

Now more than ever we hope and pray for peace in 5767

HIGH HOLY DAY SERVICES 5767 - 2006

EREV ROSH HASHANAH

Tot Service
Erev Rosh Hashanah Service

ROSH HASHANAH First Day

Morning Service
K-7 Grade Parallel Program
Children's Service
Tashlich

ROSH HASHANAH Second Day

Morning Service

EREV YOM KIPPUR

Tot Service
Kol Nidre Service

YOM KIPPUR DAY

Morning Service
K-7 Grade Parallel Program
Study Session
Children's Service
Afternoon & Yizkor Service
Neilah - Concluding Service

Friday September 22

6:30 p.m.
8:00 p.m.

Saturday September 23

10:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
3:00 p.m.
4:00 p.m.

Sunday September 24

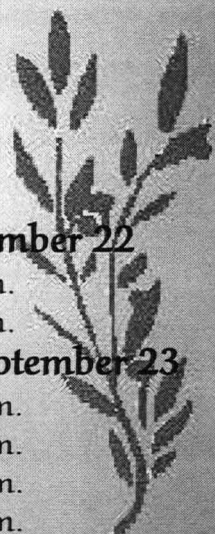
10:00 a.m.

Sunday October 1

6:30 p.m.
8:00 p.m.

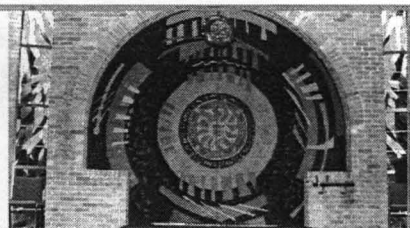
Monday October 2

10:00 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
1:00 p.m.
2:00 p.m.
3:15 p.m.
5:15 p.m.



TEMPLE E METH

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RABBI EMERITUS Louis J. Sigel z"l
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<i>Bulletin Deadlines</i>			<i>Mid-Month Mailing Deadlines</i>	
<u>Month</u>	<u>Deadline Date</u>	<u>Publication Date</u>	<u>Deadline Date</u>	<u>Publication Date</u>
September			September 1	September 15
October	September 14	October 1	October 3	October 15
November	October 12	November 1	November 1	November 15
December	November 9	December 1	December 1	December 15
January	December 14	January 2	January 2	January 16
February	January 11	February 1	February 1	February 14

From the Editors - in order to make sure everyone's article/blurb/ important announcement, makes it into the Bulletin, we have to insist they are no longer than half a page. *Remember, flyers are for the mid-month mailing and should be sent to Sandra Rumayor at srumayor@emeth.org*

Material for the Bulletin is welcome and 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 submitted by 8:00 p.m. on the date of the deadline.

Please submit all material by e-mail to sandifk@aol.com and Barbara Balkin - dkrm505@yahoo.com

We cannot guarantee publication of items submitted 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.

The Temple Emeth Bulletin is published monthly from September through June

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1 Month	\$ 55	\$ 82.50
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Message From the Rabbi

The beginning of September falls during the Hebrew month of Elul, the last month before we celebrate a new year. Elul is meant to sharpen our spiritual senses, to make us more aware of our relationships and how our actions affect them. Though we should repent whenever we have done something wrong, Elul begins the Jewish season of repentance which culminates on Yom Kippur.

Current events often give us examples of individuals who ought to be attempting repentance for what they have done to others. The tirade actor and director Mel Gibson spouted after being pulled over for drunk driving is case in point. Gibson slandered the entire Jewish people when he said that Jews are responsible for all the wars in the world. He later offered two apologies, the first for his behavior and the second for his statements.

Mel Gibson's relationship with the Jewish community has been rocky since the release of his film "The Passion of the Christ" two years ago. When I led a B'yachad breakfast discussion on the film, many people were concerned the film would inspire a new wave of anti-Semitism, which it did not. Others in attendance felt Gibson ought to put rumors of his anti-Semitism to rest by publicly distancing himself from his father's statements denying the Holocaust; I disagreed, citing the commandment to honor father and mother. While our worst fears about "The Passion" were not realized, many Jews remained angry and distrustful of Mel Gibson. Thus his drunken rant is really the next chapter in an ongoing story.

The Gibson case raises several philosophical questions we must answer for ourselves in preparation for Rosh Hashanah. When an individual behaves publicly in a way he has often been rumored to behave privately, can we now assume the rumors to be true? What does it take to earn forgiveness for bigotry and slander? How much compassion, if any, does Mel Gibson deserve due to his struggle with alcoholism? Who can offer forgiveness for a sin committed against an entire

group of people? And at the root of it all...can a person really change, especially if what requires change is a hatred deep in his heart?

There are no easy answers. Judaism considers true repentance not just a restoration of relationships, but also a return to God. Repentance is not merely the offer of an apology, but it is also the renewal of the relationship, and the commitment never to commit that sin again.

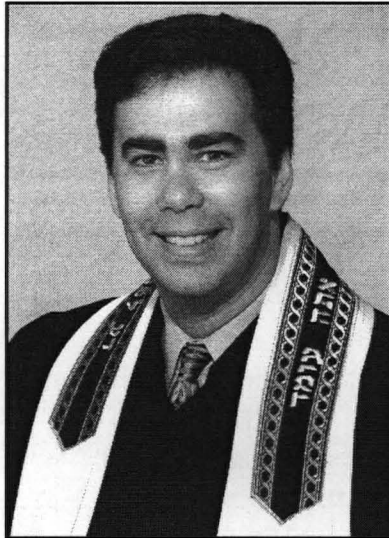
At the core of the High Holy Days is a belief that—as difficult as it may be—people can change. If you don't believe this as an article of faith, then the High Holy Days are an exercise in futility. The words of the machzor (the High Holy Day prayer book) ring hollow if we are destined to act the same way next year as we did this year.

Even harder than changing our actions, however, is changing our feelings. It seems we have little or no control over who we like and dislike,

especially if our hatreds are the result of early indoctrination. But just as the Torah commands us regarding our actions, it also commands us regarding our feelings. We are to love the Eternal our God, and we are forbidden from hating our kinsman in our hearts.

So what does this mean for Mel Gibson? The ball is now in his court to make amends to the Jewish community and repent for the sins of his hatred. Hard as it may be, our tradition offers him the opportunity. Perhaps in the end, his hurtful statements will lead to mutual understanding. I am reminded of Joseph's response when his brothers apologize for all of their sins and offer themselves as slaves: "You meant it for ill, but God meant it for good."

The High Holy Days are meant to be a time of optimism and redemption. Despite all the unrest in the world, I believe that hurts can be healed, and that God has blessings in store for our people and our world.



Rabbi Steven Sirbu

Message From the President

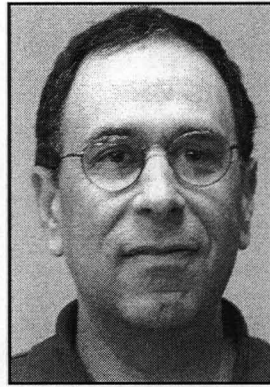
I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing you soon. It doesn't matter whether Rosh Hashana occurs in September or October because it always seems early to me. High Holiday preparations and routines here at the Temple, begin during the summer, but getting ready, as an individual, is a different matter. Preparing to stand before you, the community I care so much about, adds even more to the effort.

As we approach the High Holy Days, we are commanded to engage in reflection and the hard work of *Hesbon ha Nefesh*, "soul searching." This has always been difficult for me, but hey, I guess it's supposed to be difficult!

In the past year I have tried to lead in the best way I could and in the tradition of those before me at Temple Emeth. If I've done something or said something that hurt you personally, that caused you difficulty or discomfort, I am sorry and pray that you find it in your heart to forgive me.

During the past year, we, as a congregation, have mourned the loss of those we love and care about. It is when someone is no longer with us that we most

profoundly miss them and realize the blessing, strength and solace we as a community provide each other. I have personally witnessed our congregation stepping forward to help more than a few times in the past year. In the name of those among us who have mourned and felt the support of our holy community, I thank you.



When we as individuals get involved in the caring, in the work, and in the giving to each other, it not only strengthens our community, but it gives back to us as individuals - ten fold -when we need it. If you haven't already done so, consider making it a priority in the year ahead and call our Minyan chairperson Pauline Hecht at (201)387-0836. Let her know that you are available to attend a house of mourning and be a part of a Shiva Minyan. With our help, the Emeth Community can be there for each of us when the need arises.

Joy, Jessica, Jenna and I extend best wishes for a sweet New Year.

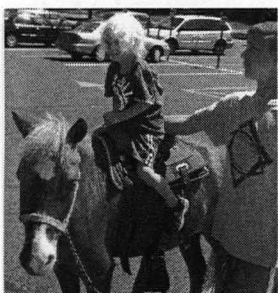
B'shalom,
Dan Firshein
President

From the Early Childhood Center

The Temple Emeth Early Childhood Center has just completed a highly successful summer season. The hot (sometimes VERY) and sunny weather was perfect for daily water play. Our sports program, directed by Nima Zahedi, was, once again, a highlight of the children's days, with soccer, bowling and parachute games as just some of the activities.

Karen Sacks reprised her role of last year as music specialist, getting the children up and moving twice a week with theme-related songs.

Jack's Petting Zoo returned for their annual visit, this time accompanied by baby bunnies, a donkey, a llama, a cow, sheep, goats and the ever-popular pony ride.

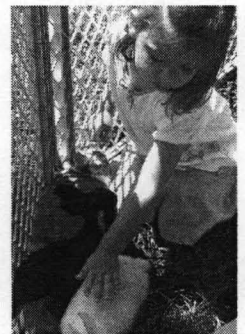


The camp season concluded with a bang as we organized our own carnival, complete with games and prizes.

The 2006-2007 school year promises to be equally exciting. For the second year in a row we have added another three year old class, which means that, along with



our returning teachers, we will be welcoming new staff to our Early Childhood Center family. We are also looking forward to continuing our weekly music and movement classes with Kerri Mather and to our bi-monthly meetings on the Bimah with



Rabbi Sirbu and guitarist Wendy Kosakoff.

So as we say good-bye to the summer, we look forward to all things new: new friends at school, new teachers, new beginnings and opportunities, and, very soon, a new year. WELCOME BACK!!!

Sharon Floch
ECC Director

From the Religious School

Bereshit...

*In the beginning, in the very beginning, before creation, there was God,
and according to the Sages, on God's lap there was Torah.*

*The Torah, written with black fire on white fire,
was the blueprint for Creation.*

-Midrash

Welcome to our school year 5766-5767. A new school year at Temple Emeth is always an exciting and challenging journey. The holiday season of Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and Sukkot affords us a unique opportunity to renew, reassess and to create new goals and dreams.

As we begin the new school year at Temple Emeth, we affirm our commitment to Torah, Avodah and Gemilut Chasadim, i.e. Torah, Worship and Acts of Loving Kindness.

This year we will enrich studies in grade K-7 with a special emphasis on the study and engagement with Torah. Each grade will learn and experience Torah through stories, text analysis, Midrash, drama, dance

and song. Our goal is to help our students discover and strengthen the personal ties that connect each of them to Torah. Our teachers and students in K-7 will encounter the beauty, wisdom and depth of Torah by learning a passage, doing a mitzvah, chanting a word, or even a single letter.

Our Torah guides and teaches us how to live an ethical life, a life filled with mitzvot, and love and respect for all creation. Our special focus on Torah will give all of our students and families the opportunity to get closer to God and to each other. Please join us on September 10 as we celebrate the beginning of our Religious School year!



First Day Instructions for Parents and Students Together -"Bruchim Habaim" -Welcome Back!

September 10, 2006, 17th Day of Elul 5766

4th – 7th Grade Schedule

9:00 – 9:30	Students and parents assemble in Sanctuary for Welcome Back Service with Rabbi Sirbu, Cantor Tilem, Mora Dora and Faculty. Class assignments will be given at the conclusion of the service.
9:30 – 10:15	First Session
10:15 – 10:55	Second Session
11:00	Dismissal

Kindergarten - 3rd Grade Schedule

11:00 – 11:30	Students and parents assemble in Sanctuary for Welcome Back Service with Rabbi Sirbu, Cantor Tilem, Mora Dora and Faculty. Class assignments will be given at the conclusion of the service.
11:30 – 12:15	First Session
12:15 – 12:55	Second Session
1:00	Dismissal

*On behalf of our faculty and staff and from my family to yours,
I wish you "a world that is new every morning and to feel reborn and renewed each day."*

B'vracha,
Dora Geld Friedman

Adult Kallah 2007

A WEEKEND OF STUDY, PRAYER AND SOCIALIZING

WHEN - February 9th to 11th, 2007

WHERE - The Pearl River Hilton,
Pearl River, New York - a country
setting just 15 minutes north of the
George Washington Bridge

SAVE THE DATE -

DETAILS TO FOLLOW

Adult Kallah Co-Chairs
Carlene Fleishman & Bev Lazar

BAZAAR IS BACK!

Sunday, December 10
9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Save the date!

Volunteers Needed

- Donate merchandise
- Chair a booth
- Contribute food
- Pick up donations
- Solicit merchandise

CONTACT MARION WOLF

at

201 385-8945 or

marionewolf@yahoo.com

SOCIAL ACTION IN ACTION

The coming year promises to be a very active one for the Social Action Committee at Temple Emeth! Mark your calendars for the following opportunities to perform acts of Tikkun Olam (healing the world):

Sunday, September 17th – Rally outside the U.N. sponsored by the Save Darfur Coalition.

Sunday, November 5th – Countywide UJA Mitzvah Day – Temple Emeth will staff three activities.

September or October – Opportunity to visit the Elizabeth Detention Center. We hope to visit as the initial part of our involvement with the Bergen County Temporary Sanction Committee, to see the conditions first hand.

If you're interested, complete the form below and leave it in the Social Action mailbox:

Name _____

e-mail _____

Phone # _____

I would prefer to visit on Sunday a.m. _____ p.m. _____

Weekday after 5:30p.m. _____ preferred day _____

We plan to carpool to Elizabeth.

The visit, including orientation and debriefing would take about 1 ½ hours.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ANY OF THESE ACTIVITIES LOOK FOR UPCOMING

FLYERS, see THE BULLETIN BOARD, or meet us at the Temple-wide activities fair on September 10th

(Or contact Eva Sandrof at 201-837-2241)

All new members are welcome!

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ARZA

Vicky Farhi, Chair

The following is an excerpt from an article written by Muki Jankelowitz, Temple Emeth's wonderful tour guide and teacher during last summer's trip to Israel.

ONE ISRAELI PERSPECTIVE ON THE WAR

By Muki Jankelowitz

As I write this, we are 28 days into a bloody and painful war. The civilian and military death toll climbs from day to day. Damage to property, nature and the economy is immeasurable. But although this war is one of Israel's longest, it is a war that still doesn't have a name. I have a strong sense this is a war that is still not clearly understood.

In 2000 Israel withdrew to internationally recognized borders with Lebanon. However, the central Lebanese Government did not take control of southern Lebanon. Instead, it allowed the area to be dominated by Hezbollah (which literally means Party of God), which spent the next 6 years getting ready for war. The organization, to a large extent, is an Iranian proxy, with the dual aims of spreading its specific Shiite ideas and destroying Israel.

Part of Hezbollah's success comes from the massive funding it receives from Iran and the inten-

sive logistical support it receives from Syria - estimated at 100 million dollars a year in the 80's and 90's. This support came in the form of weapons, military training and hardware.

At the same time, Hezbollah has also used its massive funding for the establishment of welfare institutions, allowing the organization to improve the educational and health system in southern Lebanon. It is this distortion of Hezbollah's role that makes it difficult to fight.

This is not about the 'occupation' or about territories. This is an existential war for Israel, and in the broader picture, for the West (and, indeed, for moderate Islam).

If Israel succeeds in its battle with Hezbollah, it will be demonized for the civilian deaths and so-called massacres. If Israel fails, this will be seen as Hezbollah's victory and will open the door for further attacks on 'weakened,' corrupt Israel.

Winning or losing this war in Lebanon is not winning the ultimate war. That war is not just Israel's war. It will unfortunately take far more resources and lives and that will only happen when the West wakes up. Until then, we will continue to worry about the safety of the soldiers and the citizens in the North. And we hope and pray for peace. Most importantly, we look forward to returning to the Galilee; to visiting its beautiful sites and planting trees and rebuilding houses. Because, that is what this war is really about. It is between those who look backwards and wish to return to the 6th Century and those of us who draw our inspiration from the past, but look forward to a better future. And that is why we will win.

B'Yachad Breakfast on Sunday September 17th, 2006

Rabbi Steven Sirbu will speak on: What's Next in Gaza?

A year ago, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and the majority of the Israeli public thought that disengagement from Gaza would bring stability (and maybe even peace) to the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians. Less than a year later, the Israeli army was back in Gaza trying to find a kidnapped soldier and punish the terrorists responsible for his abduction.

Was the disengagement a mistake? Rabbi Sirbu will analyze the events that led to this summer's crisis and the possibilities that the future may hold.

All B'yachad breakfasts begin with a short service at 10:00 a.m. The breakfast starts at 10:30 a.m. Please fill out and return this RSVP by Sept. 8, 2006 with your payment of \$6.00 so you will be able to join us for the breakfast.

Name _____

Number attending _____ Amount enclosed _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

From the Volunteer Coordinators

Did you ever want to get involved at Temple, but weren't sure how? On September 10th, all the committees and social groups will gather in the Social Hall for an Activities Fair!

For example, you can:

- ♦ Find out what sorts of activities the Men's Club, Not-Just-For-Couples Club, and NEW (Network of Emeth Women) are planning for the coming year!

- ♦ Learn how to get involved with the spiritual side of Temple Emeth through the Ritual Committee or Children's Worship!

- ♦ Discover our Adult Education programming and B'Yachad Breakfasts!

- ♦ Find out how to get your children involved in the Temple Junior and Senior Youth Groups! And so much more!

So plan to come to the Fair on September 10th between 9:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. See you there!

Carol Shansky & Amy Abrams

ABOUT BAZAAR

It's that BAZAAR time of year again! This year's Bazaar is Sunday, December 10, and Laura Kirsch, chairperson, has some urgent requests. Rummage through your closets! You know all the stuff you've been meaning to get rid of? Time to sort through it all and get it packed up for this important event. Gently used clothing and jewelry are especially needed. Just bring them to the Temple and we'll take care of the rest. We need folks with vans, SUVs etc., who would be willing to help with merchandise pickups, from either congregants or corporate donors. If you can help out, please send an e-mail to Sheryl Cooper at scoop12300@aol.com. or Lynn Chaiken at lynnchaiken@gmail.com. Rack your brains! If you know of any business people who might be willing to donate merchandise, services, complimentary meals or discount coupons, please call Laura Kirsch at 201 343-5955 or e-mail lkirsch@kirschandkirsch.com. Please also contact Laura if you can donate items like tickets to sports or entertainment events.

All items should be in good condition. Please mark them with your name and address if you would like a tax-deductible receipt.

Temple Emeth College Kids

By Lynne Graizel

As we welcome everyone back to school, I'll be introducing all of you to the latest group of our college freshman. But for now here's an update about what some of last year's college kids have been doing.

Jenna Firshein was honored at a brunch given by the Jewish Federation of Lehigh Valley last spring for her extensive work at Hillel. Jenna is in her junior year at Lafayette College – where by the way, she's on the Dean's list!

Russell Falk and his team took first place for their student produced short film entitled **BLIGHT**. He's begun his Master's degree program at Drexel University. An accomplished artist, Russell won numerous awards for his work in high school and college.

Laura Geisenheimer who spent last fall in Spain in a study abroad program, was there this summer working for a charitable organization.

Ben Wolf was in Seattle interning at MicroSoft. Ben is in his senior year at Duke.

And last, but not least, **Amanda Graizel** starts her career as a JCSC at Syracuse University. The one-year fellowship enables recent college grads to work on campuses across North America helping students explore and celebrate their Jewishness. Good luck to everyone!

The Museum Committee invites you to a
Meet the Artist Opening Reception
 on Sunday, September 17, 2006
 at 11:00 a.m.

for a new exhibit entitled,
"In The Beginning - Transforming Emptiness"
 by the artist **Rudi Wolff**
Refreshments will be served



Services and Smachot

9 Elul 5766

Friday, Sept. 1

Shabbat Ki Tetze

Family Service at 7:30 p.m.

The Oneg is sponsored by Karen and Donald Kaplan
in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Samantha Kaplan

Saturday, Sept. 2

Shabbat Worship at 10:30 a.m.

BAT MITZVAH OF SAMANTHA KAPLAN

Torah Portion: Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19

Haftarah: Isaiah 54:1-10

16 Elul 5766

Friday, Sept. 8

Shabbat Ki Tavo

Shabbat Service at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 9

Tot Shabbat at 9:30 p.m.

Shabbat Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Torah Portion: Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8

Haftarah: Isaiah 60:1-22

23 Elul 5766

Friday, Sept. 15

Shabbat Nitzavim-Vayelech

Pot Luck Dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Shabbat Service at 8:00 p.m.

The Oneg is being sponsored by Ruth and Jim Mahler
in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Emma Himmelhock

Saturday, Sept. 16

Shabbat Worship at 10:30 a.m.

BAT MITZVAH OF EMMA HIMMELHOCK

Torah Portion: Deuteronomy 29:9-31:30

Haftarah: Isaiah 61:10-63:9

1 Tishri 5767

Friday, Sept. 22

Rosh Hashanah

Tot Service at 6:30 p.m.

Erev Rosh Hashanah Service at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 23

Rosh Hashanah - 1st Day

Morning Service at 10:00 a.m.

K-7 Parallel Program at 10:00 a.m.

Teen Program at 11:00 a.m.

Children's Service at 3:00 p.m.

Tashlich at 4:00 p.m.

Torah Portion: Genesis 22:1-19

Haftarah: 1 Samuel 1:1-28

Sunday, Sept. 24

Rosh Hashanah 2nd Day

Morning Service at 10:00 a.m.

GOOD & WELFARE

The congregation mourns the passing of beloved member **Seymour Fleishman** and sends condolences to his wife, **Carlene**.

Condolences to...

Bob Spiewak on the loss of his sister, **Lenore Feldman**.

Mazel Tov to...

Sheila and Irwin Polishook on the birth of their granddaughter, **Aliza Minna**, daughter of **Susan and Lewis Polishook**

The first family Potluck Supper
of the season is just ahead,
Friday September 15th at 7:00 p.m.
right before the Music Service.

Come share food and learn a new song.
For more information, go to www.emeth.org.

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Gift Shop 10:00am - 1:00pm Sunday

or by contacting gift card captains:

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September 2006

8 Elul 5766 - 8 Tishre 5767

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 8 ELUL 7:09 7:30 pm Family Service	2 9 ELUL Ki Tetze Shabbat Ends: 8:17 9:10 am Torah Study 10:30 am Shabbat Service Bat Mitzvah of Samantha Kaplan
3 10 ELUL	4 11 ELUL Labor Day Building Closed	5 12 ELUL 8:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting	6 13 ELUL 7:30 pm Kol Emet rehearsal	7 14 ELUL 6:00 pm Religious School Teachers Orientation 7:30 pm ECC Parents Orientation	8 15 ELUL 6:57 8:00 pm Shabbat Service	9 16 ELUL Ki Tavo Shabbat Ends: 8:05 9:10 am Torah Study 9:30 am Tot Shabbat 10:30 am Shabbat Service 8:00 pm Couples Club Theater Party
10 17 ELUL 9:00 am First Day of Religious School 9:00 am Shofar Program 9:30 am Activity Fair	11 18 ELUL	12 19 ELUL 7:30 pm Website Meeting	13 20 ELUL 7:30 pm Kol Emet rehearsal	14 21 ELUL 8:00 pm Board of Trustees Mtg.	15 22 ELUL 6:45 7:00 pm Pot Luck Supper 8:00 pm Music Service	16 23 ELUL 9:10 am Torah Study 10:30 am Shabbat Service - Bat Mitzvah of Emma Himmelhoeh SELICHOT 7:00 pm Family Activity 8:30 pm Havdalah 8:45 pm Adult Study 10:00 pm Selichot Service
17 24 ELUL Selichot Begin 9:00 am 7th grade B'nai Mitzvah Orientation 10:00 am Caring Committee 10:30 am B'Yachad Breakfast 11:00am Museum Opening Reception 2:00pm Conductorcise	18 25 ELUL	19 26 ELUL	20 27 ELUL 5:00 pm Shofar Workshop 7:30 pm Kol Emet rehearsal	21 28 ELUL	22 29 ELUL Erev Rosh Hashanah 6:33 6:30 pm Tot Service 8:00 pm Erev Rosh Hashanah Service	23 1 TISHRE Rosh Hashanah - Day 1 Shabbat Ends: 7:42 10:00 am RH1 Morning Service 10:00 am K-7 Parallel Service 11:00 am Teen Program 3:00 pm Children's Service 4:00 pm Tashlich Service
24 2 TISHRE Rosh Hashanah - Day 2 Yom Tov Ends: 7:40 10:00 am RH2 Morning Service	25 3 TISHRE Fast of Gedalyah	26 4 TISHRE	27 5 TISHRE	28 6 TISHRE	29 7 TISHRE 6:22 8:00 pm Shabbat Service	30 8 TISHRE Ha'azinu Shabbat Ends: 7:30 9:10 am Torah Study 10:30 am Shabbat Service

Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library

Monthly News Update:

Is There a Prophet Among Us?

by Laurel Kane

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LIBRARIES ACCREDITATION

A Little Learning...

I volunteered to teach a Saturday morning Torah Study class this summer, and decided to focus on the Haftorah associated with the Torah reading for that day. That led directly to studying the prophet Isaiah. As I prepared my material, I realized that the prophets themselves are an interesting topic of study.

Rabbi Sirbu kindly lent me The Haftarah Commentary, edited by W. Plaut and C. Stern, and The JPS Bible Commentary Haftorot. Although both tomes are quite heavy and initially intimidating, they are actually very easy to read, and provide a wealth of information. Their introductions to the Prophets fascinated me. I decided that these commentaries would be a wonderful basis for an article to whet your appetite to explore the Prophets in greater detail. This is also a plug for an upcoming Adult Education Mini University Course on some of the Prophets.

What do you call a person who tends to be a loner; predicts that terrible things will happen if you do not improve your behavior; records his opinions and warnings; speaks his mind and doesn't care what other people think of him?

In Judaism we may call such a person Amos, Hosea, Isaiah, Micah, Jeremiah, or Ezekiel.

*Collectively these men are known as some of the Literary Prophets.

There are common threads in their personal lives that bind them as a special group. These common attributes emphasize who and what it takes to be a prophet. Each was a man of strong moral convictions, who acted alone, and spoke out against the behavior of an individual person or an entire society. They put their outrage at inappropriate conduct above their own popularity and safety. When they spoke, they often used phrases that indicated that they were speaking for God, or in the name of God. They denounced the evil that they saw about them, pled for justice, mercy, and humility, and prophesized the destruction that would happen to Israel if the Jewish people did not follow their own laws.

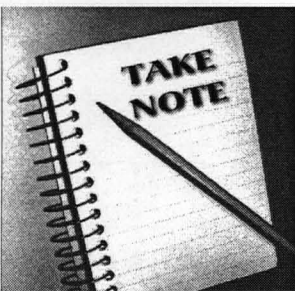
Amos is the first of these prophets, (circa 750 B.C.E.). He came from Judah and went to Israel. (Remember that the northern state of Israel had seceded from the southern state of Judah after the death of King Solomon in 933 B.C.E.) After denouncing the behavior of all the neighboring states, he denounces the behavior of Israel itself. His main theme is that God wants justice and will punish any person or nation that is unjust, even Israel.

Fifteen years later, Hosea, who came from Israel, also saw the social injustices that prevailed. He wanted the people to be merciful and loving to each other; to change from evil to good. He pictured the problem as a controversy between God and the Jewish people. God did not want to punish them, but He would if they did not reform.

Most Biblical scholars agree that the sixty-six chapters ascribed to Isaiah were really written by more than one person. The First Isaiah (circa 750 B.C.E.) emphasized the holiness of God: reliance upon God and not individuals; and the possibility of the destruction of most of Israel, with a remnant remaining to preserve and rebuild it. The Second Isaiah lived in the 6th century B.C.E.. His basic idea was that Jews had special relationship with God, and that God punished them for their sins, but he held out the hope and consolation that as the Jews repented, they would be forgiven and return to God's favor.

Micah, who lived during the same period as Amos, Hosea, and the First Isaiah, is best known for the passage "...what the Eternal requires of you- only this: to do justly, and love mercy, and walk humbly with your God." Amos espoused justice, Hosea added mercy, and Micah included humility.

I am running out of space and have barely mentioned Jeremiah and Ezekiel. Come to our Library and find out why they are also called Literary Prophets. You will find an abundant trove of stories about these, and other Prophets, such as Elijah, Haggai, Joel, Malachi, Nahum, Nathan, Obadiah, Zephaniah...



September

- 9 Couples Club Theater Party 8:00 p.m.
- 10 First day of Religious School 9:00a.m.
Shofar Program 9:00 a.m.
Activity Fair 9:30 a.m.
- 14 Book Group at the home of Cindy Kitzinger
Rashi's Daughters by Maggie Anton
- 15 Pot Luck Supper 7:00 p.m.
- 17 B'Yachad breakfast 10:30 a.m.
Museum opening reception 11:00 a.m.
Renaissance Group - Conductorcise 2:00 p.m.

Temple Emeth Renaissance Group

All Temple Emeth members who are "fiftysomethingplus" are invited to join the Renaissance Group, a social, cultural and educational organization especially for "empty-nesters." Membership is open to both couples and singles, either retired or still working.

The Renaissance Group is sponsoring *Conductorcise* on Sunday afternoon, September 17th at 2:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. Maestro David Dworkin will lead everyone through an invigorating upper body workout, while teaching how to improve your listening skills and learn basic conducting techniques. Wear comfortable clothes, have fun, and enjoy a great aerobic workout. Light refreshments will be served. Admission is free for paid up Renaissance members, for everyone else - \$5.00. Reserve your spot by September 12th.

The Renaissance Group has scheduled the following programs for this year:
Oct. 20th - Shabbat Dinner preceding services & Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Lecture
Dec. 3rd - Backstage Tour of Metropolitan Opera House
Jan 6th - Evening of Klezmer music
March - Theater Party
April - Spring Bus trip

For more information and to volunteer your help, contact Renaissance Group Co-chairs:
Elaine Pollack (201) 385-2085,
elaine33@optonline.net or Barbara Kaufman,
(201)385-8433, BKaufmanNJ@aol.com

Summary of Minutes from the July 27, 2006 Board Meeting

Twenty members were present for the only summertime Board meeting. Committees reported their ongoing activities: 19 B'nai Mitzvot next year, minor-league baseball game on 8/20, Broadway play on 9/9, Temple-wide Activities Fair on 9/10, and other matters.

In Executive Session, the Board voted to approve a three-year contract with Marion Schechter, our long-time Temple Administrator.

The Temple was burglarized early in July. Supermarket Gift Cards were stolen. Temple is insured for some of the loss. Some of the cards have been recovered. A suspect whose fingerprints match those found at the point of entry is in jail. However, this break-in caused the Board to initiate a review the Gift Card program, which is underway.

Additional security was discussed. Hallway motion detectors seem a likely outcome, plus a change from our current central monitoring service to a lower-priced one. Research is ongoing, but pay-back looks to be less than 2 years.

The Board debated options related to the unsightly condition of the sanctuary ceiling. It voted to authorize exploratory work to determine the integrity of supporting structure above it, subject to obtaining permission from the town of Teaneck.

The Capital Campaign recommended by the Strategic Planning Committee is slowly gathering steam. Mimi Sigel has agreed to be the Honorary Chairperson.

Rabbi Sirbu and President Firshein reported additional ongoing activities: High Holy Day planning, BARJ planning, Temple-wide e-mail test, Cantor's performance review.

Rabbi Sirbu stressed the need for ACTION for our sister congregation in the badly hit city of Nahariah. Gifts to that congregation are sorely needed.

The full minutes of all meetings are available from the Board Secretary at marcchelemer@alum.mit.edu, or can be read in the office. Any congregant may attend a Board meeting as well. Please make your opinions known to the Trustees when you see them at the synagogue.

Marc Chelemer, Secretary

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| • Rabbi Louis J. Sigel Scholar-in-Residence Fund | • Social Action Fund | • Straussman Memorial Youth Award Fund |
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| • Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Lecture Fund | • Yahrzeit Fund | • Youth Committee Program Fund |
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| • Adult Kallah Scholarship Fund | • Honigberg/ Howard Religious School Scholarship Fund | • Lazar Educational Enrichment Fund |
| • Paul S. Lazar Caring Community Endowed Fund | • Alfred and Helen Levin Youth Award Fund | • Rabbi Louis J. Sigel Endowment Fund |
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| • Rabbi's Discretionary Fund | • Cantor's Discretionary Fund |
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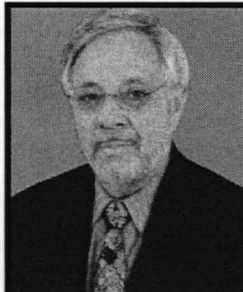
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Tilem & Rabbi Nafshi for their care during
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Beverly & Sy Lazar in honor of the 100th birthday of
Bea Lewis, mother of Rosamond Wilen
Joan & David Paul sending get well wishes to Fred
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Ruth & Peter Adler in gratitude to Sybil Silberman
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Elaine & Joe Pollack in honor of the special Bar
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Carlene & Seymour Fleishman sending continued
good health wishes to Shirley Heller
in honor of the 100th birthday of Bea Lewis

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Gloria & Marvin Barsky in honor of Golan Ben
Chorin, son-in-law of Emily & Elliot Steinberg
receiving his Ph.D. from the Jewish
Theological Seminary
in honor of the birth of Andrew Steinberg, new
grandson of Emily & Elliot Steinberg
Carlene & Seymour Fleishman in honor of Andrew,
new grandson of Emily & Elliot Steinberg
in honor of Golan Ben Chorin, son-in-law of
Emily & Elliot Steinberg upon receiving
his Ph.D. from JTS
sending condolences to Emily & Elliot Steinberg
in memory of their beloved aunt,
Florence Donick

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Harold Katz in gratitude to Cantor
Carlene & Seymour Fleishman in gratitude

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND

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Madelyn Wolf in memory of Kenneth Fox
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in honor of the college graduations of Matthew &
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Russell Falk
congratulating all the 2006 Confirmands
in honor of Linda Horowitz being chosen
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in memory of Kenneth Fox
in memory of Seymour Fleishman
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Bev & Sy Lazar in memory of Anne Caren, beloved
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Sara Berke
sending get well wishes to Sandra Rumayor
in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Kimberly Etzin
in memory of Irving Hauptman
in honor of the graduation of Matthew &
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in gratitude to Cynthia Massarsky,
Michael Robinson and all the Casino
Night volunteers for a spectacular event
Dora Friedman sending Toda Raba to all her many friends
at Temple for sharing in her Simcha at BARJ
Teri & Fred Binder in honor of Sydel & Sy Yegelwel's
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in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Kimberly Etzin
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in honor of the Confirmation of Daniel Kohane
in memory of Kenneth Fox
Judy & David Fox in honor of the B'nai Mitzvah of
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Judith Bitterman in memory of Seymour Fleishman
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Dana Graizel in gratitude to Rob Staffin

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Judy & David Fox in honor of Dora Friedman being honored by BARJ

Marc Klausner in honor of Kimberly Etzin reaching her Bat Mitzvah

Madelyn Wolf in honor of the Confirmands of 5766

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Pam, Jeff, Kimberly & Carly Etzin in honor of Danny Kohane's confirmation

Wendy & Dan Dessanti in honor of Debbie Rutz's 25 years at Emeth

Lynne, Bill, Amanda & Dan Graizel in honor of Dora Geld Friedman being honored at BARJ

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Lorraine & Jerome Fisch sending get well wishes to Marvin Barsky

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Karen & Sam Gronner in memory of Seymour Fleishman

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The Kalman/Waldman family in gratitude to Marc

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Andrea & Alan Winters in honor of the beautiful music of David Kohane

Judy & Walter Distler in honor of the 100th birthday of Bea Lewis

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David Marsa in honor of Nadara Pitamber's conversion to
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June & Victor Cohen in honor of the Class of 2006

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in honor of the birth of Aviva, new granddaughter
of Lucy & Don Brody
Grace & Irving Borowitz in honor of the birth of their
new grandson, Samuel Lawrence Ensfield
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