

KESHER

THE WISE CONNECTION

It's Time

BY ANDY BERGER, PRESIDENT

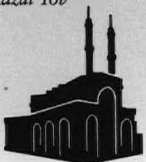
ISAAC M. WISE TEMPLE



K.K. B'NAI YESHURUN

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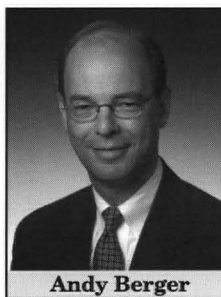
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Founded in 1842

AFFILIATE:
Union for Reform Judaism

There is a pattern, a rhythm, as time passes each year. The older I get, the clearer the pattern becomes. August ends and September arrives, it's Labor Day and all of a sudden



Andy Berger

the summer is over. (Yes, I know, fall doesn't start officially until the 22nd of September, but summer is OVER.) Each year, at this time, the days get shorter, the swimming pools close, the kids go back to school. By now, the Reds are out of contention and half a million people converge

on the Ohio River to see a fireworks display that words simply cannot describe.

For most Americans, that would be enough (*Dayenu*). But for those of us living Jewish lives, preparations for the High Holy Days also begin. Sometimes the Holidays are "earlier," this year they are on the "late" side. We check our calendars and let our bosses or coworkers know when we'll be off. We shop for apples and honey, and bake or buy round challah. We plan break-the-fast celebrations. We look for our High Holy Day tickets in the mail.

And overwhelmingly we attend High Holy Day services, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. For many centuries, long before it became commonplace to describe the most mundane items of daily life as "awesome," we have had our Days of Awe. We take stock of our lives, we atone for our sins, and we make peace with our brothers and sisters – truly an awesome undertaking.

Traditionally, Jews have begun to prepare for the Days of Awe beginning on the first day of the Hebrew month of *Elul*, a full month in advance of the New Year. This year *Elul* 1 falls on Monday, September 5, as Labor Day comes to a close.

Now is a great time to begin our preparations. But *how* do we begin? Well, you won't be surprised when I tell you that Wise Temple has many ways to help.

- Join with fellow congregants as Rabbi Kamrass leads us in a special workshop, "Preparing for the High Holy Days, Heart and Mind," to be held at Wise Center on Sunday, September 25 from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. Whether or not you've studied with Rabbi Kamrass before, you won't want to miss it.
- Spend some quiet time reading and reflecting in the Ralph and Julia Cohen Library, which has one of the finest synagogue collections in North America. Check out one of our books on preparing for the High Holy Days. We have a special section of books set aside on this subject. Feel free to call our Temple Librarian, Andrea Rapp, for suggestions, or browse our library online at www.wisetemple.org and click on the library icon.
- Come and worship as part of a community. I hope to see you at our beautiful and quiet Selichot evening service, on September 24 at 10:00 p.m. at Plum Street Temple. (Of course, there's no harm in partaking in the fabulous dessert feast that precedes this service at 9:00 p.m.!) This is a perfect way to get mentally and spiritually ready for the Days of Awe.

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דְּבָרִים מִן הַלֵּב - D'VARIM MIN HALEV

"Words from the Heart"

BY RABBI KAMRASS

I often wonder what it must have been like for those who labored on the construction of Plum Street Temple in the ten months it took to build from 1865-1866. There were no power tools, but there were probably many artisans, craftsmen, and artists who felt a powerful and passionate involvement with their respective crafts. What must it have felt like to them to be working on a structure so grand and so confident in its assumptions, as well as its dimensions? Each worker must have left the scene every evening feeling some great sense of achievement that extended beyond the scope of their own work, for they were constructing not a building, but a tabernacle.

I got a sense of that this summer, when the nearly 3,000 pipes and even greater number of moving parts of our newly restored organ were brought back to Plum Street Temple, lifted individually to the balcony, and lovingly restored throughout July and August. Watching the artisans of the Noack Organ Company, the organ restoration firm who had labored on this project for many months, was watching such passion at work. They lovingly attended to every detail of every pipe, every sound, and every mechanical action. They are in love with their work.

You cannot imagine what a marvelous work of art and an artful piece of technology this organ is. Unchanged in its principles of construction for more than five centuries, it has been said that prior to the steam engine and the Industrial Revolution, the pipe organ and the clock were the most technologically advanced achievements of the human mind. We are fortunate to now be listening once again to the beautiful sounds of such an old "hi-tech" instrument. Our restored Rockwern Organ is the largest surviving instrument of the Koehnken organ company, one of the premiere organ builders of 19th century America. Located here in

Cincinnati, a national center of culture at the time when Koehnken built this organ, it was a source of pride to have the instrument installed in this local majestic sanctuary.

Through its journey of almost 140 years since it was first installed, to these last months of restoration and reinstallation, this organ has seen a great deal of change. But one thing is unchanged: it took passionate commitment to build a sanctuary and its grand organ in 1866 and it takes passionate commitment to restore it nearly 140 years later. I extend the gratitude of our congregational family to our organist, Thom Miles, who for 20 years has reminded us of the significance of this instrument and that it merited



Rabbi Kamrass

a complete restoration, as well as to Fritz Noack, the master artisan of the Noack Organ Company in Massachusetts and to all of his employees who for many months poured hours of time and abundant passion into their work on our behalf. And finally, I offer our thanks to over 40 donors who made possible the restoration of this organ. We are especially grateful to the Rockwern Foundation, for covering half the cost of the restoration of this historic and artistic organ that we shall enjoy for decades to come.

With the help of the Plum Street Temple Historic Preservation Fund, we have now lovingly restored yet another significant aspect of our treasured sanctuary. In the last decade, we have undergone a major restoration including extensive electrical, structural and painting work, the repair and restoration of all the stained glass windows, and so many other significant projects that keep our magnificent sanctuary proud, vital, and majestic for us all to enjoy. You can be assured that it is no small task to have achieved this, and that there will always be many needs at the Plum Street Temple well into the future. But if passion envisaged this majestic and loved sacred space in the vision of Rabbi Isaac M. Wise, and passion built it in the hands of its designers, artisans and

laborers, and passion restored it as we have witnessed this summer once again with our Rockwern Organ restoration, then truly, it is our passion, and our commitment that will keep alive the beauty and the majesty that we see (and once again now hear!) in our beloved Plum Street Temple. We can be called to nothing less than our history demands; it is part of our proud legacy. May we rejoice in that legacy as we continue forward from strength to strength. 🕊

Faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script.

הרב לב בן דוד ורנה לאה
Rabbi Lewis H. Kamrass

OF SPECIAL NOTE:

The Rockwern Organ is now in use during weekly Shabbat services and for our upcoming High Holy Days. You can hear it each Shabbat when we worship at Plum Street Temple.

In addition, the entire congregation is invited to three major concerts that will be open to our entire community:

Sunday, November 13 – Organ and Symphony with a guest organist in recital, and orchestra directed by Carmon DeLeone, a great event sponsored by the Rockwern Foundation.

Friday, March 31 – Shabbat Service and Dedication recital which will include a piece by William Bolcom, commissioned by the Tangeman Sacred Music Center of CCM.

Saturday April 1 – The Vocal Arts Ensemble of Cincinnati, with a piece by Aaron Jay Kernis for choir and organ, also commissioned by the Tangeman Sacred Arts Center of CCM.

During **March 31-April 1**, there will also be an organ symposium for scholars from around the country to study together and enjoy learning about the restoration of the Koehnken Company's Rockwern Organ.

This I Believe...



BY BARBARA DRAGUL



For the first time since 1994, our congregational family will enjoy the wonderful sound of our historic 1866 Koehnken organ. We are grateful to all the donors whose support made the restoration of the Rockwern Organ possible, including these major donors:

Contributors:

Anonymous
Marilynn K. Braude
Rabbi Lewis & Renee Kamrass
Leah & Herman Levine
Jacqueline M. Mack & Dr. Edward B. Silberstein
Mrs. David M. Schwartz

Friend:

Anonymous
The Manuel D. & Rhoda Mayerson Foundation
Marvin H. & Betsy K. Schwartz
Ladislav & Vilma Segoe Family Foundation

Sustainer:

Dr. Mindy & the late Robin Hastie
Gerald & Nancy Robinson

Patron:

Anonymous, in memory of Elinor Byer Greenberg
Josephine Joseph

Benefactor:

Stanley Chesley & Honorable Susan Dlott
The late Dottie Fenburr
Isaac M. Wise Temple Sisterhood
The Plum Street Temple Historic Preservation Fund

Builder:

The Rockwern Charitable Foundation

I have to admit, I love September. First of all, fall is my favorite season, and in my mind September is the beginning of autumn. And then there is the anticipation of school beginning. When I was a child, school started after Labor Day, so September meant it was time to start a new school year. I was always eager with anticipation: wondering who my teacher would be, which friends would be in my class, what new books I would discover, how many new “back to school” outfits I would get. I’ve always loved learning and school was the place for new discoveries.



Barbara Dragul

Well, here at Wise Temple, September is the month we return to school. Religious School begins on September 11, midweek Hebrew begins September 14 and our *Eitz Chayim*, adult education program kicks off on September 18 with a wonderful speaker from Israel, Gil Hoffman. By the middle of June I knew the summer was speeding past and it turns out I was right. Here we are at the start of another school year.

All summer we’ve been preparing for the return of our students, planning new programs, finding new materials, and thinking of new and creative ways to reach out to our children and adult learners. The planning part is good, but welcoming everyone back is best. Our Religious School is anticipating another wonderful year with over 500 students returning on September 11, along with a terrific team of teachers and over 80 *madrichim* (teenage teaching assistants). And our *Eitz Chayim*, adult education program is ready to begin another exciting year of Jewish learning. I encourage you to read through our new *Eitz Chayim* booklet, which you will receive in the mail, and find at least one class which appeals to you, and then promise yourself you’ll attend. You’ll find a wide variety of courses, from “Great Jewish Books” to “Making Loss Matter” to a High Holy Day Workshop, “Preparing for

the High Holy Days, Heart and Mind” on September 25.

In addition to preparing for a new school year, this summer has also been a time of personal reflection for me. I was fortunate to discover a wonderful new program on NPR radio’s *All Things Considered*, called *This I Believe*. Perhaps you’ve heard it? It is an exciting national media project that invites Americans from all walks of life to write about and discuss the core beliefs that guide their daily lives. Taken from the 1950’s radio show by the same name, *This I*

Believe has featured pieces from famous people such as jazz pianist David Brubeck, writer Isabelle Allende, and commentator William F. Buckley, Jr. as well as essays submitted by ordinary folks like you and me. You can find an archive of the essays at NPR.org.

As I’ve listened to these essays I’ve reflected on two things: How much I would enjoy sharing responses to the *This I Believe* prompt with the people I know and care about, and what it is I believe and how I would articulate it. It’s not an easy exercise – especially since NPR limits us to 350-500 words, about 3 minutes spoken – but NPR offers essay writing tips on their website. If you want to try it in the safety of your home, here is one of their tips: “Be specific. Take your belief out of the ether and ground it in the events of your life. Consider moments when belief was formed or tested or changed. Think of your own experience, work and family, and tell of the things you know that no one else does. Your story need not be heart-warming or gut-wrenching – it can even be funny – but it should be real. Make sure your story ties to the essence of your daily life philosophy and the shaping of your beliefs.”

After listening to several of the essays a few of the lines that struck me are:

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Welcome!



We are delighted to welcome a new member of our Wise Temple family; Betti Greenstein recently joined us as our Temple Administrator. Betti brings with her a wealth of experience, having managed and served large congregations for over 20 years. She most recently served as the Executive Director of Temple Beth El in Boca Raton, Florida. Prior to that, she was the Executive Director of Kehillat Israel in Pacific Palisades, California and Assistant Executive Director of Wilshire Boulevard Temple in Los Angeles, California. Betti is highly regarded by both colleagues and the congregations she has served. The Wise Temple Administrator Search Committee was impressed with her credentials, her reputation, and the commitment to synagogue life that she has demonstrated throughout her career. With her stellar record of leadership, we are pleased to welcome Betti as our Administrator with its many demands and importance in sustaining the vitality of our

congregational life, our staff, and our two significant facilities. Rabbi Kamrass commented, "We were quite fortunate to attract someone of

Betti's caliber and expertise. Since Betti's arrival in June, we are delighted with how quickly she has begun to learn her position and bring her talents to its work."

A native of southern California, Betti was attracted to the position at Wise Temple because of our reputation for good management, creative programming and vitality. She is eager to add her own strength and dedication to our future and to come to know the members of our congregational family. She looks forward to meeting you – please be sure to introduce yourself to her in the coming weeks as you attend services and programs. Or feel free to call or email simply to say hello and to welcome her. Betti can be reached at the Temple, 793-2556, or bgreenstein@wisetemple.org. We look forward to many years of her service and leadership at Wise Temple. 🕯

IT'S TIME

continued from front cover

Many congregants feel this is our most moving worship service of the year. Or come to Shabbat services, and prepare through prayer and song.

- And of course our wise and wonderful Rabbis – Rabbi Kamrass, Rabbi Baden, and Rabbi Shulman – are available to offer their personal suggestions and guidance.

And with Sukkot following only five days after Yom Kippur, it isn't too early to get ready for this special holiday. A growing number of Wise Temple families, ours included, have begun to celebrate Sukkot in

a sukkah of our own. It's fun to build and decorate, and there is nothing like sharing a festive meal in the sukkah with family and friends. We are extremely fortunate to have an active Brotherhood, which will not only make arrangements for you to purchase your own sukkah, but they will even **build it** at your home! What could be easier? Even if you don't have a sukkah, why not order your own lulav and etrog, and observe this very special *mitzvah*. (Please look for details in this issue of *Kesher*.)

So this year, as we continue our familiar patterns, let us find new ways to add meaning to our observance of the High Holy Days. As *Elul* begins, for each of us individually, and for all of us as a community, it's time. 🕯

The Board of Trustees of Isaac M. Wise Temple

invites our congregational family to our annual

Selichot Grand Dessert Buffet

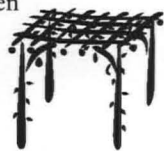
at Plum Street Temple
Saturday, September 24
9:00 p.m.

This extraordinary sweet feast precedes the poetic and spiritual 10:00 p.m. Selichot Service which officially ushers in the Days of Awe.

The Board of Trustees is honored to welcome the congregation at this warm and inspirational evening.

Get Your Very Own Sukkah Kit Today!

Have you ever wanted to celebrate this beautiful fall holiday in your own backyard but didn't know where to begin? The Brotherhood can help. We are offering a wonderfully attractive and well-built sukkah kit. The kit can be assembled by two people in under an hour with a socket wrench and pliers and is even easier to disassemble. If you prefer, members of the Brotherhood can provide setup and take down services. The sukkah is eight feet tall and can be assembled in either a 12' x 8' footprint, or if space is a concern, a more compact 8' x 8' size. The kit includes lumber, lattice, hardware, instructions and delivery. We also offer a storage kit that includes a tarp and bungee cords to protect the sukkah kit from the weather and cinder blocks to keep it up off of the ground while in storage. The sukkah kit can be purchased for \$175. The storage kit is an additional \$25 and setup and takedown service is also an additional \$25. *For more information or to order your very own sukkah please call Billy Bie at 984-3559 or email brotherhood@wisetemple.org.*



PROGRAMMING NEWS

New and Prospective Member Social

Are you interested in learning more about Sisterhood? Please join us for bagels and coffee and socializing on Sunday, September 11 (the 1st day of Religious School), from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Social Hall at Wise Center. Come greet one another, meet other Sisterhood members and receive information about our programs and activities. Hope to see you there! *For more information please contact Mona Spitz at 891-9583, Inez Moses at 398-1163, or Dian Deustch at 891-3666.*

Sisterhood Book Club

The Sisterhood Book Club will have its first meeting on Thursday, September 22 at 4:30 p.m. at Wise Center. The featured book is Philip Roth's *Plot Against America*, one of the Reform Movement's Notable books. Please join us as Debra Dressler leads us in discussion of this book. *For more information please call Eve Appleton at 321-0427.*

Sisterhood Opening Luncheon

Our Opening Luncheon will take place Wednesday, October 26 at Wise Center. This year we will welcome University of Cincinnati President, Nancy Zimpher, as our speaker. Watch your mail for the invitation. *For more information contact Teri Junker at 731-1499 or Patti Heldman at 631-5525.*

KROGER CARDS

You can now use your Kroger card at the GAS PUMP at most Kroger stores. You can also use it to pay for **pharmacy purchases**. Help support Wise Temple by purchasing a Kroger Gift Card for just \$5. Wise Temple is now part of the Kroger Neighborhood Rewards Program. Once you purchase a card, you can refill it while in the checkout line at Kroger. Every time you add money to the card (and you CAN use your Credit Card), Wise Temple will get back a percentage of the dollars that you purchase. It's an easy way to help Sisterhood and Wise Temple while doing your regular grocery shopping. Stop in the gift shop and purchase your card today. *If you want a card but can't make it to the Gift Shop, or for more information, call Linda Berger at (859) 344-9731.*

FLEA MARKET

Are you moving? Cleaning closets? Redecorating? The Flea Market will gladly get those no-longer needed items out of your way. Among the many items we accept are costume jewelry, furniture, bedding, table linens and even 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 pick up of large items.*

SISTERHOOD FUNDS

We have new chairs for two of the Sisterhood funds this year. The new chair for the Natalie Feld Floral Fund is Laura Cramer, 3635 Carpenters Green Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45241, 794-0742. The new chair for the Florence Weil Tribute and Equipment Fund is Elaine Schiffer, 3543 Amberacres Drive, #302W, Cincinnati, OH 45237, 351-6620.

Please consider a donation to these funds or to the following Sisterhood funds: GIVTY (Temple Youth) Scholarship Fund (Chairs are Pam Kohn, 891-1516 and Elaine Pockrose, 351-6452) or the YES Fund (Chair is Joan Scheineson, 351-5077).

Please contact Paula Holstein at 631-3090 for more information about Uniongrams.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

We hope you will join us in reaching out to our members and the greater community with our community service projects scheduled throughout the year. *For more information or to volunteer for the Caring Corps, South Avondale Room Mom program, Bedtime Bundles, and other projects, please contact Milynn Hoffman at 474-7757.*

Traditions & Treasures Gift Shop

Back to School Sale:

Sunday, September 11

20% off all items excepts books, CDs and cards.

Visit us for all of your Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur needs. We have great apple and honey dishes, children's books and New Year's cards.

Hours (and by appt.)

Tuesday	9:30-1:30
Wednesday	2:30-5:45 (Starting 9/14)
Thursday	9:30-1:30
Sunday	9:15-11:45 (starting 9/11)


If you would like to volunteer please contact Margie Meyer at 984-2345.

YWCA Picnic A Multigenerational Success

Wise Temple women between the ages of 16 and 86 showed what a caring congregation we have while hosting the YWCA Battered Women's Shelter Picnic in June. This picnic was the first annual event providing entertainment for women and children at the residence, and assistance for the shelter staff.

The picnic was a great success – the rain held off as the picnic got into full swing and everyone enjoyed the dinner. Much of the food was donated by Wise participants, with a special thank you to Karen Maier at Frisch's/Golden Corral for donating delicious fried chicken, macaroni and cheese, and dinner rolls to the event. Following dinner and conversation with the shelter residents and their children, there were many activities for the children at the shelter: decorating cookies, creating flower pens, and making hats. While these activities were planned for the kids, many adults ended up participating, too! The main event of the evening was the self-defense exhibition by women from the Cincinnati Tae Kwon Do Center. Not only did they show how to stay safe, but also showed their strength by breaking many boards with their fists and feet.

Diana Montgomery, a Shelter Director, said, "On behalf of the YWCA Battered Women's Shelter, I would like to thank the Wise Temple Sisterhood for such a heartfelt picnic. The women and children truly enjoyed being pampered. Most of the families served by our program have suffered from abject poverty and violence and, as a result, often feel diminished by the brutality of their life experience. Your generosity offers so much hope for the women and their children. It was great having so many caring individuals from your Sisterhood to participate and interact with our residents. The Tae Kwon Do demonstration went over very well. I was watching our residents during this demonstration and they were all totally focused. The children enjoyed the event so much that they had several Sisterhood members autograph the broken boards as a souvenir. The residents raved for days about the delicious food. This was truly a wonderful event."

Once again, a big thank you to all of the women who put their time and effort into making Sisterhood's YWCA Battered Women's Shelter Summer Picnic a huge success. Please watch for future information about both the summer and winter Sisterhood events coming up at the shelter. 

LISTING OF EVENTS



Brotherhood

For more information about Brotherhood programs, contact Billy Bie at 984-3559 or brotherhood@wisetemple.org.

Brotherhood Board Meeting
September 8
6:00 p.m. at Wise Center

Brotherhood Texas Hold'em Tournament
September 18
4:00 p.m. at Wise Center

Brotherhood Selichot Tour of Plum Street Temple
September 24
8:00 p.m. at Plum Street Temple



Eitz Chayim

NOTE: Some Eitz Chayim classes require pre-registration. Check your Eitz Chayim Brochure for details. For more information or to register, contact Terri Snavely at 793-2997 or tsnavely@wisetemple.org.

Gil Hoffman, Political Correspondent for The Jerusalem Post
September 18
10:00 a.m. at Wise Center

Preparing for the High Holy Days, Heart and Mind with Rabbi Kamrass
September 25
10:45 a.m. at Wise Center



Religious School

Unless otherwise indicated, for more information about Religious School activities, contact Terri Snavely at 793-2997 or tsnavely@wisetemple.org.

B'nai Mitzvah Workshop #1
September 8
7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Hermine Vanderzee at 793-2556 or hvanderzee@wisetemple.org.

Buddy Breakfast for New Religious School Families Grades 1-8
September 11
8:45 a.m. at Wise Center

Opening Day of Religious School
September 11
9:15 a.m. at Wise Center

Gesher Grade 3
September 11
9:30 a.m. at Wise Center

B'nai Mitzvah 2008 Meeting
September 11
9:45 a.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Betti Greenstein at 793-2556 or bgreenstein@wisetemple.org.

CRJHS First Session
September 11
7:00 p.m. at Rockdale Temple

Opening Day of Midweek Hebrew School
September 14
4:30 p.m. at Wise Center

Gesher Grades 5 & 6
September 18
9:30 a.m. at Wise Center

Grade 7 B'nai Mitzvah Class
September 18
11:45 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
For more information, contact Rabbi Shulman at 793-2556 or mshulman@wisetemple.org.

B'nai Mitzvah Workshop #2
September 22
7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Hermine Vanderzee at 793-2556 or hvanderzee@wisetemple.org.

Consecration Parent Meeting
September 25
9:30 a.m. at Wise Center

NO SCHOOL
October 2
October 5



Seniors

Tour of the New HUC Archives Led by Rabbi Gary Zola
September 28
1:00 p.m. at HUC
For more information, contact Elaine Schiffer at 351-6620.



Singles

Reds Baseball Game vs. Pittsburgh
September 11
1:15 p.m. at Great American Ball Park
For more information, contact Lorie Kleiner Eckert at 489-7627 or singles@wisetemple.org.



Sisterhood

Sisterhood Board Meeting
September 7 & 28
9:45 a.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Robin Newland at 530-5516.

Sisterhood Mah Jongg
Every Thursday
11:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at Wise Center
To RSVP or for more information, contact Cynthia Marmer at 984-0236.

Sisterhood New and Prospective Member Social
September 11
9:30 – 11:30 a.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Mona Spitz at 891-9583, Inez Moses at 398-1163, or Dian Deustch at 891-3666.

Sisterhood Bridge
September 13 & 27
1:00 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Vivian Barr at 631-6528 or Idelle Stein at 891-3626.

Sisterhood Book Club
September 22
4:30 p.m. at Wise Center
For more information, contact Eve Appleton at 321-0427.



Wise-UP



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
Next Hosting: November 6, 2005
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 Mona Spitz 891-9583 or Steve Willins at 233-0243.

LISTING OF EVENTS

Youth Groups

Wise Guys Program

September 25

Noon at Wise Center

For more information, contact Stacey

Delcau at 793-2556 or

sdelcau@wisetemple.org.

Miscellaneous

Storytime

September 23

10:00 a.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Karen

Brownlee at 871-5013.

Selichot Dessert Buffet

September 24

9:00 p.m. at Plum Street Temple

For more information, contact the Temple

at 793-2556.

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting

Tuesdays & Thursdays

5:30 p.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact the Temple

at 793-2556.

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 Rod McFaul at 859-426-5587.

ANNOUNCING:

WISE TEMPLE 2006 CONGREGATIONAL TRIP TO ISRAEL !!

Rabbi Lewis and Renee Kamrass will lead a family trip to Israel for adults as well as families with children for thirteen days during mid to late July, 2006

For further information, add your name to the list (limited space available) by calling 793-2559 and speaking with Rabbi Kamrass' secretary or by emailing welcomet@wisetemple.org. Once you are on the list, you will be contacted about details and a trip organizational meeting that will be held on **Tuesday, September 20, 2005 at 7:00 p.m.** for specific information about dates, costs, accommodations, and itinerary.



Join us for a night of fun!

Wise Temple Brotherhood presents a

Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament



- ♠ Sunday, September 18, in the Wise Center Social Hall
- ♠ Registration begins at 4 p.m. – We'll play from 5-10 p.m.
- ♠ Entry fee: \$100 (Unlimited re-buys for the first 90 minutes; Cash only, NO credit cards)
- ♠ Must be 21 years old to play
- ♠ Total Payout: **\$6,000** to Top 7 players (based on 100 contenders)
- ♠ **Free** food, sodas, and beer provided courtesy of the Brotherhood

Reserve your seat today!

**Call Ed Waterman (794-1700)
or Billy Bie (984-3559)**

Was Your Child Born in 1995?

If yes, read on...

IMPORTANT MEETING

It may be 2005 on your calendar, but it's time for parents whose children were born in 1995 to be thinking about 2008! You are invited to meet with Rabbi Kamrass and Temple Administrator, Betti Greenstein, at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday September 11 at Wise Center to discuss the Bar/Bat Mitzvah process for 2008.

If you would like more information, please call Betti Greenstein at 793-2556 or email at bgreenstein@wisetemple.org.

Call Us If You Need Assistance

Neighbor-2-Neighbor can lend a helping hand for occasional short term needs. These may include:



- ☎ Making a trip to the grocery store or pharmacy
- ☎ Providing rides to services or Temple activities
- ☎ Picking up books from the Temple Library

We're only as far away as your phone!

Kathie Kaplan

513-984-4496

Linda Berger

859-344-9731 (toll free)



SEPTEMBER 2005 ELUL/TISHRI

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 11:00-Sisterhood-Mah Jongg(WC) 5:30pm-AA Meeting(WC)</p>	<p>2 6:15pm-Shabbat Evening Service(WC)</p>	<p>3 9:00-Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Klein(PST) 9:30-Shabbat Morning Service(WC) 10:45-Torah Study(WC) 11:15-Bar Mitzvah of David Mintz(PST)</p>
<p>4 9:00-WiseUP Soup Kitchen(PST)</p>	<p>5 OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>6 5:30pm-AA Meeting(WC)</p>	<p>7 9:45-Sisterhood-Board Mtg.(WC)</p>	<p>8 11:00-Sisterhood-Mah Jongg(WC) 5:30pm-AA Meeting(WC) 6:00pm-Brotherhood Board Mtg.(WC) 7:00pm-B'nai Mitzvah Workshop #1(WC)</p>	<p>9 6:15pm-Shabbat Evening Service(WC)</p>	<p>10 9:00-Bar Mitzvah of Adam Buck(PST) 9:30-Shabbat Morning Service(WC) 10:45-Torah Study(WC) 11:15-Bat Mitzvah of Leah Schwartz(PST)</p>
<p>11 8:45-New Student Buddy Breakfast Grades 1-8(WC) 9:15-Religious School Opening Day(WC) 9:30-Sisterhood-New & Prospective Member Social(WC) 9:30-Gesher Grade 3(WC) 9:45-B'nai Mitzvah 2008 Mtg.(WC) 1:00pm-Singles Event-Reds Baseball Game(O) 7:00pm-CRJHS(O)</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 1:00pm-Sisterhood-Bridge(WC) 5:30pm-AA Meeting(WC)</p>	<p>14 4:30pm-Midweek Hebrew School Opening Day</p>	<p>15 11:00-Sisterhood-Mah Jongg(WC) 5:30pm-AA Meeting(WC)</p>	<p>16 6:15pm-Shabbat Evening Service; Birthday & Anniversary Blessings; Shir Chadash(WC)</p>	<p>17 8:45-B'nai Mitzvah of Grace and Madeline Elkus(PST) 9:30-Shabbat Morning Service(WC) 10:45-Torah Study (WC) 11:15-Bat Mitzvah of Hope Kabel(PST)</p>
<p>18 9:30-Gesher Gr. 5 & 6(WC) 10:00-Eitz Chayim-Gil Hoffman(WC) 11:45-7th Gr. B'nai Mitzvah Class(WC) 4:00pm-Brotherhood Texas Hold'em Tournament(WC) 7:00pm-CRJHS(O)</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 5:30pm-AA Meeting(WC) 7:00pm-Congregational Israel Trip Meeting(WC)</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 11:00-Sisterhood-Mah Jongg(WC) 4:30pm-Sisterhood-Book Club(WC) 5:30pm-AA Meeting(WC) 7:00pm-B'nai Mitzvah Workshop #2(WC)</p>	<p>23 10:00-Storytime(WC) 6:15pm-Shabbat Evening Service(WC) 6:30pm-Wise Tykes(WC)</p>	<p>24 9:00-Bat Mitzvah of Nancy Cohen(PST) 9:30-Shabbat Morning Service(WC) 10:45-Torah Study (WC) 11:15-Bat Mitzvah of Danielle Tsevat(PST) 8:00pm-Brotherhood PST Tour(PST) 9:00pm-Selichot Dessert Buffet(PST) 10:00pm-Selichot Service(PST)</p>
<p>25 9:30-Consecration Parent Mtg.(WC) 10:45-Eitz Chayim-Preparing for the High Holy Days(WC) Noon-Wise Guys Program(WC) 7:00pm-CRJHS(O)</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 1:00pm-Sisterhood-Bridge.(WC) 5:30pm-AA Meeting(WC)</p>	<p>28 9:45-Sisterhood-Board Mtg.(WC) 1:00-Seniors-Tour of HUC Archives(O)</p>	<p>29 11:00-Sisterhood-Mah Jongg(WC) 5:30pm-AA Meeting(WC)</p>	<p>30 6:15pm-Shabbat Evening Service(WC)</p>	

Reaffirming Our Commitment: Tikkun Olam-athon

BY RABBI SHULMAN

This year marks the 15th anniversary of our congregation's commitment to social action – Wise Temple's Ultimate Project, or as it is cleverly referred to: WiseUP. How wonderful it is to know that over these years, quite literally countless Wise Temple members have helped countless souls throughout our community. We truly have made a difference in the lives of many people through the work of our hands. Over and over again, we hear how powerful and lasting WiseUP experiences are for the participants and the organizations. From the Interfaith Hospitality Network to the Zoo Peace Garden Clean Up, from the Over-the-Rhine Soup Kitchen to Kids Café, every project has had a profound impact. Our graduating 8th graders this past year even conveyed that one of their most enduring memories of Religious School, beginning in the Open Room, was their yearly WiseUP projects. As we celebrate all of our achievements, we also seek to reaffirm our commitment to social action in original and innovative ways.

Our Jewish tradition teaches that we have an on-going obligation to partner with God in *tikkun olam*, in repairing the world. The roots of the concept of *tikkun olam* come from a mystical *midrash*, made famous by Rabbi Isaac Luria, who lived in the 16th century. He taught that when the world was created, there was a single vessel that con-

tained some of the Divine light. But that vessel was made of clay. The vessel was created because God had to withdraw some of God's light in order to make room, so to speak, for the creation of the world. However, something happened: the vessel broke, and the Divine light was sent flying everywhere. The beautiful thing is that some of those divine sparks scattered among all living things, and each of us contains, according to the *midrash*, a bit of God's Divine light.

However, some of the sparks went astray. Because the light is not gathered together, the world is not perfect. Our job is to collect these sparks of Divine light, and unite them once more, and then we will achieve the ultimate *tikkun olam*, the complete repair of the world.

One way to fulfill this sacred obligation is to participate in Wise Temple's first annual, Tikkun Olam-athon. We invite you to join us on Sunday, October 23 when, as a congregation, we reach out to our neighbors in need with acts of loving kindness.

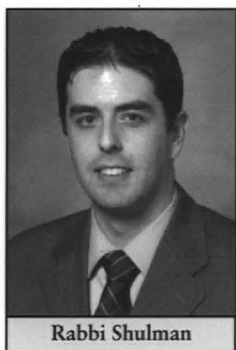
Tikkun Olam-athon is:

- An opportunity to choose from almost 30 projects – in our community and at Wise Temple.
- Over 300 Wise Temple members joining together on one day to help those in need.
- All inclusive – there is something for every member of the family, from

children to adults.

- People helping people – children, adults, seniors.
- Fun and fulfilling work.
- Just a beginning – monthly WiseUP projects will continue throughout the year.

You will find information about Tikkun Olam-athon in your mailboxes, online at www.wisetemple.org, and during the High Holy Days. Registering is easy – all you need to do is fill out the registration card with your top three choices of projects and return it to the Temple office by **October 10**.



Rabbi Shulman

Tikkun Olam-athon
Repairing the world, one Mitzvah at a time.
a WiseUP Program

October 23, 2005

If you have questions about Tikkun Olam-athon, please contact the office at 793-2556 or email us at TikkunOlam@wisetemple.org.

We look forward to seeing you on **October 23** as we continue our sacred work of *tikkun olam* in a new way.

THE WISE COVENANT

Celebrating Our Past—Securing Our Future

Providing for Today's Needs and Our Congregation's Future

Since launching the Wise Covenant Campaign to the entire congregation at the end of last year, our team of volunteer solicitors has been meeting regularly with Temple members, asking them to participate in sustaining the Temple's present vitality and securing its future. Articles have appeared in *Kesher* explaining the Temple's needs and goals; however, some common questions are frequently asked in the many person-to-person conversations that have occurred.

What is an Endowment?

An endowment is an investment in the future and a resource for the present. It is a savings account whose principal will not be touched and whose investment income is prudently spent by the Board for specific programs and purposes.

Why does the Temple need an Endowment?

A sufficient endowment is needed to secure the Temple's current program and activity needs and to provide financial security for the congregation.

Membership contributions account for only 59% of the Temple's budget; fees and tuition for specific programs and activities cover only 29% of the actual costs; Plum Street Temple's preservation comes entirely from its endowment income. Our current endowment income provides 12% of the cost of Temple operations. This figure is expected to increase as the size of our Jewish community changes.

Is there a capital portion to the Campaign?

Yes, for both Wise Center and Plum Street Temple.

Wise Center is our home and is utilized every day of the year, yet it has been over ten years since any major work has been done to it. The capital portion of the Campaign will create a designated fund whose income will be utilized for the estimated half million dollars of anticipated repairs and updating in the next five years. Plum Street Temple's preservation and maintenance costs are entirely funded from its endowment which will be increased by the Campaign.

What is the best way to make a meaningful gift to the Campaign?

Gifts to the Wise Covenant Campaign can be made over a period of years, in the form of a deferred gift, or a combination of both. The Wise Covenant Campaign committee and the Temple's Development Director will work closely with all members of our congregational family so that everyone can make a meaningful gift. We are reaching out to the entire congregation for participation from everyone. Every gift makes a difference to the Wise Covenant Campaign.

If you wish to contribute to the Wise Covenant Campaign and have not yet been personally contacted, please call Susan Kulick, Director of Development, at the Temple office, 793-2556, to discuss a gift or receive a pledge card. 🕯

Calling All Wise Temple Men...

As our congregation moves into a busy and fulfilling fall schedule, the Brotherhood is leading a variety of fun and meaningful projects.

You may have noticed a Brotherhood membership package in your mail recently. We realize that this mailing is happening earlier in the year than in the past. This is because we are in the process of slowly "re-aligning" our billing cycle to more closely match our National Association's fiscal calendar. Once this process is complete, our timely dues and membership roster will ensure that National has accurate records. This will enable them to provide reliable information and services (such as *Achim Magazine*) to our members.

The Brotherhood is excited to offer a diverse selection of events this fall. We will be providing and sharing a dinner with the young men at the Lighthouse on September 15. We are sponsoring our first Texas Hold'Em tournament on September 18 (*look for our advertisement on page 7 for details!*) And on September 24, we are hosting a tour of our historic Plum Street Temple led by Burt Gross. Other opportunities this fall include selling and setting up sukkahs, a Sukkot campout on October 22, and a Brotherhood Shabbat service on November 18. In addition, our Chicken Soup Committee will be fine-tuning the details for our competition this January.

With very few exceptions, the Brotherhood meets for dinner and planning on the second Thursday of each month. We would love for more men of Wise Temple to join us.

If you have any questions or comments, don't hesitate to drop by a meeting, e-mail brotherhood@wisetemple.org, or call Brotherhood President, Billy Bie (984-3559), or any member of the board. 🕯

2005-2006 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Dr. Mitchell Cohen, Vice-President
Margie Meyer, Vice-President
Carol Kabel, Secretary
Mark Kanter, Treasurer
Geri Kolesar, Asst. Secretary
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Betti R. Greenstein, Administrator
Barbara Dragul, Director of Education and Lifelong Learning
Susan G. Kulick, Director of Development

EDUCATION CONNECTION

An Insider's View of Israel with Gil Hoffman

Join us for an exciting presentation on Sunday, September 18 at 10 a.m. with Gil Hoffman, political correspondent for *The Jerusalem Post*. Gil will be joining us just after his military reserve service in the Gaza Strip, where he is explaining the pullout to the foreign press on behalf of the IDF.

As a political correspondent and columnist for *The Jerusalem Post*, the Middle East's leading English daily, Gil is well-connected to Israeli and Palestinian political leaders. He has interviewed Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and every major figure across the Israeli political spectrum, and has been interviewed by top media outlets on six continents. Due to Israel's stormy political environment, he has covered eight elections since joining *The Jerusalem Post* six years ago.

Called "The most optimistic man in Israel" by Israel Television, Hoffman's frequent television appearances and his popular "Seven Days" column provide a behind the scenes look at the intrigue and humor in the Israeli political arena. Hoffman also fre-

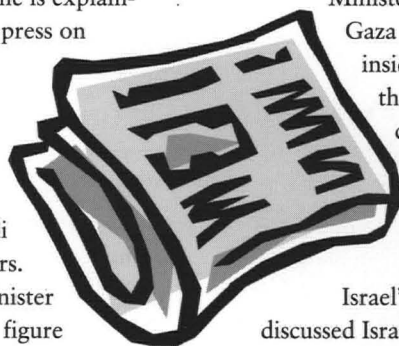
quently covers diplomatic issues, traveling with the Prime Minister and reporting on the peace process and important international developments.

Gil will be speaking on the topic: "Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and his

Gaza Disengagement Plan: An insider's Look from Behind the Scenes." Gil has been covering the decision-making process leading up to the withdrawal, a decision which is expected to change

Israel's history forever. He has discussed Israel's future in depth with Sharon and other top Israeli leaders, and has served in Gaza, explaining Israel's position to a hungry (and perhaps hostile) foreign press.

Hoffman, who was raised in Chicago, graduated Magna Cum Laude from Northwestern University's School of Journalism in 1999, and wrote for the *Miami Herald* and the *Arizona Republic* before moving to Israel. He serves as a corporal in the IDF's Spokesman's Unit (*Dover Tzahal*) and lives in Jerusalem with his newlywed wife. 🇮🇱



THIS I BELIEVE...

continued from page 3

Elizabeth Deutsch: "I believe that it's important to recognize and appreciate joy when you feel it."

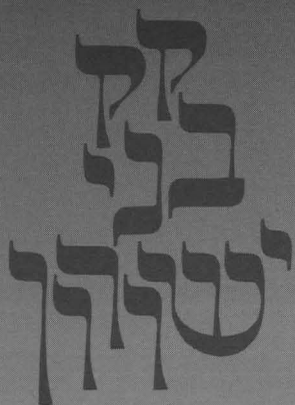
Dave Brubeck: "I believe in the ultimate victory of faith, hope and love in a world full of conflict and destruction."

Sarah Adams: "If I have one operating philosophy about life it is this: Be cool to the pizza delivery dude; it's good luck."

Although I'm not quite ready to write a 500 word essay, I am ready to begin. So, here goes.... This I believe: that we come into the world filled with goodness, that

family is the source of greatest joy and learning, that Judaism offers a roadmap, blanket, spark and "how to" book for life, that being part of making a community thrive makes the world a better place, that gratitude is the right state of mind to try to achieve, and that learning enriches the mind, heart and soul.

And so we embark on another year of learning with and from one another. As we do so, I hope you get a chance to reflect on and add to your personal *This I Believe* story. And if you have the time and the inclination, I'd love to hear your thoughts. You can send it to bdragul@wisetemple.org. The journey continues - *B'hatzlachah*, good luck along your way! 🇮🇱



Lewis H. Kamrass, Senior Rabbi
 Ilana G. Baden, Associate Rabbi
 Michael S. Shulman, Assistant Rabbi
 Albert A. Goldman, Rabbi Emeritus
 Betti R. Greenstein, Temple Administrator
 Barbara L. Dragul, Director of Education
 and Lifelong Learning
 Susan G. Kulick, Esq., Director of
 Development
 Stacey Delcau, Assistant Director of
 Education and Youth Programs
 Renee Frankel, Day Camp Director

Temple President

Andrew R. Berger

Auxiliary Presidents

Brotherhood: Billy Bie
 Sisterhood: Robin Newland
 Sr. Youth Group: Joshua Clayton

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 September:

B'nai Mitzvah

September 3 – Benjamin Klein. Son of Drs. David and Yolanda Klein.

September 3 – David Mintz. Son of Howard and Ann Mintz.

September 10 – Adam Buck. Son of Larry and Lorraine Buck.

September 10 – Leah Schwartz. Daughter of Steve and Chris Schwartz.

September 17 – Madeline and Grace Elkus. Daughters of Barry and Julie Elkus.

September 17 – Hope Kabel. Daughter of Kenneth and Carol Kabel. Granddaughter of Ruth Tauber.

September 24 – Nancy Cohen. Daughter of Drs. Robert Cohen and Amy Katz.

September 24 – Danielle Tsevat. Daughter of Dr. Joel and Jody Tsevat. Granddaughter of Dr. Matitiah and Miriam Tsevat.

Births

Dr. Stewart and Ellen Dunsker on the recent birth of their grandson, Grant Treiman Yessenow.

Joe and Rita Ladd on the recent birth of their granddaughter, Elyssa Grace.

Sandy Spinner on the recent birth of her granddaughter, Libby Spinner.

Dr. Jim and Ruth Levy on the recent birth of their grandson, Benjamin Evan Levy.

Michael and Laurie Weinstein, Dr. Alan and Marlyn Weinstein and Betty Vigran on the recent birth of their son, grandson and great-grandson, Mose Gabriel Weinstein.

Bob and Dr. Jennifer Ringel on the recent birth of their son, Jack Haas Ringel. Fred and Jane Friedman, Howard and Phyllis Ringel and Hedy Ringel on the recent birth of their grandson and great-grandson, Jack.

Larry and Linda Hochberg on the recent birth of their granddaughter, Ellie Hochberg.

Charlie and Nina Croog and George and Mary Croog on the recent birth of their daughter and granddaughter, Sarah Natalie Croog.

Jonathan Schwartz and Shelly Schadick on the recent birth of their son, Benjamin Louis Schwartz.

Ross and Tara Vigran on the recent birth of their son, Benjamin Samuel Vigran.

Weddings

Gwen Shapiro on the recent marriage of her granddaughter, Wendy Katz.

Engagements

Neil Berman on his recent engagement to Susan Marmo.

Jackie Adams and David Adams on the recent engagement of their daughter, Paige to Joseph Cliggott.

Stuart and Judi Warm on the recent engagement of their daughter, Jill Warm to Nathaniel Lawton.



K.K. B'NAI YESHURUN

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