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Reach Out...and Email Us!

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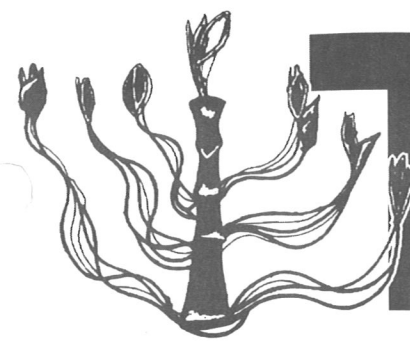
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Published by Temple Israel
 7023 Cass Street
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 Phone 402/556-6536
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 Website www.templeisrael-ne.org

Member of Union for Reform Judaism

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



Omaha, NE Founded 1871 Vol. XCIII No. 6 Shevat 25, 5765 February 4, 2005

Scholar-in-Residence Pamela S. Nadell

"From Haven to Home: Celebrating 350 Years of Jewish Life in America" March 4 - 6

As part of Temple's celebrating and studying the 350 years of Jewish life in America, Pamela Nadell, professor of history and director of the Jewish Studies Program at American University in Washington, D.C., will make her first visit to Omaha for a weekend of discussions. A distinguished historian of the American Jewish experience, Professor Nadell is also a historical consultant to the exhibit, "From Haven to Home: A Library of Congress Exhibition Marking 350 Years of Jewish Life in America" which opened in September 2004.

A native of New Jersey, Professor Nadell holds a doctorate in history from Ohio State University and a B.A. degree from Douglass College, Rutgers University.

"I was educated in a Conservative afternoon congregational school," she said, "had a Saturday morning Bat Mitzvah there, did a lot of reading of historical novels (such as *Exodus* and *The Source*) as a teenager, and was active in NFTY in high school. Those led me to a Jewish studies major as an undergraduate, and I also spent my junior year abroad at Hebrew University in Jerusalem. I always loved history."

Chair of the Academic Council of the American Jewish Historical Society, the professor is also a member of the Association for Jewish Studies, Center for Jewish History, Hadassah International Research Institute on Jewish Women, Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives, and the Jewish Women's Archives.

At American University, where she has been since 1982, Professor Nadell teaches courses in Jewish history including Ancient and Medieval Jewish Civilization, Modern Jewish Civilization, American Jewish History, American Jewish Women's History, Holocaust, and History of Israel. She also works with graduate students in modern Jewish history.



Friday, March 4, 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Evening Worship Service

"Remembering the Celebrations of the Past"

Oneg Shabbat Following

Saturday, March 5, 9-10:15 a.m. Bagels & Sacred Books

"Seeking Haven and Making Lives"

Sunday, March 6, 10 a.m. Bagel Brunch

"America's Jewish Women: Understanding How the Promises of America Made Possible the Diversity"

Professor Nadell's weekend is sponsored by the
 Hermene Zweiback Center for Lifelong Jewish Learning.

Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday, February 4

7:30 p.m.

Featuring
 Temple Israel's Kol Rina
 and the

St. Paul United Methodist
 Church Choir

Celebrating music by
 American Jewish composers

*Come enjoy a Shabbat service
 filled with beautiful music
 and a sermon in song.*

On Sunday, February 6, 11 a.m., the
 choirs will sing again at the church
 located at 5410 Corby Street.

What's

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Inside

Celebrating 350 Years of Jews in America

(((o))) Live FROM NY's 92nd Street Y

**February 15, 7 p.m.
J.C.C. Theatre**

Interested in open dialogue among Reform, Conservative and Orthodox Jews? Come to a special broadcast from New York's 92nd Street Y where three national leaders of each movement will hold a round table discussion on the challenges and issues facing the American Jewish community today and in the coming decades.

The President of Hebrew Union College, Rabbi David Ellenson, a favorite scholar-in-residence who has spoken at Temple Israel several times, will represent the Reform movement. Other speakers include Rabbi Ismar Schorsch, the chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary, and Richard Joel, the President of Yeshiva University.

Temple Israel's Board of Trustees will be there. Hope you will be there too!

Temple Israel, Beth El and Beth Israel are co-sponsoring this broadcast with JELS. Tickets are \$5.

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, 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.

Wow! Temple's Caring Committee Does That?

☞ Members of the Temple Israel Caring Committee regularly visit residents of the Rose Blumkin Jewish Home.

☞ The Caring Committee provides transportation on the Shul Shuttle several times a year for older members of the community to attend Shabbat worship services.

☞ Phone calls are made and meals are delivered to people just home from the hospital and to bereaved families.

☞ The Caring Committee sponsors *Shabbat Comes to You* at Remington Heights Retirement Center on a regular basis as well as the lighting of Chanukah candles there.

☞ Speaker phones and prayer books are delivered to those who cannot attend High Holy Days' services so that they may listen and pray with the rest of the congregation.

☞ *Become a member of this Caring Corps—talk with Rabbi Craig Marantz about signing on! Any time and skills you have to share are appreciated.*

☞ *Would you like a phone call or visit from a Caring Committee member? We would be happy to:*

- *help write a letter.*
- *do a little around the house.*
- *kibbitz over a cup of coffee.*

Just let us know! Please call the Temple office, 556-6536.



Welcome New Members!

We'd like to introduce you to Temple's newest congregants, including seven girls under the age of eight!

• **Stacie Spies-Matz and Jay Matz**
• **Samantha, age 4**
• **Meredith, age 3**
• **Elizabeth, 9 months**

Jay, an Omaha native, and his wife Stacie, from Chicago, are excited to be at Temple. Jay is in the construction industry and Stacie is a psychologist. Samantha and Meredith are in pre-school at the CDC. Elizabeth is a stay-at-home baby. They have a yellow labrador named K.C.

• **Emily Milder**
• **Abbey, 3 months**

Emily is a mortgage broker at HomeSmartz Mortgage. She grew up at Temple and served on the board of Omaha Temple Youth Group. She also was a song leader at a number of conclaves. Emily moved here from Los Angeles, where she was in the film business, so she could be with her family and start her own family and now has joined the Temple family.

• **Bonnie and Jochen Pfrenger**
• **Jessica and Sarah, age 7**
• **Nina, age 4**

The Pfrenger family moved to Omaha from Los Angeles a year ago when Jochen accepted a job at Lindsey Manufacturing. Jessica and Sarah are first graders at Spring Ridge Elementary and Nina attends the CDC. They are excited about living in a smaller community, meeting the great families at Temple Israel and being active in our community.

Celebrate Scouting Saturday, February 12 Shabbat Morning Service

In recognition of the national Scout Sabbath, Temple Israel will celebrate Shabbat at 10:30 a.m. with those in our Scouting community. All girls and boys involved in Scouting, including adult Scouts and leaders, from the entire community are encouraged to attend the Scout Shabbat in their troop uniform.

"For a number of our congregants, Scouting has made a difference in their lives," said Rabbi Craig Marantz. "Scouting not only helped them acquire important skills, but it taught them about key values, quite a few of which find resonance in Jewish life." He mentioned kindness, cheerfulness, a strong sense of community and a connection to God as examples of standards in both Judaism and Scouting.

Jeff and Sandy Passer and their sons Joel and Aaron will participate in the Scout Shabbat. Jeff and Sandy have been leaders in their sons Joel and Aaron's Scouting programs. Jeff is currently Troop Committee Chairman. Joel, 18, is an Eagle Scout and participates in Venturing for young men and women ages 14 to 20.

Aaron, 16, a tenth grader at Brownell-Talbot, is a Life Scout member of Troop 552 and is the patrol leader, Troop scribe and Troop guide. For his Eagle Scout project, Aaron raised \$7,000 which he has used to replace worn stones in the baby section of the Temple Israel Cemetery. Additionally, he marked the graves of four unnamed babies, cleaned up the area, participated in a book burial ceremony and will place a bench in the same area of the cemetery.

Birthday Blessings Family Service February 18, 6 p.m.

Children and adults who celebrate their birthdays during the month of February will be invited to the *bimah* for a special blessing at this Family Service.

To Be or Not to Be~ Maimonides on the Resurrection of the Dead

Thursdays, February 3, 10, 17, 24

7:30 - 8:30 p.m. @ Beth El Synagogue

Presented by Jewish Educational and Library Services and Beth El Synagogue, JELS Executive Director Guy Matalon will teach this class exploring the writings of one of the greatest scholars in Jewish history. Maimonides' contribution to Jewish intellectual heritage was his uncompromising rationalism. With that in mind, this course will explore his views on resurrection of the dead, one of the cornerstones of classical rabbinic eschatology, the study of the end of life, the world, the universe, etc. Learn how Maimonides' rationalism interprets this topic.

To register, contact the JELS office online at mgrossman@jewishomaha.org or 334-6445. The fee is \$18 and includes all materials.

Pasta, Present and Future Bring your appetite (and your generosity) to the Spaghetti Dinner & Auction Sunday, February 13, 5 p.m.



Omaha Temple Youth Group members will honor past, present and future OTYG Board members at this annual event. Some past OTYG members include: Katie Cohen; Cari Cohn; Mitzi and Marc Delman; Stephanie DePorte; Mandy Frost; Shari Hess; Elizabeth, Sally and Gary Kaplan; Josh Katelman; Rikki Mor; Vicki Perlmeter; Rabbi Rex Perlmeter; Jane Rips; Susan Simon; Todd Simon; David Spizman; and Mitchell Warren (to name a few). Present members will be serving as the wait staff at the dinner while seventh and eighth graders will be working as coat checkers.

Dinner features spaghetti, salad, bread and dessert; \$7 for adults, \$4 for youth ages three to 12, and free for children two and younger. Proceeds from this year's dinner and auction will be donated to Camp CoHoLo and Camp Rainbow which serve children who have life threatening diseases. Temple's youth groups will also benefit from the event.

How Can You Help?

- Cash donations are still needed to create theme-filled baskets for auction.
- Consider "adopting a receipt" to help offset the costs of creating this fun event.
- Come eat, bid and have fun! The silent auction begins in the morning during Religious School and continues after the dinner. Jimmy Farber returns as the auctioneer for the live auction.
- To make a donation, please contact Lynne Jensen at ljensen@templeisraelomaha.com or 556-6536.

Please return to the Temple office	
Name _____	
Address _____	Phone _____
Auction Donations (please check):	Dinner Reservations:
Theme Basket _____	# Adults @ \$7 each _____
Cash Donation _____	# Youth @ \$4 each _____
Adopt a Receipt _____	(ages 3-12)
	# Children N/C _____
	(age 2 and younger)
Temple Israel, 7023 Cass Street, Omaha (68132)	

Women of Reform Judaism-Omaha



Come See the Pancake Man! Sunday, February 20 9-10 a.m.

Bring your family to catch some pancakes and eat them before Religious School. All-you-can-eat pancakes, beef sausage, milk, juice and coffee—adults \$4.25; children 12 and under \$3.50.



Rosh Chodesh— a time for Jewish women to gather, to share, to welcome the new moon...

Enjoy an evening of friendship and exploration at an informal Rosh Chodesh celebration on **Wednesday, February 9, 7-8:30 p.m.** in the Milder Center.

Temple's own Marge Bresel, a master quilter, is part of an international women's network of Jewish quilters. She is working on a project to create a piece of artwork for a synagogue in Israel based on the women of the Bible.

Learn about this amazing project, assist in some of the preparation of the fabrics (no sewing skills required!) and **ראש חודש** discover the spiritual satisfaction of the fiber arts. The group will also discuss how to get a regular Rosh Chodesh group up and running for interested Temple women.

If you're working on a needlepoint, crocheted, quilt or needlepoint project, bring it! RSVP to the Temple office at rzweiback@templeisraelomaha.com or 556-6536. There is no fee for this event.

Test Your WRJ Knowledge

- In what year was the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods (now known as Women of Reform Judaism) founded?
 - 1921
 - 1913
 - 1927
 - 1903
- WRJ founded which two organizations?
 - Hebrew Union College and American Jewish World Service
 - Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice and National Council on Aging
 - NFTY (North American Federation of Temple Youth) and Jewish Braille Institute
 - Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life and Commission on Social Action for Reform Judaism
- WRJ has a membership of:
 - more than 60,000 women in over 400 Sisterhoods
 - more than 80,000 women in over 700 Sisterhoods
 - more than 115,000 women in over 900 Sisterhoods
 - more than 100,000 women in over 600 Sisterhoods

(See answers below)

More Upcoming Events... Save the Date!

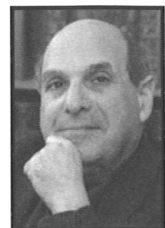
- Thursday, March 10, 7 p.m.
Game Night
- Sunday, March 20, Noon
Purim Carnival
- Thursday, March 24, 5:30 p.m.
Purim Box Dinner, Reading of the Megillah and Purim Spiel

Answers to WRJ Trivia: (1)d, (2)c, (3)d

"It's Not Always a Laughing Matter"

Sunday, February 13, 10 a.m.

"Comic strips are not for children only," according to Dr. Greenspoon, who holds the Klutznick Chair in Jewish Civilization at Creighton University. "Serious themes, sometimes even controversial ones, are handled (in the comics), and views and viewpoints espoused," he said.



"By exploring these, we can see some of the most widely propagated and shared images of Jews and Judaism in current American popular culture," Dr. Greenspoon added. He will peruse the subject of "American Jews and Judaism in the Comic Strips" when he speaks at Temple Israel this month. The event is sponsored by the Hermene Zweiback Center for Lifelong Jewish Learning.

"For the most part," he continued, "these portrayals are non-controversial, but this is not always the case. Take, for example, the Easter Sunday 2001 'B.C.' strip that stirred many accusations of anti-Semitism or at least insensitivity on the part of the cartoonist," he mentioned.

"There are also several syndicated comic strips by Jews that feature Jewish themes and Jewish characters whose religious practices are highlighted especially at Chanukkah and Passover," he said.

Those who attend will be encouraged to participate in the discussion of this form of cultural expression that reflects the status of Jews in America and how it can involve some serious, potentially offensive issues—even if they are in "the funnies."

Please Remember

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.

"Lost Tribe: Jewish Fiction from the Edge"

with Professor Gerald Shapiro

Wednesdays, March 2 and 9, 6:30-8 p.m.

and March 16, 5:30-7 p.m.

Book lovers, ardent readers and fans of Jewish-themed literature have a unique opportunity to study some of the finest short stories by up-and-coming American Jewish writers. Celebrated teacher and highly acclaimed fiction author Gerald Shapiro, a professor of creative writing and literature UNL, will facilitate this three-session mini-course at Temple Israel.

"*Lost Tribe* is a great anthology with some very provocative and brilliantly written stories in it," said Professor Shapiro. For the first class on March 2 everyone should read Tova Mirvis' story, "A Poland, a Lithuania, a Galicia," and be ready to discuss the issues raised in the tale. "I anticipate we'll spend almost all of our time talking about the stories we've read, hashing out their meaning, exchanging opinions, making connections between stories, searching for patterns, and trying to link the stories we've read with issues that are relevant to the world we're living in," Professor Shapiro said.

So the class can go out for dinner together to celebrate "great fiction, great conversation, and great fellowship," explained Temple Program Director Rosie Zweiback, "the last session of the discussion group starts early (at 5:30 p.m.)." "We are very fortunate to have this extremely talented writer and

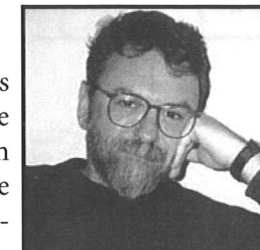
teacher who is willing to drive to Omaha from Lincoln to share his love of literature with us.

Professor Shapiro has selected a wonderful collection to read with us. I've been reading ahead and am completely taken with this book. 'The Argument' by Rachel Kadish absolutely floored me," Rosie emphasized.

After growing up in Kansas City, MO, Shapiro earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Kansas. His master of fine arts degree in creative writing is from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. He has been teaching at UNL since 1987 and has garnered extensive acclaim during his 30 years of fiction writing.

Shapiro's course on Jewish-American fiction continues to be one of the more popular ethnic literature courses offered by the UNL English Department.

His class is one of the offerings sponsored by the Hermene Zweiback Center for Lifelong Jewish Learning. To register, contact Rosie at 556-6536 or rzweiback@templeisraelomaha.com. There is no fee for this class, but participants can purchase *Lost Tribe* in the Temple office for \$14.



Save the Date!

My House Shall be a House of
Prayer for All Peoples: Responding
to the Challenges of Outreach

How Does Reform Judaism Open the Door to Participation?

A Jewish Journey Group led by
John Dacey and Todd Hutton

Tuesdays, March 22
through April 19
7 to 8:30 p.m.

Register with the Temple office,
556-6536 or
rzweiback@templeisraelomaha.com.
There is no fee for this class.

Sponsored by the
Hermene Zweiback Center for
Lifelong Jewish Learning

Meet the Screenwriter! See an Independent Film! Join us for...

"King of the Corner"
Saturday, March 12
Professor Gerald
Shapiro has a second
career as a screenwriter.

The film version of his book *Bad Jews and Other Stories* will show for two weeks at the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater at the University.

The film stars Director Peter Riegert (*Crossing Delancey*), Isabella Rossellini, Eli Wallach, Rita Moreno and Beverly D'Angelo.

A no-host dinner at "Dish" with the screenwriter and his wife will also be part of the evening's fare. To attend, contact Rosie at 556-6536 or rzweiback@templeisraelomaha.com. Tickets are \$8 per person. We will meet at Temple at 4:30 p.m. and travel together.

Women of Spirit

Interfaith Shabbat Dinner

We are welcoming Omaha's interfaith group, the "Women of Spirit" to Temple Israel, **Friday, February 11, 6 p.m.**, for a delightful Shabbat experience: a fabulous Jewish dinner, services, and a question and answer time with Rabbi Craig Marantz at the Oneg Shabbat. Attending will be spiritual, open minded, curious women from Christian, Muslim and Jewish backgrounds. They will come to share our Shabbat, enjoy delicious traditional foods, songs, blessings, and YOUR company, as the women of Temple welcome them, light the candles, eat together, and share our experience of Shabbat with this open-minded group.

This dinner is for women only; families are encouraged to join for the service and Oneg Shabbat. The cost of the dinner is \$15. Your check to Lori in the Temple office is your reservation. These women are a joy to meet! We hope you can join us and help us welcome them to Temple Israel! SAVE THE DATE AND JOIN US!

February 2005 • Shevat/I Adar 5765

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
					Shabbat Comes To You @ Remington Heights 4 p.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner Following 6 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m. Kol Rina and St. Paul UMC Choirs	Bagels & Sacred Books 9:30-10:15 a.m. Grade 6 Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Teacher Meeting 9:30 a.m. Parent/Teacher Conferences 10 a.m.-Noon Beyond Aleph Bet 10:15 a.m.-Noon Kol Rina @ St. Paul UMC 11 a.m.		Basic Judaism 6:15-8 p.m. Family School & Keep Up 6:15-8 p.m. Interfaith Couples Class 6:30-8 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gambler's 12-step 7:30 p.m.	OTYG Board Meeting & Dinner 4-6:30 p.m. Religious School Grades 7-12 6:30-8:30 p.m. Rosh Chodesh Women's Group 7-8:30 p.m.	No Religious School Adult Study With the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m.	Torah Tots 10-11:30 a.m. Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m.	Bagels & Sacred Books 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service Scout Sabbath 10:30 a.m.
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Religious School Steering Committee 8:45 a.m. Teacher Meeting 9:30 a.m. Religious School Grades K-6 10 a.m.-Noon Not Always a Laughing Matter 10 a.m. Beyond Aleph Bet 10:15 a.m.-Noon Spaghetti Dinner & Auction 5 p.m.		Basic Judaism 6:15-8 p.m. Family School & Keep Up 6:15-8 p.m. Interfaith Couples Class 6:30-8 p.m. Board of Trustees @ J.C.C. 7 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gambler's 12-step 7:30 p.m.	Conversation with the Rabbi Noon-1 p.m. Religious School & Dinner Hebrew Club 5 p.m. Grades 7-11 6-8:30 p.m.	Men's Spirituality Group @ Wheatfield's 7:30-8:30 a.m. Adult Study With the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m. Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. Kol Rina 6:30-8:00 p.m.	Torah Tots 10-11:30 a.m. Union Prayerbook Service 6 p.m. Family Service 6 p.m.	Bagels & Sacred Books 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m. B'nai Mitzvah of Molly Goldberg Scott Goldberg
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Pancake Man 9-10 a.m. Teacher Meeting 9:30 a.m. Religious School Grades K-6 10 a.m.-Noon Beyond Aleph Bet 10:15 a.m.-Noon		No Religious School Interfaith Couples Class 6:30-8 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gambler's 12-step 7:30 p.m.	Religious School Scrapbook Club & Dinner 5 p.m. Middle/High School Teacher Meeting 6 p.m. Grades 7-12 6:30-8:30 p.m.	Adult Study With the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m. Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. Kol Rina 6:30-8 p.m.	Torah Tots 10-11:30 a.m. Shabbat Service 7:30 p.m.	Bagels & Sacred Books 9:30-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
27	28	1	2	3	4	5
Teacher Meeting 9 a.m. Religious School Grades K-6 10 a.m.-Noon Family Prayer Assembly 10 a.m. Beyond Aleph Bet 10:15 a.m.-Noon 4B's 10:30 a.m.-Noon Club 56 Noon- 3 p.m.		Family School & Keep Up 6:15-8 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gambler's 12-step 7:30 p.m.	Religious School Scrapbook Club 5 p.m. Youth Group Dinner 6:00-6:30 p.m Grades 7-12 6:30-8:30 p.m. Lost Tribe-Jewish Fiction From the Edge 6:30-8 p.m.	Adult Study With the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m. Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. Kol Rina 6:30-8 p.m.	Torah Tots 10-11:30 a.m. Tot Shabbat Dinner Following 6 p.m. Shabbat Service Scholar-in-Residence Pamela Nadell 7:30 p.m.	Bagels & Sacred Books Scholar-in-Residence Pamela Nadell 9-10:15 a.m. Grade 5 Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.

Worship Services

Friday~February 4
6 p.m.
Tot Shabbat
Dinner immediately following
7:30 p.m.
Kabbalat Shabbat Service
Kol Rina and St. Paul UMC Choirs
Oneg Shabbat sponsored by
Women of Reform Judaism-Omaha

Saturday~February 5
9:30-10:15 a.m
Bagels and Sacred Books
10:30 a.m.
Grade 6 Shabbat Service
Torah Portion: Mishpatim
Exodus 21:1-24:18
Haftarah: Jeremiah 34:8-22; 33:25-26

Friday~February 11
7:30 p.m.
Shabbat Service
Rabbi Craig Marantz
Oneg Shabbat sponsored by
Women of Reform Judaism-Omaha

Saturday~February 12
9:30-10:15 a.m.
Bagels and Sacred Books
10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Service
Torah Portion: Terumah
Exodus 25:1-27:19
Haftarah: I Kings 5:26-6:13

Friday~February 18
6 p.m.
Union Prayerbook Service
6 p.m.
Family Service
Saturday~February 19
9:30-10:15 a.m.
Bagels and Sacred Books
10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Service
B'nai Mitzvah of
Molly Jo Goldberg
Daughter of Wendy and David Goldberg
Scott Ethan Goldberg
Son of Cindy and Bruce Goldberg
Torah Portion: Tetzaveh
Exodus 27:20-30:10
Haftarah: Ezekiel 43:10-27

Friday~February 25
7:30 p.m.
Shabbat Service
Rabbi Craig Marantz
Oneg Shabbat sponsored by
Women of Reform Judaism-Omaha

Saturday~February 26
9:30-10:15 a.m.
Bagels and Sacred Books
10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Service
Torah Portion: Ki Tissa
Exodus 30:11-34:35
Haftarah: I Kings 18:1-39

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.

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. If you would like information on these donations, please call Dennis DePorte, Executive Director, at 556-6536.

\$6.00 fund contributions:

David Bleicher Camp Scholarship
Mel and Genevieve Bornstein Social Justice
Rabbi Sidney H. Brooks
Institute on Judaism for Clergy
Caring
Cemetery Improvement
Education
Endowment
Samuel and Ida Kaiman Endowment
Sol and Jeanette Krizelman Social Justice
Landscape
Library
Music
Outreach
Ruth and Bernard Raskin Youth Activities
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 Marantz's Discretionary
Cantor Shermet's Discretionary
Executive Director's Discretionary
Prayer Book (\$30 donation)



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

What's Happening in Religious School

Joan Cooper, Elementary School Coordinator

Grade 6 Shabbat Service and Luncheon..... Saturday, February 5
Grade 6 students will lead the 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Service in the Sanctuary, followed by a luncheon in honor of their Religious School accomplishments. Reservations are needed by February 1! This special morning is a wonderful opportunity for the sixth grade families to celebrate the coming year when their child will become a Bar/Bat Mitzvah.

Parent/Teacher Conferences for Grades K-6..... Sunday, February 6
Kindergarten through Grade 6 parents and teachers will meet to discuss student progress this Sunday morning! Families with last names beginning with M-Z will meet from 10-11 a.m. Families with last names beginning with A-L will meet from 11 a.m.-Noon. Parents should go directly to their child's classrooms to meet the teachers. This is a "free" make-up day for students IF a parent attends the brief conference.

No School Thursday, February 10 or Tuesday, February 22
Classes resume Sunday, February 13 for Grades K-6 and Tuesday, March 1 for Family School.

New Torah Tots Session Begins Friday, February 11
Tereza Wigodsky will provide a variety of activities with Jewish topics for parents and toddlers (ages 18-48 months) to explore together. Call the Temple office, 556-6536, to register.

Religious School Steering Committee..... Sunday, February 13
Our next meeting is scheduled for 8:45 a.m. Please contact Maria Neesman or Katherine Finnegan and get involved in the future of our school. We would love to have you join us!

Prayer Assembly Sunday, February 27
Parents are encouraged to join their students for the worship assembly from 10-10:30 a.m. The 4B's topic at 10:30 a.m. will be "Christianity Through Jewish Eyes: What We Understand and Misunderstand About Our Neighbors."

Grade 5 Shabbat Service, Luncheon and Parent Meeting Saturday, March 5
We have a very important morning coming up! Students will lead the 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Service in the Sanctuary, followed by lunch and our special pre-B'nai Mitzvah meeting. This special morning is designed to prepare families for their child's Bar/Bat Mitzvah year.

Congratulations

On the Birth of:

Camille Ella Horner, daughter of Angela and Paul Horner. Grandparents are Sandra Martin, Howard Martin, and Gail and Bill Horner. Great-grandmother is Lucille Katelman.

Jordan Ava Schwab, daughter of Pamela and Matthew Schwab. Grandparents are Joodi and Norman Veitzer, and Susan and Peter Schwab, Marina del Ray, CA.

Nadav, Alon and Deena Wigodsky, sons and daughter of Sarah and Daniel Wigodsky. Grandparents are Patsy Wallace and Steve Wigodsky.

Write Now!
ADL Essay Contest

High school students have the incredible opportunity to learn about historical and modern acts of moral courage and explore ways to apply the examples to their lives by participating in the "Tribute to the Rescuers" essay contest presented by the ADL through its Institute for Holocaust Education.

Cash prizes will be awarded to winners thanks to generous donations from the Carl Fromm Foundation and Sam's Club.

Please visit the ADL website for more information (www.adl.org/tribute_essay_contest) or contact Melissa Medvin, Essay Contest Coordinator at mmedvin@adl.org.

A Special Edition of
Conversation with
the Rabbi

A Look at Two Kushners:
What Lawrence and Harold
Kushner Have to Teach
21st Century Jews
Wednesdays, February 16 & March 16
Noon to 1 p.m.

On February 16, Rabbi Craig Marantz will focus on a chapter from Lawrence Kushner's *Honey from the Rock* entitled "Shaarey Shamayim: Entrances to Holiness," which Rabbi Marantz described as "a wonderful set of mystical reflections on 'openings' and opportunities to connect with God."

A month later, Rabbi Marantz will take a look at a chapter in Harold Kushner's latest text, *The Lord is My Shepherd: Healing Wisdom of the 23rd Psalm*. Entitled "I Will Fear No Evil for Thou Art With Me," the chapter will facilitate "our discussion of the role of God accompanying us through loss," said to Rabbi Marantz.

Conversations with the Rabbis is supported by the Hermene Zweiback Center for Lifelong Jewish Learning.

The 4B's: Behaving,
Belonging, Believing
and Bagels

Sunday, February 27
10:30 a.m., Milder Center

Christianity Through Jewish
Eyes: What We Understand and
Misunderstand About Our Neighbors

Following Prayer Assembly, join Rabbi Craig Marantz as we look at aspects of Christianity through Jewish lenses. We will explore the common heritage between Jews and Christians. We will also reflect on points of reconciliation and departure in the hope of building stronger bridges.

As always, bagels are on the house!

Youth and Education

Elyce Azriel, Middle/High School Director

Lynne Jensen, Director of Youth and Informal Education

Seniors Visit Washington

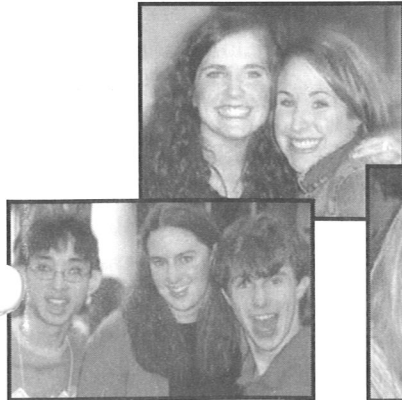
The Religious Action Center (RAC), is the social action arm of the Union for Reform Judaism. Every year the RAC sponsors weekend sessions of *L'Taken*, which means "to fix". High school students from Reform synagogues across America come to Washington D.C., to learn about political issues and present an informed speech to their elected officials, lobbying for their vote on upcoming legislation.

In January, Jacob Bleicher, Jeremiah Bleicher and Joel Passer joined 250



youth for a weekend filled with educational sessions about how our legislative process works, current and future legislation, what the Torah says about these pieces of legislation, and how to be a "Chai-powered lobbyist."

They also managed to squeeze in shopping, sightseeing, museum going, and a chance to watch the Supreme Court listen to arguments. The highlight of the weekend was visiting the offices of Senators Ben Nelson, Chuck Hagel, Tom Harkin and Charles Grassley and Representatives Lee Terry and Jeff Fortenberry.



"Voices" to be Heard
at Temple

Pippa White of One's Company will perform "Voices From the Resistance" on Wednesday, February 16, 6:30 p.m. at Temple Israel. Eighth grade Holocaust classes from Beth El and Temple Israel will be attending. The performance is open to the public at no charge.

"Voices From the Resistance" is a one-woman show about ordinary people who fought in the underground war against Hitler. They risked their lives to lead Jews to freedom, rescue Allied soldiers, print newspapers—anything to cripple the Third Reich.

Pippa White has had an extensive career in theatre and television. Now living in Lincoln, she works with the Nebraska Repertory Theatre, the Nebraska Arts Council and the Lied Center, performing her collection solo productions.

Winter Chavurah Hoorah!

In December seven OTYGers traveled with Josh Katelman to Denver, CO, for a fantastic time at Winter Chavurah.

David Anderson, Nate Joseph, Shira Kronick, Jackie Neesman, Anne Rips, Sarah Spooner and Chelsea Taxman enjoyed seeing old friends, and meeting new ones over the long weekend. The theme for the weekend dealt with maintaining a Jewish identity in a largely non-Jewish country.



In the Mail

From Uri Levin,
J.C.C. Shaliach

To All of the Temple
Israel Community:

I wanted to express my deepest thanks to your wonderful community for the very generous gifts that you gave me for Chanukah. It was unexpected—still moving and heartwarming. More than the gift itself, the real present is knowing that there is someone who thinks good things of me. Though I don't feel that I deserve those gifts, I'm humbled and thankful for them. As the old cliché says: "I was just doing my job..."

From Penny Parker, Camp Fire USA
Executive Director

Thank you so much for...the games and toys and cash donation...from the generous people of Temple Israel...Our children were very excited and it helped make their holidays special....On behalf of the youth we serve right in our own neighborhoods, thank you for giving and believing in the mission of Camp Fire USA.

From the Lied Lodge and Conference
Center (Note: Temple's annual Adult Spirituality Retreat is held at the Lied Lodge and Conference Center.)

A tree will be planted in your honor in a Yellowstone-area National Forest...to help replenish the forest and preserve the habitat of the diverse species that live there.

JYG Spring Chavurah

For all 7th and 8th graders
March 4-6 in Kansas City

Applications due

Thursday, February 3!

Contact Lynne Jensen,

ljensen@templeisraelomaha.com
or 556-6536, for information!

Nate Joseph (pictured bottom, far left) and Chelsea Taxman (above, far left) reconnect with old friends. Sarah Spooner (middle picture, left) and Jackie Neesman enjoyed the weekend, as did Anne Rips, Shira Kronick and David Anderson (pictured far right, left to right).

A Lesson in Time

350 Years of Jews in America 1914-1927

United as the American Jewish Distribution Committee, various segments of the American Jewish community pooled their funds and cooperated to apportion and send money and supplies abroad for Jewish war relief in 1914. The same year, Mizrachi, the religious Zionist organization founded in Vilna in 1902, convened its first national convention in America.

Moses Alexander, a German Jewish immigrant, was elected governor of Idaho in 1915. He was the first Jew to be elected governor of a state. Simon Bamberger was later elected the first Democrat and the first non-Mormon governor of Utah. In 1916, Louis Brandeis was appointed America's first Jewish Supreme Court Justice.

The Jewish Welfare Board was established in 1917 to meet the religious needs of some 200,000 Jewish soldiers serving in the World War. It represented 14 Jewish organizations and religious bodies and declared itself "Jewishly nonpartisan."

Also that year, the Jewish Publication Society printed a new English translation of the Hebrew Bible that won broad acceptance throughout the Anglo-Jewish world.

A year later, the Yiddish Art Theater was introduced by Maurice Schwartz, and the Women's League for Conservative Judaism was created.

In 1918 President Woodrow Wilson announced America's approval of the Balfour Declaration issued by Great Britain favoring the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine. That same year the first American Jewish Congress, led by Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, met in Philadelphia. AJC encouraged the great powers of the world to establish a Jewish homeland to protect East European Jewry.

But not everyone shared this good will. In 1920, Henry Ford's *Dearborn Independent* began the publication of 91 articles claiming to describe an international Jewish conspiracy based on the notorious anti-Semitic forgery known as *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*. Under intense pressure, Ford publicly apologized in 1927.

In 1920, the National Prohibition (Volstead) Act provided an exemption to those who used wine for "sacramental purposes." However, following widespread abuses, many Jewish religious leaders advocated the use of grape juice instead of wine.

After publishing "A Program for the Reconstruction of Judaism" in 1920, Mordecai Kaplan resigned from his Orthodox congregation in 1922 and founded the Society for the Advancement of Judaism, a forerunner of Reconstructionism. He officiated at the *bat mitzvah* ceremony for his daughter, Judith, the first known *bat*

mitzvah on American soil.

In the meantime, Rabbi Wise founded the Jewish Institute of Religion in New York, a rabbinical seminary committed to Zionism, social justice and serving the Jewish people as a whole. Twenty-seven years later, the institute merged with Hebrew Union College.

Immigrant Acts in 1921 and 1924 closed America's doors to East European Jews and others.

As the number of Jewish students at Harvard surpassed 21 percent, a quota was imposed limiting the number of Jews who could enroll there. The president of Harvard explained that the decision was meant to eliminate resentment toward Jews. At the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana, the first B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation was established in 1923.

In 1925, the Synagogue Council of America was organized, followed by the World Union for Progressive Judaism in 1926. Promoting a religiously pluralistic America, the National Conference of Christians and Jews was established in 1927. On its behalf, ministers, priests and rabbis canvassed the country to rout out religious prejudice.

A 1927 survey revealed that there were 4,228,000 Jews, 17,500 organizations, and 3,118 Jewish congregations in the United States.

Just a Reminder

For your protection, please lock your automobiles when parking at Temple. Remove CD faceplates and store valuables in your trunk to discourage theft. Temple has security patrolling the parking lots during Friday night and High Holy Days services only.

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

MEMORY OF: Leroy Canfield, Gaye Gendler: Sandy and John Lehr; Joel Cherniss: Sally and Sheldon Masnek; Sylvia Coren, Henry Riekes, Phil Sokolof: Karen and Gary Javitch; Richard "Skip" Feintech: Karen and Gary Javitch, Anne and Bruce Shackman; Barbara Frankel: Phyllis and Harvey Aronson, Molline and Fritz Cassman, Babe Cohn, Ruth and Joe Erman, Barbara and Gary Goldstein, Renee and Mo Handleman, Karen and Gary Javitch, Sandy and John Lehr, Lisa and Denny Lewis, Sandy, Jeff, Joel and Aaron Passer, Nancy and Stefan Richter and Susan Rudy, Jane and Harlan Rips, Kimberly and Andrew Robinson, Linda and Kevin Saltzman, Lillian and Jack Schrager, Terri and Phil Schrager, Noni and Hal Selner, Audrey Sophir; Dean Frankel: Karen and Gary Javitch, Sandy and John Lehr, Lisa and Denny Lewis, Sandy, Jeff, Joel and Aaron Passer, Jane and Harlan Rips, Lillian and Jack Schrager, Terri and Phil Schrager, Noni and Hal Selner, Audrey Sophir; Joy Grossman: Sandy and John Lehr, Wendy and Todd Manvitz and family, Mimi Waldbaum; Bill Halsted: Janey and Jerry Dann, Sandy and John Lehr, Jane and Harlan Rips, Ellen and Richard Slosburg, Martha and David Slosburg; Samuel Heyman: Phyllis and Dick Glazer; Brian Jackson: Sandy, Jeff, Joel and Aaron Passer; Mary Tatle Kubby, Gertrude Tatle Newman, Brad Sperling: Harriett and Sherm Sperling; Morris Lipp: Babe Cohn; Beverly Morris: Sandy and John Lehr; Sherman Neff: Carol and Steven Bloch, Phyllis and Dick Glazer; Rose Sherman: Lisa and Denny Lewis, Doris Parker; Frances Singer: Doris Parker; Bert Weintrob: Nancy, David, Rachel, Sara, Ben and Justin Jacobson

IN HONOR OF RECOVERY OF: Jerry John: Phyllis and Harvey Aronson, Molline and Fritz Cassman, Karen and Gary Javitch; Helen Chorney,

Jack Diamond: Doris Parker; Marlene Dandy: Gary Gerelick, Karen and Gary Javitch; Harold Epstein: Karen and Gary Javitch; Darlynn Fellman, Dick Glazer, Judy Josephson, Normand Roffman: Gary Gerelick; Howard Kaiman: Joan and Milton Marcus, Suzy Rubin; Rocky Lewis: Rose Pitlor; Maurie Meiches: Suzy Rubin; Rosalie Meiches: Gary Gerelick, Suzy Rubin; Frances Milder: Barbara and Marshall Kushner; Barbara Rips: Barbara and Marshall Kushner, Harriett and Sherm Sperling; Paula Singer: Frances and Sam Fried; Wendy Gayle Moose-Masserant: Allison Latenser and Lou Pachman

IN HONOR OF BIRTHDAY OF: Mel Epstein: Susan and Jerry Wolper; Milton Marcus, Sandy Passer: Toby Fellman; Noni and Harold Selner: Howard Kaiman; Barbara Taxman: Harriett and Sherm Sperling

IN HONOR OF ANNIVERSARY OF: Sally and Ed Malashock: Pearl and Jerry Gross

IN HONOR OF BIRTH OF: Granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mike Katzman: Lisa and Denny Lewis; Jordan Ava Schwab: Terri and Phil Schrager; Maxwell Spizman: Noni and Hal Selner

IN HONOR OF CHOOSING JUDAISM: Ellie Krasne: Joan and Milton Marcus; David Rice: Nancy and Don Greenberg, Dorothy and David Hinkamp, Cynthia and Charles Schneider

IN HONOR OF NEW HOME: Jane Brooks: Janey and Jerry Dann, Jeanne and Dave Dvorkin, Lois and Mel Epstein, Elly and Bob Gordman, Barbara and Marshall Kushner, Joan and Milton Marcus, Lillian and Jack Schrager, Marilyn and Marty Warren

HAPPY CHANUKAH WISHES: Toby Fellman, Hollis Glaser: Joel and Aaron Passer

IN APPRECIATION OF: Milton Marcus:

Beth Israel Board of Commissioners

IN HONOR OF DEBUTANTE BALL: Sara Rips: Aileen and Leo Eisenstatt

Women of Reform Judaism Tribute Fund

IN MEMORY OF: Leroy Canfield: Marilyn and Marty Warren

Our Sympathy

The Congregation records with sorrow the deaths of...

Boris Bliacher, brother of Galina Kogan;

Joel Newman Cherniss, cousin of Maurice "Bud" Greenspan;

Audrey Cohen, mother of Julie Martin, Lynne Bonham and Gary Cohen;

Samuel Heyman, father of Richard Heyman;

Mabel Lazer, mother of Michael Lazer and grandmother of Steve Wolpa;

Anne Rosenblatt, grandmother of Marti Harris

...and extends sympathy to their bereaved families.



Tree of Life

Commemorating the joyous moments in families' and friends' lives

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

To Mel With Love
On Your 60th!
Luv, Me

Temple's Wish List

Often, one of our congregants wishes to give a gift to our temple and asks the question, "What does the congregation need?" Below are some items-in-need.

A birthday, an anniversary, a Bar or Bat Mitzvah, or any lifecycle event may inspire your generosity and, thereby, make our wishes come true!

- Funding for High Holy Days Octet
- Travel Money for Youth
- Computer High Performance Scanner
- Carpet for Offices
- Telephone System for Shut-ins for Worship Services
- Large Projection Screen (7.5 ft. x 10 ft.)