

KESHER

קשר

THE WISE CONNECTION

ISAAC M. WISE TEMPLE



K.K. B'NAI YESHURUN

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Founded in 1842

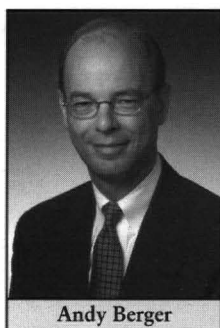
AFFILIATE:
Union for Reform Judaism

Just Another Year in Paradise

BY ANDY BERGER, PRESIDENT

We are all so blessed to be part of the Wise Temple community. Paradise? That's probably a stretch. But we have so many opportunities to connect with our Temple and old and new friends – in worship, in healing the world, in study, and in just being together. We are a place for so many people, at every stage in our lives. And I, especially, am privileged to be a part of it.

As our program year closes, let's take a few minutes to look at the year that just ended, and to mark so many wonderful beginnings. If you'd like to hear more, please join me at our Annual Meeting on June 11 at 4:30 p.m.



Andy Berger

The following is a brief summary of the things that stood out for me in the past year. (I have omitted so much that I could have included, but this is an article, not a book!)

- Wise Center's refurbished Wohl Chapel reopened, with a renewed sense of warmth and beauty, as well as functionality.
- Rockwern Organ Dedication – After years of silence, and after many months of hard work, our historic organ once again filled Plum Street Temple with glorious music.
- Wise Covenant, our development effort, has continued its success. We are well on our way to our goal of \$10 million. Thanks to all who have contributed, and we look forward to

participation from the entire congregation.

- Installation of our new Trustees and yours truly as President.
- Installation of Robin Newland as Sisterhood President, Billy Bie as Brotherhood President, and Josh Clayton as Youth Group President. We are fortunate to have terrific continuing leadership.
- Election of Mitchell Cohen as First Vice President – Look for great things to come!
- Rabbi Kamrass's Sabbatical – Our beloved Senior Rabbi took a well deserved two month sabbatical break. We missed him, but all went smoothly in his absence.
- Rabbi Shulman's promotion to Associate Rabbi – We are delighted that Rabbi Shulman will continue to share his unique gifts with us.
- Betti Greenstein, our new Temple Administrator, joined us, bringing a wealth of talent and experience, and a fresh perspective.
- New staff – We successfully hired office and building staff members to replace those who retired or left.
- LEAD@Wise, our leadership development program, was led by Rabbi Sam Joseph, Professor of Education and Leadership at HUC-JIR, and included 20 future leaders of Wise Temple.
- URJ Biennial and WRJ Biennial in Houston – 15 members of our Temple attended the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) and the Women for Reform Judaism (WRJ) national biennial. Our very own Karen Sim was elected a WRJ

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

BY RABBI KAMRASS

“S”pirituality.” This may be the most used and least understood word of our age. Everyone talks about it but few can agree on a common definition. As Jews, spirituality is the act of making religion live for us in our daily lives, and therefore, bring meaning to the mundane. In last month’s *Kesher*, I suggested that “spirituality is the act of drawing from the wellspring of faith and religion to find living, nourishing springs of meaning for our daily lives.” In my written reflections, I shared some of the sources from which I draw my own sense of spirituality, including deeds, learning, and history. This month, I want to focus on two other boundless sources from which I draw my own spirituality, the wellspring of community and of prayer.

Some of us find our spirituality in community. We come to understand what it means to feel the common bonds of history, of values and even of relationships that we discover in living our lives with other Jews. In times of grief, we feel the powerful support and the strength of spirit that only our community can bring. In times of celebration, we find our joy heightened when we share it with those who share our values and our stories. The unique sense of kinship with others is often a pathway to feeling connected with God. When we feel the horizontal bonds of connecting with others, we open our souls to the vertical bonds of connection with the Lord. And for the same reasons, when we contribute to community with our time, our talent and our resources, we often feel even more fulfilled than we do with our contributions to other charities. Strengthening community is part of the legacy of the Jewish people, from their earliest days in the wilderness of Sinai, when we first discovered the spirituality found in laboring together to create something sacred of our communal life.



Rabbi Kamrass

Some of us find our spirituality in prayer. In all candor, even for Jews who find their spirituality in community, in deeds and action, in history, or in study, prayer is often the least developed spiritual resource. Perhaps this is because we erroneously believe

that prayer means the skills by which we read, sing or recite the words of the prayerbook. Those are worship skills; but prayer is something different. Prayer is the natural way in which we turn to God – whether in our own spontaneous words or with the written words of tradition. We need both. But most of us are limited in each area. How many of us seek to commune with God and understand what God wants in

our lives; yet we want this without ever “talking” to God. We are hesitant to offer the spontaneous prayer of the moment. We are afraid we do not know the right words to say. But God is not a literary critic. God hears the words on the lips through the filter of knowing the words in one’s heart. God doesn’t need our prayers – we do. We need the routine of talking to God about what matters in our lives. We need the comfort of knowing what to say and how to articulate what we feel in our souls. We need the spiritual training of learning to offer a prayer of gratitude for a good day or for our health or for our hopes and aspirations. We need to know how to offer the prayer that asks God for strength when we are lonely, doubting, or vulnerable in life. We need the nourishing and balancing strength that comes from the words that we speak, and from strengthening the relationship with God in personal prayer that serves to anchor our souls.

And so it is with worship, with communal prayer as well. Too often, we want the elation of a mystical moment found in prayer without putting in the time, work and effort to cultivate a relationship with God through worship. Imagine someone giving up a sport

after only a few times in the game, suggesting that he had not yet found the “rush” or the thrill that he expected. Any serious athlete would tell such a person that it takes months or even years of work, dedication, and skill building in order to have that momentary, but monumental, feeling of physical elation. It is much the same way in prayer. Spirituality is not simply found in a moment of elation, or the “aha” experience of a dramatic sunset, or a great insight; indeed a deeper, more sustaining kind of spirituality is found in a regular pattern and rhythm of each week. When we celebrate not one Shabbat every few months, but weave Shabbat into the regular, consistent pattern of our lives each week, we come to understand its power and its meaning to us on a deeper level. When we come to services not merely sporadically to observe a *yahrzeit*, or to hear the choir, but when we make regular worship part of the pattern of our week, we come to discern a deeper sense of spirituality, and take so much more nourishment in the words and the messages of prayer. I do not tell you to come to services regularly because we need more people in the congregation, but rather, because your spiritual life needs that consistency. As you may recall, I was on sabbatical for two months this winter. While I enjoyed the study and the renewal, one of the things I realized upon my return was how much I missed participating in regular worship each week with my community. I came to see how important the rhythm of regular worship and prayer is for me. I came to see that while every service may not bring me to a level of spiritual elation, there is a more nourishing spiritual satisfaction that comes when one brings oneself to regular worship in the fertile soil of one’s own community. Just as loving someone can be experienced in a fleeting moment, but only fully understood over the course of building a relationship

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A Vision For Our Future

BY BARBARA DRAGUL

Talk about getting to have your cake and eat it too! A couple of months ago our rabbis and I embarked upon an exciting and somewhat crazy endeavor. Four days before its due date, we decided to apply for a Jewish family education grant. This first-time grant from the Legacy Heritage Fund Ltd. would be a boost to our educational programming, but first we had to create our proposal and application and then keep our fingers crossed that we would be selected out of more than 100 applicants. You know how you sometimes dream about what is possible in your work or personal life even if you're not sure it's doable? Well, here was our chance to dream.

The rabbis and I talked about the dreams we had for our education program and in those discussions we were able to articulate our visions and shape them into concrete proposals. Working on our proposal energized us with new ways of thinking about Jewish family education and developing new programs to more fully realize our visions for our education program here at Wise Temple. It was also an inspiring collaborative effort. We decided that just being able to articulate and develop our dreams for Jewish learning at Wise Temple was worth the effort. But here's where we got to have our cake and eat it too! On Monday, April 10 we found out that we were the recipients of a one-year Legacy Heritage Innovator Grant, for \$30,000. We are one of 27 con-



Barbara Dragul

gregations across North America and Israel selected. Included in the award is a 2 ½ day training seminar in New York as well as access to consultants. We are thrilled by the opportunity this affords us!

Here is a description of the award program:

The Legacy Heritage Innovation Project is a non-denominational grant and award program to support synagogues which have pioneered family-based educational initiatives, provide funding to further these innovations, and honor the responsible congregational professional with a Legacy Heritage Innovator Award. The mission of the Legacy Heritage Innovation Project is to engage Jewish families more deeply in meaningful Jewish living and community through innovative approaches to family-based Jewish learning in congregations.

Legacy Heritage Fund was created to honor the lives and life work of the late Bella and Harry Wexner, z"l, of Columbus, Ohio. Co-founders of the multinational conglomerate now known as Limited Brands, the Wexners lived lives steeped in Jewish tradition, imbued with Jewish values and dedicated to the welfare of the Jewish community. The Legacy Heritage Innovation Project grants do them particular honor because they meld together the finest elements of Torah, synagogue, Jewish education and family to create a more refined and complex whole. These were the values the Wexners held dear. The cultivation of these values in perpetuity keeps them alive and thriving.

Our Wise Temple proposal includes three main components:

1. The Young Family Initiative – Developing programs to reach our families earlier in their children's lives. We believe pre-

school parents will welcome opportunities to enhance their children's Jewish experiences while creating bonds of community.

2. **Family Geshet: Widening the Bridge** – Extending our current Geshet family education program beyond the classroom settings, so that it permeates more fully into homes and family life.

3. **B'nai Mitzvah, an Ongoing Process of Becoming** – Expanding our B'nai Mitzvah program beginning in the sixth grade with a focus on "sacred choices", enriching the 7th grade B'nai Mitzvah class with a stronger social component, and then continuing in the eighth grade with the intention of helping youth and families apply their newfound sense of responsibility through choices and deeds.

A few years ago there was a great debate going on in Jewish life about what is more important to our Jewish future: a focus on the individual Jewish family and home or the building of caring dynamic Jewish communities. The conclusion many came to was, in classic Jewish style, "yes, and yes." Our vision for Jewish family education at Wise Temple is a yes and yes model. We believe that the family and the congregation have the potential to continually renew and enrich one another. As we wrote in our proposal:

Isaiah speaks of a hopeful future: "Then my people shall dwell in peaceful homes, in (Mishkanot Mivtachim) of secure dwellings, in untroubled places of rest." (32:18) Here we imagine a future in which our people finds its synagogue and its homes as mishkanot mivtachim, as dwellings of security and completeness, nurturing our souls today and serving as an assurance of our bright future. That is the larger communal

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Blowing the Dust off the Dust Jackets

BY ANDREA RAPP, TEMPLE LIBRARIAN

This month, we highlight another of the rare and hoary volumes in our Temple Library – a book titled *Efes Dammim*, which in Hebrew means “no blood,” written by Isaac Baer Levinsohn. The author was born in the Russian town of Kremenetz in 1788, and his fame derives from his role as a leading writer and teacher of the movement in Jewish history called the *Haskalah* – the Enlightenment.

Efes Dammim is not among Levinsohn’s most well-known works; these are *Beit Yehudah* (House of Judah) and *Te’udah b’Yisrael* (Testimony in Israel.) There, in accordance with *Haskalah* beliefs, he urged Jews to study secular subjects, especially science and European languages. He opposed the established Talmud-centered curricula, the use of Yiddish, and corporal punishment, and called the traditional *heders* (Hebrew schools) “*heders of death*.” He became an arch-enemy of the Hasidim in East Europe, and they banned his work.

The Levinsohn work which our library owns makes arguments of a different sort. Its full title is *Efes Dammim. A Series of Conversations at Jerusalem between a Patriarch of the Greek Church and a Chief Rabbi of the Jews, concerning the Malicious Charge against the Jews of using Christian Blood*.

Why this topic? In the early 1830s, the Jewish community of Zaslavl, Russia, was accused of ritual murder. This is the slanderous accusation, made across Europe sporadically through the centuries, that Jews use the blood of Christians in their rituals, particularly the making of matzo.

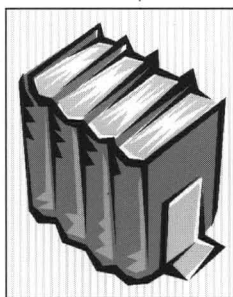
“The purpose of my book,” said Levinsohn, “is to acquit the Jews before the

eyes of Christians, and to save them from the false accusation of using Christian blood.” Presented in the form of conversations between a learned Jew and a Christian prelate, *Efes Dammim* enumerates literally dozens of reasons that discredit the absurd charge of blood libel. The fictional rabbi in

Efes Dammim points out to the imaginary patriarch that Jewish law forbids the intake of blood, that the Bible and Talmud command love and peace to one’s neighbors, that the early Christians, too, were falsely accused of such atrocities, that Jews, unlike their gentile neighbors, do not even wield lethal weapons, and that confessions were elicited by torture.

Efes Dammim appeared in Hebrew, German and Russian. It was translated into English (the edition we have) at the request of Sir Moses Montefiore in 1840, on the occasion of the Damascus Blood Libel. In the capital of Syria, an Italian friar and his servant mysteriously disappeared. The Capuchin order of monks charged that Jews had kidnapped and murdered the two men to use their blood in Passover matzo. The accused were arrested, tortured and sentenced to death.

Hard as it is to believe, the blood libel slander rages today, but no longer in Christendom. Variants of it are routinely seen in the presses of the Arab world, where Jews have been accused of causing AIDS, bird flu, the tsunami, various poisonings, the 9/11 attacks, and yes, of using human blood to make “Purim cakes,” as the Saudi press wrote in March, 2002. Again we can hear Isaac Levinsohn’s lament that “such wicked accusations should have been made against my people.”



A VISION FOR OUR FUTURE

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role of Family Education: to move beyond fostering individual confidence toward reconnecting people to the community and congregation. We believe in the regenerative seeds in Jewish life throughout the ages of one generation teaching the next in varying approaches. The measure of a synagogue’s success is not simply the programs on its website, but the ability of those programs to imbue families and individuals with a greater sense of confidence. Consequently, families can more fully own their Jewish lives, and thereby act upon their Jewish feelings, values, and learning in their daily decisions. As a result, the individual and family returns to the synagogue empowered with a sense of contributing something meaningful to Jewish community in the classes they take, in their worship participation, in continued Family Education, and in Adult Lifelong Learning. Seen in this light, we believe that Family Education is the path on which we travel from the promise of personal discovery to the confidence of seeking, to the secured enrichment of our community, and then back again in renewed and deeper search. When this happens, the synagogue impacts the individual in their family and Jewish growth, while the family renews the synagogue by its deeper commitment and participation. This comprises a sacred synergy which can lead to the ultimate assurance that Isaiah imagined and we seek to create.

In all that we do, we seek to empower families to celebrate and observe their Jewish identity, not merely as participants at the Temple, but also as active agents in their home. We aim to provide the essential tools for individuals and families so that they can deepen their personal sense of ownership of Torah, our source of Jewish life and learning.

We are very proud of what we do in our education program. But we are not content. We believe that together with our teachers and students and families, there is more that we can do. The Legacy Heritage Innovator award gives us both the opportunity and the impetus for significant deepening of our programs, in scope and in intentionality. We are extremely excited to have this opportunity to build upon our strengths and to more fully realize our sacred vision. We look forward to sharing more with you in the year ahead!

Come Jam with the Band!

The Temple band, Shir Chadash, is looking for new players! Are you a musician with experience in one of the following areas?

Electric Guitar • Flute • Violin
Anything Jammin'

If you have great music to bring to Shir Chadash, contact Betsy Singer Lefton at BLeton@fuse.net or 792-0340 to schedule an audition.

Join us for Wise Temple's Annual Meeting and Leadership Recognition & Installation Service

**Sunday, June 11
4:30 p.m. at Wise Center**

This is an opportunity for us to come together as a community and acknowledge the contribution of those individuals who devote their time to the leadership of the Temple and its auxiliary groups – the Sisterhood and the Brotherhood. We will have a chance to socialize and greet one another at an *hors d'oeuvres* reception following the service.

Annual Meeting of the Congregation:
4:30 p.m.

Leadership Recognition and Installation:
5:30 p.m.

Hors D'Ouerves Reception:
6:30 p.m.

THE WISE COVENANT

Celebrating Our Past—Securing Our Future

Phonathon Personally Invites You To Participate

The Wise Covenant Capital and Endowment Campaign has raised 75% of its goal. Amid this good news, there are still many Temple members to contact so that **everyone** feels a part of this success.

On Sunday, June 11, volunteers will be phoning many Temple members who have not yet been personally asked to participate in the Campaign. Calls will also be made during the evenings of June 13, 15, 19, and 21.

Temple volunteers leading this community outreach effort for the Wise Covenant Capital and Endowment Campaign are Bess and Abram Gordon, Cynthia and Mel Marmer, Karen and John Sim, and Barbara Levy-Wall and Eric Wall. Sue Teller, Campaign Co-Chair, noted that "this energetic group of Temple volunteers and their committee will be reaching out to as many Temple members as they can to personally invite them to participate in the Wise Covenant Campaign."

Please do your part to maintain the Temple's present vitality and shape our legacy for the future. Many Temple members have structured their current gifts to be paid over a period of 5 years. These pledges can result in both a comfortable and meaningful gift. Some Temple members may consider a deferred gift.

Gifts of all sizes make a difference.

If you have any questions or would like to pledge to the Campaign prior to the phonathons, please call our Director of Development, Susan G. Kulick, at 793-2556, to discuss a gift that is both meaningful and comfortable for you and your family.



LISTING OF EVENTS



Brotherhood

Brotherhood Board Meeting

June 8

6:00 p.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Billy Bie at 984-3559.

Men's Health Fair/Symposium

Monday, June 12

6:00 – 8:30 p.m. at Wise Center

For more information or to RSVP, contact Scott Joseph at 936-9989 or brotherhood@wisetemple.org.



Congregational Shabbat Dinner

Congregational Shabbat Dinner

Friday, June 9

7:15 p.m. at Wise Center

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



Eitz Chayim

Shavuot Sensation

Thursday, June 1

7:00 p.m. at Wise Center

Pre-registration requested.

For more information or to register, contact Terri Snively at 793-2997 or tsnively@wisetemple.org.



Seniors

Senior Participation in Shabbat Service

Friday, June 16

6:15 p.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Rabbi Baden at 793-2556 or ibaden@wisetemple.org.



Singles

Picnic at Dulle Park

Saturday, June 10

6:00 p.m. for dinner

For more information, call Nancy Mendelson at 489-8393 or singles@wisetemple.org.



Sisterhood

Sisterhood Board Meeting

Wednesday, June 7

9:45 a.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Robin Newland at 530-5516.

Sisterhood Bridge

Tuesdays, June 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 Mah Jongg

Thursdays, June 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29

For more information, contact Cynthia Marmer at 984-0236.

Battered Women's Shelter Picnic Dinner

Sunday, June 25

5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at the Women's Shelter

For more information or if you would like to participate, contact Karen Brownlee at 871-5013 or karenbrownlee@gmail.com OR Gina Baltt at 321-3407 or gblatt@hotmail.com.



WiseUP

Prepare for Summer at Wise

Sunday, June 11

10:00 a.m. at Wise Center

Organize religious school supplies and prepare the Temple for the opening of Day Camp. A variety of indoor and outdoor projects will be available.

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

Over-the-Rhine Soup Kitchen

Sunday, June 25

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.



Miscellaneous

Annual Meeting/Leadership

Recognition/Installation

Sunday, June 11

4:30 p.m. at Wise Center

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

Day Camp Open House

Sunday, June 18

11:00 a.m. at Wise Center

For more information, contact Renee Frankel at 530-5156.

Day Camp Begins

June 19 – July 28

For more information, contact Renee Frankel at 530-5156.

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting

Tuesdays & Thursdays

5:30 p.m. at Wise Center

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

Usher In Shabbat

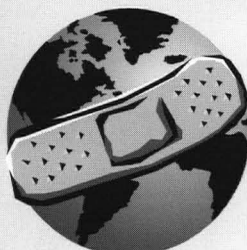
Ongoing

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.

WiseUP CORNER

Save-the-Date



2nd Annual

Tikkun Olam-athon

Sunday, October 15, 2006

Repairing the world, one Mitzvah at a time.

PLUM STREET TEMPLE ORGAN MUSIC NOW ON CD!

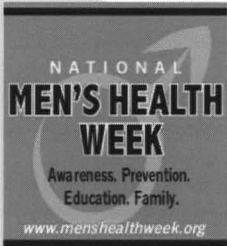
The newly restored Rockwern Organ at Plum Street Temple has been recorded by ARSIS Audio of Boston. This recording features 19th century music from the time the organ was built, as well as 20th century music. The organist is our own Director of Music/Organist, Thom Miles. This recording is now available at Wise Center in the Sisterhood Gift Shop for \$15. Stop in and pick up a copy!

To celebrate National Men's Health Week the Wise Temple Brotherhood is sponsoring:

Men's Health Fair/Symposium

Monday, June 12 • 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

All welcome! No charge to attend!



Free supper and refreshments with RSVP

Free health screenings

Check your blood pressure, sugar and cholesterol

Opportunity to hear local physicians and experts discuss prostate cancer, colon cancer screening, cardiac risk factors and nutrition.

To RSVP or for more information, contact Scott Joseph at 936-9989 or brotherhood@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!**

Pat Passer: 533-3395
Rachel Wells: 530-9881
Linda Berger: 631-1372
Kathie Kaplan: 984-4496

over time, so too, our relationship to God through prayer can be shaped only by building it consistently in time, in a regular rhythm of our lives that we make as part of our schedules – in regular Shabbat worship, in the festivals and holidays, and certainly in our own personal spontaneous prayer offered day in and day out.

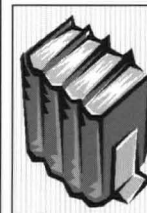
Despite the noise of the marketplace of ideas where everyone has “the answer” for spirituality in our lives, spirituality is not some goal to attain, or a moment to “feel”. It is a journey and a path that we weave into all our days. And in its wisdom of the centuries, Judaism offers us many paths in that journey, a variety of possibilities to pursue in study, in history, in deeds, in community, in prayer and in worship. And the beautiful secret of it all is that when we pursue one of those paths, we often find ourselves back on yet other paths, adding depth to our search and further meaning for our days. May your summer not only be one of warm days and enjoyment, but a new season for your own spiritual life as you consider, in a new light, the gifts and the birthright that your faith offers to you each and every day. 🕯

Faithfully,

Rabbi H. Kamrass
חרב לב בן דוד וחנה לאה

Rabbi Lewis H. Kamrass

Visit the Ralph & Julia Cohen Library



Library Summer Hours:

Mondays 2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Tuesdays 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Wednesdays Noon – 5:00 p.m.
Thursdays 9:00 a.m. – Noon

Note: The Library will be closed the week of June 19.

Or browse our online catalog anytime at www.wisetemple.org.

JUNE 2006 SIVAN/TAMMUZ

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>WC = Wise Center PST = Plum Street Temple O = Other Location</p> <p>See listing of events for more detailed information</p>	<p>Kesher takes off July and August. We'll see you in September. Until then, check Wisebytes or visit the website at www.wisetemple.org for current information.</p>			<p>1</p> <p>11:00—Sisterhood-Mah Jongg(WC) 7:00pm—Erev Shavuot Service; Shir Chadash & Shavuot Sensation(WC)</p>	<p>2</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED 9:30—Shavuot Morning Service/Yizkor(WC) 6:15pm—Shabbat Evening Service(WC) 8:15pm—Blessing of Confirmands(PST)</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9:30—Shabbat Morning Service(WC) 10:00—Confirmation(PST) 10:45—Torah Study(WC)</p>
4	5	<p>6</p> <p>1:00pm—Sisterhood-Bridge(WC) 5:30pm—AA Meeting(WC)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:45—Sisterhood-Board Mtg.(WC)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>11:00—Sisterhood-Mah Jongg(WC) 5:30pm—AA Meeting(WC) 6:00pm—Brotherhood Board Mtg.(WC)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:15pm—Shabbat Evening Service; Birthday and Anniversary Blessings; Blessing of Israel Trip Participants; Shir Chadash (WC) 7:15pm—Congreg. Shabbat Dinner(WC)</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9:00—Bar Mitzvah of Jordan Pasternak(PST) 9:30—Shabbat Morning Service(WC) 10:45—Torah Study(WC) 11:15—Bar Mitzvah of Aaron Natarus(PST) 6:00pm—Singles-Picnic at Dulle Park(O)</p>
<p>11</p> <p>10:00—WiseUP-Prepare for Summer at Wise(WC) 4:30pm—Annual Mtg./Leadership Recognition/Installation(WC) Wise Covenant Phonathon(WC)</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:00pm—Brotherhood-Men's Health Fair(WC)</p>	<p>13</p> <p>5:30pm—AA Meeting(WC) Wise Covenant Phonathon(WC)</p>	14	<p>15</p> <p>11:00—Sisterhood-Mah Jongg(WC) 5:30pm—AA Meeting(WC) Wise Covenant Phonathon(WC)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>6:15pm—Shabbat Evening Service with Senior Adult Participation; Kol Rinah(WC)</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9:30—Shabbat Morning Service(WC) 10:45—Torah Study(WC) 10:45—Bat Mitzvah of Julie Berger(PST)</p>
<p>18</p> <p>11:00—Day Camp Open House(WC)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Day Camp Begins(WC) Wise Covenant Phonathon(WC)</p>	<p>20</p> <p>1:00pm—Sisterhood-Bridge(WC) 5:30pm—AA Meeting(WC)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Wise Covenant Phonathon(WC)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>11:00—Sisterhood-Mah Jongg(WC) 5:30pm—AA Meeting(WC)</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6:15pm—Shabbat Evening Service(WC) 6:30pm—Wise Tykes Service(WC)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9:30—Shabbat Morning Service(WC) 10:45—Torah Study(WC)</p>
<p>25</p> <p>WiseUP—Soup Kitchen(PST) 5:00pm—Battered Women's Shelter Picnic(O)</p>	26	<p>27</p> <p>5:30pm—AA Meeting(WC)</p>	28	<p>29</p> <p>11:00—Sisterhood-Mah Jongg(WC) 5:30pm—AA Meeting(WC)</p>	<p>30</p> <p>6:15pm—Shabbat Evening Service(WC)</p>	

SISTERHOOD 2006-2007 DIRECTORY

The Sisterhood directory is "under construction" for the year 2006-2007. Please check your name and address in the current "GREEN" directory to see if it is listed correctly. If you have already notified the Temple office of a change of address, there is no need to contact us. For any corrections or changes that you would like included in the fall directory, please contact Liz McOsker at 469-1748 or email, mco@fuse.net. As we work on the directory we would also welcome your help in the following ways:

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

- **BUSINESS SUPPORTERS** – If you know of a business or individual who would benefit by advertising in our directory (distributed to over 700 homes), please ask them to place an ad. *For details on rates, call Deb Sussman at 469-1197.*

DUES BILLING

You recently received your annual Sisterhood dues bill. We hope that all current Sisterhood members will choose to renew their membership and welcome all those who wish to join for the coming year. Your dues help support the many programs and projects that Sisterhood undertakes for the congregation. *For more information, contact Ann Margolis at 794-0094.*

RECIPE COLLECTION

Attention parents of college seniors: Sisterhood would love to give your graduating college student a copy of our Recipe Collection as a special graduation gift. Please help us to connect with them and give them a little "taste" of home by sending their name and address to Marlene Gross, 8153 Trotters Chase, Cincinnati, OH 45249 or email their information to Marlene Gross at margelgro@aol.com. **This wonderful recipe collection is also available for purchase in the Gift Shop.**

KROGER CARDS

Wise Temple is part of the Kroger Neighborhood Rewards Program. Help support Wise Temple by purchasing a Kroger Neighborhood Rewards Card for just \$5 (which will be credited toward Kroger purchases, so the net cost is zero!). Once you purchase a card, you can add money to it while in the checkout line and use it to pay for your grocery purchases. 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. 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**. 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 631-1372.*

FUND FACTS

During this season of graduation and confirmation, please remember that a donation to one of our Sisterhood Funds is a wonderful way to honor these special students. You may send contributions directly to the Fund Chairs or call for more information: GIVTY Fund (Elaine Pockrose, 351-6425 or Pam Kohn, 891-1516), YES Fund (Joan Scheineson, 351-5077), Florence Weil Tribute and Equipment Fund (Elaine Schiffer, 351-6620), or Floral Fund (Laura Cramer, 794-0742).

SISTERHOOD INSTALLATION

The installation of our Sisterhood board will take place on Sunday, June 11 at 5:30 p.m. at Wise Center, following the Annual Meeting of the congregation. We look forward to joining with the Temple Board and the Brotherhood for this installation and recognition program. We need your participation to make this a special moment for our Sisterhood and the congregation. Please plan to join us for the installation and an *hors d'oeuvres* reception at its conclusion. *For more information, contact Robin Newland at 530-5516.*

HONEY SALE

Sisterhood is sponsoring the "Honey" for Rosh Hashanah again this year. Be sure to watch your mail for this year's flyer. Now is the time to get your "Honey List" ready. *For questions or to volunteer to help, call Jennifer Snyder at 583-9565.*

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Summer Picnic At The YWCA's Battered Women's Shelter

Calling all Women at Wise Temple! Last year was such a great success; we are looking for volunteers to host the second annual Wise Temple summer picnic at the YWCA's Battered Women's Shelter. This dinner picnic will be held Sunday, June 25 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. and will provide a fun and social evening for the shelter residents and their children. We need Wise Temple members who are willing to:

- help host the party,
- make food for the picnic, or
- donate time and talent to provide entertainment at the event.

Please contact Karen Brownlee at 871-5013 or karenbrownlee@gmail.com OR Gina Blatt at 321-3407 or gblatt@hotmail.com if you are interested in participating.

FLEA MARKET

When spring-cleaning or getting ready to help your college student set up an apartment, remember the Sisterhood Flea Market. When you donate your gently used household items, you are helping Wise Temple Sisterhood underwrite so many of our worthwhile programs for the Temple community. We continue to need donations of furniture, costume jewelry, bedding, table linens, working small appliances, vans, cars and boats! (No clothing, books or toys please.) Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. *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 or for more information about purchasing from the Flea Market.*

AWARD WINNING MEMBERS

At the recent WRJ District 10 Assembly held in Indianapolis, Barbi Sherman and Margie Meyer received the Deborah Award. This award is given in recognition of extraordinary service and commitment to both Sisterhood and Judaism. Both of these outstanding women have a long tradition of volunteerism within our congregation. For over 10 years, they have co-chaired our gift shop, "Traditions and Treasures". They both spend countless hours buying, taking inventory and working for and in the gift shop. Our gift shop is unique in its wide array of merchandise, from Judaica to secular novelty pieces. They always make sure there is something special for each life cycle event: consecration, *b'nai mitzvah*, confirmation, graduation and weddings. It would be hard to imagine our gift shop without both Barbi and Margie. We feel honored that they give so much of their time to support us and we are thrilled to be able to honor them.

Traditions & Treasures Gift Shop

The Gift Shop is open all summer.

Summer Hours (and by appt.)

Tuesday	9:30-1:30
Thursday	9:30-1:30

Summer is also a great time to be trained to volunteer. Call Margie Meyer at 984-2345 if you are interested.

Summertime Favorites



BY RABBI BADEN

Summer has long been celebrated as the season during which life seems to slow down a bit. The kids are off from school, the workplace often gets a tad more casual, and the weekends are filled with leisurely activities. In the mornings, we can visit the pool; in the afternoons, we can enjoy an outdoor picnic; in the evenings, we can go for a nice stroll around the neighborhood; and at night, we can sit back and enjoy a good book or video in the comfort of our homes.



Rabbi Baden

I have to admit, this last activity has been one of my favorites. I confess, I am a movie nut. Especially in recent years, when it has been more difficult to go to the theater, I have been known to rent more than a few DVDs during the summer months. While I always look forward to catching something that I have missed in the cinema, I seem to return to a few all-time favorites now and again. Many of those, incidentally, revolve around Jewish themes or characters.

I am sure we are all familiar with the American Jewish classics: *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Schindler's List*, *Brighton Beach*

• *Memoirs, Yentl*, and the like. In addition to these delicious films, I would like to share a few more titles with you, with the hopes that you, too, might enjoy them this season. All of the titles mentioned here – along with many other wonderful movies – are available at our own Wise Temple library.

Crossing Delancy (PG): A romantic comedy starring Amy Irving as a 30-something modern woman whose “Bubbe” is determined to fix her up with a “nice Jewish guy”. She is torn between “Sam the Pickle Man” and the intriguing author whom she meets through work.

The Frisco Kid (PG): A hilarious comedy set in the 1850s with Gene Wilder as the naïve Polish rabbi who is sent to America to serve a California congregation and Harrison Ford as the bungling outlaw bank robber who guides the rabbi on his journey.

• *Keeping the Faith* (PG-13): A romantic comedy/drama about how the life-long friendship between a young priest (Edward Norton) and rabbi (Ben Stiller) is strained when they fall in love with the same woman (Jenna Elfman). While a lot of this film’s plot is controversial, I think it is worth watching – if not for the gospel rendition of *Ein Keilohinu* alone.

• *School Ties* (PG-13): A sports drama set in the 1950s that tells the story of David Green (Brendan Fraser), a talented football player who is sent to an elite private school so that he can help its football team beat its rival. The only problem is that David is Jewish, something that would not go over well with his fellow students. He tries to conceal his identity, but it is ultimately revealed.

Shining Through (R): A romantic action/drama set during World War II that stars Melanie Griffith as Linda Voss, a woman with Jewish ancestry who works as a secretary for mysterious attorney Edward Leland (Michael Douglas). She eventually learns that Leland is actually a colonel with the Office of Strategic Services, and convinces him to send her to Germany to spy on a powerful Nazi officer.

There are so many other movies that I could name, and some that I am sure I have not yet discovered. If you have reactions to these videos, or if you have recommendations of other films, I would love to hear from you. Feel free to contact me at ibaden@wisetemple.org with your comments. In the meantime, I wish you a wonderful and relaxing summer. 🍿

2005-2006 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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

JUST ANOTHER YEAR IN PARADISE continued from page 1

- National Vice President, and our Temple received an award for having sent the most children to Goldman Union Camp from our region.
- Tikkun Olam-athon – This new WiseUP program helped over 500 Wise Temple members spend a meaningful day working with other Temple friends and family to heal the world in a myriad of ways.
 - 92nd Street Y programs began, five in all this year, as *Eitz Chayim* expanded to include live interactive simulcasts of selected programs from the renowned 92nd Street Y in New York.
 - Strategic Planning – We formed and completed the work of two Task Forces, Member Connection and New Member Recruitment, and the Board has approved recommendations for implementing their work.
 - Avodah Committee – A new worship committee was created and will continue to advise on enhancing worship at Wise Temple with the goal of increasing participation. One of its first tasks will be to review the new Reform prayerbook.
 - Jewish Travel – Rabbi Lewis and Renee Kamrass led 34 Wise Temple members on a memorable trip to Spain in March and 55 are scheduled for our congregational trip to Israel in July.
 - Legacy Heritage Innovator Award – Through Herculean efforts, Barbara Dragul, Rabbi Kamrass, Rabbi Baden, and Rabbi Shulman wrote a grant request for family/intergenerational enrichment programs. Our Temple was awarded a \$30,000 grant for one year, with the opportunity for two additional years to carry out these new programs.
 - Library – Our Library automation process was completed after several years of hard work by many dedicated volunteers.
 - Chicken Soup Cookoff, sponsored by the Brotherhood, was a huge success once again.
 - The Sisterhood continued to have a myriad of events during the past year which involved hundreds of Sisterhood members. They have also increased their funding substantially for our Youth Activities and Madrichim programs.
 - Updated bylaws will be proposed to conform to our current practice, and we will officially recognize our name as K'hillah

K'doshah B'nai Yeshurun and the Isaac M. Wise Temple.

- Day Camp – We have continued discussions with the JCC on the formation of a community day camp, combining Wise and JCC programs.
- Cemetery – We continued to play a leadership role in the formation of new entity to combine all of Cincinnati's Jewish cemeteries, Jewish Cemeteries of Greater Cincinnati, Inc.

The year to come? Hold onto your hats!

In addition, let's review some facts and figures that tell another part of our story for the past year:

New members	73
Members departing congregation through death/relocation/other	63
Worship services we held	219
Attendance for...	
High Holy Day services	7600
Eitz Chayim programs	402
WiseUP programs	812
Gesher	162
Religious School...	
Number of students (PK-12)	677
Consecrants	45
Confirmands	38
Graduates (CRIHS)	20
GUCI attendees	39
B'nai Mitzvah	68
Weddings	32
Funerals performed by our rabbis	36
Births	22

Comments? Contact me at aberger@katzteller.com.



Lewis H. Kamrass, Senior Rabbi

Ilana G. Baden, Associate Rabbi

Michael S. Shulman, Associate 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

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:

B'nai Mitzvah

June 10 – Jordan Pasternak, son of Dr. Reuven and Nancy Pasternak.

June 10 – Aaron Natarus, son of Mark and Sharon Natarus.

June 17 – Julie Berger, daughter of Andrew and Linda Berger.

July 1 – Steven Miraglia, son of Peter Miraglia and Bonnie Esrig.

July 8 – Emma Burgin, daughter of Lester and Margie Burgin. Granddaughter of Dr. Leonard and June Burgin.

July 15 – David Pennington, son of Gregory and Jo Anne Pennington.

July 29 – Sara Estes, daughter of Robin and Joanne Estes.

August 5 – Rory Hartmann, son of Rainer and Robin Hartmann.

August 12 – Rebecca Pollak, daughter of Steven and Judi Pollak. Granddaughter of Fran Rosenthal.

August 19 – Jessica Shokler, daughter of Howard and Susan Shokler.

August 26 – Emily Gilgoff, daughter of Andrew and Dawn Gilgoff. Granddaughter of Geri Gilgoff.

Weddings

Dr. Stewart and Hindi Friedman and Lorrie Friedman on the recent marriage of their son and grandson, Jason Friedman to Erin Adler.

Births

Steve and Sharon Marshall on the recent birth of their twin grandchildren, Emily and Noah Marshall.

Michael and Dr. Karen Klugo and Benjamin and Anna Lerhaupt on the recent birth of their daughter and granddaughter, Alexis Mia Klugo.

Chris and Rochelle Meisner on the recent birth of their son, Maxwell David Meisner.

Dr. Henry and Beatrice Winkler on the recent birth of their great-grandson, Joshua Ross.

Rod and Susan Kaplan and Calvin Kaplan and the late Charlotte Kaplan on the recent birth of their granddaughter and great-granddaughter, Maggie Rose Gray.

Lorie Eckert on the recent birth of her granddaughter, Tillie Rose Berge.

Engagements

Steven and Carole Swillinger and Rhea Swillinger on the recent engagement of their son and grandson, Bradley Swillinger to Courtney Duncan.

Shavuot Sensation

You are invited to a walk through Judaism's Hall of Fame! The Eitz Chayim committee invites you to join us for our

Annual Shavuot Sensation

on Thursday, June 1 at 7:00 p.m.

Come and learn about some of the most important individuals throughout Jewish history.

The evening will begin with an abbreviated service at 7:00 p.m., followed by a delicious dessert buffet, study, and more dessert. You won't want to miss this exciting evening!



K.K. B'NAI YESHURUN

Isaac M. Wise Temple
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