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

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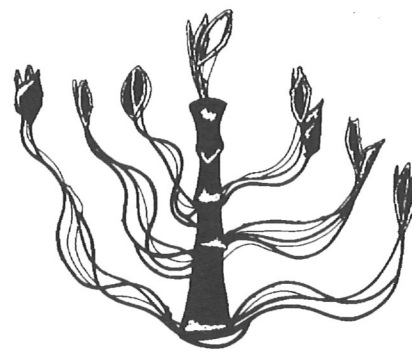
Temple's Website

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Temple Israel TIDINGS

Founded 1871

Kislev 15, 5762

Omaha, NE

November 30, 2001

Vol. XCI No. 3

Worship Services

Friday, November 30
8 p.m.

Scholar-in-Residence
Dr. Richard Freund
"Jews, Christians and Muslims –
Connected and Distinct"

Soloist
 Tamara Field

Oneg Shabbat sponsored by
 the Women of Reform Judaism

Saturday, December 1
 9:30-10:15 a.m.
 Bagels and Sacred Books

10:30 a.m.
 Shabbat Service

Bat Mitzvah of
Olga Patkovsky
 daughter of Ella Patkovsky

Soloist
 Tamara Field

Torah Portion: Vayishlach
 Genesis 32:4-36:43

(continued on page 2)

As I See It....

"What's wrong with you?" How many times do we start a conversation with these words. This raises a staple of small-talk. Isn't it interesting that this query is always couched in the negative? It's as if when, given enough time to think about it, all of us can come up with something to deride.

You may be thinking: "Rabbi, it's such a small, off-handed comment. Don't you think you are being a little obsessive?" I wouldn't deny my infinite capacity to read into situations [occupational hazard for the rabbinical mind]. But I believe the phrase, "What's wrong with you?" is indicative of a disturbing trend in our society: a need, even a craving – for cynicism. Columnists and pundits make a fortune out of diatribe and invective. Politicians build their platforms on negative criticism and obstructionism.

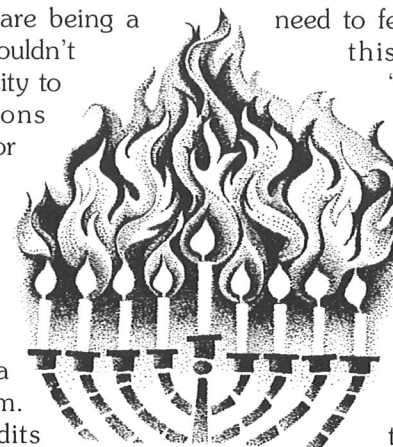
"But, Rabbi," you might continue, "Just look at the news! What's there to be positive about?" The media panders to the prurient, the painful, and the pathetic in the human condition. This is a distorted and myopic representation of the reality. Yet some of us become entrapped by this cynicism and paranoia. There are so many talk show hosts, religious fanatics, and puerile politicians who pander to fear for the sake of power and profits, that we, in turn, fall prey

to their influence. The pervasive feeling of dread among writers to the *Public Pulse* in recent weeks testifies to an exaggerated pessimism in society. Despite the fact that, according to many surveys and studies, most of us are doing better economically and socially, people express a discontent that can be attributed to only one cause: the need to feel discontented. I call this phenomenon "Lucycism," after the "Peanuts" cartoon character who perfected the skill of snatching defeat from the jaws of victory.

Judaism provides us with a remedy for this virus of the soul. Our tradition exalts a transcendent faith over timely trends and generational whims. When others threw their babies into sacrificial bonfires, when pagan devotees mutilated their bodies with scars and tattoos, when bastions of academia intellectually reduced the spark of life through calculated equations – Judaism stood firm against misguided popular fashion.

We must reawaken within ourselves the historic faith that acts as an illuminating beacon. Judaism's piercing light of faith can guide us through the obfuscation and the deception of our times. I'm not referring to a simplistic faith that hides

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(worship continued)

Friday, December 7

7 p.m.

Tot Shabbat

8 p.m.

Guest Speaker

Rabbi Dana Kaplan
"Contemporary Debates in
American Reform Judaism:
Conflicting Visions"

Soloist
Tamara Field

Oneg Shabbat sponsored by
the Women of Reform Judaism

Saturday, December 8
9:30-10:15 a.m.

Bagels and Sacred Books

10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Vayeshev
Genesis 37:1-40:23

Friday, December 14
7:30 p.m.

Family Chanukah Service
Kol Rina Choir
and
Israel Youth Ensemble

Soloist
Michael Walts

Oneg Shabbat sponsored by
the Women of Reform Judaism

Saturday, December 15
9:30-10:15 a.m.

Bagels and Sacred Books

10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Service

Bat Mitzvah of
Sarah Mackenzie Spooner
daughter of Gayle and Jim Spooner

Soloist
Michael Walts

Torah Portion: Miketz
Genesis 41:1-44:17

Friday, December 21

8 p.m.

Sermon
Rabbi Aryeh Azriel

Soloist
Jeffrey Taxman

Oneg Shabbat sponsored by
the Women of Reform Judaism

Saturday, December 22
9:30-10:15 a.m.

Bagels and Sacred Books

10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Vayigash
Genesis 44:18-47:27

Friday, December 28
5:30 p.m.

D'var Torah
Rabbi Debbie Stiel

Soloist
Jeffrey Taxman

Saturday, December 29
9:30-10:15 a.m.

Bagels and Sacred Books

10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Vayechi
Genesis 47:28-50:26

Friday, January 4
7 p.m.

Tot Shabbat

8 p.m.

Sermon
Rabbi Debbie Stiel

Oneg Shabbat sponsored by
the Women of Reform Judaism

Saturday, January 5
9:30-10:15 a.m.

Bagels and Sacred Books

10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Service

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

Early Worship Service

Friday, Erev Shabbat,
December 28
5:30 p.m.
Gates of Prayer

As I See It, continued

reality. I refer to the Jewish notion of faith: a faith that evolves out of humility, an uplifting perspective that uncovers cause for optimism, and an intuitive insight about human creativity. Jewish faith develops as a response to God, not as a dispensation from God.

Judaism calls upon us, in the thunderous tones of Divine mandate, to reach beyond the confines of diffidence, cynicism, and negativity. We link our Jewish faith to elements which provoke in us our independence from fashion and our liberation from cynicism. Our God is the God of hope, confidence, and joy in life.

Happy Chanukah.

Aryeh Azriel

Renewal Service Offers Comfort Healing and Support

Tuesday, December 11 7 p.m.

Vicki Perlmeter describes Temple's Service of Healing and Renewal as "Comforting. I just like the atmosphere in the chapel," she said. "The words of the service are meaningful and the music is beautiful."

Vicki's mother, Roie Meyers, has attended the Healing and Renewal Service with her daughter. She mentioned that "It's always helpful to know you're not alone in your feelings." The service provides "a very supportive feeling and a comfortable environment."

"People come to the Healing and Renewal Service for different reasons," said Dr. Michael Walts, who often plays the guitar and leads the singing with Cantor Wendy Shermet at the bimonthly service.

Mike added, "I feel like there's always something different going on in my life and it's amazing to me how being at the service works. I feel a little bit better for going." Whether an individual or a family is coping with illness, loss or grief, Mike observed, "There's always something going on in our lives that needs a little patchwork soothing, refreshing, and consoling."

WRJ-O

Bi-Monthly Meeting

As the days grow shorter and colder, our appreciation of the warmth and light of sisterhood deepens.

Please join us at **Noon on Tuesday, December 11** for a potluck lunch to discuss the upcoming women's retreat.

Stacey Rockman will host this informal yet informative gathering at her home. At the meeting, Gretchen Radler will guide us through some of the highlights of Rabbi Karyn Kedar's book *God Whispers*. We hope that this introduction to some of Rabbi Kedar's ideas about how God operates in our world will offer inspiration. Once you learn more about Rabbi Kedar, you will not want to miss an opportunity to learn with her at the women's retreat in February.

See you on the 11th! There is work to be done, fun to be had, and good food to share. Call Stacey at 397-7930 for more information and directions to her home.

Save the Date:

If it isn't circled already, grab a pen and put a star on your calendar on **February 9 and 10** (until Noon) for the first WRJ-O women's retreat! We have an all-star line-up with Rabbi Karyn Kedar to teach us, Devra Lerner and Linda Salvay from the KC band Yachad to lead us in song, and facilitator Cynthia Wakeman of Human Resource Associates to help strengthen us as a community of women.

Please call the Temple Israel office, 556-6536, to put your name on the list for the retreat. Watch your mailbox for the official invitation.

Notice

Looking for good conversation, good food, or just a reason to get involved? WRJ-O is for every woman! If our events and activities sound appealing, please call Kim Schwartz, Vice President of Membership, 553-5751. For more information about events, please call Stacey Rockman, President, 397-7930

What Are You Doing The Next Several Thursdays?

It's Not Too Late To Join A Jewish Journey Group

"The Wholeness of a
Broken Heart"
Book Discussion Group
Thursdays, 4-5:30 p.m.
November 29 to December 30

Congregant Tamra Willett-Johnson leads the discussion of this touching book.

"Walking the Path of Grief"
Thursdays, 7-8:30 p.m.
November 29, to January 10

Temple members Sally Kaplan L.C.S.W. and Steve Stiel, Director of Jewish Family Service, are facilitators for this group.

Both journey groups are presented by the Hermene Zweiback Center for Lifelong Jewish Learning.

Beginning Refresher Hebrew for Adults Who Need a "Boost"

Temple will offer a Beginning Refresher Hebrew course on the Hebrew alphabet and vowels for students interested in joining the Beyond Basic Hebrew class on Thursday mornings.

This refresher class is especially for adults who learned Hebrew for their Bar or Bat Mitzvah quite a number of years ago or who studied Hebrew more recently and just need to boost their confidence in the language.

Beginning Refresher Hebrew will be taught by Elyce Azriel on Friday mornings, 9:30-11:30, January 11, 18 and 25, 2002. Please call Temple at 556-6536 to register.



Adult learners find Temple's library a perfect place "Lunch and Learn" with Dr. Leonard Greenspoon.

A special thank you to congregants Tamara Field, Jeffrey Taxman, Patsy Wallace, and Dr. Michael Walts who will be soloists during Cantor Wendy Shermet's brief absence.

What's Happening In Religious School

Joan Cooper, Religious School Coordinator

A Safe Place...Temple Israel Religious School

What impact will September 11th have on our children? We're still uncertain and there may never be a clear answer. What we do know is that stress and anxiety affect children as well as adults. As parents, we need to recognize that some of our fears are also in the minds of our children.

At Temple Israel Religious School, we understand the need for children to express their concerns in a safe, non-judgmental environment. With the guidance of our clergy, we have had two "Chapel" times for our middle/upper elementary aged students. We gave them time to share their insecurities and feelings.

Without a doubt, our children still need to talk about the events in our ever-changing world. They are not necessarily seeking the answers and they accept that we just don't know what will happen next; however, they are still confused, angry, and scared.

We encourage parents to open the lines of communication by just letting your child(ren) talk, vent, cry... when they need to! Continue discussions about safety and loss in the comfort of your homes. Other events may unfold in our lives so please remember if you need any additional guidance or support, our clergy and staff are always available to help.

It's A Mitzvah

Special thanks to our 5th grade students and parent volunteers. On November 11, more than 25 students and parents visited the St. Vincent House and Micah House. We took much needed household items, a pizza lunch and more importantly **friendship** to the children living at the shelters. What an incredible sharing of time and a community learning experience for all!

December is Jewish Book Month

The annual Elinor Whitman Jewish Book Report and Book Jacket Design Contest is sponsored by the Dorothy and Myer Kripke Jewish Federation Library. It is open to children in grades K through 8. Look for more information to be sent home in the coming weeks. Application and instruction forms will be available in the Temple Religious School office.

Winners One and All!

A Hebrew contest was published in our last issue of the Religious School Newsletter. Students were challenged to answer Alef-bet riddles. Congratulations to Brittany Baines, Hannah Ferer, Rachael Monsky, Brenna Robinson, Molly Goldberg, Zoe Vann, Molly Golderman, Ben Ozeroff, and Grant Glazer for submitting the correct answers.

Family Worship Assembly Sunday, December 9

From 11:30 a.m. to noon. This brief service is an opportunity for us to "kindle" the essence of Chanukah together as a community of children and parents.

Grade 4 visits Blumkin Home Sunday, December 16

The fourth grade will meet at the Rose Blumkin Jewish Home at 10:15 a.m. Our students have been invited to celebrate Chanukah with their learning partners.

No Religious School during Winter Vacation . . December 23- January 5

Classes resume Sunday, January 6. Family School and Keep-up will resume on January 8 and 9.

We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable vacation.

Birthday Blessings

Family Service

December 14 7:30 p.m.

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



Tot Shabbat Services

**Friday, December 7
and
Friday, January 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 songs and a story with Rabbi Stiel and Patty Nogg.**



Cradle Roll

Sunday, December 9

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Milder Conference Center

This program, sponsored by WRJ-O, is a wonderful opportunity for infants through children age five and their parents to meet and learn together.

Middle/High School Footnotes

Elyce Azriel, Director

Face to Face, Ear to Ear – Jewish, Muslim Teens Meet at Temple Israel

The Muslim-Jewish Youth Dialogue initiated by Temple's Middle/High School Social Justice Club was held for the first time October 1.

For many teens, this was the first time each learned perceptions of the other.

"Without ignoring the differences of each faith, the youth learned that they share many similarities of belief, practice, and, especially in these times, being victims of hate.

"Both groups and their advisors expressed an interest in continuing the dialogue, even coming up with questions and programs that would further conversations," said Patrick McNamara, Director of the Omaha

Hate Crimes Project and session facilitator.

They began to build a community as they reflected on their personal experiences, similarities and differences within the frameworks of their religions.

Temple Israel's Social Justice Youth participants were Jake Bleicher, Josh Bleicher, Jessie Dannon, Daniel Gutman, Molly Needelman, Jacquelyn Neesman, Amy Schweid, Rebecca Sternberg, Hannah Wolf, Alex Wolf, Taylor Workman and Vic Gutman, Advisor. Others in the club who were not in attendance are Sam Anderson, Kyle Baines, Joel Passer, Sara Rips, Rebecca Smedlund, Emily Sternberg, and Steve Sternberg.

Students "Meet" Anne Frank

The entire Middle/High School went to see *The Diary of Anne Frank* at the Omaha Community Playhouse October 31. The students not only viewed the production but were given a rare opportunity to meet with the cast afterwards.

All attendees felt that the production was worthwhile to see. One student quoted one of his past religious school teachers who, when teaching the Holocaust, said, "Memory is only important if we use it to inform our present and to shape our future."

For our youth, memory of events and individuals and the legacy people leave are as precious to us as memories of our heritage.

Bible Quiz

B'nai Brith, along with all Omaha congregational high schools, sponsors a local Bible contest. The purpose of the quiz is to encourage Jewish youth to become more familiar with their heritage – the Bible. This year's contest is Wednesday evening December 12 at the JCC. It will begin with an all-city dinner.

Eight Temple students have been studying with Rabbi Azriel to become familiar with the assigned book, the Book of Deuteronomy.

Four prizes will be awarded. They can be applied toward college tuition or an approved Israel trip or Jewish camp experience sponsored by a local or national Jewish organization.

Representing Temple Israel this year will be: Jake Bleicher, Aaron Neesman, Joel Passer, Sara Rips, Emily Sternberg, Rebecca Sternberg, Steve Sternberg and Hannah Wolf.

Have You Made Your Pledge to Social Justice?



Jacquelyn Neesman joins other teens at dialogue.



Temple Israel Middle/High School students and parents raised over \$500 for the Red Cross World Trade Center relief efforts. Pictured with bank employees are: Janet Baack, Steve Sternberg, Joel Passer, Becky Sternberg, Emily Sternberg, Elyce Azriel and Yaniv Azriel.

Dr. Dana Kaplan to Give Sermon On Conflicting Visions in Reform Judaism

Erev Shabbat Worship
December 7 8 p.m.

Dr. Dana Kaplan's interests include Jews under siege in such countries as South Africa and Cuba, American Jewish history and today's "hot button" topics of intermarriage, conversion, and gender issues.

Professor Kaplan is the Oppenstein Brothers Assistant Professor of Judaic and Religious Studies in the Department of History at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. He earned a Ph.D. in American Jewish History from Tel Aviv University and received his rabbinical ordination from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Jerusalem. He has written more than 40 scholarly essays and general audience articles and is the editor of *Contemporary Debates in American Reform*



Judaism: Conflicting Visions, a collection of essays that takes a hard look at today's Reform Movement.

From his rabbinical perspective, Professor Kaplan links important concepts from rabbinical and Talmudic thought to contemporary concerns. He is known for his relaxed, conversational style popular with a variety of audiences including adults, seniors, teenagers, religious study groups, and synagogue boards.

Originally from Manhattan (New York City), this will be Dr. Kaplan's first trip to Omaha.

In his sermon December 7, Dr. Kaplan will "try to give a little bit of the background of what's going on in

religious trends in general on topics such as women's issues, intermarriage, and denominational choice in America's religious marketplace."

25 Participate in Chavurah Sponsored "Framing Blitz"



Temple's young adult group, Chavurah, in association with Habitat for Humanity, recruited 25 people from the Jewish community, including Mary Sternberg, a Temple member, to participate in a "framing blitz" on two houses located near 30th and Ames Streets.

Mike Hendrickson and Leslie Bruch were co-chairmen of the event for Chavurah. Others who helped included Kim and Mark Schwartz, Will Wallace, Colleen Kennealy, Kate Rose, Harris Finkelstein, Gene Rech, Dan Marburg, Rick and Joan Phillips, John Isaacman, Ellen Siref, Victor Epstein, Lenny Burrell, Walter Sternberg, and Rabbi Debbie Stiel. Everyone's help was sincerely appreciated.

The Future Of Reform Judaism Is Up To You!



Ultra-Orthodox politicians are threatening Jewish unity and continuity.

Your vote to the 34th World Zionist Congress is crucial.

You MUST register to vote by December 14.

Ballots will be mailed in February 2002 to registered voters.

HOW TO REGISTER? EASY!

Register on-line at
www.VoteReformJudaism.com
- or -

Pick up a Registration Form at Temple Israel.

In 1997, Reform Jews made a tremendous impact by voting in record numbers in the last election for the Congress of the World Zionist Organization, the international parliament of the Jewish people. The direct result was increased political and financial support for the Reform Movement.

To serve as a voice for pluralism, religious freedom, democracy and unity, Reform Judaism needs proper representation in the WZO.

Please help us move Israel towards a pluralistic society in which Jews from Judaism's many sectors and streams can share fully in Israel's promise.

Needed: One Good Man

The Bikkur Cholim Committee needs at least another male member to assist in calling on male congregants who may not be able to participate in Temple activities because of illness or physical restrictions. Call Rabbi Debbie Stiel, 556-6536, or Kathy Hirshman, 334-6445.

A Reminder of This Weekend

Scholar-in-Residence
Rabbi Dr. Richard A. Freund
"Jews, Christians and Muslims in Trialogue"

8 p.m. Shabbat Service Friday, November 30
"Jews, Christians and Muslims - Connected and Distinct"
followed by Oneg Shabbat

3:30 p.m. Saturday, December 1
World premiere of the film, "The Road to Morocco: American Jews, Christians and Muslims in Dialogue"
followed by a panel discussion and dessert reception

10 a.m. Sunday, December 2
"Return to the Cave of Letters: The Rest of the Story"
Bagel Brunch

All events are at Temple and are free and open to the community.
Sponsored by the Hermene Zweiback Center for Lifelong Jewish Learning.

Please!
Handicapped Parking



**Only For The
Handicapped**

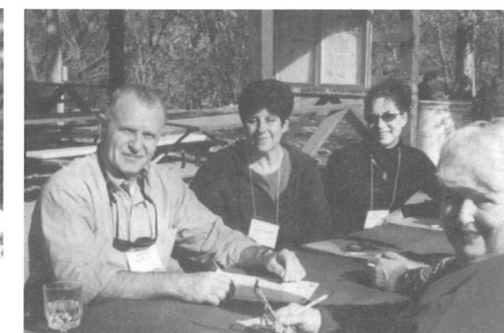
Ideal weather---Inspired Music---A Perfect Treat!

Temple's second annual Spirituality Retreat, November 2-3 was a warmly-received Shabbat experience filled with friendship, food, and glorious music with Don Maseng and the band Yachad.



Left to right: Susie Silverman, Kini Polsky and Suzanne Singer.

The Lied Center in Nebraska City has already been booked for next November's Retreat. There was so much enthusiasm this year, planners are expecting many more participants next year.



Left to right: George Quittner, Lisa Lewis, Sharon Brodkey and Ann Kaiman enjoy a study session outdoors. They were among the 67 Retreat participants.

Important Tax Notice

In order to be included on the 2001 tax information letter you receive from Temple, your payment must be received in the Temple office by **Friday, January 4, 2001.**

Keep in mind that appreciated assets can make great gifts to Temple. Take stock, for example. If you have owned the stock for at least a year and a day, you can receive full value for the gift, including all the appreciation. What's more, neither you nor Temple will have to pay capital gains tax on the gift. The more the stock has appreciated, the greater the benefit. Your tax advisor can spell out the specifics for you. For information on transferring stock to Temple, please call Dorothy Spizman, Executive Director, 556-6536.

Out of respect for the sanctity of the Religious Service, please turn off your pager and/or cell phone before entering the Sanctuary or the Chapel

Social Justice Alert:

Many of Nebraska's most vulnerable children are now without the mental health care services they desperately need!

Alegent Health System has withdrawn from the state's Medicaid mental-health insurance program, leaving hundreds of low-income children and state wards without psychiatrists, therapists, and substance-abuse programs.

The Richard Young Center, Omaha's other major provider, will soon pull out, leaving children without any treatment options. Because of problems between the state and its managed care provider children are left at risk.

Please write or call Governor Johanns and/or your state senator asking them to act immediately to solve this problem; the problems of these children won't wait.

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

IN MEMORY OF: **Margaret Bandyria:** Babe Cohn, Dodi and Steve Redler; **Martha Cherniss:** LetaRae Cherniss; **Harvey Ferer:** Robyn and Bob Freeman, Susan and Marvin Levine, Gigi and Syd Osten; **Bernard Fink:** Molline and Fritz Cassman, Mickey Stern; **Michael Finnegan:** Robyn and Bob Freeman, Barbara and Dean Frankel, Kimberly and Andrew Robinson, Jerry Slusky, Penny and Jim Sophir; **Dorothy Fischer:** Lisa and Denny Lewis, Audrey, Morrie and Dave Shapiro; **Norman Fishel:** Babe Cohn, Robyn and Bob Freeman, Roz Friedman, Susan and Marvin Levine, Nancy and Harlan Noddle, Sandy and Jeff Passer and family, Kimberly and Andrew Robinson, Jerry Slusky, Robert Weinstein, Shirley Weinstein, Terri and Dick Zacharia; **Charles Fisher:** Betty Fisher; **Art Goldstein, Sylvia Katzman:** Sandy and Jeff Passer and family; **Rose Goldstein, Harry Siref:** Linda Siref Simons; **Irene Kamisar:** Gigi and Syd Osten; **Libby Kaplan:** Joe Frank, Mollye and Al Rimmerman, Linda Siref Simons, Lynda and Lee Sloan; **Seymour Katz:** Dodi and Steve Redler; **Audrey Kirshenbaum:** Genevieve Bornstein, Robyn and Bob Freeman, Roz Friedman, Barbara and Gary Goldstein, Ida and Yale Halperin, Leo Kamisar, Frankie and Sandy Kasin, Barbara and Cliff Levitan, Kat Meyerson, Ducky and Mike Milder, Arlene and Milt Moskovitz, Nancy and Harlan Noddle, Noni and Hal Selner, Eve and Fred Simon, Eleanor and Bud Slosburg, Ellen and Richard Slosburg, Harriett and Sherm Sperling, Mickey Stern, Terri and Dick Zacharia; **Katharine Allison Latenser:** Arlene and Milt Moskovitz, Harriett and Sherm Sperling; **Harvey Machov:** Ruth Luttbeg; **Manny Newman:** Andrea, Marc, Eric and Jamie Hamburg; **Clara Parker Novick:** Doris and Milton Parker; **Annette Schloff:** Joe Frank, Mollye and Al Rimmerman, Audrey, Morrie and Dave Shapiro, Lyna and Lee Sloan; **Manny Simon:** Noni and Hal Selner; **Neil Simon:** Genevieve Bornstein; **Samuel Sperling:** Harriett and

Sherm Sperling; **Max Turchen:** Barbara and Dean Frankel; **Debra Wees:** Pam and Dennis DePorte, Harriett and Sherm Sperling; **Sylvia Weinberg:** Babe Cohn, Susan and John Hoberman, Rose Rosen; **Robert Wolf:** Hanne Wolf

IN HONOR OF RECOVERY OF: **Lois Endelman:** Judi Moore and Chris Thurber, Rose Pitlor, Audrey and Morrie Shapiro; **Steve Fischer:** Audrey and Morrie Shapiro; **Natalie Giventer:** Joan and Milton Marcus; **Dora Goldstrom:** Vicki and Jerry Chesen; **Judy Gotsdiner:** Robyn and Bob Freeman; **Sallye Levin:** Sandy and Jeff Passer and family; **Sarah Lohrman:** Genevieve Bornstein; **Maria Neesman:** Toby Fellman; **Audrey Shapiro:** Genevieve Bornstein, Rose Pitlor

IN HONOR OF BIRTHDAY OF: **Amy Ardell:** Pearl Herzog; **Jeanne Dvorkin:** Vicki and Jerry Chesen, Nancy and Gary Epstein, Rosalie and Sam Epstein, Arlene and Milt Moskovitz, Mollye and Al Rimmerman; **Ann Kaiman:** Rita Rosen; **Edythe Krasne:** Joan and Milton Marcus; **Ted Livingston:** Terri and Dick Zacharia; **Mrs. Abe Marcus:** Eileen and Leonard Jacobson; **Bernie Meyers:** Barbara and Dean Frankel; **Doris Shukert:** Doris and Milton Parker

IN HONOR OF ANNIVERSARY OF: **Mr. and Mrs. Norman Cain:** Pearl Herzog; **Soralee and Jerry Cohn:** Phyllis and Harvey Aronson, Molline and Fritz Cassman, Babe Cohn, Pauline and Joe Guss, Marlene Hechtman, Sarah and Ted Seldin; **Rosalie and Maurie Meiches:** Toby Fellman, Joan and Milton Marcus, Doris and Milton Parker; **Barbara and Marvin Taxman:** Joan and Milton Marcus

IN HONOR OF BIRTH OF: **Jacob Ari Cohn:** Derek, Marisa, Nichole and Shane Cohn, Linda and Steve Cohn, Deb, Dan, Solomon and Elijah Marburg; **Ari Saltzman:** Vicki and Jerry Chesen, Barbara and Dean

Frankel, Rosie, Mace, Grace, Joe and Abigail Hack, Deb, Dan, Solomon and Elijah Marburg; **Spencer Schneiderman:** Rosie, Mace, Grace, Joe and Abigail Hack; **Ariela Hadassa Zweiback:** Ann Kaiman

IN HONOR OF B'NAI MITZVAH: **Justin Jacobson:** Jay Simon; **Scott Egermayer,** Etta and Harold Epstein; **Granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Masnek:** Doris and Milton Parker; **Aaron Passer:** Noni and Hal Selner, Harriett and Sherm Sperling; **Emily Rischall:** Doris and Harry Alloy; **Guy Weinstein:** Lynn and Fred Salzinger, Jerry Slusky; **Holly Walts:** Deb and Mark Sherman, Harriett and Sherm Sperling, Helen Stern

IN HONOR OF YOUTH GROUP OF THE YEAR AWARD: **Omaha Temple Youth Group:** Robyn and Bob Freeman

IN HONOR OF HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD: **Bob Kully:** Silvia and Larry Roffman

IN HONOR OF BOOK PUBLICATION: **Tamara Field:** Barbara and Marshall Kushner

IN APPRECIATION OF: **Devra and Bruce Lerner:** Lauren Brown; **Rabbi Aryeh Azriel, Rabbi Debbie Stiel, Cantor Wendy Shermet, Dorothy Spizman, Elyce Azriel, Joan Cooper, Stephanie Grossman, Claudia Sherman, Rosie Zweiback**

Here's An Enjoyable Way to Volunteer for a Few Hours!

Temple Israel members Claudia Sherman and Nancy Wolf have issued a call for volunteers to become docents for "Unpacking on the Prairie: JewishWomen in the Upper Midwest." This extraordinary traveling exhibit will be on display January 27 to April 21, 2002 in the JCC Gallery.

For additional information, please get in touch with Claudia or Nancy or call the Nebraska Jewish Historical Society, 334-6441.

Women of Reform Judaism Tribute Fund

IN MEMORY OF: **Katharine Allison Latenser:** Lois and Mel Epstein, Debbie and Scott Friedman; **Libby Kaplan:** Dave and Jeanne Dvorkin, Lois and Mel Epstein, Dora and Mark Goldstrom, Marilyn and Marty Warren; **Annette Schloff:** Jeanne and Dave Dvorkin, Lois and Mel Epstein, Marilyn and Marty Warren

IN HONOR OF BIRTHDAY OF: Jeanne Dvorkin: Dora and Mark Goldstrom

IN HONOR OF NEW HOME OF: Pam and Dennis DePorte: Debbie and Scott Friedman and family

*To Ensure A Future As
Great As its Past
Remember Temple Israel
In Your Estate Plans*



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
the Life of
Audrey Kirshenbaum
Myrna & Kevee Kirshenbaum

In Honor of
Dave and Jeanne Dvorkin
With luv,
Your Children, Grandchildren
& Great-grandchildren

Congratulations

On the Birth of:

Jacob Ari Cohn, son of Jennifer and Travis Cohn. Grandparents are Linda and Steve Cohn, and Marilyn and Tom DiMartino, Grand Island, NE.

Ari Jack Saltzman, son of Linda and Kevin Saltzman. Grandparents are Alice and Robert Lachin, Potomac, MD, and Rosalie and Ernie Saltzman. Great-grandmothers are Mrs. Maury Young, Chevy Chase, MD, and Mrs. Marvyn Lachin, Perry's Burgh, OH.

Spencer K. Schneiderman, son of Heidi and Scott Schneiderman. Grandparents are Deenie and Larry Meyerson, and Jan and Les Schneiderman. Great-grandparents are Sonia Forbes, Helen and Leo Meyerson, and Sally Ricks.

On the Engagement of:

Jamie Endelman and Troy Meyerson. Parents are Penny and Randy Endelman, and Deenie and Larry Meyerson.

Robyn Epstein and Will Wolper. Parents are Lois and Mel Epstein, and Susan and Jerry Wolper, Beverly, MA.

On the Marriage of:

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Platt. Mrs. Platt is the former Kathleen Turner. Parents are Jill and Thomas Turner, Mission Hills, KS, and Barb and Mike Platt.

Please Remember to Bring Non-Perishable Food Staples and Personal Hygiene Items

There are two collection bins located right inside the Newman Gateway Doors at the south entrance.

The bins are inside a beautiful cabinet that was hand-crafted and finished by the late Ajon Farber whose artistry is visible inside and outside Temple Israel. Lift the tops on this cabinet's bins—donate your items each time you come to Temple.

Our Sympathy

The Congregation records with sorrow the deaths of:

Joanne Sandler, sister of Joel Patton;

Katharine Allison Latenser, wife of John F. Latenser, M.D., sister of Betty Lemon, mother of John Latenser, IV, Frank Latenser, Michael Latenser, Allison Pachman, David Latenser and Tim Latenser;

Audrey Kirshenbaum, wife of Joe Kirshenbaum, sister of Marlene Hechtman, mother of Tom Kirshenbaum, Bill Kirshenbaum, Kim Kirshenbaum and Dick Kirshenbaum;

Libby Kaplan, wife of Meyer (Mickey) Kaplan, mother of Barbara Levin and Lynn Kaplan, and sister of Marylou Goodman;

Dorothy Fischer, mother of Steve Fischer;

Frances Evans, mother of Steven Evans, Gerald Evans and Stewart Evans, mother-in-law of Bette Evans

and extends sympathy to their bereaved families.

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.

Celebrate Chanukah at Home and at Temple!

Acco Israel Youth Ensemble To Enrich Chanukah Service

Dozens of young Israelis will add a wonderful flavor to our congregation's Chanukah celebration. They are members of two groups which comprise the Ensemble, directed by Shmulik Kahane.

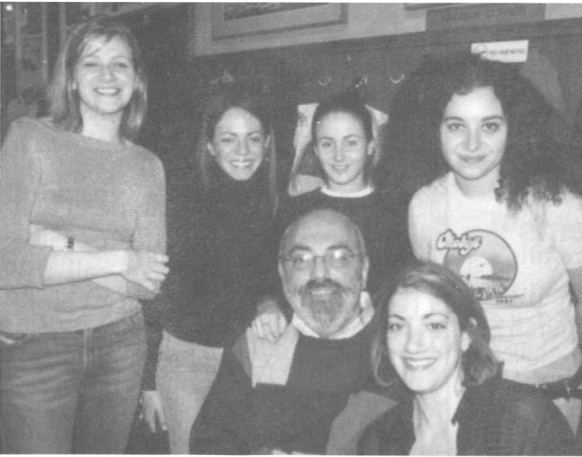
The Acco Municipal Choir "Shiran" is composed of 32 teens, ages 14 to 18 and is led by Ms. Luba Alexandrovitz.

Ms. Sofi Zanzuri leads "The Acco Soloists," 22 violinists, ages 12 to 16.

This United States visit is part of The Music Connection, a project of Partnership 2000 which forges relationships between 14 American Jewish communities in the Central Region Consortium, including Omaha, and the Western Galilee region of Israel.

Erev Shabbat December 14
Chanukah Dinner, 6 p.m.
Chanukah Service, 7:30 p.m.

If you can't make the dinner, come for the service. Remember: the dinner reservation deadline is December 7. Call the Temple, 556-6536, for a form. No telephone reservations will be accepted.



Temple Israel family members living in New York City joined Rabbi Azriel recently for dinner and "catching up." Standing, left to right: Rachel Jacobson, Nikki Cohn, Shana Novak and Becky Goldberg. Seated, left to right: Rabbi Aryeh Azriel and Betsy Farber.

How do we light the Chanukah candles?

In a celebrated talmudic dispute, two great Jewish teachers, Hillel and Shammai, argued whether we should begin by lighting eight candles and gradually decrease to one (Shammai), or begin with one candle and add an additional one each night, thus continuously increasing the light and joy of the holiday (Hillel). The majority ruled with Hillel. Thus, on the first night of Chanukah, we recite or chant the blessings and light one candle with the shamash, two on the second night, and so on. Customarily, the candles are placed in the menorah from right to left but lit from left to right.

Any member of members of the family may chant or recite the blessings. One person lights and holds the shamash, the berachot are pronounced, and the candles are then lit. On Shabbat, the Chanukah candles are lit before the Shabbat candles.

During the eight days, the candles are kindled every night, anytime after sunset, when family members and guests are assembled.

On the first night, one light is lit, beginning on the far right of the menorah. On each succeeding night a light is added to the left of those on the preceding night, and the kindling proceeds from left to right.

These two blessings are recited each night:

Ba-ruch-a-tah A-doh-nai Eh-lo-hay-nu me-lech hah-oh-lahm ah-sheh kid shah-nu b'mitz-voh-tav v-tsee-vah-nu l-had 'leek nayr shel-Chan-nu-kah.

Blessed is the lord our God, Ruler of the universe, Who hallows us with His Mitzvot, and commands us to kindle the Chanukah light.

Ba-ruch-a-tah A-doh-nai Eh-lo-hay-nu me-lech hah-oh-lahm she-ah-sah ni-seem lah-ah-vo-tay-nu-bah-yah-meem ha-haym baz-man hah-zeh

Blessed is the lord our God, Ruler of the universe, Who performed wondrous deeds for our ancestors in days of old, at this season.

The following blessing is added on the first night of Chanukah only:

Ba-ruch a-tah A-doh-nai Eh-lo-hay-nu me-lech hah-oh-lahm she-heh-che-yahnu v'kee-y'mah-nu v'hi-gee-yah-nu lah-z'mahn hah-zeh

Blessed is the Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, for giving us life, for sustaining us, and for enabling us to reach this season.

The Gift Shop still has many Chanukah gifts, decorations, candles, and candies.



Rabbi Azriel, five chaperones, and 13 students went on the annual Temple Israel 10th grade trip to New York City, October 25-28. The weekend was filled with Jewish experiences and learning, sightseeing and getting to know each other better.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			NOVEMBER	29	30	DECEMBER
			28	Beyond Basic Hebrew 9:15- 10 a.m. Adult Study with the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m. Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. Book Group 4-5:30 p.m. "Walking the Path of Grief" 7-8:30 p.m. Rabbi Sidney H. Brooks Lecture 7 p.m. @ UNO	Torah Tots 9:30-11:15 a.m.	1 Bagels and Sacred Books 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m. Bar Mitzvah of Olga Patkovsky Scholar-in-Residence 3:30 p.m.
2 Religious School Pre- Kindergarten-Grade 6 10-Noon Scholar-in-Residence 10 a.m.	3	4 Family School 6:15-8:15 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gamblers 12 Step 7:30 p.m.	5 Religious School Bible Quiz Study 5-6:30 p.m. Grades 7-11 6:30-8:30 p.m. Conversations with Judaism I 6:45- 8:15 p.m. Basic Judaism 7:30 -9 p.m. @ J.C.C.	6 Beyond Basic Hebrew 9:15-10 a.m. Adult Study with the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m. Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. Book Group 4-5:30 p.m. "Walking the Path of Grief" 7-8:30 p.m. Kol Rina Choir 7-9 p.m.	7 Torah Tots 9:30-11:15 a.m. Tot Shabbat 7 p.m. Shabbat Service 8 p.m.	8 Bagels and Sacred Books 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
9 Religious School Pre-Kindergarten-Grade 6 10-Noon Cradle Roll 10:30-11:30 a.m. Family Prayer Assembly 11:30 a.m.	10	11 WRJ-O Executive meeting 11:30 a.m. @ Rockman Home WRJ-O Meeting 12:00 p.m. Family School 6:15-8:15 p.m. Healing/Renewal Service 7 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gamblers 12-Step 7:30 p.m. Light 3rd Candle	12 Religious School & Dinner Bible Quiz Grades 7-12 6-8:30 p.m. @ J.C.C. Conversations with Judaism I @ J.C.C. 6:45-8:15 p.m. Light 4th Candle	13 Beyond Basic Hebrew 9:15-10 a.m. Adult Study with the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m. Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. Book Group 4-5:30 p.m. "Walking the Path of Grief" 7-8:30 p.m. Basic Judaism 7-9 p.m. Kol Rina Choir 7:15-9 p.m. Light 5th Candle	14 Torah Tots 9:30-11:15 a.m. Shabbat Comes to You @ Remington 3:45 p.m. Chanukah Family Dinner 6 p.m. Chanukah Family Service 7:30 p.m. Light 6th Candle	15 Bagels and Sacred Books 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m. Bat Mitzvah of Sarah Spooner Light 7th Candle
16 Religious School Pre-Kindergarten-Grades 3 & Grades 5/6 10-Noon Grade 4 @ Blumkin Home 10:15-11:45 a.m. Seminars on Sunday 10-11:30 a.m. Light 8th Candle	17	18 Conversation with Rabbi Azriel 12-1 p.m. Family School 6:15- 8:15 p.m. Board of Trustees Meeting 7:30 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gamblers 12-Step 7:30 p.m.	19 Religious School Social Justice Club 5-6 p.m. Youth Group Dinner 6-6:30 p.m. Grades 7-12 6:30-8:30 p.m. Grade 12 Parents' Meeting 6:45 p.m. Conversations with Judaism I 6:45-8:15 p.m.	20 Beyond Basic Hebrew 9:15-10 a.m. Adult Study with the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m. Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. "Walking the Path of Grief" 7-8:30 p.m.	21 Shabbat Service 8 p.m.	22 Bagels and Sacred Books 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
23 No Religious School	24	25 No Family School	26 No Religious School	27 No Religious School	28 Shabbat Service 8 p.m.	29 Bagels and Sacred Books 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
30 No Religious School	31 No Family School	JANUARY 1 No Religious School	2 No Religious School	3 Adult Study with the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m. "Walking the Path of Grief" 7-8:30 p.m. Kol Rina Choir 7-9 p.m.	4 Tot Shabbat 7 p.m. Shabbat Service 8 p.m.	5 Bagels and Sacred Books 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.