

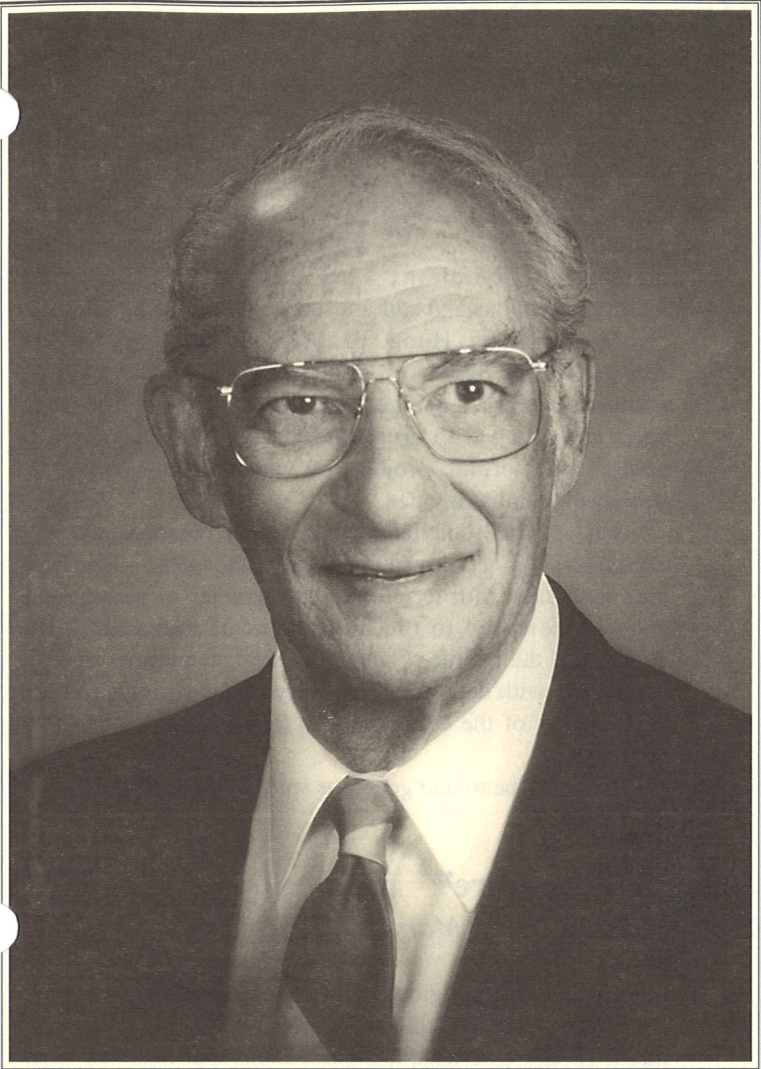
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			FEBRUARY	4	5	6
			3 Midrashah 10 a.m. Religious School Grades 7/8 4-6 p.m. High School & Dinner Grades 9-12 6-8:30 p.m. Sisterhood Board Meeting 7 p.m.	Sisterhood Adult Education 10-11:30 a.m. Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. Beginning Beyond Midrash 6:50-7:40 p.m. Beyond Midrash 7:50-8:45 p.m. Kol Rina Choir 7-9:30 p.m.	Tot Shabbat 7 p.m. Shabbat Service 8 p.m.	Bagels and Bible 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
7 Morning Prayer Service 9:15 a.m. Religious School Pre-Kindergarten II-6 10-Noon Men's Club Brunch 10 a.m. Kindergarten Parents' Day 10 a.m. Family Worship Assembly 11:30 a.m. Temple Tones 12-12:45 p.m.	8	9 Family School 6:15-7 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gamblers 12-Step 7:30 p.m.	10 Religious School Grade 8 4-6 p.m. Grade 7 6:30-8 p.m. JYG Dinner 6-6:30 p.m. High School Grades 9-11 6:30-8:30 p.m.	11 Torah Tot's 9:30-11:30 a.m. Parent/Toddler Class 10-11:15 a.m. Sisterhood Adult Education 10-11:30 a.m. Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. Beginning Beyond Midrash 6:50-7:40 p.m. Beyond Midrash 7:50-8:45 p.m. Kol Rina Choir 7-9:30 p.m.	12 Torah Tot's 9:30-11:30 a.m. Shabbat Comes to You @ Blumkin Home 2 p.m. Shabbat Service 8 p.m.	13 Bagels and Bible 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m. Bat Mitzvah of Emily Muskin
14 No Religious School	15	16 Food for Thought 11:30 a.m.- 1 p.m. No Family School Board of Trustees Meeting 7:30 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gamblers 12-Step 7 30 p.m.	17 Midrashah 10 a.m. Religious School Grades 7/8 4-6 p.m. OTYG Dinner 6-6:30 p.m. High School Grades 9-12 6:30-8:30 p.m.	18 Torah Tot's 9:30-11:30 a.m. Parent/Toddler Class 10-11:15 a.m. Sisterhood Adult Education 10-11:30 a.m. Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. Beginning Beyond Midrash 6:50-7:40 p.m. Beyond Midrash 7:50-8:45 p.m. Kol Rina Choir 7-9:30 p.m.	19 Torah Tot's 9:30-11:30 a.m. Early Worship Service 5:30 p.m. Shabbat Family Service 7:30 p.m.	20 Grade 6 Program 9:15 a.m. Bagels and Bible 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m. Bat Mitzvah of Sasha Skulsky
21 Religious School Pre-Kindergarten I-Grade 6 10-Noon Pre-Kindergarten I PATT 10 a.m. AOL & Dr. Freund Lecture 10 a.m. Sisterhood Friendship Tea 2 p.m.	22	23 Family School 6:15-8:15 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gamblers 12-Step 7:30 p.m.	24 Religious School Grade 7 4-6 p.m. Grade 8 6:30-8 p.m. High School Grades 9-11 6:30-8:30 p.m.	25 Torah Tot's 9:30-11:30 a.m. Parent/Toddler Class 10-11:15 a.m. Sisterhood Adult Education 10-11:30 a.m. Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. Sisterhood Baking Class 4 p.m. Beginning Beyond Midrash 6:50-7:40 p.m. Beyond Midrash 7:50-8:45 p.m. Kol Rina Choir 7-9:30 p.m.	26 Torah Tot's 9:30-11:30 a.m. Jazz Shabbat Service 8 p.m.	27 Bagels and Bible 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m. Bar Mitzvah of David Martin Sisterhood/Brotherhood Purim Party 6:30 p.m.
28 Religious School Pre-Kindergarten II-Grade 6 10-Noon Pre-Kindergarten II PATT 10 a.m. AOL 10 a.m. Temple Tones 12-12:45 p.m.	MARCH 1 Purim Family Box Dinner 6 p.m. Megillah Reading 7 p.m.	2 No Family School Community Purim Celebration @ J.C.C.	3 Midrashah 10 a.m. Religious School Grades 7/8 4-6 p.m. High School & Dinner Grades 9-12 6-8:30 p.m. Sisterhood Board Meeting 7 p.m.	4 Torah Tot's 9:30-11:30 a.m. Parent/Toddler Class 10-11:15 a.m. Sisterhood Adult Education 10-11:30 a.m. Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. Beginning Beyond Midrash 6:50-7:40 p.m. Beyond Midrash 7:50-8:45 p.m. Kol Rina Choir 7-9 p.m.	5 Torah Tot's 9:30-11:30 a.m. Tot Shabbat 7 p.m. Shabbat Service 8 p.m.	6 Bagels and Bible 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.



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In Memoriam

Rabbi Sidney H. Brooks
1920-1999

Senior Rabbi of Temple Israel
Omaha, Nebraska
1952-1985

Named Rabbi Emeritus, 1985

“His voice was as powerful as the messages he delivered. His presence in the community was a source of pride to the congregation. His ethics and honesty were those of a truly righteous man.

His love for his family and his Judaism was deep and pure. Always the teacher...always the spiritual leader...always the counselor. Forever a friend.”

Phyllis Glazer, Past President of Temple Israel

Temple Israel mourns the death January 5, 1999, of Rabbi Sidney Halle Brooks, remembered as a spiritual leader, teacher, scholar, mentor, friend, and community conscience throughout his life.

Rabbi Brooks served our congregation as Senior Rabbi for 33 years, longer than any other rabbi, before being named Rabbi Emeritus.

Mourners from all segments of the Jewish and secular communities attended funeral services January 7.

Speakers were: Rabbi Aryeh Azriel, Temple Israel Senior Rabbi; Cantor Jennifer Blum, Temple Israel; Cantor Emil Berkovits, Beth El Synagogue; Rabbi Stanley Dreyfus, New York City, life-long friend of Rabbi Brooks; Dr. Larry E. Roffman, Temple Israel President; Rabbi John Spitzer, Canton, Ohio, a student of Rabbi Brooks; Rabbi Debbie Stiel, Temple Israel Associate Rabbi; and Rabbi Barry Weinstein, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Associate Rabbi at Temple Israel from

1971-1983. A message was read from another former student, Rabbi Rex Perlmeter, Baltimore, Maryland.

Rabbi Brooks is survived by his wife Jane, daughter and son-in-law Miriam and Philip Wright, Cambridge Mass., son and daughter-in-law Joel and Naomi Brooks and grandson Joseph of Tampa, Florida.

Our congregation sends its condolences to the family.

May his soul be bound up in the bond of eternal life.

Rabbi Brooks: Bridge Builder

Omaha World Herald Editorial, Jan. 7, 1999

Rabbi Sidney Brooks who died Tuesday at age 78, was a religious leader who served the broader society with the same zeal and dedication as he did his community of worshippers.

Brooks was senior rabbi at Temple Israel from 1952 to 1985, after which he was named rabbi emeritus. "I'm not a priestly intervenor or messenger from God," Brooks told a World-Herald reporter in 1984. He described a rabbi as a teacher, "the commentator on contemporary situations from the point of view of Judaism."

In that role he served as a teacher, lecturer, and scholar-in-residence at Jewish and non-Jewish institutions throughout the country. He gained a following for his effective children's services and his knack for presenting the teachings of Judaism in terms young people could appreciate.

Brooks was very much a force in "contemporary situations." He served on more than two dozen committees, boards and organizations in the Midlands and beyond. Some were religious, some were secular. Most were in some way an extension of Brooks' tenacious pursuit of social justice. Brooks brought to all of them his optimism and an abiding commitment to apply the values of his faith

"Rabbi Brooks a Prophetic Figure"

Guest editorial in the Omaha World Herald, January 16, by Mary Ann Krzemien

Rabbi Sidney Brooks, you left this Earth last week. You were truly a remarkable human being, and those of us who knew you are fortunate and honored. The prophets of the Bible were striking in their concern for social justice. You, too, were a prophetic figure.

Throughout your decades as a rabbi, you took courageous moral stands on social issues:

- You condemned "ethnic cleansing" whenever it reared its ugly head.
- You consistently opposed the Vietnam War despite being labeled "unpatriotic" and "un-American."
- Believing that women are "entitled to spiritual, intellectual and economic equality," you promoted women as rabbis, nationally and at the synagogue you served, Temple Israel.
- You supported John F. Kennedy's right to run for president at a time when non-Catholics in America feared that a Catholic president might be dictated to by the pope.

While ministering to your own Jewish community so well, you worked tirelessly with area civic and religious leaders to promote interfaith dialogue. You generously spent hours addressing college classes, Christian congregations and civic groups.

Your great humor, warmth, honesty and sincerity made us feel comfortable in your presence. You were a man of deep compassion and dogged concern for people, regardless

in all aspects of life.

Especially notable was his effort to bring about better relations between Jews and Christians. Msgr. Robert Hupp, former pastor of Christ the King Church and former executive director of Boys Town, once called Brooks "a pastor to the pastors," such was the rabbi's influence among members of the clergy who were trying to improve interfaith relations and address social problems.

In the 1960s, Hupp, Brooks, and the Rev. Robert Alward, former pastor of Countryside Community Church, founded Operation Bridge, a counseling service for teenagers struggling with drugs and alcohol. It was one of a number of interfaith projects by which Brooks helped to strengthen community ties.

His spiritual conviction was deeply personal and all-encompassing. He loved Judaism passionately—which in turn motivated him to embrace all manner of people and causes dedicated to the betterment of humanity. He epitomized the people of good will who, sometimes quietly but always with determination, carry on the struggle to help all members of the community to live together as brothers and sisters.

His great heart and generous spirit will be missed.

of their age, their religion, their economic status.

We were reminded by your words (and your example) that it is "not externals, nor possessions that make us what we really are. The reverse: What we are selects our actions, our possessions, our values."

You cherished life and made no secret of your gratitude to the Creator for all of life's blessings.

The sages of the Bible offered practical wisdom for living. Your words, such as these, regularly reflected your convictions:

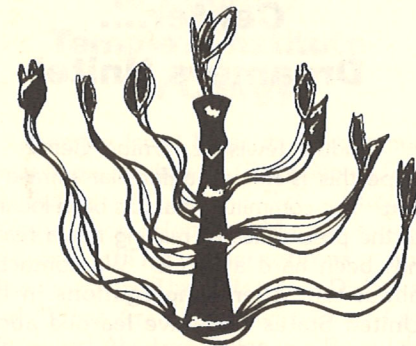
We kill with unkindness. We kill with thoughtlessness. We kill with words. We kill with every small hatred and mean thought. A little bit of someone—or of many—dies when we want that to happen.

And just as truly with decency and humor, with kind and gentle words of caring and comfort, with love, and generosity and patience, we give a little bit of life. We write the book of survival ourselves. Who shall live and who shall die? Those whom we wish to live or die.

I have seen a little bit of many people die because of indifference, lack of compassion, lack of love, faithlessness and infidelity and selfishness.

And I have seen those in utter despair, hopelessness and pain give comfort and the will to live by sheer love and devotion.

Thank you, Rabbi Brooks. You will live in our memories.



Temple Israel

TIDINGS

Founded 1871

Shevat 19, 5759

Omaha, NE

February 5, 1999

Vol. LXXXVIII No. 6

WORSHIP SERVICES

Friday, February 5
7 p.m.

Tot Shabbat

Rabbi Stiel and
Ventriloquist Mark Levy

8 p.m.

Guest Speaker
Yigal Lotan
Special Emissary from Israel
Jewish National Fund

**"To Everything There is a Season:
The Voice of the Land"**

Oneg Shabbat sponsored by
the Temple Sisterhood

Saturday, February 6
9:30-10:15 a.m.
"Bagels and Bible"

10:30 a.m.

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

Friday, February 12
8 p.m.

Sermon
Rabbi Azriel

Oneg Shabbat sponsored by
Mary-Beth and Bruce Muskin in
honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter

Saturday, February 13
9:30-10:15 a.m.
"Bagels and Bible"

10:30 a.m.

Bat Mitzvah of
Emily Rebecca Muskin
daughter of Mary-Beth and Bruce Muskin

Torah Portion: Mishpatim
Exodus 21:1-24:18

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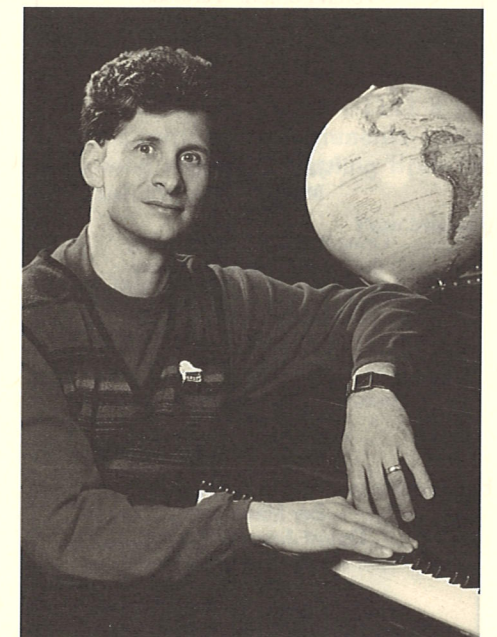
Mark Bloom Brings Joyous "Jazz Shabbat" to Temple

February 26
8 p.m.

On February 26, for the first time, Temple Israel will have the privilege of experiencing musician Mark Bloom and his creative, dynamic and spiritually uplifting "Jazz Shabbat." Jazz Shabbat is a prayer service which takes traditional liturgical music and combines it with innovative and compelling jazz arrangements. The result is a musical service which maintains a respect for the sanctity of worship, while generating an infectious spiritual energy through the rhythms and harmonies of jazz.

From Minneapolis, Bloom is an artist with a broad range of musical talents. He is a composer and sound designer and has scored literally hundreds of stage productions for both regional theaters and national tours. His original music has been heard at the Guthrie Theater, Cricket, New Classic, History Theater, Actors Theater of St. Paul, Orchestra Hall and Illusion Theater, where he wrote and performed for many of Illusion's award-winning prevention projects.

He has served as both stage and musical director for many musicals, variety shows, revues and live industrials and has also been music coordinator/director for such varied acts as Joan Rivers, Peter Himmelman, Noa and Gil Dor, Ron Eliran and Second City. Bloom is extensively involved in both secular and liturgical Jewish music. Over the years he has served as both cantorial soloist and choir director working with a variety of age groups. He is frequently commissioned to write and arrange liturgical music and has



developed, produced and performed his Jazz Shabbat program at congregations across the country.

Jazz Shabbat is not a concert, lecture or demonstration, but rather an actual Shabbat service that invites congregational participation. The resulting synergy between the pulpit and congregation illustrates the dramatic relationship of keva (fixed prayer) and kavannah (devotional, interpretive prayer.) Bloom's energetic and innovative combination of prayer, study, and discussion will ensure that our sanctuary will be filled with exceptional joy and spirit. I look forward to bringing this incredible Sabbath of song to you.

Cantor Jennifer G. Blum

(worship services continued)

Friday, February 19
5:30 p.m.
Early Worship Service
Union Prayer Book

7:30 p.m.
Family Service

Mark B. Levy
Ventriloquist

Oneg Shabbat sponsored by
Morris and Diane Seidler in honor of the
Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter

Saturday, February 20
9:30-10:15 a.m.
"Bagels and Bible"

10:30 a.m.

Bat Mitzvah of
Sasha Kiah Skulsky
daughter of Susan and Stephen Skulsky

Torah Portion: Terumah
Exodus 25:1-27:19

Friday, February 26

8 p.m.

"Jazz Shabbat"
Mark Bloom

Oneg Shabbat sponsored by
the Temple Sisterhood and
Julie and Mark Martin in honor
of their son's Bar Mitzvah

Saturday, February 27
9:30-10:15 a.m.
"Bagels and Bible"

10:30 a.m.

Bar Mitzvah of
David Joseph Martin
son of Julie and Mark Martin

Torah Portion: Tetzaveh
Exodus 27:20-30:10

Monday, March 1
7 p.m.

Megillah Reading

Special Oneg sponsored by
the Temple Sisterhood

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Hillary Brown and John Fletcher
Jacqueline and Bruce Gribens
Karli and Jody Newman

Yigal Lotan is guest speaker at Temple Israel

Friday, February 5
8 p.m.

Mr. Lotan was appointed Special
Emissary from Israel to the Chicago region
of the Jewish National Fund in 1996.

A native of Tel Aviv, he served as the
Israeli Defense Forces' attaché in England,
Ireland, and the Scandinavian countries.

An attorney who also holds an MBA,
Mr. Lotan has served as Honorary Consul
of Malta in Tel Aviv and Honorary
Representative of the Croatian Chamber
of Commerce in Israel.

Temple Israel welcomes him to our
pulpit.

Janis Yale Enrichment Fund

Donald Yale has established this fund
in memory of his wife Janis. Monies will
be used to enrich the lives of Omaha Jews
and non-Jews, with a focus on Jewish
values.

It shall be used to bring in speakers,
artists, musicians and others who teach,
enhance knowledge and awareness, or
entertain members of the community.

Additional Worship Times

SUNDAY MORNING CHAPEL
PRAYER SERVICE
February 7
9:15 a.m.

This service gives members of the
congregation an additional opportunity to
pray and recite kaddish.

FRIDAY, EREV SHABBAT,
February 19
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.

Adult Learning Center.... Dreamers Unite!

"Adult Jewish Learning Center"...I
hope this is not an unfamiliar phrase to
you. The committee that has been looking
at the possibilities of making this a reality
has been hard at work. We contacted
about ten other congregations in the
United States and have learned about
many new and innovative programs that
others have developed. We have studied,
hoped, and dreamed together.

But now it is time for you, the
congregants of Temple Israel, to come
aboard and dream with us. What are your
needs, hopes and dreams for a Temple
Israel Adult Jewish Learning Center?
What programs have you enjoyed in the
past and what programs or learning
environments would you like to see at
Temple Israel?

In order to hear from you, we are
inviting everyone to attend one
"community conversation" session. At
these sessions we would like to hear what
you have to say about your Jewish
education as an adult. It will be a time for
you, the congregants, to dream with us.

You should have received a letter with
all of the dates for our "community
conversations." Please take the time to
look at your schedules and select a
meeting that would work for you. Without
your input and opinions, it will be hard to
create a "user friendly" adult learning
center.

If you have any questions about these
sessions, please contact Donna Greenberg
(292-4830). We look forward to seeing
you and hearing about your ideas and
dreams.

Aryeh Azriel	.....	Rabbi
Debbie S. Stiel	.....	Rabbi
Jennifer G. Blum	.....	Cantor
Ann Kibel Schwartz	.....	Dir. of Education
Dorothy Spizman	.....	Executive Director
Elyce Azriel	.....	High School Director
Stephanie and		
Barry Grossman	.....	Youth Advisors
Dr. Larry Roffman	.....	President
Dr. Michael Walts	.....	Vice President
Dennis DePorte	.....	Vice President
Paul Epstein	.....	Vice President
Sally Kaplan	.....	Secretary
Spencer Brookstein	.....	Treasurer
Jane Rips	.....	Past President
Diane Gaul	.....	Sisterhood President
Marc Delman	.....	Men's Club President
Jen Gates	.....	OTYG President

Rabbi Norman Cohen to Address Temple's Institute for Clergy

Temple Israel hosts its 58th annual
Institute on Judaism for Clergy March 5.

Rabbi Cohen, Bet Shalom
Congregation, Hopkins, Minnesota, will
address "The Stereotypes and
Misconceptions That Affect Our Dialogue"
and "What Are Nice Jewish Boys Like
Moses and Abraham Doing in a Book Like
the New Testament?" at the day-long
seminar attended by Nebraska and Iowa
non-Jewish clergy.

A graduate of the HUC-JIR, Rabbi
Cohen is an author, frequent lecturer and
scholar-in-residence, and college professor.



Tree Of Life

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

The following leaf has been added to our
Tree of Life:

**In honor of Noni and Hal Selner's
special birthdays**
With our love, your family

There's Still Time to Enroll in Derekh Torah Class

This introduction to Judaism course
has just started and there is room for more
people.

It is designed for Jews who wish to
explore Judaism and define its place in
their lives and for non-Jews who are
considering conversion to Judaism or
those who wish to understand it more fully
while remaining within their own faiths.

Classes are Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m.
in the Friedel Jewish Academy Commons
area.

Cost is \$225 per person or \$300 per
couple.

Call Michael Linn at 334-0517
immediately for information and to register.

March 21 Mitzvah Day Plans are Taking Shape

Susie Cohn, Sandy Epstein and
Nancy Wolf, chairmen for this year's
Mitzvah Day, have organized a wonderful
variety of ways for you and your family to
do *mitzvot* in the community at large.

According to Mrs. Cohn, "There will
be something for everyone. And, this year
will be different because people will have
the opportunity to continue their volunteer
involvement in the months ahead if they
wish."

Come - begin the day at Temple at
11 a.m. Following a short assembly at
11:30, lunch will be served.

Then, after an afternoon of
experiencing the "joy of mitzvot," return to
Temple for a special 6 p.m. dinner to cap
off this unforgettable day.

Watch for the Mitzvah Day Menu
listing your selections.

As Susie Cohn says, "We're not
asking; we're giving." Call her, 697-1111,
if you have questions.

What is "Mitzvah"?

Mitzvah is second only to Torah in the
vocabulary of Judaism. The Talmud
elaborates the concept in many places.
Mitzvot are of various kinds: those of
positive performance (caring for those who
are less fortunate) and those of negative
resolve (not accepting a bribe).

Rabbis often used the phrase "Simcha
Shel Mitzvah" which supports the notion
that good deeds performed out of a sense
of requirement are not as meaningful as
those performed out of desire - and with
enjoyment.

Joan Marcus

* * *

Daily we should take account and ask:

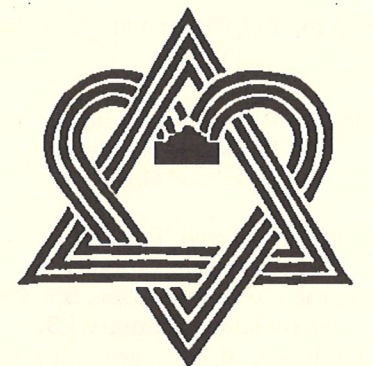
What have I done today to alleviate the
anguish, to mitigate the evil,
to prevent humiliation?

Let there be a grain of prophet
in every human being!

Our concern must be expressed not
symbolically, but literally;
not only publicly, but also privately;
not only occasionally, but regularly.

What we need is restlessness,
a constant awareness
of the monstrosity of injustice.

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel



Mitzvah Day Menu "A Mitzvah for Every Taste"

On March 21, you and your family can
choose from a wide variety of mitzvah
opportunities! Don't be mitzvah deprived!
Join Temple Israel in a fulfilling and fun
day. Call Susie Cohn, 697-1111 if you
have questions or comments. The
following is just a sampling from the
"Mitzvah Menu."

Pam Monsky

- **Child Saving Institute**
Work with up to 36 children who are
at the Crisis Center, making personal-
ized cement stepping stones to be
placed in their new arboretum!
- **Boys and Girls Club**
Make greeting cards using stamps and
fun art supplies for them and for kids
in hospitals!
- **Rainbow House**
Families making dinner for families
staying at the Rainbow House. Cook-
ies included!
- **Belvedere School**
400 children from Belvedere will be
attending the Children's Museum
for the first time!
- **Quality Living**
Sing-a-long with Mike Walts and a
cookie party!
- **Rose Blumkin Jewish Home**
Families will join Jeff Taxman in song
and food!
- **Nebraska Humane Society**
We will walk the dogs and have a
bake sale to benefit NHS.

PURIM at Temple Israel Monday, March 1

6:00 p.m. Box Dinner and Create your own Masks

7:00 p.m. Purim Spiel, Costume Parade
Reading of the Megillah
Sisterhood Oneg

Bring your own "Box Dinner"

Drinks will be provided

Please call in your reservation, 556-6536
by **Tuesday, February 23.**

Children of all ages who wear costumes to the dinner or Megillah reading will receive prizes!

Save the Date March 2 Community Purim Dinner J.C.C.

Be a part of this joyous first - a Purim Dinner endorsed by Temple Israel, Beth El, Beth Israel, Beyt Shalom, Chabad, the Rabbinic Council, and the Jewish Federation of Omaha. **(WOW!)**

Kosher dinner, entertainment, children's activities, door prizes and costume contests.

Watch your mail for more information coming soon.



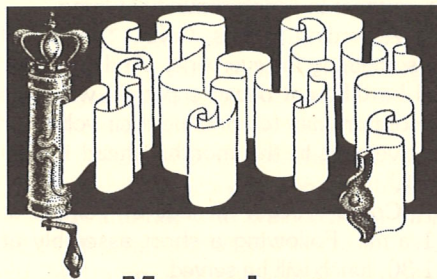
Purim Carnival Sunday, March 7 12 - 2 p.m.

Parents, join your children for fun, food, games, and prizes at the Purim Carnival. Tickets will be sold at the door, good for both food and games: five for a dollar.

Parents: Religious School will be dismissed at the usual time. Plan to pick up your children at noon as they are dismissed.

The Purim Carnival is sponsored by the Temple Israel Youth Group.

Be Happy-- It's Adar!



Marvelous Masquerade Mystery to be Unveiled!

The professional staff is nervously awaiting their costume selection, once again. What will it be? Last year, we were greeted by the stars of Broadway musicals. The prior year there were characters right out of the Book of Esther; and before that there were a plethora of Elvis Presleys; characters from Star Trek, The Blues Brothers, bumblebees, pirates, and the Wizard of Oz folk. What Machiavellian machinations is the staff up to this time?

As The Grogger Turns The Reader's Digest Scroll of Esther

King Ahasuerus dethrones Queen Vashti after she disobeys his order to dance in her birthday suit at his banquet. Esther (Hadassah) is crowned queen at a beauty contest. Mordecai (Esther's uncle) refuses to bow before Haman (the king's right hand man). Haman then seeks to destroy the Jews. Mordecai appeals to Esther to save her people. (She has not yet revealed to the king that she is Jewish.) Esther, at great personal risk, approaches the king and invites him and Haman to a banquet where Mordecai is finally honored for having saved the king's life earlier. Esther's banquet is such a hit, she invites the king and Haman for leftovers. At the second banquet, Esther pleads for her people. Aghast at Haman's plans, the king grants her request and condemns Haman to die on the very gallows he built for the Jews. Everyone (except for Haman and his family) lives happily ever after.

Hamentashen Recipe

Hamentashen, a traditional Purim delight, is a three cornered pastry filled with mohn (poppy seed) or other sweet filling.

1 cup sugar	4 cups flour
1/2 cup oil	3 tsp. baking powder
1/2 cup shortening	1 tsp. salt
3 eggs	1 egg, beaten
1/2 cup orange juice	1 lb. mohn filling

Cream sugar, oil, and shortening. Add eggs and juice and mix well. Blend with dry ingredients and roll into a ball. Divide into four parts.

Roll out each piece very thin (approx. 1/8 inch) on a floured board. With the rim of a cup or glass (depending on desired size) cut into the dough to make circles. Place 1/2-2/3 tsp. of filling in the middle of each circle.

To shape into triangle, lift up right and left sides, leaving the bottom side down, and bring both sides to meet at center, above the filling. Lift bottom side up to center to meet other two sides.

Preheat oven to 350. Brush dough with beaten egg before baking. Place on greased cookie sheet. Bake for approx. 20 minutes.

Yields 4 dozen hamentashen.

Sisterhood

On Thursday, Feb. 25 from 4 to 6 p.m. Sisterhood needs your help to bake Hamantaschen for the Purim Box Dinner. We will provide the ingredients; please feel free to bring your favorite filling. Question: call Diane Gaul (391-5631). No experience required and it's a great way to meet other Temple women and catch up on what is happening.

Sisterhood has received some wonderful books but we still want your used books, except textbooks, for our July USED BOOK SALE. Call Debbi Josephson for pick-up, 758-2772 (note new phone number).

Need to send a card to someone for a special occasion? For only \$3, Sisterhood will send a Tribute card with your message inside. Call Lois Epstein at 330-1134.

Torah Tots Winter/Spring Sessions

Thursdays and Fridays, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

February 11	February 12
February 18	February 19
February 25	February 26
March 4	March 5
March 11	March 12
March 18	March 19
March 25	March 26

Torah Tot Classes are open to 2, 3, and 4 year olds. Parents may either drop off their child or stay and participate in the class. Stephanie Grossman will continue to be the primary teacher. Lessons focus on age-appropriate preschool skills while enhancing Jewish identity. Rabbi Azriel, Rabbi Stiel, Cantor Blum, Ann Kibel Schwartz, and Joan Cooper are regular visitors and guest teachers in the class. Please call Stephanie at home (556-4596) or Gloria at Temple (556-6536) with questions.

Sitter Service

Sitter Service is available each Friday evening, Saturday mornings when there is a Bar/Bat Mitzvah and Sunday mornings when there is Religious School. Sitter Service is also available Sunday mornings during Religious School hours. Please make a reservation through the Temple office so we may plan accordingly. Cost is \$2.00 per family if reservations are made prior to Friday. Drop-ins will be \$3 per family. Sorry, there are no facilities for infants.

Bagels and Bible: Fuel for body and soul

New! Bagels and Bible is a chance to study Torah with Rabbi Azriel or Rabbi Stiel on Saturday mornings from 9:30 a.m. till 10:15 a.m. Join us for an informal opportunity to eat bagels, shmooze and learn Torah with our rabbis in the Temple library. Beginners and those familiar with Torah commentary will all feel comfortable and challenged. Bring your older children, too! Each study session is its own unit, so come when you can. B and B will end shortly before services so that those who wish may join the Shabbat morning service. Share in this fuel for body and soul!



Taste and Remember!

ANNUAL NEW YORK TEMPLE DELI NIGHT

**Sunday, March 28
5 or 6:30 p.m. Seatings**

What a **mechaieh!*** Savory, spicy, aromatic foods will treat your taste buds!

You'll be transported to memories of the past when you eat matzo ball soup, chopped liver, knishes, pastrami, corned beef, cheese cake and more.

Save the date for an evening of fun and great food. Sponsored by Temple Israel's Men's Club and Sisterhood.

Please call the office, 556-6536, to make your reservation.

* great pleasure, enjoyment

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
- Ann Kibel Schwartz' 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

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

PLEASE NOTE FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE:

Temple's East entrance has 3 handicap parking spots - and, no steps into Temple.

Ann Kibel Schwartz, Director of Education, was honored at the recent conference of the National Association of Temple Educators for 18 years in a supervisory role.

CALL TEMPLE, 556-6536, TO SET UP YOUR
STANDING ORDER FOR THESE CERTIFICATES

It's easy for you.

You can choose weekly, monthly,
or quarterly orders.

It's an easy way to benefit Temple

PROCEED GO TO TEMPLE CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

YOU CAN BENEFIT TEMPLE
EVERY TIME YOU SHOP!

Redeemable like cash, these certificates
are an easy way for you to buy your groceries
- or shop at any Younkers. You pay no more
and Temple benefits. It's a flexible, "win-win"
situation for you and Temple.



IT'S SO EASY TO BUY GROCERY
AND MERCHANDISE CERTIFICATES.

- Pick them up at Temple.
- Have them mailed to you.
- Pay by cash or check - or charge
them on your VISA or Mastercard.
- Set up a standing order charged
weekly, monthly, or quarterly.

CERTIFICATE MAIL ORDER FORM

Please send me the following certificates:

OPTION: Please begin a standing
charge to my VISA/Mastercard.

Store	#	Certificates	Total Cost	#	Certificates	Total Cost	Charge
Bag 'n Save	_____	x \$10	\$ _____	_____	x \$10	\$ _____	_____ Weekly
Barnes & Noble	_____	x \$10	\$ _____	_____	x \$10	\$ _____	_____ Monthly
Bakers	_____	x \$25	\$ _____	_____	x \$25	\$ _____	_____ Quarterly
The Gap	_____	x \$20	\$ _____	_____	x \$20	\$ _____	
Cub Foods	_____	x \$25	\$ _____	_____	x \$25	\$ _____	
Hy-Vee	_____	x \$25	\$ _____	_____	x \$25	\$ _____	
Spirit World	_____	x \$25	\$ _____	_____	x \$25	\$ _____	
Younkers	_____	x \$25	\$ _____	_____	x \$25	\$ _____	
Younkers	_____	x \$100	\$ _____	_____	x \$100	\$ _____	
Plus postage (choose one)				Postage			
Regular \$.50			\$ _____	Regular			\$ _____
Certified \$1.50			\$ _____	Certified			\$ _____
Total			\$ _____	Total			\$ _____

NAME _____ PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

____ Enclosed is my check, payable to Temple Israel.
____ Please charge my VISA or Mastercard (circle one.)

Account # _____ Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Mail to Temple Israel, 7023 Cass Street, Omaha, NE 68132
Not a tax-deductible contribution

A COMING ATTRACTION! A COMING ATTRACTION!

Sisterhood/Brotherhood Proudly Present:

A PURIM "SPIEL" - BERG PRODUCTION

Feature Presentation:
A PURIM POT-LUCK AND COSTUME PARTY

JOIN US FOR A NIGHT OF FOOD,
FRIVOLITY AND FUN

Production Date: Saturday, February 27

Showtime: 6:30 p.m.

On Location: Temple's Friedman Social Hall

Admission Price: One Dish to Share
Extras: Wine and Beer

Have Your People Call Our People:
Reservations (a must)
by February 22
556-6536

Men's Club
Brunch

Sunday, February 7
10 a.m. Milder Center

Join us for our traditional lox and
bagels get-together and a special guest
speaker. Non-Men's Club members, \$3.

Food For Thought

Tuesday, February 16

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Temple Israel

We will provide the drinks - bring a
Brown Bag lunch.
Rabbi Azriel will lead a discussion on
current issues and events.

Dr. Richard A. Freund

Lecture Series
and AOL

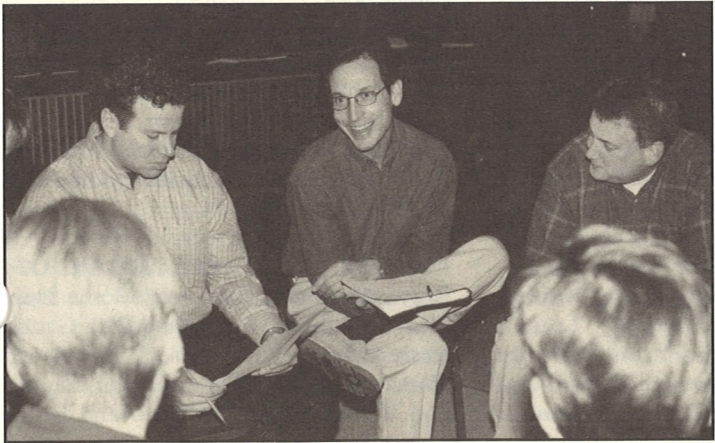
Sunday, February 21
10 a.m.

Rabbi Richard A. Freund, Issacson
Professor of Judaic Studies and Director,
Bethsaida Excavation Project, University of
Nebraska at Omaha, will deliver the fourth
of a five-lecture series. His topic February
21 will be "What Happened to the Ark of
the Covenant and the Treasures of the
Temple": What we Can and Cannot Learn
from Biblical archaeology." The entire
congregation is invited to attend.

Birthday Blessings

Family Service
February 19 7:30 p.m.

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



Left to Right:
Kip Gordman,
Tom Vann, and
Jeff Platt attended
a workshop by
educator Lori
Serbin Lasday

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

IN MEMORY OF: Mrs. Henry Aptroot: Dr. and Mrs. Jay Parsow, Mrs. Warner Frohman; **Abe Baker:** Jodi and Joel Brodsky, Babe and Leo Nogg, Kimberly and Andrew Robinson, Barbara and Marshall Kushner, Jana and Scott Braden, Judy and Jack Beck, David Krantz, Patricia, Jeff, Bobby and Emily Newman, Judi and David Goldstein, Suzanne Singer, Phyllis and Dick Glazer, Margo and Jay Parsow, Silvia and Larry Roffman, Frances and Sam Fried, Barbara and Gary Goldstein, Sandy and Renee Kasner, Mrs. Ernest A. Nogg, Jeanie and Sherm Neff, Sharon and Jeff Kirshenbaum, Florence Davis, Harriett and Sherm Sperling, Joanie and Marty Lehr; **Ida Lee Bennett:** Phyllis and Dick Glazer, Judi and David Goldstein; **Rabbi Sidney H. Brooks:** Gloriann and Mark Levy, Keri and Phillip Bahar, Jeanie and Sherman Neff, Esther Reed and Mordy Schwartz, Pearl and Jerry Gross, Frankie and Sandy Kasin, Tevee and Bernard Turkel, Dora and Mark Goldstrom, Mary-Beth and Bruce Muskin, Hilde Gottlieb and family, Margo and Bill Rosen, Debi, Jeff and Rebecca Smedlund, Babe and Leo Nogg, Helen and Morrie Lipp, Arlene and Milt Moskowitz, Frances and Sam Fried, Wendy and David Goldberg, Mrs. Alan Fleishman, Cathy and Bill Christensen and family, Leslie and Bill Kully and family, Gigi and Syd Osten, Paula and Larry Albert, Pauline Cowdery and family, Nancy and Harlan Noddle, Harold Farber, Carolyn and Don Novicoff, Harriet and Norman Fishel, Gayle and Jim Spooner, Dorothy Kotock, Margo and Jay Parsow, Jim Friedman, Peggy and Leonard Krasne, Miriam and Joe Soshnik, Esther and Bob Katleman, Lois and Joel Finkel, Margo and Steve Riekes, Ronna and Gene Kaplan, Lillian and Lou Hurwitz, Ilene and Don Klein, Lois and Manny Kreitstein, Shelly and Arnie Ban, Toni Rosen, Eileen and Leonard Jacobson, Mrs. Sol Krizelman, Betty Laser, Terri and Dick Zacharia and family, Maxine and Milton Simons, Charlotte and Morley Zipursky, Mrs. Maurice Frank, Sandy, Sherman and Pamela Brodkey, Barbara Frohman, Harriett and Sherm Sperling, Kathy, Allen and Rachel Beth Horwitz, Randi Turkel Katelman and family, Nancy and David Jacobson, Donald Fiedler, Adele Hornstein, Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Gilinsky, Vicki Perlmeter, Bettie Fisk, Norman and Marshall Fried, Barbara and Dean Frankel, Helen and Mort Soiref, Marge and Norm Lincoln, Judy and Buddy Roffman, Marilyn

and Justin Manvitz, Audrey Sophir and family, Helen and Leonard Finkel, Aileen and Leo Eisenstatt, David Krantz, Mina DeFreese, Janey and Jerry Dann, Thama and Willard Friedman, Ida and Yale Halperin, Judy Zweiback, Sandy, Paul, Kari and Cory Epstein, Anne and Robert Fee, Pauline and Milt Abrahams, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Slabaugh, Steve Wigodsky, Nancy and Don Greenberg, Fran and Lou Blumkin, Susi and Mark Stein, Margery and Bud Steiner, Phyllis and Harvey Aronson and children and grandchildren, Karen and Gary Javitch, Ruth and Joe Erman, Lucille and Harold Brodkey, Jane Brodkey Richwine, Karen Kaplan, Judy and Stewart Tully, Fran and Jerry Milder, Susie Kaplan, Ricki and Jeff Skog, Rocky Lewis, Soralee and Jerry Cohn, Suzanne Singer, Phyllis and Dick Glazer, Marilyn and Bill Wasserkrug, Suzi and Mike Mogil, Mrs. Ernest A. Nogg, Etta and Harold Epstein, Roie and Bernie Meyers, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Platt, Margie and Marlon Somberg, Mr. and Mrs. Yale Richards, Jean Ann and Jerry Krupinsky, Gail and Irving Veitzer, Libby Lincoln, Deborah and Arthur Greene, Gloria and Donald Vann, Dodi and Steve Redler, Toby Fellman, Tyler Gaines, Helen and Richard Dreyfus, Joyce Schmidman, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Feist, Bernice, Lazar and Bob Kaplan, Fran and Mickey Coren, Barb and Cliff Levitan, Millie and Harold Bernstein, Joy and Paul Grossman, Jackie and Judy Levine, Mr. and Mrs. Willard Stunkel, Beth El Synagogue, Cheryl and Jerry Waldbaum and family, Rabbi Jim Egolf, Anne and Alan Simon, Lois and Don Kneeter, Barbara and Marshall Kushner, Shirley and Al Brody, Betty Ann Brody, Carolyn Brody, Frances Brody, Bob Brody, Amy Frankel, Ronnie and Art Jacobson, Dorothy Kaplan, Bev and Abe Krasne, Helen and Leo Meyerson, Joanie and Marty Lehr; **Louis Canar:** Anne and Alan Cohen; **Ruth Friedman:** Lois and Joel Finkel, Carolyn and Don Novicoff, Frankie and Sandy Kasin, Harriet and Norman Fishel, Nancy and David Jacobson, Judi and David Goldstein; **Dave Gordon:** Adele and Nate Mandell; **Fred Hawkins:** Phyllis and Harvey Aronson; **Jeanette Herman:** Vicki and Jerry Chesen, Renee and Lou Kazor, Lois and Norm Wine; **Mrs. Yetta Kreitman:** Juni and Al Bloch; **Mary Tatle Kubby:** Harriett and Sherm Sperling; **Laurie Jane Misle:** Hermene and Speedy Zweiback, Pauline Cowdery, Margo and Bill Rosen; **Gertrude Tatle Newman:**

Harriett and Sherm Sperling; **Courtney Nogg:** Noni and Hal Selner; **Sidney Novak:** Eve and Fred Simon, Roz Friedman, Barbara and Dean Frankel; **Sima Shapiro:** Mindi and Scott Kotzen; **Evelyn Kaslow:** Molline and Fritz Cassman; **Vivian Osteroff:** Phyllis and Dick Glazer; **Myrle Pinkerton:** Harriett and Sherm Sperling; **Howard Raznick:** Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Hoberman; **Leonard Rofey:** Wendy and David Goldberg, Frances and Sam Fried; **Abner Rubin:** Noni and Hal Selner, Lourdes Secola Ocantio, Toby Fellman; **Lillian Shachman:** Frankie and Sandy Kasin, Harriet and Norman Fishel, Thama and Willard Friedman, Carolyn and Don Novicoff, **Lois Skog:** Barbara and Stan Levin, Noni and Hal Selner, Libby and Mickey Kaplan, Debi, Jeff and Rebecca Smedlund; **Dr. Jules Slunicko:** Irene and Leo Kamisar; **Ralph Soule:** Carol, Ron and Mike Urbach; **Brad Sperling:** Harreitt and Sherm Sperling; **Paul Sperling:** Harriett and Sherm Sperling; **Mother of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Schwee:** Anne and Alan Cohen

IN HONOR OF RECOVERY OF
Rose Abrahams: Sylvia and Maynard Katzman; Ruth Altsuler: Fran and Jerry Milder; **Jennifer Blum:** Janey and Jerry Dann; **Mrs. Bill Bowers:** Mrs. Ernest A. Nogg; **Ajon Farber:** Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Hoberman; **Betty Fedman:** Noni and Hal Selner; **Rose Frankel:** Judi and David Goldstein, Babe and Leo Nogg, Phyllis and Dick Glazer, Fran and Lou Blumkin; **Barbara Frohman:** Mary-Beth and Bruce Muskin; **Rabbi Allan Gonsner:** Elaine Marcus; **David Meyers:** Judi and David Goldstein, Marlene and Don Dandy, Hermene and Speedy Zweiback, Harriett and Sherm Sperling, Juni and Al Bloch, Margie and Marlon Somberg; **Maxine Noodell:** Gwen and Ray Pred; **Marshall Kushner:** Pam, Dennis, Stephanie and Alan DePorte, Andi and David Willensky, Renee and Sandy Kasner, Barb and Cliff Levitan; **Kevin Saltzman:** Mrs. Ernest A. Nogg; **Mimi Waldbaum:** Fran and Jerry Milder; **Roz Zoob:** Helen and Morrie Lipp

IN HONOR OF BIRTHDAY OF:
Steve Altsuler: Helen and Morrie Lipp; **Marcia Cohen:** Phyllis and Dick Glazer; **Ruth Cohen:** Susie Kaplan, Margie and Marlon Somberg, Audrey Sophir, Thama and Willard Friedman, Ann and Bruce

Shackman, Sue and David Millward, Sue and Tom Friedman, Sandy and Howard Friedman; **Jim Farber:** Mrs. Ernest A. Nogg, Barbara and Dean Frankel, Barbara and Marshall Kushner; **Frances Fried:** Phyllis and Dick Glazer; **Janet Glass:** Phyllis and Dick Glazer; **Leonard Jacobson:** Ronnie and Art Jacobson; **Milton Marcus:** Joan, Howard and Elaine Marcus, Maxine and Jack Noodell, Edythe and Lloyd Krasne; **Maxine Noodell:** Joan and Milton Marcus; **Susan Rothholz:** Barbara and Marshall Kushner, Barbara and Dean Frankel; **Ernie Saltzman:** Barbara and Dean Frankel; **Hal Selner:** Renee and Morris Handleman, Ricki and Jeffery Skog, Helen and Ben Rifkin, Hilde Gottlieb; **Dr. Milton Simons:** Margo, Jay, Aaron and Charles Parsow; **Rockie Stern:** Barbara and Marshall Kushner; **Howard Vann:** Judy Zweiback

IN HONOR OF ANNIVERSARY OF:
Mr. and Mrs. Milton Chernio: Frances and Sam Fried; **Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Crosby:** Harriett and Sherm Sperling; **Mr. and Mrs. Dean Frankel:** Babe and Leo Nogg, Harriett and Sherm Sperling, Bettie Fisk, Rosalie and Ernie Saltzman, Fran and Lou Blumkin; **Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Lipsman:** Fran and Lou Blumkin; **Mr. and Mrs. Charles Monasee:** Harriett and Sherm Sperling; **Mr. and Mrs. Donald Vann:** Gwen and Ray Pred, Soralee and Jerry Cohn, Bernie and Roie Meyers

IN HONOR OF BIRTH OF: **Aaron Paul Noddle:** Natha and John Waldbaum; **Jacob Epstein Poscover:** Jean Epstein; **Asher Samuel Rosenquist:** Rosalie and Ernie Saltzman; **Allison Jordan Siegel:** Fran and Lou Blumkin; **Jonah Philip Stiel:** Ruth and Harold Oruch, Harriett and Sherm Sperling, Fran and Jerry Milder, Judy and Jerry Marburg, Deb, Dan and Solomon Marburg, Susie Swartz, Mindi and Scott Kotzen, Donald Yale, Mary-Beth and Bruce Muskin, Lourdes Secola Ocantio, Rosalie and Ernie Saltzman, Pam, Dennis, Stephanie and Alan DePorte, Barbara Frohman, Dodi and Steve Redler

IN HONOR OF B'NAI MITZVAH OF:
Ryan Blumkin: Susie Swartz, the Gates Family; **Lauren Freeman:** Hermene and Speedy Zweiback; **Grandchildren of Roz Friedman:** Barbara and Marshall Kushner; **Megan Jodis:** the Gates Family; **Molly Needelman:** the Gates Family; **Nicholas Newman:** Hermene and Speedy Zweiback, the Gates

Family, Fran and Lou Blumkin; **Steve Patton:** Fran and Lou Blumkin, the Gates Family; **Sara Rips:** Fran and Lou Blumkin, the Gates Family, Judi and David Goldstein, Barbara and Marshall Kushner, Litzie and Yale Trustin; **David Smoler:** the Gates Family, Lourdes Secola Ocantio; **Ben Taxman:** Hermene and Speedy Zweiback; **Margaret Terry:** the Gates Family; **Kyle Zacharia:** the Gates Family

IN HONOR OF CONVERSION: **Ellen Platt:** Molly Rhodes

CHANUKAH GREETING : **Sandy, Jeff, Joel and Aaron Passer:** Toby Fellman

IN HONOR OF: **Kevin Saltzman:** Rosalie and Ernie Saltzman, Barbara and Dean Frankel; **The Sperling Family:** Betty Rae and Ben Weiser; **Judy and Tim Zweiback:** Dorothy and Abe Brand

IN APPRECIATION OF SERVICES OF: **Rabbi Aryeh Azriel, Rabbi Debbie Stiel, Cantor Jennifer Blum, Ann Kibel Schwartz, Dorothy Spizman**

SISTERHOOD TRIBUTE FUND

IN MEMORY OF: Lois Skog: Lois and Mel Epstein

IN HONOR OF RECOVERY OF: **Mimi Waldbaum:** Dora and Mark Goldstrom

Our Sympathy

The congregations records with sorrow the deaths of:

Rabbi Sidney H. Brooks, husband of Jane Brooks, father of Miriam Brooks Wright and Joel Brooks and grandfather of Joseph Brooks;

Jeanette Herman, mother of Carl Herman;

Lois Skog, mother of Jeffery Skog; **Lillian Shachman,** mother of Bruce Shackman;

Leonard Rofey, grandfather of Kimberly Robinson;

Abe Baker, father of Debbie Krasne, Jack Baker and Robert Baker, brother of Ruth Wutkin;

Joseph Herskowitz, father of Linda Wilson;

Robert Osten, brother of Sydney Osten

and extends sympathy to their bereaved families.

Congratulations

On the Birth of:

Kayle Sommer Greenberg, daughter of Tracey and David Greenberg, Overland Park, KS. Grandparents are Shelly and Arnie Ban and Gerri and Abe Greenberg, Pittsburgh, PA.

Jacob Epstein Poscover, son of Randi and Michael Poscover, St. Louis, MO. Grandparents are Lois and Mel Epstein and Lorrie and Morrie Poscover, St. Louis, MO. Great-grandparents are Jeanne and Dave Dvorkin and the late Sophie and Harry Epstein.

Austin Joseph Jacobs, son of Andi and Kenny Jacobs, Tampa, FL. Grandparents are Dodi and Steve Redler and Kay and Maril Jacobs, Tampa, FL. Great-grandmother is Sylvia Shapiro.

Allyson Rae Kavich, daughter of Nanci and Jeff Kavich. Grandparents are Andi and Larry Kavich and Joyce and Dan Rudman, St. Louis, MO and Howard Neuman, St. Louis, MO. Great-grandparents are Marian Bookey and Helen and Leon Gross, St. Louis, MO.

On the Engagement of:

Jill Robin Schrier and James L. Folsom. Parents are Felicia and Stan Schrier and W.J. Folsom and the late Betty Folsom, Lincoln, NE

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.

Educational Perspectives

Ann Kibel Schwartz

"Seeing the World Through Jewish Eyes" is the title of a UAHC Curriculum, and it is the perfect description of what Educator-in-Residence, Lori Serbin Lasday helped us to do January 10-14.

She touched so many of us: old and young, parents and children, teachers and learners, rabbis and worshippers, leaders and followers. I kept waiting for this bundle of energy and love to tire out, but she never waned. Where did all of this love and spirit come from? "It came from the source of us all, from our parent in heaven."

Lori listened to our teachers and inspired them to reach within as they reach out to our children. She shared important tips to parents. Parents of toddlers were given lots of fun ways to make Jewish homes in which to raise their babies. Parents of teens were helped to talk with their youth about sex, love and holiness. Elementary age students were taught how to pray the "Shema" in sign language. Leaders of our Religious school were guided in ways to choose the best for the future of education at Temple Israel.

Lori says, "Life does come with an instruction book...the Bible." Her combination of straight talk and humor stretched our spiritual muscles. Seeing our own world through a different pair of eyes helped many of us refocus our vision.



Tot Shabbat Services

Friday February 5
and
Friday, March 5

7:00 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.

What's Happening In Religious School Ann Kibel Schwartz

Kindergarten Parents' Day **Sunday, February 7**
From 10 a.m. to noon, Kindergarten parents will have a special day filled with a variety of activities both in and out of the classroom. Rabbi Debbie Stiel will begin the day with a parent session in Friedman Social Hall. Then, parents will join their children for an interactive hands-on project, designed to bring them closer in a Jewish setting.

Family Worship Assembly **Sunday, February 7**
At 11:30 a.m. students in grades 1 through 6 and their families will participate in a family worship assembly in the main Sanctuary. The twins, Adam and Joy, will help Rabbi Debbie Stiel tell us all about Tu B'Shevat.

Parent/Teen Classes **Wednesday, February 10 and 24**
February 10 for 7th grade and February 24 for 8th grade, the third in a three-part series of Parent/Teen classes, will be held Wednesday evening from 6:30 to 8 p.m. These classes will explore healthful, life-affirming choices. The group will discuss peer pressure and how to make tough choices that are consistent with family and religious values. Rabbi Debbie Stiel will speak February 10 and Rabbi Aryeh Azriel will speak February 24, to give a Jewish perspective. Emphasis will be placed on communications between parents and youth to affirm their willingness to support each other as they face the challenges of modern life. These classes are coordinated with professional staff from Planned Parenthood of Omaha. This series is made possible by a generous donation from an anonymous donor.

New Parent Toddler Classes begin **Thursday, February 11**
Parent/Toddler classes provide a variety of age appropriate activities with Jewish topics for parents and toddlers ages 12-36 months. This Thursday morning class will meet from 10-11:15 a.m. Joan Cooper, Religious School Coordinator, will lead the class with guest appearances from Ann Kibel Schwartz, Rabbi Aryeh Azriel, Rabbi Debbie Stiel and Cantor Jennifer Blum. Call 556-6536 for additional information.

Late Winter Session of Torah Tot Class begins **February 11 & 12**
See article on page 7 of this Tidings.

No Religious School **February 14 and 15**
There will be no Religious School classes Sunday or Tuesday. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable day off. Religious school classes and Keep-Up lessons resume Wednesday, February 17.

Special Grade 6 Parent and Students session **Saturday, February 20**
"Putting God On Your Guest List" is the title of a special pre-B'nai Mitzvah meeting for 6th grade parents and students. The session will begin at 9 a.m. with a light breakfast. Rabbi Azriel will discuss issues vital to the success of a meaningful Bar/Bat Mitzvah experience for the entire family. At 10:15 a.m. the group will have a break before going to Shabbat morning worship services together.

Grade 5 Visit Shelters **Sunday, February 21**
As part of the grade 5 Mazon Mitzvah Project, students will visit various shelters on Sunday morning. They will meet at Temple at 10 a.m. for carpools and return by noon.

PK PATTs **Sundays, February 21 & 28**
Pre-Kindergarten I parents will meet February 21 and Pre-Kindergarten II parents will meet February 28, in the Library for a special adult session on Jewish parenting. Afterwards, parents will join their children in the classroom for special activities designed to bring parents and children closer to each other and to the Jewish people.

Purim Activities **March 1, 2 & 7**
Monday evening, March 1, is Erev Purim. A box dinner will be held at 6 p.m. (see page 6 of this Tidings for dinner details). At 7 p.m., a Purim service will feature the Megillah reading and costume parade. There will be costume prizes and tasty treats for all. Religious School Students are encouraged to participate.

Tuesday, **March 2**, instead of regular classes, Family School will meet at the JCC at 5 p.m. for a special Purim Sudah, Purim feast and program. This program is open to all. RSVP in advance; watch for more details in Religious School Newsletter.

Sunday, **March 7**, Pre Kindergarten through Grade 6 students will wear costumes to religious school. Parents of grades 1-6 are encouraged to join us for a Purim Assembly at 11:30 a.m., and accompany their children to the OTYG Purim Carnival at noon. Ticket sales for the Purim carnival will begin at 10 a.m., so parents can avoid the lines at noon. At 11:30 a.m., while First through Sixth graders are in the Sanctuary for the assembly, Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten students and parents will have an exclusive half hour to enjoy the carnival before the older children enter at noon. We thank our youth group for helping to make this a joyful Purim for our students.

OTYG

Calendar of Events

We'll be doing a lot of traveling this month, but don't miss our dinners in the youth lounge!! The Youth Lounge continues to be open for schmoozing on Wednesdays after 4:00.

**Friday, February 5 -
Sunday, February 7**
JYG Conclave
B'nai El, St. Louis, MO

Wednesday, February 10, 6-6:30
JYG Dinner, Youth Lounge

**Friday, February 12 -
Tuesday, February 16**
NFTY National Convention
Los Angeles, CA

Wednesday, February 17, 6-6:30
OTYG Dinner, Youth Lounge

**Friday, February 19 -
Sunday, February 21**
Social Action Weekend (SAW)
Congregation Beth Torah,
Overland Park, KS

Annual Youth Group Spaghetti Dinner

The Annual Spaghetti Dinner was again a huge success. Profits, which benefit both Camp Rainbow - a camp for terminally ill children - and Omaha Temple Youth Group, exceeded \$6,200, an all time Temple high!

The success of the evening was due to the hard work and contributions of many people. Under the direction of Nikki Flatowicz, OTYG Treasurer, and Stephanie and Barry Grossman, Youth Advisors, many calls and visits were made to solicit donations from Temple members. Thank you to all who generously donated items for both the live and silent auctions, as well as for the dinner. Dennis DePorte organized all food preparation and served the delicious spaghetti dinner, with the assistance of Spencer Brookstein, to the 100+ people who attended. Marc Delman returned as the dynamic auctioneer and numerous youth group members acted as servers. The evening would not have been successful or fun without all of them. Many thanks!

NFTY National Convention

February 12-16, Youth Advisors Barry and Stephanie Grossman will go to Los Angeles, California with six Temple Youth Groupers for the concurrent NFTY National Youth Convention and Youth Workers Convention. Jen Gates, Amy Willensky, Nikki Flatowicz, Morgan Denny, Whitney Taxman, and Ally Freeman will have the opportunity to meet other Jewish teens from all over the country and attend programs led by some of the top UAHC Jewish scholars. The Skutt Museum will be the focal point one afternoon and Universal Studios has been reserved for an evening of entertainment. A generous gift from an anonymous donor has helped to make this bi-yearly trip possible for the teens.

Spring Conclave

Believe it or not, but Spring Conclave is just around the corner. OTYG will once again be hosting NFTY Missouri Valley's Spring Conclave.

This event will take place April 16-18, 1999. The theme for the weekend is "Reform Judaism: What a Long, Strange Trip it's Been." We will be asking congregants to house conclave participants and include them in Shabbat dinner the night of Friday, April 16.

To let you know a little more about what is happening, here is a list of OTYG chairmen:

Co-chairmen: Jen Gates and Amy Willensky

Housing: Nikki Flatowicz and Shayna Denny

Educational Programming: Morgan Denny and Mendel Kurland

Social: Whitney Taxman and Tamara Meyers

Services: Whitney Taxman and Adam Rosen

Treasury: Nikki Flatowicz

Publicity: Jen Gates and Ally Freeman

We would really like all of your input with planning this spectacular event. We would like to thank you in advance for all of your help and cooperation as we look forward to this exciting event. If you can help with anything or have questions, contact Stephanie Grossman, Youth Advisor, at 556-4596 or leave a message at the Temple, 556-6536, ext. 31.

If you already know you are interested in housing a couple of teenagers, contact Nikki Flatowicz at 333-3561.

Summer Programs for Youth, College

**There's still space at
OSRUI
(but not for long!)**

Spots are still open for boys and girls from younger ages through high school.

And, space is available for OSRUI/NFTY in Israel for high school students.

Genesis - Brandeis U.

This unique four-week program, now in its third year, integrates arts, humanities, Jewish studies, and social action.

Participants come from more than 30 states and with different experiences in Judaism.

Call the Temple office, 556-6536, for information on these programs.

Please! Handicapped Parking



**Only For The
Handicapped**

"I Wish I Knew What All These Funds Do"

Do you know how vital your donations to Temple Israel's funds are?

Dues alone cannot maintain the programs, maintenance and services provided to our growing membership.

Your contributions support and enable a wide variety of activities that educate and care for our diverse congregation.

This issue continues a monthly explanation of some of these funds so that you will be aware of the many ways you can help assure a healthy future for our synagogue.

Discretionary Funds

Temple Israel has established these funds to enable our clergy and administrators to help individual congregants and organizations in need and to provide some additional funding for selected programming.

Donations may be made to these discretionary funds: Rabbi Azriel's, Rabbi Stiel's, Cantor Blum's, Ann Kibel Schwartz's, and Dorothy Spizman's.

Brad Sperling Endowment Fund

This fund was established by his family to honor his memory. Monies are used for Jewish education for young children.

Outreach Fund

This helps support programs and activities designed to provide a welcoming atmosphere at Temple Israel for Jews, non-Jews, those considering conversion, and Jews-By-Choice.

Jennifer Soshnik Fund

Established by her family to honor her memory, this provides scholarship aid based on need in activities designed to promote the recipient's sense of Jewish identity, such as camps and Israel trips/missions.

First Seder is March 31

Do You Need Passover Haggadot?

Haggadot, published by the Central Conference of American Rabbis, may be purchased in our Temple office.

These beautiful Haggadot will be exquisite additions to your Seder. The Haggadot are illustrated by Leonard Baskin and are works of art you will be proud to own.

Complete directions for the Seder and optional choices of readings will make your Seder memorable.

At Last! A New, Readable Family Haggadah with Something for Everyone

- Combines tradition with teaching and humor
- Readable text with prompts for stimulating discussion. Traditional order with abridged text, short enough to maintain interest
- Traditional and children's songs, including musical scores

The Haggadahs are available for \$8 each in the Temple office.

UAHC Elderhostel

Choose from three programs offered at this beautiful lake setting at Olin-Sang Ruby Institute, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin.

Courses on a variety of topics, including Jewish humor, Yiddish, history and literature are taught by rabbis, authors, and professors.

April 25-30
May 16-21
Sept. 26-Oct. 1

Enjoy evening programs with well-known actor, playwright and director, Don T. Maseng.

Cost is \$365 including accommodations, meals, all classes and recreational programs and activities.

Call the Temple office, 556-6536 for information.

Thanks From...

Rabbi Debbie and Steve Stiel for the uniongrams received for the birth of their son, Jonah Philip Stiel.

Amee and Ted Zetzman for the Uniongrams received for the birth of their daughter Rachel Megan Zetzman.

He had such intellect and compassion and determination to help—what a difference he made to our community.

We are so fortunate to have been the recipient of his wisdom and many kindnesses through the years.

Rabbi was such a strong influence on me as I grew.

He was such a vital part of our community for many years. We will treasure the many memories of Rabbi.

He officiated at dozens of rites of passage—both joyous and sad—that have marked my life for almost half a century.

Our family has a flood of memories. I especially cherish children's services with dogs, a plate, a flashlight or some other prop to tell a story.

In answer to a query concerning which acquaintance we held in highest esteem, each of us immediately identified Sidney Brooks.

(A foremost memory) is his walking the streets of the neighborhood with the blind dog he loved so well.

I always appreciated his interest in the Meals-on-Wheels program.

I'll always remember seeing him in recent years at the Westroads doing his

The Brooks family received condolences and reminiscences from the congregation, the community, and the nation following Rabbi Brooks' death. Brief excerpts from a handful of these messages reveal the love and respect felt by those who came in contact with Rabbi Brooks.

walking. First, I'd get a hug and a kiss and then he'd always ask about my family.

When we were married almost 15 years ago, my husband, too, became a big fan of the Rabbi.

I will miss Sidney with a passion. Sidney made a difference, both in our community and the lives of many individuals.

A mentor, a supporter, a friend and, all in a great humorous package.

As a new bride, Rabbi Sidney Brooks became my Rabbi. My parents had their Rabbi – now I had mine. His presence was monumental in our families lives. He was so dignified and brilliant, and a true Voice – clearly committed to Social Justice. He will be missed.

He was respected by all faiths and gave a helping hand whenever asked or needed.

I will always remember how special he made our wedding. His words and thoughts were so beautiful. His light humor and profound wisdom were a joy.

"Boys and Girls! Do you know what this is?" The fidgeting and whispering would stop, and children and their parents would hang on every word as Rabbi Brooks taught a High Holy Day lesson, using items such as a hula hoop, toy clock, Israeli Coke bottle, telephone wire insulators, a deer antler, a bag of marbles....and, of course, Lucky, his beloved 16-year old, blind, three-legged dog.

The loss is so great. Words are so inadequate. Rabbi Brooks was a profound influence on all who met him.

He always brought his enthusiasm, sense of humor and great spirit to the Health Club and all of the members there.

There is a hole now in the rabbinate where he once stood. I will always remember him regally – a generous, eloquent spokesperson who could deliver a message like no one else.

In Memoriam...Sidney Brooks

Jewish Press editorial, January 15, 1999

This community lost a giant last week. Rabbi Sidney Brooks, Senior Rabbi at Temple Israel for more than 33 years, died on January 5.

Rabbi Brooks was a "pastor's pastor," according to an editorial in last week's Omaha World-Herald. Perhaps that's because he had the down-to-earth common sense that allowed him to see the world from a pragmatic point of view.

"You have to walk **through** the Valley of the Shadow of Death," he told one Omahan after the loss of someone close. Story after story is told, and often by men and women who were not his congregants, of the rabbi's caring and compassion.

One only had to have a really good argument with Rabbi Brooks to know his depth of intellect. Arguments were an intellectual exercise that allowed the rabbi to use the resources of his 900 volume library or call upon one of his

many colleagues in the rabbinate, like Rabbi Stanley Dreyfuss, who spoke at Rabbi Brooks' funeral last week.

His influence was felt by many, including more than one student who entered the rabbinate. One of them, Rabbi John Spitzer of Canton, OH, also spoke of "Sidney – rabbi, teacher, friend, and mentor." Rabbi Rex Perlmetter sent a letter acknowledging that his wife would be "welcoming a new blessing into our family" as we were burying his teacher and friend.

Perhaps the sweetest words were said by Rabbi Barry Weinstein of Baton Rouge, Associate Rabbi under Rabbi Brooks for 12 years. He told the 800 gathered at Temple Israel that rearranging the Hebrew letters of Neshamah—soul, spells Mishnah-teaching. How appropriate to remember Sidney Brooks as the consummate teacher!

Memorial donations would be welcomed by Temple Israel, the Omaha Food Bank, and Planned Parenthood.