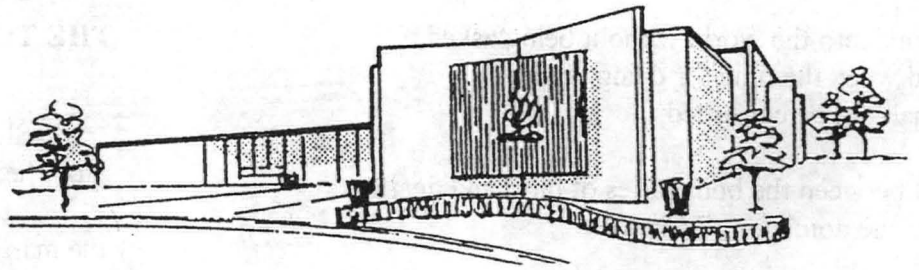


monmouth reform temple



bulletin

AV - ELUL 5757

SEPTEMBER 1997

FRIDAY EVENING SERVICES

Fri. 5 Sabbath Eve - 8:15 PM
Sermon: ***THE EMPTY BOX***
Torah Portion: Shofetim
Deut. 16:18-21:9

Fri. 12 Sabbath Eve - 8:15 PM
Sermon: ***UNDERSTANDING OUR
WORSHIP SERVICE: PART I***
Torah Portion: Ki Tetze
Deut. 21: 10-25:19

Fri. 19 Sabbath Eve - 8:15 PM
Sermon: ***UNDERSTANDING OUR
WORSHIP SERVICE: PART II***
Torah Portion: Ki Tavo
Deut. 26:1-29:8

Fri. 26 Sabbath Eve - 8:15 PM
Sermon: ***UNDERSTANDING OUR
WORSHIP SERVICE: PART III***
Torah Portion: Nitzavim/Vayelech
Deut. 29:9-31:30

OTHER SERVICES

Sat. 13 Sabbath Morning - 10:30 AM
Sermon: ***BEING RESPONSIBLE
FOR OUR ACTIONS***
Bat Mitzvah of
Sarah Fass
daughter of Scott and Patricia Fass

Sat. 20 Sabbath Morning - 10:30 AM
Sermon: ***THE TORCH WE CARRY***
Bar Mitzvah of
Aaron Farber
son of Zoe Mavridis and Martin (z"l) Farber

Sat. 27 S'lichot
Havdalah, Refreshments and
Discussion: ***WHAT MAKES THE
HOLY DAYS HOLY?*** - 9:00 PM
Service - 11:30 PM

Mitzvah Day is Coming Mitzvah Day is Coming

Mitzvah Day is Here!
September 21
followed by the Annual MRT
Barbecue at 4:00 PM

REFLECTIONS

I came into the world without being asked,
And when the time for dying comes
I shall not be consulted;

But between the boundaries of birth and death
Lies the dominion of Choice:

To be a doer or a dreamer,
To be a lifter or a leaner,
To speak out or remain silent,
To extend a hand in friendship
Or to look the other way;
To feel the sufferings of others
Or to be callous and insensitive.

These are the choices;
It is in the choosing
That my measure as a person
Is determined.

-----Gertrude Hildreth Housman



A Note from the Cantor..

Thank you to the Ritual Committee and to the wonderful voices who sang at our Shabbat services during the summer. I look forward to returning to our congregation on September 5.

In harmony.....*Shella Case*

Annual Open House

Thursday, September 4 and
Wednesday, September 10
from 6:00-9:00 PM

*Please help us greet and introduce
prospective members to our Temple.*

Call Sheila Leavitt 842-6486 and
let her know when you can help. Thanks!

SHARING SIMCHAS

THE TEMPLE FAMILY EXTENDS MAZEL TOV TO:

Sheila and Howard Bodner
on the marriage of their son, Daniel
to Kimberly Steiner and
the marriage of their daughter, Carolyn
to Chris Paskoff

Michael and Judy Dodge
on the engagement of their son, Justin
to Amy Brown

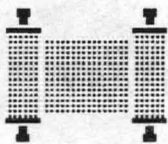
Stuart and Margot Goldberg
on the birth of their son,
Dustin Matthew

Sarah Fass

On September 13, Sarah Fass will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah. Her parents, Scott and Tisha, and sisters Samantha and Elizabeth look forward to this very special day. Sarah is an eighth grader and on the honor roll at Intermediate West School in Toms River. Her favorite subjects are Math and Social Studies. Sarah sings in the school chorus and is on the track team. Hobbies are swimming, basketball, computers, and rollerblading. Sarah has enjoyed the encouragement she has received while studying with the Rabbi and appreciates the dedication shown to her by Mr. Levinsky, Cantor Case and the Religious School teachers. Sarah looks forward to her Bat Mitzvah and intends to continue on towards confirmation. Mazel Tov to Sarah and her family.

Aaron Farber

Aaron, his mother Zoe, and sister Emily, all look forward to this momentous day when Aaron will become a Bar Mitzvah. Aaron is an eighth grader at the Markham Place School in Little Silver where math is his favorite subject. He likes computer programming, computer games, video games and swimming. Aaron also likes to draw cartoons. Aaron is very excited about celebrating his Bar Mitzvah. Mazel Tov to Aaron and his family.



FROM RABBI PRIESAND

This year, the first day of Elul falls on Wednesday, September 3. Tradition enjoins that we use this last month of the Hebrew calendar to prepare for the Holydays, to begin the process of cheshbon hanefesh, of taking stock of our lives and trying to understand ourselves better. The theme of this season is self-examination, a reminder that what we do is recorded in the book of human life, that our actions do have consequences, and most importantly, that change is always possible. The Holydays provide for us an opportunity to correct the mistakes of the past and reorder our priorities for the future by changing the way we behave now.

The message of this season is one of hope. No matter how far we may have strayed we can always return to the path of righteousness. Indeed, our prayer book offers constant reassurance that change is possible: "Teshuvah, tefillah, and tzdakah (repentance, prayer and charity) avert the evil decree." That does not mean that bad things will never happen to us. It simply suggests that being part of a community, fashioning a faith of meaning and purpose, training ourselves to look inward, upward and outward, will make it easier for us to cope with those difficulties that are part of every life.

Looking inward is the purpose of teshuvah (repentance). Before we can seek forgiveness, or even grant it, we need a better understanding of ourselves, why we act as we do and what it is that keeps us from being the best that we can be. That task may seem overwhelming at first, but a useful little book by Rabbis Kerry Olitzky and Rachel Sabath called **PREPARING YOUR HEART FOR THE HIGH HOLY DAYS** will help you on your journey, providing as it does words of reflection for each day of Elul. Also, we hope you will join us for our S'lichot discussion and service, Saturday evening, September 27, at 9:00 PM as we usher in the Holydays in the midst of community, together as one Temple family.

Looking upward is the purpose of tefillah (prayer). One of the reasons many people come to services on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur is the desire to reconnect with God, the yearning for

spirituality that does so seem to characterize our generation. The act of prayer is made more meaningful through practice, that is, by setting aside a few moments of worship every day, by coming to pray with the community not just on Holydays but every Shabbat, and also by understanding the meaning of the prayers and the order of the service. To help you better embrace the joy of tefillah, I will offer a three-part sermon series beginning Friday evening, September 12, called **UNDERSTANDING OUR WORSHIP SERVICE**.

Looking outward is the purpose of tzdakah (charity). The word tzdakah literally means "righteousness" or "justice," a reminder that God has called us to be partners in completing the work of creation, in setting right the wrongs of the world. Our congregation's first annual Mitzvah Day, Sunday, September 21, will give all of us an opportunity to fulfill the obligation of tzdakah. I congratulate and thank the members of our Social Action Committee, the participants in last year's Bar/Bat Mitzvah family program and all the other volunteers who have worked so diligently to organize this program of service to our community, and I hope that every member of our Temple family will participate.

Teshuvah, tefillah, tzdakah - a prescription for change, an opportunity for renewal, that will make our observance of this Holyday season the spiritual experience it was meant to be. I look forward to seeing you often in days to come. L'shana tova!

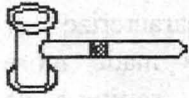


Many committees are hard at work. Most committees have chairs, but as always, we are still looking!!!! If you have any interest in chairing or working on a committee, we would love to hear from you. Have a happy, healthy and sweet new year.

Barbara Cobuzzi 542-1556
Dolores Phillips 922-3487
and the Phantom Third Chair

Help Wanted

Art Selection Committee has openings for members with some background in the arts. Call Claire Kipnis at 922-3312 or Judy Luger 389-0406 if interested.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Summer is almost over and the whole Temple family is beginning to gear up for the new cycle of Temple activities. I would like to thank all Temple members who led the summer services. They are always enjoyable and inspiring. Each Friday had something a little different to experience, especially Bob and Rosalie Rosin's candlelight service!

I am pleased to report that the Temple Treasurer, Bobbie Goldstein, and the past Finance Committee chair, Semmes Brightman and her committee, did an excellent job monitoring the 1996-97 budget. Our end of the year figures showed a surplus after expenses. This money will be put into our operating and building reserve funds for contingencies. In the past, our reserves have been used for such urgent items as roof repairs.

The construction committee chairs, JoAnn Brousell-Kurry and Rich Sachs, reported that contracts have been signed, a new mortgage has been obtained, storage/construction trailers are on site and we hope by the time you read this article, work has been started.

If there are any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Jim Berg

Religious School Tuition

The opening session of Religious School is Sunday, September 7th. **All tuition fees are to be paid in full by that time.** Fees per child for the 1997/98 school year are as follows:

Grades K-3	\$250.00
Grades 4-7	\$315.00
Grades 8-10	\$250.00

**Class Parents Still Needed
for 1997-1998 School Year
Call Cindy Newman for details
at 291-8592**



FROM THE LIBRARY

During the construction at the Temple, the books in the library will be packed and placed in storage. We will attempt to make available a limited number of books for the Religious School and for general research purposes. We will also accommodate special requests for books in storage, if at all possible, and with sufficient notice. We hope our avid *uncatalogued* paperback readers will be patient during our upheaval as we all anticipate a larger and more comfortable library.

While the library is under construction, a box will be kept in the Temple office for any returned books.

A meeting of the library committee will be held on Sunday, September 14th at 9:30 AM. We look forward to seeing current committee members and anyone interested in helping in the library.

Please mark your calendars for Jewish Book Month and the Book Fair scheduled for November 21st and 23rd. Please watch the bulletin for further details. Thank you.

Roz Reisner
Shelley Gordon

House Committee

Our Temple's sound system for the hearing impaired has now been upgraded, thanks to generous gifts from an anonymous Temple member and from the Jewish Deaf & Hearing Impaired Council of New Jersey. When you wear a special infra-red "Assistive Listening Device" during a service or a special event, you will now be able to sit anywhere within the sanctuary to enjoy clear reception. When the divider wall is opened for large events or High Holydays services, you should be able to sit just about anywhere in the social hall as well. While the Temple does own a few ALD receivers, we encourage you to purchase your own personal receiver to ensure availability of the type that will fit your needs. To purchase one, or if you want more information, please call me at 495-2739.

Richard Sachs

Calling All Chili Chefs for the first annual MRT Chili Contest

What's your specialty? Meat chili, Vegetable Chili, Texas or Cincinnati Chili? Please cook up your best recipe to enter in the First Annual Chili Contest to be held in our....

Social Hall

***November 9th from 5:00 PM Till...
great prizes, fun for all***

*.....and besides November is National Chili Month!
Any questions, or interested in entering or helping,
please call the Chili Hot Line (Dean) at 530-1962.*

Brotherhood

Our programs are almost all in place for the coming Temple year. We are taking a bit of a different tack as far as the programs are concerned. Not every program will be on a Sunday morning. In next month's bulletin, we will have a complete rundown for you.

Meanwhile our year opens with a brunch at 10:00 AM, Sunday, September 14. Reservations are being taken at the Temple office. The cost for members is \$5.00 and \$10.00 for guests. The brunch is at Gibbs Hall (Fort Monmouth Officers Club). They put out a marvelous spread. Bring your wife, friends, significant others, et al.

On October 12 at 9:30 AM we will be building the Sukkah. This is always a fun time. Plan on helping us. Coffee and bagels will be provided. Hope to see you at both events.

Shalom,

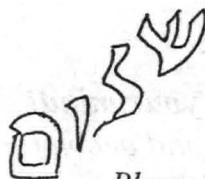
Baldy

Baldwin Davidson



Knitters Needed for Mitzvah Day

On Mitzvah Day, knitters are requested to come to the Temple prepared to knit preemie hats. Please bring #3 needles and baby yarn, pink and blue. Many thanks!.....Florence Cohen



Welcome New Members

Please welcome to our congregation:

Danielle Castellano
and her daughter Chelsea Gitlin
29 Sunbeau Court
Tinton Falls, NJ 07724
(732) 544-4718

David and Karen Kahn
and their children Daniel and Rachel
1 McElroy Drive
Lincroft, NJ 07738
(732) 219-8737

Gerald and Elizabeth Lubin
and their sons Eric and Alex
5 Remington Court
Holmdel, NJ 07733
(732) 706-0138

Fern and Steven Marchand
and their children Renee and Ross
33 Dana Lane
Colts Neck, NJ 07722
(732) 224-1364

Forrest and Jill Resnikoff
and their daughters Ariel and Julia
22 The Enclosure
Colts Neck, NJ 07722
(732) 834-9752

Entertainment '98

Entertainment books (*only \$30 this year*) will be available for pickup at the Sisterhood Membership Dinner on September 18 and weekdays in September at the Temple office. Also, available on:

Sunday	9/14	11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
Sunday	9/28	10:00 AM - 12:30 PM

*Please place your order with Miriam Torok
(946-3345) early to ensure availability.*

Ways and Means

We want your body.....and your mind!
Call one of these numbers today and become
involved in one of our projects!*

542-1562 or 946-8559 For Food Scrip

747-0824 or 747-8247 also For Food Scrip

946-8559 or 870-3597 1% Club

530-9517 for New Year's Greetings

530-1962 or 842-9581 for Chili Contest

946-8559 for Auction

389-0406 to join the Ways and Means team

**You may call more than one!*

Judy Luger, Chair

FOOD CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

Though I am in the middle of an audit, I wanted to inform the membership of our preliminary results for last year's scrip donations. We had wonderful results. Our total participation was 128 families and we raised \$8,375 for the Temple. That was \$2,152 more than the previous year. If we can get a few more families involved I am sure we will be able to earn \$10,000 this year. My personal goal is \$20,000 and we can easily do that with each Temple family buying at least \$100 worth of scrip each month. It is not hard to do; just contact one of the Captains selling scrip or stop in at the Temple Office. Scrip is also sold on Sunday mornings in the Temple lobby. Remember, no matter what you purchase, the Temple gets 5% and whatever money you give us, we give you back in gift certificates. Where else do you get such a bargain?!

We also started a Matching Program last April. One Temple member gave us 1% of our gross sales for the month of April. We made an additional \$135. In July, another family donated 1% of our sales in scrip and we earned \$99.25. This was in addition to whatever they purchase monthly. So we double thank them. If you are interested in learning more about the program contact me or Gary Brousell.

We started out our 97-98 year by selling \$800 more than the previous July. Sometime in September we should have our new summary of activities board up in the Temple lobby which shows our comparisons from year to year.

THIS IS A PAINLESS PROGRAM AS WELL AS AN EXCELLENT MITZVAH. JOIN THE BANDWAGON!

Arlene Berg
946-8559

.....A message from
our Sisterhood President, Stephanie Fitzsimmons

September is here! Did you get your invitation to the Paid-Up membership dinner? Are you coming? It's on Thursday, September 18th and promises to be a great evening. An invitation was sent to every female Temple member so if you didn't get one we apologize. Please call Madelyne Ryterband at 530-4027 or me (530-6673) and we'll be happy to tell you all about it. How about Entertainment Books?! They are less expensive this year...Please order one from Miriam Torok. She's waiting for your call (946-3345).

Have you heard about the first annual Sisterhood Home Party Boutique fund raiser to be held on December 3rd and 4th? If you know of anyone who sells products at home parties and would be interested in selling their products at this fund raiser, have them contact me or Madelyne for more information. Sisterhood is in desperate need of a committee of caring people to join Madelyne and me in making this a fun, successful, rewarding and prosperous fund raiser for MRT. The more the merrier and the more people we have on the committee, the less time each of us will have to contribute. Please join us, it will be fun!

I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and will have a happy and healthy New Year. I hope to see each and every one of you at the Paid-Up Membership Dinner. By the way, wouldn't you like to learn how to make Ruggelach or Challah? Stay tuned!

MONMOUTH REFORM TEMPLE SEPTEMBER EVENTS

1	Monday	All Day	Labor Day - Office Closed
2	Tuesday	8:00 PM	Religious Education Committee
3	Wednesday	8:00 PM	Ritual Committee
4	Thursday	6:00-9:00PM	Membership Open House
5	Friday	8:15 PM	Shabbat Eve Service
7	Sunday	9:30-Noon	Religious School Begins
10	Wednesday	4:00-6:00 PM	Religious School
		6:00-9:00PM	Membership Open House
		8:00 PM	Executive Committee
11	Thursday	7:30 PM	Arts Festival Committee
12	Friday	8:15 PM	Shabbat Eve Service
13	Saturday	10:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service (Fass Bat Mitzvah)
14	Sunday	9:30-Noon	Religious School
		10:00 AM	Brotherhood Brunch Gibbs Hall
		1:00 PM	Healing Service
16	Tuesday	8:00 PM	Temple Board
17	Wednesday	4:00-6:00PM	Religious School
		7:30 PM	Youth Committee
		7:45 PM	Focus Group
18	Thursday	7:00 PM	Sisterhood Membership Dinner @ Chiafullo's
19	Friday	8:15 PM	Shabbat Eve Service
20	Saturday	10:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service (Farber Bar Mitzvah)
21	Sunday	9:30-Noon	Religious School
		All Day	Mitzvah Day
		4:00 PM	Annual Barbecue
23	Tuesday	8:00 PM	Social Action
24	Wednesday	4:00-6:00 PM	Religious School
25	Thursday	7:45 PM	Ways and Means
26	Friday	8:15 PM	Shabbat Eve Service
27	Saturday	9:00 PM	S'lichot Discussion
		11:30 PM	S'lichot Service
28	Sunday	9:30-Noon	Religious School
29	Monday	7:00-8:00 PM	Pre-School

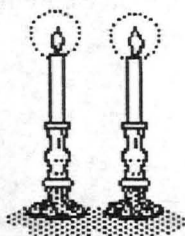
YAHREZEITS

- Sept. 5:** Max Feldman, Alan Lowenstein,
**Frieda Jung, Lillian Davis Kaswiner,
 Anna Harran, Anna Dickheiser,
 *Morris Kalkstein, *Michael Yagoda,
 Estee Brasson, Eva Weinstein,
 Isadore Levin, Sylvia Woolf, Adolf Zager,
 Richard Salomon, Theodora Kaminsky,
 Esther Brandwene, Stacy Mira Bassin*
- Sept. 12:** Israel Ruby, Doris Boxman,
 Stanley Elliot Mitchell, Nathan Isquith,
 Bella Gruensfelder, Rikki Schuster,
 Harry Cohn, Meyer Heyman,
 Nan S. Bernard *Sid Komar, Alice Loebel,
 John Potter, Lester Gutterman,
 *Irene Tuchband, Virginia Gail Karger,
 Fay Grand, *Ann Baron
- Sept. 19:** Benjamin Lissner,
 Frances Kriegstein, Irving Brecher,
 Max Brenner, Dorothy Hirsch, Mae Danzig,
 *Donald L. Fink, Julius H. Klein,
 Abraham Snedcof, Irving Cohen,
 *Sonya Brecker, *Anne Rogovin,
 Ruth Niren, Lukas Hovatter, Ann Silvers,
 Sam Meiselman, Arthur Weinstein,
 *Gloria St. Lifer
- Sept. 26:** Sophie Weinstein,
 *Gertrude L. Marx, Marshall Lobell,
 *Morris Dworkin, Lillian Greenfield,
 *Gilbert H. Salomon, *George Welner,
 Walter Peskoe, Esther Hauser, Jennie Feld,
 Ethel Goldsmith, *Herman Solomon,
 *Abram Kridel, *Roslyn Falk Garin,
 *Harold Mausner, Oscar Kurry,
 Michael Kantor

*Indicates perpetual Kaddish

TRADITIONAL SABBATH EVE CANDLE LIGHTING

Sept. 5	7:04 PM
Sept. 12	6:53 PM
Sept. 19	6:41 PM
Sept. 26	6:29 PM



**The Congregation extends warm
condolences to:**

**Howard and Marian Kramer
on the death of Howard's mother
BETTIE KRAMER**



**Arthur and Karen Birnkrant
on the death of Arthur's sister
SASHA ALT**



*May God send peace to
all the bereaved among us.*

*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.*



Greetings from the Ritual Committee!

With hopes that your summer was what you hoped it would be, the Ritual Committee would like to fill you in on some news from our work in July and August. First we want to thank all those who volunteered to conduct summer services this year. With Rabbi Priesand away for two months, we needed more of you than usual. Thank you one and all.

In the fall we have decided to include some new elements in our regular Sabbath services in the spirit of experimentation and in response to requests

.....CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

from congregants. We are excited to begin the experimental period with the addition of a "hakafah" or Torah processional. This lovely ceremonial practice brings the Torah down into the congregation where it is carried through the sanctuary so that everyone can feel its presence in our midst and touch it if they choose. We think the hakafah will further elevate the spirituality of our service and deepen our sense of community. Later, we will ask if you would like hakafah to continue.

Another element we plan to introduce is the singing of Aleinu in Hebrew in place of the Adoration in English. Besides being requested by some congregants, this liturgical practice has become more and more common in Reform congregations across America. If you find learning and chanting the Aleinu rewarding or distracting, we will want to know about it. Stay tuned.

On another front, we have been having discussions with Temple Beth Miriam in Elberon about buying gravesites in their cemetery in Neptune. The Ritual Committee will be sending a flyer later this season asking you to state your interest in having cemetery plots nearby. This has been a recurrent issue in our Temple but we have never found just the right situation to offer you. Details are not available yet, but feel free to call me for further information.

Finally, the High Holydays are near. Your Information Packets will arrive shortly so you can begin planning for services. Please note the deadlines for Memorial Book entries, extra tickets, babysitting needs, etc. Also, be aware that we have purchased additional copies of the *Gates of Repentance* but the new additions contain gender-neutral language. Don't be surprised if your book has slightly different words than those in the books around you.

Shalom,

Joel Morgovsky, Ritual Chair

MRT's Mitzvah Day!!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

While every day is a day to perform mitzvot, on MITZVAH DAY we perform mitzvot as a congregational family. Our tradition charges each one of us with caring for the world that surrounds us. We embrace the Jewish concept of Tikkun Olam -- repair of the world -- and we heed Rabbi Hillel's question, "If I am only for myself, what am I?"

And so on MITZVAH DAY, September 21, we engage in communal acts of lovingkindness. We expect every member of our congregation -- men, women, and children -- to reach out to others in our community through acts of gemilut chasadim -- deeds of lovingkindness. Our MITZVAH DAY committee has been searching out and organizing a multitude of opportunities to which the congregants of Monmouth Reform Temple can lend their hearts and hands.

We invite you to join us in this rewarding and worthwhile effort. It is an opportunity for all of us to reach outside of our own safe and secure worlds, a chance to share our blessings. The only requirement to participate is the willingness to give of ourselves and make an impact on our community. All you have to do is to complete and return the registration form in the MITZVAH DAY brochure that was mailed to you.

We plan to end our day with the annual Monmouth Reform Temple Family Picnic beginning around 4:00 PM. I look forward to seeing everyone on September 21st.

Jeff Willard
Chairperson
MITZVAH DAY Committee



Adult Education

I hope everyone has had a lovely summer. The Adult Ed Committee has been working on the illustrated-text page for the Temple calendar. This year's Theme of Shabbat has been a particular delight to work on. Committee members Bill Kurry, Gloria Hoffman, Ayse Dilber, Jay Wiesenfeld, Norma Kohn and Gerald Reisner did some fine work on the topic for their particular month. When you receive your calendar, please note the beautiful graphics produced by Joel Morgovsky.

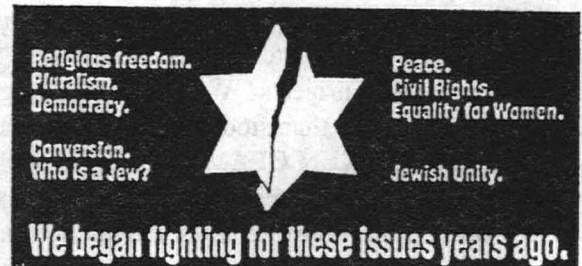
Among the reading that I have done this summer are two books I want to recommend. Roger Kamenetz' *The Jew in the Lotus* is a personal account of the 1990 meeting between a contingent of American Jews and the Dalai Lama in Dharamsala, India. The leader in exile of Tibetan Buddhists, the Dalai Lama, is a highly regarded spiritual teacher and the winner in 1989 of the Nobel Peace Prize. Kamenetz tells us that it was also in 1989 that he first looked towards the Jewish people for assistance with a condition they shared; "Tell me your secret," he said, "the secret of Jewish spiritual survival in exile." What follows is part fascinating travelogue, part examination of the personalities involved and an entirely intriguing discussion of different religious sensibilities. It may get a little thick in places, but is worth slogging through.

The other book was recommended to me by Rabbi Priesand. *Finding Joy; A Practical Spiritual Guide to Happiness* reveals some gentle and pleasant ways to let go of some of the stress that often seems to take over. The author, Dannel I. Schwartz, looks to the teachings of the Kabbalah "as a basis of happiness in the context of Jewish mystical tradition." Filled with charming stories and easy to follow exercises, *Finding Joy...* manages to make the sometimes esoteric and dense cabalistic philosophies easily accessible. Both books are available in our wonderful Temple library.

The Adult Ed Committee is pleased to begin a mentoring program for anyone who would like some assistance with the Hebrew prayers in our

services. If you find it difficult to recite along with the congregation, we will match you with another MRT member to work privately with you or create a small group in which to study. Please let me know if this program interests you. Give me a call at 747-6184.

Karen Karl



ARZA

The Reform Movement*

Slate 3

If you registered to vote in the upcoming election for the World Zionist Congress, you will soon be receiving a ballot. The very fact that you are voting in this election means that you know the issues. They concern you. And you feel the need to take action.

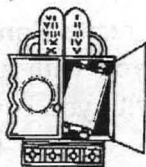
ARZA, the Association of Reform Zionists of America,* the voice of Progressive Judaism, defined the issue of religious pluralism. We have been taking bold, effective and unprecedented action on these issues for years - in this country and in Israel. With your vote, we will continue to be out in front, leading the way.

Now there may be others claiming the mantle of pluralism and religious freedom. ARZA is the authentic voice of Reform and Progressive Judaism. Deliver a strong, clear and unmistakable message to the Israeli political and religious establishments that you believe in religious freedom and democracy.

When you receive your ballot for the World Zionist Congress elections, look for the ARZA slate (slate 3), mark it and return your ballot.

Fight back for your rights as a Jew.

*representing the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Central Conference of American Rabbis, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, World Union for Progressive Judaism, Women of Reform Judaism, National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods, and the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation, 1000 synagogues and millions of Reform, Reconstructionist and other progressive Jews.



RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NOTES

where parents set the example

OPENING DAY - SEPTEMBER 7
BACK-TO-SCHOOL MEETING - 10:30 AM

Is there a better way to *set a positive example* for your children than by volunteering as a family for one of the MITZVAH DAY projects? We sometimes forget that Reform Judaism is more than study or prayer. Its tenets call for social action. TIKKUN OLAM (to heal the world) is a fundamental teaching which mandates that we work toward a perfect world for all. Formal classes will not be conducted on MITZVAH DAY; however, participation in the program is required for school attendance credit on September 21.

The Religious School's annual tzedakah campaign is a second area in which parents can easily *set positive examples* for their children. Over the years tzedakah has become erroneously understood as the commandment to make charitable contributions. For the record tzedakah encompasses the larger meaning of righteousness, not specifically the giving of money or goods to charity. Every Sunday children contribute money to their class' tzedakah collection. Students tend to bring less and less tzedakah to Religious School as they reach the higher grades. The Confirmation class is the exception to this trend. Parents in the younger grades make sure that their children have money for the tzedakah envelope. For some reason, parents take this responsibility less seriously as their children reach grades 6, 7, 8, and 9. Hopefully, this reminder will help the four very worthy charities sponsored by the older grades.

Mitzvah day and tzedakah bring to mind that Religious School is a place where ethics are taught. As a public school teacher in NYC, I have found that many teachers are reluctant to involve their classes in discussions centering on issues of right and wrong. Some teachers prefer sticking to their curriculum to avoid any conflicts with a parent over what and how morality should be taught to children.

Religious school is the place for lessons on morality. The Torah and the books of prophets contain stories involving right and wrong, truth and deceit. It is our job to discuss difficult issues with Religious School students. I urge parents to accept the challenge of dealing with the subjects that we teach in Religious School. Do it when the children are young and will talk easily to you. Develop the rapport now so that when they reach high school and college, your children will be accustomed to talking with you about sensitive issues.

A new school year is here and, as always, there will be some changes. Betsy Millman has been appointed as the

principal of Temple Beth Torah in Ocean Township. We wish her well. It will seem empty to open the school year without Betsy in Room 4 where she has been with "her" second graders for so many years. (The second grade's annual trip to Israel will not be the same without Mrs. Millman as the tour guide.)

Also, we welcome Lea Ghidali to the sixth grade Hebrew program in our school. Lea brings to MRT extensive religious school experience and is conversant in Hebrew and six other languages.

The Religious School Booklet is (almost) the last word on Temple policy and curriculum. Over the years, the Religious School Committee and I have tried to be as communicative as possible regarding policies, rules and curriculum. Religious School Committee meetings are always open to the casual visitor and/or new committee members. You need not be present to place your question, suggestion or concern on the committee's agenda, simply contact Susan St. Lifer, Committee chair, to be included.

As the Religious School continues to grow so does the wait for pick up at dismissal. Our dismissal system is certainly not perfect and Temple members are encouraged to come up with a better one. I must ask all drivers to pick up their riders at the rear of the parking lot. Do not park on Hance Avenue and then summon your child to meet you in front of the Temple. Certainly, do not back into the parking lot through the exit side to avoid the long line. Do not be the cause of an accident by beckoning your child to your car. A child dashing out to an impatient parent or grandparent will not look for moving vehicles. The Committee is concerned, as we all are, about our children's safety. The few drivers who break these rules will be confronted in the parking lot.

Our school has 30 sessions on Wednesday and 30 on Sunday. This year, Rabbi Priesand had an unusually difficult time meeting our contractual obligations to our teachers and still conclude the school year before Confirmation. I urge you to read the calendar carefully this year as you make plans to take winter holidays, visit relatives or take a long weekend with your families.

Students in grades 4 - 7 are permitted 12 absences and students in grades 8 and 9 are allowed 6. While a 20% absentee rate is generous, it does become very limiting for some families. School is in session the Wednesday before the NJEA weekend, but not in session on NJEA Sunday. The same is true for Thanksgiving weekend. And, school is in session the weekend of Martin Luther King's Birthday. The moral of this story is that days should not be taken off lightly. Soccer, basketball and little league are not viable excuses for excessive absences.

I hope to see and greet you on our first day.

Shalom,
David Levinsky

THE CONGREGATION ACKNOWLEDGES WITH THANKS THE FOLLOWING CONTRIBUTIONS

THE RABBI'S FUND

In Honor of:

The birth of Ellen and Donald Byck's
granddaughter, Talia Brooke Shapiro
from Jill and Harmon Butler

THE FLOWER FUND

In Memory of:

Morris Willard
from Jeff Willard
Anne Potter
from Howard and Sheila Bodner
Shirley Schulman
from Gloria Hoffman
Norman Schulman
from Gloria Hoffman
Lillian Kohn
from Jack and Norma Kohn
Irving Ohl
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from Florence and Irving Cohen
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Drew, Alex, and Stephanie*
David Frank Goldberg
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from Melvin and Shirley Zeisel
Albert E. Zeisel
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Bernard Goldberg
Richard and Linda Goldberg
In Honor of:
My son, Aaron Farber's Bar Mitzvah
from Zoe Elizabeth Mavridis

CANTOR'S MUSIC FUND

In Honor of:

The marriage of Cora and Stu Tuchband's son
Steven to Ingrid Kurtz
from Gerald and Rosalind Reisner

CHRISTIAN RESCUERS FUND

In Memory of:

Meyer Rothman
from Arthur and Nancy Loebel

FUND FOR THE HOMELESS

Get Well Wishes:

To Peggy Baker
from Betty and Bob Salomon

MAZON FUND

In Honor of:

The birth of Fannie and Hy Klein's
great granddaughter, Annie
from Barbara and Al Goldstein
The birth of Fannie and Hy Klein's
granddaughter Rachel
from Barbara and Al Goldstein

Get Well Wishes:

To Peggy Baker
from Trudy and Steve Goldsmith
To Leonard Teitelbaum
from Trudy and Steve Goldsmith

SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE FUND

In Memory of:

Nathan Halpern
from Peggy and Jerry Baker
Bentley Jay Cooper
from Baldwin Davidson

In Honor of:

The marriage of Cora and Stu Tuchband's
son Steven to Ingrid Kurtz
from Baldwin Davidson
The marriage of JoAnn Brousell to
William Kurry
from Baldwin Davidson

Get Well Wishes:

To Len Teitelbaum
from Peggy and Jerry Baker
from Baldwin Davidson
To Peggy Baker
from Baldwin Davidson

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Get Well Wishes:

To Leonard Teitelbaum
from Barbara and Al Goldstein
To Peggy Baker
from Barbara and Al Goldstein

YOUTH GROUP FUND

In Memory of:

Bettie Kramer
from Susan St. Lifer

In Honor of:

My son Aaron Farber's Bar Mitzvah
from Zoe Elizabeth Mavridis

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Monmouth Reform Temple Calendar for September**WORSHIP SERVICES**

Sept.	5	Fri	Sabbath Eve	8:15 PM
	12	Fri	Sabbath Eve	8:15 PM
	13	Sat	Sabbath Morning	10:30 AM
	14	Sun	Healing Service	1:00 PM
	19	Fri	Sabbath Eve	8:15 PM
	20	Sat	Sabbath Morning	10:30 AM
	26	Fri	Sabbath Eve	8:15 PM
	27	Sat	S'lichot Service	11:30 PM

SPECIAL EVENTS

Sept.	4	Thurs	Open House	6:00-9:00 PM
	7	Sun	Rel. Sch. Begins	9:30-Noon
	10	Wed	Open House	6:00-9:00 PM
	14	Sun	Brotherhood Brunch	10:00 AM
	18	Thurs	Sisterhood Dinner	7:00 PM
	21	Sun	Mitzvah Day	All Day
			Annual Barbecue	4:00 PM
	27	Sat	Discussion and S'lichot	9:00 PM
	29	Mon	Pre-School	7:00-8:00 PM

MEETINGS

Sept.	2	Tues	Religious Ed	8:00 PM
	3	Wed	Ritual	8:00 PM
	10	Wed	Exec. Committee	8:00 PM
	11	Thurs	Arts Festival	7:30 PM
	16	Tues	Temple Board	8:00 PM
	17	Wed	Youth	7:30 PM
			Focus Group	7:45 PM
	23	Tues	Social Action	8:00 PM
	25	Thurs	Ways and Means	7:45 PM