

# KESHER

קשר

## THE WISE CONNECTION

ISAAC M. WISE TEMPLE



K.K. B'NAI YESHURON

## I N S I D E

- 2 *Words From The Heart*
- 3 *Education Connection: A Great Miracle Happened There*
- 4 *Congregational Connection: A Symbol of Holiness*
- 5 *Congregational Connection: Our Favorite Latke Recipes*
- 6 *Listing of Events*
- 8 *Calendar*
- 9 *Sisterhood Notes Bedtime Bundles*
- 10 *Congregational Connection: Continue the Tradition of Excellence at Wise Temple Treasure of the Month Summer 2006 Israel Experience*
- 11 *Program Connection Board of Trustees Be Not Afraid*
- 12 *Congregational Connection: Mazal Tov WiseUP Corner*



Founded in 1842

AFFILIATE:  
Union for Reform Judaism

# Tikkun Olam-athon

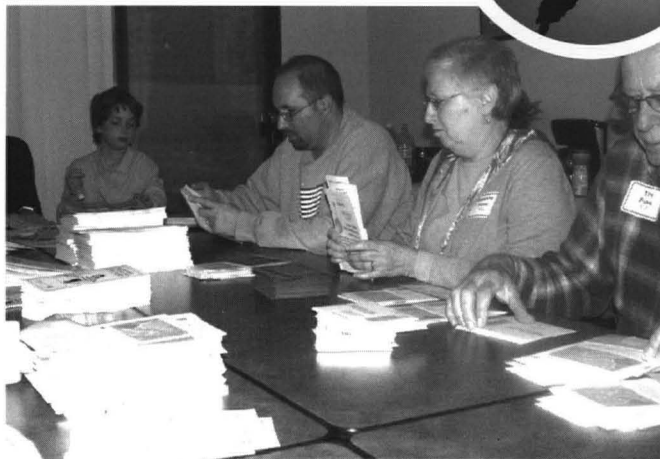
Repairing the world, one Mitzvah at a time.

◇ a WiseUP Program ◇

**O**n Sunday, October 23, 2005, over 400 volunteers participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Tikkun Olam-athon. Congregants committed to the sacred task of repairing the world worked in 28 different projects around the region. Some of these included the FreeStore/FoodBank, Over the Rhine Soup Kitchen, Interfaith Hospitality Network, Cedar Village, Ronald McDonald House, SPCA, Drop Inn Center and the Cincinnati Zoo. This was a wonderful and meaningful way to begin the New Year together as a community. WiseUP Social Action projects will continue throughout the year as we reaffirm and strengthen our commitment to Tikkun Olam.



...helping at the Wellness Community.



...preparing informational packets for the council on child abuse.



...organizing supplies for IHN.

# D'VARIM MIN HALEV- דְּבָרִים מִן הַלֵּב “Words from the Heart”

BY RABBI KAMRASS

**O**ne of the many unique approaches of Judaism is the idea that we consecrate time, rather than space.

Rather than have physical spaces or religious shrines to dot our Jewish landscape, we celebrate the holiness of time. We are deeply blessed at Wise Temple to enjoy a warm and beautiful religious space in our newly renovated Wohl Chapel at Wise Center, and in the awe-inspiring Plum Street Temple. We know the power of a dedicated space to inspire us and lift up our spiritual lives. Yet, we also know the uniqueness of Judaism that suggested that holiness was not reserved for only a few specific places. In fact, our tradition taught that the home is a sacred space, a “*mikdash m'at*,” a miniature sanctuary from which Jewish time could be consecrated, just as in the synagogue. We created Shabbat and holidays as consecrated islands of time; we mark these days in both the synagogue AND the home. On Shabbat we sanctify the day in our home, around our tables with prayers for the candles, wine and challah AND we mark it by gathering in community and worship in the synagogue. The same is true for every holiday – some may have a greater emphasis on synagogue (Yom Kippur) and some may have a greater emphasis on home (Chanukah) – but we celebrate and mark all of our sacred time in both places.

The nature of our religious practice in the synagogue is that the celebrations are shaped by the rabbis, a congregational board, and committees. For Shabbat and holiday celebrations within the Temple, all that is



Rabbi Kamrass

*This year, Chanukah begins on Sunday, December 25. To help you begin planning your home celebrations, this issue of Keshet includes the blessings (p. 4), the rules for playing dreidel (p. 3), and great latke recipes from some of our senior staff (p. 5).*

required of you is to bring yourself, to bring a willing heart and to participate fully. But our home religious observance requires

more. The home truly becomes your “sanctuary” in which you are serving the roles of rabbi, cantor, committees and board. To bring joy and meaning to our religious life in the home requires forethought, planning, and commitment. In making our home a miniature sanctuary that gives voice to the spiritual life within us, we seek to create such moments of celebration that will become abiding, special memo-

ries for our children, grandchildren, family and friends. We want to turn to those who were around us and say, “Do you remember that wonderful time when...?” I know that when I look back to my own childhood, so many of my lasting family memories are centered around the Shabbat table, with my parents, siblings, and grandparents all together. Even the funny and memorable conversations that had nothing to do with religion were anchored in religious celebrations. Creating memories rarely happens on its own. It requires cultivation. But as with cultivating land, with all the labor and time that it demands, cultivating our spiritual life in the home can yield an abundant harvest of memories that can last a lifetime.

So here are some helpful hints to cultivate joyous and meaningful home observance of Shabbat and holidays:

**1. PLAN AHEAD.** It is difficult to have opportunities for thought, creativity, and experimentation when the calendar becomes

a burden in our busy lives.

## **2. KNOW THE LARGER CONTEXT OF THE MEANING OF THE DAY.**

Read a book about the holiday that might include sections on meaning, ideas, celebrations, and recipes. Speak with our Librarian, Andrea Rapp, or peruse our 18,000 volume “card catalog” online at [www.wisetemple.org](http://www.wisetemple.org). While there, check out the online web-based learning resources recommended for you by our rabbis and educators, found in the “Jewish Resources” section of our website.

## **3. KNOW THE RITUALS FOR THE DAY.**

Familiarize yourself with the blessings and the rituals so that you are comfortable with the words, how to speak them, how to sing them. There are many resources to help you with this. For Shabbat and Havdallah words and melodies, consult the new CD that you recently received, *Sounds of Shabbat at Isaac M. Wise Temple*.

## **4. KNOW YOUR GOALS AND LET THEM SHAPE YOUR CELEBRATION.**

If you are planning something with children, you cannot teach three songs, do the blessings, tell a story, and have a discussion. Choose something realistic that can succeed and create a memory by limiting yourself.

**5. BUILD ON THE PAST.** If you learned three songs last year for Chanukah, repeat them this year, and then turn to a different goal, such as story, or a conversation about the meaning of the holiday.

**6. BE CREATIVE.** On Chanukah, do a different activity each night. At Passover, consider expanding the *Hagaddah* with stories, paper bag dramatics, pictures, or

continued on page 11 >

# A Great Miracle Happened There



BY BARBARA DRAGUL

**I**magine, it's a dark winter night. The wind blows through the cracks around your window adding a chill to the room. Soup simmers on the stove and the candles on the *Chanukiah* or *menorah* flicker and dance on the table. The *menorah* compels everyone to gather round – to gather warmth from the flames and from one another; to gaze at the light of the candles. At winter's darkest hour Chanukah comes to remind us of the power of light – to inspire, to warm and to bring us together.

Before TV and video games, before the computer easily filled our hours, the winter nights were long and simple. Traditionally the long winter evenings of Chanukah were the one time of year when playing games was considered a good use of time. Also, Jewish law prohibits work for one hour after candle lighting on Chanukah. So what are we to do? Of course the answer is: play dreidel, “spinning top” in Yiddish, or *sevivon* in modern Hebrew.

The dreidel is a four sided top with a different Hebrew letter inscribed on each of its sides: *nun*, *gimmel*, *hey*, *shin*. The letters form an acronym for the phrase *Neis gadol hayah sham* – “a great miracle happened there.” In Israel the dreidel has the letter *pey* in place of the *shin*, and the phrase is *Neis gadol hayah po*, meaning, “a great miracle happened HERE”. The dreidel reminds us of the miracle of Chanukah when a few drops of oil lasted for eight days and nights after the Temple was recaptured in 165 B.C.E. Or perhaps it reminds us of the miracle of the few defeating the many, or the miracle of a young Jewish child as she watches the lights of the menorah with wonder and awe.

To play the game you need a dreidel, or two, or four (or more). Our Temple gift

shop has everything from simple plastic dreidels to beautifully handcrafted wood to elaborate glass pieces (these are for show, not for play!).



Barbara Dragul

## HERE ARE THE DIRECTIONS:

1. Any number of people can take part in this great game.
2. Each player begins the game with an equal number of game pieces (about 10-15) such as pennies, nuts, chocolate *gelt* (coins), raisins, etc.
3. At the beginning of each round, every participant puts one game piece into the center “pot.” In addition, every time the pot is empty or has only one game piece left, every player should put one in the pot.
4. Every time it's your turn, spin the dreidel once. Depending on the outcome, you give or get game pieces from the pot:
  - a) *Nun* means *nisht* or “nothing” [in Yiddish]. The player does nothing.
  - b) *Gimmel* means *gantz* or “everything” [in Yiddish]. The player gets everything in the pot.
  - c) *Hey* means *halb* or “half” [in Yiddish]. The player gets half of the pot. (If there are an odd number of pieces in the pot, the player takes half of the total plus one.)
  - d) *Shin* (outside of Israel) means *shtetl* or “put in” [in Yiddish]. *Peh* (in Israel) means “pay.” The player adds a game piece to the pot.
5. If you find that you have no game pieces left, you are either “out” or may ask a fellow player for a “loan”.
6. When one person has won everything, that round of the game is over!
7. We suggest that if you use money to play the game, ask players to donate part or all of their winnings to (charity). You can ask parents to match these contributions. This way everyone wins and you can share the

Chanukah gifts with those in need!

Spinning tops is a game that precedes Chanukah and can be found in other cultures. Over the centuries it has come to be associated with Chanukah but it didn't begin there. The Jewish laws pertaining to Chanukah have primarily to do with lighting the *chanukiah* or *menorah*. Playing dreidel at Chanukah is a custom that began with the people and then the rabbis looked for ways to connect it to Chanukah. “The main difference between laws and customs is that laws stem from rabbinic interpretations of the Torah and Talmud which then filter down to the Jewish people, while customs usually start with the people and filter up to the rabbis,” states David Golinkin. A simple game has become a link through the ages, and a delight in each new generation.

So, as the candles burn brightly in your home this Chanukah, gather round the table. Share the warmth, remember the miracle, and have some good old fun with a rousing round of dreidel. Happy Chanukah!

## VALUE OF THE MONTH

Our value for the month of December is *V'havta l'rayacha*, loving one's neighbors.

In Leviticus 19:18, we are commanded to “Love your neighbor as yourself.” According to Rabbi Akiva, this is the most important mitzvah in the entire Torah. Two thousand years ago, when a non-Jew challenged Rabbi Hillel to teach him the whole Torah while he stood on one foot, Hillel answered: “What is hateful to you, do not do to your neighbor. That is the entire Torah – all the rest is commentary. Go and learn it.”—*Talmud Shabbat 31a*

This mitzvah of loving one's neighbor as oneself has been expanded in the codes of Jewish law to include the importance of visiting the sick, comforting the mourner,

continued on page 11 ➤



# A Symbol of Holiness

BY RABBI BADEN

**M**any, generations ago, there was a great debate over how the *Chanukiah* (menorah used for Chanukah) should be arranged. The two main groups of Jewish sages, the School of Shammai and the School of Hillel, bitterly disagreed over how the candles were to be set.

Shammai's group thought that the candles should represent the number of days of the festival still to come. Therefore, the School of Shammai urged that on the first night of this holiday, eight lights should be kindled. Then, on each of the next nights, a



Rabbi Baden


candle would be taken away. By the end of Chanukah, only one candle would remain.

Hillel's group, on the other hand, felt that the candles should represent the days as they are fulfilled. So, the School of Hillel urged that on the first night, only one light should be kindled. Then, on each of the next nights, a candle would be added, resulting in eight candles on the last night of this holiday.

In the end, a compromise was reached. It was decided that we would follow Hillel's system of lighting the Chanukah candles for now. When the messiah comes, though, we will switch over to Shammai's

suggestion.

The reason that we follow Hillel's way of lighting, according to the tradition, is that the candles are a symbol of holiness. By adding candles each night, we are increasing holiness rather than diminishing it. In our world, this is a very desirable thing. However, when we reach the Messianic Age, holiness will already be complete. The idea of diminishing holiness will no longer be applicable.

As we light our Chanukah candles this year, I pray that we may all be able to increase our holiness. May we reach new heights of joy, fulfillment, and peace. 

## Blessings for the Chanukiah

*Put the candles in from right to left.*

*Light the candles from left to right in order to mark the newest day of Chanukah.*



*Baruch Atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha-olam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav vitzivanu l'hadlik ner shel Chanukah.*

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם,  
אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו  
להדליק נר של חנוכה.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who has hallowed us with commandments and commanded us to kindle the lights of Chanukah.

*Baruch Atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha-olam, she-asah nisim la-avoteinu bayamim haheim baz'man hazeh.*

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם,  
שעשה נסים לאבותינו בימים ההם  
בזמן הזה.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who worked miracles for our ancestors in days of old at this season.

*On the first night of Chanukah, we also recite the Shecheyanu:*

*Baruch Atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha-olam, shehecheyanu v'ki-y'manu v'higiyanu laz'man hazeh.*

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם,  
שהחיינו וקיימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who has kept us in life, preserved us, and enabled us to reach this season.

# Our Favorite Latke Recipes

## **"Traditional" Potato Latkes**

from *Still Life with Menu* by Mollie Katzen  
from Barbara Dragul

- 2 large potatoes
- 1 medium sized onion
- 2 eggs
- 1/4 cup flour
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- Freshly ground pepper to taste
- 7 to 8 tablespoons oil, for frying
- Applesauce (optional)
- Sour cream (optional)
- Fried onions (optional)

- 1) Scrub potatoes (peeling is optional) and grate them (the food processor's grating attachment does this in seconds).
- 2) Heat a medium sized saucepan of water to boiling. Drop in the grated potatoes and parboil for 5 minutes. Drain in a colander over the sink and rinse with cold water. Drain thoroughly.
- 3) Grate the onion (you can do this with a few quick pulses of a food processor fitted with the steel blade attachment).
- 4) Combine all ingredients except the oil.
- 5) Place a heavy skillet or griddle over medium high heat. Add 2 to 3 tablespoons of oil, and wait until the oil is very hot (hot enough to sizzle a drop of batter on contact). Spoon in the batter to form pancakes, and press them down to make them thin. Keep the heat medium high and fry on both sides until uniformly crisp and brown. (It will probably take more than one shift to get all the pancakes fried. Add fresh oil for each batch, making sure it gets very hot each time before you add the batter.)
- 6) Keep the cooked pancakes warm in a 200 degree oven on a bed of paper towels. Don't stack the pancakes or they'll get soggy.
- 7) Serve hot with applesauce, sour cream and fried onions, if desired.

NOTE: The potatoes can be grated and

parboiled as much as 3 or 4 days ahead. The fully assembled batter keeps surprisingly well. Keep the batter in an airtight container in the refrigerator.

## **Gingered Carrot Latkes**

from Betti Greenstein

- 6 cups coarsely grated peeled carrots
- 6 tablespoons all purpose flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 3/4 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 7 teaspoons finely grated peeled fresh ginger
- 3 large eggs, beaten to blend
- Canola oil (for frying)

- 1) Place carrots in large bowl; press with paper towels to absorb any moisture. In another large bowl, whisk flour, salt, baking powder, and pepper to blend. Mix in carrots and ginger, then eggs.
- 2) Pour enough oil into heavy large skillet to cover bottom and heat over medium heat. Working in batches and adding more oil as needed, drop carrot mixture by 1/4 cupfuls into skillet and spread to 3 1/2-inch rounds. Fry until golden, about 5 minutes per side. Transfer latkes to rimmed baking sheet. (Can be made 6 hours ahead. Let stand at room temperature. Rewarm in 350°F oven until crisp, about 10 minutes.)
- 3) Serve latkes with relish and salsa. Makes about 15.

## **Curried Sweet Potato Latkes**

from Rabbi Baden

- 1 pound sweet potatoes, peeled
- 1/2 cup flour
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- 1 teaspoon brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon baking powder

- 1/2 teaspoon cayenne powder
- 2 teaspoons curry powder
- 1 teaspoon cumin
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 2 large eggs, beaten
- 1/2 cup milk
- Oil for frying

- 1) Grate the sweet potatoes coarsely. In a separate bowl, mix the flour, sugar, brown sugar, baking powder, cayenne pepper, curry powder, cumin, and salt and pepper.
- 2) Add the eggs and just enough milk to the dry ingredients to make a stiff batter. Add the potatoes and mix. The batter should be moist but not runny; if too stiff, add more milk.
- 3) Heat 1/4 inch of oil in a frying pan until it is barely smoking.
- 4) Drop in the batter by tablespoons and flatten. Fry over medium-high heat several minutes on each side until golden. Drain on paper towels and serve.

## **Homemade Applesauce**

from Betti Greenstein

- 20 granny smith apples, peeled, cored and cut into chunks
- 1 1/2 cups apple cider
- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon nutmeg

- 1) Place the apples in a large saucepan and pour in the cider. Simmer uncovered over medium-high heat for 40 minutes, stirring every 5 minutes or so to prevent sticking.
- 2) Stir in the sugar, cinnamon and nutmeg and continue to cook, stirring to break down the apples, until it is a chunky sauce.

# LISTING OF EVENTS



## Brotherhood

**Brotherhood Dinner and Board Meeting**  
Thursday, December 8  
6:00 p.m. at Wise Center  
*For more information, contact Billy Bie at 984-3559.*

**Lighthouse Youth Services**  
Thursday, December 15  
5:30 p.m.  
No Cost: Dinner included  
*For more information, contact Billy Bie at 984-3559.*

**Brotherhood Serves Dinner to Interfaith Hospitality Network Guests**  
Thursday, December 29  
Wise Center  
*For more information, contact brotherhood@wisetemple.org.*



## Congregational Shabbat Dinners

**Congregational Shabbat Dinner**  
Friday, December 9  
7:15 p.m. at Wise Center  
*For more information, contact Sarah McMaster at 793-2556 or smcmaster@wisetemple.org.*

**Sisterhood-Sponsored Congregational Chanukah Dinner**  
Friday, December 30  
7:15 p.m. at Wise Center  
*For more information, contact Wendy Pelberg at 791-8838 or Beth Hertzman at 271-4452.*



## Eitz Chayim

**NOTE:** The following Eitz Chayim classes require pre-registration. Unless otherwise noted, for more information or to register, contact Terri Snavely at 793-2997 or tsnavely@wisetemple.org.

**Wrestling with Troubled Texts**  
Thursdays, December 1 & 8  
5:45 – 7:00 p.m. at Wise Center

**Mingled Roots in a Jewish Home:**  
**A Discussion Group for Interfaith Couples**  
Mondays, December 5 & 12  
7:30 – 9:00 p.m. at Wise Center  
*For more information, contact Rabbi Baden at 793-2556 or ibaden@wisetemple.org.*

**December Dilemma: An Interfaith Discussion**  
Sunday, December 11  
10:00 – 11:30 a.m. at Wise Center

## TUESDAYS WITH TORAH

All classes are from Noon – 1:00 p.m.  
*For more information or to register, contact Terri Snavely at 793-2997 or tsnavely@wisetemple.org.*

**Is Genesis Right: Did God Create the World?** with Rabbi Shulman  
December 6

**Ten Jewish Sensibilities with Rabbi Baden**  
December 13, 20 & 27

**Making Loss Matter with Rabbinic Intern Debra Dressler**  
January 3, 10 & 17



## Religious School

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

**Gesher Grades 4 & 5**  
Sunday, December 4  
9:15 – 11:30 a.m.  
*For more information, contact Stacey Delcau at 793-2556 or sdelcau@wisetemple.org.*

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade B'nai Mitzvah Class**  
Sunday, December 4  
Noon – 3:30 p.m.  
*For more information, contact Rabbi Shulman at 793-2556 or mshulman@wisetemple.org.*

**Cincinnati Reform Jewish High School**  
Sundays, December 4 & 11  
7:00 p.m. at Rockdale Temple

**Gesher Grade 3**  
Sunday, December 11  
9:15 – 11:30 a.m.  
*For more information, contact Stacey Delcau at 793-2556 or sdelcau@wisetemple.org.*

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade Family Program**  
Sunday, December 11  
9:15 – 11:30 a.m.

**NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL**  
Wednesday, December 21  
Sunday, December 25  
Wednesday, December 28  
Sunday, January 1



## Seniors

**Jewish Art at the Cincinnati Art Museum**  
Tuesday, December 13  
1:00 p.m. at Wise Center  
*For more information, contact Ruth Lowenthal at 281-8608.*



## Singles

**Chanukah Party and \$5 Gift Exchange**  
Sunday, December 25  
Noon at the home of Michele Bartel  
*For more information, contact Lorie Eckert at 489-7627 or Nancy Mendelson at 489-8393 or email singles@wisetemple.org.*



## Sisterhood

**Sisterhood Mah Jongg**  
Thursdays, December 1, 8, 15 & 22  
11:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. at Wise Center  
*For more information, contact Cynthia Marmer at 984-0236.*

**Children's Holiday Boutique**  
Sundays, December 4 & 11  
9:00 a.m. – Noon at Wise Center  
*For more information or to volunteer, contact Sarah Roberts at 474-9789.*

**Sisterhood Bridge**  
Tuesdays, December 6 & 20  
1:00 p.m. at Wise Center  
*For more information, contact Vivian Barr at 631-6528 or Idelle Stein at 891-3626.*

**Sisterhood Board Meeting**  
Wednesdays, December 7 & January 4  
9:45 a.m. at Wise Center  
*For more information, contact Robin Newland at 530-5516.*

**December Luncheon Program**  
Wednesday, December 14  
12:15 p.m. at Wise Center  
*Contact Inez Moses, 398-1163; Saranne Funk, 841-2583; or Pam Kohn, 891-1516.*



# LISTING OF EVENTS



## WiseUP

### Hoxworth Registration and Blood Drive Sunday, December 4

Be a blood donor or help prepare and organize our annual blood drive without having to donate blood.

For more information and to register, contact Mindy Hastie at 271-8270.

### Gift Wrapping and Soup Kitchen Sunday, December 25

Wrap presents and serve a Christmas meal for families in need at the Northern Kentucky Board of Mental Health.

For more information, contact Burt & Marlene Gross at 489-4341.

### Interfaith Hospitality Network

Next Hosting: December 25 – January 1  
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 at 891-9583 or Steve Willins at 233-0243.



## Ongoing WiseUP 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.



## Youth Groups

### NOAR Chanukah Party (Grades 5 & 6)

Sunday, December 18

Noon – 2:00 p.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Stacey

Delcau at 793-2556 or

sdelcau@wisetemple.org.



## Miscellaneous

### 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 McFaull at 859-426-5587.

### Storytime

For children 0 – 5 years old

Fridays, December 2, 16 & January 6

10:00 a.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Karen Brownlee at 871-5013

karenbrownlee@gmail.com.

## IT'S TIME FOR THE SECOND ANNUAL CINCINNATI CHICKEN SOUP COOK-OFF



Sunday, January 29,  
after Religious School

### Save the Date!

Sunday, January 29, 12:30-4:30 pm

### Do you like to Cook? We need Cooks!

- Call Steve Pollak if you want to cook 252-3461, spollak@cinci.rr.com
- Great Soup from Great Restaurants
- Great Soup from Great Amateur Cooks

## 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!**

Linda Berger: TBD (moving)  
Kathie Kaplan: 513-984-4496  
Pat Passer: 513-533-3395  
Rachel Wells: 513-530-9881

## Visit the Ralph & Julia Cohen Library



### Library Hours:

Mondays	2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Tuesdays	9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Wednesdays	Noon - 6:00 p.m.
Thursdays	9:00 a.m. - Noon
Sundays	9:00 a.m. - Noon

(when school is in session)

Or browse our online catalog anytime at  
[www.wisetemple.org](http://www.wisetemple.org).

# DECEMBER 2005 CHESHVAN/KISLEV

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

WC = Wise Center  
PST = Plum Street Temple  
O = Other Location

See listing of events for more  
detailed information

**4**

9:00—Children's Holiday Boutique(WC)  
9:15—Gesher Grades 4 & 5(WC)  
Noon—7<sup>th</sup> Gr. B'nai Mitzvah Class(WC)  
7:00pm—CRJHS(O)  
WiseUP—Hoxworth Registration & Blood  
Drive(O)

**11**

9:00—Children's Holiday Boutique(WC)  
9:15—Gesher Gr. 3(WC)  
9:15—6<sup>th</sup> Grade Family Program(WC)  
10:00—Eitz Chayim-December  
Dilemma(WC)  
7:00pm—CRJHS(O)

**18**

Noon—NOAR-Chanukah Party(WC)

**25**

NO SCHOOL  
Noon—Singles-Chanukah Party & Gift  
Exchange(O)  
WiseUP—Gift Wrapping &  
Soup Kitchen(O)

First Night of Chanukah

**5**

7:30pm—Eitz Chayim-Mingled Roots in  
a Jewish Home(WC)

**12**

7:30pm—Eitz Chayim-Mingled Roots in  
a Jewish Home(WC)

**19****26**

OFFICE CLOSED

Second Night of Chanukah

**6**

Noon—Tuesdays with Torah-Is Genesis  
Right?(WC)  
1:00pm—Sisterhood-Bridge(WC)  
5:30pm—AA Meeting(WC)

**13**

Noon—Tuesdays with Torah-Ten Jewish  
Sensibilities(WC)  
1:00pm—Seniors-Jewish Art at the  
Cincinnati Art Museum(WC)  
5:30pm—AA Meeting(WC)

**20**

Noon—Tuesdays with Torah-Ten Jewish  
Sensibilities(WC)  
1:00pm—Sisterhood-Bridge(WC)  
5:30pm—AA Meeting(WC)

**27**

Noon—Tuesdays with Torah-Ten Jewish  
Sensibilities(WC)  
5:30pm—AA Meeting(WC)

Third Night of Chanukah

**7**

9:45—Sisterhood-Board Mtg.(WC)  
4:30pm—Midweek Hebrew School(WC)  
4:45pm—Adult Hebrew(WC)

**14**

12:15pm—Sisterhood-Lunch  
Program(WC)  
4:30pm—Midweek Hebrew School(WC)  
4:45pm—Adult Hebrew(WC)

**21**

NO SCHOOL

**28**

NO SCHOOL

Fourth Night of Chanukah

**1**

11:00—Sisterhood-Mah Jongg(WC)  
5:30pm—AA Meeting(WC)  
5:45pm—Eitz Chayim-Wrestling with  
Troubled Texts(WC)

**8**

11:00—Sisterhood-Mah Jongg(WC)  
5:30pm—AA Meeting(WC)  
5:45pm—Eitz Chayim-Wrestling with  
Troubled Texts(WC)  
6:00pm—Brotherhood Dinner &  
Board Mtg.(WC)

**15**

11:00—Sisterhood-Mah Jongg(WC)  
5:30pm—Brotherhood-Dinner at  
Lighthouse Youth Services(O)  
5:30pm—AA Meeting(WC)

**22**

11:00—Sisterhood-Mah Jongg(WC)  
5:30pm—AA Meeting(WC)

**29**

Brotherhood—IHN Dinner(WC)  
5:30pm—AA Meeting(WC)

Fifth Night of Chanukah

**2**

10:00—Storytime(WC)  
**6:15pm—Shabbat Evening  
Service; Kol Rinah(WC)**

**9**

**6:15pm—Shabbat Evening  
Service;** Birthday and Anniversary  
Blessings; 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Participation; Shir  
Chadash; Youth Choir (WC)  
7:15 pm—Congregational Shabbat  
Dinner(WC)

**16**

10:00—Storytime(WC)  
**6:15pm—Shabbat Evening  
Service(WC)**

**23**

**6:15pm—Shabbat Evening  
Service(WC)**  
**6:30pm—Wise Tykes  
Service(WC)**

**30**

**6:15pm—Chanukah Family  
Service(WC)**  
7:15pm—Sisterhood-Sponsored  
Chanukah Congregational Dinner(WC)

Sixth Night of Chanukah

**3**

**9:30—Shabbat Morning  
Service(WC)**  
10:45—Torah Study(WC)  
**10:45—B'nai Mitzvah of  
Aaron and Nathan  
Markiewitz(PST)**

**10**

**9:30—Shabbat Morning  
Service(WC)**  
10:45—Torah Study(WC)  
**10:45—Bar Mitzvah of Joshua  
Kaltman(WC)**

**17**

**9:30—Shabbat Morning  
Service(WC)**  
10:45—Torah Study(WC)  
**10:45—Bar Mitzvah of  
Andrew Kozlove(WC)**

**24**

**9:30—Shabbat Morning  
Service(WC)**  
10:45—Torah Study(WC)

**31**

**9:30—Shabbat Morning  
Service(WC)**  
10:45—Torah Study(WC)

Seventh Night of Chanukah



## PROGRAMMING NEWS

### Children's Holiday Gift Boutique

Sunday, December 4, 9:00 a.m.-noon

Sunday, December 11, 9:00 a.m.-noon

Children can shop for perfect pre-wrapped gifts for family and friends, \$10.00 and under. Volunteers are needed to work during Boutique hours. *Please call Sarah Roberts at 474-9789.*

### Congregational Chanukah Dinner

The congregational Chanukah dinner will be held on Friday, December 30. Services will start at 6:15 p.m. with dinner immediately following. This is a well-attended event, so make sure you send in your reservations using the invitation mailed to your home. *If you have any questions, please contact Wendy Pelberg at 791-8838 or Beth Hertzman at 271-4452.*

### Mah Jongg

Play Mah Jongg at Wise Temple! Maj meets weekly at Wise Center on Thursdays from 11:00 - 2:30. *For more information, please contact Cynthia Marmer at 984-0236.*

### Mah Jongg Lessons

Would you like to learn to play Mah Jongg? Here is your chance!! Maj lessons will be held on Tuesdays, January 10, 17, 24, and 31 at 9:30 a.m. at Wise Center. You must have a current Maj card in order to enroll in this class. Maj cards can be purchased in the Wise Temple Sisterhood Gift Shop. If you have a set, bring your set, too. This promises to be a lot of fun! *Please RSVP to Donna Claybon at 793-5303.*

### December Lunch Program

The December Lunch Program will take place Wednesday, December 14 at 12:15 p.m. at Wise Center. Rabbi Shulman will be our guest speaker. Please join us for delicious Chanukah Lite Bites as Rabbi Shulman discusses the "True Story of Chanukah." *For more information, please contact Inez Moses, 398-1163; Saranne Funk, 841-2583; or Pam Kohn, 891-1516.*

### Cooking Series Begins at Jean-Robert de Cavel's Television Show!

Join us December 1 for the exciting kickoff to this year's cooking class series. We will have breakfast and a tour at the Midwest Culinary Institute before joining the audience for a taping of Chef Jean-Robert de Cavel's "The Dish" (WKRC-12). The cost is \$50 and attendance is limited to the first 40 registrants. The cooking series will continue in early 2006 with a class taught by Master Chef John Kinsella (one of only 19 Master Chefs in the country!) and will conclude with a class in spring taught by Amy Tobin at the Party Source. *Please watch the mail for your invitation, or call Patti Heldman at 631-5525 or Tina Straubing at 791-8568.*

## 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 (which will be credited to the card for Kroger purchases). 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, or Liz McOsker at 469-1748.*

## FLEA MARKET

Do you need to make room in your home for all those Chanukah gifts? The Flea Market will gladly help by accepting your no-longer needed items. 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.*

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

### YWCA Shelter "Day of Beauty"

The Sisterhood/Wise-Up YWCA Battered Women's Shelter "Day of Beauty" Luncheon will be held Sunday, January 29, from approximately 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The day will include preparing and serving lunch to women living at the shelter, caring for their children, complimentary hairstyling by Pure Concepts, makeovers by Saks and a special guest speaker. It should be an inspirational day for all. Volunteers can sign up for all or part of the day. *For more information, contact Julie Kantor at 745-9461.*

## Traditions & Treasures Gift Shop

### Chanukah Sale

November 29 - December 4

*Save 20% on all Chanukah items including menorahs, dreidels, gift wrap and more.*

### Gift Shop Hours (and by appt.)

Tuesday 9:30-1:30  
Wednesday 2:30-5:45 (when school is in session)  
Thursday 9:30-1:30  
Sunday 9:15-11:45 (when school is in session)

*If you are interested in joining our gift shop team, please contact Margie Meyer at 984-2345.*

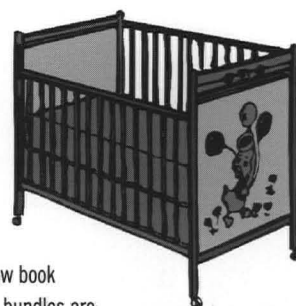
# BEDTIME BUNDLES BRING COMFORT TO YOUNG VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Wise Temple Sisterhood is providing an opportunity again this year for Temple families to assist children staying at the YWCA's Battered

Women's Shelter by putting together a "bedtime bundle."

The bundles contain basic necessities (a new toothbrush and toothpaste, underwear, pajamas, and socks) as well as a new book or stuffed animal. The bundles are

given to children when they arrive at the shelter and are a means of providing comfort at a difficult and frightening time. The need for the bundles is on-going, as the shelter continues to stay at or above capacity. If you haven't participated in this wonderful holiday *mitzvah* before, this would be a great year to start! If you have donated a bundle in the past, we hope you will do so again this year and make creating a Bedtime Bundle a holiday tradition for your family. Use the "Bedtime Bundles Checklist" below to assemble your bundle, then label your bundle by filling out the checklist and attaching it to the bundle with a safety pin. While we hope that Temple families will assemble complete bundles, donations of any of the items in the bundles will be greatly appreciated. Drop off your bundle(s) in the crib set up in the Temple lobby anytime from December 3 through December 30 (the night of the Congregational Chanukah dinner). *For more information, please call Jody Tsevat at 794-9616 or Julie Elkus at 891-1236.*



Fill a new or gently used pillowcase with items greatly needed by children at the YWCA's Battered Women's Shelter. Please tie your "Bedtime Bundle" with two new shoelaces, check off the items included, and **safety pin this form to your bundle.**

This bedtime bundle includes the following newly

Purchased items:

☐ Underwear  
☐ Pajamas  
☐ Socks  
☐ Child's toothbrush  
☐ Toothpaste  
☐ Storybook or stuffed animal

Size: \_\_\_\_\_ (ages infant through child's size 14)

Gender: ☐ Boy ☐ Girl

# Continue the Tradition of Excellence at Wise Temple

**W**hen you make a current gift, a multi-year pledge, or an estate gift to the Wise Covenant Capital and Endowment Campaign, you are helping to ensure that the tradition of excellence at Wise Temple continues today and for the future.

◆ Gifts to the Wise Covenant support our youth. The Wise Temple Endowment currently helps subsidize tuition at our nationally recognized Religious School.

◆ Gifts to the Wise Covenant allow the Temple to provide responsive and innovative programming and worship opportunities for every Temple member.

## THE WISE COVENANT

*Celebrating Our Past—Securing Our Future*

◆ Gifts to the Wise Covenant enhance our facilities. Endowment dollars were used to renovate the Wohl Chapel at Wise Center and are needed for other capital improvements in the classrooms, high traffic areas, and the parking lot.

◆ Gifts to the Wise Covenant provide significant support for Plum Street Temple. Ongoing preservation and maintenance projects at our historic sanctuary are paid solely from its endowment, the Plum Street Temple Historic Preservation Fund.

Please be a part of the Wise Covenant by making a gift today.

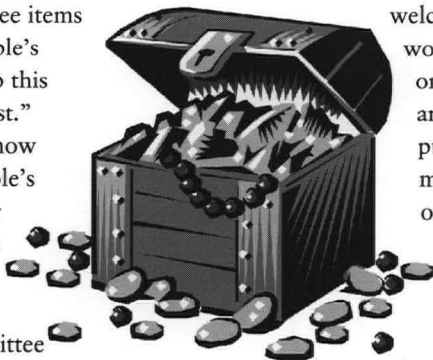
*If you wish to contribute to the Wise Covenant Capital and Endowment Campaign or learn about year-end giving opportunities, please call the Temple's Director of Development, Susan Kulick, at 793-2556, to discuss your gift.*

### Archives Committee's

## "Treasure of the Month"

**N**ot one, but three items from our Temple's Archives fill up this month's "Treasure Chest." See what they are and how they relate to our Temple's history by checking our shelf in the display case near the main office entry.

The Archives Committee



welcomes new members who would like to work on the ongoing project of preserving and "cataloging" the records, publications, historic documents and photographs of our congregation.

*For information, call Sue Ransohoff at 221-3720.*

### Sabbatical Leave

Rabbi Lewis Kamrass will be enjoying a two-month sabbatical leave for intellectual and spiritual renewal from December 18, 2005 to February 24, 2006.

We are pleased to provide Rabbi Kamrass with this important opportunity in his rabbinate, as we do every several years.

During this time, Rabbis Baden and Shulman will be available to lead all services and respond to life-cycle events.

You can contact either of them through the Temple office.

## Summer 2006 Israel Experience

Wise Temple teens can have an Israel experience for little more than the cost of a round trip ticket to New York! The Jewish Foundation provides grants of up to \$6,000 (for high school students) and \$3,000 (for college students) for any approved Israel experience including

NFTY's summer 2006,

5-week Europe/Israel program.

**This is the year to go!!**

*For more information contact*

*Barbara Miller at [bmiller@jfedcin.org](mailto:bmiller@jfedcin.org) or*

*[www.jewishcincinnati.org](http://www.jewishcincinnati.org).*



## 2005-2006 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Andrew R. Berger, President  
 Dr. Mitchell Cohen, Vice-President  
 Margie Meyer, Vice-President  
 Carol Kabel, Secretary  
 Mark Kanter, Treasurer  
 Geri Kolesar, Asst. Secretary  
 Deborah R. Herman, Immed. Past President  
 Bruce Baker  
 Stanley L. Better  
 James D. Cohen  
 Robert Craig  
 Barry Elkus  
 Debbie Friedman  
 Valerie Friedman  
 Nancy Goldberg  
 Alan Gross  
 Deborah Horewitz  
 Dr. Amy Katz  
 Mark E. Knue  
 Howard Mintz  
 Matthew Nitzberg  
 Sue Ransohoff  
 Dr. Jay Rissover  
 Karen Tochtermann  
 Jody Tsevat  
 Ross Vigran  
 John Youkiliis

Robin Newland, Sisterhood President  
 Billy Bie, Brotherhood President  
 Joshua Clayton, Youth Group President

Suzanne S. Teller, Past President  
 Dianne M. Rosenberg, Past President  
 Michael R. Oestreicher, Past President  
 Lynn W. Warm, Past President  
 Milton S. Schwartz, Past President  
 Patricia H. Passer, Past President  
 Peter M. Bloch, Past President  
 James J. Friedman, Past President  
 Richard Snyder, Past President  
 Louis J. Ullman, Past President  
 David J. Schiebel, Past President  
 June J. Burgin, Past President  
 Robert Kanter, Past President  
 Dr. Edward H. Saeks, Past President  
 Jacob K. Stein, Past President  
 John A. Benjamin, Past President  
 Melville J. Dunkelman, Past President  
 Joseph S. Stern, Jr., Past President  
 Florence M. Kaufman, Honorary  
 Betty E. Benjamin, Honorary

Lewis H. Kamrass, Senior Rabbi  
 Ilana G. Baden, Associate Rabbi  
 Michael S. Shulman, Assistant Rabbi  
 Betti R. Greenstein, Administrator  
 Barbara Dragul, Director of Education and  
 Lifelong Learning  
 Susan G. Kulick, Director of Development

### WORDS FROM THE HEART

continued from page 2

conversations about a time that you felt liberated. Creating a memory can build on the certainty of ritual that is repeated each year; but it also requires that you bring a new spirit and new ideas to each celebration.

**7. SING.** Even if you can't!! Singing elicits a sense of joy. Singing at the table or as a family is not about performing; it is about adding that energy, and that wonderful intangible quality of family and friends sharing a song. Learn songs for Shabbat or for the holiday. Once again, consult resources in our library (we have a nice collection of CD's and cassette tapes), or for Shabbat and other Jewish songs, utilize *Sounds of Shabbat at Isaac M. Wise Temple*.

### 8. EVERY HOLIDAY IS SHAPED BY THE CREATIONS OF THE KITCHEN.

Even if you have never made the traditional Jewish foods associated with the day, even if you do not have a "bubby" to help guide you, take the time to check out recipes and start new family favorites. Involve children and grandchildren in preparing holiday foods in order to create a "flavor" of the day to which the family can look forward

and enjoy throughout the years.

**9. FIND STORIES THAT RELATE TO YOUR CHILDREN** or grandchildren at their specific ages. Peruse the Wise Temple Library catalog on our website or come in and examine the possibilities for yourself; bring these stories home in advance of the holiday, building excitement and anticipation even before the holiday arrives.

Creating memories takes effort, planning and work. Celebrating is a labor of love that demands time and thought. But these are the memories that will become part of the family lore in the years to come. When we transform our homes into miniature sanctuaries of our faith, we create not only a sanctuary, but the hearth of family, faith and meaning that we truly want our homes to be. Creating a regular family Shabbat celebration, or putting the necessary time and effort into creating a sukkah, expanding the Seder, or celebrating every night of Chanukah with gusto, is the way that we build lasting Jewish memories, one moment at a time.

Faithfully,

*Lewis H. Kamrass*

חבר לב בן דוד וחנה לאה

Rabbi Lewis H. Kamrass

### A GREAT MIRACLE HAPPENED

continued from page 3

and even making a bride and groom happy. Concern for one's neighbor includes a concern for his moral and spiritual growth. In Leviticus 19:17, the Torah therefore asks us not to simply rebuke a neighbor who is doing wrong but to keep rebuking until the neighbor mends his ways. It's hard to imagine doing this today, but we have to remember that this was written at a time when a neighbor was someone with whom your life was intimately connected.

The verse "Love your neighbor as yourself" asks us to learn to behave toward others (whether we like them or not) as we would want them to behave toward us. In this commandment, God has commanded us to do an action *mitzvah* that involves a feeling. Judaism offers us guidelines for how we translate that feeling into action. Ultimately Judaism teaches us that how we behave is more important than how we feel. (From *Exploring Jewish Ethics and Values* by Ronald H. Isaacs.)

## Be Not Afraid

BY LORI FENNER,  
 EITZ CHAYIM COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR

I know it can be a little uneasy for some of us to come to classes at Wise Temple. I was once there, but believe me, it is a very warm, friendly and caring environment in which to study and learn. No prior knowledge of Hebrew or of the Torah is required – just a desire to sit and listen to the topic being discussed. I am attending the "Tuesdays with Torah" classes entitled "Is Genesis Right?" and "Ten Jewish Sensibilities." There are numerous other sessions to choose from. I would be so happy to see you at the classes. Please join us...you'll be glad you did!





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](http://www.wisetemple.org)

E-mail: [welcome@wisetemple.org](mailto:welcome@wisetemple.org)

Copyright 2005, Isaac M. Wise Temple

## CONGREGATIONAL CONNECTION

### MAZAL TOV

*The Temple offers congratulations to the following families:*

#### B'nai Mitzvah

December 3 – Aaron and Nathan Markiewitz.  
Sons of Dr. Andrew and Peggy Markiewitz.

December 10 – Joshua Kaltman. Son of  
Leonard Kaltman and Dr. Dana Drazner.

December 17 – Andrew Kozlove. Son of Lori  
Kozlove and Edward Kozlove.

#### Births

Steve and Angie Zawatsky on the recent birth  
of their daughter, Lyla Mae Zawatsky.

Dr. Jeff and Lori Drasnin and Dr. Ron and  
Linda Drasnin on the recent birth of their son  
and grandson, Matthew Joseph Drasnin.

Ellie Sherman on the recent birth of her  
great-granddaughter, Netanya.

Blake and Tessa Maislin on the recent birth of  
their son, Samuel Ryan.

#### Engagements

Mitchell Bass on his recent engagement to  
Jennifer Rosenfeld and to his parents, Irvin  
and JoAnn Bass.

Joe and Jane Magnus on the recent  
engagement of their son, Roger Magnus to  
Ariella Schwell.

## WiseUP CORNER

### Wise Temple's High Holy Day Mitzvah Bag Collection Tops 500,000 Pounds!

Our congregational family was  
extraordinarily responsive this Yom  
Kippur, as we collected 18,589  
pounds of food for our city's hungry.

Over the 17 years since we initiated  
the idea that has spread throughout  
the country, Wise Temple's Yom Kippur  
fast has yielded a half million pounds  
of food. It is a record in which we  
should take great pride, having fulfilled  
the teaching of Isaiah that a proper  
fast is not only to abstain from food,  
but to feed the hungry.

We salute all the members of our  
congregational family, of every age,  
who have learned this Jewish teaching  
well, and made such a large impact in  
Cincinnati because of the religious  
values that we live. *Yeshehar Koach*, may  
we continue to learn and to live these  
values and go from strength to  
strength.



#### K.K. B' NAI YESHURUN

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

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

\*\*\*\*\*5-DIGIT 45220 S7 P8

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

