

Temple Topics

OCTOBER 2005

ELUL 5765 / TISHREI 5766

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF TEMPLE NER TAMID

STEVEN KUSHNER Rabbi

NOT TOO LONG AGO MY NEPHEW GOT MARRIED. In discussing our family's plan to go to the wedding, Hannah asked *the* question: "Is she Jewish?" "No," I replied. "Is she Christian?" Hannah came back. "No," I said. "Well what religion is she?" Hannah pressed on. "I don't think she's anything," I answered. "That's good," she concluded. "Why do you say that?" I asked. "Because now she can become something," Hannah deduced.

At the core of every religious system is the notion that one's faith and one's *self* are intertwined. You cannot be one thing but believe something else. That's called hypocrisy. By the same token, simply because you do not embrace a particular theology or attend a church or synagogue doesn't mean that you are *nothing*. On the contrary, we all are *something* to one extent or the other. The question is "to what extent?"

In some ways, *that* is the question we are all to be addressing as we enter the New Year. *To what extent...?* And while no doubt on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur that question ought be applied to one's *Jewishness*—namely, to what extent am I a Jew, to what extent is my life *Jewish*?—it also necessitates a more expansive approach. To what extent am I a father? A mother? To what extent am I authentic to myself? Or put another way, am I really *something*?

Becoming Something

The nature of life today is so demanding, from the time we enter high school until the time we retire we have so few genuine opportunities to ask these existential questions. Life just seems to take off and we're lucky if we can keep pace. From learning a craft, to making money, to raising a family, to planning retirement, life in the modern world rarely affords us the time to reflect: not *what* do I want to be ("... when I grow up") but *who* do I want to be?

Years ago I was involved in a retreat for interfaith families. The theme of the weekend was entitled "Judaism is Becoming." The double entendre was intentional. To be sure, Judaism is attractive; as a religion it has much in which people can find meaning and value. But Judaism is also a process. Not so much a way of life but a way of living (the latter term, at least for me, implying that it is something which must be done on an everyday, organic basis). Which is to say, for Judaism, life holds the ever-present potential for change, for transformation, for *becoming*.

This is why, for the mystics of our tradition, we are to enter these Days of Awe as if we are *nothing*. Not worthless, but—on the contrary—of infinite possibility. We come to the New Year as a blank slate, a *something* waiting to happen. But, like so much of what we teach in Judaism, what will come depends not on God but on ourselves. God has given us the soul. God has given us this spiritual oasis to nourish that soul. Whether or not we will emerge refreshed and renewed, whether or not we will become *something* is a question only we can answer.

Life is an opportunity. You know the rest.

High Holy Day Schedule

Monday, October 3 / 8:00 p.m.
Erev Rosh Hashanah Service

Tuesday, October 4
Rosh Hashanah Day 1 Service / 10:00 a.m.
Rosh Hashanah *B'yachad* Service / 10:00 a.m.
Rosh Hashanah Tot Service / 2:00 p.m.
Tashlich / 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 5 / 10:00 a.m.
Rosh Hashanah Day 2 Service

Wednesday, October 12 / 7:00 p.m.
Kol Nidre Service

Thursday, October 13
Yom Kippur Services / 10:00 a.m.
Yom Kippur *B'yachad* Service / 10:00 a.m.
Yom Kippur Torah Discussion / 1:00 p.m.
Yom Kippur Tot Service / 2:00 p.m.
Yizkor Service / 3:00 p.m.
Mincha & Ne'ilah Service / 4:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 16
Lower East Side Trip

Monday, October 17 / 6:00 p.m.
Erev Sukkot Family Picnic & Service

Tuesday, October 18 / 10:00 a.m.
Sukkot Service followed by a light luncheon

Tuesday, October 25 / 10:00 a.m.
Shemini Atzeret / Yizkor Service

Tuesday, October 25 / 7:00 p.m.
Simchat Torah Celebration / Consecration

Shabbat Services

Erev Shabbat services every Friday at 8:00 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.

October 1 / 9:00 a.m.
Torah Study

October 15 / 10:00 a.m.
Casual Minyan

October 28 / 6:30 p.m.
Kabbalat Shabbat

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Did you happen to catch the story about the shuttle astronauts' observations of Earth? From their vantage point they could clearly see evidence of erosion, deforestation and a thinning atmosphere. Reading this kind of news can make one feel helpless and hopeless. Then again, imagine how the astronauts themselves must have felt when they reached the space station and learned that there was damage to the shuttle exterior. Sure, they could try to repair it, but they still had to have a lot of faith to say "No, thanks" to the Russians' offer to give them a lift back home. I don't know about you, but I was mighty relieved the morning they landed safely.

This past summer was a time of fragility, a time that demanded faith. I felt for my publishing colleagues in London who had to commute by subway after bombings in which one of them perished. I tried hard not to worry about my son's safety on a trip to Israel that immediately preceded the Gaza Strip pullout. Then there were those poor astronauts stuck with a shuttle from the disco era. Their warnings about the future of Earth, later punctuated with an exclamation point called Hurricane Katrina, made me want to curl up in a fetal position.

But that's not what Adonai would want. We can't let fear and hopelessness paralyze us when we have so much work to do, from rebuilding shuttles and cities, to feeding and housing evacuees, to repairing and protecting the environment, to bringing about peace between nations. Only in action will we find solace and understanding. As the prayer Geshet Tzar Me'od says, "The universe is but a narrow bridge—and the key is not to be afraid." We have to avoid looking down at the daunting crevasse. Instead we should keep our eyes focused on the people who are crossing the bridge with us and on the goals ahead.

May you go from strength to strength in this coming year, keeping your head up and never faltering on the way to your destination, and may the bridge supporting all of us be a sturdy one.

The Atmosphere Is But an Egg Shell

Michael Bogdanow, the award-winning artist who painted "Jerusalem Sunrise" (generously commissioned and donated by Steve Plofker and Bobbi Brown and recently hung in Temple Ner Tamid's chapel), will speak during services on Friday, October 21. He will discuss the many ways that Torah can provide inspiration for art and for the creative process. He will show and discuss his paintings, including "Jerusalem Sunrise," and address the work of other contemporary Judaic artists and musicians. Bogdanow's artwork is exhibited widely and included in many private and institutional collections. It has appeared on covers of books and records--including "The Freedom Music Project," by Temple Ner Tamid's new cantorial soloist, Peri Smilow. His work can be seen at www.MichaelBogdanow.com.

Celebrating Sukkot!

Join us in building and decorating the TNT sukkah on Sunday, October 16 at 11:00 a.m. Decorations will be made by religious school students or you can bring your own. Alternatively, you can sign up for our annual trip to the Lower East Side to buy your lulav and etrog, visit the Lower East Side Tenement Museum and eat great food (see article below).

On Monday, October 17 on Erev Sukkot, come back to TNT at 6:00 p.m. for a family picnic and Sukkot services at 7:00 p.m. Bring a blanket and a dairy/vegetarian picnic for your family to enjoy (we'll probably spread out in the social hall, unless the weather is wonderful). Don't forget your lulav and etrog for the service.

Sukkot services continue on Tuesday, October 18 at 10:00 a.m., followed by a light brunch at 11:00 a.m.

More Sukkot Celebration

Rabbi and Marilyn Kushner invite you to join them in their Sukkah on Sunday, October 23 at 3:00 p.m. Come to schmooze with fellow TNT members, shake a lulav or smell an etrog!

Simchat Torah

Tuesday, October 25 at 7:00 p.m. is our celebration of Simchat Torah. Join us as we dance and sing and view the whole Torah as it is unrolled and held by the community. In addition, Rabbi Kushner will bless and consecrate our newest Religious School students under the *chuppah*.



High Holy Day Offerings

CHILD CARE

This year child-care and/or children's programming will be offered during all High Holy Day services. (Please note, this includes evening services.) For children ages 1 to 4, babysitting will be offered. For children ages 5-7, a High Holy Day activity program has been specially designed. NOTE: The fee for child care is \$15 per child per service (Erev RH, RH1, RH2, Kol Nidre, YK a.m., YK p.m.). Children will not be admitted without prior registration.

BYACHAD

This year we will again be holding *B'yachad: A High Holy Day Family Worship Experience*. It will include prayer in English and Hebrew with transliteration, singing, and interactive family activities. This service, held in the new chapel and led by student Rabbi Stephanie Kolin, is for families with children ages 8-12. Older siblings of children ages 8-12 are invited to attend with their families. Younger children should go into babysitting/child care. Please see page 4 for more specific information.

Children will not be admitted without a parent. For the above offerings, please fill out the appropriate section of the High Holy Day Ticket Request Form. Families will not be admitted to the *B'yachad* without prior registration. Anyone who would like to help in the planning and implementation of these services should speak to Lisa Westreich (973-746-5115).

Children in Grade 7 and above are expected to attend services in the Main Sanctuary, unless they want to attend *B'yachad* with a younger sibling.

TOT SERVICES

Finally, for families of all ages, Rabbi Kushner and Cantor Elizabeth Goldmann will conduct High Holy Day Tot services in the afternoons of the first day of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Services will begin at 2:00 p.m.

ROSH HASHANAH AFTERNOON TASHLICH

One of the most moving customs of the High Holy Days is *Tashlich*. Meet in the Temple lobby at 3:00 p.m. and join with other members of our community as we walk across Broad Street to Clark's Pond (behind Bloomfield Middle School) and symbolically cast our sins into the sea by throwing crumbs upon the face of the water. This exercise in *Teshuvah* (repentance), accompanied by the recitation of Psalms and singing, begins on the afternoon of the first day of Rosh Hashanah—at 3:00 p.m.—immediately following the High Holy Day Tot Service. Your children will remember this tradition for their entire lives.

YOM KIPPUR AFTERNOON DISCUSSION

For those who want to make Yom Kippur an all-day encounter, please join us in the library during the "gap" between the morning service and *Yizkor* for an in-depth Torah study and discussion group led by Student Rabbi Stephanie Kolin. This is a very informal discussion of some of the more enigmatic texts that are found in our liturgy and Torah readings during these Days of Awe. This is not a class but rather an opportunity to share thoughts and feelings about the themes that inspire and sometimes even overwhelm or alienate us on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

Lower East Side Trip

Join with us on Sunday morning, October 16, for a delightful day of fulfilling the mitzvah of purchasing a *lulav* and *etrog* for the festival of Sukkot, walking in the bazaars of New York's Lower East Side, and — of course — eating at a kosher deli. For a modest fee, \$25 adults / \$15 children (13 and under), we'll provide a bus, a lesson on how to pick the perfect *lulav*, and the opportunity to re-live life at the turn of the century at the Tenement House Museum.

This is a great program for families or just come by yourself, but by all means—save the date: Sunday, October 16. The bus will leave Ner Tamid at 9:00 a.m. and return to Bloomfield around 4:00 p.m. To reserve a seat on the bus, please send your check (payable to Temple Ner Tamid) to the Temple office

Learning and Jewish Growth תלמוד תורה

IRIS SCHWARTZ Director of Education

On Tuesday evening October 25, during our Simchat Torah celebration, we will Consecrate all of the kindergarten through grade 3 students who are beginning their religious school education. What exactly does the word consecrate mean?

I started to think back to a book I used as a religious school student, titled Consecrated Unto Me. This book is about the sacred relationship of marriage. We use the Hebrew word *kiddushin* for marriage. This comes from the word *kadosh*, which means "holy" or "set aside." During the Jewish wedding ceremony the groom places a ring on the bride's finger and says the words *haray at m'kudeshet li* – You are consecrated to me....

Another time we talk about consecration in our tradition is when God consecrates us as a holy people at Mt. Sinai at the time of the giving of the Law. The Jewish people are to have a special, holy relationship with God. It is said that

all Jews that ever were or will be stood at Sinai to accept the Law.

During the holiday of Shavuot we learn about the consecration of the Jewish people to God's service through the story of Ruth. The narrative climaxes when Ruth, a Moabite widow, refuses to leave her old, widowed mother-in-law Naomi saying "Entreat me not to leave you and to return from following after you; where you go I will go, where you lodge I will lodge, your people will be my people, and your God my God." What more perfect act of faith can we find? How much more eager should our ancestors have been to renew their covenant and consecrate their relationship with God?

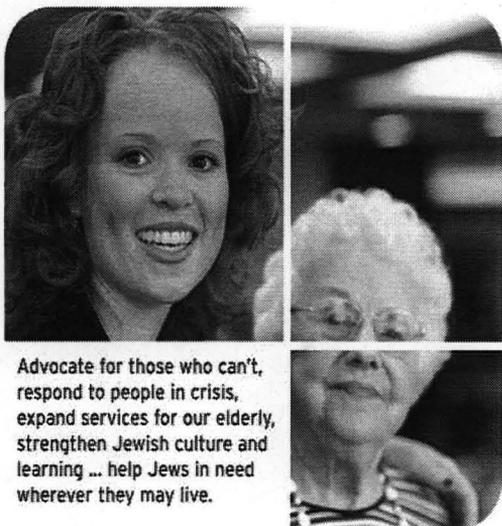
To be sure, Consecration is about holy relationships. When we marry we publicly declare that we are making a sacred commitment to another person promising to set up a Jewish home and raise Jewish children – all holy acts. We set ourselves apart from others in a holy relationship with God when we

accepted the Law at Sinai. And Ruth teaches us by her example about consecrating oneself to Judaism.

Each Simchat Torah we end and then begin again the reading of the Torah. Each Simchat Torah we celebrate that our youngest students are beginning a lifetime of dedication to God, Torah and the Jewish people. Like the reading of the Torah, once begun, Jewish education has no end. We learn in Pirkei Avot, "Turn it (Torah) and turn it again, for everything is in it." Each Simchat Torah we are reminded that the Consecration of our students is indeed the beginning of a holy relationship.

We celebrate with those being Consecrated and their families, joyfully welcoming them to the study of Torah. As we consecrate our youngest students this year let us also be reminded that each of us has a sacred relationship with God. Each of us is consecrated to God's service. And that each of us has holy work to do in this world.

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Important Dates to Remember

Due to the Holy Days of Rosh Ha-Shanah, Yom Kippur, Succot and Simchat Torah and the holiday of Columbus Day we have a very abbreviated schedule of religious school classes this month.

Classes WILL MEET on:
Sundays of October 16, 23 and 30
Monday, October 31

We resume a regular schedule of classes in November.

For help and information, call the Jewish Resource Line at 973-929-3100

We have been in school for several weeks now, and for many of the boys and girls the adjustment has been fine. There are a few tears for some, but I am sure over the next couple of weeks they too will disappear.

As we approach the holidays, the students of Shoresh are getting ready to celebrate the New Year. They will learn about the Jewish New Year through art, science and literature. On Monday, October 17th, Shoresh will celebrate Sukkot with their families. We will sing, eat and decorate the Sukkah. All are welcome to attend.

We still continue to look for families that would like to join our "Shoresh Shabbat Chavurah." It is a wonderful way for families with young children to meet monthly. If you are interested, please feel free to contact me or Andrea Robik. Families do not need to have children in Shoresh to participate.

Shoresh will open up a new class in November. This new class is a two-year old, two day a week class. It will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Space is limited; please call for additional information.

We are delighted to tell you that we are continuing towards national accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The New Jersey Professional Development Center and Education and the New Jersey Accreditation Facility Project selected Shoresh as a high quality early childhood school to move towards national accreditation. Upon final accreditation, Shoresh will be recognized as a leader in our field.

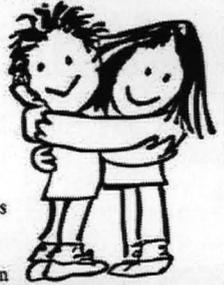
And finally, our first Parenting Program is scheduled to meet on November 9th. Come and be part of an exciting morning of learning.

L'shanah Tovah to all.

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why Shoresh?

- 2 year, 3 year and Pre-K Classes
- Mommy and Me
- Full and Half Day Programs
- Enriched Jewish Curriculum
- Class Trips
- Music
- Computers
- Holiday Celebrations
- Summer Play Camp



Director Joan Goodman

come in or call (973) 338-1500

Tot Shabbat Services are at
7:00 p.m. on the
1st Friday of each month

The upcoming Tot Shabbat
Schedule is as follows:

- October 7
- November 4

Join us for light refreshments following services



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Hurricane Relief Effort

The Temple Ner Tamid community is doing its part to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

The Drive for Supplies

In very short notice, with the help of the whole community, we collected boxes upon boxes of diapers, wipes, dry soup and sheets. On Sunday, September 18, adults and children helped box all the goods collected before they were brought to Temple Sharey Tefilo-Israel in South Orange. Sharey Tefilo-Israel was the collection point for any synagogues in the area that wanted to contribute to the Jacobs' Ladder Relief Project. Jacobs' Ladder is a staging and distribution center for relief supplies run by the Union for Reform Judaism. Our efforts filled about 1/4 of the 40 foot container shipped to Utica, Mississippi. Special thanks to ReMax Village Square in Upper Montclair for the donation of the truck to take the boxed goods to South Orange. And a huge thanks to Bon Bebe/International Intimates for donating the boxes and packing tape.

URJ's Gift Card Project

Rabbi Eliezer said: "Let dignity of your friend be as dear to you as your own."

Avot Chapter 2:10

Help the thousands of evacuees get what they need and want as they resettle on a more permanent basis. An easy way to enable evacuees to purchase personal items of their own choosing is to donate gift cards that can be redeemed throughout the Southern

United States. Here's how to help through this effort:

Purchase gift cards either at the following retail establishments or through their websites:

- Costco
- Home Depot
- JC Penney
- K-Mart
- Kroger
- Lowes
- Safeway
- Sam's Club
- Sears
- Target
- Toys R US
- Wal-Mart
- Winn Dixie

Send the gift cards to the Temple to the attention of the Tikkun Olam committee.

The community's purchases will be sent to the Union for Reform Judaism. The Union will distribute gift cards through local shelters or to individuals and families so that they can purchase essential items to assist them in their resettlement. Gift cards in amounts of \$250 or less are recommended for security reasons.

The needs of the victims of Hurricane Katrina will continue for a long time as they continue to resettle and begin to rebuild. The Hurricane Relief Committee is looking at long term projects to help with those efforts. Updates will be communicated through email, the TNT website www.nertamid.org and in Topics.

New Orleans Evacuees in Our Area

The extended family of two local Montclair residents were victims of Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans. All 30+ members started arriving in our area on September 2. Half are children from the ages of 2-16 years. The four oldest teenagers are attending school at Montclair High and Mt. Hebron Middle School. They will be staying in the area for at least a year and therefore, have many needs that we can help with.

Monetary donations

Monetary donations to this extended family may be made to:

The Monica Smith Family Fund
51 Franklin Place, Montclair, NJ 07042

Housing

They are currently in a shelter in Newark but each individual family is looking for places to rent

Employment

- 1 electrical helper (10 years experience)

- 1 electrical journeyman (9 years experience)
- 2 construction workers (30 and 5 years experience) – open to other job opportunities
- 2 catering/food services worker (25 and 5 years experience) – open to other job opportunities including working with children
- 1 licensed ship captain – open to other job opportunities
- 1 18-wheel truck driver (CDL License – 25 years experience) – open to other job opportunities
- 1 registered nurse (24 years experience in medical field) – interested in dialysis
- 1 administrative assistant (9 years experience in financial field) - Interested in corporate opportunities
- 1 licensed clinical social worker (10 years in social services) – interested in mental health

Education: (contact Allyson Roe)

- 30 year old woman – interested in furthering college education
- 35 year old man, disabled veteran – interested in continuing his college education

If you can help in any of these areas please contact Allyson Roe 973-744-4167 or clerkallyson@aol.com. The family wants to thank everyone for all that they've done and will continue to do.

SISTERHOOD

MAKING STRIDES FOR BREAST CANCER October 16th— Military Park, Newark, New Jersey

Please join Sisterhood and their families for their annual walk/fundraiser in support of this very deserving cause. As many of you know this disease strikes so many women each year, some right here in our community. Help us raise needed funds to find a lasting cure. Anyone interested in walking with our group please contact Susan Fader 973-667-7373 or Arlene Kraus 973-661-3430. Walkers will meet in the Temple parking lot the morning of the walk. If you cannot join us, we would welcome your contributions.

JUDAICA SHOP

School is open and that means it's shopping time! No need to be bored waiting for your kids to get out of Hebrew School—come in and visit the shop. We are sure to have something for your holiday or special *simcha* needs. We have many new *tallitot*, *mezuzahs*, *challah* covers and other assorted Judaica. We also can special order for your specific needs.

TRIBUTE CARDS

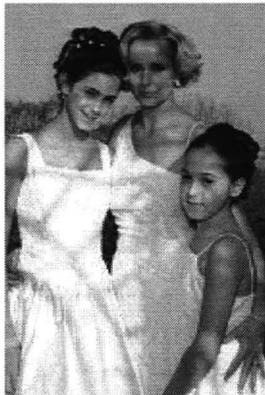
Too busy to get a card bought, written and sent? Look no further. Sisterhood offers a wonderful answer. We send a beautifully hand written note to anyone of your choosing extending good wishes on a *simcha*, birth, wedding anniversary, new home—the list is endless. These notes cost \$3 and tell the recipient a donation has been made in honor of their special occasion. If you would like to see a sample, we have them in our shop. Please contact Helene Russo 973-338-9472, if you would like one sent.

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, October 30, 1:30-4:30 p.m, please join Sisterhood members from Reform congregations in our region at a program co-sponsored by Women of Reform Judaism, District 4 to take place here at Temple Ner Tamid. Meet other sisterhood members from our area. We will share ideas about programming, fundraising, membership and leadership. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP before October 23 to Nanci Pompan, (973-912-8477 or npompan@aol.com.)

Sisterhood Study With The Rabbi

Please join us on a new and exciting journey. This year we will be studying Pirkei Avot. Sessions are on Wednesdays at 10 am. The first class will be on Nov.2.



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 am to 2:00 pm. Current events discussions and/or video aerobics start at 11:15 am, followed by lunch (bring your own dairy) and then our feature presentation. All are welcome.

OCTOBER MEETINGS AND TRIPS

Tuesday, October 4
No Meeting

Tuesday, October 11
No Meeting

Tuesday, October 18
No Meeting

Thursday, October 20
Trip to Doris Duke Manor House and Gardens—details to follow

Tuesday, October 27
No Meeting

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ADULT EDUCATION

This year Temple Ner Tamid turns its attention to the ancient wisdom of the rabbis of 2000 years ago. *Pirkei Avot*, or Wisdom of the Fathers, a compendium of ancient Rabbinic ethics, still resonates today. This will be the springboard for our Adult Education program which will provide courses ranging from understanding our prayers and services in a once-a-month 15 minute course—The Art of Jewish Prayer—starting in January, to Jewish genealogy—Finding our Mothers and Fathers, to literature exploring the women's role—Wisdom of the Mothers. We can learn how to lead a *shiva minyan* and what Jewish values have to say about the hot-button issues of today.

All of the currently planned adult programming is included here, although plenty of additional things will be added throughout the year. We will offer education in the broadest sense from Torah study to Hebrew, from parenting classes to college level work and lots in between.

The offerings listed here are from Adult Education, Religious Living, Brotherhood, Sisterhood, Shores, Religious School and Tarbut (culture), all to the extent they are available at press time. And of course, Rabbi Steven Kushner and Student Rabbi Stephanie Kolin will be providing their expertise and skills in many of these offerings, along with outside speakers and teachers.

Thanks to all of them; please join us for these exciting programs in the months ahead, and keep your eyes open for more details and more events as the dates come closer.

TEN MINUTES OF TORAH

Each year our school community is involved in a family education program that connects student classroom learning with adult education & family learning at home. This year, springing from *Pirkei Avot*, our theme is "If Not Now, When?"

Pirkei Avot, or The Ethics of the Fathers, contains the most famous sayings and advice from rabbis who lived about 2000 years ago. They tried to identify principles that would not only improve the quality of life but would also imbue our lives and relationships with a sense of the sacred. Parents are invited to attend a class with Rabbi Kushner every Sunday morning and then continue the conversation at home using supplementary take home materials. Families with second through sixth graders who complete at least twelve of the assignments will be invited to a gala celebration in May. *Ten Minutes of Torah* provides a multi-

level approach to Jewish learning, giving children and parents the chance to study with peers as well as learning at home.

All *Ten Minutes of Torah* discussions will run from 10 to 10:30 am beginning Nov 13. Registration: no charge

WISDOM OF THE MOTHERS *a look at Jewish women in literature*

As a modern complement to our temple-wide study of *Pirkei Avot*, Fran Bartkowski and Nancy Gerber are offering a course centering on the wisdom of our mothers, garnered from various literary sources. Fran and Nancy are temple members who conducted the successful American Literary Responses to the Holocaust course last year. A stimulating series of discussions will enhance your understanding of the wisdom our tradition gives to those who search for it.

Sundays, Nov. 20, Dec. 4, 11 at 11 am
Registration: \$36

FINDING OUR MOTHERS & FATHERS *the art of Jewish genealogy*

The two great myths of Jewish family research are "They destroyed the records" and "I don't remember anything". More and more birth, marriage and death certificates from Europe are turning up. Indeed, not only were the records not destroyed by the Nazis, they actually went to great lengths to preserve them. (How else could they prove "Who is a Jew?") By the same token, when interviewing our aging relatives about life in the first half of the 20th century, often they will sigh of how little they remember—until, that is, we ask the "right" questions.

"Finding Our Mothers and Fathers" is a 3-part course in learning how to trace our roots. Where to look, what kinds of records yield the best information, how to make use of the Internet and computer software and—above all—how family history can be a spiritual exercise are just a few of the subjects addressed. Rabbi Steven Kushner, who has spent nearly twenty years tracing his family's roots, will be your guide.

Sundays, March 19, 26, April 2 at 11 am
Registration: \$36

MAKING A MINYAN COUNT *how to lead a worship service in a house of mourning*

We are taught in the Talmud that there are certain *mitzvot* upon which no quantitative value can be placed. In other words, they

are so important that there is no limit to how much we should perform them. One of these *mitzvot* is "comforting the bereaved".

Temple Ner Tamid is looking for a few good Jews to help us lead *shiva minyans*. How to conduct worship, how to lead others in prayer—particularly within the context of the liturgy we use here at Ner Tamid—will be the focus of this seminar.

If you have a comfort level with the basic prayers and would like to help others who are struggling with loss—please join with Rabbi Kushner and become a *Ba'al* or *Ba'alat Tefillah*, a "leader" of prayer.

Sunday, November 13 at 11 am
Registration: no charge

THE ART OF JEWISH PRAYER

Do you ever find yourself feeling uncomfortable and awkward during a Shabbat service? Do you think you are the only one who isn't doing "it" right? Or do you ever wonder why it is that we "bend and bow" or why we face east for *Barechu* but west (or southwest at Temple Ner Tamid) for the last stanza of *Lekha Dodi*?

Once-a-month on a Sunday morning—at the very beginning of Religious School's 2nd session—Rabbi Kushner will offer a 15-minute lesson in the art of Jewish prayer. Modeled on our highly successful "Shabbat: Just do it!" course of two years ago, "The Art of Jewish Prayer" will teach you the order of the service and how Jews traditionally use their bodies to elevate their souls in prayer. Knowledge of Hebrew is not necessary. Just join us.

Sundays: Jan. 8, Feb. 5, March 5, April 2
All classes will meet 10:45 to 11 am
Registration: no charge

RELIGIOUS VALUES: THE JEWISH PERSPECTIVE

Values have now become a major political issue and catchphrase. We all know the values espoused by the Christian right; but do they have a lock on religious values? What are Jewish values as they relate to stem cell research, morning after pill and abortion? How do we determine what Jewish values are and how do they differ from the Christian ones proclaimed by prominent political activists? Come hear Robert Rich—whose avocation is study of Jewish ethics—discuss the Jewish point of view on the hot "religious" topics of the day.

(Adult Education continued on page 9)

October 2005

October 2005							November 2005						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1			1	2	3	4	5
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30			
30	31												

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Notes
September 25 Jewish Newark Trip 8:30am RS: K-2 10:00am Youth Group Car Wash 10:45am RS: G3-5	26 9:00am Shoresh 4:15pm RS: G6-7 7:30pm Education Committee Meeting 7:30pm Security Meeting	27 9:00am Shoresh 11:00am Seniors 6:30pm HHD Chanters Tutoring	28 8:30am Weichert 9:00am Shoresh 4:00pm RS: G3-5 6:30pm RS: G6-9 7:00pm RS: G10 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	29 9:00am Shoresh 7:00pm Abrahami/Straim Rehearsal	30 9:00am Shoresh 10:00am High Holy Day Chair Delivery 6:00pm Nosh 6:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat	October 1 9:00am Abrahami Photography 9:00am Torah Study 10:00am Abrahami / Straim B'not Mitzvah (Nitzavim)	
2 10:00am High Holy Day Setup	3 Erev Rosh hashannah 9:00am Shoresh 10:00am Piano Tuning 10:00am Stadeles Organ Tuning 10:00am Flower Delivery 10:30am Bingham Communications 8:00pm Erev RH Services	4 Rosh Hashanah Day 1 10:00am Byachad 10:00am RH Service 2:00pm RH Tot Service 3:00pm Tashlich	5 Rosh Hashanah Day 2 10:00am RH Service	6 9:00am Shoresh 7:30pm Sisterhood Board Meeting	7 9:00am Shoresh 7:00pm Tot Shabbat 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Service	8 10:00am Shabbat Morning Service	
9	10 Columbus Day 9:00am Shoresh	11 No Seniors 9:00am Shoresh 6:30pm HHD Chanters Tutoring 8:00pm Bd. of Trustees	12 9:00am Shoresh 10:00am Flower Delivery 7:00pm Kol Nidre Services	13 Yom Kippur 10:00am Byachad 10:00am YK Services 1:00pm YK Torah Discussion 2:00pm TK Tot Service 3:00pm Yizkor 4:00pm Minchah & Ne'illah	14 9:00am Shoresh 11:00am Kraus Anbar Rehearsal 6:00pm Kraus Shabbat Dinner 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Service	15 10:00am Anbar / Kraus B'not Mitzvah (Ha'azinu) 10:00am Casual Minyan	
16 LOWER EAST SIDE TRIP SUKKAH SETUP 8:30am RS: K-2 10:45am RS: G3-5 10:45am Sip N' Schmooze (G2 & 4) 11:00am Chesed Committee Meeting	17 Erev Sukkot 9:00am Shoresh 6:00pm Sukkot Family Picnic	18 Office Closed Sukkot Day 1 10:00am Sukkot Services 11:00am Sukkot Luncheon 8:00pm Religious Living	19 Office Closed Sukkot Day 2	20 Sukkot Day 3 9:00am Shoresh	21 Sukkot Day 4 9:00am Shoresh 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Service (GS Michael Bogdanow)	22 Sukkot Day 5 12:00pm Festa / Plofker B'nai Mitzvah (Chol Ha-Moed Sukkot) 7:00pm JYG: Havdalah & Bowling	
23 Sukkot Day 6 8:30am RS: K-2 9:00am Intermediate Prayerbook Hebrew 9:45am Beginning Hebrew 10:45am RS: G3-5 3:00pm Rabbi's Reception 6:00pm SYG Lounge Nite	24 Sukkot Day 7 9:00am Shoresh	25 Office Closed Shemini Atzeret 10:00am Yizkor Service 7:00pm Simchat Torah Celebration	26 Office Closed Simchat Torah	27 9:00am Shoresh 7:30pm 6th Grade Parents BM Meeting	28 YG New Member Conclave (Kutz Camp) 9:00am Shoresh 10:30am Bimah Time 6:00pm Nosh 6:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat	29 10:00am Westreich Bar Mitzvah (Bereishit) 12:00pm Westreich Luncheon 6:00pm Westreich Party	

November 2005

November 2005						
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December 2005						
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				1	2	3
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11	12	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	Notes
October 30 YG New Member Conclave (Kutz C)	31 Halloween	November 1	2	3	4	5	
8:30am RS: K-2 8:30am Sip N' Schmooze (GK, 1 & 3) 9:00am Intermediate Prayerbook Hebrew 9:45am Beginning Hebrew 10:45am RS: G3-5 1:30pm Sisterhood Guest Speaker	9:00am Shoresh 4:15pm RS: G6-7	9:00am Shoresh 11:00am Seniors 12:00pm LWTR: NYC 8:00pm Executive Bd. Mtg.	9:00am Shoresh 10:00am Sisterhood Study 4:00pm RS: G3-5 6:30pm RS: G6-9 7:00pm RS: G10-12 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	9:00am Shoresh 7:30pm 1-year BM Meeting	9:00am Shoresh 7:00pm Tot Shabbat 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Service	9:00am Torah Study 10:00am Basch / Perlmutter B'nai Mitzvah (Noach) 12:30pm Cooper Basch Kiddush 4:00pm RSK 25th Celebration	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
8:30am RS: K-2 9:00am Intermediate Prayerbook Hebrew 9:45am Beginning Hebrew 10:45am RS: G3-5 11:00am Chesed Committee Meeting	9:00am Shoresh 4:15pm RS: G6-7 7:30pm Sisterhood Bd. Mtg.	9:00am Shoresh 11:00am Seniors 12:00pm LWTR: NJ 1:30pm Hadassah Meeting 8:00pm Bd. of Trustees	9:00am Shoresh 10:00am Mom's Morning Meeting 12:00pm RS: G3-5 6:30pm RS: G6-9 7:00pm RS: G10-12 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	9:00am Shoresh	Veterans Day 9:00am Shoresh 8:00pm JYG Shabbat Service 9:30pm JYG Overnight	12:00am JYG Overnight 10:00am Keyles / Peknay B'not Mitzvah (Lekh-Lekha)	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
8:30am RS: K-2 9:00am Intermediate Prayerbook Hebrew 9:45am Beginning Hebrew 10:00am 10 Min. Torah 10:45am Babysitting for Tikkun Olam 10:45am Tikkun Olam Event 10:45am RS: G3-5 11:00am AE: Making A Minyan Count	9:00am Shoresh 4:15pm RS: G6-7 7:00pm Sisterhood Paid Up Dinner	9:00am Shoresh 11:00am Seniors 8:00pm Religious Living	9:00am Shoresh 10:00am Sisterhood Study 4:00pm RS: G3-5 6:30pm RS: G6-9 7:00pm RS: G10-12 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	9:00am Shoresh 7:30pm Regional Hadassah Meeting	9:00am Shoresh 10:30am Bimah Time 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Service	10:00am Kravitz / Barnard B'nai Mitzvah (Vayera) 10:00am Casual Minyan 12:30pm Kravitz Luncheon 6:30pm Kravitz Children's Party	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
Biennial Convention SYG NYC Trip 8:30am RS: K-2 9:00am Intermediate Prayerbook Hebrew 9:45am Beginning Hebrew 10:00am 10 Min. Torah 10:45am RS: G3-5 11:00am AE: Wisdom of the Mothers 2:00pm Chesed Workshop -	9:00am Shoresh 4:15pm RS: G6-7	9:00am Shoresh 11:00am Seniors	9:00am Shoresh	Thanksgiving	Office Closed 6:00pm Nosh 6:30pm Kabbalat Shabbat	10:00am Shabbat Morning Tefillot 6:00pm YG Homecoming Dance	
27	28	29	30	December 1	2	3	
	9:00am Shoresh 4:15pm RS: G6-7	9:00am Shoresh 11:00am Seniors	9:00am Shoresh 10:00am Sisterhood Study 4:00pm RS: G3-5 6:30pm RS: G6-9 7:00pm RS: G10-12 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	9:00am Shoresh	9:00am Shoresh 7:00pm Tot Shabbat 8:00pm Erev Shabbat Service	9:00am Torah Study 10:00am Vesey Bar Mitzvah (Toldot) 4:00pm Hanukkah Havdalah Program	

(Adult Education continued from page 8)

Sunday January 22 at 3 pm

Registration: no charge

CONGREGATION-WIDE BOOK READING AND DISCUSSION

This year we will again pique the interest of our readers and book group fans with the reading and discussion of a book of significant Jewish interest. We will announce the book in December with book discussion in March. Look for the announcements in *Topics* and *E-geret*.

Dates and registration information TBA.

Contact Susan Weinberg with comments, questions at 973-783-3178.

BEGINNING HEBREW

Always wanted to learn to read Hebrew? This is your opportunity: an introduction to the *alef-bet*. If you have never learned Hebrew or forgot what you used to know, come out to learn; by the end of the one-year course you will be able to follow basic prayerbook Hebrew. Here's your chance to acquaint yourself with the sacred language of our people. Taught by Jonathan Sternberg, one of our Religious School teachers, and an Israeli.

Sundays, 9:45-10:30 am beginning Oct. 23

Registration: \$125 + materials

INTERMEDIATE PRAYERBOOK HEBREW

If you are familiar with the *alef-bet* and want to learn prayers, along with their meanings, this class is for you. Student Rabbi Stephanie Kolin will continue this class for those who took her Beginning Hebrew Class last year, but it is also open to others who want to improve their knowledge and comfort with our sacred language.

Sundays, 9-10 a.m., beginning October 23

Registration: \$125 + materials

LUNCH WITH THE RABBI

Shemoneh Perakim: Maimonides' Companion Volume to the study of Pirkei Avot

There can be little doubt that *Pirkei Avot*, the compendium of ancient Rabbinic ethics, is

among the most popular and widely read texts of Judaism. And yet so few of us have ever studied (let alone heard of) Moses Maimonides' commentary on *Avot*. *Shemoneh Perakim*—literally "Eight Chapters"—is a philosophical excursus on the nature of the soul and how we can "strengthen" our soul in pursuit of the "good".

Join with Rabbi Kushner for a once-a-month opportunity to "lunch and learn" in either New York City or here at Temple Ner Tamid as we engage in a complete reading of this short treatise by the 12th century philosopher Moses Maimonides. Utilizing a readable and well-annotated translation by Rabbi Kerry Olitzky and Dr. Leonard Kravitz, this text offers a delightful collection of additional reflections on the Jewish notions of spirituality and ethics which complement each chapter.

Tuesdays from 12:00 to 1:30 pm

NYC: 11/1, 12/6, 1/3, 2/7, 3/7, 4/4, 5/2, 6/6

NJ: 11/8, 12/13, 1/10, 2/14, 3/14, 4/11,

5/16, 6/13

Registration: \$36

SISTERHOOD STUDY WITH THE RABBI

Having finished a 15-year study of the entire *Tanakh* or Hebrew Bible last spring, this year Rabbi Kushner will lead the women of Sisterhood on an in-depth exploration of *Mishnah Pirkei Avot*. Certainly one of the most widely read texts of Judaism, *Pirkei Avot* (literally "Chapters of the Fathers") is a powerful collection of nuggets of rabbinic wisdom focused on the art of living. The pursuit of the "good life" is at the core of all ethics; *Pirkei Avot* is Judaism's foundational excursus on the subject. All are welcome.

Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. / beginning November 2

Registration: no charge

MOMS' MORNING MEETING: dealing with parenting issues

Overwhelmed by your wonderful child? Looking for advice? Looking to connect with other moms of young ones while sharing issues, experiences, questions, answers? Back by popular demand, we

will again be presenting a 4 or 5-part parenting class for moms of toddlers & preschoolers. Our experienced early childhood expert will return to run 4 or 5 one-hour sessions for parents of young children. (Sponsored by Shoresh, the Preschool of Temple Ner Tamid).

November 9, January 4, March 8, May 10, (final session to be announced)

All classes 10-11 a.m.

Registration: no charge

SHABBATON: December 24

Plan on tasting the joy of Shabbat with your fellow congregants at our annual Shabbaton, on Saturday December 24 (yes, December 24—what a perfect day to ignore the outside world and focus on Judaism!). We will join together in morning services—complete with our unique Torah discussion—then share a delicious lunch, sing songs, and have the opportunity to do more in-depth study in afternoon workshops. This day-long experience concludes with story-telling, meditation, a snack and *Havdalah*. Babysitting and activities for children will be offered, so bring the whole family. Don't miss this wonderful way to celebrate Shabbat. You'll come away refreshed.

Saturday, Dec. 24: from 9:30 am to 5 pm

Registration: fee is charged only for lunch and afternoon programs (price TBA)

REGIONAL SHABBATON

If you enjoy exploring Shabbat, plan on attending the New Jersey-West Hudson Valley Council of the URJ's annual Regional *Shabbaton* at Temple Beth Or in the Township of Washington, NJ. Instead of a keynote speaker this year we will be having a group known as STORAHTELLING" (a ritual theater performance group). This is a special opportunity to worship, study, and celebrate Shabbat with fellow Reform Jews from throughout the region.

January 28, 2006

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Registration: TBA

For more information, please contact the URJ at 201.722.9090.

ISRAEL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Temple Ner Tamid has now established an Israel Affairs Committee to inform the congregation about Israel and promote relationships and visits to Israel. We will be keeping you posted on area programs in the area having to do with Israel, as well as planning some of our own. If you are interested in being involved, please contact Marge Grayson at 973-744-2474.

In light of this mission, we want you to be aware of a few things that our region is doing to support Israel. United Jewish Communities of MetroWest NJ has an office in Jerusalem which promotes connections, encounters, and partnerships between the us and Israel.

Israel projects and programs are in operation in the following partnership areas:

- **Partnership 2000 in Ofakim-Merchavim** in the Northern Negev includes a wide variety of activities – mainly social, cultural, educational, leadership development, and youth-related programs.
- **Israel Emergency Campaign.** Gives support to security-related matters
- **Religious Pluralism** –works in conjunction with all streams of Judaism to help develop tolerance and pluralistic Jewish identity for Israelis.
- **Mevasseret Zion**—support for TNT's sister Reform congregation.
- **Yozma-Developing Jewish Options in Modi'in and Yozma Modi'in-Jewish Educational Outreach**—developing a progressive Jewish elementary schools.
- **Beit Midrash, Beit Shmuel**—an intensive study track for Israelis of all streams and backgrounds.
- **Leo Baeck and Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism (IMPJ)**—a teacher training program.
- **Passport to Israel (PTI)** provides up to \$750 to high school students for an Israel trip with their peers. Even students who have taken individual or family trips to Israel are still eligible for a UJC grant towards a teen Israel experience.

COMING NOVEMBER 5 TO TEMPLE NER TAMID

THE SILVER SCENE: A 25 YEAR RETROSPECTIVE

"The celebration of the year!"

Join Temple Ner Tamid as we roll out the red carpet to celebrate Rabbi Kushner's 25 years of service to us. This black-tie optional gala will feature an evening of delicious food, exciting entertainment, dancing and expressions of gratitude for all that Rabbi Kushner has given and been to us.

Please send in your response cards and let us know you will be coming.

SUPPORT ISRAEL! CELEBRATE ISRAEL! JOIN AZRA

YOUR VOTE IS NEEDED BY ARZA
AND THE WZO!

The Board of Trustees of Ner Tamid is asking you to register to vote in the World Zionist Organization (WZO) election to support the causes of the Reform movement throughout the world. You should have received the form already, and we'll give you another on the High Holidays!

Register to vote in the WZO election by sending in the form you've received or go on line to www.azm.org.

To make sure our voice for Progressive, pluralistic, egalitarian Judaism remains heard, your vote is needed! We need 100,000 votes!

Please register to vote by January 15, 2006 by mail or online by February 15, 2006 at www.azm.org. You must be Jewish, 18 years of age by June 30, 2006, permanently reside in the U.S. and accept the Jerusalem Program (which states: Zionism, the national liberation movement of the Jewish people, brought about the establishment of the State of Israel, and views a Jewish, Zionist, democratic and secure State of Israel to be the expression of the common responsibility of the Jewish people for its continuity and future).

The cost is \$7 per person or \$5 for full-time students. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Stephanie Lurie or Marjorie Neifeld Grayson.

A Culture of Giving at Temple Ner Tamid

Charity is equal in importance to all the other commandments combined.

—Babylonian Talmud

Jewish history is rich in the tradition of supporting the synagogue in any way you can. Temple Ner Tamid welcomes you to fulfill this *mitzvah*.

The temple depends on gifts of all sizes to support our mission to help people of all ages grow Jewishly. Membership dues and religious school tuition is not sufficient to support the full cost of programs, services and staff.

GENERAL GIVING

The next time you are looking for a meaningful way to celebrate a *simcha* (joyous occasion), remember a loved one, or comfort a mourner, please consider a donation to Temple Ner Tamid.

Donations to the temple are a meaningful way to memorialize a loved one, honor a B'nai Mitzvah, celebrate the birth of a child or a wedding, congratulate someone on a major accomplishment or show appreciation. Some members make donations in honor of a temple staff person in gratitude for his or her assistance with a life cycle event or special situation.

SPECIAL MEMORIALS OR HONORS

- *Yahrzeit*—There are several opportunities to remember a loved one through contributions to Temple Ner Tamid.

Contributions to the synagogue of any size are customarily made upon the anniversary of the death of a loved one.

A memorial plaque may be dedicated in the sanctuary for \$360. Lights will be illuminated upon the occasion of *yahrzeit* and *yizkor*.

The Book of Remembrance is an annual publication listing the names of deceased loved ones. The book is distributed at the *Yizkor* service of Yom Kippur. Forms and donation information are sent together with the High Holy Day package in the late summer.

- The Tree of Life—a beautiful sculpture in the lobby that highlights joyous events. Leaves may be dedicated for \$180 and stones for \$1,000.
- Prayer Book Dedication—Dedicate a prayer book in honor of a *simcha* or in memory of a loved one. The cost per dedication is \$36.

HIGH HOLY DAY APPEAL

An annual appeal is made to all members during the High Holy Day season to support the synagogue for the coming year. Members may choose to adjust the amount of their gift year-to-year.

COVENANT CIRCLE PROGRAM

A voluntary annual gift program for congregants who are in a financial position to provide ongoing support at a level above regular dues. Funds help alleviate many budgetary constraints, expand programming and help TNT remain inclusive and diverse. There are three levels: *Simcha* \$5,400, *Beracha* \$3,600,

and *Kavod* \$1,800.

ENDOWMENT FUND

Major gifts are welcome at any time to the Endowment Fund to perpetuate Ner Tamid programming well into the future. Gifts generally range from \$5,000-\$100,000 and may be pledged over multiple years. The minimum gift is \$1,800. Funds are invested over the long-term and overseen by the Ner Tamid Investment Committee. Like the Covenant Circle, funds will be used to maintain our inclusive culture and expand programs. The broader financial base will also make it possible to become a synagogue with true vision, innovation and progressive, experimental programs.

PLANNED GIFTS

Gifts to Temple Ner Tamid may also be made in the form of bequests, charitable gift annuities, charitable lead trusts and charitable remainder trusts. Planned gifts are generally invested in the synagogue's Endowment Fund.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Each year Ner Tamid has one or more large fundraising events to celebrate our community and to socialize. Funds support the current year programming and operating budget. In 2005, we celebrate Rabbi Kushner's 25th anniversary at Ner Tamid.

SPECIAL PURPOSE

Members wishing to make designated gifts or bequests for special purposes are encouraged to contact Rabbi Kushner, Stephanie Lurie, President or Sarah Segal, Vice President for Planning and Development.

TEMPLE NER TAMID DONATION FORM

Date: _____ Donor Name: _____

Donor Address: _____

DONATION TYPE:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Donation (any amount) | <input type="checkbox"/> Memorial Plaque (\$360) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High Holy Day Appeal (any amount) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tree of Life Leaf (\$180) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Book Dedication (\$36) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tree of Life Stone (\$1,000) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Endowment (\$1,800 minimum) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: please specify: _____ |

PLEASE SPECIFY (if applicable):

In Memory of: _____ In Honor of: _____

In Appreciation of: _____ Special Occasion: _____

Please make check payable to Temple Ner Tamid and send to 936 Broad Street, Bloomfield, NJ 07003.

Your donation (without the amount) will be listed in Temple Topics. Our hope is that our growing list of donors will inspire others to give. However, please indicate if you prefer your donation to be anonymous.

TIKKUN OLAM

Ruth Messinger on Darfur—As anticipated, Ruth Messinger, political activist and currently the Director of American Jewish World Service, eloquently depicted the situation in Darfur, Sudan as both heart-wrenching and complex. It was clear from her discussion that for the term “Never Again” to have meaning, we are obligated, particularly as Jews, to speak out loudly against the genocide occurring at this moment. Members are urged to contact President Bush and their congressional representatives *weekly* through phone calls, letters and emails to demand action on this matter. Sample letters, postcards and “talking points” for phone calls are available on the table in the Temple lobby.

Response to Hurricane Katrina—Many thanks to so many of you who contributed to TNT’s emergency call to action for specific goods for victims of Hurricane Katrina. Over the coming months and in concert with the temple at large, we will spearhead various fundraising and direct service activities to offer *sustained* support for targeted communities in devastated areas of Louisiana and Mississippi. Look for more information via updates in the *E-geret*.

OUR NEXT MEETING WILL BE SUNDAY, OCT.23 at 9:00 am.

COMING IN NOVEMBER...

- *STRAIGHT NEW JERSEYANS FOR MARRIAGE EQUALITY*, Town Meeting

The Unitarian Church of Montclair, 67 Church Street. Thursday, November 10 at 7:00 pm

A critical issue facing the New Jersey legislature is the right of lesbian and gay couples to marry. NJ is at the forefront of social change largely because of the support of people of faith and the state's inter-

faith leadership—clergy people and their congregations—who refuse to allow the religious right to dictate public policy. Come join your neighbors at an interfaith town meeting and support the fundamental entitlement of all individuals to equal protection under the law and freedom from discrimination. Please contact Sandy Weber at rkswfish@comcast.net if you plan to attend so that we can form a TNT delegation!

- *LIVING WILLS & OTHER END OF LIFE ISSUES FROM A REFORM JEWISH PERSPECTIVE*, An Informational Forum

Temple Ner Tamid, Sunday, November 13 at 10:45 am

As we watched the Terry Schiavo case unfold last year and witnessed the politicalization of very personal issues, we thought it would be helpful to convene a discussion around end of life issues from a Jewish perspective. Please join us on Sunday morning, November 13th with guest speakers Amy Neigeborn, RN, MSN, MPH, Executive Director of Hospice of New Jersey; Stephanie Levy, MA, Director of Medical Ethics & Patients’ Rights at CHHS of Newark, and Rabbi Shira Stern, Dmin, BCC, of the Center for Pastoral Care & Counseling. Through our experts, issues including advance directives, health care proxies, living wills, DNR consent and preparation of an “ethical will” will be explored through the lens of Reform Judaism. Join us to learn what we can do to empower ourselves and our loved ones.

Tikkun Olam needs you! Please contact Sandy Weber at rkswfish@comcast.net or Anne Gorfinkel at agorfinkel@comcast.net to get involved.

TARBUT

The *Tarbut* Committee continues to focus on bringing a diverse program of cultural events to the Temple community. Our first event of the year, the TNT campfire, was a huge success. A wonderful experience was had by all. Planned for November and December are:

- TNT Mahjong event
- Jewish cooking series
- Art Gallery
- Hanukkah event

We also look forward to sponsoring talent showcases at the Temple. Are you an artist or photographer that is interested in showcasing your work at a Temple art show? Are you a film maker or writer that has something to share with the community?

There is lots of talent and experience in our community and we hope you are interested in bringing cultural events to the Temple. Please contact Helene Richman at 973-233-1331 or by email helenerichman@msn.com.

ATTENTION SENIORS

JVS HOME MAINTENANCE SOLUTIONS

For seniors and people with disabilities

JVS provides skilled workers at a modest fee to perform a wide variety of basic home maintenance services

For information call Rich Kuperman at:
973-674-2415, ext. 294

JVS Home Maintenance Solutions, a program of the Jewish Vocational Service of MetroWest, is funded by a grant from the Grotta Fund for Senior Care of the Jewish Community Foundation of MetroWest.

Ner Tamid is About People

October Anniversaries

MAZAL TOV TO THE FOLLOWING COUPLES WHO WILL CELEBRATE THEIR ANNIVERSARIES IN AUGUST AND WILL BE HONORED AT EREV SHABBAT SERVICES ON SEPTEMBER 16

Raymond & Florence Aisner
Jonathan Alter & Emily Lazar
Shai & Carolyn Anbar
Carl Bergmanson & Ruby Siegel
Michael & Lisa Berlin
Stuart & Randi Bouwman
Eric & Lydia Brown
Mark & Stacy Cohen
Christopher & Anita Czar
William Dunnell & Rachel Shatz
John & Lisa Falcone
Steven & Beth Goodman
Daniel & Julie Groisser
Carl & Edna Heimowitz
Daniel & Cindy Herman
Warren Hoffman & Brenda Pepper
Alan & Jill Johnson
Lanny & Susan Katz
Robert & Mana Levine
Stanley & Phyllis Lustgarten
Edward & Barbara Miller
Matthew & Kyle Platnico
Matthew & Rachel Poggie
Barry & Amy Polen
Scott & Angel Pollack
Daniel Rosenblum & Tamima Friedman
Louis & Mindy Schoen
Richard Schwartz & Frances Hecker
Steven & Ann Shure
Martin & Norma Siegel
Eric & Roselle Stern
Harvey & Ellen Weiss
Joseph & Roberta Zeff
Ken Zimmerman & Jackie Baillargeon

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

- **Michael Estes & Laura Marchese (Jonathan, Alexander, Josephine)**
64 Beverly Road
973-783-7096
- **Carl Herman (Gabriel)**
170 Grove Avenue, Verona
973-857-1071
- **Susan Herman (Gabriel)**
135 Watchung Avenue, Upper Montclair
973-746-9416
- **Edward & Pamela Moed (Joshua, Sydney, Jackson)**
5 Stonebridge Court, Montclair
973-783-5275
- **Daniel & Paula Rogers**
407 Hartford Drive, Nutley
973-662-0407
- **John Schreiber & Debra Simon (Gabe, Sam, Ben)**
43 College Avenue, Upper Montclair
973-744-2833

B'nai Mitzvah

October 1	Janel Abrahami Allie Straim
October 15	Ana Anbar Bree Kraus
October 22	Adam Festa Dakota Plofker
October 29	Noah Westreich

Contributions to the Synagogue

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OUR MEMBERS, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

- Stan Keyles in memory of Ana Keyles
- Bernice Colie in memory of Max Gershon
- Rosalyn Karas in memory of Bertha Gutman
- Shirley Cooper in memory of Max Lief
- Phillip Cooper in memory of Philip Levoff
- Sari Kaplan in memory of Arthur Stein
- Edward Kaplan in memory of Max Kaplan, Rae Kaplan and Stanley Kaplan
- Marge Grayson in memory of Herbert Neifeld
- Marge & Paul Grayson in memory of Na-

- than Horowitz
- Marge & Paul Grayson in honor of the marriage of the daughter of Richard & Diane Horowitz
- Stan & Claire Keyles in honor of the marriage of Iris Schwartz' son, Ari Perten
- Stan & Claire Keyles in honor of the birth of Jessica Ruth Keyles to Bill & Leslie Keyles
- Stan & Claire Keyles in honor of their wedding anniversary
- Amy Graydon in memory of Adelyn Graydon
- Florence Aisner in memory of Louis Manzbach
- Harvey Weiss in memory of Philip Weiss
- Amy Karas in memory of Dennis Karas
- Helen Green in memory of Sidney Finkel

- Robert Spiro in memory of Edna Spiro
- Alvin Becker in memory of Irma Strauss
- Frances Sax in memory of Richard Sax
- Patricia Einbender in memory of Edwin I. Einbender
- Linda Engelhardt & L. Michael Goldsmith in memory of Nathan Horowitz
- Julius Hirsch in memory of Max Hirsch and Paula Hirsch
- Sue Borofsky-Borchert in memory of Nathan Borofsky
- Shirley Cobert in memory of Bessie Margolius
- Lois Ring in memory of Shirley Sterman
- Steven A. Leeds in memory of Nathalie Leeds
- Susan Nucci in memory of Isadore Nathanson

ISSUES OF INTEREST STEM CELL RESEARCH

Embryonic stem cells offer the hope of relief from suffering associated with many disabling disorders, from spinal-cord injuries, to Parkinsons Disease, Juvenile Diabetes, and cancer, among many others. Yet despite this promise, the far right has waged an aggressive battle to prohibit crucial public funding of stem-cell research—an issue which enjoys support across a broad political spectrum. While it takes a pro-cure perspective, this forum is organized with the intention of providing the general public with accurate, straightforward information that is based on fact rather than ideology.

BLUEWAVE New Jersey invites you to a public forum:
STEM-CELL RESEARCH: REASON TO HOPE

Saturday, October 8, 2005

2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

JCC MetroWest

Maurice Levin Theater

760 Northfield Ave.

West Orange, N.J.

Distinguished Participants Include:

- **Jonathan Alter**
Senior Editor, *Newsweek* magazine and fellow Temple Ner Tamid congregant
- **Gerald D. Fischbach, M.D.**
Executive Vice President for Health and Biomedical Sciences; Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University.
- **Ruth L. Fischbach, Ph.D., M.P.E.**
Professor of Bioethics and Director of the Center for Bioethics at Columbia University; faculty member of both the Department of Psychiatry at the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and the Department of Sociomedical Sciences at the Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health.
- **Robert S. Kass, Ph.D.**
Alumni Professor, David Hosack Professor, and Chair, Department of Pharmacology, Columbia University.

Suggested minimum donation: \$10; All proceeds benefit BlueWave NJ educational initiatives.

BlueWave NJ is an alliance of progressive citizens dedicated to grassroots organizing to counteract the right-wing agenda of the Republican administration. BlueWave NJ works to implement positive change through many channels, including helping to enact legislation, organizing and educating the public on issues, and supporting progressive candidates at all levels of government. Part of its effectiveness is in connecting members with other activists and organizations in order to work together to support shared goals. For additional information, visit www.bluewavenj.org.

JVS CAREGIVING COMPANIONS

*For senior citizens and
people with disabilities*

CAN WE HELP YOU?

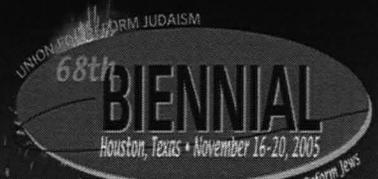
Companionship • Errands • Shopping
Meal Preparation • Laundry
Light Housekeeping...and more!

For information call Lois Lord Waller at:
973-674-2415, ext. 293

JVS Caregiving Companions, a program of the Jewish Vocational Service of MetroWest, is funded by a grant from The Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey, founded by the Jewish Community

COUNTDOWN TO HOUSTON!

Get ready to reach for the stars



Join the
Union for Reform Judaism
and the Women of Reform Judaism
this November 16-20.

For more information, see
www.biennial.urj.org

זכרונם לברכה

THEIR MEMORIES ARE A BLESSING

In Loving Memory

Rae Atlas, mother of John Atlas
Harold Gushin, father of Margo Sokolow
Pat Rooney, mother of Stephen Rooney
Marvin Savodnik, father of Beth Chevat

Shabbat—October 7

Anna Abramson
Tillie Chroborsky
Morris Cohen
Barbara Engelberg
Molly Fink
Rebecca Friedman
Bernard M. Fritz
Minnie Gussoff
Beatrice F. Hirsch
Samuel Kantor
Anna Lief
Samuel Litman
Joseph Loebelsohn
Max Mandelbaum
Max Mandelbaum
Sadie Marion
Louis Miller
Sarah Nepo
Frances Newman
Doris Phillips
Robert E. Rubin
David Sherman
Sylvia Sokolow
Helene Spiegel
Laurence Wayne
Claire Weiss

Shabbat—October 14

Bessie Abramson
Samuel Berliss
Marvin Brody
Mae Chavkin
Meyer Cohen
Samuel L. Gaffin
Morris Ginsberg
Sol Grosbein
Rose Grundfest Schneider

Gordon F. Helman
Felice Keene Jacobs
Mary Marshak
Matvey G. Meiliker
Elias Newman
Hyman B. Penn
Arlene M. Pfeffer
David Reiter
Hanka Rosenblum
Hemia Z. Rosenblum
Hinda Rosenblum
Lolek Rosenblum
Nusek Rosenblum
Tzurtel Rosenblum
Kolman Sax
Harry Silberman
Simon Strickler

Shabbat—October 21

Miriam Abramowitz
Ruth Asher
Esther Bell
Mary Benson
Solomon Berger
Lillian Bruntel
Celia Druian
Charles Druian
Sidney Einhorn
Lillian Exstein
Kenneth M. Gaffin
Anna Gash
Pauline Goodman
Ruth Grossman
Mary Hecht
Lillian Heimowitz
Hannah B. Held
Louis Herman
Leon Katz
Neil Kettler

David Levee
Benjamin Liebling
David Lustgarten
Mollie Mackler
Samuel Margolis
Mack Marshak
Mary Opatut
Fannie Solomon
Gladys Spellman
Tillie Spirt
Jack Sterman
Bern Thomas
Henriette Ulmer
Herman Unger
Norman Waton
Iosif Zaks
Henry Zwerling

Shabbat—October 28

Michael Abramowitz
Milton Beck
Marvin Davis
Nathan I. Degenshein
Max Feldman
Howard Goldstein
Solomon Goldstein
Samuel Green
Albert Koppel
Irwin Kosson
Dina Krames
Samuel Levine
Susan Meier
Anna Sarason
Nathan Silberlust
Mischa Slatkin
Henry Stein
Karl Strauss
Gerald F. Zeff

Remember Temple Ner Tamid in Your Will

Would you like to make a gift to the Temple that provides you or your loved ones with income for life while giving you an immediate tax deduction?

Temple Ner Tamid has established a Planned Giving subcommittee.

For information on planned giving, or to help with this important effort, please call Mark Perwien at (973) 783-0142.

Prayerbook Fund

Dedicate one of our new prayer books in honor of a *simcha* or in memory of a loved one. The cost per dedication is \$36.



Contact the Temple office for more information.
973-338-1500

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 the Temple office at
973-338-1500

Candle Lighting

October 7 6:11
October 14 6:00
October 21 5:49
October 28 5:40



the back page

Upcoming Kabbalat Shabbat Services

- October 28 at 6:30 p.m.
November 25 at 6:30 p.m.
- A nosh & schmooze will precede the service at 6:00 p.m.
- Please note that there will be no 8:00 p.m. service on these evenings.

**PLEASE BE SURE TO VISIT
OUR NEWLY DESIGNED
WEBSITE TO KEEP UP-TO-DATE
ON ALL UPCOMING
PROGRAMS AT TNT. VISIT US
AT WWW.NERTAMID.ORG.**

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