

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			DECEMBER 29	30	31	JANUARY 1
			No Religious School	No Religious School	Shabbat Service 5:30 p.m.	Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
2 Religious School Pre-Kindergarten-Grade 6 10-Noon Prayer Assembly 11:30 a.m. Temple Tones 12-12:45 p.m.	3	4 Torah Tots 9:30-11:15 a.m. Family School 6:15-8:15 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gamblers 12-Step 7:30 p.m.	5 Midrashah 10-Noon Religious School & Dinner Grades 7-12 6-8:30 p.m.	6 Sisterhood Adult Education 10-11:30 a.m. Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. Kol Rina Choir 7-9 p.m.	7 Jewish Spirituality 9:30-11 a.m. Tot Shabbat 7 p.m. Shabbat Service 8 p.m.	8 Bagels and Bible 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
9 Religious School Pre-Kindergarten-Grade 3 & Grades 5/6 10-Noon Grade 4 @ Blumkin Home 10:15-Noon Men's Club Brunch 10 a.m. Temple Tones 12-12:45 p.m. OTYG Family Pizza Sale 12 Noon	10	11 Torah Tots 9:30-11:15 a.m. WRJ Executive Committee 11:30 a.m. WRJ Board Meeting 12 Noon Family School 6:15-8:15 p.m. Healing and Renewal Service 7 p.m. Introduction to Kabbalah 7-8:30 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gamblers 12-Step 7:30 p.m.	12 JYG Dinner 6-6:30 p.m. Religious School Grades 7-11 6:30-8:30 p.m.	13 Sisterhood Adult Education 10-11:30 a.m. Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. Kol Rina Choir 7-9 p.m.	14 Early Worship Service 5:30 p.m. Family Shabbat Dinner 6 p.m. Shabbat Family Service 7:15 p.m.	15 Bagels and Bible 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
16 No Religious School Martin Luther King, Jr. Service @ Church of the Living God 4 p.m.	17	18 Torah Tots 9:30-11:15 a.m. Family School 6:15 p.m. Board of Trustees Meeting 7:30 p.m. Introduction to Kabbalah 7-8:30 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gamblers 12-Step 7:30 p.m.	19 Midrashah 10-Noon OTYG Dinner 6-6:30 p.m. Religious School Grades 7-12 6:30-8:30 p.m.	20 Sisterhood Adult Education 10-11:30 a.m. Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. Ancient Israel 7-8:30 p.m. Kol Rina Choir 7-9 p.m.	21 Shabbat Comes to You @ Livingston Plaza 3:45 p.m. Shabbat Service 8 p.m.	22 Bagels and Bible 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
23 Religious School Pre-Kindergarten-Grade 1 & Grades 3-6 10-Noon Grade 2 @ Blumkin Home Jewish Spirituality 10:15-11:45 a.m. Temple Tones 12-12:45 p.m.	24	25 Torah Tots 9:30-11:15 a.m. Family School 6:15-8:15 p.m. Introduction to Kabbalah 7-8:30 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gamblers 12-Step 7:30 p.m.	26 Religious School Hebrew Club 5-6:30 p.m. Grades 7-11 6:30-8:30 p.m.	27 Sisterhood Adult Education 10-11:30 a.m. Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. Grades 1-6 Parent Conferences 7 p.m. Ancient Israel 7-8:30 p.m.	28 Shabbat Service 8 p.m.	29 Bagels and Bible 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
30 Religious School Pre-Kindergarten-Grade 6 10-Noon Community Outreach Program 10 a.m. Jewish Spirituality 10:15-11:45 a.m.	31	FEBRUARY 1 Torah Tots 9:30-11:15 a.m. Family School 6:15-8:15 p.m. Introduction to Kabbalah 7-8:30 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gamblers 12-Step 7:30 p.m.	2 Religious School & Dinner Grades 7-12 6-8:30 p.m.	3 Sisterhood Adult Education 10-11:30 a.m. Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. Kol Rina Choir 7-9 p.m.	4 Tot Shabbat 7 p.m. Shabbat Service 8 p.m.	5 Bagels and Bible 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.



Published by Temple Israel
7023 Cass
Omaha, NE 68132
(402) 556-6536 FAX (402) 556-6189

Member of Union of American Hebrew Congregations

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
OMAHA, NE
Permit No. 265



Temple Israel

TIDINGS

Founded 1871

Tevet 22, 5760 Omaha, NE December 31,1999 Vol. LXXXIX No. 5

Worship Services

Friday, December 31
5:30 p.m.

D'var Torah
Rabbi Debbie Stiel

Saturday, January 1

10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Shemot
Exodus 1:1-6:1

Friday, January 7
7 p.m.

Tot Shabbat

8 p.m.

Sermon
Rabbi Aryeh Azriel

Oneg Shabbat sponsored by
the Women of Reform Judaism

Saturday, January 8
9:30-10:15 a.m.
"Bagels and Bible"

10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Va'era
Exodus 6:2-9:35

(continued on page 2)

*Our Congregation Is Invited
To Join In Honoring
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

**Church of The Living God
Will Host Special Service**

**January 16, 2000
4 p.m.
2029 Binney**

In a letter to Rabbi Azriel, Vice-Chief Bishop Robert D. Taylor, Pastor of the Church of The Living God, invited our congregation to join in a special observance to "acknowledge our commonality....The Jew, as well as the Black Man, has been treated in ways that redefine sub humanism. Yet we have survived..."

"He sent Moses to lead His people out of bondage and Joshua to take them into the promised land....He has sent us our Moses.....Martin Luther King, Jr. led this country to the crossroads of racism and bigotry. Although many are yet choosing to trod the paths of hatred, many have chosen to walk in hope of a brighter dream..."

"I think that a program, recalling and addressing the struggles of our past and present, will help us to overcome the ills we face."

"With that in mind, members of the Black/Jewish Dialogue have worked on a program that will serve to bring about a two-fold experience."

"Our youth will meet in an exchange facilitated by Mr. Joseph Ginsberg. Following, we will all gather in a shared experience as we honor Dr. King...as we acknowledge our differences and praise God for his diversity."

Please note the date and time. Let us attend this commemoration in great numbers.

Rabbi Brooks Tribute	p.2	Jews on View..Outreach	p.4
Healing/Renewal Service	p.2	Jewish Journey Groups	p.5
Special Holocaust Panel	p.3	Cong. Shabbat Dinner	p.5
Shabbat Shira	p.3	OTYG Spaghetti Dinner	p.8

(worship services continued)

Friday, January 14
5:30 p.m.
Early Worship Service
Union Prayer Book

7:15 p.m.
Family Service

Storyteller
Rita Paskowitz

Oneg Shabbat sponsored by
the Women of Reform Judaism

Saturday, January 15
9:30-10:15 a.m.
"Bagels and Bible"

Shabbat Service
10:30 a.m.

Torah Portion: Bo
Exodus 10:1-13:16

Friday, January 21
8 p.m.
Original Musical Service
"Echad"

Special Recognition
Jeffrey Taxman, Will Wallace
and Michael Walts

Oneg Shabbat sponsored by
the Women of Reform Judaism

Saturday, January 22
9:30-10:15 a.m.
"Bagels and Bible"

Shabbat Service
10:30 a.m.

Torah Portion: Beshalach
Exodus 13:17-17:16

Healing

Mi Shebeirakh, the prayer for physical and emotional healing, is recited at the Friday evening Shabbat service. If you are ill and would like a *mi shebeirakh* recited on your behalf, please call the Temple office (556-6536) before noon, Fridays, so the congregation may offer its prayers for you.

If you know another person who needs the same, please ask the individual for permission to read his/her name before calling the office.

Friday, January 28
8 p.m.

Sermon
Rabbi Debbie Stiel

Torah Readers
The Taxman Family

Oneg Shabbat sponsored by
the Women of Reform Judaism

Saturday, January 29
9:30-10:15 a.m.
"Bagels and Bible"

Shabbat Service
10:30 a.m.

Torah Portion: Yitro
Exodus 18:1-20:23

Additional Worship

Friday, Erev Shabbat,
January 14

5:30 to 6:15 p.m.

Union Prayer Book Service

Come on your way home from work; meet family and friends. This service is especially planned so that, at its conclusion, you may be home early to enjoy a Shabbat meal and evening.

Please Note: Time Change

Shabbat Evening Worship Service
will be at **5:30 p.m. December 31.**
No Bagels and Bible Saturday,
January 1

Todah Rabah!

Wow! What a great celebration you all gave Elyce, Leora, Yaniv and me for my birthday.

Thank you to everyone who came to the Oneg Shabbat, who baked such delicious desserts, and who sent donations and cards in my honor.

And a special thank you to the congregation for the Tree of Life leaf.

May we all celebrate each others' simchas! **Aryeh Azriel**

Please mark this date—February 4
for a special Shabbat service

Dr. Richard Freund will speak on
"The Life and Thought of
Sidney H. Brooks"

Our congregation and community will join to honor the memory of and pay tribute to Rabbi Sidney H. Brooks, Senior Rabbi of Temple Israel, 1952-1985 and Rabbi Emeritus until his death January 5, 1999.

You will receive complete information in the coming weeks.

Service of Healing and Renewal

Tuesday, January 11 7 p.m.

Are you or your family coping with illness, loss or grief?

Are you looking for a special opportunity for spiritual renewal through prayer, song and reflection?

Then join us for this beautiful and inspirational bimonthly Service of Healing and Renewal.

Aryeh Azriel Rabbi
Debbie S. Stiel Rabbi
Jennifer G. Blum Cantor
Dorothy Spizman Executive Director
Iris J. Ricks Program Director
Joan Cooper Religious School
Coordinator
Elyce Azriel Middle/High School
Director

Stephanie and
Barry Grossman . . . Youth Advisors
Paul Epstein President
Spencer Brookstein . . . Vice President
Sally Kaplan Vice President
Dr. Michael Walts . . . Vice President
Andi Willensky Secretary
Dennis DePorte Treasurer
Dr. Larry Roffman . . . Past President
Wendy Goldberg . . . WRJ-O President
Marc Delman . . . Men's Club President
Whitney Taxman . . . OTYG President

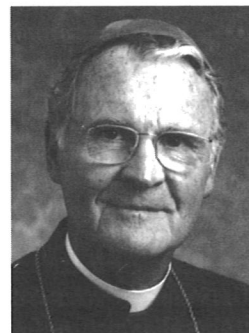
The Holocaust: 50 Years Later, What Are the Lessons?

The Hermene Zweiback Center for Lifelong Learning, together with our Outreach Committee, will host

**"Beyond Schindler's List:
The Holocaust from a
Different Angle"**

Sunday, January 30
10 a.m. – Noon Milder Center

O m a h a
Archbishop
Eldon F. Curtiss,
Holocaust
historian Ben
Nachman, who
works for the
Spielberg
Foundation, and
Bea Karp will
share their
perspectives on
the Holocaust.



**Archbishop Eldon
F. Curtiss**

Archbishop Curtiss has spoken on the Roman Catholic Church/Jewish Relations at Temple. We welcome him back for this unique program.

Dr. Nachman, as part of his involvement with the Spielberg Foundation, has interviewed scores of survivors, videotaping their stories as part of a permanent archives.

Mrs. Karp, a Survivor, has spoken locally and nationally about her life experiences.

"We are so honored and fortunate to have these speakers available to us regarding this subject," said Rabbi Debbie Stiel. "Their knowledge and perspectives are sure to captivate."

Rabbi Aryeh Azriel adds, "As we move into the new millennium, we cannot leave the past without taking with us the lessons from the events that occurred during the Holocaust. We must take what we have learned, both Christians and Jews, as we cross the bridge into the new century."

Please join us for what promises to be an unforgettable discussion with the unique views of our panelists.

Temple's Website
templeisrael-ne.org

A Note from the Cantor

Jennifer G. Blum

There is a legend which says that after God created the world, God called the angels around and asked them what they thought of it. Contemplating this great question, one of the angels answered, "I believe something is missing – the sound of praise to the Creator does not exist." Thinking over the angel's response, God created music. It was heard in the whisper of the wind and in the song of the birds. All people were given the gift of song.

This gift of song is Shabbat Shirah, the Sabbath of Song. It derives its name from the special Torah reading which occurs on that Sabbath. On *Shabbat Shirah*, which this year falls on January 21, we hear the chanting of Shirat Hayam, Moses and Miriam's great song of freedom and victory at the crossing of the Sea of Reeds (Exodus 15:1-18). The people had already witnessed spectacular events, but now, crossing the Sea of Reeds, they were surrounded by miracles on every side. Tradition relates that as each of the twelve tribes marched side by side in escape from their Egyptian pursuers, they did so among great walls of water which were transparent. These walls enabled the Israelites to feel united as one great family at this historic moment of their birth as a free people.

This year on Shabbat Shirah we will celebrate our unity as one people with one God with a special musical service composed by Cantors Stephen Richards and Richard Botton entitled, "*Echad!*" or "*One!*". "*Echad!*" is a musical service that joins all of its elements into a single unit.

This is not just another setting of our Shabbat evening liturgy. It strives to be a spiritual experience bringing the cantor, the choir, and the congregation together as one, drawing nearer to Echad, to God. There will be very little reading by the rabbis or the congregation. There will be few verbal commands to rise, sit or join in. Nearly everything in the service will be sung, as the music is for congregational participation. The Kol Rina choir will be an extension of the congregation, singing in unison and two parts.

The role of the cantor in this musical experience is to facilitate the worship by bringing the congregation in. The entire text-Hebrew, translations, English lyrics, much of the music (printed) and congregational instructions will be contained in a special *siddur* (prayer book). Together as congregation, choir, instrumental ensemble, cantor and rabbis, we will create the ultimate song of victory and gratitude to God.

As we celebrate the joy of music, we also give honor to three individuals in our community who have gone above and beyond to enrich our musical lives at Temple. Through leading our choirs and our worship and teaching our children music in the religious school, Will Wallace, Mike Walts and Jeff Taxman greatly enhance music at Temple Israel. We will have an opportunity to recognize them for their many hours of service and devotion at this service. I hope you will join us for this special evening of song, worship and gratitude.

Temple Visit Elicits Strong Response From Students

Rabbi Azriel received a letter from Ralston High School teacher Neal Hoesing following his class trip to Temple Israel. He has brought students here for several years and took note of the extra-ordinary response and reaction of his students this year. Excerpts of his letter follow:

"By now you should have received the important letter, the thank you note from my students; but I think it is also time I responded to you as well.

As you know, I teach in the public schools...I teach freshmen all day, and somehow the urgent message about the value of education has not gotten through to a substantial portion of them...Such was my level of frustration when my seniors and I arrived last Tuesday.

Your conference with my students

turned my day around...

One student commented for several others when he stated to the effect that the encounter helped him realize how little he knows about his own religion...

Other comments related to values and perspectives, the one drawing the most attention was the issue of sin and retribution or forgiveness. The paradigm effect was most pronounced here, with some students saying they could barely conceive of a theological stance so different from their own...

Regarding these 27 seniors at least, I can tell you that there is a real and expressed need on the part of students to fill zones of ignorance about other religions with first hand information.... I thank you, and my educational community thanks you...."

Outreach

Ellen Platt

Coming February Attraction...

**Jews on View:
Movies and Havdalah
Popcorn Included!
Saturday, February 5**

Time and place to be announced

Please join us as our movie expert, Dr. Stephen Skulsky, will tell how Jews have been represented on film throughout the years.. He will use examples from "The Chosen," "Fiddler On The Roof," "The Magician of Lublin," and others.

We'll let you know the time and place soon. For now, just mark your calendar for February 5!

Information on Outreach at Temple Israel can be found at www.templeisrael-ne.org/outreach or at Temple_at_outreach@netscape.net.



Tree of Life

**Commemorating the joyous moments
in families' and friends' lives.**

The following leaves have been added to
our Tree of Life:

**In celebration of 50th Anniversary of
Roie and Bernie Meyers**
With love, your friends

**In honor of 50th Birthday of
Rabbi Aryeh Azriel**
With love from your congregation

Some Special Thank You's

Thank you to the following workers who helped make the **Jewish Book Fair** a huge success: Phyllis Aron, Stacie Brodkey, Vicki Chesen, Sandy Epstein, Harris Finkelstein, Sue Friedman, Wendy Goldberg, Diane Gaul, Natalie Groner, Kathy Hirshman, Debbie Josephson, Dorothy Kaplan, Rosalie Klein, Allison Latenser, Martha Lerner, Wendy Manvitz, Stephanie Nicoara, Doris and Milt Parker, Claudia Sherman, Sherry Taxman, Leslie Vann, and Nancy Wolf. Thank you to everyone who helped us reach our goal of bringing Jewish books into the homes of our community as well as raising funds for our library. **Elyce Azriel and Iris Ricks**

Thank you to all the women who have baked for our Oneg Shabbat celebrations. For several years, **Vicki Chesen** has organized, called, arranged platters and handled arrangements. The congregation sends a special Thank You to her!

What IS a Journey Group?

Howard Kaiman

When I first became aware that Temple Israel was sponsoring a mini course concerning the study of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel's book, "The Sabbath", I thought the format would be the usual lecture type where the instructor would present the material and the participants would ask questions. However, this was not the case. The format was a Journey Group which I had never encountered before in my studies.

The session included the following: I. Welcome and introduction; II. an opening prayer; III. check-in. The purpose and the goals of this format is to stimulate and foster spiritual nourishment. It also provides an invitation for the participants to open up and interact with one another.

Lee Needelman and John Dacey were the facilitators for my group. They were well prepared and enthusiastic and this spread to the participants.

This became more than a study group because of its emphasis on social interaction among the participants.

I sincerely recommend this method for those who are interested in a stimulating and interacting learning process.

Why not try a journey group?

Ancient Israel: An Historical Perspective

Thursdays, 7-8:30 p.m.

January 20 to February 24

You don't need to pre-register. Come and try the first session.

Dr. Michael Walts will be the facilitator for this group that will follow the history of the Jews from Abraham to the Diaspora. Participants will use texts, including the Bible, to reach an understanding of the life and times of the people and the political and social structure affecting the region.

Jewish Spirituality Journey Group

Mimi Rogers will lead this three week Journey Group from 10:15-11:45 a.m. on Sunday Mornings, January 23 and 30 and February 6.

Presented by the Hermene Zweiback Center for Lifelong Jewish Learning

Social Justice

Gary Kaplan

Omaha Together One Community is proposing an "Early Warning System" to improve relations between the Omaha police and minority communities.

Locally most discussions of police misconduct degenerate into finger pointing and allegations by minorities followed by denials from Omaha police. OTOC and Professor Sam Walker of UNO are proposing an objective way to identify the very few police officers who are exhibiting problem behaviors and intervene **early** with counseling or re-training before the problem escalates.

The Mayor and several city councilmen have expressed interest in the Early Warning System. We would like to bring 10 to 20 Temple members to a public hearing to stand and show support for the city's setting up a meaningful program to address this difficult issue. If you are interested in taking part, please call Gary Kaplan at 397-5050.

Men's Club

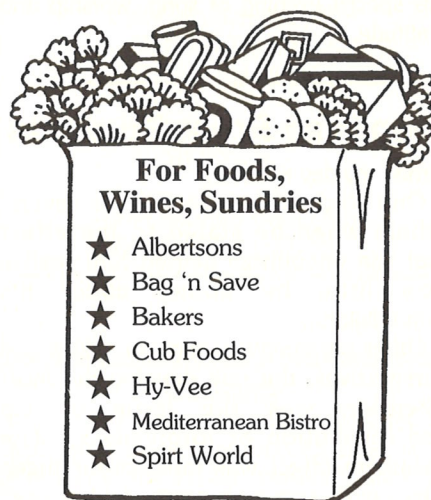
**Guest Speakers
Ann and Mike Boyle**

**Sunday, January 9
10 a.m.**

The Boyles will lead a lively discussion on the politics of Omaha.

Join us for the traditional lox and bagel breakfast. Free for Men's Club members; \$3 for non-members.

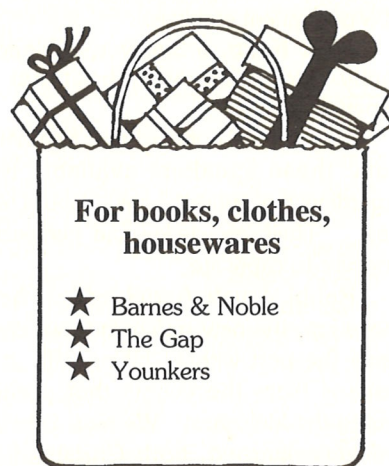
It's So Easy to Buy Grocery and Merchandise Certificates. And— TEMPLE RECEIVES 5-10% OF EVERY CERTIFICATE YOU BUY



For Foods, Wines, Sundries

- ★ Albertsons
- ★ Bag 'n Save
- ★ Bakers
- ★ Cub Foods
- ★ Hy-Vee
- ★ Mediterranean Bistro
- ★ Spirt World

- You pay no more.
- Use them like cash.
- They're great gifts.
- Pay by cash, check, VISA or Mastercard.
- Call the Temple office, 556-6536, to find out how easy it is to order these certificates.



For books, clothes, housewares

- ★ Barnes & Noble
- ★ The Gap
- ★ Youngers

Congregational Shabbat Dinner

Friday, January 14

6 p.m.

Come share Shabbat Dinner with
your Temple family

Family Shabbat Service
following at 7:15 p.m.
**Rita Paskowitz, master
storyteller, is guest speaker**



Please complete and return to Temple with payment by January 10

Family Shabbat Dinner

Name _____	Phone: _____
Adults	Vegetarian _____ + Chicken _____ x \$7.50 _____
Children	_____ + _____ x 4.00 _____
(Grade 6 and under)	
Children	_____ + _____ No Charge
(2 and under)	
Total enclosed _____	

Proceeds go to our Jewish Camp Scholarship Fund.

OTYG

Mark Your Calendar

January

Sunday, January 9 Noon -1 p.m.
Pizza Fundraiser

Wednesday, January 12 6 p.m.
JYG Dinner

Saturday, January 15
Club 56 Dinner, Havdalah and ice skating

Wednesday, January 19 6 p.m.
OTYG Dinner

Friday, January 21 3:45 p.m.
Shabbat Comes To You at
Livingston Plaza

February

Sunday, February 6
SPAGHETTI DINNER/AUCTION

Attention All 7th and 8th Graders and Families

JYG Conclave

February 25-27, 2000

Temple Israel

Mark your calendars now and watch for your application forms in the mail soon!

Having the conclave in Omaha gives you some great opportunities to be even more involved: house JYGers from other cities and volunteer to be a group leader. Parents, grandparents and congregants can help, too! Volunteer to plan, prepare, and serve meals, help chaperone events, or help arrange housing (housing is not limited to youth groupers, anyone in the congregation can volunteer!)

Details and sign-up forms will arrive soon in the mail or call Stephanie Grossman (556-4596) for more information.

Middle/High School Footnotes

Elyce Azriel, Director

January is Intermodule Month for Middle School

"Intermodule Month" enables students in seventh and eighth grade to choose their own educational path for three weeks. These mini-sessions foster creativity through classes on aspects of Jewish culture, including music, intergenerational storytelling, newspaper and holidays.

Students will work with knowledgeable and experienced teachers who will explore and analyze with them. Cantor Blum will lead a class that will explore various types of music identified with Jews in the past and today, along with forming a choir. The choir will take part in the February 4th service honoring the memory of Rabbi Sidney H. Brooks.

Stephanie Grossman and Julie Kushner will facilitate a class on "The Making of a Jewish Leader," with the end product being a booklet for the February 4th dinner and Kabbalat Shabbat.

The "Intergenerational Storytelling" class was developed by Rita Paskowitz and will be facilitated by Rita, Shane Kotok and Shelly Fox. Each student will be paired up with an older adult in the community to share personal stories on a variety of Jewish concerns.

Students who choose to participate in the Newspaper intermodule will work with Joanie Jacobson, Feature Editor of the Jewish Press "Teen Page," Carol Katzman, Editor of the Jewish Press and Larry Axelrod, Advertising Manager of the Jewish Press. Their work will be highlighted in a Jewish Press special page for "Pre-Teens."

Middle School Students to Visit Quality Living

Our second "Tikkun Olam" day for the middle school will take place January 19 with a visit to Quality Living. Tikkun Olam is a religious duty. It is not something one does out of the goodness of one's heart, but rather out of one's sense of responsibility toward God and toward one's fellow human beings.

Quality Living offers one of the most complete care facilities in the nation for individuals with brain injuries.

Our students, along with Rita Paskowitz, storyteller, will entertain the residents.

Four Grads Spending Winter Break in Israel

Megan Adams, Jonathan Cipperley, Jeremy Passer and Glenn Wigodsky, Temple Israel High School graduates, are among 6,000 Jewish college students accepted for the first free, 10-day trip sponsored by Birthright Israel, a project of philanthropist Charles Bronfman and Michael Steinhart.

Birthright Israel hopes the Jewish world will experience the enthusiasm of these students who will be turned on by Israel and their Jewishness.



Tot Shabbat Services

**Friday, January 7
and
Friday, February 4**

7 p.m. Livingston Chapel

A short service of song and prayer, followed by cookies and juice. Toddlers through children in the primary grades are encouraged to bring their families. **Come enjoy a story with Rabbi Debbie Stiel and songs with Patty Nogg.**

Birthday Blessings Family Service

January 14 7:15 p.m.

Children who celebrate their birthdays during the month of January will be invited to the Bima for a special blessing at the Shabbat Family Service.

What's Happening In Religious School

Family Worship Assembly Sunday, January 2
Let's begin the new millennium with this family worship assembly from 11:30 a.m. to noon. Future dates for this monthly event: February 6, March 19, April 2, and May 21.

Grade 4 visits Blumkin Home Sunday, January 9
Students will meet at the Rose Blumkin Jewish Home at 10:15 a.m. Our monthly visits are educational and enjoyable for all participants.

No Religious School Sunday, January 16
Classes resume Tuesday, January 18 for Family School and Keep-up, Wednesday the 19th for Middle/High School and Keep-up, Thursday the 20th for grades 3-6.

Grade 2 Visits the Rose Blumkin Jewish Home Sunday, January 23
Students will meet at the Rose Blumkin Jewish Home from 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. for a Tu B'Shevat celebration with the residents. Lois Wine, volunteer coordinator of the Rose Blumkin Home, will visit Temple in advance to help prepare our students for a positive experience at the Blumkin Home. "Kibbud Zekaynim," honoring the elderly, is an important part of our 2nd Grade curriculum.

Parent/Teacher Conferences for grades 1-6 Thursday, January 27
Parents and teachers will meet between 7 and 8:30 p.m., to discuss student progress. Children are welcome.

Torah Tot Classes - New session beginning Tuesday, February 1
Torah Tot classes are growing. A few spaces are still open for this special learning time for parents and their child between the ages of 18-48 months. Classes are from 9:30 a.m.-11:15 a.m. Call 556-6536 for additional information.

Special Thanks to Fellmans
Thanks to Toby Fellman and Ida Fellman for their warm and thoughtful gift to all our Religious School teachers. They hand knitted sock/slippers for each teacher and delivered them in time for Chanukah!

Chanukah Gifts for All Temple Students
Thanks goes to the Oriental Trading Company for their generous gift of Chanukah gelt in decorative tins. Each Religious School student received a tin on Sunday, December 5.

Room Parents Add to Chanukah Parties
Congratulations to: Stacey Rockman, Stephanie Grossman, Lisa Ephraim, Stacy Simon, Sandy Lehr, Stephanie Saferstein, Amy Katz, Leslie Slutzky, Patricia Newman, Julie Martin, Lynn Salzinger, Betsy Baker Heyman, Jim Clark, Karen Lepp, Deb and Doug Finnicum, Kathy Hirshman, Rosalie Klein, Lisa Scheet and Cinda Tully for making this year's Chanukah parties so successful. The students enjoyed your creative efforts and the delicious treats! A round of applause and a special "Thank You" on behalf of the students and Religious School Teachers.

Moscow Students in Need

Temple Israel's Religious School has partnered with The Reform Hebrew Sunday School in Moscow through Yad L'Yad, a program created by the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews.

Yad L'Yad was started to foster relationship between schools and congregations in the United States and the former Soviet Union.

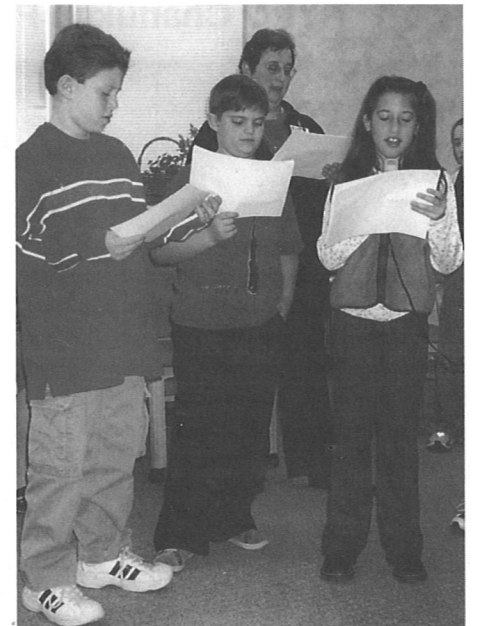
Our school is in desperate need of the following items that we hope to send with

one of the Omaha missions traveling to the FSU early next year.

Please bring the following items to the Temple office:

markers	hats
children's Tylenol	toothbrushes
crayons	mitten
children's vitamins	toothpaste
pencils	

Thank You!



Left to right, Matthew Heyman, David Hirshman and Sarah Bleicher and their teacher, Anne Joseph are shown reading a part from their text to residents of the Rose Blumkin Jewish Home. Fourth graders from Temple Israel's Religious School participate in an intergenerational learning experience at the Rose Blumkin Home once a month.

Help Whitney Reach Her Goal!

In May, 1995, Whitney Taxman embarked on her Bat Mitzvah project - raising \$15,000 in pennies to "dedicate one penny to each of the children who were murdered in the Holocaust and donate the money to organizations which help children in various ways."

She needs your help. She wants you to come to:

The Cents-ational Variety Hour a benefit performance to help children in need

January 16 7 p.m.

**Westside High School
87th and Pacific**

She hopes to finish her goal of 1,500,000 pennies and to add to her new foundation, Whitney's Pennies (a 501c3 public charity).

Enjoy a fabulous hour of clowns, jugglers, singers, dancers, magic and more.

TIYPO Chanukah Party Shining Success



About 30 people celebrated Chanukah together as part of TIYPO's celebration of the festival of lights. Folk dancing, a wine tasting demonstration, dreidle tournament (congratulations to the grand prize winner,

Melissa Rosenthal!) and traditional dishes were part of the festivities. TIYPO (Temple Israel Young Progressive Organization) is a new group for people in their 20's and 30's.



Jewish Book Sale Enticed Browsers and Buyers



Left: Anne Joseph's students dive into Chanukah fun at class party

Jerry Kaye Camp Pep Rally!



Jerry Kaye, Director of Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute, brought his enthusiasm to Temple once again November 19-21.

Thirty-one campers are already signed up: Leora Azriel, Aaron Bleicher, Jacob Bleicher, Josh Bleicher, Sarah Bleicher, Jessica Danon, Lauren Feigin, Lauren Freeman, Adam Goldberg, Scott Goldberg, David Hirshman, Philip Hirshman, Rick Klein, Nick Laudin, David Mafoda, Donna Mafoda, Shaina Meyers, Molly Needelman, Alexa Newman, Aaron Passer, Joel Passer, Olga Patkovsky, Amy Schweid, Ally Shandell, Rebecca Smedlund, Ben Taxman, Chelsea Taxman, Margaret Terry, Michael Vann, Alex Wolf and Nathan Wolf



Above: Local college students were invited to join the Camp/Reunion Shabbat Dinner.

SPAGHETTI DINNER & AUCTION

Sunday, February 6, 2000

5:30 – 9:00 pm

Pre-Registration Cost: \$7.00 for adults and \$4.00 for kids (grade 6 and under)

Omaha Temple Youth Group proudly presents its annual
Spaghetti Dinner and Auction to benefit
Camp Rainbow and OTYC programming

- Delicious spaghetti dinner and dessert
- Spectacular live auction from generous donors in the Omaha area
- Diverse silent auction with items for all members of the family
- The opportunity to contribute to Camp Rainbow, a summer camp for terminally-ill children

How you can become involved

- * attend the event-mark your calendars now!
- * donate auction items by calling The Freeman's, 556-3500

Questions Call:
Ally Freeman 556-3500 or
Barry or Stephanie Grossman –
556-4596

Omaha Temple Youth Group is an organization of Temple Israel of Omaha Nebraska.

Congratulations

On the Birth of:

Isa Davida Zweiback, daughter of Jacqueline Hantgan and Rabbi Josh Zweiback. Grandparents are Beverly and Henry Hantgan and Dr. Eugene Zweiback and the late Hermene Zweiback. Great-grandparents are Harriet Shandel, Ft. Lauderdale, FL and Julia L. Davis, Overland Park, KS.

Kathleen Tompkins Kirshenbaum, daughter of Jennifer and Matt Kirshenbaum. Grandparents are Bernie and Kathy Tompkins and Tom and Kate Kirshenbaum. Great-grandparents are Betty Femmer, Joe and Audrey Kirshenbaum, Palm Springs, CA, Lillian Kuhn, Central City, NE, and Bernard and Gladys Tompkins, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

Madison Helene Kiper, daughter of Danna Nogg Kiper and Christopher Kiper, Palisades, CA. Grandparents are Barbara Nogg, Beverly Hills, CA, Robert Nogg, Cincinnati, OH and Sally and John Kiper. Great-grandparents are Babe and Leo Nogg, Goldie and John Kiper, Mabel Weber, and Caroline Weber, Valentine NE.

Jonathan Jacob and Harley Nelson Gordman, sons of Bridget and Kenneth Gordman. Grandparents are Paula and Bill Gallup and Linda and Nelson Gordman.

Michael Hunter Goldstrom, son of Donna and Jeff Goldstrom, Boulder, CO. Grandparents are Kathi and Jerry Goldstrom, South Euclid, OH. Great-grandparents are Betty Goldstrom and the late Bernard Goldstrom.

Eliana Rochelle Reiss, daughter of Wendy and Robert Reiss. Grandparents are Vickie and Marti Christoffersen, Mary and Bud Phillips and Lorraine Reiss and the late David Reiss. Great-grandparents are Ruth and Wendell Marshall and Charles Carlson.

On the Marriage of:

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Nanfито. Mrs. Nanfито is the former Randi Turkel Katelman. Parents are Sylvia Greenberg Turkel and the late Dr. Sam L. Turkel and Viola Nanfито and the late Joseph A. Nanfито.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Rosenthal. Mrs. Rosenthal is the former Diane Olsen. Parents are Marita Schelle and the late Wilmer Schelle and Natalie Rosenthal and the late George Rosenthal.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Harris. Mrs. Harris is the former Barbara Ann Donenberg. Parents are Beverly and Bernard Donenberg, Northbrook, IL, and Janice and Sheldon Harris.

Lots and Lots of Latkes!



Temple's Latke Line turned out hundreds of these delicacies for the December 3 Congregational Chanukah Dinner. Left to right: Gail Kohill, Patricia Newman, Terri Zacharia, Mary Ferer and Mary Kay Davis.

Our Sympathy

The congregation records with sorrow the deaths of:

Lucille Schwartz Benke Andrew, mother of Monica Sacks.

Ajon Faidley Farber, husband of Carol Farber, father of Bjorn Farber, Debbie Dresner and Josi Rein, brother of Elaine Westering and Gay McGuickin, nephew of Harold Farber and brother-in-law of Virginia Farber.

Stephen Greenwald, uncle of Herman Greenwald.

Louis Kaiman, uncle of Jerome Kaiman.

Rose Nadler, mother of Sarah Seldin, Perry Nadler and Sigmond Nadler

And extends sympathy to their bereaved families.

Remember Our Funds

Your contributions to the following funds ensure the continuation and support of many vital activities of the Temple. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated.

\$6.00 fund contributions:

- Caring
- Cemetery Improvement
- David Bleicher Camp Scholarship Fund
- Education
- Endowment
- Samuel and Ida Kaiman Endowment Fund
- Landscape
- Library
- Music
- Rabbi Azriel's Discretionary
- Rabbi Stiel's Discretionary
- Cantor Blum's Discretionary
- Dorothy Spizman's Discretionary
- Outreach Fund
- Charles and Jae Rosenstock Memorial
- Milton and Rosalie Saylan Jewish Education Fund
- Social Justice
- Jennifer Soshnik Scholarship Fund
- Brad Sperling Memorial Fund for education of young children
- Temple Youth Group
- Elinor Whitman Religious Education
- Hermene Zweiback Fund for Lifelong Jewish Learning

If you wish to contribute to any of these funds at a different level, please advise the Temple staff.

Thank You For Supporting Our Congregation Through Donations That Remember and Honor Family and Friends

IN MEMORY OF: Shaol Pozez: Kimberly and Andrew Robinson; **Ruth Goldstein:** Mike and Joe Erman, Selma and Is Tretiak, Cheri and John Spitzer; **Norman Abrahamson:** Nan Katz, Charney and Jerry Rosinsky, Lisa and Denny Lewis, Audrey and Morrie Shapiro, Irene and Leo Kamisar; **Frances Singer:** Doris and Milt Parker; **Connie Rice:** Harriett and Sherm Sperling, Kathy, Allen and Rachel Horwitz; **Rabbi Sidney H. Brooks:** Susie and Barb Rainish, Terri Rainish Young; **Zatman Friedman:** Molline and Fritz Cassman; **Charles Lewy:** Lisa and Denny Lewis; **Martin Sugarman:** Audrey Sophir; **Louis Kaiman:** Sylvia and Jerry Kaiman; **George Shrago:** Joe Frank, Eva and Phil Handleman, Irene and Leo Kamisar; **Anne Halper:** Shirley and Millard Rosenberg; **Elinor Whitman:** Norman Whitman; **Hermene Zweiback:** Maurine and Sam Agron, Ann and Harvey Pickel, Dorothy and Abe Brand, Norma Lou Novak, The Slosburg family, Alegent Health Midlands, Midlands Community Hospital Medical Staff, Ruth and Tom Frank, Susie and Barb Rainish, Terri Rainish Young, Kim and Jay Noddle and family, Mark Albert, Cynthia and Herbert Hartman; **Ajon Farber:** Lyra Ann and Chuck Monasee, Barbara Frohman, Lorrie and Gary Katelman, Dee Fox, Terri and Dick Zacharia, Mrs. Ernest Nogg, Shirley and Millard Rosenberg, Betsy and Art Davidson, Myrna and Kevee Kirshenbaum, Phyllis and Harvey Aronson, Sally and Ed Malashock, Barbara and Dean Frankel, Suzanne Singer, Andi and David Willensky, June Goodbinder, Dorothy Lipp, Sandy and Paul Epstein, Fefe Passer, Patrice and James Rosenquist, Silvia and Larry Roffman, Eve and Fred Simon, Soralee and Jerry Cohn, Stacey and Jonathan Rockman, Maxine and Milt Simons, Shirley Kulakofsky, Judi and David Goldstein, Judy Zweiback, Nancy and Don Greenberg, Helen Novak, Barbara and Howard Krantz, Fran and Louie Blumkin, Sharee and Murray Newman, Kim, Jay, Rebecca, Samuel and Aaron Noddle, Paula and Larry Albert, Wendy and Todd Manvitz, Miriam and Joe Soshnik, Molline and Fritz Cassman, Audrey Cohen, Charney and Jerry Rosinsky, Rosalie and Ernie Saltzman, Marlene and Don Dandy, Joanie and Marty Lehr, Herman Goldstein, Debbie and Scott Friedman, Sandy and Jeff Passer and family, Renee and Sandy Kasner, Dorothy Kotok, Elaine Tepperman, Lois and Don Stern, Leona

Cohn, Lisa and Denny Lewis, Betty Samson, Dorothy and Abe Brand, Debby and Arthur Greene, Barbara Rips, Babe and Leo Nogg, Enid Pollack, Toni Rosen, Tony Roth, Colleen and John Luckasen, Judy and Jack Baker, Speedy Zweiback, Lois and Lloyd Friedman, Toby Fellman, Wanda Blotcky, Nancy and David Friedland, Aileen and Leo Eisenstatt, Helen and George Barger, Marjorie and Norman Lincoln, Phyllis and Dick Glazer, Judy and Buddy Roffman, Barbara and Marshall Kushner, Harriett and Sherm Sperling, Jeanie and Sherman Neff, Frances and Jerome Milder

IN HONOR OF BIRTHDAY OF: Sissy Silber: Noni and Hal Selner; **Barbara Goldstein:** Judi and David Goldstein; **Nell Rubinow:** Joan and Milton Marcus; **Leo Kamisar:** Joie Simon; **Tom Fellman and Howard Kooper:** Frances and Sam Fried, Speedy Zweiback; **Rabbi Aryeh Azriel:** Darlynn and Tom Fellman, Kim and Jay Noddle, Connie Stilwell, Lorraine Reiss, Janie and Alan Kulakofsky, Susan and Phil Rothholz, Debi, Jeff and Rebecca Smedlund, Esther Canar, Ellen Joseph, Esther and Bob Katleman, Suzanne Singer, Dee Fox, Florence and George Eisenberg, Fefe Passer, Sally and Maynard Telpner, Debbie and Scott Friedman, Sylvia and Jerry Kaiman, Vicki and Jerry Chesen, Dodi and Steve Redler, Barbara and Dean Frankel, Florence Davis, Sylvia and Irving Davis, Susan and Jeffrey Cooper, Ruth Cohen, Frances and Sam Fried, Joan and Milton Marcus, Nell Rubinow, Paula and Larry Albert, Shirlee and Norman Smeerin, Phyllis and Dick Glazer, Roie and Bernie Meyers, Joanie and Marty Lehr, Barbara and Marshall Kushner, Babe and Leo Nogg, Judy and Buddy Roffman, Sandy and Paul Epstein, Joe Frank, Maxine and Joe Kirshenbaum, Rosalie and Morrie Meiches, Soralee and Jerry Cohn, Janey and Jerry Dann, Doris and Milt Parker, Miriam Martin, Margo, Jay, Aaron and Charles Parsow, Toby Fellman, Renee and Morris Handleman, Audrey Sophir, Genevieve and Mel Bornstein, Lisa, Denny and Travis Lewis

IN HONOR OF THE RECOVERY OF: Jan Perlmeter: Barbara and Dean Frankel; **Steve Simon:** Barbara and Marshall Kushner, Phyllis and Dick Glazer, Kim and Jay Noddle, Silvia and Larry Roffman, Nancy and Don Greenberg, Toni Rosen, Judi and David Goldstein, Nancy and David Friedland, Speedy Zweiback

IN HONOR OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF: Roie and Bernie Meyers: Judi and David Goldstein, Harriett and Sherm Sperling; **Judy and Jerry Marburg:** Sue Schreiber, Angela and Stan Krieger, Nancy and Larry Lehrkamp; **Silvia and Larry Roffman:** Janey and Jerry Dann, Selma and Is Tretiak

IN HONOR OF THE MARRIAGE OF: Jill and Mike Erman: Nancy Hornstein, Joodi and Norm Veitzer, Fefe Passer; **Mr. and Mrs. Michael Abrams:** Joan and Milton Marcus; **Mr. and Mrs. Kent Whinnery:** Jerry Slusky

IN HONOR OF THE BIRTH OF: Isa Davida Zweiback: Rosalie and Ernie Saltzman, Linda and Kevin Saltzman, Sandy and Paul Epstein, Sharon and Jeff Kirshenbaum; **Son of Kristin Hahn and Charlie Stringer:** Jerry Slusky

IN HONOR OF THE B'NAI MITZVAH OF: Grandson of Ann Kaiman: Marilyn and Justin Manvitz, Mr. and Mrs. Ruben Lippett; **Jon Gates:** the Willensky family; **Naomi Wolfson:** Arlene and David Fredricks, Barbara and Dean Frankel, the Willensky family

IN HONOR OF THE NEW HOME OF: Veronica and Steve Danon: Sandy, Jeff, Joel and Aaron Passer; **Sue and Dave Meyers:** Barbara and Dean Frankel

IN APPRECIATION OF: Patsy Wallace, Joan Cooper, Marvin Parilman: Aaron and Joel Passer; **Judy Zweiback, Amy and Tim Zweiback:** Dorothy and Abe Brand

IN APPRECIATION OF SERVICES OF: Rabbi Aryeh Azriel; Rabbi Debbie Stiel; Cantor Jennifer Blum; Dorothy Spizman; Iris Ricks

Save the Dates!

Dr. Richard Freund Lecture
Sunday, February 6
10 a.m.

Scholar-in-Residence
Dr. David Ellenson
March 3-5, 2000