

It Seems to Me — cont'd
and that's why correctly the book opens as a Hebrew book.

Furthermore, to open the book from right to left quickly tells us that in the Synagogue we draw closer to our tradition and away from the ambience of majority non-Jewish thinking and behavior. In our Siddur is to be found the outreach of Jewish passion for a better and vastly different world than that in which we live. Of many moods and trends and life-styles in our time we well might say we yearn for a reversal of direction, not backwards but a corrected view of life and its values. To take up our Siddur, then, is to be reminded of a return to more wholesome, healthy, compassionate and humane ways of living. Our synagogue is not a church. Our way of life ought not be the way of all people. Our values were meant to be different. Thus our Siddur is not backwards but different and correct.

I would hope that despite assimilation of culture patterns we still might maintain our Jewish integrity to some extent. Isn't it a good thing to know that our thoughts and sensitivities are distinguished from others? That's why we are Jews.

We are not backwards. We are striving to be correct.

If You Were in Our Religious School . . .

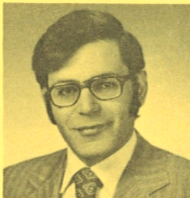
by Rabbi Barry L. Weinstein

WANTED:
THE BLESSING OF CHANUKAH

We Jews and the world in which we live need Chanukah more this year than in recent memory. Frightening world events serve as a reminder that the message of Chanukah is yet to be universally learned and accepted.

Chanukah. The word itself has become synonymous with the ideal of religious freedom. The notion of religious freedom was first given to the world over two thousand years ago, but sadly the lesson is needed again and again.

To observe religious tyranny and fanaticism threatening the lives of innocent American citizens is to be reminded of the importance of the religious freedoms which are ours in this country. Respect for individual religious differences and the right of every human being to a religious life in accordance with the dictates of conscience are not to be



taken lightly. And as Jews, we know better than most the meaning of religious oppression and persecution.

I hope you will take advantage of the opportunity Chanukah presents us as parents to talk about these values with our children. We do in the school, of course. But for you to do so as parents will lend even greater credence and support to our instruction.

All this is only to say that this year I personally feel the need for Chanukah even more than in the past. The world seems now to be a more brutal and frightening place with every passing day. At times the desire to withdraw, retreat, and surrender is overwhelming. Yet the Jewish imperative, and certainly the message of Chanukah, is to become involved, to take action, and to do all we can to improve the world of which we are part.

So my prayer is that this Chanukah will find us all, through prayer, deeds, and generosity, doing our share to bring greater light and safety to our world.

And to our Chanukah prayers of gratitude for our freedoms we will add prayers asking for the safe return of our fellow citizens, now held hostage.

Chanukah, within the private sanctity of our homes and families, is thankfully about to arrive. It is needed, urgently, now more than ever before.

It's Never Too Late!

If you have not paid your Men's Club Dues, it is not too late to do so. Treasurer C. Meade Chamberlin is still receiving checks — and will look forward to receipt of yours!

Remember Men's Club activities and programs are planned with you in mind. You will derive much pleasure from your affiliation!

Just mail to Mr. Chamberlin, c/o Temple Israel — your \$8.00 will go far in member activities, as well as for the welfare of the Temple at large.

NEWS DEADLINE FOR
TIDINGS ISSUE NO. 7

Thursday, Dec. 13, 1979

This issue will cover
Fridays
Dec. 28, Jan. 4, and 11

Blessings for
Kindling
Chanukah Candles
December 14-December 21

For home observance of the Chanukah holiday, candles should be kindled beginning Friday evening, December 14. One candle is kindled the first night (not counting the Shamas light) and the number is increased by one each evening until there are eight on the final night, Friday, December 21.

The following blessings are recited:

Ba-ruch atah a-do-nai, e-lo-he-nu melech ha-olam, a-she-her kid-d'sho-nu b'mits'-vo-tov v-tsi-vo-nu l'had-lik 'ner shel Ha-nuk-kah.

Blessed is the Lord our God, Ruler of the universe, who hallows us with His Mitzvot, and commands us to kindle the Chanukah lights.

Ba-ruch atah a-do-nai, e-lo-he-nu me-lech ha-olam, she-o-soh nis-sim la-avo-te-nu ba-yo-mim ho-hem baz'-man haz zeh.

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

Ba-ruch atah a-do-nai, e-lo-he-nu melech ha-olam, she'hechianu v'kiyamanu v'hig-ianu lazman haz-zeh.

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

After the Chanukah blessings have been recited, the family may join in singing Rock of Ages.

Rock of Ages, let our song
Praise Thy saving power;
Thou, amidst the raging foes,
Wast our shelt'ring tower.
Furious they assailed us,
But Thine arm availed us,
And Thy word
Broke their sword
When our own strength failed us.

Children of the martyr-race,
Whether free or fettered,
Wake the echoes of the songs,
Where ye may be scattered.
Yours the message cheering
That the time is nearing
Which will see
All men free,
Tyrants disappearing.

Third Annual Kallah
Weekend
Scholar-in-Residence
Program Dec. 21-23, 1979

The Jewish Cultural Arts Council of Omaha is sponsoring the Third Annual Kallah Weekend December 21-23. The Kallah Weekend is a

practice that originated in Talmudic days in which a period of time was set aside for intensive Jewish Studies.

Professor Stephen Berk will be the guest speaker at four lecture-discussions. The program is as follows.

Friday, Dec. 21 at 8:15 p.m., Beth El Synagogue: "Soviet Jewry At The

SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP

G littering decorations; gift wrap and chocolate gelt!
Own a beautiful sculpture — or give one!

Fine jewelry for all the family!
Order a special gift from a catalog!
Religious and ceremonial books, objects and decorative items!

Israeli candlesticks, menorahs, door mezuzzahs and more!
Toys, trinkets, books, candles, dreidels and games!

"Go For It at the Sisterhood Gift Shop"

Chanukah Hours: Sunday mornings, Dec. 9th and 16th, 10:00 a.m. — 12:00 Noon, in the Milder Center.
Weekdays: 9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m. when the office staff will help you. Or call Norma Fried, 397-0475.

OUR GANG NEW YEAR'S EVE GALA!
Monday, December 31

*THEATRE *DINNER *CHAMPAGNE PARTY *FAVORS
*HATS *JAZZ BAND

Only \$25.00 per person includes everything except individual bar tabs.

7:00 P.M. — Doors open at MIDTOWN UPSTAIRS SUPPER THEATRE
7:30 P.M. — Dinner Buffet (until 8:30 P.M.)
9:00 P.M. — Show time — "TWO BY TWO"

FOLLOWED BY CHAMPAGNE PARTY AND
JAZZ BAND TILL 1:00 A.M.

RESERVATIONS ESSENTIAL!! Send check for at least ½ of the price (\$12.50) with your reservation request for each person to:
Faye Garber
6537 Lafayette Ave.
Omaha, Nebraska 68132

Sorry! No refunds will be possible. Cash Bar during the show is not included in \$25.00 price.

If you wish to sit with someone special, include your request with your reservation order as seating will be arranged ahead of time.

Any questions? Call Faye Garber, 558-8899, or Jan Garnier, 493-3263.

Turning Point."
Saturday, Dec. 22 at 8:45 a.m., Beth Israel Synagogue: "Russian History And Its Impact On The Middle East."

Saturday, Dec. 22 at 8:00 p.m., Temple Israel: "The Holocaust In The Light Of History."

Sunday, Dec. 23 at 2:00 p.m., Jewish Community Center: "America, Israel And The Middle East."

Professor Berk is a professor of History at Union College, Schenectady, New York, with a special interest in Russian and Soviet Jewish history. He is currently engaged in an in-depth study of Russian Jewry in the late nineteenth century.

Each member of the Omaha Jewish Community is encouraged to attend all four presentations regardless of their personal affiliation.

SECOND IN SERIES
RABBIS HELPING
PARENTS

The second in a series with Rabbi Weinstein helping parents answer questions young children ask about the Jewish Holidays will be Sunday, December 9. Subject will be "Chanukah". All pre-schoolers and parents are especially invited. **Supervised programming for pre-school children will be provided while parents are with Rabbi Weinstein.** The session begins at 10:00 a.m. and ends at 11:30 a.m.

COLLEGE
HOMECOMING

**Wednesday, December 26, 1979
6:00 p.m. Dinner**

College students and their friends are invited to come and meet friends, old and new and enjoy dinner and a pleasant evening at the home of Rabbi and Mrs. Sidney H. Brooks, 8668 Cedar Street.

Call Temple Office, 556-6536, to let us know if you can attend!

OUR SYMPATHY

The Congregation records with sorrow the deaths of

MADELEINE SILVER
Wife of Ben Silver

SYLVIA Z. MAYER
Wife of Alfred S. Mayer
Mother of
Mrs. Martin (Joan) Lehr
Grandmother of
John, Susie and Cindy Lehr
and extends sympathy to their bereaved families.

CONTRIBUTIONS MADE TO SPECIAL TEMPLE FUNDS:

IN APPRECIATION OF:

Services of Rabbi Sidney H. Brooks.
Services of Rabbi Barry L. Weinstein.

IN HONOR OF:

Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. David Bleicher.
Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Cherniack.
Bat Mitzvah of Robin Michelle Dann.
Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Kirke.
Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Bernie Meyers.
Marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Sirotkin.

FOR THE RECOVERY OF:

Jack Epstein, Nelson Gordman, Mrs. Henry (Sis) Greenberg, Gary Gross, Morris Hoffman, Gene Kaplan, Ben Rosen, Dr. Maurice Sachs, Eli Zalkin.

IN MEMORY OF:

Olive Dvorkin, Mollie Epstein, Sol Epstein, Marvin Franklin, Mother of Pauline Hoberman, Emma Kaplan, Sylvia Mayer, Hess Moskowitz, John Rosenblatt, Helen Silberman, Madeleine Silver, Louis Weisberg Florence Wolf.

GIFTS OF PRAYER BOOKS

IN HONOR OF:

Birthday of Hermene Zweiback.

IN MEMORY OF:

Sylvia Mayer, John Rosenblatt, Helen Silberman, Madeleine Silver, Harry Siref, Florence Wolf.

HONORED AT SABBATH SERVICES

Oct. 19, 1979

Candle Blessing Mrs. Fred Tichauer
Kiddush Sherman C. Sperling
Torah Blessing Harold Bernstein
Torah Blessing Kevee Kirshenbaum

Oct. 26, 1979

Candle Blessing Mrs. Harold Winslow
Kiddush Jennifer Leigh Hornsby
Torah Blessing Mrs. Harold Winslow

Nov. 2, 1979

Candle Blessing Mrs. David Bleicher
Kiddush Sherman C. Sperling

Nov. 9, 1979

Candle Blessing Mrs. Maynard Tatelman
Kiddush Eric Tatelman
Torah Blessing Michael Mogil
Torah Blessing Charles Mogil

Nov. 16, 1979

Candle Blessing Wendy Dann
Kiddush Robin Michelle Dann
Torah Blessing Joe Dann
Torah Blessing Mark Dann

Rabbi Kaplan To Speak at Dec. 21 Services

Rabbi Solomon Kahn Kaplan, of United Hebrew Congregation, Springfield, Missouri will speak at Services on December 21.

He is a graduate of University of Cincinnati with a B.A. in Philosophy, and was ordained at Hebrew Union College in 1949 with a Master of Hebrew Letters degree. He received the Degree of Doctor of Divinity from Hebrew Union College in 1975.

Rabbi Kaplan is an innovative thinker, a captivating personality and a speaker whom our Congregation is glad to welcome to our pulpit.

He will speak on a topic which is one in which he has been interested for many years and will prove to be an unique interpretation of a late-studied facet of Jewish History highly relevant to contemporary interests.

His topic will be "THE WANDERING JEW . . . An insight into the historic relationship of travel to learning."

SEE ISRAEL — EGYPT

with

Rabbi and Mrs. Brooks

April 17-May 1

ARE YOUR RESERVATIONS IN? ACT SOON!

For Itinerary and details
Call Temple Office or
Rabbi Brooks 556-6536

CONGRATULATIONS . . . ON THE BIRTH OF:

Lisa Lynn Pitlor, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Steven L. Pitlor. Grandparents are Mrs. Micky Greenberg, Mr. Robert Gerelick, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Pitlor. Great-grandmother is Bessie Behn.

ON THE MARRIAGE OF:

Tonita Elizabeth Worley, N.Y.C., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. K. Worley of Dallas, Texas and Charles D. Peebler, Jr. son of Mrs. Mary Barnett Peebler, Diamond City, Ark.

WANT TO VOLUNTEER?

The Men's Club will again sponsor Christmas Relief on December 24/25 at St. Joseph Hospital.

Call Phill Spizman or Temple Office, if you can give of yourself for this significant program.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER

5-12-19	Confirmation Class	4:00 p.m.
5-12-19	Hebrew Class — Aleph	4:00 p.m.
6-13-20	Hebrew Class — Daled	4:00 p.m.
7	Sabbath Evening Services	8:15 p.m.
8	Religious School	9:00 a.m.
8	Sabbath Morning Services	11:00 a.m.
9	Religious School	10:00 a.m.
9	Gift Shop Open	10:00-noon
9	Men's Club	10:00 a.m.
9	Parents-Holidays for Children — Rabbi Weinstein	10:00 a.m.
11-18	Hebrew Class — Beth	4:00 p.m.
11-18	Hebrew Class — Gimmel	5:00 p.m.
12	Senior Citizens — Walk-In—Drop-In	10:00 a.m.
12	Board of Trustees	7:30 p.m.
14	Chanukah begins — light 1st candle	Sundown
14	Chanukah Congregational Dinner	6:00 p.m.
14	Early Chanukah Service	7:30 p.m.
15	Religious School	9:00 a.m.
15	Sabbath Morning Services	11:00 a.m.
16	Religious School	10:00 a.m.
16	Gift Shop Open	10:00 to noon
16	Conversion Class	10:00 a.m.
21	Sabbath Evening Services	8:15 p.m.
22-29	Religious School	Recess
22	Sabbath Morning Services	11:00 a.m.
22	Weekend Kallah — Scholar in Residence Program — Jewish Cultural Arts Council at Temple Israel	8:00 p.m.
23-30	Religious School	Recess
25-26-27	Hebrew Classes	Recess
26	College Homecoming Rabbi Brooks' Residence	6:00 p.m.
28	Sabbath Evening Services	8:15 p.m.
29	Sabbath Morning Services	11:00 a.m.

TEMPLE ISRAEL MEN'S CLUB BRUNCH

Temple Israel Men's Club will meet at 10:00 A.M. on Sunday, December 9, in the Milder Conference Center.

Guest Speaker will be George Morgan, Professor at Metropolitan Tech, and his topic will be *Today's Economy and Other Funny Things*. Brunch is served and guests are welcome.

TEMPLE TIDINGS

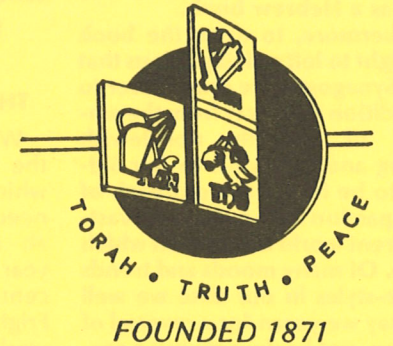
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DATED MATERIAL

Temple Israel Tidings



VOL. XXX

December 7, 1979

No. 6

IT SEEMS TO ME . . .

A Personal
Message from
Rabbi Brooks



BACKWARDS OR CORRECT?

On occasion I am asked frequently by non-Jews and sometimes even by Jews: Why does our prayer book open backwards? The real question is, of course, what kind of a book is this? The plain answer is that, being identified as a Hebrew book, certainly as much as an English book, following the Hebrew language direction the book should open from right to left. It is not backwards. It is correct!

But symbolically much more is intended. Firstly, the book is not really a prayer book in the sense that the Book of Common Prayer, for example, is in the Church. Ours is a Siddur, an Order of meditation, contemplation, and study as well as of prayer. The character and purpose of our Book is different. Not backwards, but different and correct. Ours is an Order and Type of thought. That's what Siddur means
(continued next page)

Sidney H. Brooks, M.H.L., D.D.
Rabbi

Barry L. Weinstein, M.A.H.L.
Associate Rabbi

Gail Posner Karp, B.S.M.
Cantor

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Friday, December 7
8:15 p.m.

Sabbath Evening Services

RABBI BARRY L. WEINSTEIN
will speak on
CATASTROPHE IN CAMBODIA —
How Shall We Respond?

Sabbath Coffee Hour

Saturday, December 8
11:00 a.m.

Sabbath Morning Services

Friday, December 14
7:30 p.m.

Sabbath Evening Services

CHANUKAH CONGREGATIONAL DINNER
6:00 p.m.

7:30 p.m. Chanukah Service
First Chanukah Candle will be Kindled
Junior Choir will Participate

Saturday, December 15
11:00 a.m.

Sabbath Morning Services

Friday, December 21
8:15 p.m.

Sabbath Evening Services

GUEST SPEAKER
RABBI SOLOMON KAHN KAPLAN
United Hebrew Congregation, Springfield, Missouri
will speak on

THE WANDERING JEW . . .
. . . An Insight Into the Historic Relationship of
Travel to Learning.
Kindling of the Candles for the Last Night of Chanukah
Sabbath Coffee Hour

Saturday, December 22
11:00 a.m.

Sabbath Morning Services

Bar Mitzvah of
DAVID CONRAD KULLY,
son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert I. Kully