## Temple Emeth

## Bulletin

Temple Emeth of Teaneck, New Jersey
An Affiliate of the Union for Reform Judaism
Serving Reform Congregations in North America

Volume 60, Number 3

Kislev/Tevet 5767 December 2006



## The Business of Bazaar











SUNDAY, December 10th 9:30 am - 4:30 p.m.





Volunteer by donating merchandise, helping with sales, providing baked goods and shop til you drop to make this year's event one of the best ever. Any questions, suggestions or offers of help call Laura Kirsch at 201 343-5955 or lkirsch@kirschandkirschl.com

Marion Wolf at 201 385-8945 or marionewolf@yahoo.com
or Sheryl Cooper at 201 487-8885 or joelandsheryl@gmail.com

#### TEMPLE EMETH

1666 Windsor Road Teaneck, New Jersey 07666 Main Office # 833-1322 School Office # 833-8466





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TREASURER Steve Packles	692-9881	
ASSISTANT TREASURER Jeffrey Etzin	722-0405	
*****		
EDITOR Sandi Klein 837-3850		
GRAPHIC DESIGN Barbara Balkin 261-6218		

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ADVERTISING . . . . Audrey Seares 315-2662

	Bulletin Deadlir	nes	Mid-Month Mailing Deadlines			
Month Deadline Date		Publication Date	Deadline Date	Publication Date		
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		
March	February 8	March 1	March 1	March 15		
April	March 7	April 2	April 2	April 16		
May	April 12	May 1	May 1	May 15		

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

Advertising Rates for Ad Size 2" x 3 1/2"

	Member	Non-Member
1 Month	\$ 55	\$ 82.50
5 Months	\$247.50	\$385
10 Months	\$330	\$495
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For additional information, call (201) 833-1322

## Message From the Rabbi

The recent elections have been analyzed and analyzed, and depending on whom you ask, the victory of Democrats over Republicans, especially some notable incumbents, means a dozen different things. For Reform Jews, it means a new chance to advance the values that we have expressed over and over again in sermons, articles and resolutions.

Interpreting the Torah and the words of the ancient prophets, our movement has articulated positions in favor of ending hunger and homelessness, reforming the health care system so that coverage is available to Americans, protecting reproductive rights and ending discrimination against gays and lesbians, just to name a few. While most would agree the Democratic Party has always been more sympathetic to most of the issues that the Reform movement has spoken passionately about, it is important to note that as a national religious organi-

zation, the Union for Reform Judaism and its affiliates are strictly non-partisan. Our national leaders do not endorse candidates nor do our synagogues publish "voter's guides." While we speak out on issues, we try at every opportunity to say that minority voices are still welcome in our synagogues.

If the polls are to be believed, the war in Iraq was a major issue in how Americans voted. We Reform Jews are no different. As Americans, we want honesty from our leaders and we want policies that yield discernable results. As Jews, we mourn the loss of human life, particularly innocent life, and we want to know that such loss of life was unavoidable in the pursuit of a greater good.

But I believe that this election was about something more: humility. This is a theme I spoke about in my Kol Nidre sermon, but it bears repeating now that the votes have been counted, because the Torah is very concerned with the just use of power. In six years the administration had expanded the power of the executive branch to unprecedented levels without at the same time demonstrating that they can be trusted with this power.

Throughout the campaign, the President persisted in describing Democrats as weak and charging

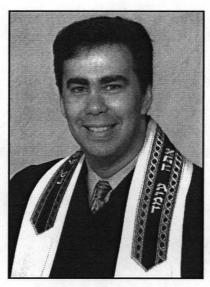
that anyone who disagreed with his policies was "emboldening the enemy." Mix in countless repetitions of the phrase "stay the course" in a way that made it seem no amount of reality would get the commander-inchief to look at the war differently, and voters were ready for a change.

I don't believe that Democrats are necessarily more humble than Republicans. In fact the week after the election, the two parties seemed to be competing to see who could appear more humble. But by giving the President a Democratic Congress, vot-

ers forced him to be humble in a way nothing else could.

Both parties agree on one thing: the time has come for them to work together. We Reform Jews know just how hard that is. We witness from a distance how hard it is for Israeli and Palestinian leaders to work together even though they both claim to want peace. We know how hard it is to engage Christians in meaningful dialogue so that we can understand one another and become better neighbors. And even within our own community, our ideologies prevent us from sitting down at the table and working on issues of common concern.

With Chanukah just a few weeks away, we are ready to once again celebrate God's ability to perform miracles. I pray, however, that it doesn't take miracles to heal the divisions in our nation; just the work of humble leaders who wish to do what is right for our country.



Rabbi Steven Sirbu

### **Message From the President**

Although it is not likely that we'll be greeted with a "Happy Chanukah" at a Wal-Mart this year, it seems almost everyone likes this holiday - kids of all ages, grandparents, moms and dads. My non-Jewish patients often tell me they want to celebrate Chanukah too. And no wonder: have you ever compared it to that "other" holiday in December? Look what we have to be thankful for:

You can use your fireplace.
There's never a silent night when you're among your Jewish loved ones.
If someone messes up on a gift, there are seven more days to correct it.

No roof damage from reindeer.

Sufganiyot and latkes – enough
oil to keep your system
regular. Metamucil sales
come to a halt in Jewish
communities for 8 days in
December. Even grandma
has a smile on her face.

Your entire family can enjoy the waxy buildup on the menorah.

Cheer is optional.

No Irving Berlin songs. (ironic, isn't it?)

Chinese restaurants open just for us on December 25th.

Temple Emeth, of course, has a lot of activities to choose from this month. The Outreach Committee is sponsoring a program entitled, "The Tree Thing," sometimes referred to as the December dilemma. Our annual Temple-wide Chanukah dinner is often a sellout – so register early. The Couples Club (not for couples only) is hosting a "Night at the Races." The Paul S. Lazar Caring Committee is holding a Healing Service with Rabbi Robin Nafshi and Cantor Shira Nafshi. There is always the Tuesday night mini-university class. I look in the library and often see a large group led by Dionne Danis discussing American literature from a Jewish perspective. December also provides the opportunity to help out at the Homeless Shelter during Christmas Week.

Look for activities from B'Yachad, Renaissance, Men's Club (burgers and beer night is coming up), Rosh Chodesh, and Network for Emeth Women. And if you can hold a note, come to choir practice on Wednesday nights! It's all there, close by and waiting for you.

In other news, I recently sent you a letter indicating a new front door security code is in effect. The old one will be deleted shortly, so use the new code now!

In an effort to make sure that you have every opportunity to take advantage of Temple activities, please be on the lookout for two test e-mails this month. The dates are listed in the letter too. If you don't receive the e-mails, then call the office. The mailing also contains a Temple Emeth contribution booklet that you can use to mark special occasions and say thank you for a kindness. Hey - that letter seems kind of important, guess I'll have to read it myself!

Finally, this year we are lucky to have a new member on the Executive Committee. Paula Dillon is our Assistant Financial Secretary. She and her husband Michael are practicing attorneys in Jersey City. Their two children Mollie, 15 and Rebecca, 13 essentially grew up at Temple Emeth, starting with our ECC, Religious School, Junior Choir, Bat Mitzvah, BARJ and soon Confirmation. The Dillons became active in the early 90's when they participated in a Temple Emeth Interfaith Workshop. Paula has served or chaired several committees including ECC, Outreach, Religious School, Search, and Cantorial assessment, and has been on the Board of Trustees.

Happy Chanukah from my family to yours.

B'Shalom, Dan Firshein President

### From the Religious School

"One should be more concerned with spiritual than with material matters, but another person's material wealth is (one's) spiritual concern." (Rabbi Israel Salanter)

This Chanukah, the teachers and students reflect on the meaning of "light" in our tradition. The

Torah, History, Hebrew, Ethics, and Holidays that we study are the building blocks that shed light, illuminate, and shape us as Jewish adults and "mentchen." We study Jewish texts, chant prayers, wrestle with ethical dilemmas, and do acts of tikun olam.

#### Our EIGHT POINTS OF LIGHT:

7th Grade - Field trip to Ellis Island - fun, informative, community building.

6th Grade - Families studying Torah together and making ethical decisions.

5th Grade - Studying Israel and making connections with Nahariya.

4th Grade - Composing a personal Jewish journal.

3rd Grade - Beginning the exciting study of Hebrew, both modern and ancient.

2nd Grade - Learning blessings, holidays, and the "blessings" of studying Torah.

1st Grade - Identifying Jewish values and having conversations about God.

Kindergarten - Creating art, singing, dancing and experiencing Judaism in a joyful and meaningful way.

Share Chanukah blessings with family and friends, and may your holiday be filled with light and joy.

B'vracha, Dora Geld Friedman

## From the Early Childhood Center

Each and every day, early childhood teachers are challenged to integrate developmentally appropriate experiences with the school's curricular goals. This includes both cognitive concepts and child-friendly themes, both of which present themselves in connection with the holidays of Thanksgiving and Chanukah.

As Americans and Jews, we have many opportunities to celebrate holidays and pass on traditions to our children. Classroom experiences are not

just for projects and celebrations, but golden opportunities to further reinforce many of our most fundamental values.

Thanksgiving served as a prime example. On the surface, a visitor to the Temple Emeth ECC would have seen Native American jewelry in the making, colorful headdresses of every sort and books about Pilgrim and Native

American lore. At the core, however, the children are helped to understand and celebrate the themes of gratitude and forming friendships. This is done by identifying those things in our daily lives for which we are grateful – the foods we eat, the families who take care of us, and by developing a greater awareness and

understanding of those who are not exactly as we are, or exactly the way we might like them to be.

The eight days of Chanukah lend themselves to activities that enable the children to count sequentially, follow the recipe to make latkes, match candles to flames, and other early learning oriented activities. But once again we are presented with the opportunity to move beyond the material and tangible. We can show

children how to be a *shamash* in class, a helper at clean-up time, snack time or lunch.

In telling the Chanukah story we encourage, at this early age, traits that are true to the values of our people: standing up for ourselves and our beliefs, feeling powerful in the face of daily challenges, and giving and doing for others as part of our every day practice.

From the entire Early Childhood Center staff, we wish you a happy and tradition-filled Chanukah.

Sharon Floch Director, Early Childhood Center



## **KLEZMER**



# Start the New Year off on a High Note at Temple Emeth's Klezmer "Kabaret Koncert"

Saturday, January 6, 2007 at 8 p.m. Featuring DiBostoner Klezmer Group \$20 admission



Includes concert, wine & cheese, dessert & coffee.



Brought to you by
The Renaissance Group,
B'yachad &
The Men's Club

Please reserve by December 30, 2006.

Guests are welcome. Bring your friends.

For more information contact:

Elaine Pollack, 201-385-2085,

elaine33@optonline.net

or Barbara Kaufman, 201-385-8433,

BKaufmanNJ@aol.com

Please make checks payable to

"Temple Emeth Klezmer concert"

Enclosed is \$	@ \$20 per person.
# of people attending	
E-MAIL	
PHONE	
NAME(s)	

and mail to the Temple office.

## Membership Committee Chanukah Dinner

You're invited to
Temple Emeth's 7<sup>th</sup> Annual
Chanukah Dinner\*
Friday, December 15, 2006
6:15 p.m. Dinner

Music Shabbat Service at 8:00 p.m. Bring your menorahs, candles and friends!

Children ages 4 and under are free All new 2006 Temple members are invited as our guests

Adult Members: \$15.00 per person Children ages 5-12 \$7.00 per person

This event is sponsored by the Membership Committee.

For more information, contact Shana Janoff (201) 541-0151 or Jill Kantor (201) 461-5976

\*In the spirit of the holiday, please bring a can of food or non-perishable food item to donate to the Center for Food Action.

Please return the form and payment to the Temple office no later than December 5, 2006

Temple Emeth Chanukah Dinner December 15, 2006

Name		
Telephone		
Yes, I know you nee	d help and I'd lik	e to volunteer to:
set up	serve	clean up
Adult non-mer Children ages	s @ \$15 per per mbers @ \$18 p 5-12 @ \$7 per 4 and under (fi	er person person
	nembers (free):	
Adults	Children	
Total amount enclos	sed \$	



### The Gift Shop

Need a Chanukah gift? Need an anytime gift?

Look no further than Temple Emeth. Our Gift Shop is the perfect place to find both Judaic and non-Judaic items. It's a small spot, but it's well stocked thanks to the creative efforts of manager Pam Etzin. Twice a year this savvy shopper attends the New York Gift Show at the Javits Center searching for new and interesting items to put on display. Beautiful Menorahs, candles and dreidels are available for your purchasing pleasure this Chanukah season.





You can also find Mezuzot, jewelry, Kiddush cups, serving pieces and beautiful cards for all occasions, B'nai Mitzvot, weddings, new baby.

For sale this year, a new line of 3-dimensional decoupage art by Reuven Masel. It's available by special order. There are hand painted dolls and on and on and on.

The Gift shop is open Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and is also accessible through the Temple office. In addition to checks and cash, VISA and Mastercard are accepted. So are volunteers! See you at the Gift shop! For information contact Pam Etzin at (201) 722-0405.





## The next ROSH CHODESH with Rabbi Nafshi: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

Rabbi Nafshi

will discuss women of power in the Talmud.

Join other Temple Emeth women for an evening of enjoyable, stimulating exploration of our connections with Judaism!

The charge for each session with Rabbi Nafshi is \$10.

#### ADULT KALLAH - 2007

A weekend of study, prayer and socializing

WHEN - February 9th to February 11th, 2007

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

THE COST - \$425 Double Occupancy (2 persons)
\$285 Single (not sharing a room)
Rooms with King, Queen or Double Beds (see below)

INCLUDES - Shabbat Dinner Friday night

Three scrumptious meals on Saturday

Breakfast and Lunch on Sunday

PLUS - Recreational facilities including an indoor pool, a whirlpool, fully equipped exercise room with saunas

Lobby lounge with fireplace and grand piano

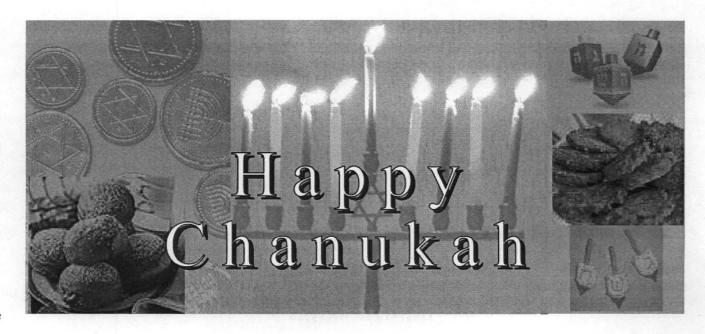
Beautiful grounds for your outdoor amusement, etc.



A deposit of \$50 per person will guarantee that you will not be left out! Send your check with the tear-off below. If you wish, you can send the full amount now. FINAL PAYMENT must be made by FEBRUARY 1st.

Please let us know if you have any dietary requests or special physical needs. Partial Scholarships are available for Temple Members. Any questions? Call: BEV LAZAR 498-9564 or CARLENE FLEISHMAN 836-0226.

	ADULT KALLAH 2007	(PLEASE PRINT)
Name(s)		
Address		
Choice of Beds -	King Queen Dou	ble Beds
Telephone	Day	Evening
Plea	ase mail your check payable to TE	EMPLE EMETH ADULT KALLAH, to:
Adult Kallah	Co-Chairs c/o Temple Emeth 16	666 Windsor Road Teaneck, N. J. 07666



## Services and S'machot

11 Kislev 5767 Friday, December 1

Shabbat Vayetze Family Service at 7:30 p.m.

The Oneg is sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Zoltan Illes in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Jordan Nagengast

Saturday, December 2

Shabbat Worship at 10:30 a.m.

BAR MITZVAH OF JORDAN NAGENGAST

Torah Portion: Genesis 28:10-32:3

Haftarah: Hosea 12:13-14:10

18 Kislev 5767 Friday, December 8 Shabbat Vayishlach Shabbat Service at 8:00 p.m. Kol Emet sings

The Oneg is sponsored by the family of Derek Neville in honor of his Bar Mitzvah

Saturday, December 9

Tot Shabbat at 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Worship at 10:30 a.m.

BAR MITZVAH OF DEREK NEVILLE

Torah Portion: Genesis 32:4-36:43

Haftarah: Hosea 11:7-12:12

25 Kislev 5767

Friday, December 15

Shabbat Vayeshev

Chanukah Dinner at 6:15 p.m. Music Service at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 16

Torah Portion: Genesis 37:1-40:23

Shabbat Worship at 10:30 a.m. Healing Service at 7:00 p.m.

Haftarah: I Kings 1:1-31

2 Tevet 5767

Friday, December 22

Shabbat Miketz

Shabbat Service at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 23

Torah Portion: Genesis 41:1-44:17

Shabbat Service at 10:30 a.m.

Haftarah: I Kings 7:40-50

## December 2006 10 Kislev 5767 - 10 Tevet 5767

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					10 KISLEV 114:09 7:30 pm Family Shabbat	
9:00 am Education Endowment 9:00 am Prayerbook Hebrew for Beginners 11:00 am The Tree Thing	13 KISLEV 10:45 am Enjoy Yiddush	Mini University 7:30 pm Lit from a Jewish Perspective 8:40 pm Prophets and Kings	6  ECC Parent/Teacher Conferences 12:00 pm	1	8 17 KISLEV 14:08 Confirmation Trip to Washington 8:00 pm Shabbat Service Kol Emet sings	18 KISLE  Vayishlach Shabbat Ends: 5:18 9:10 am Torah Study 9:30 am Tot Shabbat 10:30 am Shabbat Service Bar Mitzvah of Derek Neville
9:00 am 7th gr. Trip to Dorot NYC 9:00 am Prayerbook Hebrew for Beginners 9:30 am BAZAAR	11	Mini University 7:30 pm Lit from a Jewish Perspective 8:40 pm Prophets and Kings	10:00 am Membership Comm.  Mtg. 12:00 pm Lunch and Learn 6:15 pm Etz Chayim meets 7:30 pm Kol Emet meets 7:30 pm Strategic Planning	8:00 pm Ritual Comm. Mtg. 8:00 pm Book Group home of Linda Klempner 8:00 pm Finance Mtg. 8:15 pm Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class	8:00 pm Music Service	25 KISLE  Chanukah - Day 1  Vayeshev 9:10 am Torah Study 10:30 am Shabbat Service 7:00 pm Healing Service 7:30 pm Couples Club
26 KISLEV  Chanukah - Day 2  9:00 am 5th grade Family Ed.  Day  9:00 am Prayerbook Hebrew  11:15 am Family Holiday Fun	18	19  \$\times \text{Chanukah - Day 4}\$	29 KISLEV  29 KISLEV  CXChanukah - Day 5 6:15 pm Etz Chayim meets 7:30 pm Kol Emeth meets	21  \$\times \text{XChanukah - Day 6} \\ 5:30 pm ECC Family \\ Chanukah Dinner	1 TEVET  22  \$\times Chanukah - Day 7  14:12  8:00 pm Shabbat Service	2 TEVE  2 TEVE
24 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL		26 BUILDING CLOSED	27 BUILDING CLOSED	28 TEVET	29 114:16 8:00 pm Shabbat Service	9 TEVE 30  Vayigash Shabbat Ends: 5:27 9:10 am Torah Study 10:30 am Shabbat Service
31  ATenth of Tevet BUILDING CLOSED						

### Good & Welfare

The congregation mourns the passing of Harold
Rosenberg and sends condolences to
his wife, Betty Rosenberg

Mazel Tov to ...

Jacqueline and Howard Guttman on the marriage of their son Marc Guttman to Michelle Weinstock

#### **UJA Federation of Northern New Jersey**

October 30, 2006

"Where do I get my strength? From Udi...and from the people in this room."

Karnit Goldwasser, wife of Ehud ("Udi") Goldwasser, one of the three kidnapped Israeli soldiers, speaking to the northern New Jersey community on August 3rd.

We are writing to the members of Temple Emeth to thank you for your support of the Israel Emergency Campaign. Your generosity has sent a much-needed message of strength and support to Israelis, from Karnit Goldwasser and her neighbors in Nahariya to every Israeli dealing with the aftermath of the terrible missile attacks just a few short months ago. We are pleased to report to you that Temple Emeth raised a total of \$30,242 for the Israel Emergency Campaign. This support is deeply appreciated and is already hard at work. 100% of IEC funds go directly to Israel to provide the following kinds of assistance:

- Children and other vulnerable groups: trauma services, emergency help for the disabled; food, meals, and medical assistance for the homebound elderly; special counselling for new immigrants, scholarships for students
- Infrastructure: improving shelters; providing temporary housing; assisting with repairs

### Havdalah Healing Service

Conducted by Rabbi Robin Nafshi and Cantor Shira Nafshi

Date: Saturday, December 16, 2006

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Temple Emeth Museum

Sponsored by The Paul S. Lazar Caring Community Committee

- Longer term needs: ongoing trauma services with special attention to the elderly, children, and new immigrants; a fund for victims and their families; employment assistance; small business loans; housing loans for those with no insurance; and assistance to government and community programs forced to cut back

The continuing crisis has brought great challenges and heartache to our fellow Jews in Israel. As in the past, the northern New Jersey community, led by our synagogues, has steadfastly provided unwavering support to Israel. Your gifts to the IEC continue a proud and meaningful tradition, and for that we say a heartfelt thank you.

We pray that the guns will remain silent and that Israel will be safe from further bombardment and other threats. We also pray for a lasting, genuine peace, but, until then, we pray for strength. For Karnit and for Jews everywhere. With warm thanks, Co-Chairs, Israel Emergency Campaign: Ed Dauber, Judy Opper, and Julie Eisen; Synagogue Co-Chairs: Leo Gans and Alvin Reisbaum.

P.S.: If you are reading this letter and have not yet contributed to the IEC, we urge you to please consider making a gift by calling (201) 488-6800 or making a secure online contribution at <a href="https://www.ujannj.org">www.ujannj.org</a>. There is still much work to do and every gift will help Israel.

Thank you.





SETH KANE, M.D. ORTHOPEDIC SURGEON 277 FOREST AVENUE PARAMUS, NJ 201-261-7980

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## Temple Emeth College Kids By Lynne Graizel

Often I ask the college kids what they did during their summer vacation. Some opt to be counselors at camp, some opt for internships, some travel to exotic locations and some just hang out after a grueling year of college.

This month we spotlight **Sarah Breslow** who is currently a junior at Princeton University. Sarah had a great summer job — she worked in the office of Senator Robert Menendez.

Now you'd think that Sarah had some great political connection to get such a plum summer job, but you'd be wrong.

Sarah simply used her ingenuity and the Internet and applied through the Senator's website.

Sarah, who is a history major at Princeton, has been interested in New Jersey politics since her high school days and thought the job would be a great experience – which it was.

According to Sarah, it was fun to be around politically active college students and young staffers and have daily conversations about national issues of importance. It also exposed Sarah to a large number of issues that she might never have learned about.

.... And you never know what Sarah's political aspirations are. In case you didn't know, Princeton did produce one president (Woodrow Wilson); perhaps Sarah Breslow will be the second!

Note: This article was submitted prior to the November 7<sup>th</sup> election.

## **Buy Supermarket Shopping Cards**

(scrip)

for your favorite stores using VISA, Mastercard, cash or checks.

(charge minimum purchase is \$200)

For each \$100 shopping card purchased, the Temple earns \$5. This is applied toward your annual assessment. Supermarket shopping cards are available in the Temple Office from Monday to Thursday 9-5, Friday 9-1, in the Temple Gift Shop on Sundays from 9-1 and the Temple lobby on Sundays from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

#### SOCIAL ACTION IN ACTION

### HELP THE HOMELESS

DECEMBER 10th at 3:00 p.m.

Concert to benefit the Interreligious Fellowship
St. Mark's Church, Teaneck
Six Brandenburg Concertos performed by
the Solstice Ensemble (members of the New
York Philharmonic, Metropolitan Opera and
several other orchestras)
Tickets \$25.00

The concert is co-sponsored by Temple Emeth, the Ethical Culture Society and St. Mark's Episcopal Church.

**DECEMBER 23-30** - Once again we will staff the Family Shelter at St. Cecilia's Church in Englewood.

Up to ten homeless families are temporarily housed there.

2 cooks/servers and 2 hosts/sleepers are needed each night. The shelter is run by the Interreligious Fellowship for the Homeless and Churches & Temples in Bergen County.

I (We)can help	D
Cook for the Family Shelter	
preferred date	
Host/sleep over at the Family She	elter
preferred date	
NAME_	
Telephone #	
E-mail_	
(place in Social Action n	nail box)
For more information, contact	t Eva Sandrof
at 201-837-2241	

## Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library Monthly News Update

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LIBRARIES ACCREDITATION



#### A NEW YEAR, A RE-ORGANIZED LIBRARY

We are working hard to re-organize our Library and make it easier for everyone to use. In order to accomplish this we have two requests.

The first request is simple. Please bring back any books that you have forgotten to return to our Library.

The second request is a plea from the Library Committee! Recently, our Library has been inundated with unsolicited donations of books. This has caused a major problem for the Library for several reasons:

- Most of these donated books are duplicates, or virtually identical to items already in our collection.
- Much time and effort is required to sort through these items, which means that the members of the Library Committee have less time to serve the current needs of the congregation.
- Our shelf space is limited and we must prioritize our additions.

Therefore, as much as we appreciate the spirit of your generosity, we must ask you not to bring your unwanted books to our Library. We understand your reluctance to throw away old books and suggest that you donate them to a local town library that is having a book sale.

Thank you for your cooperation!

The Library Committee

### Year End Tax Planning

by Larry Silver

With a new year just around the corner, the focus is usually on last minute ways to lower your tax bills. To maximize deductions, many members pay Temple dues and other commit-

ments by December 31st.

This year some of you have made (or will make) significant pledges to the "Commitment to the Future" Capital Campaign and/or Annual Giving. You can take that a step further. With a strong stock market, comes highly appreciated stock. By donating it to Emeth to satisfy pledges, you can not only get a tax deduvalue on the date of transfer, but can average of the company of the com

pledges, you can not only get a tax deduction for the value on the date of transfer, but can avoid the capital gains tax if you sold the stock and then donated the proceeds.

EXAMPLE: Assume you are in a 30%

income tax bracket. Further assume you own shares of stock worth \$5,000 for which you paid \$2,000. If you sell the stock and then donate the \$5,000

proceeds, you can get a \$5,000 deduction for the contribution....reducing your tax bill by \$1,500 (5,000 x 30%). However, you may also have to pay a 15% capital gains tax - costing you \$450 (5,000-2,000 x 15%). Your net tax benefit is \$1,050. If you transfer the stock directly to Temple Emeth, you avoid the capital gains tax....and your benefit is \$1,500

Anyone who wishes to donate stock should speak with Mary Espiritu, the Temple's bookkeeper (201)833-1322. She'll provide stock transfer information. It's important you inform us so that we can make sure the stock is sold as soon as it's transferred.



## Couples Club (Singles Welcome)

presents

#### TEMPLE EMETH NIGHT AT THE RACES

A Night of Fun, Excitement, Fine Dining and Fundraising (We Hope!)

at Meadowlands Race Track, East Rutherford



DATE: SATURDAY,

DECEMBER 16th

TIME: 7:30 p.m.

Pegasus East - \$55 per person for a lavish buffet and dessert bar, coffee, NJ sales

tax, gratuity, racetrack admission, program and wagering contribution. Cash bar available. Payment needed by 12/5/06.

<u>Wagering by Proxy</u>: \$8 of each person's admission will be pooled for group wagering so we can root together for the same horses.

Each race we will vote on the horse(s) we bet on. The horse that gets the most votes we bet to win. The horse that gets the second and third most votes we use with the first horse in exactas and trifectas (picking the correct order of finish for the two horses and three horses)

Any race we win - all proceeds will go to the Temple.

For information and handicapping tips call Brian Lawrence (201) 446-1038.

To get in on the action e-mail <a href="mailto:briandavidlawrence@gmail.com">briandavidlawrence@gmail.com</a> with your name, phone number and number of people. Reservation will be under Temple Emeth.

#### **OUTREACH COMMITTEE**



presents

## "The Tree Thing"



(the Christmas conundrum)
Sunday, December 3rd at 11:00 a..m.

Lower Conference Room Bagels and coffee provided.

Please invite a guest!

Do we have a tree? What about the grandparents? Do we watch the Peanuts special?

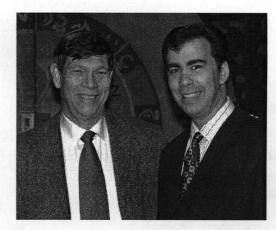
What about gifts?

Contact David Zatz at (201) 836-0744 or dave@allpar.com for information



#### December

- Outreach committee The Tree Thing 11 a.m.
- 4 & 5 Network of Emeth Women mini spa 6:30 p.m. at Le Sabon
- 6 Rosh Chodesh 7:30 p.m.
- 10 BAZAAR 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- 15 Chanukah Dinner 6:15 p.m.
- 16 Couples Club Night at the Races 7:30 p.m. Havdalah Healing Service 7:00 p.m.
- 24 No Religious School
- 25 27 Building closed
- 31 Building closed



Professor Steven Cohen and Rabbi Steven Sirbu at the Joshua Trachtenberg lecture October 20, 2006

## From the Museum Committee

If you are interested in sharing your work in the next Member Showcase, or would like to recommend an artist for a future exhibit at the Temple Emeth Museum, please contact Barbara Balkin at

> dkrm505@yahoo.com or at (201) 261-6218

#### CONTRIBUTION FORM

\$Enclosed (\$10 minimum) Fund Name		
Contributed by	4.34	
Send Acknowledgment to:	,	
Address		
Message		

Contributory Funds - contributions are deposited in the Temple Emeth Funds Account and drawn for use by the designated committee

- · Adult Education Fund
- · Albert & Mildred Otten Institute for Living Arts
- Children's Worship Fund
   College Kids Fund
- · Abe Golumb Religious School Scholarship Fund · Library Fund
  - Museum Fund
- Prayerbook Fund
- Ritual Fund
- · Rabbi Louis J. Sigel Scholar-in-Residence Fund
- Temple Emeth Beautification Fund
- · Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Lecture Fund
- · Youth Fund

- Early Childhood Center Fund
- Ilana Hed Religious School Fund
- Music Fund
- · Margery Rothschild Memorial Israel Fund
- Social Action Fund
- Temple Emeth Fund
- · Yahrzeit Fund

- Paul S. Lazar Caring Community Fund
- · Environment Fund
- · Inscribed Prayerbook Fund
- · Outreach Fund
- - Straussman Memorial Youth Award Fund
    - · Torah Repair Fund
  - · Youth Committee Program Fund
- Endowed Funds contributions are added to principal held by the Temple Emeth Endowment Foundation with fund income distributed yearly
- · Adult Kallah Scholarship Fund
- Honigberg/ Howard Religious School Scholarship Fund Lazar Educational Enrichment Fund
- Paul S. Lazar Caring Community Endowed Fund · Ned and Doris Siner Music Fund
- Alfred and Helen Levin Youth Award Fund Rabbi Louis J. Sigel Endowment Fund
  - Temple Emeth Endowment Fund
- · Youth Scholarship Fund

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

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- · Inter-Religious Fellowship
- Mazon

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

· Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

· Cantor's Discretionary Fund

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Joan & David Paul in honor of the special birthday of Fred Binder

#### ADULT KALLAH FUND

Carlene Fleishman in memory of Bob Spiewak

#### **B'YACHAD**

Jacqueline & Howard Guttman in honor of the birth of Andrew Lee Steinberg, new grandson of Emily & Elliot Steinberg

#### **CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

**Jacqueline Howard Guttman** in gratitude for Marc & Michelle

#### **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND**

Sandra Frimmet in memory of Richard Harris

Judy & David Fox in memory of Bob Spiewak
in honor of the marriage of Marc Guttman to

Michelle Weinstock

Micki & Mike Grunstein in memory of Sid Broder in honor of the birth of Lucas Taylor, new grandson of Gail & Bob Levy in honor of the birth of Lili Sophia, new granddaughter of Sandy & Herb Loft in honor of the birth of Lilli Shayne, new granddaughter of Marion & Seymour Schechter

#### **COLLEGE KIDS FUND**

Bea & Alan Westin in honor of the graduations of Amanda & Dana Graizel

#### EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND

Bea & Alan Westin in honor of Sharon Floch's marriage to Bob Feinberg

#### **INSCRIBED LIBRARY BOOK FUND**

June Handler in memory of Boris Bierstein Shirley & Gil Rosenzweig in honor of Rabbi Sirbu and Cantor Tilem

#### **MUSEUM FUND**

Karen Rappaport & Phyllis Burman in memory of Sid Broder

#### **MUSIC FUND**

Wendy & Dan Dessanti in honor of the marriage of Marc Guttman to Michelle Weinstock

#### Jacqueline & Howard Guttman:

in honor of Vicki Paul's recent marriage to James Van Zetta

in honor of Vic Anesini's conversion to Judaism

in memory of Bob Spiewak in memory of Seymour Fleishman

Lynne & Bill Graizel in honor of the Aufruf of Marc Guttman & Michelle Weinstock

Susan & Richard Barnett in honor of the forthcoming marriage of Marc Guttman to Michelle Weinstock

Shirley & Kenneth Heller in memory of Sid Broder Nan & Abe Badian in memory of Sid Broder

#### PAUL S. LAZAR CARING COMMUNITY FUND

Lenore Krigsman

**Bunny & Nat Ritzer** in memory of Rolf Mandeau sending get well wishes to Estelle Spiewak in memory of Bob Spiewak

Sandy & Herb Loft in honor of the birth of their granddaughter, Lili Sophia

#### RABBI SIRBU'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Jacqueline & Howard Guttman in gratitude for Marc & Michelle

#### **ROSH CHODESH FUND**

Carlene Fleishman in honor of the birth of a granddaughter to Linda & Jim Rothenberg in honor of the marriage of Marc Guttman to Michelle Weinstock in honor of the birth of Lilli Shayne Greenstein, granddaughter of Marion & Seymour Schechter

#### RITUAL FUND

Bea & Alan Westin in honor of Vic Anesini's conversion to Judaism

#### SOCIAL ACTION FUND

Karen Rappaport & Phyllis Burman in memory of Bob Spiewak in memory of Joseph Lieberman, father of Howard Lieberman

#### CONTRIBUTIONS

#### TEMPLE EMETH BEAUTIFICATION FUND

Bea & Alan Westin in honor of the marriage of Vicki Paul to James Van Zetta

#### TEMPLE EMETH FUND

Sydell & Sy Yegelwel in memory of Sid Broder in memory of Richard Harris in memory of Bob Spiewak

Anne Rosenthal in memory of Sidney Broder
Ilse & Fred Halden in gratitude to Steve Leeman
Lynne & Bill Graizel in honor of the birth of Lilli
Shayne, new granddaughter of Marion & Sy
Schechter

#### YAHRZEIT FUND

Sandra Frimmet in memory of Claire Wunderlich in memory of Walter Frimmet in memory of Maryem Frimmet

Ruth & Peter Adler in memory of Sid Broder
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Carlene Fleishman in gratitude to the Temple Choir
Ruth Pasvoll in memory of Harold Pasvoll
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Bunny & Nat Ritzer in memory of Julius Spielman & Kenneth Ritzer



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#### B'YACHAD BREAKFAST

Dr. Golan Ben-Chorin. Rabbi of Sulam Ya'akov in Zichron Ya'akov will discuss "WHAT IN THE WORLD DOES IT MEAN TO BE JEWISH?"

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2007 at 10:30 a.m.

Figuratively - the meaning of being Jewish in the third millennium

Literally - A local Israeli look at this global

How does the Talmud respond to globalization and mass culture?

Are the Torah's definitions of Judaism still relevant in the era of instant messaging? With the current state of world affairs, what is the purpose of staying Jewish?

All B'yachad breakfasts begin with a short service at 10:00 am. The breakfast starts at 10:30 am. This RSVP must be filled out and returned by January 5, 2007.

Please enclose your payment of \$10 per person for the breakfast and lecture, \$7 per person for the lecture only.

Name	
Number Attending	
Amount Enclosed	
Telephone #	
E-mail	

#### Minutes from the Board of Trustees Meeting November 9, 2006

President Dan Firshein opened the meeting with words from a talk entitled "This is Who We Are" by Rabbi Marla Feldman in honor of Social Action Month.

Rabbi Sirbu reported that a successful "season of firsts" is behind us: the first Bar/Bat Mitzvah orientation for our Religious School 6th graders, the first meeting of this year's Confirmation class (which has 16 members), and the first meeting of the Adult B'nai Mitzvah class (celebration is on March 22, 2008: mark your calendars!) He also reported that the new Reform prayerbook, Mishkan T'fillah, had printing problems and will not be available for at least another six months.

Financial Secretary Michael Robinson reported that we currently have 421 members, and dues are

59.9% paid.

The 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Campaign Cabinet has been diligently meeting every other Tuesday at 7 am! They are hard at work on the preliminary stages of Temple Emeth's Capital Campaign. Expect to hear more about this soon.

Sy Yegelwel reported on this year's Annual Giving campaign, the second largest source of income at Temple. This campaign takes place every year and is separate from the Capital Campaign. So far about half of the budgeted amount has been raised. More calls will be made to congregants as scheduling permits.

Vector Security has installed new keypads and black security devices around the Temple. The new

system should be fully operational soon.

A motion was brought to the Board regarding replacing the ECC's playground surface. This is an issue that has been postponed for several years while all options were examined. The ECC staff brought forth a proposal to install an artificial turf surface with a 10-year guaranty with very little to no maintenance, such installation to begin before the ground freezes. Questions in regards to the funding and the technology were answered in advance in writing. The motion passed.

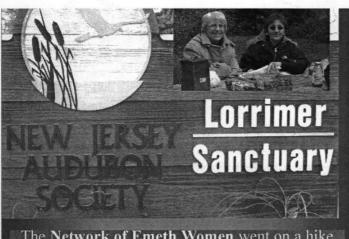
The meeting closed with reports from our many committees. The Ritual Committee discussed feedback from the High Holidays and has decided to begin Yom Kippur afternoon services later so that the Neilah service will conclude closer to sunset.

The Personnel Committee has completed an Employee Handbook which has been in the works for awhile. This handbook will be presented to Temple

employees shortly.

Committee chairs and their board liaisons announced upcoming events, most of which can be found in this Bulletin. Full minutes of board meetings are always available in the office.

> Respectfully submitted, Wendy Kosakoff **Assistant Secretary**



The **Network of Emeth Women** went on a hike and picnic on Sunday, November 5th at the Lorrimer Nature Sanctuary in Franklin Lakes.

The next event is a Mini Spa Evening at Le Sabon

509 Cedar Lane, Teaneck. Join us either on

Monday, December 4th or Tuesday, December 5th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. for a mini hand and arm massage by a licensed massage therapist and experience a variety of home spa treatments.

Wine and cheese will be served.

Also, available for purchase will be handmade natural soaps, soy candles and Dead Sea mineral bath and body treatments. Most of Le Sabon's products are made in Israel, and a portion of any purchase you make will go to <u>One Family Fund</u> - an Israeli organization helping victims of terror.

For further information contact:

Lynne Graizel at 201 833-8403 or lynnegee@optonline.net or Nickie Falk at 201 444-7519 or mfc32@optonline.net

Cost is \$5.00 for members. \$10.00 for non-members to reserve a spot at the event. Send checks payable to Temple Emeth - NEW

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# Your People Are My People:

## **DEFINING JEWISH IDEN**

Who is a Jew? Traditional Sources and Modern Challenges

OPENING SYMPOSIUM Sunday, January 21, 2007 1:30 - 4:00 pm

Bergen County YJCC, 605 Pascack Road, Township of Washington, NJ 07676

#### **GUEST SCHOLAR**

Joel Roth is Louis Finkelstein Professor of Talmud and Jewish Law at The Jewish Theological Seminary. Rabbi Roth also serves as Rosh Yeshiva of the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem. The Yeshiva, founded and maintained by the United Synagogue for Conservative Judaism, is under the academic auspices of JTS.

In addition to his teaching post at JTS, Rabbi Roth has held four key administrative positions, serving as Dean of Students of List College (then called Seminary College), Director of the Melton Research Center for Jewish Education, and both Associate Dean and Dean of The Rabbinical School.

An expert in halakhah, Dr. Roth was appointed to the Committee on Jewish Law and Standards in 1978, served as Chairman for eight years, and continues to serve today. In addition to articles and responsa for the Committee, Rabbi Roth has written The Halakhic Process: A Systemic Analysis and Sefer ha-Mordecai: Tractate Kiddushin.

Dr. Roth received a BA from Wayne State University in his hometown of Detroit. He also participated in the Herbert H. Lehman Institute of Talmudic Ethics, a special studies program. He received his master's degree at JTS, where he was ordained in 1968. That same year, Rabbi Roth was appointed to the faculty of JTS as he continued his studies toward a PhD in Talmud, which he received in 1973.

#### **STUDY SESSIONS**

For three weeks, teams of local rabbis will explore the theme at the locations listed below. Participants may attend any session(s).

January 22, 29 & February 5 7:30 - 9:30 pm TEMPLE ISRAEL & JCC 475 Grove Street Ridgewood Rabbi Joshua Finkelstein Rabbi Ben Shull

#### WEDNESDAYS

January 24, 31 & February 7 9:30 - 11:30 am BERGEN COUNTY YJCC 605 Pascack Road Township of Washington Rabbi Peter Berg Rabbi Arthur Weiner

#### WEDNESDAYS

January 24, 31 & February 7 7:30 -9:30 pm **TEMPLE SHOLOM** 385 Howland Avenue River Edge Rabbi Neal Borovitz Rabbi Neil Tow

#### **THURSDAYS**

January 25 & February 1, 8 7:30 - 9:30 pm **CONGREGATION BETH SHOLOM** 354 Maitland Avenue Teaneck Rabbi David Bockman Rabbi Jeffrey Fox

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#### REGISTRATION FORM - JLP 2007





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