

Spotlight

YOUR FAVORITE PHOTOS



Mary Wampler (at left) and Mimi Rogers-Farkas (middle) along with another attendee chat while waiting to sample of the ethnic food brought to the final Taste of Tri-Faith session in January at Temple. Co-sponsored by the Tri-Faith Initiative of Omaha.



Elya Wilson, our community shlichah, joined Temple's third graders on a multi-sensory visit to Israel. Before heading to the Negev to make sandart pictures, or Jerusalem to send notes to the Western Wall (via computer), everyone made sure to have their passports ready. (Pictured above) Elya talked with Nina Pfrenger as she glued pictures of Israeli sites into her passport.

Calendar

**Sidney H. and Jane Brooks
Institute for Clergy and Educators**
Friday, March 19, 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Jennifer Michael Hecht
Friday, March 19 - Sunday, March 21

Rabbi Josh Zweiback
Friday, March 26 - Sunday, March 28

Deli Night
Sunday, March 28, 5-7 p.m.

Congregational Seder
Tuesday, March 30, 6 p.m.

Yom HaShoah
Wednesday, April 14, 7 p.m.

**Shabbat Service: In Appreciation
of Police and Fire Fighters**
Friday, April 16, 6 p.m.

Inside:

PAGE

- 2-3 Temple Israel Voices
- 4-5 Worship and Holidays
- 6-7 Calendar
- 8-9 Congregation
- 10-11 Events and Activities
- 12-13 Youth and Education
- 14-15 You Make the Difference
- 16 Spotlight

Jennifer Michael Hecht

Jennifer Hecht, award-winning author, will present "The Myth of Happiness" when she gives the D'var Torah at the **6 p.m. Shabbat worship service on Friday, March 19**. Her books on philosophy, history and poetry have won accolades from *The New York Times Book Review*, *The New Republic*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *Publishers Weekly* and *The Washington Post*.

On Saturday, March 20 at 9 a.m., Dr. Hecht will discuss "Jewish Text and Doubt." The Shabbat Morning Service will immediately follow.

"The History of Doubt" will follow on **Sunday, March 21 at 10 a.m.** Her book, *Doubt: A History*, demonstrates a strong history of religious doubt from the beginning of written history to the present day.

An instructor at The New School University in New York, Dr. Hecht earned her Ph.D. from Columbia University.



Adult Education Series is sponsored by the Hermene Zweiback Center for Lifelong Jewish Learning



Rabbi Josh Zweiback

Rabbi Zweiback will join our congregation at the **6 p.m. Shabbat worship service on Friday, March 26**, and connect the Passover story to his personal experience as a new immigrant in Israel.

On Saturday, March 27 at 9 a.m., he will discuss Rabbi Eliezer's excommunication in the story of the oven of Akhnai.

On Sunday, March 28 at 10 a.m., Rabbi Zweiback will introduce French Jewish philosopher Emanuel Levinas' philosophy of "otherness."

Rabbi Zweiback moved to Jerusalem in July to be director of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion Year-in-Israel program. Prior to that, he served Congregation Beth Am in Los Altos Hills, CA, for 11 years. Rabbi Zweiback, a musician and composer, is the son of Speedy Zweiback and the late Hermene Zweiback, and was raised in Omaha.

As I See It...

In commemoration of the liberation from Egypt, we, in Parashat Bo, received the mitzvah of T'fillin. As we read: "And it shall be as a sign upon your hand and as a symbol upon your forehead that with a mighty hand the Lord freed us from Egypt."

Why did this act of salvation require such a display of Divine might and power? Why could it not be a delicate operation? The answer is that the turning from God, and from their human fellows, had already become so deep in Pharaoh and in his people, that only through decisive action could the intolerable condition of slavery and subjugation be ended.

Every effort was made to avoid the humiliation of the Egyptian leader. Moses, after all, is commanded at the beginning of our Parasha, "Come to Pharaoh," come to him where he is, speak to him forcefully, but with the respect which is his just due as a human ruler. But Pharaoh's heart was hardened. Indeed, Pharaoh hardened his own heart. Because he lacked the humility which a human being not lost in the darkness of his own egotistical mind would have, he brought about his own crushing humiliation.

The liberation from Egypt, as we know, is so important that God, in the first of the Ten Commandments, identifies Himself as the God who took us out of Egypt. A great Hasidic leader, Rabbi Simchah Bunam of Psyscha, was asked, "It is written: I am the Lord thy God who brought thee out of the land of Egypt.' Why does it not read: 'I am the Lord thy God who created heaven and earth?' Rabbi Bunam expounded: 'Heaven and earth! Then men might have said: "Heaven – that is too much for me.' So God said to man: "I am the One who fishes you out of the mud. Now you come here and listen to me!"

God is not only the God of cosmic matters and cosmic concerns. God is the God who is concerned with those who are sunk in the mud of slavery. God is the God who sees not only slaves but human beings, Who beholds people not only as winners or losers in a competitive struggle, but as those through whom, a light, divine in origin, shines.

The great Jewish thinker, Mordecai Martin Buber, wrote, "Men become what they are, sons of God, by becoming what they are, brothers of their brothers." May we, as we sit around our Seder night, in this time and place, thank God for the liberation from a submerged world, a cavern-like world of subjugation and blindness, of slavery and delusion. May we turn to each other, and in so doing, confirm that the liberation of time past is a living reality today, inscribed in our mind, in our heart and in all of our deeds.



Rabbi Aryeh Azriel

Ask the Clergy

Cantor Wendy Shermet

Q. How can parents best help their children balance the demands of our secular society with their Jewish education?

A. Parents have the task of teaching their children to be moral and ethical human beings in a world that often doesn't reflect these values. The choice to educate their children within a religious framework hopefully makes this task easier. Temple Israel recognizes secular challenges, and both clergy and staff constantly discuss how best to blend the secular with the sacred.

Parents best begin by questioning what is most important for the holistic health of their child. For instance, most of us engage our children in sports and arts, and will do whatever it takes for success in these areas. We do this despite the fact that few of our children will become professional athletes and artists, because we recognize the importance of these activities for overall growth of mind and body.

Ask yourselves if you want your children to be lifelong Jews. If so, commitment to this goal can mirror our dedication to secular involvement. We, parents, can do so by attending synagogue with our children, taking one of the many adult classes offered at Temple or in the larger Jewish community, joining the Kol Rina choir, volunteering at Religious School, or simply hanging out in the hall during Sunday School. In addition to teaching our children to do their best in school, be polite to their elders, and feed the dog – let us also stress the importance of learning about their Jewish heritage. There need not be an insurmountable divide between the sacred and the secular.

Do you have a question for the clergy? Send it to templeisrael@templeisraelomaha.com.

Note From The President



John Lehr

Many times throughout my Temple Board career, I've been asked "What does the Board do?" At a basic level, the question is answered by our bylaws: "The Board shall be entrusted with the administrative and executive business of the Congregation." As a practical matter, the Board is responsible for the strategic direction and policy decisions made by our congregation, as well as an occasional operational one. Please keep in mind:

1. Rarely does an item come before the Board that hasn't been researched and considered by a committee, such as the Investment or Worship Committee. Most often, the committee is comprised of congregants committed to and well-informed about its subject along with the Temple staff member most closely connected to the committee's work.

A hallmark of the Board has been its free-thinking independence blended with a pronounced spirit of partnership and collaboration with our staff. Both staff and Board are able to perform their respective roles with greater reach and efficiency when we lever our strengths and work together to progress.

What the Board tries hard not to do is to directly operate Temple. We neither vet IT platforms, perform life-cycle events, or sweep the floors, nor do we schedule or plan for these and the myriad of other activities that happen in and because of Temple. Our Religious School Coordinator manages our teachers, our Cantor orchestrates our music, and our Rabbis help us draw meaning and substance from the Torah and its teachings. The Board is integral to the selection and retention of our clergy and other key professionals and holds them accountable to its standards, but in order to attract and maintain the talent we desire and require, we must empower them.

Finally, an often asked follow-up question is "What does the Executive Committee of the Board do?" The Bylaws say "it performs board duties in the absence of a board meeting and makes employee compensation determinations" – well said! In addition, the committee also acts as a presidential cabinet, giving guidance to the president as he/she sets agendas and deliberates direction.

In the News

Rebecca Crabb and Zach Muskin were on Birthright Israel's tenth decade flight which was met by dignitaries and treated to a celebration in Tel Aviv.

Same great Tex-Mex cuisine in a new location! After 30 years, **Rick Fox** has moved Julio's to 123rd and West Center Road in Westwood Plaza. "The new space is larger and offers outdoor seating," said Rick.

Molly Goldberg was elected to the North American Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY) North American Board as Social Action Vice President.

Ann Noodell and Marc Sherman are working at a new business, Brix in Village Pointe, 168th and West Dodge Road. Brix, which opened in January, describes itself as "a wine and spirits experience."

Catherine Rawlings, vice president of communications for ASTD (American Society for Training and Development) Nebraska, is one of the "River City Six" in the January issue of Strictly Business magazine.

Help us expand this section about our congregants. Let us know when you are in the news.

Help Needed

To continue to provide much-needed and much-appreciated, caring services to our congregants:

Bake challah • Cook chicken soup • Donate plastic containers • Make calls following hospital stays • Deliver meals • Make Shabbat visits (weekly, monthly, quarterly, occasionally) to congregants at the Blumkin Home • Help to schedule Blumkin Home Shabbat visits • Participate in other activities with congregants at the Blumkin Home • Send greeting cards • Knit healing shawls or baby caps

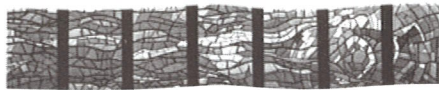
Contact Sherrie Saag, sherriesaag@cox.net, Susie Norton, susie.norton@cox.net, or Wendy Goldberg, wgoldberg@templeisraelomaha.com, to help.

Temple Israel's Wish List

- Carpet for Kindergarten Room
- Laptop computers for classrooms
- Landscape projects

Contact Temple Israel Staff

Contact information is available on our website templeisrael-ne.org/aboutus/.



Shabbat Evening

Friday, February 26
Health Care for the
Future Service, 6 p.m.

Shabbat Morning

Saturday, February 27
Sparks Beneath the Surface,
9:15 a.m.
Service, 10:30 a.m.

Erev Purim

Saturday, February 27, 5 p.m.

Shabbat Evening

Friday, March 5
Service, 6 p.m.

Shabbat Morning

Saturday, March 6
Sparks Beneath the Surface,
9:15 a.m.
Service, 10:30 a.m.

Shabbat Evening

Friday, March 12
Shabbat Comes to You
at Remington Heights, 4 p.m.
Service, 6 p.m.

Shabbat Morning

Saturday, March 13
Sparks Beneath the Surface,
9:15 a.m.
Service, 10:30 a.m.

Shabbat Evening

Friday, March 19
Service, 6 p.m.
D'var: Dr. Jennifer Hecht -
The Myth of Happiness
March Birthday Blessings

Shabbat Morning

Saturday, March 20
Dr. Jennifer Hecht - *Jewish*
Text and Doubt, 9 a.m.
Service, 10:30 a.m.

Shabbat Evening

Friday, March 26
Service, 6 p.m.
Rabbi Josh Zweiback -
A Stranger in a Strange Land
Tot Shabbat, 6 p.m.
Dinner following

Shabbat Morning

Saturday, March 27
Rabbi Josh Zweiback -
The Lessons of the Oven
of Akhnai, 9 a.m.
Service, 10:30 a.m.

Shabbat Evening

Friday, April 2
Service, 6 p.m.

Shabbat Morning

Saturday, April 3
Sparks Beneath the Surface,
9:15 a.m.
Service, 10:30 a.m.

Shabbat Evening

Friday, April 9
Shabbat Comes to You
at Remington Heights, 4 p.m.
Service, 6 p.m.

Shabbat Morning

Saturday, April 10
Sparks Beneath the Surface,
9:15 a.m.
Service, 10:30 a.m.

Shabbat Evening

Friday, April 16
Service, 6 p.m.
Appreciation of Police
and Fire Fighters
April Birthday Blessings

Shabbat Morning

Saturday, April 17
Sparks Beneath the Surface,
9:15 a.m.
Grade 5 Service, 10:30 a.m.

Tot Shabbat to Celebrate Israel

Friday, March 26, 6 p.m.

This Israeli-themed Tot Shabbat will be hosted by Jenny and Scott Meyerson, Jamie and Troy Meyerson, and Teresa Kramer-Ruback and Andy Ruback. Rabbi Aryeh Azriel will lead the service. Families with young children will celebrate Shabbat and enjoy dinner together. Cost for the dinner is \$5 for adults and no charge for children. Please contact the Temple office, mkube@templeisraelomaha.com or 556-6536, to make a dinner reservation.

Yom HaShoah Speaker to Tell Her Story of Holocaust Survival

Wednesday, April 14, 7 p.m. at Temple Israel

Judy Meisel, who was 12 when taken in 1941 to the Kovno ghetto, barely escaped the gas chamber in 1944 in a Polish concentration camp. Eventually arriving in Denmark, Judy weighed 47 pounds at liberation and had tuberculosis. Judy will share her story as the featured speaker for this year's community Yom HaShoah observance.

Prior to the commemoration service, seventh through twelfth graders from Beth El and Beth Israel Synagogues will join our middle/high schoolers for a 5:30 p.m. kosher dinner and special conversation, "Confronting Dilemmas," with Judy Meisel.

JCC Community-Wide Yom HaAtzma-ut Celebration

Tuesday, April 20, 5 - 8 p.m., JCC

Everyone is invited to a "Back-Yard Cookout," featuring kosher hot dogs and hamburgers, along with Israeli side dishes, music and Israeli-style games. This celebration of Israel's Independence Day will be held in the JCC outside pavilion behind the Jewish Community Center.

Healing

Mi Shebeirach, the prayer for physical and emotional healing, is recited at the Friday evening Shabbat service. If you are ill and would like a mi shebeirach recited on your behalf, please call the Temple office, 556-6536, before Noon on 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.

Passover Service

Tuesday, March 30, 10:30 a.m.

Congregational Seder

Tuesday, March 30, 6 p.m.

Enjoy the holiday of freedom with family and friends at an interactive and fun Seder including a traditional meal. Rabbi Aryeh Azriel and Rabbi Eric Linder will lead the Seder. Adults \$23; Child (ages 5-12) \$10. Your check payable to Temple Israel is your reservation and is due by Friday, March 21. Cost after Friday, March 21, is Adults \$27; Child (ages 5-12) \$14.

Concluding Passover Service and Yizkor

Monday, April 5, 10:30 a.m.

A matzah brei breakfast will be available at no charge at 9:30 a.m. If you would like to have names of your loved ones read, please call the Temple office by Thursday, April 1.

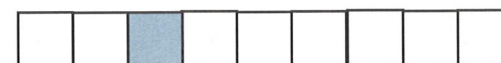
PASSOVER JUMBLE

Answers will be in the next Tidings!

EHCCKO



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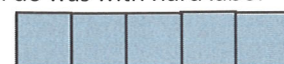
ZTHAAM



PAASKR



"And they embittered (ve-yimareru וַיִּמְרְרוּ) their lives with hard labor, with mortar and with bricks and with all manner of labor in the field; any labor that they made them do was with hard labor" (Exodus 1:14).



Do You Need A Place for the First Seder?

The first Seder will be celebrated on Monday, March 29. Contact Program Director Wendy Goldberg, 556-6536 or wgoldberg@templeisraelomaha.com.

The Order of the Seder

Passover is a commemoration of the Exodus from Egypt - especially the night when God "passed over" the houses of the Israelites during the tenth plague - and of the following day, when the Israelites had to leave Egypt hurriedly. The Passover seder (meaning order) is probably the most celebrated and beloved of Jewish home rituals. The seder service has a clear order, with each of 14 steps representing a different phase of the seder. Together, they serve to teach the lesson of the Exodus, God's saving the Jewish people from slavery.

1. Kadesh - the Benediction proclaiming the holiness of the holiday
2. Ur'chatz WASH the hands
3. Karpas - Recite the blessing over a GREEN VEGETABLE
4. Yachatz - Breaking the middle Matzah
5. Maggid - the Haggadah TELL the Exodus story
6. Rochtza - Washing Before the Meal
7. Motzie Matzah - Recite the blessing over MATZVAH
8. Maror - Recite the blessing over the BITTER HERBS Eat without reclining
9. Korech - Eat the Hillel Sandwich
10. Shulchan Orech - The MEAL is served
11. Tzafun - The AFIKOMAN is found and shared
12. Barech - Recite the BLESSING after the meal. We open the door and recite the passage which symbolizes an invitation to the Prophet Elijah.
13. Hallel - Recite poems and songs of PRAISE
14. Nirtzah - "Next year in Jerusalem"

The Seder Plate

There are a number of symbols that occur throughout the seder, but perhaps the focal point of the whole event is the Seder plate. It contains a roasted shankbone, symbolizing the Pesach sacrifice in the Temple; a roasted egg, symbolizing either the spring season or mourning (for the destruction of Jerusalem); maror (bitter herbs) to represent the bitter experience of the Hebrew slaves; haroset (a mixture of apples, nuts, raisins, spices, wine) symbolizing the mortar the Hebrew slaves used to build for the Egyptians; and karpas (parsley, celery, or another green vegetable) symbolizing the green of spring. The table must also have three pieces of matzah, each piece used for a different purpose, usually held in a special pouch made to be used during the Seder.

March

ניסן / אדרא



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 Grades 3-6, 4-6 p.m. OTYG Cooking for Ronald McDonald House, 5 p.m. All School Dinner, 5:15 p.m. Family School, 6-8 p.m. Adult Hebrew, 6:30 p.m. Is Religion Good?, 6:30 p.m. Grades 7-12 B'nai Tzedek Field Trip to Quality Living 5:45 p.m.	4 Adult Study with the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m.	5 Shabbat Service 6 p.m.	6 Sparks Beneath the Surface 9:15-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m. Bar Mitzvah of John Eirinberg
7 Teacher Meeting, 9 a.m. Grades PreK-6 10 a.m.-Noon OTYG Coffee Stand, 10 a.m. Prayer Assembly, 10 a.m. Music of Jewish Religious Movements, 10:30 a.m. PreK Seder, 10:30 a.m. OTYG/JYG Bowling, Noon	8	9 AA, Alanon & Gambler's 12-step 7:30 p.m.	10 No Religious School, Family School, Middle/High School	11 Adult Study with the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m.	12 Shabbat Comes to You @ Remington Heights 4 p.m. Shabbat Service 6 p.m.	13 Sparks Beneath the Surface 9:15-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m. Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Baron
14 Grades K-6 10 a.m. - Noon Children's Choir Rehearsal Noon	15	16 Executive Meeting 6 p.m. Board of Trustees 7 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gambler's 12-step 7:30 p.m.	17 Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. OTYG @ Ronald McDonald House 5 p.m. All School Dinner, 6 p.m. Family School 6-8 p.m. Grades 7-12, 6-8 p.m.	18 Adult Study with the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m. Rabbi Sidney H. Brooks Lecture - Doubt: A History @ UNO 7 p.m.	19 Rabbi Sidney H. and Jane Brooks Institute on Judaism for Clergy and Education 10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Shabbat Service 6 p.m.	20 Sparks Beneath the Surface Dr. Jennifer Hecht - Jewish Text and Doubt 9-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m. Bat Mitzvah of Sara Cohen
21 Grades PreK-6 10 a.m. - Noon Dr. Jennifer Hecht - History of Doubt 10 a.m. Grade 4 @ Blumkin Home 10:15 a.m.	22	23 AA, Alanon & Gambler's 12-step 7:30 p.m.	24 No Religious School, Family School, Middle/High School	25 Adult Study with the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m.	26 Shabbat Service Rabbi Josh Zweiback - A Stranger in a Strange Land 6 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner following 6 p.m.	27 Sparks Beneath the Surface Rabbi Josh Zweiback - The Lessons of the Oven of Akhnai 9-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m. Bar Mitzvah of Max Slosburg
28 Grades K-6 10 a.m. - Noon Rabbi Josh Zweiback - The Philosophy of Otherness 10 a.m. WRJ Meeting, 10 a.m. Grade 2 VIP Seder, 10:45 a.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal Noon Deli Night, 5 p.m.	29 Erev Pesach	30 Pesach Passover Service 10:30 a.m. Congregational Seder 6 p.m.	31 No Religious School, Family School, Middle/High School			

April

אייר / ניסן



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3 Sparks Beneath the Surface 9:15-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
4 No Religious School	5 Conclusion of Pesach Matzah Brei Breakfast 9:30 a.m. Service & Yizkor 10:30 a.m.	6 No Religious School, Family School, Middle/High School	7	8 Adult Study with the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m.	9 Shabbat Comes to You @ Remington Heights 4 p.m. Shabbat Service 6 p.m.	10 Sparks Beneath the Surface 9:15-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
11 Teacher Meeting, 9 a.m. Grade 6 @ Lincoln Holocaust Memorial 9:30 a.m. Grades PreK-6, 10 a.m. Kindergarten Roundup, 10 a.m. OTYG Coffee Stand, 10 a.m. Prayer Assembly 10 a.m. Jewish Cooking, 10:30 a.m.	12	13 AA, Alanon & Gambler's 12-step 7:30 p.m.	14 Grades 3-6, 4-6 p.m. All School Dinner, 6 p.m. Family School, 6-8 p.m. Grades 7-12, 6-8 p.m. Community Middle/High School Program & Dinner 5:30 p.m. Community Yom HaShoah Service 7 p.m.	15 Adult Study with the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m.	16 Shabbat Service Appreciation of Police and Fire Fighters 6 p.m.	17 Sparks Beneath the Surface 9:15-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service lead by Grade 5 10:30 a.m.
18 Grades K-6 10 a.m. - Noon Grade 3 @ Blumkin Home 10:15 a.m. Grade 2 Parent Meeting 10:15 a.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal Noon JYG Boys Day, Noon	19	20 AA, Alanon & Gambler's 12-step 7:30 p.m.	21 Grades 3-6, 4-6 p.m. OTYG Welcomes 8th Graders 5 p.m. All School Dinner, 6 p.m. Family School, 6-8 p.m. Grades 7-12, 6-8 p.m. Adult Biblical Hebrew 6:30 p.m. Bookless Bookclub 6:30 p.m.	22 Adult Study with the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m. Religious School Steering Committee Meeting Noon WRJ Luncheon Menopause and Beyond Noon	23 Shabbat Service 6 p.m.	24 Sparks Beneath the Surface 9:15-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service led by Grade 6 10:30 a.m.
25 Grades PreK-6 10 a.m. - Noon WRJ Meeting 10 a.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal Noon	26	27 AA, Alanon & Gambler's 12-step 7:30 p.m.	28 Grades 3-6, 4-6 p.m. OTYG Welcomes 8th Graders 5 p.m. All School Dinner, 6 p.m. Family School, 6-8 p.m. Grades 7-12, 6-8 p.m. Adult Biblical Hebrew 6:30 p.m. Bookless Bookclub 6:30 p.m.	29 Adult Study with the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m.	30 Shabbat Service 6 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner following 6 p.m.	

Congregation



Ron Beach "relaxes" while giving blood at the Temple Israel Blood Drive on Sunday, February 7.

Birth לידה

Samantha Nicole Lake, daughter of Sarah and Tim Lake. Grandparents are Lee and Howard Needelman, and Marilyn and Tom Lake. Great-grandmother is Millie Needelman.

Estella "Estee" Vivienne Platt, daughter of Katy and Joe Platt, Kansas City. Grandparents are Jill and Tom Turner, Kansas City, and Barb and Mike Platt.

Engagement אירוסין

Jamie Heller and Joshua Katelman. Parents are Nancy and Will Heller, Paradise Valley, AZ, Shelli Katelman, and John Katelman.

In Sympathy נחמה

The Congregation records with sorrow the deaths of...

Anna Lee Cohn, wife of Edward Cohn;
Margaret M. Egermayer, mother of Robert Egermayer;
Eilene Friedman, mother of Michael Friedman;
Gail Silverstein, wife of Paul Silverstein;
Norma Spector, mother of Bobby Leibowitz;
...and extends sympathy to their bereaved families.

THANK YOU from JFS!!

Jewish Family Service wishes to send sincere thanks to all the Religious School kids and their families who participated in helping us with gifts for our Project Dreidel families. Your thoughtfulness and generosity helped bring joy and excitement to homes that would otherwise go without the extras of the Chanukah season. The family games, Nerf Nite Jam Hoops, Mega Blocks, and Target gift cards, to name only a few, were very much appreciated by JFS and the families we serve. Thanks to all...we look forward to partnering with you again in the future.

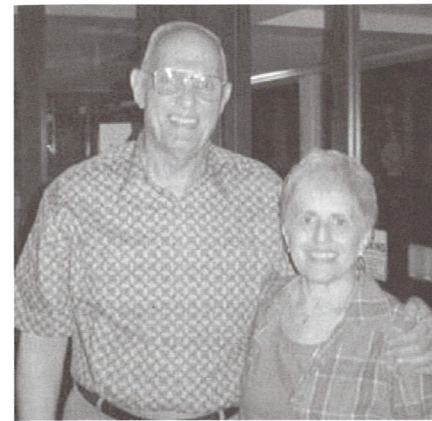
Blood Drive

Today rabah to chairman Ron Budwig and his committee members Harry Alloy, Tamara Field, Sandy Nogg and Wendy Vann for a very successful blood drive! Because of all their hard work and your time, we contributed 22 pints of blood to the Red Cross. Thanks to these people who donated: Harry Alloy, Bob Blegrade, Ron Beach, Nancy Feidman, Judith Feigin, Paul Fienstein, Robyn Freeman, Jeff Gates, Jordana Glazer, Scott Goodman, Mike Halsted, Matt Kirshenbaum, Dan Marburg, Joe Meyers, Paul Miller, Ann Noodell, Dominique O'Connor, Rob Reiss, Sarah Sadofsky, Lynn Sweet, Mark Sweet and Mary Wampler.

Stephen Center

Thank you to all who have volunteered for the Stephen Center Shelter: Don'L Dacey and Larry Gendler, chairs; Beth Brodkey, Larry Budwig, Hillary Fletcher, Zane Fletcher, Wendy Furst, Jill Idelman, Kate Kaminsky, Bonni Leiserowitz, Martin Leiserowitz, Jennifer Miller and family, Simon Murphy, Kim Noddle, Nancy Noddle, Leslie Norman, Cami Rawlings, Cat Rawlings, Sivi Roffman, Claudia Sherman, Suzanne Singer, Sarah Teetzel, Jamie Weinberg, and Rosie Zweiback and family.

New Members



Eileen and Miles Remer met on a blind date and "that was it," quipped Eileen. Married for 56 years, they've lived in Omaha for 54. New members of Temple, "We're very excited about it!" emphasized Eileen.

Miles, an accountant for 32 years, and Eileen, his assistant and a secretary for 29 years, raised four daughters. "I was busy," Eileen recalled, "but I wouldn't have had it any other way."

They love to sing, and Miles has joined Kol Rina. They've also served as co-presidents of L.O.V.E., the Blumkin Home auxiliary.

Their family includes daughters Laurie Phifer, Lynn Sweet, Sharon Bisang, Fran Bieberly, three grandsons and two granddaughters.

Keep Us Informed

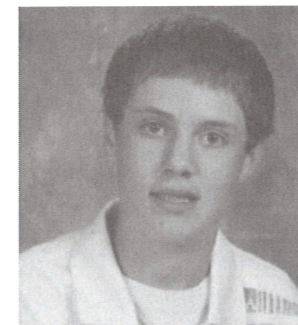
Changes in privacy laws now restrict hospital chaplain offices from notifying Temple about congregants who are patients. We want to visit our members. You can help us keep in contact by:

1. Calling Temple prior to a scheduled hospital stay.
2. During admissions, inform the hospital staff of your Temple affiliation and give permission for your name to be released to the Temple office.
3. If you are unexpectedly admitted to the hospital, ask a family member or friend to call Temple.
4. Call and tell us if someone you know is ill or in the hospital and might be helped by a visit or telephone call.

Help us keep in contact with our Temple family!

templeisrael@templeisraelomaha.com

B'nai Mitzvah



John Eirinberg, who attends Kiewit Middle School, will become a Bar Mitzvah on March 6. The son of Teresa and Lew, John is the brother of Anna and the late Benjamin. For his mitzvah project, John volunteered at Hogan's Junior Golf Heroes and The First Tee at Miller Park which promotes character development and life enhancing values.



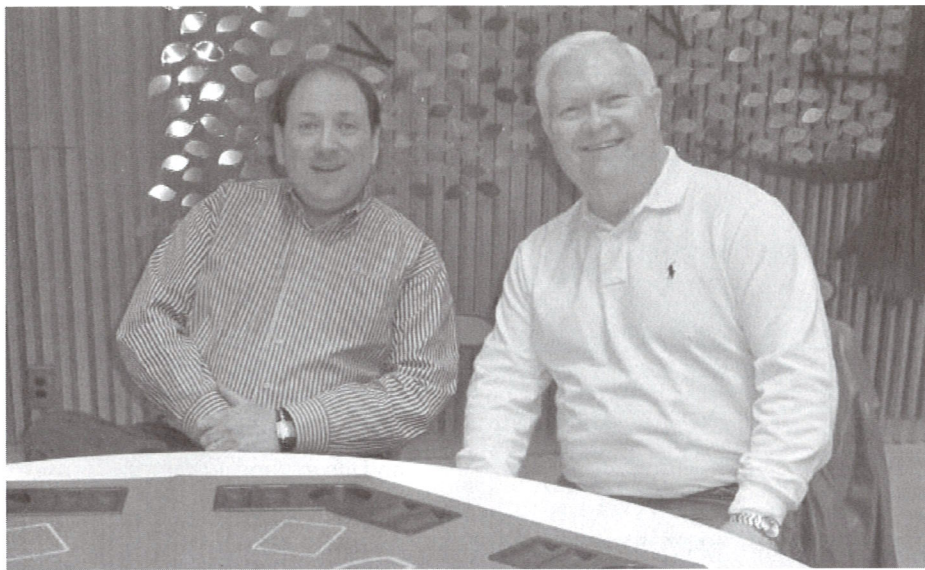
Jacob Baron, son of Jill and Bruce, will become a Bar Mitzvah on March 13. A seventh grader at Kiewit Middle School, Jacob has a sister, Madison. Jacob cleaned cages and assisted employees at the Humane Society and volunteered with Alegent Health's auxiliary to fulfill his mitzvah project requirement.



Sara Cohen, a Westside Middle School student, will become a Bat Mitzvah on March 20. The sister of Josh, Zoe, and Charlie, Sara is the daughter of Marla and Bob. Sara has volunteered to teach cello as her mitzvah project. She also will be twinning her Bat Mitzvah with a child who perished in the Holocaust.



Max Slosburg, a Westside Middle School student, will become a Bar Mitzvah on March 27. Along with siblings Joe, Ali, Libby, and Kate, Max is the son of Martha and David. For his mitzvah project, Max taught tennis at Westside summer camp to elementary-age children.



Scott Farkas (left) and Pierre Flatowicz were among approximately 90 people who attended Men of Reform Judaism's annual Poker Night in January.

Deli Night SUNDAY, MARCH 28, 5 - 7 p.m.

Starters

AUTHENTIC MATZO BALLS,
KREPLACH SOUP, AND
CHOPPED LIVER

Sandwiches

CORNER BEEF, PASTRAMI TONGUE,
CHOPPED LIVER, TURKEY BREAST,
AND PEANUT BUTTER & JELLY
SANDWICH

Combinations

ARYEH AZRIEL, ERIC LINDER, WENDY
SHERMET, LORI BENNETT, DENNIS
DEPORTE, JOHN LEHR, LONNIE
WILLIAMS, CONGREGANT SPECIAL,
AND "CHAZER" SPECIAL

Dancin' Dessert

NEW YORK STYLE CHEESECAKE

Star

Reservations preferred!
Carry-outs available
Call Temple Israel 556-6536

Special thanks to Bag 'n Save, Omaha Compound Co.,
Omaha Steaks and Rotella's

Be sure to tip the wait staff (even if they don't deserve it)
ALL PROCEEDS AND TIPS GO DIRECTLY TO TEMPLE ISRAEL

Women of Reform Judaism WRJ Meeting

Tuesday, March 23, 7 p.m., at the home of
Wendy Goldberg(2005 South 91 Street)

WRJ Luncheon Menopause and Beyond

Thursday, April 22, Noon
Come hear local experts discuss health issues
related to women and aging. Watch your mail for
an invite.

Passover Gifts for College Students

We are preparing Passover gifts to send to college
students, both in town and out of town. If anyone
would like to help prepare the packages or there
has been a change in your child's address, please
contact Rosie Zweiback, rozback@cox.net.

Men of Reform Judaism It's Now Men of Reform Judaism

Temple Men's Club is now known as Men of
Reform Judaism (MRJ), to reflect the name change
by the Union for Reform Judaism.

About 20 MRJ members met in January with Barry
Streit, MRJ-Omaha president, to share ideas. "Key
themes," said Barry, "are inclusiveness of all Temple
men," encompassing younger as well as older men,
those with children living at home, empty nesters,
single and married men.

About 90 registered for MRJ's annual Poker Night.
Among the winners were Steve Moskovits, Jeff
Slutzky, Scott Goodman and Adam Kirshenbaum.

Social Justice Social Justice Meeting

Thursday, March 18, Noon
Discuss our initiatives and objectives to address
local issues, poverty, education, immigration, and
the environment.

Shabbat Service: Appreciation of Police and Fire Fighters

Friday, April 16, 6 p.m.
Jerry Hoberman and Ray Somberg will address
how we can show appreciation for our police and
fire fighters.

Music of Jewish Religious Movements

Sunday, March 7, 10:30 a.m.
Do Reform, Conservative and Orthodox Jews
sing the same songs in their synagogues? Cantor
Wendy Shermet will answer that question and also
talk about the history of Jewish music and live it
up with some recorded CDs.

So, What Makes it Jewish Cooking?

Sunday, April 11, 10:30 a.m.
Get some new ideas for a homemade "Jewish"
breakfast. Discover how culture, community and
family impact the flavor of our food with caterer
and chef Miriam Gross as she demonstrates the
tools for simple cooking and entertaining.

The Rabbi Sidney H. Brooks Lecture - Doubt: A History

Thursday, March 18, 7 p.m. in Milo Bail Student Center's Chancellor's Room at UNO
Jennifer Michael Hecht, who has a Ph.D. in History of Science and European
Cultural History from Columbia University now teaches at The New School
University in New York City, will present *Doubt: A History*. The book demonstrates
a long, strong history of religious doubt all around the world from the origins of
written history to the present day. Hecht will discuss how non-belief, skepticism
and doubt have paralleled and, at times, shaped the world's great religious and
secular belief systems. The lecture is supported by an endowment honoring
Rabbi Sidney H. Brooks and presented through the sponsorship of the Religious
Studies Program, The Natan and Hannah Schwalb Center for Israel and Jewish
Studies, the College of Arts and Sciences and Temple Israel. It is open to the
public at no charge. For more information, please contact Dr. William L. Blizek,
554-3347, or Dr. Guy Matalon, 554-2139.

70th Annual Rabbi Sidney H. and Jane Brooks Institute on Judaism for Clergy and Education

Friday, March 19, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Dr. Jennifer Michael Hecht will be the speaker for this year's annual Sidney H. and
Jane Brooks Institute on Judaism for Clergy and Education. Temple will host clergy
from Nebraska and Iowa at the annual symposium. In the morning session, Dr.
Hecht will trace the forms doubt has taken through many cultures and eras and how
ancient Greek philosophers influence today's thought. Following lunch, Jennifer and
Temple's clergy will lead text study about doubt within Judaism and our obligation as
Jews to "wrestle with God."

Ongoing

Rabbi Linder to Talk Ritual at Adult Study with the Clergy

Thursdays, April 8 - June 10, 10 a.m.
Rabbi Eric Linder begins the spring session of
Adult Study on "We're Reform. Do We Need
Ritual in Our Lives?" "As Reform Jews, we often
equate mitzvot with good deeds," explained
Rabbi Linder. "The Torah lists hundreds of
commandments that are not necessarily moral
in nature but ritualistic." He'll discuss why these
commandments are part of Jewish law and
also take a look at holiday rituals. Newcomers
are welcome. Please contact Wendy Goldberg,
wgoldberg@templeisraelomaha.com or
556-6536, to register. Fee: \$45 for Temple
members, \$55 for non-members

Adult Hebrew

Wednesdays through May 5, 6:30 p.m.
Mor Sheinbein will be focusing on prayers and their meanings - literal and
beyond. This class requires the students to have a minimal knowledge of
reading Hebrew, an open mind, and *want* to learn. She recommends and
welcomes her adult students to ask "lots of questions."

Bookless Bookclub: Modern Jewish American Literature

Wednesdays, April 21 and 28, 6:30 - 8 p.m.
From Philip Roth to Kinky Friedman, we will take a bird's eye look at what hap-
pened during the second half of the twentieth century. No "homework" - just
show up, and participate; we will focus on several authors and see where they
fit in the Jewish American experience. Jeremy Wright will facilitate. Fee: \$18 for
members, \$25 for non-members, free for Family School parents.



Central High Instructor to Direct Temple Israel Children's Choir

Colin Brown, Central High School vocal music instructor, is the new director of Temple's Children's Choir. He replaces Emily Meyer who moved from Omaha.

Colin and his wife Joi moved here four years ago from Green Bay, WI. He feels directing the Children's Choir "would be a chance to get more involved at Temple." His first objective as director is "to make sure the students enjoy singing and making music together."

Middle/High School Update

Lori Bennett

On Wednesday, March 3, Temple Israel's seventh through twelfth graders will join their friends from Beth El Synagogue for the second B'nai Tzedek Teen Philanthropy event this school year. This time, we will meet at Quality Living, Inc. (QLI) and share our time with the residents there. (See details at the right.)

B'nai Tzedek is a philanthropic fund sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Omaha. Youth, primarily in their b'nai mitzvah year, are encouraged to invest \$125 in their own donor-advised fund – the Federation matches that amount, and interest generated is available for donation to any organization. The unusual benefit of the B'nai Tzedek program is the "teaching" involved – children aren't just given the means of becoming a philanthropist, but the training of how to be an effective one.

October 21 was the kick-off celebration at the J.C.C. We became acquainted with the missions of the charitable organizations within the Jewish community. In March, we will explore the incredible work QLI does with young adults who have brain and spinal trauma and learn how our donor-advised funds can help this special place continue its incredible purpose.

Even though this is the last B'nai Tzedek event for the school year, it won't be the last – there are so many worthwhile organizations to learn about...and exploring them with friends from Beth El adds to the fun!

If you would like more information about the B'nai Tzedek Teen Philanthropy Fund, please contact Janie Murow, 334-6566 or jmurow@jewishomaha.org.

Calendar

No Religious School

Sundays, February 28, April 4

Wednesdays, March 10, 24, 31 & April 7

Grades 7-12 B'nai Tzedek Community Field Trip

Wednesday, March 3

Dinner at Temple, 5:15 p.m.

Bus leaves/arrives, 5:45 - 8 p.m.

We will join our friends from Beth El Synagogue's middle and high school classes at Quality Living, Inc. and share some conversation, snack and music with the QLI residents.

Family Prayer Assembly

Sundays, March 7 & April 11, 10 a.m.

Pre-Kindergarten Family Seder

Sunday, March 7, 10:30 a.m.

Parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles are invited to join our PreK class for some fun songs, a Passover craft and a delightful child-friendly haggadah as we prepare for Pesach.

Children's Choir Lunch & Rehearsal

Sundays, March 14, 28 & April 18, Noon – 1 p.m.

Grade 4 Visit to the Blumkin Home

Sunday, March 21, 10:15 – 11:45 a.m.

Students and teachers will meet at the main entrance of the Blumkin Home to share an activity with the residents and share in the mitzvah of *kibbud zekaynim* – honoring the aged. Our visit will conclude at 11:45 a.m. so parents have time to pick up siblings from Temple Israel at Noon.

Grade 2 Hosts a Very Important Persons Seder

Sunday, March 28, 10:45 a.m.

This is an opportunity for our second graders and important people in their lives to enjoy a Passover Seder. During the Seder, the adults will practice the mitzvah of *v'hi'gad'ta l'vin'kha* – you shall tell your children of the Passover story.

Calendar

Grade 6 Field Trip to Lincoln Holocaust Memorial

Sunday, April 11 – Bus leaves Temple Israel at 9:30 a.m.

Holocaust survivor and philanthropist Sam Fried will speak to the sixth graders on Sunday, March 28, about his project to provide the Omaha and Lincoln Jewish communities with memorials commemorating the lives lost. He will also accompany the class to Lincoln. Our thanks to Mr. Fried for sponsoring this very special field trip. To see pictures of the Lincoln memorial, visit www.holocausteducationfund.org/Nebraska_Holocaust_Memor.html.

Kindergarten Roundup

Sunday, April 11, 10 a.m.

Invitations will mail in March! If you have a child who will attend public school Kindergarten in fall 2010, please let us know.

Grade 3 Visit to the Blumkin Home

Sunday, April 18, 10:15 – 11:45 a.m.

The third graders will continue the mitzvah of honoring the aged and celebrating *l'dor v'dor* – from generation to generation.

Grade 2 Parents Coffee with Rabbi Linder

Sunday, April 18, 10:15 a.m.

This is one of the most important dates for Grade 2 parents. Third grade is a key year for our kids – it marks the first time these students will attend Religious School twice a week. Come for a bagel and coffee and get your "Checklist for Success in Third Grade."

Grade 5 Shabbat Morning Service

Saturday, April 17, 10:30 a.m.

Grade 6 Shabbat Morning Service

Saturday, April 24, 10:30 a.m.

Each grade will lead the morning service along with the clergy. The family luncheon immediately follows.

Omaha Temple Youth Group

OTYG Coffee Stand

Sundays, March 7 & April 11, 10 a.m.

Free Starbucks coffee available in the Temple lobby to all who purchase an OTYG "Keep the Green Going" insulated coffee mug for \$15. Who knew drinking a great cup of coffee could help raise money for OTYG-funded projects and be eco-friendly! Mugs still available!

Bowling Party for OYTG and JYG!!!

Sunday, March 7, Noon

All kids meet at Temple at noon and we will have lunch and a mixer. We will walk to Westlanes (151 N. 72nd), 556-3344, for a 1 p.m. start and 3 p.m. pick-up at Westlanes. Cost is \$10. RSVP to Amy Katz, akatz@templeisraelomaha.com.

JYG Boys Day!!!

Sunday, April 18, Noon

If you are a 7th or 8th grade boy, you are invited to Rabbi Linder's house for lunch, board games and Rock Band! At noon, head over to Rabbi Linder's house (5012 1/2 Cass Street) and pick up there at 2 p.m. \$6 will help cover the cost of lunch/snacks/drinks; the fun, however, is free! Please RSVP to Paul Miller, pnmiller@up.com, if you are planning on coming.

JYG Gets a New Advisor



Well acquainted with seventh and eighth graders, Paul Miller, father of Sophia, 16, Morissa, 14, Madelin, 11, and Brett, 5, is the new Junior Youth Group advisor. He's already attended a JYG Chavurah in Kansas City and the recent NFTY Conclave in St. Louis.

Sophia and Morissa are OTYG members. Next year, Madelin will be in seventh grade and be able to join JYG. "My kids love the experience," Paul emphasized. "It's a great opportunity for Jewish kids in our community."

Donations

TREE OF LIFE

Honoring Peggy and Chris Krasne
From their children and grandchildren

IN MEMORY OF:

Doris Abramson: Judy and Keith Josephson, Steve Redler, Kimberly and Andrew Robinson

Marian Bookey: Jodi Brodsky

William Z. Cherniss: LetaRae Cherniss

Anna Cohn: Bag 'n Save and the Shrago Family, Bonnie Boone, Boystown Craniofacial Clinic, ENT Nurses at Boystown (Darley Adams, Marjorie Brennan, Anne Hapka, Pam Harnett, Kristy Schaefer, Ashley Smith), Sarita and David Cooper, Jean Duitch, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Fowler, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Fugleberg, Dr. and Mrs. Howard Garfinkel, Jennie and Max Garfinkel, Karen Holmes, Lynn Knudtson, Maria Anderson Knudtson, Kathy Beauchaine and Jeff Laudin, Gina Lypaczewski, Ann and Richard Olney, Jill and Charles Townsend, Maria Wijtek

Dena David: Susie and Jim Silverman

Sister of Jack Diamond: Doris Parker

Margaret Egermayer: Terri and Dick Zacharia

Mark Epstein: Mel Epstein

Hilde Gottlieb: Harriet Major

Justin Horwich: Molline and Fritz Cassman

Family Jahrzeits: Harriett and Sherm Sperling

Fay Israel: Judy and Keith Josephson

Louis Katelman: Sissy and Howard Silber

Milton Lehr: Sheryn and Arnold Joffe

Leonard Lewis: Phyllis and Dick Glazer

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Mother of Linda Connell: Anne and Alan Cohen

Dodi Redler: Carol and Gary Cohen, Robin Dann and Mike Ewaldt; Kay and Maril Jacobs, Sheryn and Arnold Joffe, Carolyn and Larry Levine, Wendy and Todd Manvitz and Family, Sidney and Lynda Mirvish, Milt Moskovitz, Kim and Matt Placzek, Charney and Jerry Rosinsky, Ellie and Elliott Tepper, Joan Udes

Gail Silverstein: Terri and Dick Zacahria

Frances Singer: Doris Parker

Norma Spector: Sandy and John Lehr, Linda Siref-Simons, Terri and Dick Zacharia

Isidore Tretiak: Molline and Fritz Cassman, Anne and Alan Cohen, Joyce and Sheldon Cohen, Ann Kaiman, Myllee Katelman, Cheryl Kricsfeld and Richard Diamond, Barbara and Marshall Kushner, Barb and Cliff Levitan, Susie and Mike Norton, Marilyn and Marty Warren, Barb and Stan Widman

Lucille Zelinsky: Elly and Bob Gordman

IN HONOR OF THE RECOVERY OF:

Nancy Greenberg: June Goodbinder, Ann Kaiman, Barbara and Marshall Kushner, Judy and Buddy Roffman, Joie Simon

Rosalie Greenspan: Ann Kaiman

Barb Lashinsky: Ann Kaiman

Marta Nieves: Lourdes Secola

Jan Schneiderman: Susie and Mike Norton, Joie Simon

Andy von Wachter: Lourdes Secola.

IN HONOR OF THE BIRTHDAY OF:

Dr. Al Brody: Maxine and Jack Noodell

Mel Epstein: Marilyn and Marty Warren

Rabbi Jonathan Gross: Lourdes Secola

Joe Kirshenbaum: The Slosburg Family

Gretchen Radler: Rosie, Mace, Grace, Joe and Abby Hack

IN HONOR OF THE ANNIVERSARY OF:

Norma and Marshall Fried: Joyce and Shelly Cohen

Judy and Jerry Marburg: Marilyn and Marty Warren

IN HONOR OF THE ENGAGEMENT OF:

Jodi Brodsky and Mike Levine: Joy and Robert Greenberg

Deborah Politi and Eddie Kenkel: Wendy and Todd Manvitz and Family

IN HONOR OF THE B'NAI MITZVAH OF:

Max Gendler: Jeff Schweid

Abby Schondelmeyer: Jeff Schweid

Spencer Newman: Susie and Jim Silverman

Jacob Vann: Toby Fellman

IN APPRECIATION OF:

Esther and Bernie Bogdanoff: Sandee and Howard Friedman

Tami Field: The Vann Clan

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

Minimum \$6 fund contributions, you may contribute to any fund a higher level as well.:

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Executive Director's Discretionary

Endowment and Planned Giving

Making an outright endowment gift today or providing for a legacy gift in your estate plans is a clear statement about the values and beliefs that have shaped your life, as well as your vision of the congregation for future generations. If you would like additional information as you consider making an endowment gift of any size, please contact Executive Director Dennis DePorte, 556-6536 or ddeporte@templeisraelomaha.com.

Other Donations

Memorial Plaques ~ \$500

Tree of Life leaves ~ \$300

Tree of Life Boulders ~ \$3,000

If you would like information on these donations, please contact Executive Director Dennis DePorte, 556-6536 or ddeporte@templeisraelomaha.com.

Memberships Levels

Please contact Executive Director Dennis DePorte, 556-6536 or ddeporte@templeisraelomaha.com, for more information.

Becoming a Patron

Patrons of Temple Israel voluntarily agree to pay \$2,000 above fair share dues. Being a Patron is voluntary and you may choose whether or not to renew each year. If you choose to become a Patron, your name will be included on the beautiful Sponsor plaque located outside the Sanctuary doors.

Becoming a Sponsor

Sponsors of Temple Israel voluntarily agree to pay 25% above fair share dues. Sponsorship is voluntary and you may choose whether or not to renew Sponsorship each year. If you choose to become a Sponsor, your name will be included on the beautiful Sponsor plaque located outside the Livingston Chapel doors.

Shop...Eat...Help Temple Israel, Too!

Whole Foods, Baker's, Bag 'N Save and The Bookworm Gift Certificates are available in the Temple office. Buy them and keep them handy for shopping at these stores which are gracious enough to return a percentage to Temple. The reimbursements are used for camp scholarships. If you have children attending Religious School classes on Wednesday afternoons or Sunday mornings, stop in the lobby to purchase.