

# meth BULLETIN

TEMPLE EMETH OF TEANECK, NEW JERSEY, AN AFFILIATE OF THE UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM:

SERVING REFORM CONGREGATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

**VOLUME 57** 

NUMBER 6

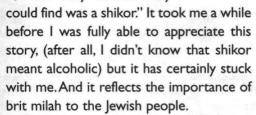
Adar I/Adar II 5765 March 2005

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My grandfather, of blessed memory, loved to tell the story of his birth. He was born in San Francisco in the fall of 1906,

just six months after the great earthquake and fire had left thousands of people homeless. He was born in a tent city in Golden Gate Park, for his family had lost their home as well. Even so, his parents wanted to have him circumcised when he was 8 days old. His mother had serious reservations though, because as he told it, "the only mohel they



Genesis 17. God commands Abraham to circumcise himself as a sign of the covenant that they establish with one another. The Torah doesn't give a lot of details, only that Abraham circumcised himself at the age of 99 years. He also circumcised his son Ishmael, who was 13. and the other males of his household. The Torah, thankfully, does not give many details about Abraham's circumcision. It doesn't describe instruments or stitches or pain. But when we next see Abraham in Chapter 18, he is sitting outside the opening of his tent. The traditional commentators say he is convalescing after his procedure.

In Genesis, God says, "Throughout the generations, every male among you shall be circumcised at the age of eight days. Thus shall my covenant be marked in

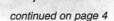
your flesh as an everlasting pact." Circumcision is unique in that it is the only commandment given to the Jewish

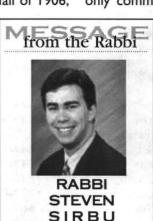
people through Abraham rather than Moses. Ever since, circumcision has played a major role in the religious and tribal identity of Jewish men. There is a midrash that speaks about the Israelites who were living under Pharaoh's decree to throw their sons into the Nile. Despite the edict, they continued to circumcise their sons. The Egyptians

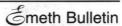
would say to them, "Why do you circumcise your sons? Will they not in no time at all be flung into the river?" The Israelites replied, "We will circumcise them nevertheless. You do with them as you wish; he who is to die will die, he who is to be slain will be slain, and he who is destined to live will live." The author of this midrash portrays the Israelites as understanding that circumcision brings with it communal identity and protection from God, so they continue to fulfill the commandment.

Elsewhere in the Torah, we can infer the importance of brit milah, even when it is not explicitly mentioned. In the V'shamru prayer, which is taken from the Book of Exodus, it refers to Shabbat as something to be practiced as an everlasting pact throughout the generations. This language is very similar to the commandment given to Abraham in Genesis. Biblical historians believe that the V'shamru was composed at a time when Babylonian authorities banned circumcision, so the Jews had to look to Shabbat as a substitute.

But no matter how many texts there







# **TEMPLE EMETH BULLETIN**

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				3/2	3/9
	April	3/10	3/21	4/6	4/13
	April May	4/14	4/28	5/4	5/11
	June	5/12	5/26	6/1	6/8

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 sumbitted by 8:00 pm on the date of the deadline. PLEASE SUBMIT ALL MATERIAL BY E-MAIL TO jguttman@nj.rr.com. We cannot guarantee publication of items submitted as hard copy (i.e. on paper).

For Mid-Month mailings, all materials — 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.

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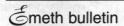
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# MI SHEBEIRACH

"God heals and the doctor takes the fees." Benjamin Franklin

# LARRY SILVER

Singing the Debbie Friedman Mi Shebeirach towards the end

of Shabbat services each week has always given me great comfort, particularly in my personal times of need. The melody is haunting and lovely. I let the power of the prayer wash over me. When not consumed with my own thoughts of loved ones and/or friends in need, I can sometimes hear the emotion and plaintive words of my fellow congregants. The calling out of the names of the sick by Rabbi Sirbu and by each of us personalizes the moment.

I have just added two members of our Temple Emeth family to my personal Mi Sheibeirach recitations. Peter Tilem and Barbara Sabella are on their separate journeys of dealing with serious illness and injury respectively. Peter is Cantor Tilem's emotional anchor, her rock in times of need. Barbara lights up the hallways of our school wing and brightens the days of our Religious School, Early Childhood Center and Youth directors, committee chairs, teachers, co-workers, children and par-

ents with her smiles and good cheer. Directly and indirectly, they are important parts of our Temple Emeth life.

In our Siddur Emet prayer book, above the prayer we sing each week, are the following additional words:

"May the One who blessed our ancestors bless all who are touched by illness. Grant insight to those who bring healing, courage and faith to those who are sick, love and strength to us all and all who love them. God, let Your spirit rest upon those who are ill and comfort them. Watch with special care over .......

Speedily and soon may we all come to know a time of refuah shlemah, a complete healing, a renewal of body and spirit, and let us say: Amen."

Let us all pray for the speedy and complete recoveries of Peter, Barbara and all of our loved ones and friends. Remember to bring them your love, support and good cheer in their time of need. And let us say: Amen.

"A cheerful heart makes good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones."

**Proverbs** 

B'Shalom,

Larry Silver, President

Good news! After 4-1/2 years, we have finally closed on the sale of a 40'x 100' piece of property to the north of our parking lot to the Mikvah Association of Bergen County (Mikvah). Temple Emeth received \$100,000, with all expenses paid by the Mikvah. It will be used to pay for capital expenses and be applied toward our mortgage principal and interest. A separate Parking Agreement allows the Mikvah to use 21 spaces on the north end of our parking lot, in exchange for their paying a prorata share of insurance and maintenance costs. They hope to start work on the expansion of their building this summer, on

the expansion of their existing building.

The original sale contract was negotiated by past President Laura Kirsch and signed IN July, 2000 by past co-Presidents Jacqueline Guttman and Joseph Boonin. The Mikvah Association's President, Miriam Greenspan, expressed her heartfelt gratitude to Laura and to all of Temple Emeth for our cooperation and assistance in helping them meet the requirements of the Township of Teaneck and for bringing the sale to a successful conclusion for our mutual benefit.

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# MESSAFTOTT the Rabbi continued from page 1

are proving the importance of brit milah to our ancestors, as Reform Jews, history alone does not make this commandment meaningful for us. Indeed we have discarded many historically significant traditions such as traditional gender roles, special treatment for the priestly class, and daily wearing of tefilin, because they violate our modern Jewish values. And because brit milah is, in contrast to these other rituals, a private family matter, Reform Jews could make it obsolete very quickly.

In my observation, however, brit milah among Reform Jews is widely practiced. New parents in our movement may choose either a mohel or a physician, but they make this choice based largely on religious factors. In fact, twenty years ago, our movement started its own brit milah training program for doctors and certified nurse midwives. The establishment of the program was based on many factors. One was the new resolution on patrilineal descent, which meant that Orthodox mohelim would not perform circumcisions on infants who were Jewish only by the Reform definition. Another factor was Reform Judaism's commitment to incorporating modern scientific knowledge into practice, thus training medical professionals to do the ceremony. But another, often forgotten reason was that the traditionally trained mohelim simply weren't performing ceremonies that Reform Jews found educational and meaningful. In the last twenty years 250 Reform mohelim have been certified following a 30-hour training course. Their emergence has breathed new life into our movement and new meaning into this ancient ritual.

But the news regarding brit milah

recently is not so good. News reports have alleged that a mohel who practices in New York City, Rockland and Westchester Counties infected three infants with herpes, one case of which turned out to be fatal. These suspicions, if they are true, are because this mohel is one of a small minority who practice metzitzah b'be, the custom of using the mouths to suck blood from the incision. The vast majority of mohelim, including all Reform mohelim, either use sterile gauze or a glass pipette for this part of the ceremony, making infection virtually Unfortunately, we lews don't always wait to hear all the details before jumping to conclusions, and I fear that the entire practice of brit milah may be tainted by this news. After all, our lewish passion for pikuach nefesh, the preservation of life and health, supersedes any religious ritual. But in this case circumcision and protecting a life are not in conflict. At most, the practice of metzitzah b'pe and protecting a life are in conflict, and we must wait for the details to know for sure.

What we do know for sure is that. according to the New York Jewish Week, "mohelim operate in an essentially unregulated field, unlike doctors, who are licensed by the state and rabbis, most of whom belong to professional organizations with set standards." Given our suspicions and the fact that the profession is largely unregulated, I believe the lewish community has received a wake-up call. Unfortunately, the rabbis in positions to effect change seem to disagree on the next step. The executive vice president of the New York Board of Rabbis said, "There needs to be strict oversight in these matters. People rely upon some kind of verification that the mohel is fully suitable to perform the rite. If we're going to recommend someone for something so sacred that has this physical component, we need to be very clear we'll only recommend someone who fulfills all of our requirements." At the other end of the spectrum, the spokesman for Agudath Israel of America said, "Word of mouth is the best regulatory system, and the system has worked very well...there should be no ban on metzizah b'peh, and no required testing of mohelim."

Where does that leave us? First of all, it is a reminder that the choice of a mohel, just like the choice of a hospital, a physician, or a nanny, is one that must be well researched. Second, I hope that Reform lews everywhere will educate themselves on this topic. The Reform Movement's webpage on the topic, www.beritmila.org, is a good place to start your studies. As we think of the lessons we can take away from this tragedy, we mourn for the precious child who may have died from his brit ceremony, and we pray for healing for the two other boys mentioned in this week's news.

Most importantly, the renewed attention on brit milah is our chance to reaffirm our commitment to this commandment as completely consistent with Reform Jewish values. As Reform lews we believe in the sanctity of life, and take every precaution to protect it. We believe in the richness of our tradition and in passing it down to our children. We believe in the covenantal relationship of God and the lewish people, and we know that circumcision is consistent with them all. As it has been for centuries, brit milah is an important mark of Jewish identity that links us as a community to God.

Rabbi Steven Sirbu



As parents and educators, we are all very attuned to the importance of the ABC's in education — the Academic, Behavioral and Civic challenges our children face and deal with in school and at home. In the past few decades, it seems we

have shied away from continuing onto D for Discipline. For some reason, whether it be our own past experiences or the overwhelming nature of our present schedules, there appears to be an aversion to consistent discipline. Whether it's the exhaustion at the end of the day or the difficulty of planning in advance, it is often easier to "give in" to the inappropriate behavior – resulting in minor pauses of quiet but ultimately allowing and actually reinforcing unacceptable traits.

In an article in *Parents Magazine* a few years ago, psychiatrist Dr. Lawrence Kutner approached the challenge of effective and appropriate discipline for young children. He began by noting that the word discipline is derived from the Latin *disciplina*, which means instruction, and shares the same root as disciple, which means teaching and protecting. He emphasized the proactive nature of discipline as creating environments and schedules that are conducive to fostering positive learning experiences that will reinforce the values and behaviors we want to help our children develop. This is quite different from punishment, which refers to the reaction to something we view as bad. More often than not, punishment is doled out from emotions rather than logic. Therefore it frequently contains components that are difficult to enforce and less productive in nature.

During the winter, when we tend to spend more time indoors with our children, is a good time to take a fresh look at discipline and try to embrace it as the positive tool it can be to help our children grow. It is an opportunity to look at and evaluate our schedules and routines to see how they help to foster our children's growing independence and curiosity in a safe, supportive environment.

Sharon Floch, ECC Director



# **DORA GELD FRIEDMAN**

# "Purim....the Hidden and the Revealed"

Our tradition, in its infinite wisdom, instructs us that when we come into the month of Adar, we need to "increase our happiness". As we approach the celebration of Purim,

which falls in the month of Adar, how does this instruction challenge us? How does this mandate instruct us, students and families alike, to live a more meaningful, joyous, Jewish life?

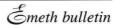
On its simplest level, Purim celebrates the "hidden" Esther (masks) and "revealed" Mordechai, the proud Jew. The holiday of Purim inspires us to examine our faith and imbue it with meaning and personal dedication. At Temple Emeth Religious School, both parents and students are examining, struggling, and dedicating themselves to serious questions of Jewish identity and practice. Our students are involved in learning through a variety of strategies: text, art, music, guest lecturers and artists — a variety of Jewish experiences that will weave for them memories and connections to our Jewish tradition. Here are some examples:

Grades 5, 6 and 7 have led inspiring services demonstrating fluency and an understanding of the importance of prayer in their lives and in our school community. I know that the 4th grade will also successfully lead us in meaningful "tfilah". Our 7th grade curriculum has been enriched immeasurably with a concentration of Torah, as well as heritage arts reflecting holidays and life-cycle events. Our family education programs for grades K-7 are well attended and students, teachers, and parents enjoy learning, discussing, singing and dancing — in short, creating a dynamic Jewish community.

The study of Torah, prayer and celebration of the holidays "with joy" add meaning and purpose to our lives. This poem by the famous Israeli poet, Leah Goldberg, challenges us to look at the "hidden" and "revealed" in our lives and commit ourselves to renewal and joy.

Teach me my God, a blessing, a prayer
On the mystery of a withered leaf
On ripened fruit so fair
On the freedom to see, to sense,
To breathe, to know, to hope, to despair.
Teach my lips a blessing, a hymn of praise
As each morning and night
You renew Your days,
Lest my days be as the one before
Lest routine set my ways.

Dora Geld Friedman Tuednan





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# Donating to your favorite Temple fund?

The Straussman Youth Fund needs donors so it can continue to grow and provide scholarships for our young temple members. These scholarships offset the cost of URJ (formerly UAHC) summer camp, NFTY Kallahs, NFTY National Convention and other URJ youth programming.

THINK STRAUSSMAN FOR YOUR FAVORITE FUND!

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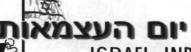
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# GIFT SHOP NEWS CLEARANCE SALE!

SUNDAY, MARCH 20<sup>th</sup> 9:30 - 1:00 pm

All sale items specially marked down **60% off original prices** to make room for our *new* spring giftware. Don't miss this opportunity to buy wonderful merchandise at great prices! A fun and painless way to help support *your* temple. *Be there!* 



# ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY FESTIVAL SUNDAY MAY 15TH 2005

JROM 水ガかかたとうのもべ: Rt. 17E to exit 130. Left off ramp to Rt. 208. Follow as above.

## NON-STOP ACTIVITIES AND FUN BEGINNING AT 11 am

Israeli Art & Craft vendors Israeli Food Vendors Israeli Dancing
Kosher Wine Tasting Amusement Rides Rock Climbing Wall
Camel Rides Face Painting Israeli Travel Expo Magicians
Children's Craft Activities Inter-Synagogue Adult Basketball Games

Middle Eastern Cooking Demonstrations Children's Maccabia

### LIVE LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT THROUGHOUT THE DAY

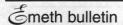
LIVE IN CONCERT AT 2:30 P.M.

# Bring your blankets and lawn chairs and enjoy listening to this new band

lawn chairs and enjoy listening to this new band which successfully mixes pop and rock with Jewish themes.



blue Fringe has performed regularly on the East Coast and recently RETURNED from sold out concerts in London and Jerusalem.



# Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg OUTWITTING Memorial Library Update: HISTORY

# ACCREDITED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LIBRARIES

The great Yiddish scholar Max Weinrich could take a more or less random Yiddish sentence like *Di bobe* est tsholent af Shabes. [The grandmother eats warmed-over bean stew on the Sabbath.] and trace Jewish historical experience through each word:

Bobe = grandmother < Slavic—13th or 14th century

Est = eats < Middle High German—1,000 years ago

Tsholent = bean stew < Old French (chaud = hot, lent = slow)—stew that can be kept hot on Shabbat when no cooking is allowed

Shabes = Sabbath < Hebrew

Max Weinrich escaped his native Vilna in 1939, came to New York, and continued to teach Yiddish. A student asked him why. He answered, "Because Yiddish has magic, it will outwit history."

Thanks in large part to a man named Aaron Lansky, Yiddish is doing exactly that. As a college student in the mid 1970s, Lansky began a campaign to save Yiddish books. In *Outwitting History*, he tells how he rescued 1.5 million books. Along the way he met many interesting people. Whenever elderly Jews donated their private libraries to Lansky, they first offered him gefilte fish, blintzes, latkes, kugel, etc. and their life stories. Lansky soon realized that this book collecting job called for at least three people—two to schlep and one "designated eater."

The bulk of the books Lansky saved were written in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Before that, Yiddish had existed primarily as a spoken language. But after the Enlightenment authors like Mendele Moykher Seforim, Sholem Aleichem and I. L. Peretz "were followed by hundreds more, and it wasn't long before the dynamism, wisdom, humor, and tragedy that had been cultivated in spoken Yiddish for a thousand years burst forth on the page... Yiddish gave rise to a vibrant modern culture... newspapers and magazines, films and plays, politics, art, music." All this came to an end because of the Holocaust; Stalinist purges of Yiddish writers; the displacement, aging, and death of native speakers; and the assimilation of subsequent generations.

But Aaron Lansky was determined to preserve Yiddishkeit. His efforts earned him a MacArthur "genius grant." He wound up rescuing books from all over the world, building a home for them in Amherst, and publishing a magazine ("Pakn Treger"). His Yiddish Book Center has digitized its vast collection and made it available online at www.yiddishbooks.org.

You can also learn about Yiddish language, literature, and culture in our own Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library. We have Leo Rosten's Joys of Yiddish and Hooray for Yiddish, copies of "Pakn Treger," folktales, a volume called Meshuggenary, as well as numerous short story collections by authors like Sholem Aleichem.

Come! Enjoy!

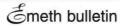
# Save the date:

Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2:30-4:30pm Temple Beth El in Closter

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\$18/children

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# REMAINABLE Group Board the Renaissance Express for Historic Philadelphia on SUNDAY, MARCH 13TH, 2005

Explore dozens of gardening styles at the world famous **Philadelphia Flower Show** with thousands of take-home ideas for both the weekend gardener and the window gardener.

Plus — Walk in the footsteps of history as we take a side trip to Elfreth's Alley the oldest continually occupied residential street in America since 1755.

The deluxe motor coach will leave Temple Emeth promptly at 9:30 a.m. and return approximately 7 p.m.

\$65 for Renaissance Group members; \$75 for guests.

Includes roundtrip transportation, lunch at a favorite Philadelphia restaurant, admission to the Flower Show, snacks on the way home, and all gratuities.

Reserve early. Space is limited to the capacity of the bus.

For more information, contact Barbara and Stan Blumenfeld, 201-836-3385, stanblum@earthlink.net; or Barbara Kaufman, 201-385-8433, BKaufmanNJ@aol.com.

PLEASE RETURN COUPON BELOW TO THE TEMPLE OFFICE.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO
The Temple Emeth Renaissance Group

I/We would love to visit the Philadelphia Flower Show on

Sunday, March 13th, 2005.

NAME(s)

PHONE #\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL\_\_\_\_\_\_ENCLOSED IS \$

@ \$65 Renaissance Group members; \$75 guests

# Temple Emeth's Trip to Israel

Might you be interested in traveling to Israel with Rabbi Sirbu and other Temple members this summer? The excitement is building as more individuals and couples sign on.

If you are considering joining the tour, be sure to attend the first pretrip meeting on Thursday, March 31, at 7:30. Our guest will be Ofer Lichtig, the Community Shaliach (Emissary) to Northern New Jersey. Mr. Lichtig, a former education officer in the Israel Defense Forces, will speak on security in Israel and address any concerns.

If you have questions about the Israel trip or wish to attend the March 31 meeting, please call Rabbi Sirbu at 201-833-1322 or Carla Silver at 201-385-1869. Remember that the trip departs on August 22, and you can place your deposit now by logging on to arzaworld.com or calling ARZA World Travel at 888-811-2812.





Kallah photos by Grace Borowitz

# **Strategic Planning Update**

On January II and February 15, the Strategic Leadership Initiative group met and continued their work of framing the Core Values, the Vision and the Mission of Temple Emeth, as well as considering the three identified Critical Issues facing the Temple: Leadership; Membership Demographics; and Financial Stability. Comments were received from the group on the reports prepared by each of the subgroups, and as requested at the December meeting, a more concentrated period of time was allowed for discussion of Core Values and Financial Stability at the lanuary meeting, and on Leadership and Membership at the February meeting. Preparations were also made over the

course of the month by the various subcommittes to present a much fuller report to congregants on February 13 and February 16. On those dates a Power Point presentation outlining the work of each subcommittee was presented and the congregants had an opportunity to ask questions of the committee members and to give their feedback on the three year strategic plan for the Temple that the committe has been preparing. The committee members were eager to have the input of the congregation on the work done so far. next Strategic Leadership Initiative meeting is scheduled for March 15.

# **Museum Exhibit: "Women of Valor"**

The Temple Emeth Jewish Experiential Museum invites you to view its current exhibit, "Women of Valor", on display through April 3rd. The exhibit, consisting of posters from the Jewish Women's Archive, features eighteen trailblazing Jewish women primarily from the 19th and 20th centuries, and brings to life stories from Jewish women's history.

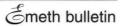
"Women of Valor" recognizes and highlights the lives and accomplishments of these remarkable individuals, each of whom had the courage and conviction to overcome social, cultural, and religious barriers to achieve their goals. Each has left a meaningful contribution that has improved our world.

# Kallah 2005

Temple Emeth, Teaneck, held its annual Kallah (retreat) at the Pearl River Hilton on February 18-20, 2005. Over 50 congregants and guests participated in prayer services, lively and enlightening discussion sessions, delicious meals, and some social activities. The theme of the meeting, led by Rabbi Steven Sirbu (Teaneck), focused on the commandment "Honor Thy Father and Mother". Rabbi Emeritus Louis J. Sigel (Hackensack) led a session on



the various forms of the Kaddish prayer. Beverly Lazar and Carlene Fleishman organized the Kallah, as they have done for many years.





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# WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO BE A BUDDY?

# The Membership Committee needs volunteers NOW for our new "Buddy System"

Did you feel lonely when you first joined Temple Emeth or did someone reach out to you? Wasn't it great when you started seeing a familiar face or two at a service or program ? When people greeted you by name?

Now you are needed to speed that process along for our newer members. So... if you'd like to be paired with a person or family — to answer their questions about Temple life, make them feel at home at an Oneg, and join them for one of our fun activities, please send this form to:

Carol Shansky, Membership Chair Temple Emeth 1666 Windsor Rd. Teaneck, NJ 07666.

Ouestions? Just call Carol at (201-569-4877) or email cshansky@verizon.net

Sure I'll he a huddyl

Thanks for helping - you'll have a good time too!

Jui C 1	ii be a balany.
Vame(s):	The state of the s
Telephone:	
E-mail:	
School Age children? (ag	ges):
Teenaged children?	Kids out of the house?
No kids?	Grandchildren?
	mmittees, favorite activities, services, etc., being a Buddy is a great way to start!]
	King St. St. St.
Carrier Carrier	
Departure emergine State	

# **Temple Emeth**

March 4-17, 2005 23 Adar I- 6 Adar II, 5765



Friday, March 4 Shabbat Vayakhel

Candle-lighting- 5:31 p.m.

Family Service at 7:30 p.m.

The Oneg is being sponsored by Deborah and Howard Scher in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Jeremy Charles Scher

Saturday, March 5 Morning Service at 10:30 a.m. BAR MITZVAH OF JEREMY CHARLES SCHER

Torah Portion: Exodus 35:1-38:20 Haftarah-I Kings 7:40-50

Sat. 5	9:10 am	Torah Study	Wed. 9	12:00 pm	Lunch and Learn
	10:30 am	Shabbat Services		6:15 pm	Etz Chayim Rehearsal
				7:30 pm	Kol Emeth Rehearsal
Sun. 6	10:30 am	B'Yachad Breakfast		8:00 pm	House Committee Meeting
	11:00 am	2 grade Family Ed. Day			
	6:00 pm	Overflow Shelter	Thur. 10	8:00 pm	Board of Trustees Meeting
- 0	7.00		F: 44	40.00	
Tues. 8	7:30 pm	Jewish Learning Project - Study Session	Fri. 11	10:00 am	Membership Committee Mtg.

# Friday, March 11 Shabbat Pekude

Candle-lighting - 5:39 p.m.

5-7 Grade Religious School Dinner at 6:30 pm Shabbat Service led by our Seventh Grade Students at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 12 Morning Service at 10:30 a.m. The Kiddush is being sponsored by Sheryl and Joel Cooper

Torah Portion: Exodus 38:21-40:38 Haftarah Portion: Il Kings 12:5-16, Isaiah 66:1, 23

ı						
	Sat. 12	9:30 am	Torah Study Tot Shabbat Shabbat Service	Tues. 15	7:00 pm 7:30 pm	Strategic Planning Mtg. J.L.P. Study Session
I				Wed. 16	3:00 pm	Shalach Manot Set-Up
۱	Sun. 13	9:00 am	Religious School Book Fair			Etz Chayim Rehearsal
		9:00 am	6 <sup>th</sup> grade B'nai Mitzvah Orientation		7:30 pm	Kol Emeth Rehearsal
I		9:30 am	Renaissance Trip to	Thurs. 17	8:00 pm	Shalach Manot Packing
l			Philadelphia Flower Show		8:00 pm	Book Group in Library
l		6:00 pm	Overflow Shelter			

# March 2005 20 Adar | 5765 - 20 Adar | 5765

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
and the second second		1 20 ADAR	2 21 ADAR	3 22 ADAR I	4 23 ADAR I	5 24 ADAF
		7:30 pm Jewish Learing Project (JLP) Study Session	12:00 pm Lunch and Learn 6:15 pm Etz Chayim Rehearsal 7:30 pm Kol Emeth Rehearsal	7:30 pm Confirmation Planning Session for Parents 8:00 pm Exec. Comm. Mtg.	7:30 pm Family Shabbat	Vayakhel Shabbat Ends: 6:42 9:10 am Torah Study 10:30 am Shabbat Service Bar Mitzvah of Jeremy Sch
25 ADAR	7 26 ADAR	8 27 ADAR	9 28 ADAR	10 29 ADAR I	11 30 ADAR	12 1 ADAR
0:30 am B'Yachad Breakfast 1:00 am 2 grade Fam. Ed. Day 6:00 pm Overflow Shelter		7:30 pm JLP Study Session	NO ECC 12:00 pm 6:15 pm 7:30 pm 8:00 pm House Comm. Mtg. 8:00 pm Finance Meeting	8:00 pm Bd. of Trustees Mtg. (April Bulletin Deadline)	10:00 am Membership Comm Mtg 6:30 pm 5-7 grade R.S. Dinner 8:00 pm Shabbat Service	Pekude Parashat Shekalim Shabbat Ends: 6:50 9:10 am Torah Study 9:30 am Tot Shabbat 10:30 am Shabbat Service
13 2ADAR II	14 3 ADAR I	15 4 ADAR I	16 5 ADAR I	17 6 ADAR II	18 7 ADAR I	10 8 ADAR
9:00 am Religious School Book Fair 9:00 am 6th grade B'nai Mitzvah Orientation 9:30 am Renaissance Trip to Philadelphia Flower Show 6:00 pm Overflow Shelter		7:00 pm Strategic Planning Mtg 7:30 pm JLP Study Session	3:00 pm Shalach Manot Set-up	8:00 pm Shalach Manot Packing		Vayikra Shabbat Ends: 6:57 9:10 am Torah Study 10:30 am Shabbat Service Bar Mitzvah of Matthew Sandle
9 ADAR II	21 10 ADAR I	22 11 ADAR I	23 12 ADAR I	24 13 ADAR II	25 14 ADAR I	26 15 ADAF
2:00 am Shalach Manot Delivery 2:30 AM Purim Carnival 3:00 pm Overflow Shelter		7:30 pm Understanding Our Neghbors' Faith with Rev. Eric Moore	9:30 am ECC Walkathon and Purim Celebration 12:00 pm Lunch and Learn 6:15 pm Etz Chayim Rehearsal 7:00 pm Confirmation Class at BARJ 7:30 pm Kol Emeth Rehearsal		Purim 15:54 8:00 pm Shabbat Service	Shushan Purim Tzav Shabbat Ends: 7:05 9:10 am Torah Study 10:30 am Shabbat Service
27 16 ADAR II	28 17 ADAR I	29 18 ADAR I	30 19 ADAR I	31 20 ADAR II		A Comment
9:00 am Religious School 6:00 pm Overflow Shelter		7:30 pm Understanding Our Neighbors' Faith	6:15 pm Etz Chayim Rehearsal 7:30 pm Kol Emeth Rehearsal	7:30 pm Informational Meeting for Israel Trip Participants		

# Good and Welfare

# Condolences to...

Kimberly Harris on the death of her father, Richard Carlton

Bob Aerenson on the death of his sister, Dorothy Rosenberg

Phil Keusch on the death of his aunt, Rose Melba

# Get Well Wishes to...

Bruce Gionet Barbara Sabella Fred Binder



Save the Date:

May 14, 2005

for the
Temple Emeth
Dinner Dance



O Honoring
Assemblywoman
and long-time Temple
member

Loretta Weinberg



# Temple Emeth Religious School Book Fair

featuring a wonderful selection of Jewish and Secular Books,

- gift books
- table books,
- books on tape

New this year: Jewelry and other Boutique items for all occasions!

MARCH 13

8:30 A.M.- 1:30 P.M.

In the Youth Lounge

Come support your Religious School

# Last Chance Support Our **Religious School Bartons Passover Candy Sale**

Order Forms are located in the Main Office and in the information rack across from the Office.

Questions? Call Paula Dillon 201 692-0609





KOSHER FOR PASSOVER

- PARVE BAR (2.5 oz., Parve) Pure bittersweet chocolate ....\$2.50
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(10 oz., Parve) Traditional for Passover. chocolate macaroons ......\$7.50

**VANILLA MACAROONS** 

(10 oz., Parve) Traditional for Passover, vanilla macaroons ............\$7.50

- FRUIT SLICES (12 oz., Parve) ... Fruit flavored jellies ......\$13.00
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- H PASSOVER ASSORTMENT

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of real raspberries in bittersweet chocolate ......\$11.00

K ALMOND BARK (5 oz., Parve) Roasted almonds, covered with rich, bittersweet chocolate .....\$10.00

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(16 oz., Dairy) Deluxe gift assortment for Passover Seder. Assorted nuts and fillings covered in either rich milk or dark chocolate ......\$25.00

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(8 oz., Dairy) Chocolate covered toffee crunch center, rolled in almond crunch ...... \$13.50

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P CHOCOLATE CARAMEL DAISIES

(6 oz., Dairy) Creamy caramel filled milk chocolate daisy, a delightful Passover treat ......\$10.50 R LOLLYCONES

(2.5 oz., Dairy) Nine milk chocolate pops on safety sticks ......\$5.50

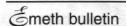
T MILK BAR (2.5 oz., Dairy)

Pure milk chocolate ......\$2.50

**MILK CHOCOLATE MATZO** (10 oz., Dairy) Three sheets of milk chocolate in matzo shape, filled with

filberts .....\$13.50

S CARAMEL NUT CLUSTERS (5.5 oz., Dairy) Caramel and almonds covered in milk chocolate .....\$11.00 Thank you for supporting this fund-raising organization



Temple Emeth presents the Rabbi Louis J. Sigel Scholar-in-Residence Weekend April 8 to 10, 2005

"J udaism and Christianity: Where Have We Been and Where Are We Going?" Rabbi Michael J. Cook, PhD.

# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

# Friday, April 8, 2005

6:00 pm

Dinner\* at Temple for Scholar-in-Residence

Benefactors, Sponsors and Patrons

8:00 pm

Shabbat Evening Services followed by lecture:

"One Year Later: Recharting Our Ways through the Mel Gibson Maze

(Its Abiding Impact for the Future)"

# Saturday, April 9, 2005

9:10 am

Text Study Session on:
"Was the Last Supper a Passover Seder?"

# Saturday, April 9, 2005 (continued)

10:30 am

**Shabbat Morning Services** 

12:00 noon Luncheon\*

1:00 pm

Presentation: "Judaism and Christianity in the Holy Land"

# Sunday, April 10, 2005

10:00 am Brunch\*

10:45 am Lecture:

"The Divestment Issue: What's Gone Awry with Some of Our Liberal Protestant Friends? (Including a study of documents from the Presbyterian General Assembly)"

\* Reservations for meals are required by March 18, 2005
(All meals are included for Benefactors, Sponsors and Patrons.)
No reservations are needed for lectures.

# Please return to Temple office:

O: TEMPLE EMETH - RABBI LOUIS J. SIGEL SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE COMMITTEE:	Even though I/we are not able to participate, I/we would like to make a donation of \$ to the		
Yes, you can count on me/us to be:	Rabbi Louis J. Sigel Scholar-in-Residence Fund.		
Benefactor/s**@ \$250 per person	Name (s):		
Sponsor/s**@ \$150 per person	Address:		
Patron/s**@ \$100 per person  ** MEALS ARE INCLUDED. PLEASE INDICATE	City, State, Zip:		
THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO WILL ATTEND:	Phone:		
DINNER LUNCHEON BRUNCH	Email:		
Please reserve places for (please indicate the number of people):	Enclosed is my check for \$		
Shabbat Luncheon@ \$18.00 per person	Please return by March 18 to: Scholar-in-Residence Committee,		
Sunday Brunch @ \$18.00 per person	Temple Emeth, 1666 Windsor Road, Teaneck, NJ 07666		

# Renaissance Group

Save Sunday, June 5th, to go "cruisin' down the river"— the Hudson, that is. The Renaissance Group will host a luncheon cruise aboard the Spirit of New Jersey. Glenda and Martie Adelman are planning this fun afternoon. Watch for more information in the coming weeks.

Renaissance Co-Chairs, Barbara Kaufman and Elaine Pollack. HELP WANTED: Seriously seeking creative thinkers and planners for next year's Renaissance calendar. This will be our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year and we want to make it special. No experience necessary. All applications will be gratefully accepted by Renaissance Co-Chairs Barbara Kaufman and Elaine Pollack.

# Join us on our Philadelphia Flower Show Trip. See page 8 for more information!



The Renaissance group hosted a musical slide show on Sunday, January 30th on "Great European Synagogues". It was presented by Oscar Israelowitz pictured above with Barbara Kaufman, who showed slides of synagogues in Venice, Florence, London's East End, Amsterdam and Berlin, accompanied by music. He also discussed the history of Jewish communities surrounding these synagogues.

Mr. Israelowitz, an architect, geologist, photographer, author and world traveler has exhibited his photographs at the Whitney Museum and other New York City locations. He has appeared on network television and conducts well-known tours of the Lower East Side, Ellis Island, and Chassidic neighborhoods. He also has many building projects in his name as an architect. Photo by Grace Borowitz.

# We seek help...

from one or more congregants who get the Press Journal South Edition or North Edition. They should be willing to look for and clip out any publicity notices, especially with pictures, pertaining to Temple Emeth activities. They should leave these notices, properly dated, in our publicity mailbox in the office at temple.

Grace and Irving Borowitz, Publicity Committee
For further information: gborowitz@optonline.net

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Religious School is in session.

# Ten Reasons to Attend Temple Emeth's Annual Second Night Seder

- 1. You don't have to cook anything
- 2. You don't have to clean anything (ok, maybe just a little)
- **3.** You won't get stuck in Sunday night traffic on the Turnpike, Parkway, bridges or tunnels
- **4.** Your children will earn mitzvah credit if they help (very little heavy lifting)
- **5.**Your friends will be there
- **6.** Don't want to cook for your relatives? Bring 'em!
- 7. It's something to put on your calendar in case April isn't full (the 24th at 6pm to be exact)
- **8.** Great food (it's kosher too!)
- 9. Such a story to be told! (Okay, so you've heard it before; it couldn't hurt one more time)
- **10.** Who knows 10? You know 10!

# SAVETHE DATE!

May 14, 2005

for the

Temple Emeth Dinner Dance

Honoree:

Assemblywoman
(and long-time Temple member)
Loretta Weinberg

Mark your calendar today!

# It's time for another Family Shabbat Potluck Dinner!

Bring your food... Bring your friends...
And bring your appetite!

Join us on Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. for Shabbat dinner, blessings and friendship, followed by our monthly musical Shabbat service at 8:00.

Please bring food (non-dairy) for 8-10 people in serving dishes, so everyone can try something different.

Please return this form to the office by Wednesday, March 16th or fax to 201-833-4831 or email <a href="mailto:kssacks@optonline.net">kssacks@optonline.net</a>

Family Name\_\_\_\_\_\_Phone #\_\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail\_\_\_\_\_\_Number of children\_\_\_\_\_

We will bring:

Main Course\_\_\_\_\_\_ Side dish (no soup please)\_\_\_\_\_ lad (non-dairy dressing) or fruit\_\_\_\_\_

(We'll supply the drinks)

We can help set up at 6:00\_\_\_\_\_

Everyone is needed to stay and help clean up

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# Attention Temple Emeth Families with Graduating 12th Graders!

The Temple is planning a service for this spring to honor our high school graduates. All of the families in our Temple data base with twelfth graders should have been contacted. If you have not received a call, please contact the Temple office as soon as possible at 201-833-1322. We do not want you to miss this exciting event.

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# College Kids' Corner

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As always, I'm gushing with pride at what our college/grad school kids have been up to this semester.

Ethan Porter is a sophomore at Bard, majoring in Literature and Political Studies. This past semester he assumed the role of Executive Editor of the school newspaper and also became the Communications Director for the College Democrats of New York. In addition, Ethan is an Intern for The Forward a Jewish newspaper founded in 1897. All of this makes mom Marcy and dad Scott very proud!

Another set of proud parents is Eileen and Irving Commike. Their daughter Laura is finishing up her Master's degree at Stanford University. Laura just returned from leading a study trip to Brazil. Each year students at the Stanford Graduate School of Business conduct a limited number of trips to visit political and business leaders in countries around the world. As part of this program, 26 students and 3 faculty members went to Brazil to gain a better understanding of the Brazilian political and economic landscape.

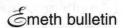
Matt Fox is a junior at the University of Delaware. During his 7-week winter break Matt attended school (instead of just knocking back and enjoying the time off) and is working hard to earn a degree in Business Administration with majors in Marketing and Management and a minor in Management Information Systems. At UDEL Matt is the Recruitment Chairman of his fraternity, which keeps him involved in a lot that goes on around campus. A long time soccer player, Matt plays on an intramural soccer team. His goals for the upcoming semester are to maintain good grades in school and to get a summer internship.

Lynne Graizel

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Temple Emeth held its third wine tasting and dessert party on Saturday, February 5th. The annual event focuses on wine of a particular region, with this year's event featuring wines of California. A variety of fine wines were available for tasting, along with a discussion of the differences between them and comparisons to their French counterparts.

Pictured are the hosts of the event: Lynne and Bill Graizel, Ken Rutz, wine expert Jim Ronnan of the Carlo Russo Wine World in Ho-Ho-Kus, and Maddy Wolf. Photo by Barbara Balkin.

# **Gift Shop News**

Just arrived at the
Temple Emeth gift shop –
"The Bar/Bat Mitzvah Memory Book"
an album for treasuring
the spiritual celebration.
This is a perfect keepsake to give or
receive. Take advantage of the
special discounted price —
just \$18.00.

# SAVE THE DATE!

**April 24, 2005** 

So you can join your
Temple Emeth friends & family
at the annual Temple seder
It's the second night of Pesach...
Details coming soon in a
mailing and bulletin
near you...

# **SAVE GAS!**

Did you know that the U. S. possesses only 3% of the world's oil reserves but consumes 25% of the supply?

Carpool whenever possible.

Map out your shopping and errands to choose a

gas efficient route.

Educate your children and grandchildren. Let them participate in your efforts to recycle. They are the future - we want them to inherit a beautiful world!

FROM THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE





# SOCIAL ACTION NEWS

# **Everyone Mark Your Calendars!**

Sunday, April 17th is Environmental Action Day. Temple Emeth's Mitzvah Day has been a successful family activity for seven years. This year, the Social Action Committee has decided to focus on Tikun Olam, or repairing the world. The concept of Tikun Olam encompasses the natural world as well as the world of people, and we will be participating in four exciting environmental projects designed to enhance and preserve the natural beauty that surrounds us.

Exciting and rewarding activities for both family and individual participation will be available at the Tenafly Nature Center, the Flat Rock Brook Nature Center, the Teaneck Creek Conservancy (Puffin Foundation), and at Temple Emeth. It is a great opportunity to give back to the earth and our community as well as a wonderful learning experience for both parents and children. Watch for more detailed information in the next bulletin.

We are continuing our "Double Mitzvah of the Month" in February. We are collecting food as usual for the Center for Food Action but this month also for the Family Assistance Center at the Teaneck Armory. The over 1,000 National Guard soldiers from this area recently sent to Iraq do not get paid by their civilian jobs. With their family's income so markedly reduced, they can benefit from our help for even the basic necessities of life such as food, diapers, etc. The Family Assistance Center at the Teaneck Armory is supporting these families in our area. They are currently in great need of additional resources, especially canned goods. Please donate an extra can or two of food or other items this month to these great causes.

We also look ahead to the March Mitzvah of the Month: collecting personal toiletries, particularly such things as deodorants and lotions.

Please feel free to join us at the next meeting of the Social Action Committee in early March. Watch the Social Action Bulletin Board for the date of our next meeting and frequent updates on our upcoming activities.

# **Social Action Alert**

While there are many local and regional causes of great concern to our Temple community, there are also many areas in the world where fighting, disease and oppression affect the lives of many innocent individuals. In an attempt to keep our community informed about these national and global issues, the Social Action Committee will try provide information from time to time about some of these issues.

Amnesty International and the United Nations reported forces fighting in the Democratic Republic of the Congo are involved in widespread human rights abuses. Civilians have been killed, tortured, mutilated, cannibalized and traumatized by the murder of their children. Fear of a widespread genocide is possible if an experienced peacekeeping force is not swiftly brought in.

To help, you may donate to:

Doctors on Call for Service P.O. Box 24597 St. Simons Island, Georgia 31522

Or contribute in any other manner you feel may be effective.

# **Turn A Leaf Update**

The young woman who moved into the apartment Temple Emeth furnished and is supporting is a very competent, independent person. She is going to school full time and holding down an almost full time job at Shoprite, as well as caring for the needs of her 6 year old son. Fortunately for her, she has a support system of friends who help her with transportation and child care. She really appreciates having a beautiful, comfortable place in which to live.

However, since time is a real issue for her, she would appreciate receiving a home cooked meal once a week!

We need someone (or two people) who are willing to organize this effort, as well as cooks. The family is usually home on Thursday nights. The meal should be large enough for two days (to freeze one half) for an adult and a child.

If you can coordinate and/or volunteer to cook for one night, please contact Eva Sandrof at 201-837-2241 or evasan1@msn.com.

THIS IS SOMETHING REAL WE CAN DO TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

# **All The Colors Of The Rainbow**

Once upon a time the colors of the world started to quarrel: all claimed that they were the best, the most important, the most useful, the favorite.

GREEN said: "Clearly I am the most important. I am the sign of life and of hope. I was chosen for grass, trees, leaves - without me, all animals would die. Look over the countryside and you will see that I am in the majority."

BLUE interrupted: "You only think about the earth, but consider the sky and the sea. It is the water that is the basis of life and drawn up by the clouds from the deep sea. The sky gives space and peace and serenity. Without my peace, you would all be nothing."

YELLOW chuckled: "You are all so serious. I bring laughter, gaiety, and warmth into the world. The sun is yellow, the moon is yellow, the stars are yellow. Every time you look at a sunflower, the whole world starts to smile. Without me there would be no fun."

ORANGE started next to blow her trumpet: "I am the color of health and strength. I may be scarce, but I am precious for I serve the needs of human life. I carry the most important vitamins. Think of carrots, pumpkins, oranges, mangoes, and pawpaws. I don't hang around all the time, but when I fill the sky at sunrise or sunset, my beauty is so striking that no one gives another thought to any of you."

RED could stand it no longer. He shouted out "I am the ruler of all of you - I am blood - life's blood! I am the color of danger and of bravery. I am willing to fight for a cause. I bring fire into the blood. Without me, the earth would be as empty as the moon. I am the color of passion and of love, the red rose, the poinsettia and the poppy."

PURPLE rose up to his full height. He was very tall and spoke with great pomp: "I am the color of royalty and power. Kings, chiefs, and bishops have always chosen me for I am the sign of authority and wisdom. People do not question me - they listen and obey."

INDIGO spoke, much more quietly than all the others, but with just as much determination: "Think of me. I am the color of silence. You hardly notice me, but without me you all become superficial. I represent thought and reflection, twilight and deep water. You need me for balance and contrast, for prayer and inner peace."

And so the colors went on boasting, each convinced of his or her own superiority. Their quarreling became louder and louder. Suddenly there was a startling flash of bright lightening - thunder rolled and boomed. Rain started to pour down relentlessly. The colors crouched down in fear, drawing close to one another for comfort.

In the midst of the clamor, rain began to speak: "You foolish colors, fighting amongst yourselves, each trying to dominate the rest. Don't you know that you were each made for a special purpose, unique and different? Join hands with one another and come to me."

Doing as they were told, the colors united and joined hands. The rain continued: "From now on, when it rains, each of you will stretch across the sky in a great bow of color as a reminder that you can all live in peace. The rainbow is a sign of hope for tomorrow."

And so, whenever a good rain washes the world, and a rainbow appears in the sky, let us remember to appreciate one another.

{Based on a Native American Legend}

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<u>Contributory Funds</u> - contributions are deposited in the Temple Emeth Funds Account and are drawn for current use by designated committees.

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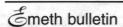
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<u>Tzedakah Funds</u> - contributions are distributed to various beneficiary agencies by the Social Action Committee

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Rabbi's Discretionary Fund Cantor's Discretionary Fund



# CONTRIBUTIONS

### ADULT EDUCATION FUND

Carla & Larry Silver in memory of Eveline Idzenga, mother of Johanna Sturm

### ADULT KALLAH FUND

Gloria & Marvin Barsky in honor of the Bar-Mitzvah of Solomon Brummel, grandson of Marilyn Brummel

# CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND

Bev & Sy Lazar in memory of Isaac Macklin Kaplan, father of Howard Kaplan

Shirley & Kenneth Heller sending get well wishes to Martin Berck

Chantal & Bob Wolf in memory of Edith Joseph, mother of Ken Hoffman

### CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Susan Schwartz, Ben, Maddie & Ali Cripps sending good thoughts and prayers for a speedy recovery to Peter

# CARING COMMUNITY FUND

Susan Schwartz, Ben, Maddie & Ali Cripps in gratitude for their kindness.

**Bea & Alan Westin** sending get well wishes to Roz Cantor, mother of Eleanor Buchbinder

Jacqueline & Howard Guttman sending get-well wishes to Roz Cantor

### COLLEGE KIDS FUND

Nickie & Doug Falk in memory of Eveline Idzenga

# INSCRIBED LIBRARY BOOK

Joan & Mort Rubenstein in memory of Mark Steven Windell, son of Joan Rubenstein & the late Martin Windell & stepson of Mort Rubenstein

Bunny & Nat Ritzer in honor of Gloria & Marvin Barsky Sandra & Herbert Loft in honor of the first birthday of their granddaughter, Elyssa Claire Wagshal

# **MUSEUM FUND**

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# MUSIC FUND

**Beulah Warshaw** in memory of Dorothy Rosenberg, sister of Bob Aerenson

**Lynne & Bill Graizel** in memory of Bob Marley on his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. Remembering what would have been

# Jacqueline & Howard Guttman:

In honor of the marriage of Marion & Seymour Schecter's daughter, Deena Schechter, to Eddie Greenstein and in honor of the Bar-Mitzvah of their grandson Yehuda, in Israel Sending get-well wishes to Gloria Barsky Sending get-well wishes to Peter Adler Sending get-well wishes to Marty Berck

Sending get-well wishes to Irving Hauptman In memory of Isaac Kaplan, father of Howard Kaplan In memory of Rabbi Sigel's sister

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Beulah Warshaw in memory of Ruth Hirsch, sister of Rabbi Sigel

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**Dora & Yossel Friedman** in gratitude to our Temple Family for being there in comfort and kindness

In memory of Yidel Friedman- father-in-law of Dora Friedman

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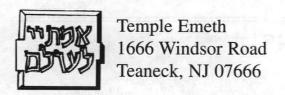
Sending get well wishes to Marty Berke

In memory of Mark Windell, son of Joan & Mort Rubenstein In memory of Eveline Idzenga. mother of Johanna Sturm In memory of Edith Tilem, grandmother of Peter Tilem In honor of the first wedding anniversary of Ellen Buckwalter &

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