

KESHER

THE WISE CONNECTION

How I Spent My Summer Vacation- In December

BY ANDY BERGER

I wonder how many of you secretly share the same feeling I do: I never went to a “sleep away” Jewish summer camp. I’m sending my kids to one now (and they love it)—and I feel a bit jealous that I missed out on such a wonderful experience.

As much as they love me, my parents won’t let me go back and live my childhood over again. What to do? Fortunately, I came across the answer at the recent UAHC Biennial, which was held in Boston in December. No, the UAHC isn’t starting an adult summer camp for nostalgic adults! The answer, which really surprised me, was *being* at the Biennial itself. It was meaningful, educational, spiritual, and just plain fun.

So, you ask, what made the Biennial so fantastic? Read on:

OVERALL. I came away from the Biennial inspired and energized. Not just about our Temple and the Reform movement, but about the entire Jewish Community here, nationwide, and in Israel.

PROGRAMS. I’m used to attending conferences where, if I learn one significant thing in a day, I feel the conference was worthwhile. At the Biennial programs I was picking up ten new ideas *per hour!* I attended first

rate programs on worship, premarital counseling, and Outreach. Dozens of programs were held on a myriad of other topics, from Working with Youth to Adult Learning, from Music to Membership. There were programs for every interest.

SERVICES AND PRAYER. I first attended a smaller weekday morning service, which was quiet and peaceful. I also attended Shabbat evening and morning services, each with over 5,000 worshippers. (Cantor Kohn sang beautifully as she co-led the Shabbat morning prayers.) Being with so many other Jews together in prayer and song was very powerful.

MUSIC. Peter Yarrow, Debbie Friedman, Doug Cotler, Rick Recht, Dan Nichols, *Mah Tov*, Jeff Klepper, and many, many more musicians performed in the evenings. My days were full and I could have gone back to my hotel room to relax; but, I didn’t want to miss any of the music. I don’t think I did!

PERSPECTIVE. Before participating in the Biennial, I knew about one very special “tree”—Wise Temple. I now have a better sense of the entire “forest.” We can learn

ISAAC M. WISE TEMPLE



K.K. B'NAI YESHURUN

INSIDE

- 2 *Words From The Heart*
- 3 *Education Connection: Thoughts from Our Rabbinic Intern*
- 4 *Education Connection: Children at Services*
- 5 *Education Connection*
- 6 *Listing of Events*
- 8 *Calendar*
- 9 *Program Connection: What's So Special About Our Senior Adults?*
- 10 *Sisterhood Notes*
- 11 *Program Connection*
- 12 *Congregational Connection: Mazal Tov*



Founded in 1842

AFFILIATE:
Union of American
Hebrew Congregations

continued on page 3 ►

D'VARIM MIN HALEV-

"Words from the Heart"

BY RABBI KAMRASS

Some personal musings of time and of history:

This month marks the six-month anniversary of the tragedy of September 11. Having visited Ground Zero approximately six weeks after the horrific events of that day, I believe that I will always have that image of its emptiness seared into my memory, and of the penetrating stench of the smell, apprehended in its fullness even six blocks away. I can see the fires still burning then, and truckload after truckload of debris being hauled away as I watched. I recognized at that moment that what drew me there was not curiosity but humanity: something in me sought to comprehend this tragedy on some kind of human level. I saw the truckloads of debris as being filled with lives that had been, and that now suddenly had vanished in a painful moment. I realize now that the rescue workers were more than heroes attempting to save lives; they were sifting among the rubble of our lost innocence, as if they might find something of a simpler past to rescue and resuscitate.

Six months after the tragedy of that day, we are only now beginning to glimpse the full impact of the destruction: not only of lives that disappeared in a moment and vast property that was destroyed in an instant, but also the impact on our worldview, the shattering of our personal security, the piercing of the soul of a nation. As with all defining moments of history, it takes more than weeks, even months, to understand the

fullness of its meaning. The eye of history requires the perspective of time. I concur with Newsweek columnist Anna Quindlen, who recently wrote: "if

skyscrapers are the man-made topography of the modern world, this rubble was once our Everest. But if I found myself weeping as the clouds passed overhead untrammelled where once they gave way to infinite shafts of steel and glass, it was not only for the dead buried beneath their ruins. It was for a time and a feeling as cocksure as the notion that two towers could rise high enough to nestle their heads in the clouds. It

was for all of us who were once so young in August, and will never feel that young again."

When we look back at the history of that moment, we will come to see how much our world-view has been altered, and the places in our hearts that were forever changed. And we will shed a quiet tear in our souls for what once was.

Sometimes we see clearer when we look farther back into history – not by months, but by centuries. We begin to see how our lives are changed by people and by events, and we are forever enriched because of such vision and hope that continues to shine forth.

March 15 will mark a special anniversary for us, the annual Rabbi Isaac Mayer Wise Shabbat, in which we celebrate both the birth (1819) and the *yahrtzeit* (1900) of the founder of American Reform Judaism and the legendary rabbi of our congregation. It affords us the opportunity for reflection, to realize the deep and abiding impact Reform Judaism has had

on our own personal lives, on our Cincinnati Jewish community, and on Judaism in general. From our own Plum Street Temple, which we lovingly and tenaciously safeguard as a celebration of history, a great history and a lasting legacy was shaped by those who came before us, one that forever changed Jewish lives and which continues to nourish our own souls.

As we have enjoyed in the last few years, once again we will join with our other Reform congregations in a shared service of celebration. We will utilize the prayers and songs of the 19th century when Rabbi Isaac Mayer Wise shaped his vision, enjoying the combined congregational choirs of Wise Temple, Rockdale Temple, Temple Sholom, and Valley Temple. This year, we will be treated to a new chapter in that glorious history of Reform Judaism, as Dr. David Ellenson, the new President of the Hebrew Union College and an expert on the history and the legacy of Reform Judaism, will be our guest speaker. It is an exceptional opportunity for our congregational family to come to know a wonderful, dynamic, and brilliant leader of American Judaism, whom I am proud to call my teacher and my friend.

I hope that you will treat yourself to a wonderful glimpse of both the past and the future as we enjoy together this special service on **March 15, 2002 at 8:15 p.m. at the Plum Street Temple.**



Rabbi Lewis H. Kamrass



Rabbi Kamrass

Thoughts from Our Rabbinic Intern

BY MICHAEL SHULMAN

OK, I have a confession to make. I am not only an Indians fan but I am a

Browns fan too. Please don't hold it against me, but I am from Cleveland. It hasn't been all that bad living here in the Queen City. I have seen the sights, tasted the chili, made wonderful friends and learned a great deal.

Admittedly, it took me a while to get used to living in Cincinnati. For my undergraduate studies, I chose to attend Georgetown University, in Washington, DC. There, I studied the world, learning the languages and histories of diverse cultures from all four corners of the earth. My focus was wide, from Chinese history to Arabic language, from Islamic theology to Christian ethics.

One September afternoon, I picked up the phone and called a local synagogue to inquire about religious school teaching positions. The next day I went for an interview and the day after that I was hired. It was a good thing too, my class of 4th graders awaited me the next day. I arrived early to school filled with anxiety

and excitement. I really didn't know what to expect. But in the end, I had one of the most powerful and fulfilling afternoons of my life. What an amazing experience that day was and throughout that year it continued. I taught those 4th graders Hebrew and Bible and, in turn, they taught me how to be flexible and how to see the world through children's eyes. Those 4th graders showed me the power of education. How a few hours a week of Jewish education can have an

enormous impact in the lives of young Jews.

I needed to be a part of this. So, despite my studies in biology and Middle Eastern history and so many other things, I chose to follow a career path in Jewish education. I pondered the best way to accomplish this. And that way has taken me on a journey that began in Cleveland, led to Israel, to HUC-JIR in Cincinnati and eventually here to Wise Temple.

Each step has been vital in the process toward achieving my goal. HUC-JIR continues to provide the Jewish information, the background and basis upon

which all Jewish education rests; attending secular courses at Xavier University provides me with knowledge of the methods and the techniques concerned with conveying that information; and working as the rabbinic intern at Wise Temple allows me to integrate all that I have learned.

The Torah challenges us: "Teach them to your children—reciting them when you stay at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you get up—to the end that you and your children may endure. . ." (Deuteronomy 11:18-21)

I have been involved in many different areas of education during the course of the year—from retreats to *Eitz Chayim* classes, from Gesher to Confirmation. As in teaching 4th graders before I can see, here at Wise Temple, the power of Jewish education, the effect of a positive Jewish experience—and I am part of it. I feel very fortunate for the opportunity to begin to synthesize what I have learned thus far in a congregational setting. I firmly believe that knowledge is the key to living a life filled with meaning and likewise as the Torah instructs us, Jewish knowledge, the key to living a meaningful and enduring Jewish life. 🕯



Michael Shulman

Summer Vacation

continued from cover

much from how others have dealt with and succeeded (or failed) in confronting many of the same challenges we face.

No, we didn't tell stories by a campfire

or maneuver across a ropes course. But we were moved by the same spirit, of our shared heritage and destiny, of our efforts now together to help heal our world, and by a true love of our faith.

I'm already planning to attend the next Biennial in 2003, and I've told my wife Linda she absolutely can't miss it. (It's

not too early to line up a babysitter!) After reading this article I hope you, too, will seriously consider joining us there.

Now that I think about it, I feel sorry for my kids that they're too young to attend. But when they're older . . . 🕯

Message From Our President

Children at Services

BY SUE TELLER

For the first time in my memory I was at a Wise Temple service where the children in attendance outnumbered the adults. Their presence in such numbers at the Chanukah Shabbat service had a magical element to it. The enthusiasm and vitality they added to the service was not even surpassed by the Chanukah candles twinkling from the many family menorahs in the Wohl Chapel. Interestingly, however, it wasn't until the next Shabbat that I truly noticed what a difference the children's presence made. I missed them very much.

At the same time, I recalled that something very interesting happened when the *K'hillat Avodah* participants held their two Town Meetings last year. These meetings took place while over a hundred congregants were fulfilling their commitment to attend Friday night

services at least once a month. The purpose of the Town Meetings was to discuss various aspects of the service, other than ritual.

The range of discussion topics included time of service, learning, seating, family friendly, dinners and community. At each Town Meeting, we rotated groups and topics at least once. Surprisingly, no matter the designated topic for discussion, the talk invariably drifted into a discussion of whether or not our services were "family friendly." Those of us with older children were surprised to learn that parents of young children frequently, if not always, felt silently accosted by dozens of eyes when they arrived at services with their young ones. "Try us, try us," we have said, but to little avail.

Hopefully, parents of young children who experience this concern were at the Chanukah service and saw that children are not a distraction from, but a welcome

addition to, the *Oneg* (delight) of our Shabbat celebration.

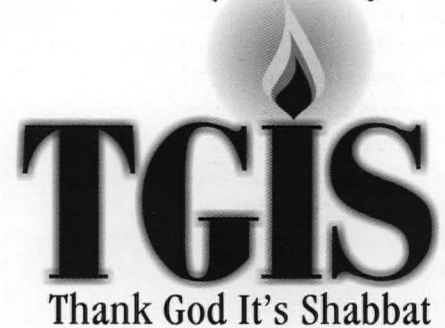
With our new early service time of 6:15 p.m., and the availability of a quiet room if a child really wants to be somewhere else, I envision more children present to experience the pleasure of a short and jubilant Shabbat service. Please – put on their gloves and mittens and bring the children with you – they are especially and always welcome! 

—Sue Teller



Sue Teller

Isaac M. Wise Temple



Please join us for the

Annual Isaac Mayer Wise Shabbat

Friday March 15th, 8:15 p.m.

Plum Street Temple

Sermon by Rabbi David Ellenson, President HUC-JIR

Value of the Month

BY BARBARA DRAGUL

Our value for the month of March is - *Hitchaivut* - commitments. Judaism is a religion which values words and understands their power. Promises or commitments are not taken lightly and in fact keeping one's commitment is tied to a belief in God. The Torah teaches us that one who makes a commitment is essentially making a promise to God and must carry out that promise. The rabbis put forth an interesting, and perhaps confusing, directive, "it is better to make no promises at all than to make them even if one is certain of fulfilling them" (Talmud Chullin 2a). Perhaps the Rabbis saw a much weightier consequence,

spiritually, in not fulfilling a vow (and they think of a vow as something said in God's name—which is indeed a weighty promise) and since one can never know for certain what the future holds, one can't be absolutely certain of fulfilling a vow. The extreme way it's stated, in contradiction to what we expect it to say ("it is better to make no promises at all than to make them if one is not certain of fulfilling them"), startles us into noticing the seriousness making promises or commitments. So much concern did the rabbis have about the fulfillment of promises, an entire tractate, or section, of



Barbara Dragul

the Talmud deals with vows and another with oaths. We are also taught that if one is to make a commitment or promise it should be for a worthy purpose. There are promises we make to another a person, promises between ourselves and God and

promises we make to ourselves. Judaism directs us to take great care in the commitments we make, understanding the importance of being able to carry out those promises. May each of us find heartfelt fulfillment of the worthy commitments we make. 🕯

Our High School Students Step Forward: Addressing Racism & Anti-Semitism

Twenty students, evenly split between the Cincinnati Reform Jewish High School and Quinn Chapel AME Church, are setting an example, not just of tolerance, but acceptance and understanding of the other. These high school juniors and seniors have made the commitment to participate in a 10-session dialogue on Black-Jewish relations in America. As Cincinnati struggles to deal with a culture of racism and the world confronts the devastation of certain people insisting, at all costs, that their worldview is the only acceptable one, our students are showing there is another way.

Alternating between Rockdale Temple and Quinn Chapel AME Church (an African American Church in Forest Park),

the students have been engaged in a dialogue customized from the Topsfield Foundation's Study Circle model.

Facilitated by John Linder from the Cincinnati Reform Jewish High School and Wanda Wilson from Quinn Chapel, the students have been exploring, sharing and discussing their respective experiences of anti-Semitism and racism. "Part of the division in Cincinnati," Wilson said, "and across the country is simply not knowing each other's respective histories. The healing process begins when we begin to listen to each others' stories." The students will have an opportunity to learn and respond to the particular relationship between the Jewish and Black communities in America. Students in the class explore the causes that have both unified

and fractured our communities, and what concrete steps can be taken to model reconciliation and change for the greater community.

These students, along with the sponsoring institutions, understand that we are either a part of the problem or a part of the solution. Jeff Postow, a Sycamore High School senior and participant in the Dialogue commented, "It showed me that when we really get to know one another, our differences aren't as great as we initially thought."

This Dialogue on Black-Jewish relations is an effort to move from the sidelines to the playing field. We applaud these high school students for leading the way. 🕯

LISTING OF EVENTS



Congregational Shabbat Dinners

March 1

7:15 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Ann at the Temple office at 793-2556.

Congregational Seder

March 28
6:00 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Ann at the Temple office at 793-2556.



Eitz Chayim

NOTE: Some Eitz Chayim classes require pre-registration. Check your Eitz Chayim Brochure for details.

Beginning Hebrew for Adults- 2nd Semester

Wednesdays starting January 23 - May 1
5:00 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.

Beyond Aleph- Adult Hebrew- 2nd Semester

Wednesdays starting January 23 - May 1
5:00 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.

Blessing of a Skinned Knee: Using Jewish Teaching to Raise Self-Reliant Children

March 3
10:00 a.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.

The Challenges of Living as a Jew in the 21st Century

March 4, 11 & 18.
Noon at Wise Center.
For more information contact Terri Snively at 793-2559.

Tales of More Cities

March 10
10:00 a.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.

Text Study: Towards A Greater Understanding of Passover

March 14 & 21
7:30 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.

Creating Jewish Rituals with Young Children

March 17
10:00 a.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.

On Being a Rabbi in the Twentieth Century

March 21, April 4 & 11
7:30 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.

Reform Judaism Magazine Discussion

April 7
9:30 a.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Lew Ebstein at 489-8048.

Hornstein Holocaust Remembrance Lecture

April 7
10:30 a.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.



Outreach

Israel with Noga Maliniak, Community Shlichah

March 3
9:30 a.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Jann Greenberg at 769-0507.

Jewish Cooking - Passover

March 7
7:30 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Teresa Kohn at 459-7161 or Jann Greenberg at 769-0507.

Oh My God!!!

April 4
7:30 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Jim & Jann Greenberg at 769-0507 or Alan Gross at 794-0550.



Religious School

Gesher Grades 4 & 6

March 3
9:30 a.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Brett Stern at 793-2556.

Gesher Grade 5

March 10
9:30 a.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Brett Stern at 793-2556.

Gesher Grade 3

March 17
9:30 a.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Brett Stern at 793-2556.

Gesher Grade 4

April 7
9:30 a.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Brett Stern at 793-2556.

3rd Grade Parents Meeting

April 7
9:30 a.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.

Confirmation Bagel Sale

April 7
9:15 a.m.
For more information, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.



Seniors

Dinner and Entertainment: Cincinnati Outreach Opera Singers

March 7
6:00 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Nancy Goldberg at 791-4498; Ruth Gore at, 351-6486; or Marlene Gross at 489-4341.



Sisterhood

Sisterhood Bridge

March 5
Noon at Wise Center
For more information, contact Ruth Goret at 351-6486.

Evening at Chateau Pomije on Madison Road in O'Bryonville

March 5
7:00 p.m.
For more information, contact Barb Fogel at 677-3103.

Sisterhood Board Meeting

March 6
9:45 a.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Valerie Friedman at 489-0168.

LISTING OF EVENTS

Sisterhood Book Club

March 13
4:30 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Eve Appleton at 321-0427.

Speaking of Women's Health Volunteer Day

March 14
7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at Northern Kentucky Convention Center
For more information, contact Nancy Apfel at 793-9659 or Adrienne Cooper at 542-0055.

Sisterhood Bridge

March 19
Noon at Wise Center
For more information, contact Ruth Goret at 351-6486.

Woman's Seder

April 1
6:30 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Jan Shuller at 794-1554.

Sisterhood Bridge

April 2
Noon at Wise Center
For more information, contact Ruth Goret at 351-6486.

Wise-UP

2nd Grade Cedar Village Visit

March 17
9:30 a.m.
For more information, contact Milynn Hoffman at 474-7757.

Ongoing Wise-UP Projects

Over-the-Rhine Soup Kitchen

Sunday Mornings
Help prepare and serve hot lunches to Cincinnati's homeless and less fortunate.
For more information, contact Mary & Scott Boster at 948-9415 or Michael & Shannon Garfunkel at 531-5444.

Interfaith Hospitality Network

Six Times a Year
Help provide for homeless families during their stay at Wise Temple by preparing meals, playing with children, staying overnight, setting up, taking down or laundering bedding. Sign up for the activities of your choice for as many sessions as you prefer.

For more information, contact Anne Pleatman at 631-3062 or Helene Ohren at 793-7443.

Bake Someone Happy

Ongoing
Help bake and arrange trays for those in need of a loving gesture.
For more information, contact Linda Sacks at 631-7373.

Usher In Shabbat

Ongoing
Usher at either Wise Center or Plum Street Temple. Through friendly greetings and prayer book distribution you help provide a peaceful, orderly and caring atmosphere for our sanctuaries.
For more information, contact Karen Sim at 777-2969.

Ready For Action!

Respond to needs that develop since we have printed the Wise-UP brochure.
For more information, contact Robin Newland at 530-5516.

YAC

Shabbat Services

March 1
6:15 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Liz Shafran at 791-8992.

Youth Groups

O.V.F.T.Y. Regionals

March 10
For more information, contact Brett Stern at 793-2556.



Miscellaneous

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting

Every Tuesday
5:30 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information contact the Temple at 793-2556.

Shabbat Storytime for Kids

March 1, 15, 29 & April 5
10:00 a.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Lauren Prangley at 871-5466.

Monte Carlo Casino Night

March 16
7:30 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Robin Newland at 530-5516 or Rob Craig at 859-341-6889.

Shavuot Sensation Recipe

1. Start with one Holy Torah
Add genuine feeling of celebration
2. Fold in one inspiring service
3. Blend in many spiritual, enlightening, workshops
4. Combine delicious desserts and refreshments
5. Mix all ingredients at
**Wise Center,
Thursday, May 16, 2002
at 7:15 p.m.**

Serves: Entire congregation

Brochure will arrive in the mail.

MARCH 2002 ADAR/NISSAN

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>WC = Wise Center PST = Plum Street Temple O = Other Location</p> <p>See listing of events for more detailed information</p>					<p>1</p> <p>10:00 Shabbat Storytime(WC) 6:15pm Shabbat Evening Service(WC) YAC Participation 7:15pm Congreg. Shabbat Dinner(WC)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:30 Shabbat Alternative Service (WC) 10:45 Bat Mitzvah of Alexandra Cooper (WC) 10:45 Optional Text Study (WC)</p>
<p>3</p> <p>9:30 Outreach—Israel w/ Noga Maliniak(WC) 9:30 Geshet Grades 4 & 6(WC) 10:00 Eitz Chayim — Blessing of a Skinned Knee(WC)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Noon Eitz Chayim—Challenges for 21st Century Jews(WC)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Noon Sisterhood Bridge(WC) 5:30pm AA Meeting(WC) 7:00pm Sisterhood at Chateau Pomije (O)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:45 Sisterhood Board Meeting(WC) 5:00pm Beg. Adult Hebrew(WC) 5:00pm Beyond Aleph Adult Hebrew(WC)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>6:00pm Seniors-Dinner & Opera(WC) 7:30pm Outreach-Passover Cooking(WC)</p> <p>Youth Group-OVFTY Regionals</p>	<p>8</p> <p>6:15 pm Shabbat Evening Service (WC)</p> <p>Youth Group-OVFTY Regionals</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:30 Shabbat Alternative Service (WC) 10:45 Bat Mitzvah of Megan Fingerman (WC) 10:45 Optional Text Study (WC) Youth Group-OVFTY Regionals</p>
<p>10</p> <p>9:30 Geshet Grade 5(WC) 10:00 Eitz Chayim- Tales of More Cities(WC)</p> <p>Youth Group-OVFTY Regionals</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Noon Eitz Chayim-Challenges for 21st Century Jews(WC)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>5:30pm AA Meeting(WC)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>4:30pm Sisterhood Book Club(WC) 5:00pm Beg. Adult Hebrew(WC) 5:00pm Beyond Aleph Adult Hebrew(WC)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Speaking of Women's Health Volunteer Day (O) 7:30pm Eitz Chayim-Text Study: Understanding Passover(WC)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:00 Shabbat Storytime(WC) 8:15 pm Isaac Mayer Wise Shabbat (PST)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:30 Shabbat Alternative Service (WC) 10:45 Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Sloan (PST) 10:45 Optional Text Study (WC) 7:30pm Monte Carlo Casino Night(WC)</p>
<p>17</p> <p>9:30 Geshet Grade 3(WC) 9:30 Wise-UP-2nd Grade Cedar Village Visit(O) 10:00 Eitz Chayim-Jewish Rituals w/ Young Children(WC)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Noon Eitz Chayim-Challenges for 21st Century Jews(WC) 7:00 pm R'fuat Ha-nefesh (WC)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Noon Sisterhood Bridge(WC) 5:30pm AA Meeting(WC)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>5:00pm Beg. Adult Hebrew(WC) 5:00pm Beyond Aleph Adult Hebrew(WC)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7:30pm Eitz Chayim-Being a Rabbi in the 20th Century(WC) 7:30pm Eitz Chayim-Text Study: Understanding Passover(WC)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>6:15 pm Shabbat Evening Service; Wise Tykes (WC)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:30 Shabbat Morning Service (WC)</p>
<p>24 No School</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>5:30pm AA Meeting(WC)</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Passover 10:45 Passover Morning Service (WC) 6:00pm Congregational Seder (WC)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>10:00 Shabbat Storytime(WC) 6:15 pm Shabbat Evening Service; Birthday and Anniversary Blessings(WC)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:30 Shabbat Morning Service (WC)</p>
<p>31 No School</p>			<p>Erev Passover</p>			

What's So Special About Our Senior Adults?

BY PHYLLIS TOBIAS

If you have to ask, you haven't been involved in their activities – yet!

Come to Wise Temple on a Sunday morning and it's full to the brim with wonderful children in all shapes and sizes. We KNOW we are doing a great job in our Religious School. And our children are critically important to all of us. But we also know that childhood is but one phase of life.

Our Temple has long done a great job with the Caring Corps in letting the infirm members of our congregation know they are thought of and remembered. Our rabbis' compassion has always been expressed with visits to nursing homes and to the sick.

But, our Senior Adults are actually a very healthy and thriving bunch. Thankfully only a few congregants are in nursing homes or home-bound. A huge number – hundreds in fact – are quite healthy and perking along nicely, thank

you very much.

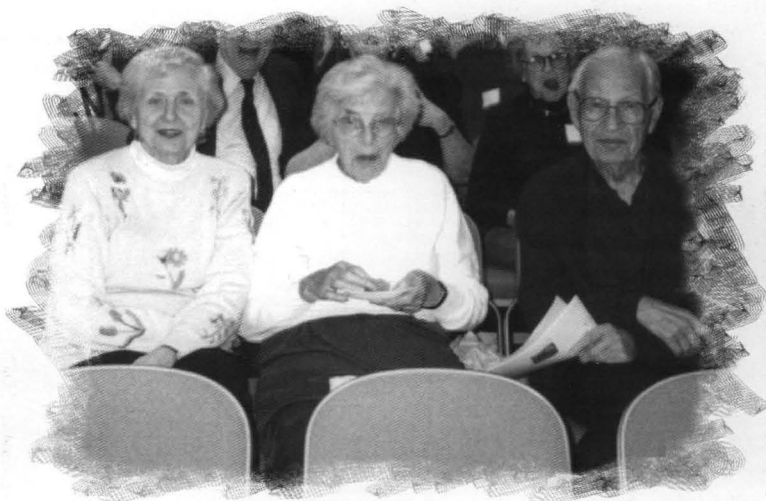
About five years ago, our Temple leadership brought new focus to special programming for our senior adults to make sure they were completely and vitally a part of Wise Temple. The Senior Adult

Committee was created under the warm and able direction of Rabbi Rick Steinberg.

First came a survey. What did our older congregants really want anyway? What were their needs? What types of programs would be "a good fit" with their interests?

The rest is history. We've always had a terrific committee of volunteers to make the senior events happen. And we've always had terrific leadership – first under Burt Gross and most recently under Ruth Goret. And we've come up with a whole series of vital, engrossing and thought-provoking programs. Of course, we plan for a lot of fun along the way as well!

Do you want a comfortable indoor summer picnic? Our seniors have one every August. Do you want a gala dinner with terrific entertainment and all the trimmings? Try our March program. How about the stimulation of learning about the Jewish response to civil unrest in Cincinnati? Or some real facts on



alternative medical treatments or memory lapses due to aging? All this, and much more, is part of the Wise Senior Adult program.

Try us out. Listen to what Ruth Goret says about her involvement in the Seniors programming:

"I was devastated when Sam died. I understood that. That's what widowhood is all about. I suppose that, in some ways, I felt my life – at least the real and meaningful part of my life – was over. But the rabbis encouraged me to work on the Senior Adult Committee, and I was frankly amazed at the deep satisfactions that are still available to me. I guess that we never outgrow needing to be useful in life. Wise Temple has given me just that opportunity and it's made a world of difference in my life."

Ruth is right. The sense of community and the opportunity to contribute are what are so special about our Senior Adult program. Amen. 🕯️



The Holocaust and the Human Spirit

The Third Annual Lusie Hornstein Holocaust Remembrance Lecture will take place on Sunday April 7th at 10³⁰ a.m. at Wise Center.

The subject of this year's lecture will be: *The Holocaust and the Human Spirit: The Roots of Violence, the Power of Bystanders, and the Creation of a Caring World.*

Our guest lecturer this year will be Dr. Ervin Staub. Professor Staub will explore the origins of the Holocaust and genocide in general, the role of culture, of bystand-

ers (both Germans and the rest of the world), the power of bystanders to make a difference, and the healing from the effects of past violence that can enable us to lead better lives and become active participants in *tikkun olam*, repairing the evil in the world that often stems from silence.

Dr. Ervin Staub is Professor of Psychology at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. He has studied helping behavior and altruism, and passivity in the face of others' need.

Since the early 80s, he has also been studying the origins of human destructiveness, discussed extensively in his book, *The Roots of Evil: The Origins of Genocide and Other Group Violence* (Cambridge University Press, 1989). His new book, soon to be published by Oxford University Press, is *A Brighter Future: Raising Caring and Nonviolent Children*. He has been President of several organizations, most recently the International Society for Political Psychology. 🏠

SISTERHOOD NOTES



PROGRAMMING NEWS

If you have not yet responded to our wine tasting invitation for March 5 at Chateau Pomije, please call Barb Fogel at 677-3103. The cost for this program is \$25 per person. Guests of Sisterhood members are invited to this event.

Get ready! Plan now to join us for **Sisterhood's Seder For Women** April 1 at 6:30 p.m. at Wise Center. Last year we began a tradition that we will continue this year as we celebrate, in song and prayer, a seder in a decidedly feminine way. Your invitation will be in the mail soon. For information or to volunteer to help, call Jan Shuller at 794-1554, Liz McOsker at 469-1748 or Pat Silver at 779-3599.

STUDY GROUPS

The Sisterhood Book Club will discuss *Mazel* by Rebecca Goldstein on March 13, 4:30-5:45 p.m. Please call discussion leader Eve Appleton at 321-0427 with any questions. We hope you will join us.

SOCIAL ACTION

Speaking of Women's Health, a Sisterhood-sponsored Wise-UP project, is scheduled for March 14 at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center. Volunteers are needed in various capacities during both morning and afternoon shifts. You will receive lunch and be able to participate in some of the conference while you're there. Past volunteers have said their experience was very

rewarding and enjoyable. Contact Nancy Apfel 793-9659 or Adrienne Cooper 542-0055 for more details.

TRADITIONS & TREASURES

Passover Sale- Receive 20% off all Passover related items including Seder Plates, Matzo Covers, Elijah Cups and more (excluding Hagadahs) Sunday, March 3rd - Thursday, March 7th. The gift shop is open Mon/Tues/Th 9:30-1:30, Wed 2-5:45, Sun 9-11:45 and by appointment. If you would be interested in volunteering in the Gift Shop, please call Margie Meyer 984-2345.

THANK YOU'S

Thanks to Julie Kantor and Laurie Katz for co-chairing the YWCA Battered Women's Shelter Luncheon on February 3 and to all the volunteers who participated in this event and contributed to its success.

Thanks to all the room moms who attended the Valentine's Day party at the South Avondale School on February 14 and to project co-chairs Phyllis Dreyfuss and Nancy Horwitz.

Thanks to Marcy Kanter and her committee, Tina Straubing, Penny Rosenberg, and Elaine Schiffer for hosting our Annual Sisterhood Library Tea with Dr. Nili Fox, professor of Bible at HUC-JIR. Dr. Fox's lecture and slide presentation was enjoyed by our members and guests.

Our appreciation and thanks go to all of the chefs who generously donated their time to our Cooking Class series: Jeff Thomas, Dianne Rosenberg and Rita Heikenfeld. Thanks also to Suzanne Baird for graciously hosting a class in her home and to The Great Indoors for allowing us to use their store.

Thanks to Linda Berger and Lauren Prangle for co-chairing the annual congregational Purim Dinner and to Judi Hughes for organizing the distribution of Hamantaschen to all of the Religious School children.

KROGER CERTIFICATES

Kroger certificates are available during regular Gift Shop hours. You may also purchase them when classes are held on Sunday mornings at the table set up in the Temple Lobby. For more information contact Robin Newland at 530-5516.

FLEA MARKET

The Flea Market is accepting donations of furniture, costume jewelry, bedding, table linens, working small appliances, cars and boats! (no clothing, books or toys please). Just drop off your donations at Phyllis Fine's house, 3145 Fairhaven Lane, or call Phyllis at 731-6063 to arrange for pickup of large items. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

OH, MY GOD...

Who exactly is your God?

When you call upon God, what are you expecting in that relationship?

What do you think God can do or cannot do in this world?

Join us for an evening of introduction of personal beliefs of God. Experience the variety of Jewish God concepts that will widen your spiritual thinking, and challenge your personal beliefs.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2002
7:15 P.M. • WISE CENTER**

RSVP by March 31 to:
Alan Gross, 794-0550,
Jann Greenberg, 769-0507,
Or email to:
outreach@wisetemple.org.

(Sponsored by the Outreach Committee.)

DON'T PANIC AT PASSOVER

Do you panic at the thought of Passover and worry about making just the right kind of Seder?

When the Seder is done, are you lost for good meal ideas for the rest of the week?

Would you like some creative ideas for Passover cooking to celebrate the holiday more joyously?

Would you like to trade your panic and uncertainty for confidence and comfort?

Then join us on:
**THURSDAY, MARCH 7, 2002
7:30 P.M. • WISE CENTER**

Participants will receive Passover recipes for the week, a Seder menu with instructions for appropriate Passover foods, an apron, a sampling of the recipes and demonstration for your enjoyment.

**SPACE IS LIMITED - FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED BASIS
COST \$5.00 PER PERSON • RSVP BY MARCH 4
Teresa Kohn - 459-7161, Jann Greenberg - 769-0507**

(Sponsored by the Outreach Committee)

EITZ CHAYIM HIGHLIGHTS

Announcing two new Spring classes with Rabbi Gevurtz!

The Tanach: What really happened?

Thursdays, April 11, 18, 25
7:30-9:00 p.m.

Register by calling Terri in the education office, 793-2997.

Ever wonder what is really true in the Hebrew Bible? If so, please join us as we explore the layers of truth within our most sacred text. We will look at the reign of King Hezekiah as described in the book of Kings in conjunction with important archaeological finds to come to a greater understanding of ancient Judah. This is a chance to have a deeper look at our texts as well as an introduction to biblical archeology. Please join us!

Reform Judaism: How do we DO it?

Thursdays, April 29 and May 6
7:30-9:00 p.m.

Register by calling Terri in the education office, 793-2997.

Please join us as we journey to the heart of Reform Jewish practice. What does it mean to choose? How do we make informed choices? What do we do about 2000 years of tradition? Together we will learn about the theology that is at the foundation of our movement and then we will see how it can be put to practice. It will prove to be an important learning experience and a lively discussion- please add your voice!

Tales Of More Cities

Sunday, March 10
10:00-11:30 a.m.

We are excited to announce our upcoming Tales program on The

Synagogues of Amsterdam, taught by Jane Friedman, PhD in art history and lecturer at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art for the past 20 years. Amsterdam was the economic capital of Europe in the opening years of the seventeenth century and Jews were given a liberal set of guidelines that enabled them to flourish in that society. As merchants and traders Jews were an important segment of the population that contributed to the wealth of this city. Three Jewish congregations merged in 1639 and built the Esnoga, or Portuguese synagogue which has survived to this day. This lecture will highlight the unique history of these Portuguese Jews and their architectural legacy. Be sure and join us for this presentation on a unique chapter in Jewish history!



Lewis H. Kamrass, Senior Rabbi
 Rayna E. Gevurtz, Assistant Rabbi
 Michael Shulman, Rabbinic Intern
 Albert A. Goldman, Rabbi Emeritus
 Sharon R. Kohn, Cantor
 Barry H. Finestone, Temple Administrator
 Barbara L. Dragul, Director of Education
 and Lifelong Learning
 Phyllis Tobias, Program Director
 Brett Stern, Assistant Director of Education
 and Youth Program
 Renee Frankel, Day Camp Director
 Suzanne S. Teller, President

Auxiliary Presidents

Brotherhood: Robert Klein
 Sisterhood: Valerie Friedman
 Young Adult Congregation: Liz Shafran
 Sr. Youth Group: Louie Pastor &
 Yoni Sarason

Office Telephone: 793-2556
 Religious School: 793-2997
 Rabbinic Line: 793-2559
 Office Hours: 8:30 to 5:00 M-F
 Website: www.wisetemple.org
 E-mail: welcome@wisetemple.org

Copyright 2002, Isaac M. Wise Temple

CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTION

MAZAL TOV

The Temple offers congratulations to the following families in March:

B'nai Mitzvah

March 9 – Megan Fingerman, daughter of Gary and Ilene Fingerman. Granddaughter of Beverly Lipman.

March 16 – Benjamin Sloan, son of Tamara Harkavy and Matthew Kottarczyk and Stephen Sloan. Grandson of Franklyn and Rosalind Harkavy.

Engagement

Jon and Marlin Marshall and Joe and Cherie Fine on the recent engagement of their son and grandson, Scott Marshall to Amy Reiter.

Dr. Ted Silberstein and Jackie Mack on the recent engagement of their son, Andy Silberstein to Amy Reischstein.

Weddings

Dr. Eric and Pat Gruenstein on the recent marriage of their daughter, Debbie to Michael Bocian.

Please Help Us Be There For You

Area hospitals no longer inform our Rabbis and other clergy about who is hospitalized.

If you know of a family member or friend who is hospitalized **please call the Rabbi's office day or night at 793-2559.**

Make someone else's business your own so our Rabbis can be there for our congregational family.

SAVE THE DATE!!!!

The Board of Education is sponsoring it's first ever Jewish book fair, Sunday, April 28 through Sunday, May 5. **Watch for details!**



K.K. B'NAI YESHURUN

Isaac M. Wise Temple
 8329 Ridge Road
 Cincinnati, Ohio 45236

H.U.C. LIBRARY
 3101 Clifton Ave
 Cincinnati OH 45220-2404



Non Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Cincinnati, Ohio
 Permit No. 1414