

Temple Israel Staff and Officers

Aryeh Azriel..... Rabbi
Eric Linder..... Rabbi
Wendy Shermet..... Cantor
Dennis DePorte..... Executive Director
Elyce Azriel..... Director of Religious Education
Rosie Zweiback..... Program Director
Claudia Sherman..... Communications Coordinator
PJ Wiesner..... Director of
Youth and Informal Education
Jon Meyers..... President
Jan Schneiderman..... President-Elect
John Lehr..... Vice President
John Waldbaum..... Vice President
Katherine Finnegan..... Secretary
Jeff Schweid..... Treasurer
Wendy Goldberg..... Past President
Danielle Gordman..... WRJ-O President
Adam Kirshenbaum..... Men's Club President
Sarah Bleicher..... OTYG President

Reach Out...and Email Us!

Rabbi Aryeh Azriel
aazriel@templeisraelomaha.com

Rabbi Eric Linder
elinder@templeisraelomaha.com

Cantor Wendy Shermet
wshermet@templeisraelomaha.com

Dennis DePorte
Executive Director
ddeporte@templeisraelomaha.com

Elyce Azriel
Director of Religious Education
eazriel@templeisraelomaha.com

Lori Bennett
Religious School Administrative Assistant
lbennett@templeisraelomaha.com

Vicki Ducharme
Bookkeeper
vducharme@templeisraelomaha.com

Maureen Kube
Receptionist/Donations
mkube@templeisraelomaha.com

Claudia Sherman
Communications Coordinator
csherman@templeisraelomaha.com

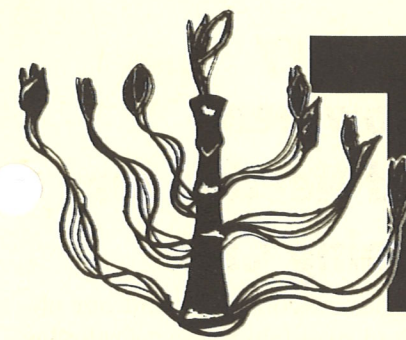
Bonnie Sullivan
Clergy Secretary
bsullivan@templeisraelomaha.com

Misty Weidner
Administrative Assistant
mweidner@templeisraelomaha.com

PJ Wiesner
Director of Youth and Informal Education
pwiesner@templeisraelomaha.com

Rosie Zweiback
Program Director
rzweiback@templeisraelomaha.com

General Inquiries
tisrael@templeisraelomaha.com



Temple Israel Tidings

Omaha, NE Founded 1871 Vol. XCVI No. 4 Tevet 5, 5768 December 14, 2007

As I See It...

"If there is no trust...?"

Can a democratic government of checks and balances manage its affairs and govern effectively...if there is no trust...?"

My own thoughts fashioned a corollary question. Can a government of law sustain its compact with the people when the executive branch operates outside the law? Hadn't we only recently tested successfully the principle that government and president can never be above the law?

The issue of eroding trust is far reaching in contemporary society. We had better see it in the broadest context. It is more than government being subverted.

Once trust permitted us to leave our doors unlocked, to walk with confidence in streets at night, to hear words of instruction from the pulpit, and to give contributions to causes, believing that our money would be judiciously spent.

We trust each other when we take a bus, fly in an airplane, ride a train, send our children to school, borrow or lend. We seek a blood transfusion, submit to a surgeon's scalpel. In everything we do, we participate in the atmosphere of trust. Trust is crucial to every human undertaking. Life is animated by trust. We survive daily because we trust one

another. Now we trust only in the gain from our continuous litigation.

What has happened to trust in our society is profoundly shocking. We look over our shoulder at every step we take and in every way we act. The engineer driving the train, the pilot driving majestic jet planes, do they take drugs? Is the watchman at the nuclear plant asleep? Are there too many planes in the sky? Are our children being abused by nursery school teachers?

Who can we trust, if there is no trust?

Will not eroding trust deflate our confidence in one another to the point where trust ceases to exist at all? Then what? Chaos? A step over the edge of incoherence? Shall we all live in a private fortress protected from human connections? Can we survive a life fragmented by endless confusion born of intolerable suspicion? How gruesome the life lived without trust. Trust is the glue of civilization. Trust makes us human. Trust is neighbors who are warmed by friendship. Trust is the love of man and woman overcoming weaknesses and frailty to walk hand-in-hand, heart joined to heart. Trust is the worshipper's sense of sanctity weaving a bond with a cohesive trusting community. Trust is the infant child adored by a loving mother. Trust is the citizen

confident that the public well-being is served by office holders of integrity. Trust is the home without electronic fences.

We are, indeed, haunted by the question: "If there is not trust?" More than the power of armies and the storehouse of weapons, the future of civilization, of freedom and decency are linked to trust. Perhaps like the ozone in our atmosphere, we stupidly spend what we preciousely require without care or consequences.

Can we reverse this dreadful course? Trust is earned. Only our behavior generates trust. We must be deserving of the trust of our mates, our children, our friends. All depends on trust. For God's sake, let us begin with ourselves. For God's sake, let us begin now. Let us reclaim with our integrity, our trust in one another.

Aryeh Azriel



Published by Temple Israel
7023 Cass Street
Omaha, NE 68132
Phone 402/556-6536
Fax 402/556-6189
Website www.templeisrael-ne.org

Member of Union for Reform Judaism

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Omaha, NE
Permit No. 265

KNOW THYSELF; KNOW THY NEIGHBOR

Shabbat Shira to Celebrate Israel's 60th Birthday

Shabbat Shira, the Sabbath of Song, is celebrated this year on **Friday, January 18 at 6 p.m.** The Torah portion for this Shabbat is called *Beshalach* and is taken from Exodus. In this portion, Pharaoh pursues the newly liberated Israelites, who are able to cross the Sea of Reeds safely, while Pharaoh's men perish. Upon reaching the eastern shore of the Sea, the Israelites sing to God in thanksgiving and praise.

This year, in honor of Israel's upcoming 60th birthday, Cantor Wendy Shermet will present music by Israeli composers on Shabbat Shira.

Did You Know?

- There are about 15 members of Temple's choir, Kol Rina. Maxine Noodell, Jeff Schweid, Jon Meyers, and Jim Anderson have been with the choir the longest. Hilda Gottlieb was also a member for many years until she "retired."
- Kol Rina practices 90 minutes per week leading up to a service in which they'll participate. For the High Holy Days, there are additional rehearsals.
- In addition to Cantor Wendy Shermet, Tamara Field is the only professional singer of this "extremely loyal and enthusiastic" choir.

Men's Club

SAVE THE DATE!

Poker Night at Temple Israel

Thursday, February 21

More details to follow!

Cemetery Endowment Fund Needed for Ongoing Care

"It's our responsibility and our obligation to maintain the two Orthodox cemeteries (B'nai Jacob and B'nai Sholom) that we inherited," said Judy Josephson who has taken it upon herself to lead a restoration project for the more than 900 graves at the century-old cemeteries. They both adjoin the Temple Israel Cemetery at 6412 North 42nd Street.

Judy became involved in the project because the older cemetery sections needed "so much extra care." Perpetual care was not common at the end of the 19th and early 20th centuries. So far, contributions are beginning to take a bite out of the deficit of nearly \$50,000 that has accrued for the cemeteries' upkeep. Judy's goal is to build a \$200,000 endowment which will earn enough income to provide for the cemetery's ongoing care.

To donate to the Temple Israel Cemetery Endowment Fund, you can use a credit card or send a check to Temple at 7023 Cass Street, Omaha, NE 68132. Call Executive Director Dennis DePorte at 556-6536 if you have any questions.

Got plans for December 25?

If you're available to cook or serve a holiday meal, Temple Israel's Social Justice Committee will be at the Stephen Center sharing dinner. If you're interested in helping, please call John Dacey at 292-0757.

College Students Invited to Dinner at the Upstream

College students home for winter break as well as collegians who go to school in the area are invited to dinner at **6 p.m. on Sunday, December 23**, at the Upstream Brewing Company, 514 South 11th Street. Catch up with Rabbi Aryeh Azriel, Rabbi Eric Linder, Elyce Azriel and Temple's new Youth Director, PJ Wiesner.

"There's a need on the part of the clergy to hug our kids!" declared Rabbi Azriel. "We want to welcome our college kids back home and check out their lives in college and as Jews on campus and just have a good time!" he added.

Please call the Temple office at 556-6536 or send an email to PJ at pwiesner@templeisraelomaha.com to let us know you will attend.

Women of Reform Judaism-Omaha



Know Thyself, Know Thy Sister...Know Thy Nest Egg!

When it comes to dollars and cents, expert advice is like money in the bank – you're always glad to have it! Join us for an evening with Stacie Neussendorfer, Vice President & Trust Officer at Great Western Bank. With her Certified Financial Planner Certification, a law degree, and her estate planning experience, she offers a wealth of information. Whether you are saving for a rainy day, for retirement or for the next generation, this program is for you.

Join us on Thursday, January 1, 7 p.m. at the home of Danielle Gordman, 1430 South 85th Avenue.

Watch your mail for an invitation but save the date now!

OTYG Annual Spaghetti Dinner and Auction

"It's Raining Meatballs" Sunday, January 27, 5 p.m.

Watch out! It'll be raining meatballs at this year's Spaghetti Dinner, sponsored by Omaha Temple Youth Group (OTYG). Chefs Len Burrell, Barry Grossman, and Justin Cooper will cook up another pot full of perfect pasta to raise money for OTYG, Junior Youth Group and Club 56. A portion of the funds will be donated to Camp Rainbow near St. Louis and Camp Coholo near Gretna, both camps for seriously ill children.

In addition to a delicious dinner, a silent auction begins at 10 a.m. Steve Danon will continue with the live auction after the dinner. Perhaps you'd like to bid on a gift certificate to Sanctuary Day Spa or great seats to a local sporting event. As in past years, baskets filled by retailers and congregants will be among the auction's prizes.

Or, if designing a theme basket isn't your forte, "adopt a receipt" from the bulletin board in the main hallway and help with underwriting expenses.

Dinner is \$7 for adults (13 and older), \$4 for four to 12-year-olds, and free for children three and younger. For \$80, you can reserve a table for ten. **Reservations are needed by Sunday, January 13.** Call the Temple office at 556-6536 or email to Youth Director PJ Wiesner at pwiesner@templeisraelomaha.com.

All donations, including "adopting a receipt," are tax deductible.

Sitter Service will be available during the live auction. Donations will be graciously accepted!

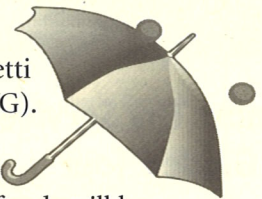
Spaghetti Dinner and Auction committee members are Ashley Bernstein, LaShanna Bernstein, Sarah Bleicher, Hannah Ferer, Susan Freeman, Adam Goldberg and Sarah Sadofsky.

Adoption Notice!

WRJ is pleased to announce the "adoption" of the Caring Community.

Caring Community organizes visits to Temple members in the Blumkin home each Shabbat, offers help with condolence meals and, also contacts Temple members after a hospital stay. We other ideas in the works that we'll be sharing with you soon.

You can help from home – if you're making dinner and have extra please pack it in a freezer safe container. Simply label it and bring it to Temple for their freezer. Also, if you're making Challah, please consider doubling your recipe and making small Challahs for the WRJ freezer as well. There are so many other easy ways to get involved please. Simply contact Lisa Epstein at nespirits@aol.com or Danielle Gordman at dsgordman@cox.net.



Adult Education

Know Thy Service: A Guided Tour

Sundays, January 13, 27, and
February 3, 2008, 10:30 a.m.-Noon

If you have ever wondered why we rise and sit at specific times, how the order is determined and what must be included in a Shabbat worship service, Rabbi Eric Linder and Cantor Wendy Shermet will take you on a guided tour of the prayerbook in this new class from the Hermene Zweiback Center for Lifelong Jewish Learning.

The first session on January 13 will be the 4Bs presentation that morning.

"Cantor Shermet and I will be your guides as we navigate together through the pages of the siddur. We'll give a general sense of what the prayers mean and why they're in a certain order," explained Rabbi Linder.

On Friday, February 22, the class will culminate with participants helping to lead the Shabbat worship service.

Adult Study with the Clergy Thursdays, January 17–March 20 10–11:30 a.m.

Cantor Wendy Shermet will teach two chapters in the story of Jewish music. One deals with the heights of the cantorial tradition (the Great Cantorite from 1820-1950) when the cantors were rock stars.

The other examines music composed in the crucible of despair, when Jewish musicians, both professional and lay, created original pieces while in the ghettos and in the camps during the Holocaust.

New students are always welcome at Adult Study with the Clergy. Contact Rosie Zweiback, 556-6536 or rzweiback@templeisraelomaha.com to register.

Know Thyself, Know Thy Neighbor Wednesday, January 9, 6:30-8 p.m.

With tri-faith partners Father Ernesto R. Medina from Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, and Shakil Ahmed of the American Institute of Islamic Studies and Culture, Rabbi Aryeh Azriel will take a look beyond our own Jewish community at the faiths of our neighbors. The three will discuss the tensions between practices and beliefs of different faiths and everyday secular life in America.

"After December," pointed out Rabbi Azriel, "how do we keep our identity in America as Jews, Christians, and Muslims in light of such an onslaught of merchandising? How do we secure our religious identities in secular America?"

Please join Rabbi Azriel and his guests to learn how other faith communities engage in worship and enhance spirituality as we all search for common bonds.

Sponsored by the Hermene Zweiback Center for Lifelong Jewish Learning, there is no fee to attend "Know Thyself, Know Thy Neighbor," but please register with Program Director Rosie Zweiback at rzweiback@templeisraelomaha.com or 556-6536.

Congregants Explored Jewish/Muslim Topics with Islamic "Neighbors"

More than 40 people attended the four-part series, "Know Thy Muslim Neighbor," sponsored by Temple Israel's Hermene Zweiback Center for Lifelong Jewish Learning. Each session featured one of four prominent members of the Muslim community in Omaha.

Gary Kaplan attended a discussion that examined the long-standing connection to Jerusalem of Christianity, Judaism, and Islam. "It was fascinating to see how another religion deals with an issue that's important to Jews. To see that there's another way to answer the question clarifies the significance of the Jewish answer, and at the same time, opens you up to the reality of other answers for other people."

"I learned some of their (Muslim) customs and rituals, and some of them parallel Judaism," commented Phyllis Roffman. She specifically mentioned the lunar calendar. Phyllis said some of the similarities surprised her, and she was glad she attended.

One of the speakers, Shakil Ahmed of the American Institute of Islamic Studies and Culture, concluded his session by noting "how close we are and yet how far."

And the Temple Tapestry Continues to Grow...



A Young Hand –
An Ancient Scroll

This piece of tapestry depicts David Glazer, a third generation Temple member reading from the Torah on the occasion of his becoming a Bar Mitzvah.

It beautifully weds our past to our future and reminds us of the commandment: "Set these words, which I command you on this day, upon your heart. Teach them faithfully to your children."

Pictured block by Phyllis Glazer.

December/January • Tevet/Shevat 5768

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					14 Shabbat Comes to You @Remington Heights 4 p.m. Shabbat Service 6 p.m.	15 Sparks Beneath the Surface 9:15-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
16 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	17	18 Executive Board 6 p.m. Interfaith Book Club 7 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gamblers' 12-step 7:30 p.m. Board of Trustees 7 p.m.	19 Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. OTYG Ultimate Dreidel Competition 5 p.m. All School Dinner 6 p.m. Family School 6-8 p.m. Grades 7-12 6-8 p.m.	20 Adult Study with the Clergy 10 a.m.	21 Parent/Toddler Class 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Service 6 p.m.	22 Sparks Beneath the Surface 9:15-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
23 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25 OFFICE CLOSED	26 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL, FAMILY SCHOOL, MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL	27	28 Shabbat Comes to You @ Blumkin Home 2:30 p.m. Shabbat Service 6 p.m.	29 Sparks Beneath the Surface 9:15-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
30 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	31 OFFICE CLOSED	1 OFFICE CLOSED	2 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL, FAMILY SCHOOL, MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL	3	4 Shabbat Service 6 p.m.	5 Sparks Beneath the Surface 9:15-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
		JANUARY				
6 Teacher Meeting 9:30 a.m. Religious School Grades K-6 10 a.m. - Noon	7	8 Hebrew Lunch 'n Learn 12:15 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gamblers' 12-step 7:30 p.m.	9 Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. OTYG Guitar Hero 5 p.m. All School Dinner 6 p.m. Family School 6-8 p.m. Grades 7-12 6-8 p.m. Know Thyself, Know Thy Neighbor 6:30 p.m.	10 Adult Study with the Clergy 10 a.m. RSSC Meeting Noon	11 Tot Shabbat Dinner Following 6 p.m. Shabbat Service 6 p.m.	12 Sparks Beneath the Surface 9:15-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
13 Teacher Meeting 9 a.m. Religious School Grades K-6 10 a.m.-Noon Prayer Assembly 10 a.m. 4Bs 10:30 a.m. Interfaith Book Club 10:30 a.m.	14	15 Executive Board 6 p.m. Interfaith Book Club 7 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gamblers' 12-step 7:30 p.m. Board of Trustees 7 p.m.	16 Religious School 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.	17 Adult Study with the Clergy 10 a.m.	18 Parent/Toddler Class 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Comes to You @ Remington Heights 4 p.m. Shabbat Service 6 p.m.	19 Sparks Beneath the Surface 9:15-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.

Worship Services

Friday~December 14

6 p.m.

Shabbat Service

Saturday~December 15

9:15-10:15 a.m.

Sparks Beneath the Surface

10:30 a.m.

Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Vayigash

Genesis 44:18-47:27

Haftarah: Ezekiel 37:15-28

Friday~December 21

6 p.m.

Shabbat Service

Guest Soloist - Jonathan Rathsam

Saturday~December 22

9:15-10:15 a.m.

Sparks Beneath the Surface

10:30 a.m.

Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Vayechi

Genesis 47:28-50:26

Haftarah: I Kings 2:1-12

Friday~December 28

2:30 p.m.

Shabbat Comes to You

at Blumkin Home

6 p.m.

Shabbat Service

Guest Soloist - Tami Field

Saturday~December 29

9:15-10:15 a.m.

Sparks Beneath the Surface

10:30 a.m.

Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Shemot

Exodus 1:1-6:1

Haftarah: Isaiah 27:6-28:13; 29:22-23

Friday~January 4

6 p.m.

Shabbat Service

Saturday~January 5

9:15-10:15 a.m.

Sparks Beneath the Surface

10:30 a.m.

Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Va'era

Exodus 6:2-9:35

Haftarah: Ezekiel 28:25-29:21

Friday~January 12

6 p.m.

Shabbat Service

Guest Soloist - Jonathan Rathsam

Saturday~January 12

9:15-10:15 a.m.

Sparks Beneath the Surface

10:30 a.m.

Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Bo

Exodus 10:1-13:16

Haftarah: Jeremiah 46:13-28

Friday~January 18

4 p.m.

Shabbat Comes to You

at Remington Heights

6 p.m.

Shabbat Service with Kol Rina

Saturday~January 19

9:15-10:15 a.m.

Sparks Beneath the Surface

10:30 a.m.

Shabbat Service

Torah Portion: Beshalach

Exodus 13:17-17:16

Haftarah: Judges 4:4-5:31

Birthday Blessings

Friday, January 18

6 p.m.

Children and adults who celebrate their birthdays during the months of December and January will be called to the bimah and receive a special blessing from the rabbi.

Come and enjoy a beautiful sermon-in-song at this moving Shabbat Shira service (see page 2 for details).



Visit Temple's website
www.templeisrael-ne.org

Sitter Service

is available...

- Wednesday evenings during Family School hours so that parents can take advantage of adult education opportunities;
- each Friday evening except when there is a Tot Shabbat;
- Saturday mornings when there is a bar or bat mitzvah;
- Sunday mornings when there is Religious School.

Advance reservations and a \$5 donation are appreciated. Please email Maureen at mkube@templeisraelomaha.com for reservations. Young children, including infants, are welcome.

A Community Conversation on Jewish/Christian Relations

Monday, January 7, 7-9 p.m.

at the J.C.C.

"Beyond Christmas Trees and Missionaries: What the Jewish Community Needs to Know About Jesus, the New Testament and Christianity"

Dr. Amy-Jill Levine explores the Jewish responses to Jesus, the New Testament, and Christianity in this community conversation tailored specifically for a Jewish audience. Dr. Levine also will delve into prominent myths and misunderstandings about Christianity and the



New Testament, review key issues and events in Jewish/Christian relations, and will offer helpful guidance for Jews on how to respond to proselytizing, Messianic Judaism, and contemporary anti-Semitism.

Dr. Amy-Jill Levine is the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Professor of New Testament Studies and Director of the Carpenter Program in Religion, Gender, and Sexuality at Vanderbilt University Divinity School and Graduate Department of Religion in Nashville, TN. Dr. Levine's numerous publications address Christian origins, Jewish/Christian relations, and sexuality and gender in the Bible and include *The Misunderstood Jew: The Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus* and *The Historical Jesus in Context*.

Co-sponsored by Project Interfaith and the Hermene Zweiback Center for Lifelong Jewish Learning, the program is open to the community at no charge.

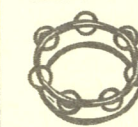
Tots Make Their Own Music at Tot Shabbat

January 11, 6 p.m.

Livingston Chapel

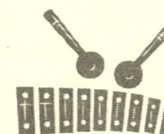
Bring your favorite instrument from home and let's have a wild Tot Shabbat in January!

Tot Shabbat is a carefully orchestrated but yet informal child-oriented Shabbat worship service for children birth through Grade 2 age that brings a Shabbat experience to our youngest congregants and their families.



What a nice and fun way to introduce young children and their parents to Jewish worship. Before leaving the chapel, the Kiddush and HaMotzi are recited and dinner is then served.

To make a reservation please contact the Temple office at 556-6536 or mkube@templeisraelomaha.com. The cost is \$5.00 for adults and free for children.



Congratulations

On the Birth of

Isabelle Sarah Eshel, daughter of Stephanie and David Eshel, Beverly Hills, CA. Grandparents are Pam and Dennis DePorte, Maggie and Larry Kosmin, Long Beach, CA, and the late Eli Eshel. Great-grandmother is Louise Martin.

Isaac Matthew Jensen, son of Robyn and Jason Jensen. Grandparents are Marsha and Ron Frank, and Carol and Roy Jensen.

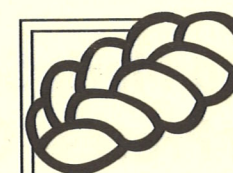
Zachary Maddox Kazor, son of Michelle and Stuart Kazor. Grandparents are Peggy and Bill Kolm, and Renee and Louis Kazor. Great-grandparents are Mildred Kolm, Fremont, NE, Alice Kwapiszeski, Panama, IA, the late Rose and Louis Kazor, and the late Mollie and Morrie Franklin.

Calvin James Puckett Newman, son of Jennifer K. Puckett and James F. Newman, Mill Valley, CA. Grandparents are Roger Lamont, Belmont, CA, Kathleene and Don Leslie, Cambridge, MA, Deborah O'Hara, Scottsdale, AZ, and Sharee and Murray Newman.

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.



Save the Date for the First Annual Temple Israel Challah and Chicken Soup Cook-Off!

Does your family rave about your challah recipe?

Do they crave your homemade chicken soup?

Bake a loaf or prepare a pot for all of us!

Compete for prizes, have fun, and help raise money for The Omaha Food Bank and the 2008 Israel Trip Fund.

Can't cook? Just come to eat!

Sunday, March 9, Noon, at Temple Israel

Contact Program Director Rosie Zweiback at

rzweiback@templeisraelomaha.com or at 556-6536

to enter the professional chef or non-professional category.



Halil BaGalilee

(Flutes in the Galilee)

Friday, January 25, 6 p.m.

Shabbat Worship Services

Two Israeli musicians who have traveled the world will draw on their connections to diverse traditions to create a remarkable and unpredictable approach to Shabbat worship. Their influences include Spanish, Israeli Irish-Celtic, Kurdish, Israeli Flamenco, Australian, Central American, and Far Eastern cultures.

Hagit Rosmarin, flutist, and Gil Bohadana who plays wind instruments, will add to the beauty and spirituality of Shabbat as they join the clergy during the worship service.

Hagit studied music and has performed in Israel and in New York City and Europe.

After finishing her studies, Hagit played with a Spanish guitar artist, in an Israeli Irish-Celtic band, and with a Kurdish singer. Currently, she accompanies the Israeli Flamenco Dance Company. She also teaches flute, conducts amateur ensembles of youth and adults, and lectures about music from around the world.

Gil Bohadana has a dual career in music and landscape design which involves planning parks and educational centers that feature unique musical instruments. In his global travels, he collects flutes and learns indigenous musical traditions. In addition to performing with Hagit, Gil combines music and ecology based on the show, "The Groovy Junkyard," a musical performed on instruments made of recycled materials that Gil creates.

On Saturday evening, January 26, Hagit and Gil will present "Flutes Around the World" at 7:30 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center, as part of the Western Galilee Performing Arts Series. "Flutes Around the World" is a melodious voyage for all ages.

Lucille Katelman Enjoys Looking Back

"I go all the way back to the Park Avenue Temple," said Lucille Katelman. "I moved here from Fullerton, NE 86 years ago and went to Sunday School at that temple. I was confirmed when I was 13."

Continuing her ties with Temple Israel, Lucille and her husband Abe were married at Temple by Rabbi David Wice who served the congregation from 1933 to 1941. Three rabbis later, the Katelmans became "very close friends with Rabbi and Jane Brooks," a relationship Lucille still treasures.

Abe was elected president of the Temple and presided over the Board of Trustees from 1972 to 1974. "We went to services every Friday night when Abe was president," Lucille recalled. Abe died in 1986.

Parent of two daughters, Sandy Martin, a current member of Temple, and Frankie McIntyre who lives in California, Lucille has six grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

Sokolof Fund Merit Scholarships Application Process Opens

\$10,000 Ruth and Phil Sokolof Merit Scholarships are available for two graduating high school seniors for their freshman year in college as well as for two students enrolled in, or who have been admitted to, a program leading to a health care career. In addition, merit scholarships are also available from the Karen Sokolof Javitch Music Fund for students currently pursuing a degree in music performance, composition or music education.

Applicants must be Jewish and residents of the Omaha metropolitan area. Scholarships are based on good character, scholastic performance, personal achievement, and community service.

Application forms, due by **February 18, 2008**, may be downloaded from the Center for Jewish Education Scholarships and Grants page on the Jewish Federation's website at jewishomaha.org or contact Janet Henthorn at the Jewish Federation Foundation, jhenthorn@jewishomaha.org or 334-6551.

The Sokolof Fund also has a \$10,000 award for an Outstanding Jewish Teacher in the Omaha metro area, with preference given to a teacher in K-12. Nominations due by February 18, are by letter to Janet Henthorn, Jewish Federation of Omaha Foundation, 333 So. 132nd St. 68154. There is no limit to the number of times a teacher can be nominated.

Our Sympathy

*The Congregation records
with sorrow the deaths of...*

Harold Brodkey, father of Karen Kaplan and Jane Richwine;

Mae Sokol Burger, wife of Scott Burger, mother of Levi Burger and step-mother of Steve Burger;

Teresa Lilly, grandmother of Ron Beach;

Frances Osoff Milder, wife of Jerry Milder, mother of Cheryl Cooper, Gayle Spooner and Harlan Milder, sister of Pearl Gross and Roselle Pizer, and sister-in-law of Don Rice;

Myron Perry, father of Jay Perry;

David Schondelmeyer, uncle of Sarah Schondelmeyer;

Gladys Sigala, aunt of Maria Neesman

*...and extends sympathy to
their bereaved families.*

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

IN MEMORY OF: Florence Ackerman: Ruth Luttbeg; **Laverna Anderson:** Janey and Jerry Dann; **Lucille and Harold Brodkey:** Callista and Jim Ambrose, Terri and Dick Zacharia; **Martha C. Cherniss:** LetaRae Cherniss; **Selma Cohen:** Jill and Joe Goldstein; **Sol Crespín, Marcia Merrit, Millie Michelic:** Harriett and Sherm Sperling; **Richard Epstein:** Nancy Hornstein; **Chuck and Craig Fisher:** Betty Fisher; **Richard Graham:** Margo, Aaron and Charles Parsow; **Steve Hertzfield:** Susie and Jim Silverman; **Frances Milder:** Miriam Brooks and Philip Wright; Molline and Fritz Cassman, Soralee and Jerry Cohn, Susie and Bill Curry, Aileen Eisenstatt, Lois and Mel Epstein, Barbara Frohman, Beverly Gendler, Phyllis and Dick Glazer, June Goodbinder, Ruth and Sam Goodman, Nancy Hornstein, Eileen and Leonard Jacobson, Judy and Keith Josephson, Sandy and John Lehr, Lisa and Denny Lewis, Ruth Luttbeg, Helen Muskin, Margo, Aaron and Charles Parsow, Sandy and Jeff Passer, Dodi and Steve Redler, Jane and Harlan Rips, Margo Rosen, Lillian and Jack Schrager, Debi and Jeff Smedlund, Harriett and Sherm Sperling, Swanson Towers Association, Debbi and Speedy Zweiback; **David Schondelmeyer:** Jon and Denise Meyers; **Harry Siref:** Linda Siref-Simons; **Robert Wolf:** Hanne Wolf

IN HONOR OF RECOVERY OF: **Eleanor Alexander:** Phyllis and Harvey Aronson, Fran and Lou Blumkin; **Marilyn Cohn:** Barbara Frohman, Helen Muskin; **Marshall Fried:** Lois and Mel Epstein; **Ivy Kohll:** Suzy Rubin; **Jay Lerner:** Debbi and Speedy Zweiback; **Diane Zipay:** Rosalie and Milton Saylan
IN HONOR OF BIRTHDAY OF: **Ron Brodkey, Mrs. Milton Glazer, Joan Marcus:** Phyllis and Dick Glazer; **Debbie Finnicum:** Lisa and Gary Epstein; **Don Greenberg:** Ruth and Joe Erman, Sheryn and Arnold Joffe, Jane and Harlan Rips, Lillian and Jack Schrager, Terri and Dick Zacharia; **David Herzog, Jerry Kohll, Larry Meyerson:** Ruth and Joe Erman; **Lloyd Krasne:** Gail Kenkel, Doug Krasne and Susan McKinley, Edythe Krasne and Family, Sally and Maynard Telpner; **Ethel Mogil:** Sheila and Ray Tomps; **Iris Nemani:** Doris Parker; **Marty Ricks:** Suzi and Mike Mogil; **Sally Venger:** Phyllis and Harvey Aronson; **Speedy Zweiback:** Etta and Harold Epstein, Norma and Bob Malashock, Lourdes Secola
IN HONOR OF ANNIVERSARY OF: **Mr. and Mrs. Herb Davis:** Robert Weinstein and Shirley Weinstein; **Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Goldstein:** Molline and Fritz Cassman, Rose Rosen, Harriett and Sherm Sperling, Sally and Maynard Telpner, Betty Rae Weiser, Terri and Dick Zacharia; **Iris and Mary Ricks:** Marcia and Sheldon Kushner

IN HONOR OF BIRTH OF: **Zachary Maddox Kazor:** Marge and Jim Bresel, Dora Goldstrom and George Walker

IN HONOR OF B'NOT MITZVAH OF: **Lauren Cooper:** Judy Rubin, Lourdes Secola; **Libby Slosburg:** Harriett and Sherm Sperling

IN APPRECIATION OF: **Roz Friedman, Barbara Rips :** Helen Muskin

IN HONOR OF LOIS JEANNE SCHRAGER MEMORIAL YOUNG LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT: **Mimi Silverman:** Andi Willensky

IN HONOR OF VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH AWARD FROM METHODIST HOSPITAL: **Debi Smedlund:** Toby Fellman

Women of Reform Judaism Tribute Fund

IN MEMORY OF: **Selma Cohen:** Marilyn and Marty Warren; **Richard Graham:** Debbi and Scott Friedman, Marilyn and Marty Warren; **Mother of Norm Sheldon:** Lois and Mel Epstein, Marilyn and Marty Warren

IN HONOR OF RECOVERY OF: **Lorrie Stein:** Lois and Mel Epstein, Marilyn and Marty Warren

IN HONOR OF BAR MITZVAH OF: **Luke Warren:** Debbi and Scott Friedman

Congregation Invited to Share Shabbat with Yachad Saturday, January 19, 10:30 a.m.

Members of Yachad and their families, will participate in Shabbat worship services. "Through prayer and song, we hope that more and more members of our congregation are able to further develop warm relationships with the members of Yachad," explained Rabbi Aryeh Azriel.

Yachad is a support group for Jews with developmental disabilities and is sponsored by Jewish Family Service.

Our most sacred prayers
are recited when the
congregation is standing.
Therefore, we ask that
you not enter or leave the
sanctuary or chapel until
worshippers are seated.

Youth & Education

What's Happening in Religious School?

Elyce Azriel, Director of Religious Education

No Religious School.....Sunday, December 16
School for Grades 3-6 resumes on Wednesday, December 19.

Parent/Toddler Class Friday, December 21
Children pre-school age and younger are invited to bring their parents or grandparents to the 9:30 a.m. class and share this wonderful time of learning with other young families.

Winter Break.....Sunday, December 23–Wednesday, January 2
School for grades K-6 resumes on Sunday, January 6.

Prayer Assembly and 4Bs Sunday, January 13
Join your child at the 10 a.m. assembly for an enjoyable worship experience, and then stay for another informative 4Bs session (see the “Know Thy Service: A Guided Tour” article on page 4 for more details).

No Religious School.....Sunday, January 20
No classes as we observe Martin Luther King Day weekend. Classes resume Wednesday, January 23.

Todah rabah to everyone who donated “Goodnight Moon” books for Field Club Elementary. We reached our goal of 125 books – one for every Kindergarten student!

JEWISH SUMMER CAMP

Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute camp in Oconomowoc, WI, affectionately known as OSRUI, is a summer camp where campers do all the usual summer camp activities—swimming, team sports, horseback riding, singing, and sleeping in cabins and tents. And it is a camp in which Judaism is lived, interwoven in the daily activities and weekly schedule of those same fun activities.

At OSRUI there is a unit for everyone's interest and an activity that will let you try something new. It's a place where friendships are made and identities formed.

Stop in the Religious School office for an application, and ask any of the clergy your questions. Scholarship assistance is available by contacting executive director Dennis DePorte at 556-6536 or ddeporte@templeisraelomaha.com. All Temple Israel youth are eligible for a \$1,000 Eisenberg

Campership for their first residential Jewish camp experience (which can begin the summer after second grade).

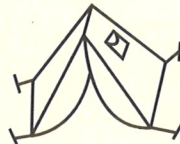
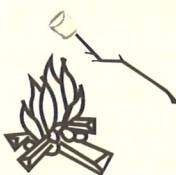
Guess who's going to OSRUI!

Yaniv Azriel, Dru Beach,
Wil Beach, Hannah Budwig,
Sophie Budwig, Brandon Friedman,
Max Gendler,
Brandon Idelman,
Vince Long,
Simon Murphy,
Ben Noodell,
Justin Norton,

Seth Norton, Jessica Pfrenger,
Sarah Pfrenger, Josie Platt,
Ari Rauhauser,

Madeleine Rauhauser,
Bennett Ray,

Cleo Rogers,
Isaac Rogers,
Asher Rosenquist, Rachel Saag,
Lindsey Thomas, Jacob Wigodsky
and Davi'd Wright



OTYG NEWSFLASH

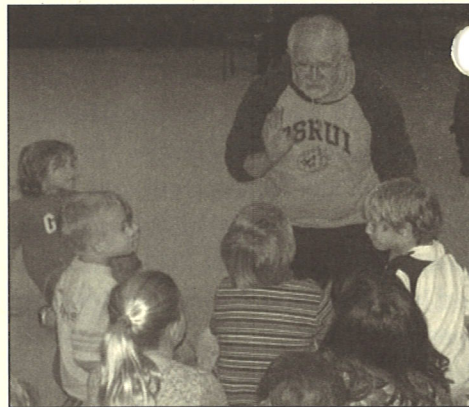
PJ Wiesner, Director of Youth and Informal Education

• Congratulations to Jordan Jensen, winner of OTYG's first Dance Dance Revolution Tournament!

• Haley Burns and Sarah Freeman will be representing OTYG at NFTY's Winter Chavurah in St. Louis, MO at the end of December.

• Attention future rock stars! **Save the Date for OTYG's Guitar Hero Tournament at 5 p.m. on January 16** in the Youth Lounge. All high school students are invited to participate.

Way to go to Temple's
5th Graders for donating
144 pounds of food to
the Omaha Area
Food Bank during
last month's field trip!



(Above) OSRUI director Gerry Kaye shared camp stories with second graders while fifth graders Madison Eisenberg and Rachel Stoneking (below) toasted marshmallows for making delicious s'mores.



On Religious School – Think Positive!

I have a statement to make: I loved Religious School. I know, that sounds weird. I did not grow up in a particularly observant home. I did grow up in one that emphasized the importance of education – Jewish education.

It was this attitude from both parents, who were teachers themselves, that made my Religious School experience a pleasant and positive one. Parental attitude plays a big part in a child's experience with Jewish education. Taking interest in what they're learning shows them that it is important in terms of the larger Jewish picture.

Here are some tips to help make Religious School a positive experience:

☆ Play Jewish or Israeli music during the car ride to Temple.

☆ Ask your child specific questions related to their grade level's curriculum, such as: What letter did you learn today? What prayer are you studying? What Bible hero did you talk about? What is something new you learned about Chanukah (or the next Jewish holiday)?

☆ Ask to hear a song your child has been learning during music with Jeff and Cantor, or a set of trope that has been learned.

Above all, be sure to make positive comments about the Religious School and Temple Israel.

B'Shalom, Elyce

A Mini-Course for Middle/High School Students at Temple Israel Jewish Board Games and You

Before Game Cubes, Xboxes, PSPs and more became so popular, people would invest a great deal of their free time in playing board games. Board games are a great way for people to spend time having fun together.

Believe it or not, there's a multitude of religious and spiritually-oriented Jewish board games out there to from which to choose from. While fun, these games also provide learning opportunities. Not only are they fact-centered, but challenge players to think under stress and be decisive in risk taking.

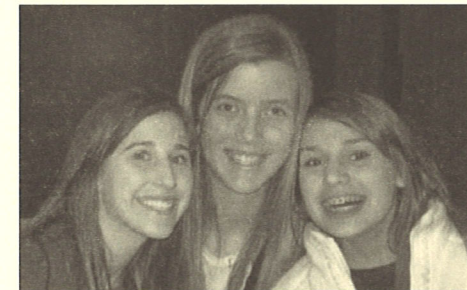
Our middle and high school students have had a great time this mini-mester brushing up on their Jewish trivia and Hebrew, all while having fun with their Religious School friends!



Jordan Jensen, Cameron Davis, Josh Cohen and David Glazer had a great time building their bagels during a rousing game of “Schmeat!”

Super Speed Schmoozers

Rachel Saferstein, Hannah Ferer and Haley Burns kibbutzed during OTYG's “Speed Schmoozing” meet and greet November 14.



A Note of Thanks

Dear Temple Israel Religious School,

We at Jewish Family Service sincerely thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to contribute to Project Dreidel 2007. With your help, we were able to provide 26 Jewish children and their families with Hanukkah gifts and food this holiday.

Because of the mitzvah that you performed, Jews who otherwise would have no or few gifts to open were assisted with several presents to unwrap and enjoy. What a difference you made in someone's life!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Meyerson and Ann Osborne
Project Dreidel Coordinators

Temple Funds

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

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

Tree of Life leaves are \$300. Tree of Life Boulders are \$3,000.

\$6.00 fund contributions:

Rabbi Azriel's Fund for Jewish

Professionals

David E. Beber Fund

David and Rachel Bleicher

Camp Scholarship

Mel and Genevieve Bornstein

Social Justice

Rabbi Sidney H. and Jane Brooks

Institute on Judaism for Clergy

Caring

Cemetery Improvement

Lorene R. Cohn Trust

Loyal B. Cohn Trust for the

Advancement of Jewish Studies

Education

Erwin Eisenberg Campership Fund

Endowment

Harvey D. Ferer Scholarship Fund

Samuel and Ida Kaiman Endowment

Sol and Jeanette Krizelman

Social Justice

Landscape

Library

Jon Meyers Leadership Development

Music

Outreach

Ruth and Bernard Raskin

Youth Activities

Lewis and Flora Rubin Memorial Fund

Margaret and Arnold Robinson

Family Jewish Education

Milton and Rosalie Saylan

Jewish Education

Jennifer Soshnik Scholarship

Brad Sperling Memorial Fund

for Education of Young Children

Temple Youth Group

Elinor Whitman Religious Education

Janis L. Yale Enrichment

Hermene Zweiback Fund for

Lifelong Jewish Learning

Rabbi Azriel's Discretionary

Rabbi Linder's Discretionary

Cantor Shermet's Discretionary

Executive Director's Discretionary

Prayer Book (\$30 donation)