Emeth Renaissance Group will host Shabbat Dinner at the Temple on Friday, October 24th, at 6 p.m. Everyone is invited but space will be limited, so reserve early by sending your check for \$25 per person to the Renaissance Group at the Temple office. Following dinner and Shabbat services, Rabbi Ammiel Hirsch, Executive Director of ARZA/WORLD UNION North America, will deliver the Annual Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Lecture.

Plan to celebrate Chanukah with the Renaissance Group on Wednesday evening December 24th. Nothing else will be open that night so it will be fun to be with friends, exchange gifts, send out for Chinese food, and watch a movie.

The Renaissance Group is holding a contest to find the most creative way to celebrate Leap Day on Sunday, February 29th, 2004. Send your entries to Co-Chairs Barbara Kaufman and Bea Westin at the Temple office. Other dates on the Renaissance calendar are Sunday, April 18th and Saturday, June 12th.

As one of Temple Emeth's most successful organizations, the Renaissance Group is open to all Temple members who are "fiftysomethingplus," married or single, working or retired. The group plans social, educational and cultural programs throughout the year. Dues are \$10 per person.

For more information about the Renaissance Group, contact Barbara Kaufman, 201-385-8433, or Bea Westin, 201-836-9216.

House Committee Report

This has been a busy summer in our building with many projects either underway or already completed. Several major cleaning projects have been accomplished and repairs have been made throughout the building. A full re-organization of the kitchen and pantries has been completed due to the outstanding Kitchen Krew-niks under the guidance of Lynne Graizel and Ruth Adler. Thanks go to all those who helped them. Many areas have already been painted and new coving put on in many rooms. Carpet shampooing of the entire building is on the schedule and will be completed by the end of August. The family room and handicapped bathroom is in the process of being refurbished and other creative ideas are in the works to improve the general appearance of the building. Lynne Graizel again graciously took on the responsibility of washing the social hall curtains and we thank her for this mammoth job. With the expertise of David Paul, the Youth Lounge roofing project has been scheduled. Originally, we had hoped to have this done in September but it has been delayed until October to avoid any conflict with the High Holidays schedule. Generally, the focus of the House Committee this year will be to continue to seek out those areas in need of repair and to oversee those repairs to prevent future major expenditures. Maintenance schedules are being put in place to maintain the interior and exterior of the building. Ramon and Socrates, our wonderful custodians, are capable, willing and always a joy to work with. They have accomplished an enormous amount this year in needed maintenance and repairs and we are fortunate to have them. Marion and our office staff have made our job easier and we thank them for this continuing help. We are now creating a "Wish List", so if you have any comments or suggestions concerning the building or grounds, please put a note in the House Committee mailbox. In addition, we are interested in a few "Angels" to contribute to some of our "Wish List" projects. Wish List contributions (which can be sent to House Committee, c/o Temple Emeth) will be gratefully acknowledged.

Bea Westin
(for the House Committee)

BAZAAR '03

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23 9:30 AM TO 4:30 PM

WE NEED YOUR HELP: to secure new merchandise
to donate good "attic treasures"/recycled gifts
to secure gift certificates from favorite businesses
to work at bazaar, to donate food or baked goods

Questions? Call Sue Keusch at 201-836-6275
To work at Bazaar call Marion Wolf at 201-385-8945

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Dear Temple Emeth Bulletin,

So, how was your summer? Did your SCRIP hold up alright?

Have you met the new Rabbi and his wife? Aren't they terrific? That reminds me, I have to talk to them about the SCRIP program. I'm sure they'll think that it's a mitzvah to use SCRIP.

But most important, Scrip Lady and I want to wish the entire Temple Community a Healthy and Happy New Year!

Very truly yours,

Scrip Stud

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Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library Update:

Page 16

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LIBRARIES ACCREDITATION

BOOKS FOR THE HIGH HOLIDAYS

"My library is my garden and my orchard."

Judah HaLevi

Temple Emeth is blessed with a wonderful library! Our library is named for the beloved rabbi and scholar who served the congregation in the 1950's. Upon his untimely death in 1959, his widow left his extensive book collection to us as a living legacy. There were over 2,000 books: works of philosophy, history, and biography, volumes in Hebrew, German, and Yiddish, as well as classics written by Rabbi Trachtenberg himself (Jewish Magic and Superstition and The Devil and the Jews).

Since then the library has grown and flourished and we now have over 3,500 volumes. Congregants have contributed many new books (audiotapes, videos, and periodicals, too). We have tended our library with care. The Association of Jewish Libraries recognizes the high quality of our library with renewed accreditation.

As the Jewish New Year approaches, we invite you to renew yourself spiritually by returning to our library. The books listed below are just a sampling of those available to help us prepare ourselves for the High Holidays.

Days of Awe: A Treasury of Jewish Wisdom for Reflection, Repentance and Renewal on the High Holidays. This is a timeless classic, edited by S. Y. Agnon.

Gates of the Seasons: A Guide to the Jewish Year, edited by Peter S. Knobel, is the Reform movement's comprehensive survey of the sacred days of the Jewish year.

Preparing Your Heart for the High Holy Days: A Guided Journal. Authors Kerry M. Olitzky and Rachel T. Sabbath offer readers 40 steps to repentance, each consisting of a page of reflections facing a page of readers' responses. This book is designed for Jews of all backgrounds and levels of observance.

Beginning Anew: A Woman's Companion to the High Holidays, edited by Gail Reimer and Judith A. Kates, has a feminist slant. The editors have come to the realization that "women are central to the Rosh Hashana readings."

Seasons of Our Joy: A Handbook of Jewish Festivals. Arthur I. Waskow explains the origins, history, and importance of the Jewish holidays; he describes both traditional and innovative ways of celebrating them.

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

Bea & Alan Westin:

In honor of the birth of Jaydon Binder Smith, new grandson of Teri & Fred Binder
In honor of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Lenore & Marty Berck

In honor of the 40th Wedding Anniversary of Jean & Eric Loeb

In honor of Bunny Ritzer's birthday

Wishing Ken Heller a speedy recovery

Wishing good luck to Rabbi Kalfus & Phyllis Meyers on their new home

Bev & Sy Lazar in honor of the new grandson of Teri & Fred Binder

Ruth & Peter Adler

Sending get well wishes to Marc Chelemer

In honor of Gidon Yablonka's birthday

Sending get well wishes to Ken Heller

In memory of Gertrude Wolitz, beloved grandmother of Rabbi Rebecca Sirbu.

In honor of Larry Silver's presidency.

In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Meredith Leeman.

In honor of Max Sturm's Confirmation.

Wishing a speedy recovery to Paul Lazar, son of Bev and Sy Lazar.

Lynne & Bill Graizel

In honor of the birth of Jaydon Binder Smith, new grandson of Teri & Fred Binder

Sue & Phil Keusch:

In honor of the birth of Jaydon Binder Smith

In honor of the new grandson of Fran Butensky

Teri & Fred Binder:

In honor of Jacob Brecher Monk, new grandson of Madeleine & George Brecher

In memory of Dr. Matthew Borenstein, brother of Marcia Pfeffer

Wishing good luck to Nancy & Joe Boonin on their move to California

Wishing good luck to Muriel Pader on her move

In honor of the college graduation of Katie Warren

Janis Warren: In memory of Gisella Goldberg

Carlene & Seymour Fleishman:

Sending get well wishes to Paul Lazar

Judy & David Fox in honor of the Bat-Mitzvah of Meredith Leeman

Carlene & Seymour Fleischman in honor of Katie Warren's graduation from college

Elinor & Richard Buchbinder, in honor of the birth of Jaydon Binder Smith, new grandson of Teri & Fred Binder

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Sandra M. Frimmet wishing Paul Lazar a speedy recovery

Bev & Sy Lazar:

Wishing David Paul a complete recovery.

In honor of the Bar-Mitzvah of Aaron Breznick.

Wishing Larry Silver a successful term

In memory of Henry Baer, father of Michael Baer.

Sending good luck wishes to Rabbi and Phyllis & their family as they go on to their new endeavor.

In honor of the Bat-Mitzvah of Meredith Leeman

In gratitude to Rabbi Kalfus

Joyce & Bob in memory of Moe Segal

Shana & Greg Janoff :

In memory of Henry Baer, father of Michael

In memory of Neil Greenblatt, father of Shana

Margie & Bob Aerenson

Sending get well wishes to Ada Mae Stein

Micki & Mike Grunstein:

Sending get well wishes to Ada Mae Stein

Sending get well wishes to Ned Siner

In memory of Gertrude Wolitz, grandmother of Rebecca Sirbu

Kudos & Hurrah for all the new officers.

Welcome to the Sirbu's.

Judy & David Fox

In honor of the Bar-Mitzvah of Aaron Breznick.

Joan & David Paul:

Sending get well wishes to Paul Lazar

Flora Braunschweiger:

Sending get well wishes to Paul Lazar

Bunny & Nat Ritzer

Sending get well wishes to Paul Lazar.

Johanna, George & Max Sturm:

In gratitude to Larry Silver

Sue & Phil Keusch:

In honor of Jacob Brecher Monk, new grandson of Madeleine & George Brecher

In honor of the birth of Paz Rosa, new granddaughter of Naomi & Thomas Blumenfeld

Micki & Mike Grunstein in honor of the marriage of

Tammy Krigsman, daughter of Lenore & Harry

Shirley & Gil Rosenzweig in honor of the naming of

Maxwell Scott Grunstein, new grandson of Micki & Mike Grunstein

Enid & Sid Broder:

Congratulating Larry Silver on his presidency

Beulah Warshaw: In memory of Ken Rosenthal

Muriel Pader sending get well wishes to Paul Lazar

Edith Baer in gratitude for Bob Spiewak's book of poems.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN (continued)Susan & Marty Breznick:

In gratitude to Judy Fox for all her work.

In gratitude to Vicky Farhi, for her kind words.

CANTORS DISCRETIONARY FUNDHoward Seiden & Family:

In gratitude to Cantor

In memory of Joan Seiden

Bev & Sy Lazar: In gratitude to Cantor.The Breznick Family:

In gratitude to Cantor Tilem.

Johanna, George & Max Sturm in gratitude to Cantor

CARING COMMUNITYGloria & Marvin Barsky:

In gratitude to Judy Eichinger, Carlene Fleishman, Cathy Bicofsky

Selma Suna in memory of Eleanor SunaShirley & Gil Rosenzweig:

Sending get well wishes to Paul Lazar

Lynn Zimmering:

In gratitude to the Caring Committee

In memory of Carl Zimmering

Shirley & Gil Rosenzweig:

Sending get well wishes to Paul Lazar, son of Beverly & Sy Lazar

Howard Seiden & Family

In memory of Joan Seiden

In gratitude to the Caring Community.

HOUSE FUND

Bea Westin in gratitude to Lynne Graizel, Ruth Adler and their KITCHEN KREW for an incredible job in organizing the kitchen pantry

KALLAH FUNDBea & Alan Westin sending get well wishes to Paul LazarBev & Sy Lazar sending get well wishes to Ken Heller**LIBRARY FUND**

Ruth & Peter Adler sending birthday wishes to Bunny Ritzer

Bea & Alan Westin in memory of Dr. Matthew Borenstein, brother of Marcia PfefferMeryl & Joel Sachs:

Sending get well wishes to Paul Lazar

In memory of David Westin

Lenore & Martin Berck in honor of their 50th Wedding AnniversaryMora Dora and Religious School Staff in memory of Jerry Chelemer, uncle of Marc Chelemer**LIBRARY FUND (continued)**Mora Dora in memory of Dr. Matthew Borenstein, brother of Marcia Pfeffer**INSCRIBED LIBRARY BOOK**Bev & Sy Lazar with gratitude to the Temple Family for their good wishes and Support during this difficult timeMargo & Ron Anagnostis in honor of their daughter

Tammy completing her Masters Program

Marilyn Brummel in memory of Eliot BrummelShirely & Gil Rosenzweig wishing good luck to Rabbi

Kalfus & Phyllis Meyers

Belulah Warshaw in memory of Harold Warshaw

Gloria & Marvin Barsky in honor of Kenneth Heller

June Handler in memory of her beloved husband Morton Handler

Nan & Abe Badian, Ruth & Peter Adler & Bea & Alan Westin in honor of Kenneth Heller

MAZON FUND

Bunny & Nat Ritzer in honor of Ruth & Peter Adler

MUSEUM FUND

Beulah Warshaw in memory of Boris Bierstein

Bea & Alan Westin in honor of the birth of Paz Rosa, new granddaughter of Naomi & Tom Blumenfeld**MUSIC FUND**

Bea & Alan Westin sending good wishes to the Tilem and Cohen families in honor of the engagement of Brian Cohen to Susan Simon

Bev & Sy Lazar

Sending get well wishes to Howard Guttman

In honor of the new home of Pauline & Stan Hecht

Jean & Eric Loeb:

Birthday wishes for Bunny Ritzer

Wedding anniversary wishes to Carol & Howard Kaplan

Beulah Warshaw:

Sending good wishes to Muriel Pader on her new home

Sending get well wishes to Abby Schlectman

In memory of Aaron Maltin

Jackie & David Cohen:

sending get well wishes to Paul Lazar.

Cathy Lazar & Gary Zamchick, in gratitude to Wendy Kosakoff for the wonderful guitar playing at Zach's Bar-MitzvahShirley & Gil Rosenzweig:

In gratitude to Cantor Tilem and members of the Friday Night Musical Service.

In honor of Jackie Guttman and the Adult Choir.

In honor of Cantor Tilem and Etz Chayim.

Eleanor & Myron White:

Sending get well wishes to Paul Lazar

MUSIC FUND

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Sabella and all the Religious School teachers for eight

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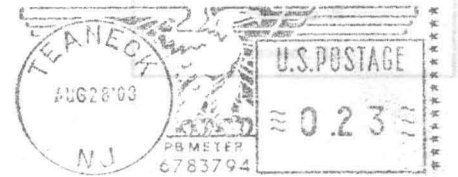
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