

KESHER

קשר

THE WISE CONNECTION

Rabbi Ilana Baden Appointed Associate Rabbi

BY SUE TELLER AND RABBI KAMRASS

What a delight it is to acquaint you with Rabbi Ilana Baden, our new Associate Rabbi who will join our congregational family this July. Rabbi Baden grew up in suburban Chicago (Libertyville, IL), where her parents were involved in synagogue life and where she was an active member of her congregational Youth Group and a camper for many summers at the Reform movement's regional camp there, Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute. A 1994 graduate of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in history and in Near Eastern Studies-Modern Hebrew Language. During college, she became an active member of Hillel, serving as its president in Ann Arbor. She then enjoyed an outstanding academic career at Hebrew Union College, first in Jerusalem, and then in Cincinnati, having been ordained in 1999. She was active in many activities, including serving as president of the student association. As a rabbinic student, she served student pulpits in Bristol, Tennessee; Quincy, Illinois; and Columbus, Indiana. She also worked as a rabbinic intern in Skokie, Illinois, at the University of Cincinnati Hillel, and at

Cincinnati's Jewish Hospital. While a student at HUC and active in the Cincinnati Jewish community, she met her husband, Jeff Baden. Upon ordination in 1999, Rabbi Baden moved to Indianapolis, where she served as Assistant Rabbi at Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation and was then named Associate Rabbi last year. Rabbi Baden and her husband Jeff became parents last year, when they welcomed their daughter, Elyse ("Ellie") Rose, into the world.

While Rabbi Baden has enjoyed her experience in Indianapolis, she and Jeff are looking forward to returning to Cincinnati, and to beginning her work at Wise Temple. Upon accepting the Congregation's offer to join Rabbi Kamrass as our Associate Rabbi, Rabbi Baden commented: "I am very honored to have the opportunity to serve Wise Temple as its Associate Rabbi. I have always admired this congregation, and feel truly blessed to be able to be a part of it in such a special way." We look forward to her becoming a vital contributing force for leadership in our congregational life and to the many contributions that a rabbi of her talent, experience, and integrity will bring to enhance our Jewish lives. 🕎

ISAAC M. WISE TEMPLE



K.K. B'NAI YESHURUN

I N S I D E

- 2 **Words From The Heart**
- 3 **Education Connection:**
An Inspiration or Two, or Fifty-Five
- 5 **Listing of Events**
- 8 **Calendar**
- 9 **Education Connection:**
Fighting the Disease of Intolerance
- 10 **Program Connection**
Sisterhood Notes
Wise-UP
Outreach
- 11 **Congregational Connection**
Family Retreat: Our Epilogue
- 12 **Congregational Connection:**
Mazal Tov



Founded in 1842

AFFILIATE:
Union of American
Hebrew Congregations

D'VARIM MIN HALEV-

"Words from the Heart"

BY RABBI KAMRASS

The events of the last number of months have not only shattered buildings, but have also shattered complacency. While those who espouse terror and fear have found great power and resounding voices, those who are builders of bridges and of understanding continue to do quiet but lasting work. In every town and city, people have been more aware of the need to build those relationships between groups, to foster mutual understanding, to listen before judging, to learn to work and to live together. We are no different. We Jews are no strangers to the voices of terror that shrieked with violence, destruction and annihilation which shaped the Holocaust, the pogroms and so many other dark events in our history. We are no strangers to the hatred, and violence that burst forth in random acts of destruction with every suicide bombing terrorist on the streets of Israel. But we are also no strangers to our Biblical mandate: "seek peace and pursue it." And this is done only when we pause from our pain and begin listening in understanding. I believe that every commemoration of *Yom Hashoa*, (Holocaust Remembrance Day), or *Yom Hazikaron* (Israel's Memorial Day) calls us to this task, reminding us to build understanding and order out of the seeds of hatred and chaos.



In a tangible way, we will seek to do that this month, as we begin an exchange between Wise Temple and the Islamic Center of Cincinnati. On **Thursday, April 25, at 7:00 p.m. at Wise Center**, Dr. Baher S. Foad of the Islamic Center will speak at Wise Center in an informative session about **Islam**, highlighting its practices and beliefs. Members of Wise Temple are invited to join together with guests from the Islamic Center and to increase our collective knowledge and understanding.

Dr. Foad is on the Board of the Islamic Center responsible for adult education and community outreach. While a physician by training and in his daily work, he is a teacher at heart, and lectures extensively, in addition to having written four books on Islam. Dr. Foad also serves on the Board of the NCCJ who honors him with a significant community award this Spring, and on the Bruggeman Center of Xavier University.

Then, the following week, on **Thursday, May 2, at 7:30 p.m. at the Islamic Center**, our congregation is invited to join the membership of the mosque for an informative session about **Judaism** in which I will attempt to highlight some of our Jewish practices and beliefs for those Moslem members of the audience. Wise Temple members are invited to join us for that session, giving

us further opportunity to interact in dialogue and understanding with members of the Islamic Center. We will agree to speak about faith, and not about the complex and painful realities of Israel and geopolitical dynamics in the world. Building bridges, like building understanding, requires slow, patient acts of faith, much as is required in pursuing peace. And, this is one way that we can deepen that act of faith together.

I hope that you will be a part of this new endeavor. Mark your calendars for both evenings and join us at Wise Center and at the Islamic Center. Perhaps it will be only a first chapter, and a beginning page in what may become a deepening relationship of understanding between our communities.

"Seek peace and pursue it" is what we have been commanded. This is our path and our hope. It begins with us in troubled times that can be filled with chaos or filled with hope. The choice is more in our hands than the random acts of violence or path of extremists would have us believe. Let us hearken to the enduring call of our faith that reminds us of a deeper wisdom and calls us to build bridges of understanding. 🕎

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lewis H. Kamrass".

Rabbi Lewis H. Kamrass

An Inspiration, or Two or Fifty-Five

BY BARBARA DRAGUL

Remember the song from the musical "Bye Bye Birdie" where it says, "kids, what's the matter with kids today"? I want to

introduce you to 55 kids who will inspire you to believe in the future, our future and theirs. These are kids who exemplify the best of adolescence, and who stand in sharp contrast to every bad stereotype of teenagers. These are our Religious School

Madrikhim. The word *Madrikhim* is plural for the Hebrew words *madrikh* (m) and *madrikha* (f). *Madrikh* means leader, but it is also used to describe those who help learning happen and at Wise Temple we call our teenage teaching assistants *Madrikhim*. We could just call them amazing.

Madrikhim are teenagers who get up early on Sunday mornings, or after a long day at school on Wednesday afternoon, and come to Temple and contribute to our Religious School in real and effective ways. And then, as part of the requirement of the program, they attend the Reform Jewish High School on Sunday nights. Remember when you were a teenager? Wasn't getting up early on Sunday morning about the last thing you wanted to do?

So why do our teenagers make this tremendous commitment at a time in their lives when their attention, time and loyalties are pulled in many directions? These are four of the busiest years in a young person's life. Most of our

Madrikhim begin in the 9th grade and choose to be a part of our program for their entire four years of high school. Many of our teens see this commitment as

a continuation of the very first Jewish commitment they made as a young child - consecration. They see this work as a natural extension of their ties to our community. Here is what some of them have to say about their work:



Barbara Dragul

"Being a *Madrikha* gives me a chance to pass on my enthusiasm for Judaism to the younger generation. My hope is that the kids will appreciate being Jewish and stay connected to the Jewish community."

—Liz Foster

"I love to get to hang out with the kids and teach them. Being a *Madrikh* also helps me to maintain a good standing in the Jewish community. It's a good learning experience for me, too."

—Jeff Warshaw

"I like spending as much time as I can helping the Jewish community."

—Rachel Lindy

"I have always wanted to be someone who helps kids learn."

—Chris Muldrow

"I want to be a teaching assistant because I want to make a difference. I want to help kids, to be a role model for them, and to show that it is important to be proud

of being Jewish."

—Rachel Plowden

"I would like to pass on the energy and enthusiasm about Judaism to the kids that my teaching assistants passed onto me."

—Benjamin van der Horst

"Many of the teaching assistants that I have had in the past have left a lasting impression on me, and I would really like to touch someone else's life like they have touched mine. Also, there is just such a feeling of satisfaction if you know that you have helped one child in this big world."

—Elyse Greenberg

Our *Madrikhim* are involved in all grade levels of our Religious School, from the open-room to the junior high. They do a wide range of work. You might find them sharing a story with the children, helping out with an art project, walking a sick child to the office, working one-on-one with a child teaching them Hebrew, cataloguing books in the library, or participating with the children as they learn new songs or attend services. From getting supplies to teaching a lesson on *Purim*, to befriending a lonely child, the work of our *Madrikhim* is a valuable and integral part of our Religious School program.

The most important aspect of their work is as role models for our students. And are they good at it! Our *Madrikhim* model a healthy, engaged community of

continued on next page ►

which our younger kids want to be a part. That is no small thing.

Regardless of what they do, they are indispensable to our teachers who rely on them weekly. Mid-way through the year teachers and *Madrikkhim* are asked to complete an evaluation form of their work together thus far. Here are some words used by our teachers to describe their *Madrikkhim*:

- relates well with the kids
- powerful positive role model
- excellent team player
- capable and enthusiastic
- kids adore her
- well prepared
- patient

Our *Madrikkhim* are supervised by our wonderfully talented Assistant Director of Education and Youth Programs, Brett Stern. Through training and development sessions, individual meetings and observations, Brett nurtures, supports and teaches our *Madrikkhim*. Our goal is to ensure that this experience is one of growth and meaning for each of our teens, while also giving them an opportunity to both learn about the responsibilities of a job and to contribute to our congregation in tangible ways. This is a place where they are truly needed and valued. To watch our *Madrikkhim* blossom into young committed Jewish adults under the shelter of a vibrant, caring community exemplifies the best of our work. It may be the most important work we do.

When we need to be reminded that the future holds great promise for the Jewish people, we need only look to our teenagers and the gift they give of themselves. ***Wow, do we have something to be proud of!***

Value of the Month – Zachor– Remembrance

“We Jews are a community by virtue of historic memory.” (Martin Buber) Our communal memories, combined with a

sense of their meaning, give much significance to our rich heritage. Our value for the month of April is *Zachor*, remembrance. Judaism is infused with reminders to remember. Each day in our liturgy we are asked to remember the verse that first appears in the Ten Commandments: “I am the Lord your God Who brought you out of the land of Egypt and out of slavery.” A *mezuzah* is posted on the doorposts of our homes so that we “may remember and do all of My commandments.” Each week we celebrate Shabbat, the holiday in which we are told to “remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.” The yearly cycle of reading the *Torah* is a way for us to remember our shared history and the lessons we can glean from it. We are a storytelling people. For centuries our religion was kept alive through an oral history, passed

on from generation to generation. And to this day we love stories; why, because they help us to remember. As a people living apart from our land, we had to develop ways to help us remember our history, our guidelines for living a religious life, and the ties that bind us as a people. The repetition of our stories was the thread that wove together our sense of history, purpose and unity. At the entrance to *Yad Va-Shem* Holocaust Memorial in Jerusalem it is written, “In remembering is the secret of redemption” (Nachman of Bratslav).

This month we will observe two very significant days of remembering. On April 9 we will observe *Yom HaShoah*, Holocaust Remembrance Day, and on April 17 we will celebrate *Yom Ha’atzmaut*, marking the anniversary of Israel’s independence. In this month when we are reflecting on the value of *Zachor*, let us consider the ways in which our collective remembering can bring us redemption and the value of *zachor* for each of us in our personal lives. 🕯

“At Wise Temple we call our teenage teaching assistants Madrikkhim. We could just call them amazing.”

MADRIKKHIM

This year’s *Madrikkhim* are: Mariah Arnett, Jenny Belsky, John Bloch, Sarah Canteel, Stefanie Clayton, Hilary Dattilo, Jared Drapkin, Matt Elkus, Mollie Fingerman, Chase Foster, Elizabeth Foster, Aaron Friedman, Rachel Gabelman, Annika Goldman, Anne Greenberg, Elyse Greenberg, Emily Greenberg, Rachel Gross, David Habib, Emily Hastie, Jenna Kamrass, Sammy Kanter, Josh Kleymeyer, Brian Kohn, Daniel Kulick, Sam Lieberman, Rachel Lindy, Rachel Lipson, Blair Loftspring, Nina Loftspring, Allison Melowsky, Amanda Meyer, Christopher Muldrow, Ben Newland, Rebecca Newland, Rachel Plowden, Emily Rock, Michael Sarason, Yoni Sarason, David Schmerler, Shannon Sears, Lenny Seelig, Daniel Senser, Lindsey Shapiro, Caroline Sim, Karen Singerman, Amanda Toole, Benjamin van der Horst, Philip Vogel, Jeff Warshaw, David Weiman, Nicole Willins, Zachary Wolf, Travis Wood and Devon Worrell.

WISE WRAP SHEET

Our volunteers recently completed another successful season of gift-wrapping for St. John’s Miracle Center at Kenwood Towne Centre. Those participating were: Lisa Berko, Ruth Cohen, Naomi Dallob, Barbara Farber, Amy Fingerman, Burt Gross, Marlene Gross, Paula Gross, Mona Kerstine, Evan Kirstein, Erin Kreindler, Jill Kreindler, Ruth Lowenthal, Kathy Pescovitz, Phyllis Ringel, Judy Schechter, Rhonda Schechter, Barbara Schwartz, Julie Shifman, Jackie Snyder, Tara Vigran, Marcia Warren, Nancy Wolf, Shari Wood, and Willard Woodrow. A big THANK YOU to all of these dedicated workers for a job well-done!

—Linda Kreindler and Debbe Lane, Co-chairs

THANK YOU

Save the Date



Annual Shabbat HaMoreh Service

Honoring our Teachers & Madrikhim
and
A Tribute to Mary Lee Sirkin
Friday, May 10
6:15 p.m.
Wise Center

Understanding Homelessness

Interfaith Hospitality Network
Day Center Open House
Tuesday, May 7
6:45 p.m.
(Meet in Wise Center Parking Lot)

Tour the Day Center & deepen your
understanding of what a homeless
family's experience is when not our
IHN guests.

To RSVP for the Open House
call Donna Dansker at
821-0767.



The Wise Shabbat

Refreshing Change. For A New Personal Tradition.

Isaac M. Wise Temple
Congregational Shabbat Dinners
April 12th, April 19th and May 10th

Service at 6:15 p.m. – Dinner immediately following service

Come and celebrate Shabbat with other Temple families. All families are encouraged to attend.
Please send this form with a check (payable to Wise Temple) to:

Shabbat Dinner
Wise Temple • 8329 Ridge Road • Cincinnati, OH 45236

Dinners \$7.00 each – (Children under 10 \$2.50)

April 12

April 19

May 10

_____ Dinners @ \$7.00
_____ Dinners @ \$2.50

_____ Dinners @ \$7.00
_____ Dinners @ \$2.50

_____ Dinners @ \$7.00
_____ Dinners @ \$2.50

\$ _____ (Amount enclosed)

I will bring the following side dish (enough to serve 10)

_____ vegetable or salad
_____ potato, pasta or rice

_____ vegetable or salad
_____ potato, pasta or rice

_____ vegetable or salad
_____ vegetable or salad

Name _____

Address _____

Children's Names/Ages _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Send in your reservation early!! Dinner space is limited.
Reservations must be made at least 10 days prior to Dinner.

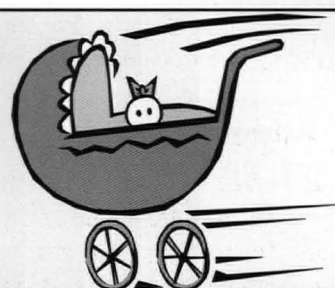


Isaac M. Wise Temple

TGIS
Thank God It's Shabbat

BABYSITTING NOW AVAILABLE FOR 6:15 SERVICES

Wise parent volunteers will care for your young children during 6:15 services
(when no Wise-Tykes). For more information or to be a volunteer babysitter,
call Bess Gordon at 321-3444.



LISTING OF EVENTS



Brotherhood

Brotherhood Weekend GUCI Project

May 2 - May 5

At Goldman Union Camp Institute

For more information, contact Kenny Simmons at 791-4749.



Congregational Shabbat Dinners

April 12

7:15 p.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Ann at the Temple office at 793-2556.

April 19

7:15 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.

On Being a Rabbi in the Twentieth Century

April 4 & 11

7:30 p.m. at Wise Center

To register contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.

Quarterly Discussion of Articles from Reform Judaism Magazine

April 7

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.

Hornstein Program: In Remembrance of the Holocaust and the Human Spirit

April 7

10:30 a.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.

Jews and Activism

April 9, 16 & 23

Noon at Wise Center

To register, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.

The Tanach: What Really Happened?

April 11, 18, 25

7:30 p.m. at Wise Center

To register, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.

Text Study: Traditional Understanding of Animal Rights in the Face of Modern Ills

April 21

10:00 a.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.

Book Discussion: "Hiding Places: A Father and His Sons Retrace Their Family's Escape from the Holocaust"

April 28

10:00 a.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.

Reform Judaism: How do we do it?

April 29 and May 6

7:30 p.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.

Judaism and the Visual Arts

May 5

10:00 a.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.



Outreach

Oh My God!!!

April 4

7:30 p.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Jim & Jann Greenberg, 769-0507 or Alan Gross, 794-0550.

Quarterly Interfaith Family Discussion

April 21

10:00 a.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Alan and Paula Gross at 794-0550.



Religious School

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. - 10:30 a.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.

2nd Grade Family Program

April 14

9:30 a.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.

Gesher Grade 5

April 14

9:30 a.m. at Wise Center

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

Gesher Grades 3 & 6

April 21

9:30 a.m. at Wise Center

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

Confirmation Class Rehearsal

April 21 & 28

4:30 p.m. at Plum Street Temple

For more information, contact Terry Snively at 793-2997.

B'nai Mitzvah Family Workshop #1

April 22

7:00 p.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Hermine VanDerzee at 793-2556.

4th Grade Family Program

April 28

9:30 a.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.

Book Fair - Board of Education

April 28, May 1 & 5

Wise Center

Jewish books for sale, 20% proceeds to Religious School.

To volunteer or for more information, contact Karen Krieger at 489-9697.

B'nai Mitzvah Family Workshop #2

May 2

7:00 p.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Hermine VanDerzee at 793-2556.

5th Grade Family Program

May 5

9:30 a.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997.



Seniors

Senior Shabbat

April 19

6:15 p.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Ruth Goret at 351-6486.

LISTING OF EVENTS



Sisterhood

Women's Seder

April 1
6:30 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Jan Shuller at 794-1554, Liz McOsler at 469-1748 or Pat Silver at 779-3599.

Sisterhood Bridge

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

Sisterhood Board Meeting

April 10
9:45 a.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Valerie Friedman at 489-0168.

Sisterhood Bridge

April 16
Noon at Wise Center
For more information, contact Ruth Goret at 351-6486.

Floral Arranging Demo & Breakfast

April 17
9:45 a.m. at Wise Center
Demo by designer from Adrian Durban Florists
For more information, contact Julia Fink at 791-3465.

Sisterhood Torah Study

April 24
12:30-2:00 p.m. at Wise Center
Cost \$5.00
All interested women welcome. No experience or preparation necessary. Bring brown bag lunch if desired.
For more information, contact Terry Susskind at 761-7782.

Sisterhood Bridge

April 30
Noon at Wise Center
For more information, contact Ruth Goret at 351-6486.

Sisterhood Board Meeting

May 1
9:45 a.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Valerie Friedman at 489-0168.

Sisterhood Book Club-

The Far Euphrates by Aryeh Lev Stollman

May 8
4:30 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Stephanie Fenlon at 859-331-3564.



Wise-UP

Holocaust Commemoration

April 14
12:30 p.m. at Rockdale Temple
On this day the Greater Cincinnati community commemorates the Holocaust with a special program at Rockdale Temple. Thomas Blatt will speak on his experiences. We need volunteer ushers.
For more information, contact Robin Newland at 530-5516 or email rwn11576@aol.com.

4th Grade Tree Planting

April 14
For more information, contact Mona Spitz at 891-9583.

Visions Child Care Center

April 17
For more information, contact Julie Elkus at 891-1236.

Jewish Cemetery Spring Spruce Up

April 21
For more information, contact Barry Elkus at 891-1236.

Early Birds Attack Breast Cancer

April 27
For more information, contact Mary Chaiken at 794-9003.



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

Earth Day Volunteering

April 20
9:00 a.m. at Winton Woods
For more information, contact Liz Shafran at 791-8992.



Youth Groups

AVOC Buddy Dinner

May 1
5:00 p.m. at Wise Temple
For more information, contact John Bloch at 321-2121.

8th Grade Retreat

May 3-4
For more information, contact Brett Stern at 793-2557.



Miscellaneous

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting

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

Shabbat Storytime for Kids

April 5, 19, May 3
10:00 a.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Lauren Prangley at 871-5466.

Jewish/Muslim Dialogue

April 25
7:30 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information, see Rabbi Kamrass's Words from the Heart.

APRIL 2002 NISSAN/TYYAR

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>6:30pm Sisterhood Women's Seder(WC)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Noon Sisterhood Bridge(WC) 5:30pm AA Meeting(WC)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10:45 Passover Morning Service/Yizkor(WC)</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7:30pm Outreach—Oh My God!(WC)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:00 Shabbat Storytime(WC) 6:15pm Shabbat Evening Service(WC) 8:15pm Late Service/Marriage Reconsecration Shabbat(WC)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:30 Shabbat Alternative Service(WC) 10:45 Bar Mitzvah of Joshua Green(PST) 10:45 Optional Text Study(WC)</p>
<p>7</p> <p>9:30 Geshet Grade 4(WC) 9:30 3rd Grade Parents Meeting(WC) 9:30 Eitz Chayim—Discussion: Articles from Reform Judaism(WC) 10:30 Eitz Chayim—Hornstein Program: Remember Holocaust(WC)</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Noon Eitz Chayim—Jews & Activism(WC) 5:30pm AA Meeting(WC)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:45 Sisterhood Board Meeting(WC) 5:00pm Beg. Adult Hebrew(WC) 5:00pm Beyond Aleph Adult Hebrew(WC)</p>	<p>11</p> <p>7:30pm Eitz Chayim—The Tanach: What Really Happened? (WC)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:15pm Shabbat Evening Service/3rd Grade Participation(WC) 7:15pm Congreg. Shabbat Dinner(WC)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:30 Shabbat Alternative Service(WC) 10:45 Bat Mitzvah of Isabel Tarshis(PST) 10:45 Optional Text Study(WC)</p>
<p>14</p> <p>9:30 Geshet Grade 5(WC) 9:30 2nd Grade Family Program(WC) Wise-UP—4th Grade Tree Planting(WC) Wise-UP—Holocaust Comm. (O)</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Noon Sisterhood Bridge(WC) Noon Eitz Chayim—Jews & Activism(WC) 5:30pm AA Meeting(WC)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:45 Sisterhood Floral Arranging & Breakfast(WC) Wise-UP—Visions Child Care Center(WC) 5:00pm Beg. Adult Hebrew(WC) 5:00pm Beyond Aleph Adult Hebrew(WC)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:30pm Eitz Chayim—The Tanach: What Really Happened? (WC)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:00 Shabbat Storytime(WC) 6:15pm Shabbat Evening Service/Senior Adult Participation(WC) 7:15pm Congreg. Shabbat Dinner(WC)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>9:30 Shabbat Alternative Service(WC) 10:45 Bar Mitzvah of Michael Apke(WC) 10:45 Optional Text Study(WC) YAC—Birthday (O)</p>
<p>21</p> <p>9:30 Geshet Grades 3 & 6(WC) 10:00 Outreach—Interfaith Family Discussion(WC) 10:00 Eitz Chayim—Text Study on Animal Rights(WC) 4:30pm Confirmation Class Rehearsal(PST) Wise-UP—Jewish Cemetery Spruce Up(WC)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7:00pm R'fuat Ha-nefesh(WC) 7:00pm B'nai Mitzvah Family Workshop #1(WC)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Noon Eitz Chayim—Jews & Activism(WC) 5:30pm AA Meeting(WC)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>12:30pm Sisterhood Torah Study(WC) 5:00pm Beg. Adult Hebrew(WC) 5:00pm Beyond Aleph Adult Hebrew(WC)</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7:30pm Jewish/Muslim Dialogue(WC) 7:30pm Eitz Chayim—The Tanach: What Really Happened?(WC)</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:15pm Shabbat Evening Service; Wise Tykes(WC)</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:30 Shabbat Alternative Service(WC) 10:45 B'nai Mitzvah of Graham & Susanna Mitro(PST) 10:45 Optional Text Study(WC) Wise-UP—Breast Cancer(WC)</p>
<p>28</p> <p>Book Fair(WC) 9:30 4th Grade Family Program(WC) 10:00 Eitz Chayim—Book Discussion(WC) 4:30pm Confirmation Class Rehearsal(PST)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7:30pm Eitz Chayim—Reform Judaism: How do we do it?(WC)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Noon Sisterhood Bridge 5:30pm AA Meeting(WC)</p>				

Yom Hashoah: Fighting the Disease of Intolerance

BY RABBI RAYNA GEVURTZ

The second Shabbat of this month, April 13th, we will read the Torah portion *Tazriah/Metzorah*, in which we read of one of the most feared diseases of ancient society: leprosy. This scaly skin ailment, to which there was no cure, was indeed something to be feared, for it was a killer. As we read, the moment evidence of the disease was found on the walls of one's house, very particular steps were taken to stop its spread: the high priest was called, stones were removed, walls were scraped. One imagines that case after case of leprosy, our ancestors learned more and more about the killer and more and more about how to stop it.

It is 2002, and though we now have a cure for leprosy, a new deadly disease has struck the walls of our house: The disease of intolerance. It is an ailment that we have now seen face to face as a country, a disease that we have battled as a people, and a disease that many of us personally have fought. This month we will commemorate *Yom Hashoah*, the Day of Remembrance of the Holocaust, a time that demands our reflection of what we have learned about this deadly disease and what we have learned about stopping it.

Lesson number one from our personal battle with this modern disease: intolerance can turn its ugly head on anyone. Flipping through our people's own pages of history, we know this appears many times. In ancient times, we were exiled from our land and forced into slavery. In the year 70 C.E., once again our holiest Temple was burned down and our children killed. In the 15th Century we were forced to convert or suffer the fatal consequence for our faith. In the late 19th Century our great grandparents suffered cruel deaths at the hand of Russian

peasants spurred on by Alexander II. But it is not only our people who have been so badly wounded by the disease of intolerance. Looking back, we see intolerance absolutely rampant in human history. We saw it in the killing of those Christians that were not practicing



Rabbi Gevurtz

religion as dictated by the Church in the 15th Century. We saw it when the first Europeans to settle North America intentionally afflicted the native people with diseases to which they lacked antibodies. Up until 30 years ago we saw it in the absolutely degrading manner in which African Americans were treated in this country.


Today we see it in the way many speak of and treat homosexuals. And of course, we all encountered it in the terrifying pictures of September 11. As the planes crashed into buildings, we learned once again just how far intolerance can go. Intolerance CAN and HAS struck anyone. As long as there is intolerance in this world, no one is immune, no one is safe.

We find the second lesson about intolerance in our *mahzor*, the High Holiday prayerbook. On *Yom Kippur* we ask God to forgive our many sins, and among them is the sin of silence. The sin of silence, we now MUST understand, does not lead to quiet, rather it leads to the screams of tragedy.

Let us listen to the screams of the silence of the *Shoah*. In 1935 the Nuremberg Race laws were passed. The response? No comment was made by President Roosevelt nor the State Department. In the 1938 conference in Evian, the U.S. made no alteration of its restricted immigration policy. By 1942, we know that reports of the camps were reaching England, and yet the greatest tragedies were still to unfold. During these years, much of the scanty informa-

tion that did reach the U.S. was relegated to the back pages of the nation's newspapers. It is true that little information goes out and, yet, when that information was known about the camps, about the mass graves, about the showers of death, many in the world were silent, as many others in the world died.

And this leads us to our third lesson that we have learned well; in the face of intolerance action MUST be taken immediately. In the Talmud, the Rabbis explain that the reason Adam was created alone in the world was to teach that whoever destroys a single soul, it is as though he has destroyed the entire world; and whoever keeps alive a single soul it is as though he has preserved the entire world (B. Sanhedrin 37a). Our tradition's strong sense of the value of each and every human life, tells us that the tragedy was not that six million were murdered, rather that Leahle Dugaczinski was killed. That the most heinous of crimes, the spilling of blood, was committed even once is tantamount to destroying the entire world. All the more so when done also to Povel Sonnenshein. If the nations of the world had acted even a day sooner, if even one more life, whether it was Josef Novak or Doris Weiseroval, could have been saved, think of how many times over the entire world would have been saved. But no, they waited, they waited, and they came too late.

We know all too well that intolerance does indeed plague our times, and at that intolerance we must scream. Just as the sirens will go off in Israel on *Yom Hashoah*, piercing through the wall of silence, so too must we scream in the face of intolerance. For while we do live in a time that no longer fears the disease of leprosy, the walls of our house are indeed infected with intolerance and, like our ancestors, we must take immediate steps to counter its deadly effects. 

Wise-UP on Social Action

BY ELIZABETH FOSTER

On February 3, 2002, the sixth grade classes of Wise Temple took part in their annual Wise-UP project. Wise-UP, our social action project, engages all members of the congregation in a variety of *mitzvot* throughout the year. The students went to the American Red Cross in Blue Ash,

where they put together two different parts of a First Aid kit. The students made over 2,000 kits and bagged all the rubber gloves the Red Cross had on their premises. The children, parents and teachers were surprised to learn that the Cincinnati Chapter of the Red Cross is the only one in the world that makes and

distributes First Aid kits. That makes what these kids did even more tremendous! The sixth graders put in two hours of hard work and, in return, they will help thousands all over the World. They should be very proud! 🙏

SISTERHOOD NOTES

Book Club

Please join us for our last Book Club meeting of the year when we will discuss *The Far Euphrates* by Aryeh Lev Stollman. We will meet on May 8th, 4:30-5:45 p.m. For more information, call Stephanie Fenlon at (859)331-3564.

Thank You's

We extend a special thank you to the hairstylists at "A Touch of Eden Salon" on Kenwood Road. The stylists donated sample products and provided haircuts for the residents at the YWCA's Battered Women's Shelter as part of our annual Sisterhood-sponsored luncheon at the Shelter.

Wise Temple college students enjoyed special Passover treats from Sisterhood, thanks to the efforts of Diane Oestreicher and her committee.

Thank you to all the volunteers who worked at Speaking of Women's Health on March 14. A special thanks to Nancy Apfel and Adrienne Cooper for coordinating the volunteers.

Thanks to Eve Appleton for leading our Book club discussion on *Mazel* by Rebecca Goldstein.

Volunteers

If you would be interested in volunteering in the Sisterhood Gift Shop, please call Margie Meyer at 984-2345.

Traditions & Treasures

A Sisterhood Gift Shop

Spring is just around the corner. We have wonderful gift ideas for your special Graduate or Confirmand and for Mother's Day.

Gift Shop Hours

Monday	9:30-1:30
Tuesday	9:30-1:30
Wednesday	2:00-5:45
Thursday	9:30-1:30
Sunday	9:00-11:45

(and by appointment)

Interfaith Discussion Group

Sunday, April 21, 2002
10:00 a.m. • Wise Center

All interfaith couples are welcome to join in this supportive, open and non-judgmental discussion group to gain Jewish understanding and a sense of what others are experiencing. The group will explore issues that interfaith couples face and help to provide a road map for finding joy and balance in an interfaith relationship. Come to

learn, discuss, find support and develop a more satisfying bond with your Temple community. Led by Alan and Paula Gross, an interfaith couple.

To RSVP or if you have any questions call Alan or Paula at 794-0550 or e-mail adonaldson@wisetemple.org.

Family Retreat: Our Epilogue

BY GERI WEISEMAN KOLESAR

The worst thing I can say about the Family Retreat in February is that it wasn't enough. It wasn't enough time with great people. It wasn't enough learning from a stellar staff. It wasn't enough delving into texts. And, O.K., it wasn't enough sleep.

The chaos of trying to pack and get up to Hueston Woods by 5:00 p.m. on Friday made the circle of warmth into which we walked even more comforting, even more special. Never having been to a family retreat before, our family came with few expectations. More importantly, we left with no disappointments. Days later, both as a family and as individuals, we were still smiling, inspired and hungry for more.

After the Retreat, as we approached our driveway, I'm not sure which one of the kids expressed our shared sentiment: "It seems like we've been gone a long time." I'm tempted to say it was as though we had been in another world, but I think it's more appropriate to say that we brought another world back into our home.

And a funny thing happened when we showed up for Religious School the next day...that same special world followed



The Westheimer Family

right along with us. Just like the stars that suddenly come to life when searching the dark sky for a constellation, the smiling faces with which we had shared Shabbat suddenly shined through the crowded hallways of Wise Center. Those very faces, the week before, simply blended into the movement of bodies up and down the stairs and milling around the lobby. We knew the kids felt the same way when, from the backseat, we could hear them competing for who saw the most "retreat friends" at Sunday school.

It is with tears in my eyes and joy in my heart that I express deep gratitude for the opportunity we had to experience that special world. 🕯

Kids' Reactions to the Family Retreat:

"I thought it was great. I made a few new friends and met some other people, too."

—Rachel, Age 12

"It was kind of neat to celebrate my birthday there because I got to meet new people and they helped me celebrate – kind of like family."

—Michael, Age 11

"I liked being together with people from Wise!"

—Julie, Age 8

"I can't stop thinking about the family retreat. It was great...I just keep saying the 'Oseh Shalom' song in my head."

—Laine, Age 7

"I didn't know Rabbi Mike, but he's really nice."

—Elly, Age 5

"I didn't want to go & then I didn't want to leave."

—Jake, Age 5

The Holocaust and the Human Spirit

The Third Annual Lusie Hornstein Holocaust Remembrance Lecture will take place on Sunday April 7th at 10:30 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. 🕯



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

Due to an inadvertent omission the following Mazal Tov was not included in March:

March 2 – Bat Mitzvah of Alexandra Cooper, daughter of Dr. Elliot and Margo Kirstein and Dr. Robert and Sherry Cooper. Granddaughter of Samuel and Renee Frankel.

The Temple offers congratulations to the following families in April:

B'nai Mitzvah

April 6 – Joshua Green, son of Gary and Sue Green

April 13 – Isabel Tarshis, daughter of Dr. Alan Tarshis and the late Dr. Nancy Goodman. Granddaughter of Dr. Sander and Eleanor Goodman

April 20 – Michael Apke, son of John and Ellen Apke. Grandson of Marvin and June Jacobs.

April 27 – Graham and Susanna Mitro, son and daughter of Gary and Joanna Mitro

Bibs and Sheal Becker on the recent Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Eric Schneider.

Births

Scott and Melissa Kadish on the recent birth of their son, Cooper Edward Kadish.

John and Jennifer Stein and Jacob and Polly Stein on the recent birth of their twin sons and grandsons, Michael Philip Stein and Peter Jacob Stein.

Mark and Sarah Newman and Maxine Buncher on the birth of their son and grandson, Jordan Louis Newman.

Weddings

April 13 - Tamara Miller to Ronald Ploetz

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.



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