

Temple Topics

MAY 2003

NISAN / IYAR 5763

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF TEMPLE NER TAMID

STEVEN KUSHNER Rabbi

BACK IN THE EARLY DAYS OF TEMPLE NER TAMID, maybe some twenty years ago, we reenacted the exodus from Egypt for the students of our religious school. Experiential education. Kids had to dress up like our wilderness ancestors. The social hall was transformed into the fleshpots of Egypt while their redemption came through the building's side door. As we led them around the building, we had them slither between bushes while being *lightly* sprinkled with water. After all, this was the crossing of the Red Sea. Then we took them into the backyard. Next to the old barn was a steel tool shed (i.e., *Mount Sinai*), standing about eight feet high at its peak. As the students were gathered together in front of the shed, I—with the help of a kitchen step stool and the sound of the *shofar* in the distance—ascended the shed from the rear and stood at its peak holding the Ten Commandments. The children stood in awe.

Of course in such creative endeavors, you must be prepared to improvise. Costumes and props are essential. At last I knew why it was I had decided to purchase that striped bathrobe (almost identical to the one Charlton Heston wore in *his* version of the story). And the *kaffiah* I bartered for in Jerusalem's *shuk* was a perfect head covering. But best of all was the tablet, the three-quarter-inch thick greenish glass rendition of the Ten Commandments. The Hebrew letters were incised deeply into the glass and painted gold. Indeed, what made the moment so special for me was the holding of that tablet. Now I began to understand how Moses must have felt as he stood above the community of Israel with the words of God in hand.

As we know, Moses lost those commandments. In his anger at the sight of the idol below, he shattered them into pieces. For generations the fragments would be preserved in a sacred box, which—in time—would also be lost, relegated to generations of speculation as to its final disposition. One of the true *Mysteries of the Bible*.

Ironically, such has been the fate of that greenish glass model of Moses' tablet. Over the years I kept it in my office, propped up on the shelf of my bookcase. But then it too just disappeared, right around the time of our last construction in 1996. Perhaps it was put into a box for safekeeping, stored somewhere amidst the other nameless boxes in our old boiler room (much in the same way the original *Ark of the Covenant* was fated to obscurity in that government warehouse at the end of *Indiana Jones and the Raiders of the Lost Ark*). Perhaps it was inadvertently discarded during the construction

(Rabbi continued on page 5)

Mark Your Calendars

Friday, May 16—8:00 p.m.
Sisterhood Shabbat

Sunday, May 18—12:00 p.m.
Congregational Meeting

Friday, May 30—6:30 p.m.
Kabbalat Shabbat/Installation Shabbat

Thursday, June 5—8:00 p.m.
Tikkun Leil Shavuot—A Community Study at
Congregation Shomrei Emunah
(see flyer inside for details)

Friday, June 6—7:00 a.m.
Shavuot Early Morning Service

Friday, June 6—8:00 p.m.
Shavuot 1/Confirmation Ceremony

Shabbat Services

Erev Shabbat services every Friday at 8 p.m.
except the last Friday of the month when
services will be at 6:30 p.m.

Shabbat services every Saturday at 10 a.m.

May 10—10 am
Casual Minyan

May 16—8 pm
Anniversary Shabbat

May 30—6:30 pm
Kabbalat Shabbat: Early Friday Night Service

B'nai Mitzvah

Mazal Tov to the happy families

May 3	Billy Levering Dylan Plofker
May 10	Sarah Nodell
May 17	Stephen Kaplan-Rooney Samuel Franklin
May 24	Noah Bokot-Lindell Jeremy Perlman-Gabel
May 31	Julia Berlin

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I have been troubled recently by the fact that some members have said to me, "I'm not as religious as you are" or (worse) "You're more Jewish than I am." This concerns me for a variety of reasons:

- ◇ It makes the assumption that these are fixed states of being rather than vague descriptors of something far more fluid that is subject to modest choices and changes in behavior.
- ◇ Worse, it assumes something about me that is simply not true. The fact of the matter is that I struggle to read prayerbook Hebrew. I cannot translate it. I still enjoy shellfish and a periodic cheeseburger immensely. When I arrive at Friday night services, I am often coming directly from work. I drive on Shabbat. The list could get a lot longer. Trust me...

So how am I any "more Jewish"? Simply because I try to get to Shabbat morning services? Or because I got involved in temple activities? That does not and should not make me unique.

But what bothers me more is the tone with which this has been said and by whom it has been said—parents who are ushering during the weeks before their child's bar or bat mitzvah. What concerns me is that they seem to have chosen a troubling-to-me vision of the synagogue as "the place that prepares my child for bar or bat mitzvah." It is a vision in which they seem to exclude themselves from the pleasures of active participation, intellectual stimulation, and spiritual recharging.

So, I want to share with you who I think I am as a Jew...after many years of self-exclusion from the Jewish community. In fact, I have wondered whether my 23-year self-imposed exile from organized Judaism may have actually increased my interest in figuring out what it means to be Jewish as an adult, husband, and parent.

A Short Religious Biography (deservedly so)

My parents both escaped Nazi Germany, but their routes to the US were very different. My late father saw the handwriting on the wall at the age of 18 and left Germany at the age of 20 in 1935 for Palestine, telling me many years later that he was probably escaping small-town Orthodoxy as much as he fled the increasingly-ominous Nazis. He served in the Hagana and in the Jewish Brigade of the British Army, but he chose to come to the U.S. in 1948 because he feared the potential for a new Israel to become a country where religion and politics could get too intertwined. Nevertheless, he worked with and for Israeli companies for the rest of his career. My mom escaped Berlin soon after *Kristallnacht* with her brother, who had been arrested that night and jailed. With my grandmother, she was on the last boat out of Holland before the Nazi invasion. They met on the Upper West Side in 1949.

I had about 3 years of religious school training and some necessary one-on-one tutoring with the cantor prior to my *bar mitzvah* in 1966. One religious school year was in an Orthodox synagogue where my only memory is of a Purim costume party—where I sweated a lot in my costume. My key memory of Reform Hebrew school was asking questions like, "If you were starving in the desert and a pig suddenly crossed your path, could you eat it to save your life?" My strongest memory of my *bar mitzvah* was sweating a lot on the *bi-mah* while the rabbi droned on about something. My involvement in religious school ended immediately after my *bar mitzvah*.

(President continued on page 12)

There are wonderful things about being part of a community. For the last five years, I have made Montclair and Ner Tamid my home. I felt warmly welcomed from my very first moment standing on the *bima* at my audition, singing a Yiddish song, and watching Rick Abrams beam at me with his great smile!

Through my initial years, my dramatic weight-loss, my divorce and my new life as a single woman—this Temple family has been there for me, and supported me as I grew into myself during my late twenties and early thirties. I have found great friends here, and have shared with you your sorrows and *simchas*. Now, I am very pleased to be able to share my joy with all of you.

For those who haven't heard through the Temple grapevine — and you know how fast that works!—I am engaged to Steven Epstein.

Here's the story. Last summer I went with a bunch of friends to the Mid-Summer Night's Swing at Lincoln Center, and some random guy asked me to dance. I didn't know how, and he recommended lessons at a place called "Hop Swing and a Jump" in

SoHo. I started the lessons in October—and started going out to dance in New York City. I never met that guy again until... I went to Nell's on 14th Street on December 22, 2002. The guy from Lincoln Center back in July was there, and he remembered me, "The Cantor," and introduced me to his friend, Steve. Steven and I danced 5-6 dances and it was love at first swing-out. Our first date was at the Supper Club's New Year's Eve dance on December 30, where we danced until three in the morning.

On the first date I said, "I think you should know I am very interested in being a Jewish mother. Completely unflustered, he replied, "I'm interested in being a Jewish father." After that it was all incredibly romantic, easy and simple. Everything just clicked into place.

Data: He's a CPA, and works for Price Waterhouse Coopers in the City. He's 6'3", 32, raised as a conservative Jew in Bergenfield, NJ (where his parents still live). He keeps kosher, loves to eat healthy, likes to bike, loves my cat, and most importantly, he has a goodness that shines out from him. He is a total, wonderful *mentsch*. He is my *basherte*.

Over the weekend after Passover, we went to a B&B in Stone Ridge, New

York, near the Mohonk Preserve. Steve took advantage of the peace and quiet and decided that it was an opportune time to pop the question!

Since then, we have found a house in Glen Ridge, 150 Carteret Street. We are very happy with our new, cute house. As I write this, we are having the inspection this afternoon and hope everything goes smoothly so we can stay on track to move in on July 1, 2003.

We haven't set a date for the wedding yet, but unofficially—we are looking at a possible weekend without a bat or bat mitzvah—and there is only one. So, the weekend of February 28-29, 2004 may be the date—but don't hold us to it yet! Announcements about dates, etc. will be forthcoming.

Rabbi Hillel taught, "*Al tifros min hatzibur* . . . Do not separate yourself from the community." There are many blessings in being a cantor—and anonymity is not one of them! Frankly, I'm glad to run into people at the A&P or in Starbucks, and I like chatting with congregants I meet on the street. I know this extended "family" will welcome Steve with open arms and that he will feel as at home here as I do.

CELEBRATE WITH THE
CONFIRMATION CLASS
OF 2003 / 5763

Michele Leslie Heller
Michael W. Garman
Samuel R. Finesurrey
Aaron H. Miller
Emma Paige Einhorn
Max Joseph Strasser
Eve Michelle Gottesman
Ilene Spitzer
Jeremy Einbender Pesner
Benjamin M. Perwien
Zachary Benjamin Katowitz
Daniel Eli Franklin

Erev Shabbat, Friday, June 6 at 8:00 p.m.

Learning and Jewish Growth תלמוד תורה

IRIS SCHWARTZ Director of Education

Swas cleaning out the Temple's refrigerator the other day, combining the contents of numerous bottles of wine or juice, tossing out half eaten stale bagels and just putting everything back in an orderly fashion when someone stopped by to chat. He said, "You should be a temple administrator." Taken aback, I didn't even ask why. I guessed it was that my penchant for order was incredibly apparent at that particular moment (though looking at my office no one would believe it existed at all). In any case, there I stood after he left, pondering my future as I have done so many times. Wanderlust had indeed surfaced in my life albeit the last sighting was a few years ago. Should I reignite the spark which had in the past caused me to hitchhike to Vermont on a moment's notice or change career paths just because?

Temple Administrator? Was this meant to be a compliment, a promotion? Who knew? After giving this idea a fleeting thought, my flirtation with this as a possible third career vanished as quickly as it had appeared. Jewish education is not the path to fame or fortune or even a free Sunday afternoon, but for now it is my path. It is the road on which I travel, in good company I might add, with our religious school faculty members.

True, being a temple educator/religious school teacher has its trials and tribulations. All children bring their own challenges. Religious school parents bring expectations often influenced by their own upbringing (for better or worse). Working with other extremely passionate, imaginative colleagues brings both delight and difficulty. And, to be sure, every temple community is on its own unique path which needs to be navigated somewhat delicately at times.

But, working with children is energizing and amazing and brings a pleasure all its own that is sustaining. Trying to find innovative approaches to teaching about being Jewish becomes a passion. The knowledge that we, as Jewish teachers, touch the future of the Jewish community is awe-inspiring. Knowing that what we do matters feels good.

Speak to any of our religious school faculty members. This is generally not

merely a stop on the road but a destination in and of itself. It is not the kind of profession one joins if you need immediate gratification. The rewards are more subtle and sometimes long in coming. Sometimes they are totally illusive. But we go on with a sense of urgency in the task at hand nonetheless.

I have had the experience of running into former students who have moved on to college and beyond. How many times have I heard "Remember when we did such and such in class?" or "I still remember such and such project or program, etc.?" One summer I ran into a student who had been in my class earlier in the year. She said, "You know, I've been thinking about the discussion we had in class a few months ago and" Every time something like this happens it takes my breath away.

Teaching is a calling. We can teach people the nuts of bolts of classroom management, but we cannot train them to be teachers in the truest sense of the word. We are fortunate at Ner Tamid that each member of our faculty is a person who shares a passion for Judaism and a sense of commitment to educate our children. Each person on our staff brings his or her best to our school and our children. Every member of our faculty is a real teacher.

So, the truth is that if I were financially savvy it might behoove me to consider the career move so kindly suggested by my friend at the refrigerator. But teaching our children about Judaism is not always a choice. It becomes a mission. It's not about the money. It's not about the time. It's not about getting immediate gratification. It's about loving Judaism and wanting to transmit that love to future generations. It's about doing something that makes a difference. It's about making a personal contribution to the Jewish community that is more precious than money. The gift each religious school teacher gives is their own best effort to help insure the future of Am Yisrael, the people Israel. What more could we ask from anyone?

Please join us as we honor our religious school teachers and madrichim at Shabbat services on Friday, May 9th. It is our chance as a community to say thank you.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Sunday, May 4

Ten Minutes of Torah Celebration

Friday, May 9

Shabbat Morim

Sunday, May 18

Mitzvah Day/Last Day of School Grades K-5

Monday, May 19

Last Day of School Grades 6-9

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED

Have you ever thought of teaching Religious School? We have a few staff openings for the Fall for experienced or new teachers.

Teacher training and continued supervision are available.

Please call Iris Schwartz at the Temple for more information.



(unthinkable a possibility as that may be). Howbeit, like the baseball cards and comic books of our youths, it seems fated to mystery, the ultimate resting place of all sacred possessions.

The spiritual goal of the Jewish people is to find the missing tablets. The words of God, once etched in stone (and glass), now exist only in memory. No matter that we've written them down on scrolls and books and made movies about them. No matter that we've taught them to our daughters and sons or inscribed them on the doorposts of our homes. Somehow their true essence still eludes us, all attempts to replicate the *hand of God* merely scratching the spiritual surface. But we don't give up.

On Friday night, June 6, you will witness another generation of our people trying to discover what was lost so long ago. What it is that God *requires* of us. That evening our Confirmation students will share with us the fruit of their struggle, the words they have found within themselves. And the night before we will all have the same opportunity for search—together with our neighbors from congregations Beth Ahm (Verona), B'nai Keshet and Shomrei Emunah (Montclair), and Sholom (Cedar Grove)—as we gather for our first-ever community *Tikkun Leil Shavuot* on Thursday evening, June 5 at Congregation Shomrei Emunah in Montclair.

Torah is more than just a scroll. It is a process of discovery. Of what was lost but still exists. As it says in *Sefer Devarim* (literally, the *Book of Words*) or Deuteronomy, it is "very close to you, in your mouth and in your heart." I know I will continue to look for that glass tablet. Or better put, I will always miss its presence. But I also know that its recovery can never match the magic of discovery. For I have learned that the power of standing above the people holding a sacred object cannot compare to the inner joy of hearing a sacred truth spoken in a moment of spiritual search. Especially when it comes from within. That, Torah teaches, is where God placed it. *Al levavekha*. Upon your hearts.

JOAN GOODMAN Preschool Director

Spring has finally arrived and the boys and girls at *Shoresh* are enjoying the wonderful time outside. School is almost finished for the year, but we still have several weeks of exciting and interesting topics to complete. Each of our classes will be going on an end-of-the-year school trip.

Our 4 year olds are working very hard in preparation for the Preschool Graduation on Wednesday, June 4 at 10:15 a.m. You are all welcome to attend and join the graduates for cake and ice cream after the program.

On June 9 there will be a special party for the entire school. It is a wonderful way to say goodbye to old friends and make new friends.

Shoresh Summer Play Camp begins on June 23. Registration is still open. We are planning an exciting theme this summer for our 2 – 4 week sessions.

Call for information.

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ARE A BLESSING

IN LOVING MEMORY

Fayette Galen
Sylvia Grossman
Bernard Kirschenbaum

Mother of Bette Galen Goldstein
Sister of Anne Katz
Father of Paula Stein

Shabbat—May 2

Evelyn Altwarg
Samuel Berger
Alexander Brody
Samuel Cohn
Gedaliah Convissor
Perry Goldstein
Mollie Kaplan
Philip Kaplan
Sara L. Keyles
Peter Kirschenbaum
Julius Krulewitz
Bertha C. Kurzman
Anita R. Lanzon
Milton Lee
Yetta Mandelkern
Samuel Miller
Heinz B. Ostheimer
Regina Peters
Zelig Rapaport
Joseph J. Ruffalo, Sr
Terry Samuels
Hazel Satin
Walter L. Scott
Fannie B. Shapiro
Harry Shapiro
Shirley Sherman
Jonah Spiller
Benjamin Stadtmayer
Alexander Sterne
Deborah Weidenbaum

Shabbat—May 9

Harry Bergoffen
Hyman I. Biegeleisen
Serene Funk
Lillian Gannon
Solomon Goldfarb
Jules Gruber
Samuel Holland
Rebecca Kahn
Anna Krulewitz
Fannie Latz
Ray Levee
Mollie Miller
Samuel Mintz
Jeffrey A. Newman
Edith Rosenfield
Kate Shaw
Stella Shtraks
Arthur Sonstein
Gerald Udell
Samuel Ziman

Shabbat—May 16

Clarice Abrams Strasser
Norma Black
Rebecca Bussan
Harry Cotler
Irving David
Sol Feig
Anna Feingold
Max J. Friedman
Claire B. Fromson
Hyman Goldstein
Locke Grayson
Max Hirsch
Abraham N. Ivner
Anna Ivner
Gertrude Ivner
Celia Kamin
Edna Kenler
Nathan Kerdman
Henry Kolb
Selig Krischer
Abraham Krulewitz
Louise Krulewitz
Alvin Levkoff
Wolf Maybe
Anna O'Donnell
Rachel Pimes
Louis Roth
Jules D. Schor
Mary Schutzman
David Shakin
Samuel Sherman
Abraham M. Slater
Fannie Sterne
Louis Stier
Leon Wasserman
Fanny Wilenchik
Sanford Yablon

Shabbat—May 23

Norman Alpert
Jack Arum
Melvin Bellet
Leonard Berg
Harry Bergoffen
Suzan C. Bohrer
Lisbeth Brodie
Isidor Charney
Harvey Chyka
Dorothy Cohen
S. Herman Cohen
Sarah Fisher
Max Frost
Allan Garber
Stanford Gilberg
Linda Grishman
Sadie Hertzberg
Irving Hoffman
Louis Kahn
Sarane R. Kaplan
Herman Kenler
Morris Kirschenbaum
Frank Koppelman
David Lembeck
Mamie Levine
Robert Lipman
Rakhil Meiliker
Richard Mellman
Irene Neuman
Evelyn Richmond
Benjamin Ring
Max Rosen
Ira Schoen
Michael Schomer
Rose Schwartz
BenZion Shapiro
Nellie Solomon
Sophie Woletz
Leah Zimerspitz

Shabbat—May 30

Sam Alexander
Hyman Asher
Marilyn August
Martha Bass
Harriet Bilus
Dora Cowan
Max Donnenfeld
Israel M. Dorfman
Julius DuBrowin
Richard Ebel
Yetta Edelstein
Samuel Fromson
Dora Gilberg
William Grossman
Irving Gurvitch
Jack Halpern
Irving Hoffman
Rebecca Kantor
Sadie Kirschenbaum
Rose Koslowsky
Daniel Krohn
Jack Lavner
Abe Levin
Bessie Miller
George Nadison
Lester Newman
Barry L. Protas
Charles G. Schoenfeld
Jacob Schondorf
Lena Schondorf
Isidor I. Schreiber
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SISTERHOOD

Important Sisterhood Dates

Friday, May 16—Sisterhood Shabbat. Please plan to join us for this annual Shabbat event and board installation. The guest speaker for Sisterhood Shabbat will be Dr. Joseph Brandes, Emeritus Professor of History at William Paterson University. Dr. Brandes' topic will be "Liberty's Fruit: How Did Jewish Immigrants Become American?"

Sunday June 8—Rummage Sale. Have you been meaning to clean out your closet or your attic? Well, it's not too late. Don't forget to put your treasures aside for our rummage sale. You can bring them to the Temple beginning June 1.

Monday June 9—Our 23rd Annual Donor Dinner. *Attention Sisterhood Members!* Hurry! If you haven't responded to our invitation and want to attend, please contact Susan Fader at (973) 667-7373. The dinner will be held once again at the delectable Toscana Ristorante in Montclair.

Potpourri

Tribute Cards: Looking to send a special message to someone dear in honor of a wedding, graduation, Bar Mitzvah, confirmation, etc? Please contact Berna Berger at (973) 743-7212 to send a Tribute Card for you with a lovely personal note. The cost is only \$2 and donor credit is \$1 per card.

Domestic Violence Safe House: The Sisterhood is collecting cleaning supplies and household items for the local domestic violence safe house. Household items such as lightly used dishes, towels, sheets and small appliances will be greatly appreciated in addition to cleaning supplies. These items will be given to women that have escaped from situations involving domestic violence to help them set up their own homes. Items can be dropped off at the Judaica Shop.

If you are interested in getting involved in Sisterhood for the upcoming year, please do not hesitate to give us a call over the summer! We'd be happy to hear from you!

Sisterhood Bible Study

Rabbi Kushner's informative, enjoyable, inspiring study group meets in the library on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. There is no fee and there is always hot coffee.

Dates: May 7, 21, 28

Candle Lighting Times

May 2	7:36
May 9	7:43
May 16	7:50
May 23	7:56
May 30	8:02



Sisterhood Tribute Fund

Miscellaneous

Rose & Stan Jackson—Daughter's Wedding
Edith Novack—Son Ben's Bar Mitzvah
Bernice Colie—Recovery
Marilyn & Rabbi Kushner—Brother-in-law's memory
Elsa Lentz—Recovery
Beverly Deak & Mark Abrams—New home
Jane Bilus Gould—Temple Honoree
Fran Guttentag—Grandchild

Condolences

Anne Katz—Memory of sister Sylvia
Paula Stein—Memory of father

Thank You

Beverly Reisman—Good wishes for recovery
Marilyn Hilowitz—Sympathy on death of mother
Anne Katz—Kindness at loss of sister
Bernice Colie—Good wishes for recovery

May Anniversaries

Mazal Tov to the following couples who will celebrate their anniversaries in May and will be honored at Erev Shabbat Services on May 16:

Benjamin & Liza Asher
William & Sherry Brown
Andy & Nancy Clayman
Marino & Wanda Dobrich
Anthony & Bernice Flanders
Michael Frank & Susan Helman
David Futterman & Marnie Stetson
Jeremy Gluck & Jan Singer
Eugene Goldberg & Amy Lazarus
Steven Guarnaccia & Susan Hochbaum
Aaron & Rita Heller
Peter & Dede Horowicz
Arthur & Ruth Josephson
Andrew & Jane Kessler
David & Amparo Koster
Steven & Mary Lee
Wendell & Ellen Maddrey
Stephen McLean & Judith Berkowitz
Arthur & Jodi Meisler
Jeffrey & Mary K. Mellow
Paolo Pepe & Melissa Katz
Jeffrey & Amy Plaut
Mark & Jody Rakov
Michael Rice & Anne Gorfinkel
Ken & Renee Rivlin
Kenneth & Deborah Schapiro
Stephen Schneider & Nancy Haven
Fred Schnitzer & Joanne Zippel
Richard Segal & Elizabeth Peters
Geoffrey & Sheri Silverstein
Timothy Spitzer & Elizabeth Hoffman
James & Cora Vest
Josh & Judy Weston
Laurence & Lisa Westreich
Timothy Wyatt & Susan Korn

Good News הנה מה טוב



Mazal Tov on the engagement of Cantor Jessica Levitt and Steven Epstein

B'nai Mitzvah

May 3	Billy Levering Dylan Plofker
May 10	Sarah Nodell
May 17	Samuel Franklin Stephen Kaplan Rooney
May 24	Jeremy Perlman-Gabel Noah Bokot-Lindell
May 31	Julia Berlin

Births

Mazal Tov to Debra and Kurt Hollfelder on the birth of their daughter, Julia Anne, born on May 2.

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TEMPLE NER TAMID

May 2003

May 2003							June 2003						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				9:00am PreSchool	9:00am PreSchool 7:00pm Tot Shabbat 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Service	10:00am B'nai Mitzvah Billy Levering & Dylan Plofker (Kedoshim/Rosh Chodesh Iyyar)
8:30am R.S. Grades K-2 8:45am Temple Tots Group 1 9:00am Beginning Hebrew 9:00am JYG: NYC trip 10:45am Art & Spirituality Panel Discussion 10:45am R.S. Grade 3-5 12:30pm SYG: Elections 5:30pm Ten Minutes of Torah Dinner	9:00am PreSchool 4:15pm RS Grades 6-7 6:30pm RS Grades 8-9	9:00am PreSchool 12:00pm Lunch With Rabbi-NY 1:00pm Hadassah Meeting 8:00pm Executive Bd. & Bd. Trustees Mtg.	YOM HA'ATZMAUT 9:00am PreSchool 10:00am Sisterhood Bible Study 4:00pm RS Grades 3-5 6:30pm RS Grades 6-7 7:00pm RS Grades 10-12 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	9:00am PreSchool 8:00pm Giving/Receiving Torah	9:00am PreSchool 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Service 8:00pm Shabbat Morim	10:00am Bat Mitzvah Sarah Nodell (Emor) 10:00am Casual Minyan 4:00pm SYG: Final Program
8:30am R.S. Grades K-2 8:45am Temple Tots 9:00am Beginning Hebrew 10:45am R.S. Grade 3-5	9:00am PreSchool 4:15pm RS Grades 6-7 6:30pm RS Grades 8-9 8:00pm Brotherhood Mtg.	9:00am PreSchool 11:00am Seniors 12:00pm Lunch With Rabbi-NJ 6:30pm UAHC Dinner	9:00am PreSchool 10:00am Sisterhood Bible Study 4:00pm RS Grades 3-5 6:30pm RS Grades 6-7 7:00pm RS Grades 10-12 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	9:00am PreSchool 11:00am Grotta Meeting 7:00pm Programming Summit Meeting	9:00am PreSchool 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Service 8:00pm Sisterhood Shabbat 8:00pm Anniversary Shabbat	10:00am B'nai Mitzvah of Samuel Franklin & Stephen Kaplan-Rooney (Behar)
Hitzvah Day 8:00am Bloodmobile 8:30am R.S. Grades K-2 8:45am Temple Tots Group 2 10:45am R.S. Grade 3-5 12:00pm Congregational Meeting	9:00am PreSchool 4:15pm RS Grades 6-7 6:30pm RS Grades 8-9	9:00am PreSchool 11:00am Seniors	9:00am PreSchool 10:00am Sisterhood Bible Study 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	9:00am PreSchool 8:00pm Giving/Receiving Torah	9:00am PreSchool 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Service (Choir Sings)	10:00am B'nai Mitzvah Noah Lindell & Jeremy Perlman-Gabel (Bechukotai)
	9:00am PreSchool	9:00am PreSchool 11:00am Seniors 8:00pm Religious Affairs 8:00pm Tikun Olam	9:00am PreSchool 10:00am Sisterhood Bible Study 7:00pm Northern NJ Reg. Hadassah Mtg.	9:00am PreSchool 7:30pm GS Parents BM Mtg.	9:00am PreSchool 6:00pm Nosh 6:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30pm Installation Shabbat	10:00am Bat Mitzvah Julia Berlin

TEMPLE NER TAMID

June 2003

June 2003						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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29	30					

July 2003						
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
June 1 12:00pm Lunch With Rabbi-NY	2 9:00am PreSchool 8:00pm Sisterhood Bd. Mtg.	3 9:00am PreSchool 11:00am Seniors 12:00pm Lunch With Rabbi-NY 8:00pm Executive Bd. Mtg.	4 9:00am PreSchool 10:30am 4-Year Old Graduation 7:30pm Camp Orientation 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	5 9:00am PreSchool 8:00pm Tikkun Leil Shavuot	6 SHAVUOT 1 7:00am Shavuot Service 7:00pm Tot Shabbat 8:00pm Confirmation 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Service	7 10:00am Bar Mitzvah Emmet Cohen (Shavuot 2/Yizkor) 10:00am Yizkor
8 7:30am SYG: Great Adventure 8:00am Rummage Sale	9 9:00am PreSchool 9:00am 4-year old Graduation 8:00pm Brotherhood Mtg.	10 11:00am Seniors: Final Luncheon 12:00pm Lunch With Rabbi-NY 8:00pm Bd. of Trustees	11 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	12	13 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Service	14 10:00am Bat Mitzvah Hannah Kushner (Naso) 10:00am Casual Minyan
15	16 8:00pm Sisterhood Gen. Mtg.	17 8:00pm Religious Affairs	18 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	19	20 6:00pm Choir Shabbat Dinner 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Service (Choir Sings) 8:00pm Anniversary Shabbat	21 10:00am B'nai Mitzvah Zachary Kiernan & Lara Moreines (Beha'a lo'kha)
22	23 9:00am Play Camp	24 9:00am Play Camp 1:30pm Hadassah Meeting	25 9:00am Play Camp	26 9:00am Play Camp	27 9:00am Play Camp 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Service	28
29	30 9:00am Play Camp					



TIKKUN LEIL SHAVUOT

Come join us
as we study Torah
together for the
first time as a community
on the eve of Shavuot

Congregation Shomrei Emunah
Thursday, June 5, 2003 at 8:15 PM

Nosh and Study Sessions led by:



Rabbi Aaron Kreigel: Congregation Beth Ahm
Rabbi Steven Kushner: Temple Ner Tamid
Rabbi Norman Patz: Temple Sholom of W. Essex
Rabbi Michael Monson: Congregation Shomrei Emunah
Rabbi Elliott Tepperman: B'nai Keshet



Mitzvah Day

May 18, 2003

Temple members of all ages are encouraged to help us make a difference to the patients at Clara Maas Hospital

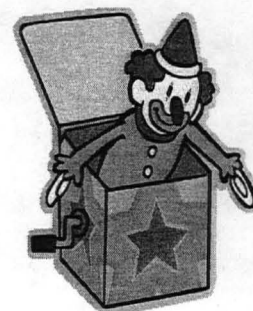
Mitzvah Day activities take the place of Sunday Religious School classes.

Children should come to Mitzvah Day with a parent

1. We will be **making** Tikkun Olam Teddy Bears and Story Books for children in the emergency room. Please bring old magazines to cut up and decorate story books.
2. We will be **collecting** new unwrapped toys and books for children aged 3-15 in pediatrics
3. We will be **creating** wrapping paper for the toys we collect and get well cards for those in the hospital

Schedule

9:30 — 10:00 a.m.	Light nosh - bagels and
10:00 — 10:15 a.m.	Opening remarks
10:15 — 12:00 p.m.	Work on <i>mitzvah</i> projects
12:00 p.m.	Congregational Meeting



Social Concerns גמילות חסדים

TIKKUN OLAM repairing the world

The Tikkun Olam Committee welcomes congregants interested in social action!

Plans for this year include participation in the Religious School *Mitzvah* Day on Sunday, May 18th, supplying the New Jersey food bank throughout the year and hosting the Inter-faith Hospitality Network (IHN) in December. Incidentally, an IHN family who recently found their own apartment is in need of the following items: bedding and bath accessories, TV, vacuum cleaner, and kitchenware. If you have something to donate, contact Cheryl or Hadassah at (973) 313-0011.

All interested Temple members can join in the Religious School *Mitzvah* Day by making *Tikkun Olam* teddy bears, "Get-Well" cards and donating toys and books for children in the emergency room at Clara Maas Hospital. Bring your donations and your creative energies to the Temple on May 18th, and we will deliver them (the toys at least) to Clara Maas. (See the ad for the *Mitzvah* Day included in this issue).

Additionally, the 5th Grade Religious School students have initiated their own *Tikkun Olam* project, a plan for delivering leftover food from events at the Temple to the Salvation Army. If you have leftover food from a Temple event or your home, please call Larry Westreich at (973) 509-1444.

For those interested in a more in-depth *Tikkun Olam* experience, consider *Tzevet Mitzvot*, the UAHC Adult Mitzvah Corps. This group will spend the week of June 29th–July 5 2003 repairing dilapidated homes in Burlington, Vermont. Participants will enjoy "an intensive week of social action, study, and worship." For more information, contact Rabbi Marla Feldman at (212) 650-4160 or MFeldman@UAHC.org.

You can join in our Temple's efforts at advocating for causes you identify. By participating in the present activities of the committee and sharing your ideas for future projects, you too can help in "Repairing the World." The next meeting will be at 8 PM on Tuesday, May 27th at the Temple. For more information, contact the *Tikkun Olam* chairperson Larry Westreich at 509-1444 or Westlar@aol.com.

SENIORS

Louis R. Druian Fellowship Circle, co-sponsored by Temple Ner Tamid, the Weiss Family Endowment Fund and Dorothy Druian in cooperation with the JCC Metropolitan NJ and the National Council Jewish Women, Essex County Division. Meetings are held at Temple Ner Tamid, 936 Broad Street, Bloomfield, NJ on Tuesdays, from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Current events discussions and/or video aerobics start at 11:15 a.m., followed by lunch (bring your own—dairy only please) and then our feature presentation.

May Calendar of Events

Tuesday, May 13

Rabbi Helaine Ettinger

Tuesday, May 20

Senior Solutions (role playing and discussion)

Tuesday, May 27

Karen Frank—Health Check
Art Vernon: "Jews of Newark"

GROTTA FOUNDATION

Sheila Eidelman

Here's your chance to earn points... One of our homebound buddies who lives in Bloomfield is in dire need of help to purchase groceries. She has difficulty getting around and could use some help about once a week to fill her grocery needs.

Since you are going anyway, couldn't you call us for her list and pick up some things for her to?

It would be a great Mitzvah!

Call me at the Temple and we can work out the details. Maybe two friends could alternate.

When we help others, we help ourselves in the long run.

Jewish Vocational Service

Announces a free community career seminar

Networking For Success

Sponsored by
Maturity Works and the JVS
Jewish Employment Network
(JEN)

Keynote Speaker

William Tracy
Senior Policy Fellow
John J. Heldrich Center
for Workforce Development

To be joined by a panel of
successful networkers

Date: Tuesday, May 27, 2003

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Temple B'nai Jeshurun
1025 S. Orange Avenue
Short Hills, NJ 07078

*Pre-registration required

Call: (973) 674-0871 by May 21.

As I am sure most of you know, we are now in the throes of construction. Our contractor is promising to finish by the High Holidays, so bear with us with some inconvenience as we watch our expanded facility go up. We have now raised over \$1.7 million, but we still need to raise about \$275,000 more so that the classrooms on the lower level can be fully finished and so that our endowment gets off to a healthy start. I really appreciate each and every one of your contributions. Even the smallest donations mount up towards our goal, although we ask that you be as generous as you can.

I know that times are hard for many, but we are building for our future. Also, as we proceed with financing, I ask that if you have made a verbal pledge, that you forward your pledge card to us as soon as possible so that we can substantiate the pledges for our bank.

I remind you that the new rooms will bring all High Holiday services indoors, provide enough classrooms to allow a computer lab and tutoring space, give us back a library, provide space for adults to gather and learn at the same time as children, and give our teenagers a youth lounge. Our space for social activities will be larger and more flexible. We will be capable of hosting youth conclaves, spirituality *Kallahs* and scholars-in-residence. And we will be able to offer top-quality programming that might otherwise be outside of our reach. And all you need to do is to support this campaign!

Thanks once again to all of you (listed below) who have made pledges and/or contributions to date. You are wonderfully generous. Again, if you would like to help with this campaign or have any questions, please contact David Abramson or me.

Lori Resnick and Josh Aaronson
Lori Price-Abrams and Rick Abrams
Tamara and David Abramson
Anne-Marie Nolin and Bob Adler
Florence and Raymond Aisner
Judy and Dan Anderson
Anonymous (1)
Myra and Andrew Armour
Cathy and Gideon Asher
Anne and Martin Baum
Lori and Jed Beitler
Bernie Berger
Herb Bilus
Amy Winkelman and Gary Blackman
Bloomfield Chapter of Hadassah
Fern Bass and Mark Brown
Marion and Leonard Buchner
Rochelle Sandler and Joe Campeas
Amy Rosen and Tim Carden
Cornelia Sherman and Bob Carrigan
Lisa Korn and Tony Castigno
Dianna and Steve Chipkin
Barbara Friedman and Mark Citron
Amy and Scott Claman
Shirley and Max Cobert
Stasha and Mark Cohen
Deborah and Roger Cohen
Ruth K. Cohen
Hedi Molnar and Michael Curcio
Barbara Flessas and Bob David
Lois and George Davis
Harriet Degenshein
Jane and Larry Degenshein
Harriet Degenshein
Patty and Matthew DeSimone
Mitchell Dinnerstein and Julie Blackman
Miriam Chilton and Joel Dorow
Dorothy Druian
Mindy Proppe and Fred Duchin
Rachel Shatz and William Dunnell
Ellen Silver and Woody Eisenberg
Jean Ellis
Paula Kaufmann and Ron Epstein
Sonia Rapaport and Arthur Fagin
Lisa and John Falcione
Felicia and Ron Festa
Randi and Jeffrey Fleisig
Eve Robinson and Tom Fraioli

Susan Weinberg and Bruce Frank
Susan Helman and Michael Frank
Nancy and Joel Franklin
Dianna and Harry Friedland
Janet Boltax and James Friedman
Joanne and Mark Friedman
Deborah and Stephen Friedman
Martha Fritz
Barbara Shapiro Furst
Betsy Lembeck and Don Garber
Nancy and Robert Gerber
Arlene and Brian Glasser
Dot Glazer
Jan Singer and Jeremy Gluck
Amy Lazarus and Eugene Goldberg
Laurie and Richard Goldberg
Steve Goldberg
Laurie and Bruce Goodman
Susan and Allan Gorman
Barbara and Larry Gottesman
Marge and Paul Grayson
Gladys Green
Helen and Melvin Green
Sylvia Green
Randy Simon and Lee Greenberger
Joanna Greenwald
Lennard and Michele Grodner
Florence Grossman
Wendy Grossman
Lillian Grundfest
Susan Hochbaum and Steve Guarnaccia
Stacey and Rob Hammerling
Renee and Gordon Handler
Eileen and Scott Harwood
Susan and Albie Hecht
Cindy and Dan Herman
Robert Hertzberg and Janet Duni
Marilyn and Bob Hilowitz
Howard and Dede Hirsch
Fran and Julius Hirsch
Ellen Sherman and Chris Hitchcock
Marie and Peter Hoffman
Dede and Peter Horowicz
Diane and Richard Horowitz
Robin Sherman and Ron Jacobs
Allison Field and David Jasinski
Alan and Jill Johnson
Ruth and Art Josephson

Barry Judelman
Kathy and Cliff Kahn
Sally and Adley Kantor
Linda Lendman and David Katowitz
Anne Katz
Susan and Lanny Katz
Anna and Michael Katznelson
Jane and Andrew Kessler
Claire and Stan Keyles
Nancy Barbe and Steve Klein
Debbie Osteimer and Harry Kleinman
Lourdes and Jeffrey Kobernick
Kathy and David Korngreen
Debbie and David Kravitz
Rose Kron
Friends of Rose Kron in her honor
Marilyn and Rabbi Steven Kushner
Audrey and Richard Lasday
Mary and Steve Lee
Rachel Hott and Steven Leeds
Ronnie and Josh Levering
Susan and Eric Levin
Kay and Marc Levinson
Debbie Galant and Warren Levinson
Cantor Jessica Levitt
Stephanie and Mark Lurie
Helen Mackler
Ellen and Wendell Maddrey
Karen and Larry Mandelbaum
Jodi and Art Meisler
Deborah and Jory Miller
Lee Guest-Moore and Kenneth Moore
Susan Levine and Robert Moreines
Debby and Harvey Morginstin
Jill and Scott Nadison
Steven Nagourney
Elinor Neifeld
Gail Neldon
Sherri Neuwirth
Susan Nucci
Jodi Nussbaum
Liz and David Oliner
Debbie Lasday and Brian O'Reilly
Ilana and David Pknay
Harriet Perlman
Nisa and Michael Peroff
Laurie and Mark Perwien
Patricia Einbender and Mark Pesner

Ann and Lee Phillips
Bobbi Brown and Steve Plofer
Belinda Plutz
Rachel and Matthew Poggie
Roberta and Richard Polton
Suzanne and Arthur Portnoy
Amy and Donald Putman
Jani Rachelson
Jody and Mark Rakov
Marisabel and Jerome Raymond
Lisa and Anthony Reid
Ellen Ziff-Resnick and Ira Resnick
Judith and Robert Rich
Lois Ring
Elaine Rose
Sharon and Stephen Rosen
Kathy and Robert Rosenberg
Tamara Friedman and Dan Rosenblum
Lois and Bernard Rosenkrantz
Kent Roth
Ruth and Don Sarlin
Liz Peters and Richard Segal
Sarah and Roger Segal
Seniors
Cindy Sherman and Sheryl Goldstein
Norma and Martin Siegel
Sisterhood of Temple Ner Tamid
Alla Straks and Sasha Smukler
Elena Sokolow
Dorothy Ziman and George Spiegel
Helene and Sidney Spitz
Beth Hoffman and Tim Spitzer
Paula and Robert Stein
Linda and Brian Sterling
Roselle and Eric Stern
Inge Strauss
Susan Weinstock and Roy Suskin
Seymour Taffet
Nina and Richard Tucker
Deyna and David Vesey
Annie Garcy and Alan Vomacka
Denise and Ira Wagner
Paul Weingarten
Maddie and Larry Weinstein
Tamar and Emil Weiss
Ellen and Harvey Weiss
Judy and Josh Weston
Lisa and Larry Westreich

(President continued from page 2)

I stopped going to High Holiday services in protest when the rabbi's sermon on Rosh Hashana in 1968 was about how Jews were persecuted—but it was being delivered at Alice Tully Hall (rented by the congregation) to a group that paid for its seats, with very expensive tickets down front, while we were way in the back. OK, it was the '60's! I went to Kol Nidre services with my folks just a few times in the intervening years.

Anne-Marie and I met in 1976 and married in 1980. The wedding was performed by a freelance rabbi who had the advantage for me of coming with no strings attached. Jake was born in 1984, and my father and I were the only ones in attendance when Jake was circumcised by a doctor. I did take an "Introduction to Judaism" class sponsored by Educational Alliance West and the Florence Melton program. Again, the advantage to me was "no strings attached." I didn't have to join anything. Rachel was born in 1989. We moved to Montclair in 1990.

Shabbat Morning—My Entryway Into This Community

We decided to send Jake to religious school beginning in third grade. But I felt like a hypocrite, insisting that he needed a Jewish education while I knew so little. So, I decided to attend services every Friday night for a year using the theory that I would know enough after a year to decide whether it really was important for me that our kids be raised as Jews. Three weeks into this pact with myself, I blew it and missed a Friday night. The only other option was a "Shabbat morning *min-yan*" the next morning—which I imagined to be a room full of learned old men. I would of course be the only ne'er-do-well ignoramus in the room. But I had made a pact with myself, and going to such a service would be like doing penance, with the anticipated embarrassment being a form of appropriate punishment for me. Anyway, I could sneak in the back and go unnoticed.

What I found was a small group of people meeting around the table in the old library. There was no place to hide! But I then noticed that two of the people had "cheat sheets" (transliterations of the prayers) and were using them openly. The rabbi later offered me an *aliyah*, and I said "No." Then he told me that there was a "cheat sheet" for the Torah blessings that I could use. So, I did it. And we read the Torah portion in English and started discussing it. I was hooked. I had found a place where they did not assume I was a learned Jew simply because I was an adult Jew. More importantly, this was a place where we learned from each other—and where adult Jewish learning was a core value of the congregation.

Ways In Which We Got Involved

I became an active member of TNT because people at Ner Tamid (including Kathy Kahn, who was running the Adult Ed committee at the time) saw that they had found a person interested in discovering the communal and spiritual meanings of Judaism. I have chaired the Adult Ed committee, been TNT's VP of Membership, served on the Board, run our first Shabbat Across America programs, been "rabbi" for the kids' High Holy Day services for a number of years... and now this job.

One of my great joys doing Membership was being able to respond reassuringly to the nervous prospective members who reluctantly often said, "But my wife/husband isn't Jewish" with, "Neither is mine. And that's true for many of our members." I also helped our congregation's first openly-gay couples to join, enroll their kids, and integrate into this community.

Anne-Marie has been active too—working on the communications for our mid-90's capital campaign and taking the "Intro to Judaism" class, being an active member of TNT in her own right. She chose to convert and did so on the eve of *Shavuot* last year—an appropriate time of year. Anne-Marie attended a Catholic girl's high school and a Catholic women's col-

lege, but her commitment to Judaism's *mitzvot* was strong before she converted—perhaps stronger than mine as she periodically tried (and continues to try) to get me home from work early enough on Fridays to help us make a special *Shabbat* welcome/dinner.

Our son, Jake, is now 19. He is finishing his first year at Earlham College in Richmond, Indiana—a Quaker school where he intends to minor in Jewish Studies. He served as VP of Religious and Cultural Affairs for the TNT Senior Youth Group for two years. When we started looking at colleges, he insisted that we focus on those with good philosophy, theater, theology and Hebrew programs. HUC-JIR seems to be in his future, as he wants to be a rabbi. This is interesting, particularly in light of the fact that some Jews would not even consider him to be a Jew because Anne-Marie was not a Jew when he and Rachel were born.

Rachel is now 13, a recent *bat mitzvah* this January—who received the Torah that day from my mother, who passed it to Anne-Marie, who passed it to Rachel. She will continue in religious school next year.

Next Steps?

So, that's where we are today and how we got here. My Hebrew remains very weak, and there is a whole lot of other Jewish stuff I still don't know—and may never know. But what I do know is how significant what I have learned so far has been to how I live my life. Making choices. Trying to be a *mensh*. Knowing that there will be opportunities for *teshuvah*. Taking comfort in knowing now that the people described in the Torah are often more dysfunctional than they are role models...making the interaction with the text each week far more accessible and meaningful.

Are the people we read about in the Torah each week any more "religious" or "Jewish" than I am or you are? In most cases, probably not. So, why not

(President continued on page 13)

engage in the dialogue with our less-than-perfect ancestors? Why not give *Shabbat* morning services a try?

Of course, things have changed a bit since my first *Shabbat* morning in the library. We are now a larger congregation at which there are more *b'nai mitzvot*. But the "Casual Minyan" that has been held once a month over the past couple of years is a wonderful successor to that informal weekly gathering in the library. Those of us who cherish that form of communal worship continue to struggle with how to celebrate *Shabbat* in this way—with singing, discussion, noshes, etc. This led to the introduction a few years ago of the Torah discussion into the *b'nai mitzvah Shabbat* morning service.

And the discussion of how better to integrate communal *Shabbat* worship into the process leading to a *bar* or *bat mitzvah* (and following the *bar* or *bat mitzvah*) will begin in earnest this coming year as we rethink the role of this life cycle service in our community's life and the lives of the families celebrating this *simcha*. If you want to be part of this discussion, please contact Nancy Barbe (VP of Education), Stephanie Lurie (our VP-elect of Religious Affairs), or me.

Please consider these ways of becoming more engaged in this community:

1. Plan on attending *Shabbat* services a few more times than you do now, and keep an eye on the calendar for the casual minyans.
2. Remember that we are a community only if each of us works at being part of the community and making others feel welcome.
 - ◇ Before the end of Religious School on May 18, be sure to introduce yourself to another adult you've never really talked to before and attend the Congregational Meeting at noon.
 - ◇ Do that again at *Shabbat* services on a Friday night or Saturday morning this month, in June and during the summer services (often led by congregants).
3. If you have not figured out what your Ner Tamid *mitzvot* might be, come to *Mitzvah Day* on May 18, or feel free to contact me after our annual congregational meeting that day. I am more than willing to offer guidance as needed regarding where our needs and your interests connect.

Finally, two suggestions of a financial nature...

4. If you have not yet made a contribution or pledge to the Kehilla campaign and are able to, please do so soon – as the Board is on the verge of a decision regarding whether we can afford to finish the lower level of the addition or not.
5. If you are out of work and looking for a job, please contact me – in confidence if you wish. I am trying to figure out how best to serve the needs of our members who are seeking employment—using member resources within our Ner Tamid community and/or resources available in the broader area (e.g., Jewish Vocational Services).

Thanks. See ya at services...or at another of my attempts at Hebrew learning!

Bob Adler (radleris@comcast.net)

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
TNT FLAMES MEN'S
BASKETBALL TEAM!**

The JCC of West Orange sponsored a 35+ year old men's basketball league this past winter. Of the seven participating temple teams in the suburban Essex division, our TNT Flames finished 2nd in the regular season, trailing only the undefeated Etz Chaim Livingston squad. Highlighting this solid showing were two hard-fought victories over Temple Sharey Tefilo-Israel, South Orange. In typical March Madness fashion, Sharey Tefilo-Israel went on to upset both Ner Tamid and Etz Chaim in the playoffs to capture the JCC league championship.

The TNT Flame roster included forwards: Ken Zimmerman, Bruce Menken, Ben Asher, Mark Cohen (coach), Neil Schmidt, Matt Powell, Joel Franklin, Dave Peknay. Guards: Larry Degenshein, Rich Goldberg, Ron Festa, Harry Handler and Hank Hersch.

If you are interested in playing recreational basketball in the Spring/Summer, contact Larry Degenshein at (973)736-5785 or email at

SAVE THE DATE!

MITZVAH DAY
MAY 18 AT 9:30 A.M.

**ANNUAL
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING
12:00 P.M.**

KABBALAT SHABBAT

Installation of Officers and Trustees

May 30
6:30 p.m. Service

a Nosh & Schmooze
will precede the
service at 6:00 pm

Babysitting will
be provided

**Please note that there
will be no 8:00 pm
service this evening**

the back page

Blood Drive

May 18, 2003

Temple members are again invited to participate in a blood drive to be held in the Bloodmobile in the parking lot of the Temple on Sunday, May 18 from 8:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. Reservations for specific time slots every 20 minutes may be made by contacting Harvey Morginstin at 973-338-6408 or hayimm@excite.com.

TREE OF LIFE

Leaves on the Tree of Life
in the Temple lobby
can be purchased to
celebrate any *simcha*.

Commemorate any life-
affirming event such as Birth,
B'nai Mitzvah,
Confirmation, Marriage
or Anniversary.

Leaves cost \$180
Stones cost \$1000

Contact Laurie in the Temple
office at 973-338-1500

TEMPLE NER TAMID
936 Broad Street
Bloomfield, New Jersey 07003

Klau Library
Hebrew Union College
Jewish Institute of Religion
3101 Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45220

