

HOLY BLOSSOM TEMPLE

Bulletin

April 2012



Youth Community
Growing in Strength



Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut, ^z_l - November 1, 1912 - February 8, 2012



Rabbi Plaut at Installation 1961



Rabbi Plaut with his Mother



Rabbi Plaut with President E Katzir of Israel 1977

We are most grateful for the outpouring of sentiment - loss, appreciation, memories - in the wake of the death of Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut, ^z_l, Senior Scholar of Holy Blossom, one of the pre-eminent rabbis of our time. We at Holy Blossom join with the many who remember Rabbi Plaut with esteem and affection.

Rabbi John Moscovitz

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Firing Up The (Youthful) Imagination



Rabbi John Moscovitz
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In essence, parents have only one obligation with regard to their children at Pesach: “V’higadeta L’vincha”; once at the Seder table, parents must convey (convincingly!) the story of the Israelite exodus from Egypt to the next generation.

What must the parents tell the children? That in liberating the Jews, God took them from slavery to freedom, from degradation to dignity; that knowing your past you can transform your future; that God is essential to all of this – freedom, dignity, the possibility of transformation.

*“our children must know
who they are and how
they got there”*

Why impress these ideas upon young people (told in an understandable manner)? Because a deep knowledge of one’s personal and communal story is essential to a solid Jewish identity.

Hence the starting point of the parental narrative on Seder evening: our children must know who they are and how they got there – and that God is a part of how freedom comes about.

Still, the evening is not simply a quick history lesson – it’s far more than that, far more important. A story is no story without drama, tension and an able story-teller! Don’t stick to the book, otherwise you’ll go flat and your children (and others) will grow bored.

Be daring, be prepared, be unpredictable. Don’t be as enslaved to the haggadah as the Jews were to Egyptian bondage! Understand what fires the

imagination of those at your table – and then tell the story so as kick up their curiosity, to gin up their excitement. And your own.

Which – and now to this special bulletin on the engagement and education of younger members of Holy Blossom – is what we aim to accomplish in our youth programming. All of it: what happens in the classroom and in shul; what happens in youth group and at camp; what happens at Holy Blossom and at home.

For our Holy Blossom Temple community our task is to excite our youth about Judaism and what it means to be a Jew. As with Pesach, our responsibility and privilege is to cultivate a sense of identity in our children toward securing their future -- as individuals, as part of their People.

Here then, this special issue of the Bulletin, and how we engage and educate our youth: from classes to youth groups; from Camp (George) to Confirmation; from Toronto to Israel – and a good deal more!

*“our task is to excite our youth
about Judaism and what it
means to be a Jew”*

Rabbi Moscovitz, in his childhood, particularly enjoyed reading: *To Kill A Mockingbird*, Harper Lee; *Oliver Twist*, Charles Dickens; *The Yearling*, Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings; *Giants in the Earth*, O. E. Rolvaag; *The Hardy Boys Series*. Other books in his home, on his parents’ shelves actually, drew his wandering eyes -- books about the Holocaust, Israel, and Jewish History. He didn’t read them, he wasn’t ready for them at that time, but he knew one day he would be. Their very presence in his home also shaped him.

Growing up at HBT as a Youth Leader

Mark S. Anshan
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My life as a committed Jew and becoming a leader in the Reform movement evolved from my years as a student and active member of the youth program at Holy Blossom Temple. Our Director of Education, Heinz Warschauer ^{z'l} was a visionary Jewish educator and one of my mentors growing up at HBT, who promoted the integration of formal and informal Jewish education. He understood the importance of Jewish camping and in those early years created the camp scholarship program that sent many of us to

“(my) early formative experiences instilled in me a deep sense of the importance of connecting to one’s Judaism”

Reform Jewish camps in the United States. I was sent to the Eisner Camp (1964) in Massachusetts and the Kutz Camp in New York (where I spent the summers 1967-1975 as a camper, staff member, youth leader and on faculty). Heinz spent his summers with us on faculty. He also initiated the student teacher and after school club programs that provided wonderful opportunities for us to remain involved with HBT.

Many of us became leaders of the youth program under the direction of Gordy Wolfe ^{z'l} who taught us leadership. Gordy had a significant impact on all of us and the bond we formed remained until he sadly left us. In 1965 I was President of the Junior Youth Group. Years later I assumed various positions (including President of the NFTY region, NELFTY in 1968, NFTY First Vice- President in 1969 and NFTY President in 1970). As the first Canadian elected NFTY President, I deferred my entry to university, moved to New York and served full time as

President at the URJ (then UAHC) headquarters. These early formative experiences instilled in me a deep sense of the importance of connecting to one’s Judaism and assuming leadership positions in the Reform movement throughout my adult life.

I had many experiences through my involvement, including meeting Abie Nathan, an Israeli peace activist who established the Peace Ship radio station anchored off the Israeli coast. The first NFTY delegation to a URJ Biennial took place in Miami in 1969. Rabbi Maurice Eisendrath ^{z'l}, UAHC President made a point of having the NFTY leadership assume a prominent role at that convention. We were part of the early demonstrations in Ottawa, New York and Washington to free Soviet Jews.

Brenda and I met as teenagers in a youth regional program. Our sons, Micah and Adam were confirmed at HBT and attended Camp George as campers. Adam continues as a staff member at camp.

The recent decision of the Board of Directors to adopt the youth engagement strategy is recognition by our Temple leadership of the priority that we must place on the ongoing development of our youth program. The future of Holy Blossom is dependent, in large measure, on the success of engaging our youth with the support of all our members.



Mark, NFTY President 1971



From the Board



Our Hearts are in the East

article by Emily

After what has been, for some of us, twelve years of religious education at Holy Blossom, this year's confirmation class embarked on our long awaited journey to Israel. Thirteen of us were able to go: ten senior school students, a CHAT student, and two students from a Reform congregation in Ottawa. Despite our pre-existing friendships, we all grew much closer, and left no longer just friends, but family.

We began the week with a simulation of the declaration of independence, standing in the places of Israel's founders, singing Hatikvah. From then on, the excitement was nonstop. From dipping our toes in the Mediterranean and Dead Seas, to hiking the up the snake path at Masada, to flea markets, produce markets, and artists' markets, we were exposed to authentic Israeli culture and were able to visit many historical and meaningful sites.

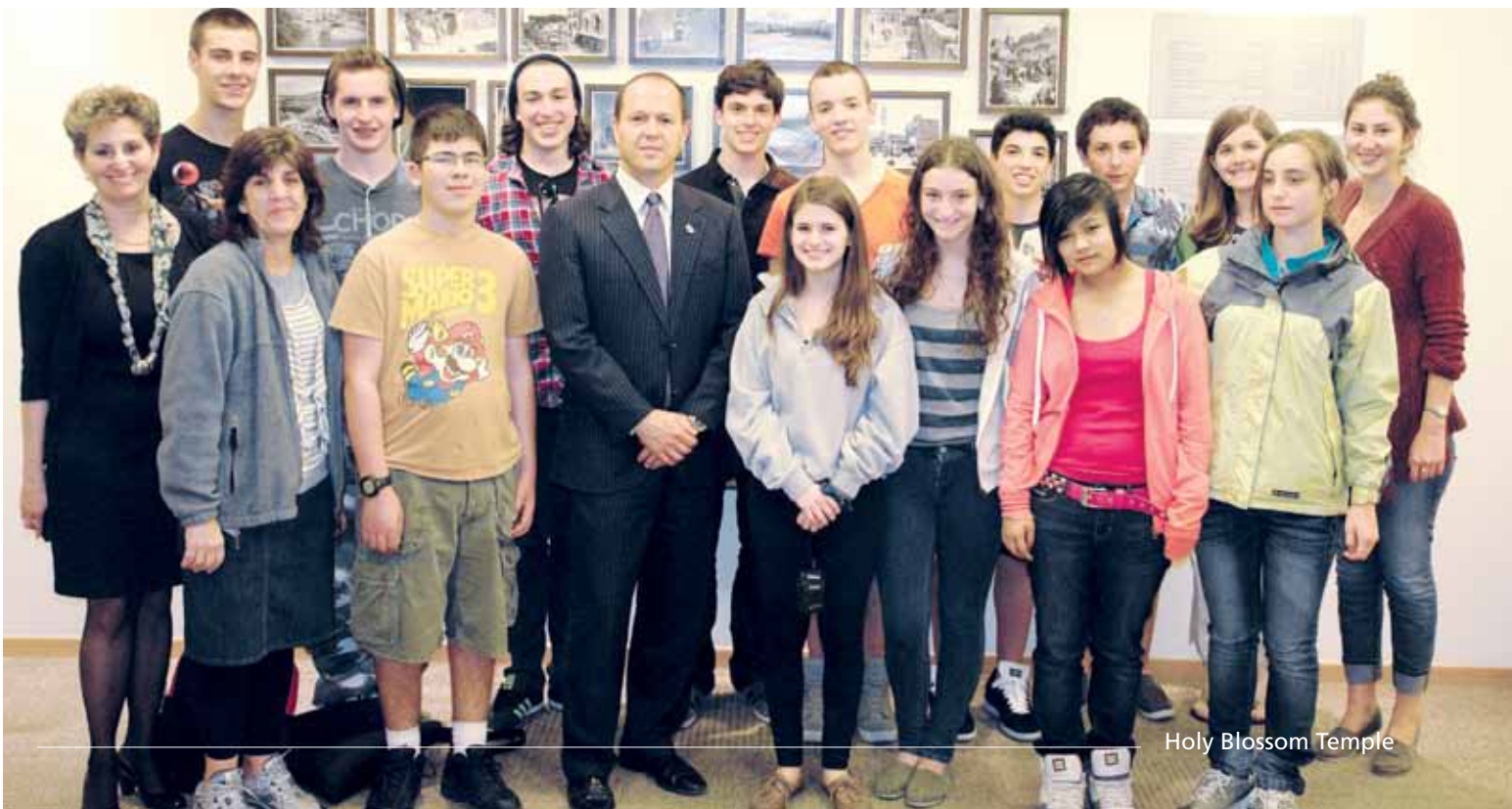
We also volunteered at Save a Child's Heart, and spent time with the pre and post-op patients, singing, dancing, playing games, and teaching one another our languages. A fifteen-year-old Ethiopian girl was going into surgery that night after we left, so we sang Misheberach for her, an experience that really resonated with us.

At the end of the week, we spent a relaxing Shabbat in Jerusalem, which allowed us to reflect upon our past week's experiences, and we took in the complex, yet beautiful history and importance of Jerusalem.

From the special bonds we formed with the kids at SACH, to the powerful emotions invoked at Yad Vashem, each experience brought us closer to one another, and enabled us to better understand ourselves and our surroundings. Israel and Judaism can be extremely complex subjects, but this trip helped me to realize that it is okay to wrestle with understanding it all. We will question things at times, but regardless, we share unconditional love with this place and people. The trip deeply connected us to each other, to Holy Blossom, and to Israel. It truly solidified and made relevant the countless hours of religious school, and has inspired and motivated us to continue our Jewish learning. Moving forward, we have decided to have a grade 11 group meet once a month. This experience, and our Confirmation, will not mark the end of our Jewish education, but the beginning or renewal of a special bond with Israel, and with the Holy Blossom community.

Emily is 16 years of age and attends Northern Secondary School.

2012 Confirmation Class Trip to Israel, with Jerusalem Mayor Nir Barkat



Holy Blossom Temple



The study of Torah leads to them all: Tanach Team

article by Liam

For over nine years my family and I have been going to Shabbat Family Morning Services. When the Torah is read I have always been curious about the parasha (Torah portion) that has been read. When I was invited to join the Tanach (Hebrew Bible) team in Grade Five, I was interested in learning more about Torah and having the opportunity to learn more with a teacher who made Torah a little easier to understand. We discuss the parasha and what we think it means as compared to the literal meaning.

I enjoy it because I study with friends and talk about the parasha and how it relates to our world. I have made new friends and have had the chance to learn with kids my age about the lessons of Torah. We have fun and always have lots to say. At each Tanach study, we get to eat lunch, have a snack and relax. Our coach makes it easier to understand. Happy Iscove is the Tanach coach and I have to say that she is very patient and very nice. She is my favorite Torah teacher. Torah study can be fun!

Now in Family Services at Holy Blossom, being part of the Tanach team has allowed me to understand the parasha that is read on Shabbat. It really gives me something to think about. It makes me think about the possibilities and so much more. I think that the Tanach team is a way to learn about Torah and to use your knowledge to challenge yourself to see what you know.



Tanach Team

Last year we studied for the Tanach tournament and competed against other synagogues. At the end of every tournament, everyone who participated felt really proud of what we achieved and what we gained as students of Tanach. I learned to work with a team and learned about supporting your team members. Everyone who participated also received some great little prizes that were given to everyone. That was really cool.

At Camp George this summer I am hoping to be able to have a better understanding of Torah and will be able to learn more

with the Rabbis who teach us. I am looking forward to having an amazing summer.

I like being on the Tanach team. I am having an amazing time.

Liam is 11 years old and attends J R Wilcox. Liam's favourite book of the Bible is Genesis.

Monday Monday

article by Gabriel,
and his parents Heather and Larry

Something revealing happened to us a few Mondays ago. That Monday, we got into a bit of a tussle with our son Gabriel over whether he should go to religious school that evening. Many might assume that it was the child resisting attending religious school while the parents pushed. In our case, however, despite being sick and in need of sleep it was the child insisting that he not miss Monday evening religious school and the parents asserting that his health had to take priority. This episode confirmed to us that religious school was an experience that our Grade 7 child very much wanted to experience.

Why is that? Gabriel will tell you that he looks forward to being with his friends on Monday evenings. Gabriel's parents will tell you that it is more than the bonds of friendship that keep the kids wanting to congregate at Holy Blossom. It is also the depth of programming and nurturing by teachers and the Rabbis that keep them engaged and wanting to come back.

The Grade 7 program is much more than senior religious school on Monday evenings. For sure, it is a special year that draws in parents and families. In September, for example, there was a special Kabbalat Shabbat service followed by a pot luck dinner which included families and extended families. At the dinner, grade 7 students are each presented with their own Plaut Torah Commentary which is a very generous gift from Holy Blossom Temple Brotherhood. Each book is individualized by a book plate that cites the child's Torah portion. We all were reminded of the precious legacy of learning that our Rabbi Plaut left us. For many of the children and the families this Torah Commentary becomes a very tangible symbol of the months of study ahead. More recently there was a family education symposium with a variety of seminars that Grade 7 students and their

parents could choose from. We learned that tzitzit on a tallit are more than a fidget toy. We learned that there are many views on why Jews have, and do wear kippot.

Gabriel's Grade 7 year of becoming a Bar Mitzvah began roughly 13 years ago when he was born midway through his mother's Adult B'nei Mitzvah class at Holy Blossom. He was less than a week old when he began attending the classes with her. She has a clear memory of Gabriel being held and comforted by the women around the Boardroom table during the weekly learning sessions. He was passed from one loving embrace to the next. And he continues to be.

Gabriel is 13 and attends Montcrest School. Heather and Larry are the proud parents of five children.



Shofar Blowing 101

article by Zach



For the past three years I have been one of the Shofar blowers during the High Holy Days. I am honored and very grateful that I get this opportunity to perform such a majestic task.

Rabbi Thomashow and Cantor Maissner originally presented the opportunity to me after attending a Shofar-blowing workshop at the synagogue. I was originally excited by the workshop. However, I must admit that I was somewhat tentative on the day of the workshop. I am very thankful that my parents “strongly encouraged” me to attend.

Standing up on the bima in front of the congregation is a very humbling experience. While it is somewhat nerve-racking as you only get one shot to do it right, you experience a sense of comfort as you can feel that everyone wants you to do a good job.

I would never have had this experience if I didn’t risk trying something new. If you can take anything away from this article, I hope it is that you should take advantage of as many opportunities as possible, because you never know what you might gain!

Zach is 16 years old and attends UCC.
Zach’s favorite Jewish food is the latke.

Yay for YEAH

article by Avery

I am in grade six and have been going to YEAH programs for two years. YEAH is a youth group for boys and girls in grades four to six. I absolutely love it! We have done many cool and interesting programs, including The Wave Pool, E-Zone, Two Moms Bakery, Chocolate Tales, and Dinner and a Movie. My favorite thing that we’ve done is Two Moms Bakery. I loved it so much because I love food!

The YEAH events are a great way to meet kids from Holy Blossom Religious School and Leo Baeck Day School in a non-classroom environment. The programs are one Sunday a month. Many of the programs are at 12:15pm or later in the afternoon. If the program starts at 12:15, we eat lunch (pizza, bagels, etc.) before we go to the activity.

YEAH is also great because you can bring friends. I have brought my cousin many times and she loves it! Now she comes to every one! The supervisor and organizer is named Karen. She is nice, friendly, and has great ideas. At YEAH programs we always have a great time and loads of fun!

Avery is 11 years old and attends Cedarvale Elementary School.
Her favorite Jewish holiday is Purim.





George is N(i)FTY

article by Sophie

The Jewish components of childhood vary in every situation. For me, the Judaism of my upbringing mostly consisted of the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) Camp George and the National Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY).

I have been going to George since I was nine in the summer of 2003. That will make this upcoming summer my tenth year. Scary how time flies when you're having fun. It is something I look forward to all year, and then it passes too quickly. Why? Because camp is my second home. There is a true sense of belonging at camp, especially at Camp George. It changes who you are, and I have seen this first hand. I really do think this experience (and others like this) changes who you are as a person. It makes you confident and shapes you as you grow.

Now that I have been a counselor in training (CIT) and a staff member, I have the opportunity to reflect on my experience with a Jewish summer camp. I can truthfully say that without this experience I would not be as connected, knowledgeable, and happy. The way camp is structured made my Judaism something that interested me, because I related it to the close community that I felt there. I had the opportunity to make life-long friends who share my enthusiasm. We find we enjoy the services and the music now, even though when we were kids it was tedious. But things grow on you, and now camp wouldn't be the same without the melodies we are so familiar with. I wanted to be involved in my religion there.

Eventually, these summers changed my nine-year old mind, and I wanted to be more involved at home as well. I am now on the Camp George steering committee - talk about coming full circle. This, and being staff, allows me to give back to campers the way I want to. I want them to have the same Jewish experience I had – in their own way.

I later got involved with NFTY as a high school student which added another level to my Jewish involvement. I love it almost as much as I love camp for these same reasons. Elements of the relaxed and comforting atmosphere that surround the URJ are ever present. It truly is comforting to have this relationship with my community as a teen. This year I am now a regional song leader and loving it. It is nice to share what you know and love with younger kids and this community. Ironically, my last NFTY event will be held at Camp George in April. When I venture off to university next year, I will have these things behind me. They will guide me, even though I won't be as involved anymore. Camp George, and NFTY, reflect who I am now and who I will be for the rest of my life.

Sophie is 18 years old and attends William Lyon Mackenzie. Sophie was formerly on the board of HABSTY and currently student teaches in the JK Taste of Temple program once a month.

Sophie at Camp



Student Teacher Testimony

article by Danille

Although I volunteered last year, I began officially student teaching this year. Unlike last year, when I moved around from class to class according to need, this year I have been in class 3A and I have really enjoyed it. Because I have been with the same kids for the entire year I have been better able to get to know them. I like to be able to chat with them on their snack breaks because, despite their young age, they have some interesting things to say.

I also like to be able to help them with their assignments whether it is an art assignment related to a holiday or learning to read and write in Ivrit (Hebrew). It is especially interesting to see how their reading has improved from the beginning of the year when they were reading three letter words to the present, where the words have grown significantly more complex.

There are challenges to being a student teacher as well. One of the hardest things, I find, is making sure to explain things clearly enough. I learned these things a long time ago, and therefore some of it seems obvious to me, and therefore it is sometimes a challenge for me to figure out how to effectively explain it.

Another challenge was when I had to teach a lesson by myself. Not only is it nerve-racking to teach a lesson, but it can also be difficult to effectively engage the class. Some topics, of course, lend themselves to engagement more than others, especially those which involve some amount of storytelling, or perhaps a distinctive symbol which can be drawn. However, the topic I taught was more complex and abstract; therefore requiring more creativity and effort to engage the class. Despite the challenges, being a student teacher has been a rewarding experience.

Danille is 17 years old and attends CHAT.
Danille is one of 38 student teachers inspiring our youth!

From the Student's Perspective

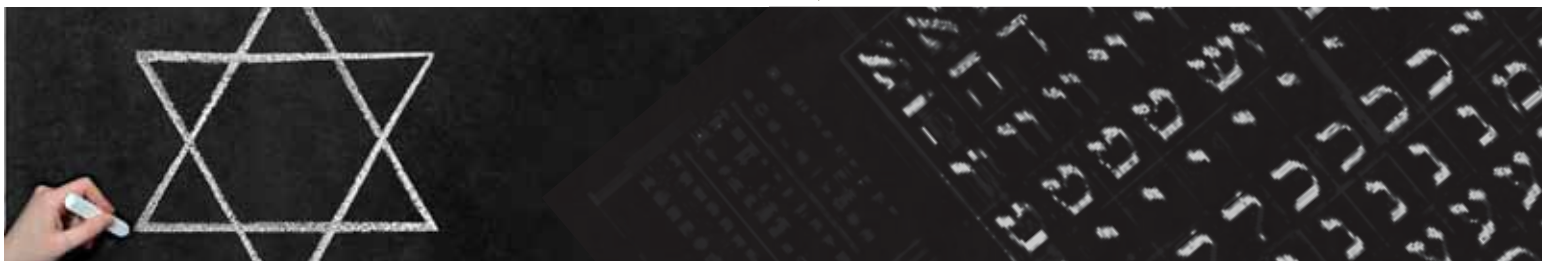
article by Meghan

Danille helps everyone with writing in Hebrew. She explains what lots of things mean. She shares all sorts of things that she has learned before. Danille is REALLY good at helping everyone out.

Danille gave us her own lesson. It was about Confirmation. She showed us pictures. She told us about how it is when children get to be free in their own religious ways. The best part of the lesson was that everyone got to learn something new. And, it was clear when she spoke. Danille always explains things with lots of detail. That is VERY helpful. She is smart.

I think I would probably want to be a student teacher someday. I would call Danille for advice and she would probably give LOTS of details about everything you do as a student teacher.

Meghan is 8 years old and attends Cameron Public School.
Meghan dressed as a baseball player for Purim.



Tot Shabbat and Teen Volunteerism

article by **Charlie**

My brother Ben and I have been very involved in the Tot Shabbat services. I became involved because I needed a way of getting community service hours for high school. I chose to help with the Tot Shabbats over other options, because I used to help out in these services with my sister, and I love the kids.

Coming into Tot Shabbat is exciting. Ben and I are there early, before the kids arrive. We love to see them come all dressed up. We usually help to set up the craft, as the service starts. After the formal part of the service, our role of helping really comes into play, because the kids have trouble getting started. The crafts are always interesting, though, and the kids make something they can take home with them and be proud of.

It is a privilege to do this for my Jewish community, and to help these children learn about Shabbat and connect with other Jewish families. I love helping out because it is such a positive and happy event, which I can share with my brother. It also keeps me connected with Holy Blossom and my own Jewish roots, as a fourth generation Temple member..

Charlie is 15 years old. He has connected with many young persons in his Temple community.

*Tot Shabbat Chanukah volunteer
Joanna with Tot*



Reflection on hosting a Shinshin

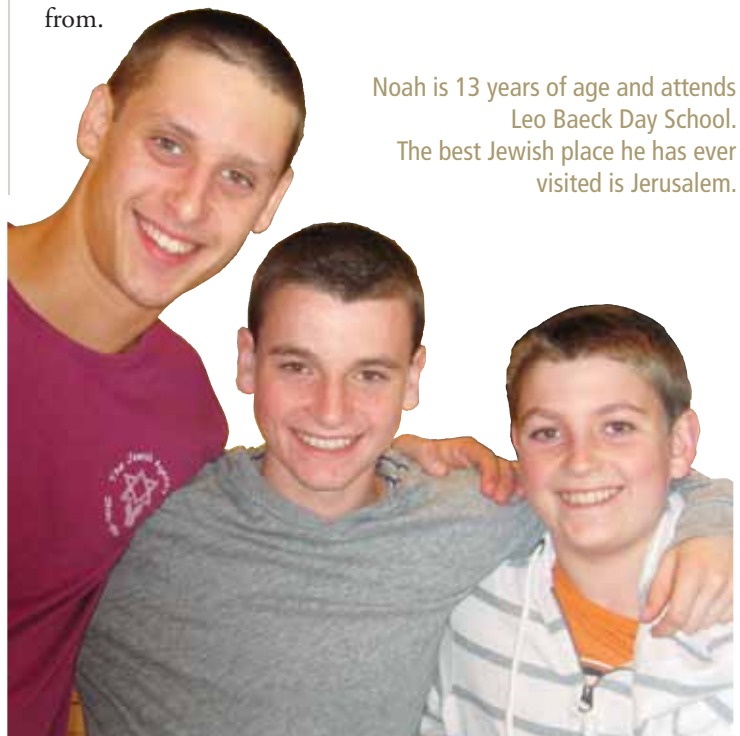
article by **Noah**

I would like to share with you my experience of hosting a Shinshin (an Israel emissary). Last year, my family and I decided to have a Shinshin live with us for three months. Alon was our Shinshin and he would be working at the Leo Baeck Day School, where I attend school, and at Holy Blossom, where I attend shul.

I was very excited to hear that the Shinshin living with us was an 18-year-old boy -- another brother for me. Living with Alon was actually like having another brother; we would walk to and home from school together, we would watch TV and play video games together, and I would try to convince him why hockey is a better sport than soccer or basketball. As if that wasn't enough, he was also a very reliable source to help me with my Hebrew homework!

At first I was nervous that maybe we wouldn't share any interests or that it wouldn't be a good experience. Now, I am so glad my family and I decided to do this because it was a great experience and I really enjoyed the time Alon spent with us. I can't wait to see him next time I am in Israel and to meet his family.

I sincerely suggest to any family to take advantage of this experience -- it's an opportunity that you will gain so much from.



Noah is 13 years of age and attends Leo Baeck Day School. The best Jewish place he has ever visited is Jerusalem.

At home with our Shinshin Alon

Holy Blossom Temple



Joseph the Teenager:

The Campaign for Youth Engagement

The longest single narrative in the book of Genesis is about Joseph and his journey from innocence to maturity. When the Bible introduces Joseph, he is referred to as Ba'al HaChalomot or Joseph the Dreamer. The dreams he has initially are about himself and his brothers. The dreams he has later on are about the prediction of feast followed by famine. For this special ability to predict the future, Joseph was awarded a formal post in the Pharaoh's government. Thousands of years later, when the rabbis and scholars who lived in the most creative period of commentary to the Torah looked back on Joseph's life and achievements, they did not refer to him as Yoseph Ba'al HaChalomot, Joseph the Dreamer. Rather, they referred to him as Yoseph HaTzadik, Joseph the Righteous Person. And why? Because it is one thing to dream or have an idea or picture a certain type of future. It is another (and a more virtuous) thing to make that dream come alive—to take an idea and actualize it; to realize a vision of the future. Joseph shared his dreams with others, and then found himself within the solution.

Three and a half months ago, at the Union for Reform Judaism's Biennial meeting, a watershed occasion occurred when the URJ officially launched the Campaign for Youth Engagement, a 2020 vision for a majority of youth engaged in our movement's synagogues, day schools, and summer programs, as opposed to today's minority. It was the first time in the history of our Reform movement that every single constituency of the movement stood together on the same platform for a cause. It was also the most self-reflective moment our movement has faced in many years. It is a courageous act to look in the mirror and see when something is broken and in need of repair. Our movement, including our own synagogue, is not getting this right enough. But while we are not doing so, we are creating a beautiful vision for what could and can be. So we begin as Joseph did, as dreamers. And as the wisdom of our sages teaches us, we now must move from dreaming to righteousness. We will share our

dreams for our youth, and we will also find ourselves within the solution. This is not only so necessary, it is also so exciting!

Each one of the writers who appears in this bulletin on youth community said yes, on average, within ten minutes of receiving an invitation to participate. These are young persons who care deeply about this community. It should be noted that this community cares deeply about our young persons. The kind of young Jewish life in our congregation that our writers give us insight into is wonderful. Even more wonderful will be the day when more young persons are engaged in these and many other ways. Theodore Herzl must have been speaking about Joseph and to us when he said, "Im Tirzu Ein Zo Aggadah. If you will it, it is no dream." We certainly will a vibrant youth community at Holy Blossom Temple.

Rabbi Thomashow currently sits on the URJ Vision Team of the Campaign for Youth Engagement. She was the president of her Temple's youth group, WESTY, in grade 11.

For more information on the URJ's Campaign for Youth Engagement, visit urj.org. And, to participate in this campaign at Holy Blossom Temple, please email Rabbi Thomashow, kthomashow@holyblossom.org or Youth Committee Chair Sandi Smith, templemail@holyblossom.org.

*Top: A Confirmation Class In Israel 1996 - Find Karen Thomashow
Below: Rabbi Thomashow with Confirmation Class in Israel 2011*



Holy Blossom Congregational Appeal



Alison Schwartz



Gladys Fogler



Vanessa Yakobson

It has become abundantly clear that synagogues of every denomination face immediate and particular financial challenges. Keeping membership contribution rates affordable, continuing to offer comprehensive and high-quality programming, and welcoming all members regardless of financial circumstance are three top priorities which can not be achieved by membership dues alone.

As part of the strategy to meet their goals, most synagogues have initiated annual campaigns, as we have done at Holy Blossom Temple. Our annual campaign has been renamed this year as we launch the Holy Blossom Congregational Appeal 2012 (formerly the Annual Contribution Campaign).

The name of the campaign now better reflects the unchanged purpose behind this effort: sustaining our community.

There are many among us, about 40% in fact, who are unable to make membership contributions at the standard rate. Some are young and just starting out, and some are our seniors living on fixed incomes. Some are experiencing a temporary financial setback, while others have longer-term needs. The Holy Blossom Congregational Appeal seeks to bridge this gap.

Article by: Alison Schwartz
With Co-chairs:
Gladys Fogler
Vanessa Yakobson



In recent years, about 25% of our members have made annual gifts to this campaign. In order to reach our 2012 goal of \$600,000, we need increased participation. It is that simple. We need your help.

Our Temple is unwavering in its commitment to excellence in worship, educational, social action and family programming. We strive to keep our membership contribution rates as low as possible. And our congregational philosophy continues to be that no one should be precluded from membership due to inability to pay our standard fees.

Holy Blossom Temple





Supporting our Synagogue Community



This year I am so pleased to have two Co-chairs, Gladys Fogler and Vanessa Yakobson.

Together we encourage every member of our congregation to make a contribution to the Congregational Appeal 2012 at whatever amount is appropriate for you. We thank you in advance for considering your support for our community – we appreciate your generosity.

If you would like to make your pledge, or for more information, we would be pleased to hear from you - contact our Director of Membership, Loriellen Karam at lkaram@holyblossom.org or 416.789.3291 ext.227.





Welcome to Our Congregational Family

Welcome

We are delighted to welcome the following new members to Holy Blossom Temple:

- Jill & Eric Kert, and Ashton
- Erika Rubin & Adam Breslin, and Lauren, Ethan and Hope

Mazal Tov

- **Judy Winberg** on her appointment as Chair of Jewish Family Services.



- Mazal Tov to **Rosalin Rose** on the occasion of her special birthday – 100 years old.

- **Sandy & Steven Moranis** on the engagement of their daughter Jessica to Ira Goldstein son of Janet and Howard Goldstein.



Births

- Leah & Ari Liederman on the birth of a daughter, **Miriam Emma Liederman**. Proud grandparents are Debbie & Peter Gingrich; Denise & Ivor Kavin and Gloria & Joel Liederman. Proud great grandmother is Edna Goldstein.

- Janet & Michael Ryval on the birth of a grandson, **Ethan Benjamin Applebaum**. Proud parents are Danielle & Heath Applebaum. Other proud grandparents are Ruth Devor; Viviane & Martin Applebaum. Proud great grandfather is Gerry Sigler.

B'nei Mitzvah



- April 21, 2012
29 Nisan 5772
Gabriel Crawford-Ritchie, son of Heather Crawford & Larry Ritchie



- April 22, 2012
30 Nisan 5772
Jamie Goldman, daughter of Jennifer & Jason Goldman



- April 28, 2012
6 Iyar 5772
Allison Hoffman, daughter of Leslie Giller & Andrew Hoffman



- April 28, 2012
6 Iyar 5772
Spencer Atin, son of Katie Hoffman & Jordan Atin



- May 26, 2012
5 Sivan 5772
Yasmin Rachlin, daughter of Ann Rachlin and Alan Rachlin



- May 5, 2012
13 Iyar 5772
Julia Duckman, daughter of Nancy & Owen Duckman



- May 5, 2012
13 Iyar 5772
Joshua Kazman, son of Marla Tennen and Andy Kazman



- May 10, 2012
18 Iyar 5772
Danny Silverstein, son of Shari & Ron Silverstein



- May 12, 2012
20 Iyar 5772
Bram Cole, son of Dianne & Jeff Cole



- May 26, 2012
5 Sivan 5772
Elliot Fish, son of Valerie & Joel Fish

In Memoriam

- **Rose Freedman**, mother of Norma Teitler, sister of Syd Levy
- **Margaret Hart**, wife of David Hart, mother of Murray Hart, Ron Hart and Alan Hart
- **Burtha Liss**, wife of Henry Liss, mother of Howard Liss, Alan Liss and Mark Liss
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- **Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut**, father of Judith Plaut and Rabbi Jonathan Plaut
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- **Sybil Stulberg**, mother of Jay Stulberg, Howard Stulberg, Andrea Iceruk and Stuart Stulberg
- **Goldie Swartz**, mother of Jay Swartz

- **Leonard Whyne**, husband of Gilda Whyne, brother of Helen Mosoff, Selina Appleby and Jack Whyne, father of Faith Whyne, Mitchell Whyne, Stacey Berman and Cari Whyne



Holy Blossom Temple

We thank our generous donors

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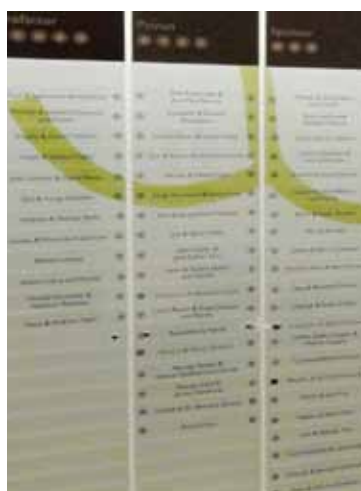
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Board Elections



The Directors and Officers of Holy Blossom Temple are committed and passionate about the future of the Temple. The job of the Nominating Committee is to identify a slate of members who can best serve the Temple on the Board as Directors.

The names of the members of this year's Nominating Committee are available at:

www.holyblossom.org/nominatingcommittee

We seek members with a vision, commitment and involvement in Temple life. Candidates for any Office or Board position may be nominated by any member of the Temple. Proposed nominations must be submitted in writing to the administrative office at the Temple. Submissions should be sent in as soon as possible. For copies of the nomination form, please call Shelly Berenbaum (ext. 233), at the Temple or download a copy from our website at www.holyblossom.org/nominatingcommittee

Larry Babins
 Chair, Nominating Committee

Life at Holy Blossom

For all programs between April 1 to May 31, 2012

Monday

April 2, 6, 23, 30	10:00 a.m.	Mondays @ the Temple
April 23, 30, May 7, 14, 28	7:30 p.m.	Sisterhood Zumba Classes
April 16	7:30 p.m.	Facing Dying and Death: A Journey of Discovery of Meaning and Purpose, Dr. Larry Librach
April 23-May 14	7:30 p.m.	Israel Seminar – Engaging Israel – Confronting Difficult Questions

Tuesday

Weekly	11:00 a.m.	Advanced Hebrew Grammar, Rabbi Edward Goldfarb
April 3-May 1	7:30 p.m.	Faith and Faithless: How Belief May Take You By Surprise, Rabbi John Moscovitz
May 8	8:00 p.m.	Blanche and Harry Posen Memorial Lecture, Prof. Gabi Ben-Dor

Wednesday

Weekly	9:30 a.m.	Sisterhood Torah Study, Rabbi Edward Goldfarb
Weekly	11:00 a.m.	Yiddish Novel, Rabbi Edward Goldfarb
April 4 & April 11	7:30 p.m.	Ethical Eating, Rabbi Yael Splansky (final two sessions)
April 18	7:00 p.m.	Yom Hashoah Commemoration, Speaker: Ancie Shafran
April 25	6:00 p.m.	Yom HaZikaron/Yom Ha'Atzmaut "Festivale": A Real Yom Ha'Atzmaut Celebration.
May 2	7:00 p.m.	Maj Jongg Evening - Come play or learn how to play the game and have fun
May 9	8:00 p.m.	Blanche and Harry Posen Memorial Lecture, Prof. Gabi Ben-Dor
May 30 – June 27	7:30 p.m.	Torah Lishma- Learn Torah for its Own Sake, May 30 – Parshat Hashavua with Debbie Spiegel

Thursday

May 17	10:00 a.m.	Library Book Club, Dr. Janna Nadler
April 19-May 10	10:30 a.m.	What I Believe, Rabbi Michael Stroh
May 10	9:30 a.m.	Sisterhood Kallah, The Spirit of the Mishnah: The Rabbis as Revolutionaries. Held at the Donalda Club

Friday

Little Blossoms - Shabbat Prep for children 3 and under

Classes 9:30 a.m., 11 a.m. and 12 p.m. (Session runs till March 30)

New Session runs from Friday, April 20 until June 22.

Classes 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., and 12 a.m.

Tot Shabbat - (For children 5 and under and their families)

Hot Shot Shabbat (For children 5 & up and their families)

No Pot Luck Dinner 1 week of April.

April 20	5:30 p.m.	(Service & Craft)
May 4	6:00 p.m.	(Service & Pot Luck Dinner)
May 18	5:30 p.m.	(Service & Craft)



Saturday

Weekly	9:00 a.m.	The Wisdom of the Talmud, Torah Study, Rabbi John Moscovitz
April 28, May 26	10:15 a.m.	Shabbat Meditation, Michelle Katz
April 21	1:00 p.m.	Women's Rosh Hodesh Beit Midrash, after Kiddush
May 26	10:30 a.m.	Confirmation service and celebration
May 26	9:00 p.m.	Tikkun Leil Shavuot, Prof. Clifford Orwin

Sunday

Weekly	10:00 a.m.	Temple Singers, Cantor Maissner
April 15, May 6	10:30 a.m.	Sunday Book Club, Sharon Singer
April 15	9:30 a.m.	Brotherhood Breakfast Club

Daily Services

Mon. to Fri.	7:30 a.m.	Shacharit
Mon. to Thur.	6:00 p.m.	Mincha
Sun.	9:00 a.m.	Shacharit
Fri. April 6, Mon. May 21	9:00 a.m.	Shacharit

Shabbat Services

Fri.	6:00 p.m.	Kabbalat Shabbat Services
Sat.	10:30 a.m.	Shabbat Morning Service
Sat.	10:30 a.m.	Family Shabbat Service

Shabbat Fusion

April 27, May 25	6:30 p.m.	
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