

KESHER

קֶשֶׁר

THE WISE CONNECTION

A Message from ARZA

Back in November, Rabbi Kamrass encouraged our congregation to register to vote on the World Zionist Organization election delegates. Below is ARZA's account of the results of that election. Read on:

We won - again! In another landslide, ARZA (Association of Reform Zionists of America) won 61 of the 145 mandates elected to the World Zionist Congress in June. Our win of just over 42% of the electorate was almost double that of our nearest competitors, the Conservative and Orthodox movements.

First, thanks to all of you - rabbis, cantors, educators, lay leaders, synagogue activists, volunteers and staff - for your tremendous support of our campaign. This year was particularly hard on us. With the fighting in Israel continuing daily, and September 11 occurring immediately after the campaign began, we know how difficult it was for you to keep your congregations focused on the campaign. You did a fantastic job. Your work will allow us to continue representing the Reform and Reconstructionist movements effectively in Israel.

Second, the results of the campaign demonstrate with clarity that the Reform movement's values are the most popular by far within American Jewry. Also, we are better organized than other Jewish movements. This combination - the values we represent and the organizational capacity to articulate these values and create institutions that bring our

values alive - is the difference between just another good idea and a vibrant movement that influences events and impacts people's lives.

You have given us a renewed mandate for another five years to continue to work for the creation of an Israel that reflects the very best of Jewish hopes, aspirations and tradition. With your continuing support we can make our shared vision a reality.

On another matter: Please remember to do the best you can to support our Reform institutions in Israel during these difficult days. Our synagogues and schools need guards. Our movement is trying to expand its after-school programs and summer camping experiences in order to keep as many children as possible occupied and off the streets. We are also trying to expand our trauma care to children and families that have had tragedies and hardships strike them. Also, with the general decline of the Israeli economy and reservists being called up to the front, our synagogues in general are less able than before to support themselves.

Be generous. Help us. In addition to taking care of the rest of the world - which we should continue to do with all of our energies - we have to take care of our own as well. Check out our website at www.rj.org/arzawuna. 🕯

Kesher will not be published in July and August and will return in September. In the meantime check Wisebytes, our weekly e-mail newsletter, or call the Temple office at 793-2556 for service and event information. To subscribe for Wisebytes simply send us an e-mail at Welcome@wisetemple.org and tell us you wish to subscribe to Wisebytes. We will take care of the rest and you will receive an e-mail every Wednesday with information about upcoming services and programs.

ISAAC M. WISE TEMPLE



K.K. B'NAI YESHURUN

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Founded in 1842

AFFILIATE:
Union of American
Hebrew Congregations

דְּבָרִים מִן הַלֵּב - D'VARIM MIN HALEV

"Words from the Heart"

BY RABBI KAMRASS

This month marks the completion of our Congregation's program year, as well as our fiscal year. It is a time of taking pause and taking stock. Most of all, it is a time in our congregational life to reflect not only on our successes, but the reasons for them. First and foremost, our congregational family flourishes because of the scores of dedicated lay people who serve in positions of leadership, who help plan the programs we enjoy, who offer their insights and their time, whose precious free time is devoted to the welfare of us all. These are the people who serve on our Temple Board, who serve on the Boards of our auxiliary groups – the Sisterhood, the Brotherhood, and the Young Adult Congregation. These are the leaders who fill the seats in our hard-working committees, who spend hours on the phone, who write Kesher articles and other publicity for the programs they are planning, who serve as enthusiastic and valued partners for our senior staff in guiding this congregation.

It would be easy to view their efforts as small specific things that help us implement programs or accomplish some of our goals. But I would suggest that the efforts of our involved lay people and dedicated lay leadership are far more significant. They are not only planning events, they are building community. What we have at Wise Temple is unique.

We have a unique partnership of volunteers and staff. We have a unique atmosphere of warmth and welcome. We have high standards for ourselves and we

strive to reach them. And we have that because of the people who devote their time, their talents, and their wisdom to all of us.



Rabbi Kamrass


I subscribe to the statement in the Jerusalem Talmud that "the person who occupies himself/herself with the needs of the community, is as though that person has occupied himself/herself with Torah.

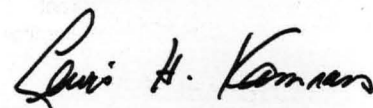
(*B'rachot*). I believe that something sacred is found in the small and detailed, and even the sometimes mundane, acts of building community. I believe that the leaders who help us prosper are engaged in holy work. I also think that they regard their work at Wise Temple as enjoyable, and that their involvement also yields meaningful friendships with the people they come to know. There is a certain fulfillment in those friendships, a kind of "meeting" of the mind, heart and soul for our lay people who work together regularly.

This year we are changing the format of our annual meeting to honor those who labor on behalf of us all by engaging in the sacred building of community. Instead of a simple annual meeting preceding a Board of Trustees installation, this year we are initiating a new tradition: Wise Temple Leadership Night. We

are calling together all of our Boards -- the leadership of the Temple, the Sisterhood, the Brotherhood and the Young Adult Congregation -- and inviting everyone to the business meeting, a picnic dinner, social time, and a brief ceremony of recognition. Scheduled for Sunday, June 9 beginning at 5:00 p.m., you can come for both the business of the Temple in the annual meeting, and the business of our congregational family honoring those who labor to build community throughout the year. (See Box on Page 6 for details.) It will be a time for leadership, spouses, and families to socialize. Entire families are encouraged to come together, to be with friends, to let children and grandchildren see what their parents and grandparents do on behalf of community, and to take note of our small efforts, that are really part of a much greater purpose.

We are, as our name implies, a *k'hilah k'dosha*, a sacred community. We celebrate the people who uphold it and the bonds that connect us. We celebrate who we are. We turn the chapter from one year to the next, but not without the heartfelt gratitude for those who serve, those who lead, those who labor, and those who create community.

Join us. 



חַרַב לֵב בֶּן דָּוִד וְחִנָּה לֵאמֹר

Rabbi Lewis H. Kamrass

Summer ^{Jewish} Livin'

BY BARBARA DRAGUL

Summer is almost here, the season that evokes long hot days and warm breezy evenings, picnics in the park, afternoons at the pool and vacation time. For nine months of the year we come to Temple to learn, celebrate and congregate, yet when summer arrives many of us turn our thoughts to other activities. I'll get right to the point, Jewish living is a year round proposition, and the summer months can be a wonderful time for creative Jewish celebrations and exploration. Here are some ideas.

When the days are longer and the weekly schedule is more relaxed, *Shabbat* can be a truly restful experience. A *Shabbat* picnic in the park, or in the back yard can be especially sweet as you watch the summer sun setting slowly in the west. Summer is a great time to experiment with celebrating a fuller Sabbath. Do something special on Saturday as part of your *Shabbat* observance and as three stars appear in the sky discover the joy and delight of the *Havdalah* ceremony, the closing ritual of *Shabbat*.

If you are traveling this summer, be sure to create some Jewish memories along the way. Bring along a set of traveling candlesticks or create your own from sea shells or rocks. Light candles and say *kiddush* in your hotel room, or around the campfire. Don't forget to try the *challah* from a local bakery, or find the best fresh bread around and make *motzi* over that. Include some Jewish sightseeing on your travels - museums, historic synagogues, Jewish community centers. Before you plan your trip check out these web sites for information about Jewish sightseeing all over the world: www.jewishsightseeing.com and www.haruth.com/jewsoftheworld.html. If

you are traveling by car or like to bring a CD player along, don't forget about all the Jewish music and stories on tape available in our library. As long as you're going to listen to tapes in the car, perhaps over and over and over again, use the time to discover some new Jewish music. Debbie Friedman and Rick Recht are always part of our traveling collection.

Perhaps you are staying in town this summer. Don't forget about our 6:15 p.m. Friday night services. The tone is casual, and the feeling is warm. It's a wonderful way to stay connected to Temple friends throughout the summer. Kids are especially welcome!

If your child is attending camp here at Wise Center, or perhaps a Jewish overnight camp, don't forget to ask them questions about their Jewish experiences at camp. How do they celebrate *Shabbat*, do they say blessings at mealtime and what new

Jewish discoveries and friends are they making?

Summer is a wonderful time to catch up on your reading. Be sure to include some of the Jewish books you've been meaning to read. In November 1997, Rabbi Eric H. Yoffee unveiled an initiative to encourage every Reform Jew to read significant Jewish books each year. Since then the UAHC has recommended eight volumes each year. Check out their web site at uahc.org/books to find an array of excellent options.

Living a life of *mitzvot* doesn't stop in the summer. Look for opportunities for outdoor *mitzvah* projects - cleaning up a park or planting flowers at a senior center can be fun and it makes a positive contribution. Consider helping out with our Interfaith Hospitality Network August 4-11 and, in August, we will gather for our annual Wise-UP opening day where we are all invited to help out with a variety of projects at Wise Center. If you have chil-

dren at home, talk about these activities as part of your Jewish values and commitments.

Finally, don't forget about the Jewish lens through which we can view the world each and every day. Last year I read a book by Sylvia Boorstein, a Jewish woman who for many years explored a Buddhist spiritual path. At one point she found herself drawn back to Judaism and she explained, "...I discovered that the prayer language of 'thank you' that I knew from my childhood returned, spontaneously and to my great delight."

The sages taught that we should say a blessing for each of life's pleasures, helping to focus our awareness on gratitude. That would be a lot of blessings to learn. A teenager once told me that when she sees or experiences something she is grateful for and she doesn't know the blessing she says, "*baruch atah adonai*, wow!", translated as "blessed are you God, wow!" In other words, life can be amazing, I noticed, and I want to say thank you. Wishing you a summer full of many "*baruch atah adonai*, wow" moments! 🕯



Barbara Dragul

The Wise Covenant Program, which encourages Congregants to make current and estate endowment gifts, is a significant way to help assure our Congregation's viability. In addition to gifts of cash and securities, participants also make bequests or name the Temple as a beneficiary of life insurance policies and charitable trusts.

For more information, please call Barry Finestone at (513) 793-2556. (All inquiries are confidential.)

JUNE 2002 SIVAN/TAMMUZ

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>9:30 HUC – Ordination(PST) 9:30 Shabbat Morning Service(WC) 10:45 Optional Text Study(WC) Wise-UP-Grailville</p>
<p>2</p> <p>Wise-UP-Helping at Home(WC) 1:15pm YAC Reds Game(O)</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>5:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous(WC)</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9:45 Sisterhood Board Meeting(WC)</p>	<p>6</p> <p>5:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous(WC)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>6:15 pm Shabbat Evening Service(WC)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9:30 Shabbat Alternative Service(WC) 10:45 Optional Text Study(WC) 10:45 Bat Mitzvah of Sarah McGrath(PST)</p>
<p>9</p> <p>5:00pm Annual Meeting of Congregation(WC)</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Noon Sisterhood Bridge(WC) 5:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous(WC)</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>5:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous(WC)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>6:15 pm Shabbat Evening Service/Kol Rinah(WC)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:30 Shabbat Alternative Service(WC) 10:45 Optional Text Study(WC) 10:45 Bar Mitzvah of Nathan Schlimme(PST)</p>
<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:30 Day Camp Begins(WC)</p>	<p>18</p> <p>5:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous(WC)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>1:00pm Seniors-Museum Center Tour(WC departure)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>5:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous(WC)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6:15 pm Shabbat Evening Service/Birthday and Anniversary Blessings(WC)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:30 Shabbat Alternative Service(WC) 10:45 Optional Text Study(WC) 10:45 Bar Mitzvah of Alexander Rock(PST)</p>
<p>23</p> <p>30</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Noon Sisterhood Bridge(WC) 5:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous(WC)</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>5:30pm Alcoholics Anonymous(WC)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>6:15 pm Shabbat Evening Service/Wise Tykes(WC)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>9:30 Shabbat Alternative Service(WC) 10:45 Optional Text Study(WC) 10:45 B'nai Mitzvah of Brooke Fram and Max Fram(PST)</p>

LISTING OF EVENTS



Brotherhood

No programs are scheduled this month.



Congregational Shabbat Dinners

No dinners are scheduled this month.



Seniors

Rotunda Tour at the Museum Center

June 19

1:00 p.m. leave from Wise Center

For more information, contact Nancy Goldberg at 791-4498.



Sisterhood

Sisterhood Board Meeting

June 5

9:45 a.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Valerie Friedman at 489-0168.

Sisterhood Bridge

June 11 & 25

Noon at Wise Center

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



Wise-UP

Grailville

June 1

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

Helping at Home

(Sponsored by Wise Chavurot)

June 2

Wise Center

Everyone is welcome to join in preparing Wise Center for Day Camp after the close of Religious School. There will be both indoor and outdoor projects.

For more information contact, Kari Fagin at 573-0247 or Howard Mintz at 339-0661.



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 793-9007 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

Cincinnati Reds vs. Atlanta Braves

June 2

1:15 p.m.

For more information, contact Liz Shafran at 791-8992.



Youth Groups

No programs are scheduled this month.



Miscellaneous

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting

Every Tuesday and Thursday

5:30 p.m. at Wise Center

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

Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion Ordination

June 1

9:30 a.m. at Plum Street Temple

Annual Meeting of the Congregation

June 9

5:00 p.m. at Wise Center

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

Day Camp Begins

June 17

9:30 a.m. at Wise Center

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

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.

New Format for Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of Isaac M. Wise Temple will take place on Sunday, June 9th. The meeting portion of the evening will begin at 5:00 p.m. followed by dinner and a leadership recognition/installation program at 6:15 p.m.

The entire congregation is invited.

Please send form below with a check to:

Annual Meeting Dinner
Wise Temple-8329 Ridge Road
Cincinnati, OH 45236

Box Dinners
\$10 per adult
\$5 per child under 12

*For more information, please contact the
Temple at 793-2556.*



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

_____ Adults @ \$10 each

_____ Children under 12 @ \$5.00 each

\$ _____ Total

_____ Check is enclosed.



Preparing to Take the LEAD



BY DEBBIE HERMAN

Someone once compared Wise Temple to a finely-tuned automobile, zipping along at 100 miles an hour while the tires are being changed. This sounds kind of silly, but it's an apt analogy. Our synagogue is constantly changing, yet it can't just pull over and stop while these changes take place.

It takes a large and skillful crew to accomplish this – one that understands the underlying reasons and needs for change as well as what got the vehicle moving in the first place. For the past eight months, a group of sixteen congregants has been involved in a program that will prepare them to join the "crew." Each of them had been involved in the congregation and in the greater community, and decided to make the commitment to deepen their involvement at Wise.

The program, called *L.E.A.D. @ Wise* (Leadership Education and Development at Wise) is the brainchild of Past President Dianne Rosenberg. "Our legacy is too precious to leave to chance. We have a long history of strong lay leadership at all levels, but we can't take that for granted," states Dianne.

L.E.A.D. @ Wise combines classroom sessions with outside reading and "field-work" on various Temple committees. The program is taught by Rabbi Sam Joseph, Professor of Education at Hebrew Union College and Wise Temple member. Rabbi Joseph is the Reform movement's leading authority on synagogue leadership. At each session, he combines ample doses of insight and humor to challenge the class: Who are we at Wise Temple, and what do we stand

for? How is serving on a temple committee different from serving on, for example, a United Way committee? What are our individual learning and leadership styles, and how can we work together? What are the challenges facing our Temple today?

Participants in the inaugural *L.E.A.D. @ Wise* class are Lester Burgin, Barry Elkus, Lori Fenner, Penny Friedman-Meyer, Carol Kabel, Julie Kantor, Amy Katz, Ellen Knue, Pam Kohn, Roy Kulick, Peter Levick, Howard Mintz, Diane Oestreicher, Beth Ann Shor, Steve Straubing, and Sue Weinstein Nussbaum. "My participation in *L.E.A.D.* has been an eye-opener – I have learned so much about the whole picture of building a spiritual organization with a mission while also operating within budget," says Sue Weinstein. Penny Friedman-Meyer adds, "Synagogues are complex organizations. To address their structures in a professional, up-front format speaks to the leadership and vision of the Wise congregation, which cares about its future."

As the formal part of the program draws to a close, the participants will each identify areas of Temple involvement, from worship and study to committee work and other volunteer tasks, that they'd like to explore. And what is the future of *L.E.A.D. @ Wise*? "Once the inaugural *L.E.A.D.* program is complete, we'll take a step back and look at what worked and what we could do better," says President Sue Teller. "*L.E.A.D.* has already proven to be a valuable program, and I'm confident we'll repeat it, in some form, every few years at Wise." 🕯

***** YOU ARE INVITED *****

to a congregational picnic on Friday July 12th at Wise Temple immediately after services at 7:15 p.m..
BRING YOUR OWN DINNER and enjoy a picnic outside with other members of our congregational family.
R.S.V.P to the Temple at 793-2556 or email cwaldo@wisetemple.org

PROGRAMMING NEWS

If you have an interest in planning for next year's Sisterhood activities, Book Club or general programming, please let us know! For more information, contact Pat Silver at 779-3599 or Barb Fogel at 677-3103.

HONEY SALE

Sisterhood is sponsoring the "Honey" for Rosh Hashanah again this year. The holidays are early in September. Be sure to watch your mail for this year's flyer. Now is the time to get your "Honey List" ready. For questions or to volunteer to help, call Sherri Weiss at 761-6690.

SISTERHOOD 2002-2003 DIRECTORY

The Sisterhood directory is "under construction" for the year 2002-2003. Please check your name and address in the "PINK" directory to see if it is listed correctly. Please let Dian Deutsch know of any corrections or changes that you would like included in our fall directory. Call Dian at 891-3666 or e-mail dian@deutsch1.net. As we work on the directory, we would also welcome your help in the following ways:

INDIVIDUAL SPONSORS—Please become a directory sponsor by sending your desired listing, along with a minimum donation of \$20 (payable to Wise Temple Sisterhood), to Esther Zimmerman, 3649 Tiffany Ridge Ln., 45241.

BUSINESS SUPPORTERS—If you know of a business or individual who would benefit by advertising in our manual (distributed to nearly 700 homes), please ask them to place an ad. For details on rates, call Lori Weisskopf at 533-1240.

MEMBERSHIP INTEREST SURVEY AND DUES BILLING

You will soon be receiving your annual Sisterhood dues bill. Along with your bill, you will find a listing

of the many projects Sisterhood has participated in this year, along with a membership interest survey. If you have not already completed a survey, or if your interests have changed, please take a few minutes to fill out the survey and return it along with your dues payment.

RECIPE COLLECTION

Attention parents of college seniors:

Sisterhood would love to give your graduating college student a copy of our Recipe Collection as a special graduation gift. Please help us to connect with them and give them a little "taste" of home by sending their name and address to Wise Temple Sisterhood, 8329 Ridge Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45236 Attn: Recipe Collection OR by emailing their information to Marlene Gross at margelgro@aol.com.

AWARDS

Wise Temple Sisterhood received two awards at the recent WRJ District 10 Biennial. We proudly received the Gemilut Chasidim Award for our "Room Moms" program at South Avondale Elementary School and the YES Fund Award for last year's joint Sisterhood YES Fund luncheon. In addition, Phyllis Dreyfuss was our recipient of the Deborah Award, recognizing a woman who has demonstrated extraordinary service and commitment to both Sisterhood and Judaism.

THANK YOU'S

Thank you to the volunteers who participated in the South Avondale School party on May 23: June Caha, Florence Hirschman, Phyllis Dreyfuss, Pam Kohn, Barbara Levy Wall, Nancy Horwitz, Monika Vigran, Mert Friedman, Lori Weisskopf, Robin Newland and Jodi Tsevat. Also thanks to Laura Cramer, Lorri Manning, Jori Roth and Jan Bobier for their participation at the Valentine's party. Special thanks to the project co-chairs, Phyllis Dreyfuss and Nancy Horwitz, for their hard work throughout the year. The children and

teachers alike enjoyed these parties.

Thanks to Stephanie Fenlon for leading a great Book Club discussion on *The Far Euphrates* by Aryeh Lev Stollman.

Thank you to Sue Teller for acting as tour guide for our breakfast program at Plum Street Temple on May 15. What a delight to learn so much about our very own "treasure" and to appreciate with new eyes that which we have seen so often. Also thanks to Laura Cramer and Lorri Manning for their help with this program.

Thanks to Terry Susskind for chairing Sisterhood Torah Study this year and to Karen Compane for being our teacher.

Thank you to Fran Stern and Carol Jaffe for co-chairing our wonderful Sunday morning coffee cart.

Thank you to Diane Oestreicher and her committee for preparing and distributing "Life After High School" packets to our graduating High School students.

Traditions & Treasures

Shop the Wise Temple Sisterhood Gift shop for all your gift giving needs and receive a 10% discount off most purchases just for being a Sisterhood member.

Summer Gift Shop Hours

Tuesday and Thursday 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

We Need Your Help! If you have a few hours to volunteer at the gift shop or if you are computer savvy and would like to help us key inventory into our newly computerized system, we would love to talk to you! Please call Margie Meyer at 984-2345.

Why is there an AA meeting at Wise Temple?


Because Jews are alcoholics too. When I was in high school, I had an inkling that I had a problem with alcohol - nothing that I really could put my finger on. It's just that I didn't seem to drink like my friends did. We'd have parties and raid their parents' liquor cabinets but, while they would stop at one or two drinks, I would always find myself wanting more and wondering why I couldn't drink just one or two. I started drinking a few before I got to their parties so that while I'd look like I had only one or two drinks, in reality I had had more. I knew that this was not "normal drinking" but had nowhere to turn. Anytime I tried to talk to people about alcoholism, no one knew much about it. I went to the rabbi of my small, upstate New York synagogue and was told that Jews did not drink alcohol and certainly weren't alcoholics. I was baffled and did not know what to do, so I tried to stop drinking on my own. I succeeded for about 6

months, but once I got to college, drinking seemed such a part of the culture that I had no reason not to drink.

Finally a friend (the daughter of a cantor) introduced me to Alcoholics Anonymous. I didn't think that I had anything in common with "those people." They were all older and none were Jewish. My friend assured me that AA was not a religious organization, but a spiritual program which helped the person suffering from alcoholism find a power greater than herself to help her stay sober. It didn't sound like anything I wanted to be a part of, but my efforts to stop on my own repeatedly failed. I finally had to become willing to try AA. Thankfully, my friend was right - AA is not a religious organization. It has no dues or fees for membership and is not affiliated with a political party, institution or religion. AA's purpose is to help alcoholics recover from the

disease of alcoholism.

That's why I wanted to start an AA meeting at a synagogue. I was pleased to find a willing partner in Wise Temple, which had been eager to do this for some time. With Rabbi Kamrass' encouragement and the support of the Temple staff, we began a closed meeting (only for people who have a desire to stop drinking) here last November, every Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. We have now added a second meeting on Thursday nights at 5:30 p.m. that is OPEN for anyone, alcoholics and non-alcoholics alike, to come and get more information about alcoholism. Come and see what AA is all about, but remember that people at open meetings are not necessarily alcoholics.

Alcoholics Anonymous literature can be found on the information table in the lobby. If you or someone you know suffers from the disease of alcoholism and would like help, contact Cincinnati's AA Central Service Office at (513) 351-0422 or visit www.aacincinnati.org. 



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

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CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTION

MAZAL TOV

The Temple offers congratulations to the following families in June:

B'nai Mitzvah

June 8 – Bat Mitzvah of Sarah McGrath. Daughter of Thomas and Barbara McGrath. Granddaughter of Shirley Weinstein.

June 15 – Bar Mitzvah of Nathan Schlimme. Son of Dr. Ken Green and Kathryn Meckler.

June 22 – Bar Mitzvah of Alexander Rock. Son of Steven Rock and Barbara Dragul. Grandson of Charles and Carol Dragul.

June 29 – B'nai Mitzvah of Brooke Fram and Max Fram. Daughter and son of Sanford and Missy Fram.

Births

Rob and Amy Marks on the recent birth of their son & Estelle Klebanow on the birth of her grandson, Jack Benjamin Marks.

Dan and Melissa Hecht on the recent birth of their son, Joshua Oliver Hecht.

Dr. Scott and Mary Steinberg on the recent birth of their daughter, Anna Macey Steinberg.

Andrew and Dawn Green on the recent birth of their son, Mel and Renee Becker & Charles and Audrey Comins on the recent birth of their grandson & Sadye Schwartz on the recent birth of her great grandson, Will Green.

Dr. Jon and Rebecca Shusterman on the birth of their son, Ethan Daniel Shusterman

Weddings

June 29 – Susan Jacobs to Gregory P. Noll.

Ted and Debbie Schwartz on the marriage of their son, Andy Schwartz to Pam Spetter.

Engagement

Frank and Roz Harkavy on the engagement of their son, Tim Harkavy to Clara Munich.

We Want To Hear From You...Again



Back in September, we introduced our new monthly bulletin, *Kesher*. You may recall that *Kesher* was designed, in part, to address concerns raised and information gathered as part of a Communication Survey sent to all Wise Temple members. This month completes our first cycle of *Kesher*.

As in earlier years, there will be no *Kesher* mailings in July and August. During that time, we will be working on modifying our existing format and other ways to enhance communication with our congregation through *Kesher*.

We have heard from many of you informally, but would welcome input from others by e-mailing your comments to us at keshers@wisetemple.org

Thank you.



K.K. B'NAI YESHURUN

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