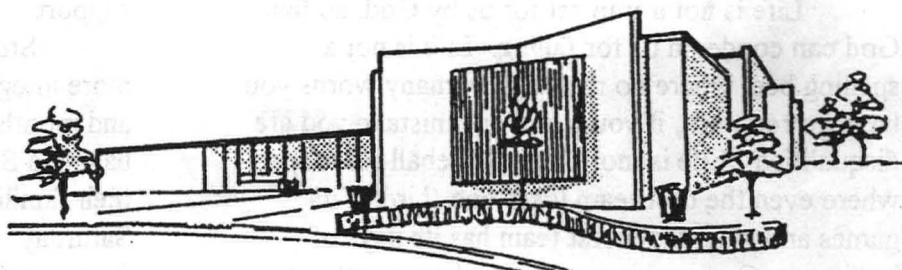


# monmouth reform temple *bulletin*



**KISLEV - TEVET 5757**

**DECEMBER 1996**

## FRIDAY EVENING SERVICES

- Fri. 6** Sabbath Eve - 8:15 PM  
Chanukah Family Service  
Conducted by  
Senior Youth Group  
Torah portion: Vayeshev  
Gen. 37:1-40:23  
◆
- Fri. 13** Sabbath Eve - 8:15 PM  
Brotherhood Sabbath  
"Hasidism and the Holocaust"  
Guest Speaker: Barton Aplebaum  
Brookdale Holocaust Center  
Torah portion: Miketz  
Gen. 41:1-44:17  
◆
- Fri. 20** Sabbath Eve - 8:15 PM  
Sermon: **DOING GOD'S WORK**  
Torah portion: Vayigash  
Gen. 44:18-47:27  
◆
- Fri. 27** Sabbath Eve - 8:15 PM  
Sermon: **JACOB'S LEGACY**  
Torah portion: Vayechi  
Gen. 47:28-50:26  
◆

## OTHER SERVICES

- Sat. 7** Sabbath Morning - 10:30 AM  
Tot Shabbat  
◆
- Sat. 21** Sabbath Morning - 10:30 AM  
Bar/Bat Mitzvah Family Program  
Sermon: **THE MAGIC RING**  
◆

*Worship and Study  
Singing and Sharing*

**SHABBAT KALLAH**

**Saturday, January 4  
10:00AM-4:30PM**

*Rabbi Priesand will lead us in prayer and help us  
find insights into the weekly Torah portion through  
commentary by the 10th century Scholar of Torah  
Rashi*

## REFLECTIONS

Life is not a trap set for us by God, so that God can condemn us for failing. Life is not a spelling bee, where no matter how many words you have gotten right, if you make one mistake you are disqualified. Life is more like a baseball season, where even the best team loses one-third of its games and even the worst team has its days of brilliance. Our goal is not to go all year without ever losing a game. Our goal is to win more than we lose, and if we can do that consistently enough, then when the end comes, we will have won it all.

.....Rabbi Harold S. Kushner



## RITUAL COMMITTEE

Greetings from the Ritual Committee. This month's news focuses on three main areas; High Holyday schedules for next year, the revitalization of the Shiva Corps, and volunteers for homestays for Student Cantor Case.

For next year there will be no double services for the High Holydays. Attendance figures from this year and the previous year indicate that we will have seats for everyone who chooses to attend any service. While Rosh Hashanah morning is likely to be attended to near capacity, we are confident there will be chairs for everyone. So the good news is that we will be able to pray together as a complete Temple family during the Holydays in 1997. The bad news is that some services will be quite full and so arriving early will be the only way to obtain the best seats. Plan accordingly.

From time to time Shiva calls to the homes of bereaved members' families are not as well attended as they might be. To help ensure that the mitzvot of comforting the bereaved is fulfilled more regularly, the committee is rebuilding what we shall call the Shiva Corps. A list of members who want to be notified about Shiva services and who agree to come out to members' homes for services has been drawn up and a phone chain established. More is better in this enterprise. Won't you please volunteer for this important form of inreach? Just call me or

leave a note in the Office indicating your desire to provide this important mitzvah of communal support.

Student Cantor Case is becoming more and more integrated into our Temple family as the weeks and months go by. One of her stated pleasures is having a Shabbat meal with Temple members and their families and staying overnight when she has Saturday morning services to perform. The Ritual Committee encourages you to consider providing homestays for Student Cantor Case, especially if you are able to do so for more than one week at a time. By establishing a "home base" for two or three weeks, she gets to feel more and more like a member of our family and you get to know your cantor more completely. Everybody benefits. Pleasures abound. Call me to volunteer, won't you?

Shalom,  
Joel Morgovsky  
Ritual Chair

## SHARING SIMCHAS

### THE TEMPLE FAMILY EXTENDS A MAZEL TOV TO:

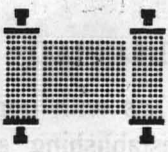
Toby and Steve Woodard  
on the marriage of their daughter, Simone

Gabe and Miriam Torok  
on the marriage of their son, David

Dara and Martin Perfit  
on the marriage of their daughter, Tamar

***Holidays are coming.  
Remember to purchase food gift  
certificates - they also make great  
holiday gifts.***





## FROM RABBI PRIESAND

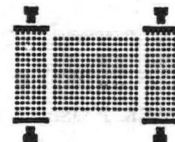
A few weeks ago, I attended the UAHC Regional Biennial in Teaneck, New Jersey, together with the following members of our Temple family: Rich Goldberg, Myra and Stanley Ostroff, Gerald Reisner, Rosalie and Bob Rosin, Dorothy and Leonard Teitelbaum, and Jeff Willard and Steve Mahan. We joined 500 delegates from Reform synagogues throughout New York and New Jersey for a weekend of study and worship, reflection and fun. There is no better way to find out what is happening in the Reform Movement than by attending a regional or national biennial. Those who participate always come home with new ideas and with a clearer understanding of what it means to be a Reform Jew. Highlights of this year's convention included addresses by Rabbi Eric Yoffie and Rabbi Sheldon Zimmerman, the two new leaders of our Movement whose vision will take us into the twenty-first century. Both of them stressed the joy of Judaism as well as the responsibilities that come with being Jewish. They reminded us all that study in Jewish tradition is a lifelong commitment, that God is watching what we do and that every moment of our lives can be a Sinai moment if we make it so.

While at the biennial, we learned that a group of Knesset members in Israel had just introduced legislation seeking to invalidate non-Orthodox conversions, thereby undermining the legitimacy of Reform and Conservative Judaism and threatening the unity of the Jewish people as well as the relationship that exists between Israel and the Diaspora. The legislation comes as no surprise since the Orthodox parties demanded support for it as a condition of joining Netanyahu's government. But this is another attempt by Israel's religious parties to modify the Law of Return, change the definition of who is a Jew and overturn recent decisions in favor of pluralism made by Israel's High Court of Justice. If we remain silent, the consequences will be disastrous. There are two things you can do to help. First, write a personal letter to Prime Minister Netanyahu, expressing your concern and urging him to protect Israel as a home for all Jews. Second, support the work of ARZA (Association of Reform Zionists of America) which will serve as our

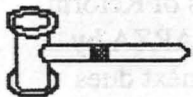
collective voice in protecting the rights of Reform and Conservative Jews. You can join ARZA by checking the appropriate box on your next dues statement.

Our concern for Israel was just one of many topics covered by the fifty different workshops offered at the biennial. Myra Ostroff served as moderator for the workshop titled: Tomorrow's Rabbis and Cantors - A Dialogue with HUC-JIR Students; Leonard Teitelbaum chaired a session called: When the Great Day Comes: Jewish Response to the Christian Millennium; and Bob Rosin offered a tour of Reform Judaism on the Internet. Among the other workshops that we attended were: Families Learning Together - Programs that Work; How to Keep a Big congregation Intimate; recent Developments in Modern Jewish Thought; Physician Assisted Suicide and the Right to Die; A Forum on Inter marriage Officiation and Outreach; AIDS and Other Taboos: Helping Temple Families Learn How to Help Those With Hard-to-Discuss Illnesses; and Recapturing the Sabbath - Turning Saturday into Shabbat.

Another workshop that caught my eye was called: 500-Family Congregation Raises \$60,000 Every Year with Scrip! How Do They Do It? Although I was unable to attend this workshop, I discovered that this congregation began its scrip program by making participation in it an obligation incumbent on every member. In other words, every household was required to purchase scrip in addition to its dues and building fund contribution. Our congregation has no intention of making scrip obligatory, but it occurred to me that if every Temple family purchased a minimum of \$100 in food gift certificates each month (most of us spend far more than that on food!) we could collect \$20,000 a year to help meet our budget without the need to raise our dues. Remember, food gift certificates cost you nothing, while at the same time helping our Temple enormously. Both the Finance Committee and the Ways and Means Committee will bless you for your participation - and so will your rabbi!







## FROM THE PRESIDENT

I recently attended (portions of) the Regional Biennial Convention of the UAHC in Teaneck, NJ. While a smaller gathering than the national convention of a year ago, it was active and educational, and we were well represented. Rabbi Priesand has written about her impressions of the convention in her article of this month, so I won't overdo our 'coverage' - only to say that the convention again left me feeling proud of all we do at MRT!

You've just received a letter from me asking for your contribution to the MRT -25th CHAIR FUND. This is our fund-raising toward the commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the ordination of our Rabbi, contributing to the establishment of an endowed chair at the Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR). This will be a very worthwhile fund and honors a landmark event in the life of our Rabbi and for the Reform movement. I hope you can find a way to contribute, as we look forward to the celebration of Rabbi's 25th in March. I know that this comes at a time when we are seeking contributions to our building fund, to the Scholarship fund, and when we are looking to shop for presents for our families and friends and continuing our dues and building fund obligations. But each of these causes is very important and worthy of your consideration.

I wish you all a happy and healthy Chanukah holiday, with much joy for you and your families!

## BOARD NEWS

With regret I announce that Ellie Goodman has resigned her position as Vice President of the Board. I thank Ellie for her capable and valued service to the congregation and to the Board. She participated fully in everything she took on as a Board member and I know she will find many other ways to continue her devoted participation in our Temple's activities.

Rosalie Rosin has agreed to serve out the remainder of Ellie Goodman's term as Vice President. I wish to thank Rosalie and welcome her back to the Board and look forward to her participation and leadership.

## PULPIT COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED

In 1997 the contract our Temple has with our Rabbi expires. Therefore, we are establishing a Pulpit Committee to define and negotiate the terms and conditions of a new contract. The following members have agreed to serve on the committee: Peg Baker, Robert Blank, Semmes Brightman, Stephanie Fitzsimmons, Joel Morgovsky, Rachel Placitella, Susan St. Lifer, Len Teitelbaum, and Stu Tuchband. I will serve on the committee as well.

This committee represents the diversity of the facets of our Temple life and draws from a cross-section of our members. I hope you will engage these members in dialogue, as the opportunity arises, to state your views on our relationship with and responsibilities of our Rabbi, and to ask about progress in the negotiation. Please make your opinions and feelings known, so we make sure we address the needs of all and result in an agreement with which we'll all be pleased.

Shalom,

Rich Goldberg

## Highlights from the MRT BOARD

- \* The Arts & Decoration Committee announces a new chair, Maureen Welton
- \* Sisterhood has purchased 200 place settings of beautiful dishes to be used for onegs and catering.
- \* Planning is underway for the 25th anniversary celebration of Rabbi Priesand's ordination for a special Shabbat service which will be held on March 14. Please mark the date.
- \* Board members attended the recent UAHC Regional Biennial workshop in Teaneck, NJ.
- \* Visit Torat Hayim (Torah study for Reform Jews published by the UAHC) at the following web site:  
<http://www.shamash.org/reform/uahc/torah/>



## ***The First and the Best***

*1972-1997 - twenty-five years have passed in the history of the Reform movement. Some would say it is a blink of an eye, a mere quarter of a century. But it is 25 years since Sally J. Priesand was ordained rabbi, the first woman, paving the way for hundreds more.*

*Our congregation will mark this unique event with a very special service on Friday, March 14, 1997. Mark your calendars — let nothing interfere with your attendance at Shabbat services that evening.*

*Rabbi Sheldon G. Zimmerman, President of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, will worship with us. Rabbi Zimmerman is coming to honor Rabbi Priesand and share with us the citation of the doctoral degree she will have been awarded earlier that week in Cincinnati. Rabbi Shira Stern, of Monroe Township Jewish Center, will also worship with us, representing the hundreds of women who have followed in Rabbi Priesand's footsteps.*

*Let us share the significance and joy of this event. Let us pray together and celebrate at a special Oneg.*

*Our congregation is fortunate to have Rabbi Priesand,*

## ***The First And The Best.***

*Bob Rosin  
Myra Ostroff*

**Save The Date!**  
**Saturday, January 11, 1997**  
**for**  
**"Meet and Eat"**  
**(formally "Beyond Blintzes")**

Do you see new or perhaps not so new faces you can't name? Our Temple family is growing but you can stay connected. We have the solution. Join us for informal group settings at pot-luck dinners in Temple members' homes.

Here is how it works: Groups of 8, 10, or 12 people, including a designated host, will "Meet and Eat" on Saturday evening January 11, 1997. Each host will receive a list of names and will coordinate the details of the dinner.

Wonderful friendships have begun in these casual, comfortable settings. Watch for detailed flyer or call me for more information.

Cora Tuchband, Inreach  
219-7680



## ***Welcome New Members***

Please welcome to our congregation:

Amir Mané and Hyeon Lee and their children,  
Daniel and Jonathan (Jummy)  
210 Yale Drive  
Lincroft, NJ 07738  
(908) 842-4746

Anna Korney and Sergey Korney and their son,  
Ivan  
19 Big Beech Lane  
Colts Neck, NJ 07722  
(908) 219-8954

## **BROTHERHOOD**

Our kick-off brunch was a smash! Over twenty members feasted at Gibbs Hall after a few minutes of business. Several members suggested we have all of our meetings there. The officers agreed to try to plan one more event there before the summer.

Friday, December 13 will be an especially lucky day because it is Brotherhood Sabbath. Only two days later is our next regular meeting on Sunday, December 15 where we will have a speaker on Stress Management. All members of the Temple family and their guests are invited.

Past brotherhood activities included putting up the sukkah. Thanks to our sukkah builders Dean Ross, Randy Wolf, Bob Cohen, Neil Brutman, and Len Schlosberg. In addition, we were pleased to give \$250 to the Scholarship Committee, the money was raised at our used book sale in May. Don Leeds will be chairing the sale again and we will be adding records and tapes (no CDs) to the sale.

Jim Berg



Brotherhood  
Meeting  
Sunday Morning, 9:30 A.M.  
December 15  
Social Hall  
"Stress Management for Men"  
by Wayne Goldman

**Refreshments: Coffee, Tea, Bagels &  
Juice**

**Bring a friend - plan to attend**



## **Library News**

### ***A Successful Jewish Book Month at MRT***

Once again, Fair Haven Books has provided the recent book fair with an impressive selection of adult and children's books. Our many thanks to Cynthia Auerbach and Carol Salomon of Fair Haven Books and the members of the MRT Library Committee for a successful book fair.

Those of you who attended Jewish Book Month Sabbath enjoyed hearing Joanna Charnick review a diverse collection of new books, from mysteries to children's books. Our thanks to Joanna for her insightful critiques.

The religious school children were treated to the charming and entertaining author, Fran Manushkin, on November 17. We thank Rabbi Priesand and David Levinsky for making Fran's appearance possible.

Thanks to the support of all who purchased books at the book fair, the library will be able to provide many new reading opportunities for our congregation.

Rosalind Reisner 741-8022  
Shelly Gordon 671-9145

# Happy Chanukah

*From the Office Staff*

By the way, our Office Manager, Elinor Goldberg, brings with her yet another skill. Elinor is a Notary Public. Should you need something notarized, Elinor will be pleased to oblige.

Please note the "url" for our Temple Web site is:  
<http://shamash.org/reform/uahc/congs/nj/nj001>



## **FOOD CERTIFICATE PROGRAM**

**YOU DID IT AGAIN!** We had a new high in sales for the month of October. We sold \$15,430 worth of food certificates for a profit to our Temple of \$771. Sixty-three families purchased the certificates - can you imagine profits if we doubled that number? It is a great start and I am sure that in the coming months we will top that figure. Thank you for your support.

Remember the food gift certificates make a wonderful gift for those hard to please people. Our sales captains are Bobbie Goldstein, Sue Rekedal, Joanna Charnick who is in the Temple lobby on Sundays, Mary Jane Leland in the Temple Office Monday through Fridays and myself. We look forward to great holiday sales.

Arlene Berg

## **YOUTH GROUPS**

Both the Junior and Senior Youth Groups are off and running with the new year. The Senior Youth Group received the NFTY Tikkun Olam Award last year and has again determined to run the variety of self-directed programs suitable to achieve the Award this year. During the weekend of November 15-17, six members of the Senior Youth Group attended the NFTY New Member Conclave in Aberdeen and the Senior Youth Advisor, Rachel Gitlin was a member of staff for that event. The Seniors are preparing a creative Shabbat service for Chanukah, December 6.

The Junior Youth Group has a new advisor this year, Amy Stein. Amy is the principal of the Bergen Academy of Reform Judaism and comes to MRT with experience as youth advisor for several synagogues in the Northeast. The Junior Youth Group, grades 6-8, has held two well-attended events: an introductory game and pizza lunch and a late night Havdalah event at MRT on November 16. Many thanks to the parents who have chaperoned these events.

Jay Wiesenfeld



## **SOCIAL ACTION**

Plans for this year's XMAS Day Volunteer Program are in full swing under the chairmanship of Bob Blank. The Monmouth Care Center in Long Branch has been added as an additional site for this year's program. Please fill out the form in this month's package of flyers and return it to the MRT office if you are able to volunteer. You may also volunteer by contacting Florence Cohen (908) 542-2143 or Bob Blank (908) 389-4615. Volunteers are asked to serve for a few hours during the afternoon of December 25, 1996.

Social Action collected 18 Chanukah gifts for needy elderly people in our area. These gifts will be included in the Thanksgiving baskets distributed by the Jewish Family and Children's Service. Many thanks to all who donated gifts!

A special note of thanks to Max Singer whose efforts brought about a grant of \$2500 from the Mazon Fund to Interfaith Neighbors, an organization which receives support from MRT. The grant was for the purchase of a gas oven for one of the centers where the "Meals-on-Wheels" for senior citizens are distributed.

Shabbat services are conducted by members of the Social Action Committee at various senior residences in Monmouth County. This month Applewood Estates, Freehood, will again become a location for one of these services. If you would be interested in leading a brief Shabbat service at one of these facilities on a monthly basis, please drop a note to the Social Action Committee at the MRT office.

Florence Cohen  
Social Action Chair



## YAHREZEITS

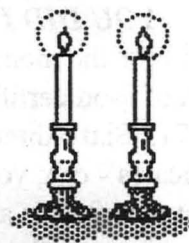
- Dec. 6:** \*Bernard Levy, David Litwin,  
 \*Jay Schulman, \*Gussie Avrin,  
 \*Abba Mayer Beerman, Martin Baronoff,  
 Roger K. Berman, Joseph Dow,  
 \*Irma Steisel, Eleanore Ehrenberg,  
 \*Harry Kohn, \*Flora Braunstein,  
 \*Hilda D. Salomon, Gertrude Wolf,  
 \*Sol Cohen, Harold Rosenblum,  
 \*Betty Berman, Joel Wiesenfeld,  
 \*Isidore Berman, Ruth Welt,  
 Mortimer Brandwene
- 13:** \*Helen Davis, Murray Hymans  
 \*Louis E. Jacobson, Abraham Golden,  
 Susan Rosemann, Joseph Levinsky,  
 Morris Weinstein, Sam Fass,  
 \*Abraham Glasser, Florence Lias,  
 Norman K. Brenner, \*Pearl Seitz,  
 Leonora Schwartz
- 20:** Jane Marshall, \*David Lane,  
 Ida Reisner, Leo Goodman, Harry Katz,  
 Herbert Tanzman, \*Richard Klein,  
 \*Bette Halpern Schmelzle, \*George Glasser,  
 Molly Gurevitz, Bernard Rosenberg,  
 Philip Kramer, Edward Klein, Kate Cohen
- 27:** Sylvia Snedcof Musicus,  
 Collette Katz, Jack Ostroff, Elaine Piniak,  
 Jennie Rosenweig, Jessie Weiss,  
 Gertrude Snyder, \*Joseph Lansky,  
 Hyman Reisner, \*Leonard Gettelsohn,  
 \*Esther Komar, \*Edith R. Ginzburg,  
 \*Goldie Bialy, \*Samuel Avrin,  
 Irving Priesand, \*Lora G. Miller

\*Indicates perpetual Kaddish

**Memorial Plaques, which are dedicated to a family member, can be purchased through the Temple Office. They are hung in the entrance way to the Sanctuary. Spaces are available on both walls. Cost is currently \$350. Please call the office for details.**

## **TRADITIONAL SABBATH EVE CANDLE LIGHTING**

Dec.. 6	4:11 PM
13	4:11 PM
20	4:13 PM
27	4:17 PM



*Thank you*

*We wish to extend our deep appreciation and heartfelt thanks for the many kind expressions of sympathy that we received from our Temple friends. The support demonstrated by your visits, calls, cards, and contributions in Jerry's memory shall never be forgotten. This is what makes being part of MRT so special. Thank you.*

*Joyce Silverman and family*

**"A Jew who does not believe in miracles is not a realist."**

**- David Ben-Gurion**

**Celebrate the miracle of Chanukah.**

**This year give your children and grandchildren gelt that helps build Israel's future.**



**\$100 State of Israel Certificate  
Your Children's Link with Israel**

Israel Bonds

**State of Israel Bonds  
300 Raritan Avenue  
Highland Park, NJ 08904  
1-800-752-5652**

## **MONMOUTH REFORM TEMPLE DECEMBER EVENTS**

<b>3 Tuesday</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Study Group</b>
	<b>8:00 PM</b>	<b>Religious Ed.</b>
<b>4 Wednesday</b>	<b>4:00 PM-6:00 PM</b>	<b>Religious School</b>
	<b>6:00 PM</b>	<b>Senior Youth Group</b>
	<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>Ways and Means</b>
	<b>8:00 PM</b>	<b>Ritual Committee</b>
<b>5 Thursday</b>	<b>Sundown</b>	<b>Chanukah Begins</b>
<b>6 Friday</b>	<b>8:15 PM</b>	<b>Sr. Youth Group Family Service</b>
<b>7 Saturday</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Tot Shabbat</b>
<b>8 Sunday</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Religious School</b>
	<b>9:50 AM</b>	<b>Religious School Chanukah Latke Party</b>
	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Family Menorah Lighting</b>
<b>10 Tuesday</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Study Group</b>
<b>11 Wednesday</b>	<b>4:00-6:00 PM</b>	<b>Religious School</b>
	<b>8:00 PM</b>	<b>Executive Board</b>
<b>12 Thursday</b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>Arts Festival</b>
<b>13 Friday</b>	<b>8:15 PM</b>	<b>Brotherhood Sabbath</b>
<b>15 Sunday</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Religious School</b>
	<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Brotherhood Meeting</b>
<b>17 Tuesday</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Study Group</b>
	<b>8:00 PM</b>	<b>Temple Board</b>
<b>18 Wednesday</b>	<b>4:00-6:00 PM</b>	<b>Religious School</b>
	<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>Youth</b>
	<b>8:00 PM</b>	<b>Adult Education</b>
<b>20 Friday</b>	<b>8:15 PM</b>	<b>Sabbath Eve Service</b>
<b>21 Saturday</b>	<b>10:30 AM</b>	<b>Bar/Bat Mitzvah Family Program</b>
<b>22 Sunday</b>	<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Religious School</b>
	<b>9:30 AM</b>	<b>Arts Selection</b>
<b>24 Tuesday</b>	<b>8:00 PM</b>	<b>Social Action</b>
<b>27 Friday</b>	<b>8:15 PM</b>	<b>Sabbath Eve Service</b>

**NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL: December 1st, December 25th and January 1st**  
**NO STUDY GROUP: December 24th and December 31st**

## ADULT EDUCATION

It has been a while since I have written about the Adult Education Committee's programs and activities and I have some catching up to do.

I have been enjoying the Temple's calendar this year and I hope everyone takes a few minutes to go over the illustrated/text page as you turn over the page to the new month. The Adult Ed Committee has, as one of its duties, the preparation of this page. Last summer, as it was being worked on with the assistance of several members of the committee, I was unable to complete the work. Joel Morgovsky, Florence Korchin and Rabbi Priesand much more than just picked up where I had left off and designed a really lovely and meaningful calendar for us this year. We all owe them our thanks.

We had very nice attendance at our Adult Ed Fall Series this year. Dr. Philip Miller, Librarian at HUC-JIR, NY spoke about some of his work and travels. The Sunday evening get-together over dinner and the talk was a pleasant way to top off the weekend. I hope everyone enjoyed themselves. Again, special thanks to JoAnn Brousell, and members of the committee, Bob Rosin, Florence Korchin, Adam Dillard and Gloria Hoffman for their help.

I am sure we have all noticed the advent of winter and I have a suggestion for a way to warm the very center of your self. I hope you will join with the Temple family for a Shabbat Kallah on Saturday, January 4 from 10:30 AM to 4:30 PM. This will be a special opportunity to spend Shabbat in a particularly meaningful way. A day of "worship and study, singing and sharing," it promises to provide a special sustenance that will keep us going through the chilly months. Look for the flyer and **SAVE THE DATE.**

Please save the weekend of January 31, February 1 and 2. Our 1997 Joan Goodman Scholar-In-Residence Program will be presented on that weekend. Our speaker this year is Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut. Rabbi Plaut is one of the great rabbis of Reform Judaism today. He is author and editor of the Torah Commentary we use each Shabbat and just this year has published a similar work on the Haftarah. As one who barely escaped the Holocaust and was brought as a young Rabbi to America, Rabbi Plaut will share a weekend of scholarship and memories with us. It is an honor that such an

individual is coming to speak to our Temple community and I hope everyone will enjoy his visit. More information, about the SIR weekend, to come.....

Karen Karl



## Project H.U.G.S.

The following letter was sent to us from the Women's Center of Monmouth County, Inc.:

*Dear Members of MRT:*

*On behalf of the women and children staying at our shelter, thank you so very much for your recent donation of children's Welcome Box items.*

*As you know, our sheltered women and children flee their homes at a time of family crisis, usually with few possessions. Your thoughtful contribution will certainly help make their shelter stay much easier.*

*Project H.U.G.S. is a program that is designed to help children of domestic violence grow in a safe environment. In addition to providing the children with the coping skills to make their lives more manageable, we provide a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere for kids to be kids. Project H.U.G.S. seeks to embrace each child and uncover their uniqueness, to help them discover the inner strength we refer to as "kid power."*

*It is with this in mind that I take this opportunity to thank the members of Monmouth Reform Temple for your gift of support. Your generosity is a wonderful example of the difference each individual can make.*

*Sincerely,*

*Marna Borrás, Coordinator  
Children's Services, Project H.U.G.S.*





### **NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS**

I would like to personally extend a very heartfelt thank you to Michael Semmes for generously donating gym equipment to our Nursery School for our playground. The staff and children are very appreciative of Michael's generosity.

As we approach the cold weather months, if you know anyone with a Pre-Schooler looking for a warm and caring environment where he/she can make new friends and have a wonderful learning experience, please give us a call. Registration is taken all year.

Happy Holidays from all of the staff at  
Tinton Falls Cooperative Nursery School

Bobbie LaPlaca  
Director

### **JEWISH SINGLES DIRECTORY!!**

**A Catalogue of new acquaintances  
in a Temple in your area**

**For more information, call  
The UAHC Program Line  
(201) 599-2041**

### **SCHOLARSHIP PLEDGE PROGRAM**

Our Temple Scholarship Fund provides financial assistance for students who wish to participate in summer programs sponsored by the Reform Movement. Four different Scholarship opportunities are available:

\* Camp Harlam (Grades 3-8) - A traditional four or eight week camp located in Pennsylvania.

\* Camp Kutz (Grades 9-12) - a traditional four or eight week camp located in Warwick, New York.

\* JFTY Mitzvah Corps (Grades 9-12) - A six week program of volunteerism in and around New Brunswick, New Jersey. Students reside on campus at Rutgers University.

\* Trip to Israel (Grades 10-12) - A six week trip with an integrated travel and learning curriculum (various trip options available).

### **Donations:**

The Scholarship Program is completely funded by donations from Temple members. When allocating your tzdakah, please consider making a donation of any size to our Scholarship Fund.

### **Pledge Program:**

We also have a Five Year Pledge Donation Program through which you can commit to donating \$50.00 for each of the next five years. Participants in this program are honored by having their names engraved on a special plaque located opposite the Judaica case.

What better way to give our children a meaningful Jewish experience that is both educational and fun!?!

Please contact me if you would like further information.

Vallerie Hersch  
(908) 462-8448



## **MONMOUTH FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS 27**

A show designer has been chosen, new artists have been selected, the first reservations for space in the Program Journal have been received, caterers have been "taste tested."

The entire Arts Festival Committee is working hard to make this special event a continued success. We still need volunteers, especially for the Program Journal.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Pre-Opening Gala Reception on April 5 and at the Festival, April 6-9, 1997!

Dolores, Barbara, Kay

### **Remember:**

Invitations to Arts Festival for Benefactors, Sponsors, and Patrons will be mailed shortly. Please support the Festival and send your response promptly.

Joyce Silverman  
Gloria Kantor

### **Chanukah Celebration Lots of Latkes for All**

**on December 8**

**Religious School Assembly at 9:50 AM.**

**Every family should bring their personal menorahs for our 700 candle lighting ceremony in the Social Hall at 11:00 AM**



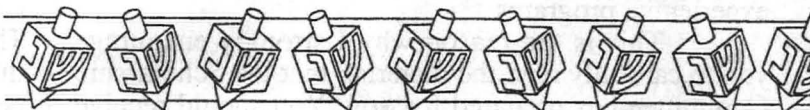
## **WAYS AND MEANS**

Our first annual Compact Disk sale will take place in the Temple Lobby on February 9.

Please drop off your CDs on Sundays in the Temple Lobby during December and January. Any questions, call Joanna Charnick at 542-1562.

Dean Ross

Ways and Means Chair



### **Upcoming Events**

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| January 4  | Shabbat Kallah                             |
| January 5  | Religious School<br>Parents Assoc. Meeting |
| January 10 | Tot Shabbat                                |
| January 11 | Meet and Eat                               |
| January 12 | Healing Service                            |
| January 20 | Sr. Youth Group Ski Trip                   |
| January 24 | Jewish Music Month Sabbath                 |
| January 31 | Scholar-in-Residence                       |



## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NOTES

When asked if one must believe in a heavenly God to consider oneself Jewish, a rabbi answered the question by drawing an analogy between Judaism and the spokes of a wheel. A wheel cannot spin with one spoke, he said. The wheel's strength increases as more spokes are added. Similarly, the rabbi explained, belief in a heavenly God is not the only spoke on the wheel of Jewishness. He mentioned study, mitzvot, tzedakah, prayer, political activism, cultural awareness, caring for Israel and, perhaps, a personal sense of godliness.

I would like to use the same analogy when speaking of Jewish education. Religious School is one of many opportunities for educational growth. A Jewish home, a trip to Israel, Temple youth group experiences and summer resident camp are the spokes of the Jewish education wheel.

For students to receive an effective Jewish education, they must be exposed to the formal education made available in the school setting and the informal-experiential education provided by youth group activities and resident camp living. The NFTY trips to Israel and the Mitzvah Corps are vital experiential programs.

This is the reason why I strongly encourage you to carefully read the material that the Scholarship Committee has prepared for you. You should receive this information around the same time as the Temple Bulletin.

Vallerie Hersch, committee chair, encourages all families to apply for assistance toward the cost of UAHC summer programs: youth trips to Israel, the Mitzvah Corps and resident camps. All three of my children experienced wonderful summers at Camp Harlam, the UAHC camp in Kreskeville, Pa. In addition, my son, Marc and my daughter, Rachel, still correspond with members of their NFTY trips to Israel. I encourage you to seek out information on these programs. Vallerie mentioned to me that donations to the scholarship fund will enable more Temple children to take advantage of the UAHC's summer activities.

---

The first marking period for grades 4 to 7 ended on November 17; report cards will be issued in early December.

All students in grades 4-6 must attend three Friday evening Shabbat services as congregants and participate in one service with their class. Several changes have been made to the school's class organization since the Temple calendar and Religious School Booklet were published. The Family Service dates for grades 4 and 5 may be different and I suggest that parents with children in these grades update their family calendars with the following: **class 5B -- January 17, class 5A -- February 28 and grade 4 -- May 2.** Kindly use my service attendance form or your own stationery to notify me of

your children's service attendance. The tally at the bottom of the report card will indicate the number of services attended by your children for which I have service forms signed by a parent. Kindly let me know of any error in the tally.

Please take time to review the report card with your children. As always, you may address any questions or concerns to your children's teachers, Susan St. Lifer or me.

Every principal must contend with student lateness to Religious School. Before the members of the Religious School Committee seriously debate my suggestion to change Wednesday's starting time to 4:15 p.m., I would like to gather more information regarding the ability of Temple parents to transport their children to school. Attached to your child's report card will be a short questionnaire regarding your ability to bring your children to Religious School by 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday and 9:30 a.m. on Sunday. I would appreciate it if you would return the questionnaires to me as quickly as possible.

On November 22, the congregation had the opportunity to swell with pride as the 6th grade conducted Shabbat services. The students and Ms. Haussamen are to be congratulated for their efforts. The children demonstrated during the weeks prior to the service that they wanted to do well and cared personally for the success of their cooperative labors.

**Chanukah is here.** We want all Temple families to be at our Temple Celebration on DECEMBER 8. Our assembly program will begin at approximately 9:50 a.m. The highlight of the morning will take place in the social hall at 11:00 a.m. We will gather around tables arranged in a giant horseshoe shape, and after singing the Chanukah blessings the lights will dim and each family will kindle its personal menorah. 700 candles will mark our celebration. **WHAT A SIGHT!** Following the candle lighting, the students will eat their latkes in their classrooms and the parents will have their latkes in the social hall.

Over the years, the Chanukah celebration has become a major school experience. I urge all parents to attend the candle lighting ceremony in the social hall at 11:00. Bring your entire family, the grandchildren, too!

The Temple's Sisterhood always remembers your children. This year as in many past years, the Sisterhood provided every school family with a box of holiday candles and each student with a dreidle and Chanukah gelt.

Reminder, our winter break begins on Wednesday, December 25 and extends through Wednesday, January 1, 1997.

Shalom,  
David Levinsky



## THE CONGREGATION ACKNOWLEDGES WITH THANKS THE FOLLOWING CONTRIBUTIONS

### THE RABBI'S FUND

*from Mildred Snedcof*

#### In Memory of:

Maxine Byck

*from Philip and Cynthia Auerbach*

*from Marjorie Levy and Donald Byck*

Gerald Silverman

*from Joyce Silverman and family*

*from Joseph and Eileen Grossman*

*from Renee and Ronald Cohen*

*from Florence and Adam Diller*

*from Caryl and Charles Sills*

#### In Honor of:

Jeffrey Marx' Bar Mitzvah

*from Helene Marx*

Our son, Drew, on his Bar Mitzvah

*from the Fitzsimmons family*

Our grandson, Drew, on his Bar Mitzvah

*from Maureen and Frank Welton*

The engagement of Lisa Auerbach,  
daughter of Cynthia and Philip Auerbach  
to John Schwallie

*from Caryl and Charles Sills*

The baby naming of our granddaughter,

Molly Beth Ackerman

*from Jill and Harmon Butler*

Our son David's marriage to Sarah Rose

*from Gabe and Miriam Torok*

Our daughter, Randi, on her Bat Mitzvah

*from Lorri and Bert Goldberg*

#### Stay Well:

To Rabbi Priesand

*from Claire and Murray Kipnis*

#### Thank you:

For the many lovely messages of support from  
members of our Temple family and our  
gratitude to those who made donations in  
John's honor

*from the Karl-Heidema family*

### THE FLOWER FUND

#### In Memory of:

William Wild

*from Gertrude Cooper*

William Ostrov

*from Helene Marx*

Irene Lewis Roth

*from Florence and Irving Cohen*

Gerald Silverman

*from Elaine Espey*

### THE FLOWER FUND (Cont'd)

#### In Memory of:

Leo Bernstein

*from Elaine Espey*

Maxine Byck

*from Elaine Espey*

Sally T. Frankel

*from Susan and Joseph Frankel*

Madlyn Rickard

*from William and Joan Feinberg*

Frieda Sapozhnikova

*from Vladimir Bolotin and*

*Vera Sapozhnikova*

Sam Schwartz

*from Martin and Dara Perfit*

Louis Boxman

*from Mark and Beverly Gruensfelder*

Lucie Wiesengrund

*from Frank and Maureen Welton*

Edie Cohan

*from Amy Aho*

Martha Lehrer Herzel

*from Frank and Greta Singer*

Emily Talberth

*from Kirby and Sue Rekedal*

Florence Schoenbart

*from Rena Baronoff*

Maurice Meyer

*from Irma and Peter Meyer*

David Raschkover

*from Morton Jacobs*

Helen Jacobs

*from Morton Jacobs*

Steven Stone

*from Morton Jacobs*

Anna Singer

*from Max and Lila Singer*

Sandy Liebesman

*from Burton Liebesman*

Joseph Liebesman

*from Burton Liebesman*

Jack Kravitz

*from Burton Liebesman*

Frances Goldstein

*from Barbara and Al Goldstein*

William Goldstein

*from Barbara and Al Goldstein*

Esther Hauser

*from Barbara and Al Goldstein*

Charlotte Rems

*from David and Brenda Tuller*

Emanuel Knight Harris

*from Arthur and Miriam Harris*

Arch Isaacs

*from Arthur and Miriam Harris*

#### **THE FLOWER FUND (Cont'd)**

##### **In Memory of:**

David Sapozhnikov

*from Vladimir Bolotin and*

*Vera Sapozhnikova*

Morris Weinstein

*from Mel and Shirley Zeisel*

#### **MAZON FUND**

##### **In Memory of:**

Julius Snedcof

*from Mildred Snedcof*

Gerald Silverman

*from Barbara and Gerald Rosenzweig*

##### **In Honor of:**

Irma and Peter Meyer's 40th

wedding anniversary

*from Baldwin Davidson*

High Holydays

*from Jim and Arlene Berg*

Our son, Drew, on his Bar Mitzvah

*from the Fitzsimmons family*

#### **FUND FOR THE HOMELESS**

##### **In Memory of:**

Gerald Silverman

*from Phyllis and Bob Rosenberg*

*from Donald and Helaine Rothman*

*from Lila and Max Singer*

*from Joan and Jerry Lansky*

*from Irma and Peter Meyer*

*from Peggy and Jerry Baker*

Maxine Byck

*from Phyllis and Bob Rosenberg*

*from Joan and Jerry Lansky*

*from Jill and Harmon Butler*

*from Irma and Peter Meyer*

Frank Karasik

*from Lila and Max Singer*

Ruth Brenner

*from Joan and Jerry Lansky*

#### **FUND FOR THE HOMELESS**

##### **In Honor of:**

Florence and Irving Cohen's

50th wedding anniversary

*from Fannie and Hy Klein*

The engagement of Lisa Auerbach,

daughter of Cynthia and Philip Auerbach

to John Schwallie

*from Barbara and Al Goldstein*

Charles Rubinstein's Retirement

*from Barbara and Al Goldstein*

#### **FUND FOR THE HOMELESS (Cont'd)**

##### **In Honor of:**

Our son, Drew, on his Bar Mitzvah

*from the Fitzsimmons family*

#### **YOUTH GROUP FUND**

##### **In Honor of:**

Our son, Drew, on his Bar Mitzvah

*from the Fitzsimmons family*

#### **SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

##### **In Memory of:**

Gerald Silverman

*from Betty and Bob Schulman*

*from Dolores and Ken Phillips*

*from Gabe and Miriam Torok*

Barney Lipman

*from Judith Luger*

##### **In Honor of:**

Stephanie and Lloyd Fitzsimmons

on their son Drew's Bar Mitzvah

*from Barbara and Al Goldstein*

Frank and Maureen Welton

on their grandson Drew's Bar Mitzvah

*from Barbara and Al Goldstein*

Norma and Jack Kohn's grandson's

Bar Mitzvah

*from Connie and Milton Klein*

Drew Fitzsimmons' Bar Mitzvah

*from Dolores and Ken Phillips*

The birth of a grandson to

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kessler

*from Dolores and Ken Phillips*

##### **Get Well Wishes:**

To Peggy Baker

*from Dolores and Ken Phillips*

#### **PRAYER BOOK FUND**

##### **In Memory of:**

Gerald Silverman

*from Phyllis and Charles Rubinstein*

*from Gloria and Marvin Kantor*

*from Trudy and Steve Goldsmith*

*from Bryna and Howard Tevlowitz and family*

Ruth Brenner

*from Leslie Klein*

##### **In Honor of:**

Our son David's marriage to Sarah Rose

*from Gabe and Miriam Torok*

**JOAN GOODMAN  
SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE**

**In Memory of:**

Leo Bernstein

*from Herbert and Florence Korchin*

*from Bernie and Sandy Brandwene*

*from Baldwin Davidson*

*from Barry and Barbara Miller*

Gerald Silverman

*from Herbert and Florence Korchin*

*from Bernie and Sandy Brandwene*

*from Baldwin Davidson*

*from Barry and Barbara Miller*

Maxine Byck

*from Baldwin Davidson*

Ruth Brenner

*from Baldwin Davidson*

**In Honor of:**

The marriage of Miriam and

Gabe Torok's son David to Sarah Rose

*from Phyllis and Charles Rubinstein*

John Heidema's safe return

*from Florence and Adam Diller*

Ken Phillips on his birthday

*from Barbara and Al Goldstein*

**Get Well Wishes:**

To Greta Singer

*from Herbert and Florence Korchin*

**ARTS & DECORATIONS FUND:**

**In Honor of:**

Florence and Irv Cohen's 50th Anniversary

*from Arlene, Jim and Jeremy Berg*

**CHRISTIAN RESCUERS' FUND:**

**In Memory of:**

David Lee, nephew of Baldwin Davidson

*from Irma and Peter Meyer*

**In Honor of:**

Our son, Drew, on his Bar Mitzvah

*from the Fitzsimmons family*

**GENERAL FUND:**

**In Memory of:**

Gerald Silverman

*from Bob and Betti Lane*

Maxine Byck

*from Bob and Betti Lane*

Dr. Robert L. Cohen

*from Betty and Joffre Robalino*

**GENERAL FUND (Cont'd)**

**In Honor of:**

Our son, Drew, on his Bar Mitzvah

*from the Fitzsimmons family*

**LIBRARY FUND**

**In Memory of:**

Gerald Silverman

*from Frank and Greta Singer*

*from Eleanor and Al Peskoe*

*from Isaac and Lois Blonder*

*from Arlene and Jim Berg*

*from Larry and Lois Avrin*

*from Cindy and Mark Garber*

*from Steve and Michelle Peskoe*

Barney Lipman

*from Judith Luger*

Maxine Byck

*from Frank and Greta Singer*

**ADAM GREENFIELD**

**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND:**

**In Memory of:**

Gerald Silverman

*from Martin and Debbie Greenfield*

Leo Bernstein

*from Martin and Debbie Greenfield*





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 Elinor Goldberg..... Office Manager

## TIME VALUE

HUC-JIR  
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 CINCINNATI, OH 45220

## Monmouth Reform Temple Calendar for December

### WORSHIP SERVICES

Dec.	6 Fri	Sabbath Eve	8:15 PM
	7 Sat	Sabbath Morning	10:30 AM
		Tot Shabbat	
	13 Fri	Sabbath Eve	8:15 PM
		Brotherhood Sabbath	
	20 Fri	Sabbath Eve	8:15 PM
	21 Sat	Sabbath Morning	10:30 AM
		Family Program Service	
	27 Fri	Sabbath Eve	8:15 PM

### SPECIAL EVENTS

Dec.	5	Thurs Chanukah begins	Sundown
	8	Sun Chanukah Latke Party	9:50 AM
		Family Menorah Lighting	11:00 AM

### RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Dec.	4 Wed	Religious School	4-6:00 PM
	8 Sun	Religious School	9:30 AM
	11 Wed	Religious School	4-6:00 PM
	15 Sun	Religious School	9:30 AM
	18 Wed	Religious School	4-6:00 PM
	22 Sun	Religious School	9:30 AM

### MEETINGS

Dec.	3 Tues	Study Group	9:30 AM
		Religious Ed	8:00 PM
	4 Wed	Sr. Youth Group	6:00 PM
		Ways and Means	7:30 PM
		Ritual Committee	8:00 PM
	10 Tues	Study Group	9:30 AM
	11 Wed	Executive Board	8:00 PM
	12 Thurs	Arts Festival	7:30 PM
	15 Sun	Brotherhood	9:30 AM
	17 Tues	Study Group	9:30 AM
		Temple Board	8:00 PM
	18 Wed	Youth	7:30 PM
		Adult Education	8:00 PM
	22 Sun	Art Selection	9:30 AM
	24 Tues	Social Action	8:00 PM