

GRATITUDE

Our profound thanks to all who responded to my appeal for funds to help to alleviate suffering and starvation in Cambodia and the area.

Your generosity was marvelous and a real expression of religious response.

To this date we received from you \$3,960.50 which has been forwarded to the "UAHC Hunger Fund, New York", and "The American Refugee Committee of Nebraska."

Your true thanks will be those whom you have helped.

S.H.B.

MRS. EUGENE ZWEIBACK ELECTED

At the recent 55th General Assembly of the UAHC in Toronto, our Mrs. Eugene (Hermene) Zweiback was elected by the National Federation of Temple Sisterhood to serve on the National Sisterhood Board, for a 4-year term.

She was installed during the meeting in Toronto, and at the same time Mrs. Stanley E. (Jan) Perlmeter completed her 4 years of service on the National Board.

Hermene is currently President of Temple Israel Sisterhood, and curiously enough her mother is serving as Sisterhood President at the synagogue in Wichita.

OUR SYMPATHY

The Congregation records with sorrow the deaths of

BETTY KRASNE

Mother of
Mrs. Milton (Joan) Marcus

FANNIE CAMEL KATZMAN

Mother of
Mrs. Sol (Dorothy) Yaffe

ALBERT H. SHRIER

Brother of Ben F. Shrier
Brother of Hy S. Shrier

EDWIN J. LEHMANN

Hastings, Ne.
Father of
Mrs. Max (Babette) Prostok
Hastings, Ne.

and extends sympathy to their bereaved families.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER

25 thru Jan. 3 Hebrew Classes Recess
26 thru Jan. 2 Confirmation Class Recess
28 Sabbath Evening Services 8:15 p.m.
29 thru Jan. 6 Religious School Recess
29 Sabbath Morning Services 11:00 a.m.

JANUARY

4 Sabbath Evening Services
Sabbath Discussion Series III 8:15 p.m.
5 Sabbath Morning Services 11:00 a.m.
8-9-10 Regular Hebrew Classes Resume 4:00 p.m.
9 Confirmation Class 4:00 p.m.
9 Board of Trustees Meeting 7:30 p.m.
11 Sabbath Evening Services 8:15 p.m.
12 Religious School 9:00 a.m.
12 Sabbath Morning Services 11:00 a.m.
13 Religious School 10:00 a.m.
13 Men's Club 10:00 a.m.
13 Parenting Sessions begin
with Rabbi Brooks 10:00 a.m.
13 Conversion Class 10:00 a.m.
15-16-17 Hebrew Classes 4:00 p.m.
16 Confirmation Class 4:00 p.m.

Sisterhood Announcements

Sisterhood would like to give a special thanks to the Men's Club for sharing the costs of the Temple roster with us. We would also like to thank Cheryl Cooper and Ann Broder for doing all the baking for our November evening meeting.

They did a fine job!

Finally, please be alerted to two program changes: We had to cancel the January 8th coffee, but we have scheduled a board meeting on that day instead. Also, we WILL have a donor luncheon on April 8th, and you will be hearing much more about that at a later date!!

TEMPLE TIDINGS

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Temple Israel Tidings



VOL. XXX

December 28, 1979

No. 7

IT SEEMS TO ME . . .

A Personal
Message from
Rabbi Brooks



1980

1980! Interesting. An astronomical number for so many of us. A new decade. Born in turmoil and danger. A welcome relief from the terrible 70's. All of us fervently wishing that in the new decade we can leave behind the greatest burden of our fears, stresses, violence and struggle so common in the decade now gone.

Strange thing. We didn't dwell much on the round number of the Rosh Hashanah 5740. For the majority of us it was another year. That's all. Not a new decade, plainly and wondrously another year of life with a prayerful approach filled with the desire for peace and tranquility and creativity for all. Not the decade but the moment of judgment in that celebration.

But we are children of our era and our culture. And in these terms we think too of the secular date and the
(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 28
8:15 p.m.

Sabbath Evening Services

RABBI SIDNEY H. BROOKS

and
RABBI BARRY L. WEINSTEIN
will speak on

1980 . . . Two Contrasting Points of View!
Sabbath Coffee Hour

Saturday, December 29
11:00 a.m.

Sabbath Morning Services

Friday, January 4
8:15 p.m.

Sabbath Evening Services

III. Sabbath Discussion Series
"SERMONS IN SILVER"

"WHEN AND WHAT IS THE SABBATH?"
THE SHABBAT LAMP

led by

RABBI SIDNEY H. BROOKS

Sabbath Coffee Hour

Saturday, January 5
11:00 a.m.

Sabbath Morning Services

Friday, January 11
8:15 p.m.

Sabbath Evening Services

GUEST SPEAKER

THEODORE K. BROIDO,

Administrative Secretary
UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS
will speak on

JEWISH TRADITION
Chain or Chains?
Sabbath Coffee Hour

Saturday, January 12
11:00 a.m.

Sabbath Morning Services

It Seems to Me — cont'd
possibilities of the 80's. In all practical terms our lives are geared to those numbers. And having said that, what does it all mean?

I think it means that we latch onto almost anything that will give us the illusion that life can start over again, that we can shape our destiny, that life can be better for us and for all mankind. We are partners with God Himself.

Is it an illusion? I don't know. But we must live with that kind of dream or we accomplish nothing. So many realities were once illusory dreams, dreams that became real because they were intense enough.

So if the values of yesteryears led us astray and spawned the 70's so tragically, why cannot new values produce a new life in the 80's? We will have problems. But we can also dream solutions.

For myself, I wish with all my heart I could live my life over again. And so I intend to do just that! I will start right now. I have the best chance in the world. I'm alive, thank God.

Yes, it is a new decade. All of us have that. Now why not behave as much as we can in new patterns and embrace values that are warm and meaningful and lasting and loving.

I don't believe the new decade is immune to our desires.

Do you?

1980 begins.

We begin: to dream, to strive, to love with all our hearts.

Practical Jewish Parenting

by Rabbi Sidney H. Brooks

Four gatherings with Rabbi Brooks created to help answer questions children and parents ask will begin Sunday, January 13, at 10:00 a.m. and conclude at 11:30 a.m. This is a four week series of gatherings on Major Concerns of Parents and Children!

The January 13 gathering will cover this subject: "Why am I Jewish?" . . . Concepts of God, Christianity and Being Jewish.

On January 20 the subject will be: "Death" — Why? What? How?

On January 27, "Single Parenthood, Divorce, Inter-dating and Marriage."

On February 3, "Illness and Injury — Good & Evil."

Mark your calendars and plan to attend these sessions. If sitter service needed, call Temple Office.

If You Were in Our Religious School . . .

by Rabbi Barry L. Weinstein
A DECADE DAWNS

One of my earliest recollections of elementary school has to do with the calendar. I believe it was in the middle of second grade that we were taught how to carefully print 1950 instead of 1949.

Now 1980 is about to dawn. 1980. The sound of the number itself is somehow startling! It once seemed so far in the future, but now it is upon us.

The circumstances in which the new decade finds itself initiated are generally less favorable than we would like. Hunger and homelessness, poverty and political instability rock many parts of the globe. Almost unbelievably, American citizens are held hostage far from home. Our national will faces its most severe test since that long ago day when 1949 became 1950, ushering in a new decade amid circumstances of less turmoil and somewhat greater optimism.

How shall we, as Jews, respond to the puzzling dilemmas that 1980 appears to be ushering in? Does Judaism have answers?

I believe it does.

First, we have been taught for generations that as individuals we have a role to play in the improvement of our world. It's called *Tikkun olam*. It is a noble concept, very much in need today. No matter how small or insignificant our own individual actions may seem to us, the cumulative effect can be awesome. When individuals collectively carry out acts of generosity and compassion, the world really can become a better place.

Second, for thousands of decades our teachers have reminded us that life, all life, is precious. Judaism is life affirming, and ought to translate into the reality of our everyday lives those values that help to enhance life, and make it more worth living. Honesty and kindness, compassion and peace, are only hollow words if we do not make them real through our deeds and our words.

Deeds and words. Or, as we might say in one concise Hebrew word,



mitzvot. But it is much more than just a word. It's a concept, an ideal and a hope. For by mitzvot we claim that individual deeds of human kindness, courage, generosity, and love can make our world a more humane and just place for our People and all people in which to live.

This is the heritage in which our parents and our parents' parents, educated us. Now all this and more is ours to convey to our children, and to theirs.

The dawning of a new decade ought to remind us of one other fundamental Jewish belief. Namely, that time is to be sanctified. Every decade, every year, every moment is, or at least can be, sacred. As 1979 becomes 1980, we too can subtly change, if we will it. Our duty now, more than ever, remains what it has always been as Jewish people: to improve the world, to affirm life, and to do mitzvot.

Then our lives, our world, and the next decade, will be the better.

How Is the Work of the UAHC Supported?

The national institutions of Reform Judaism — the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC) and the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) — are supported just as our member congregations are themselves supported:

Every member congregation of the Union is mandated by a vote of congregational delegates to UAHC General Assemblies and thereby, through our Bylaws, to a proportional dues plan.

Just as with individuals, no congregational member is denied participation in UAHC if it is truly unable to afford the constitutionally mandated dues. Similarly, the responsibility is implicit that members-in-good-standing must place their obligations to our national religious bodies on a proper priority level commensurate with the "life-style" of the congregations.

The congregations' proportional dues are the foundation for broad-based support of our national institutions, but it is the gifts beyond basic dues that make possible much of our creative programming beyond the subsistence level.

CANTOR'S CORNER



**Cantor
Gail P. Karp**

Many thanks to the Junior Choir of Temple Israel in helping to make this Chanukah season a pleasant and memorable one for all involved.

Students who sang in the choir for the Chanukah dinner and service were:

Jill Barnes, Margo Cohen, Alison Kutler, Faye Dloogoff, Mindi Dloogoff, Randi Epstein, Robyn Epstein, Lisa Fried, Marci Luefschuetz, Keri Saltzman, Edye Roffman, Shayna Sacks, Beth Selner, Trudi Selner, Lisa Shulman, Andy Tretiak and Lisa Weinstein.

Book Contest Success!

The Religious School Book Collection Contest has been completed with over 2500 collected.

Winners of Saturday Division were: 1st place — Becky Cipinko; 2nd place — Susan Simon.

Carrie and Scott Katskee won 1st & 2nd place in Sunday Division.

A special thanks to all of the children who participated. Thanks also goes to All Makes Office Equipment Co. and Rubin Distributing Co. for donating calculators and to Gizmo's for donating gift certificates. Finally, thanks goes to Donna Givner for being chairperson for the contest.

Remember books are always welcomed. Just call Temple, or Randi Katelman 334-9147 for a pick up.

NEWS DEADLINE FOR TIDINGS ISSUE No. 8

Thursday, JAN. 3, 1980

This issue will cover
Fridays
Jan. 18, 25 and Feb. 1

HELP FREE THE AMERICAN HOSTAGES

In response to pleas of families of hostages, we ask you to write two letters, or postcards with these suggested messages:

- 1) To the Iranian Embassy in Washington, D.C.:
"Please free the American hostages immediately."

Iranian Embassy
3005 Massachusetts Ave. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

- 2) To the Hostages themselves:
"Our country is proud of you and we wish you continued strength and courage until you are once again back home with us."

United States Embassy
260 Teleghani Avenue
Tehran, Iran

In addition, letters to President Carter reaffirming our support of him in his supervision of this crisis are urged. Do not underestimate the cumulative impact of individual expressions of concern upon the Iranian government, and upon our fellow Americans in Tehran. Write now, and encourage all your friends and family to do the same. Now!

The President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

An Open Letter To Parents of All Religious School Students

As we approach the middle of this school year, we wish to remind you that your rabbis and teachers remain available to you for any questions, suggestions or needs you may have.

We hope parents will take advantage of the many opportunities for learning as parents that are provided.

At the same time, we seek your continued support. Please take time during the coming winter recess to remind your sons and daughters of the following expectations of our school:

1. REAL LEARNING TAKES PLACE BEST WHEN ATTENDANCE IS CONSISTENT AND REGULAR. Attendance throughout the school has shown a marked improvement this year, and we express our appreciation to you as parents.
2. TEACHERS TEACH MOST EFFECTIVELY, AND STUDENTS LEARN BEST, in an atmosphere of mutual respect. We expect all students to come to the school with willingness to learn and with a spirit of seriousness.
3. OUR EFFORTS SUCCEED BEST WHEN YOUR SUPPORT AND EXAMPLE ARE CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD BY YOUR CHILDREN. You are their real teachers!
4. TALK WITH YOUR YOUNGSTER! JOIN IN THE CLASS! You are always welcome. Then you will become a partner in the process and the rewards will be great for all.



Theodore K. Broido To Speak at Temple January 11

Theodore K. Broido serves as the Administrative Secretary of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. As an executive with the UAHC since 1959, Mr. Broido participates in the decision-making processes which formulate the UAHC's programs policies and acts as an advisor to UAHC president, Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler.

Mr. Broido also serves UAHC as its Director of Regional Activities and in this capacity coordinates the UAHC's thirteen regional offices and service centers in North America.

He also serves as the Director of the National Commission on Rabbinic-Congregational Relations of the UAHC-CCAR, a commission that deals with developing professional standards in relationships between Rabbis and their congregations.

Mr. Broido is the father of four children. He and his wife Sally reside in Manhattan, New York City.

TEMPLE ISRAEL MEN'S CLUB BRUNCH

Temple Israel Men's Club will meet at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, January 13, in the Milder Conference Center.

Republican Candidate for Congress, Harold Daub, will be the Guest Speaker. Brunch is served and guests are welcome.

DID YOU KNOW . . .

. . . that the course in Basic Judaism taught by the rabbis for those interested in adopting Judaism is open to all the congregation? Classes meet on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m. in the Milder Conference Center. A textbook is used and is available for purchase.

. . . that a group of parents of pre-school children has been meeting regularly with the rabbis in discussion of topics related to the holiday cycle and questions children ask of their parents? This series in Practical Jewish Parenting has been well received, and is open to all parents. See the schedule elsewhere in this Tidings.

. . . that the Couples Club recently hosted a successful evening of orientation for new members of the congregation? Included in the evening were explanations of each Temple affiliate organization, and a new Jewish experiential discussion led by Rabbi Weinstein.

. . . that Sisterhood sponsored a beautiful Chanukah and Sabbath dinner for the congregation? The evening included the participation of the Junior Choir in kindling the Chanukah candles, and a worship service designed especially for families with young children.

. . . that the Men's Club donated \$1,000.00 to the Religious School? These funds will help provide for classroom libraries, an expanded collection of Jewish paperbacks for all students, and added classroom audio-visual equipment.

. . . that "Our Gang," Temple Israel's new Jewish single adult group, organized and sponsored over 25 events for Omaha's Jewish Singles in just 11 months? In addition, because of its efforts, we have learned that over 400 Jewish single adults presently live in Omaha. And, singles from Lincoln and Sioux City regularly travel to Omaha to be with Our Gang!

. . . that you can learn adult Hebrew on Sunday mornings in a relaxed, informal setting? Call the Temple office for information! And, post Bar Mitzvah students can learn advanced Hebrew on Sunday mornings too!

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

Ms. Debra Ann Katleman

Sisterhood Represented
in Toronto

Rachel Bleicher, Joie Simon, and Hermene Zweiback represented Temple Israel Sisterhood at the recent National Federation of Temple Sisterhood (NFTS) biennial convention in Toronto. We are unanimous in our desire to express to you our confidence in and approval of the work of NFTS, as well as the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC).

The outstanding leaders of the reform Jewish movement — Alexander Schindler, Al Voorspan, David Saperstein, Lillian Maltzer (NFTS President) — represent us on the national level. They are, in effect, our lobbyists, who deal with leaders of government, industry and commerce explaining Reform Judaism's position on many issues, trying to free Jewish communities in places like Ethiopia and the Soviet Union, and furthering the education of new rabbis, cantors, and youth leaders.

Both NFTS and UAHC passed resolutions dealing with energy, women's rights and Salt II, to name only a few. Part of the money we raise in Omaha throughout the year, through our dues, donor, book sale and Uniongram sales, is sent to the Youth, Education and Sisterhood (YES) Fund of NFTS.

Some of the major allocations during the 1978-79 fiscal period include: \$58,501 to the UAHC toward the work of the National Federation of Temple Youth, including a special allocation for the Ma'aser College program of \$9,000; \$58,501 to the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion for student grants-in-aid; \$15,000 for scholarships to rabbinic students from overseas who, upon ordination, will serve non-United States congregations of the World Union for Progressive Judaism.

As a footnote, NFTS also decreased the size of its National Board; however, Omaha's representation on the Board remained the same as Jan Perlmeter completed her 4 years of service to National, and Hermene Zweiback was installed as an incoming National Board member. It is hoped that in the future many of you will get a chance to attend a national convention and be as inspired and "fired up" as Rachel, Joie and Hermene.

HONORED AT SABBATH SERVICES

Nov. 23, 1979
Candle Blessing Mrs. Gerald Marburg
Kiddush Daniel Richard Marburg
Torah Blessing Marshall Forbes
Torah Blessing Martin Wolf

Nov. 30, 1979
Candle Blessing Shari Okun
Kiddush Michael David Okun
Torah Blessing Jon Okun
Torah Blessing Sidney Feintech

Dec. 7, 1979
Candle Blessing Mrs. Marvin Taxman
Kiddush Jim Spitzer
Torah Blessing Warner B. Frohman
Torah Blessing Arnold Weitz

CONTRIBUTIONS 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 Dann.
Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Warner Frohman.
Bar Mitzvah of David Kully.
Bar Mitzvah of Todd Lerner.
Bat Mitzvah of Dana Nogg.
Birth of Lisa Lynn Pitlor.
Birthday of Sylvia Swartz.

FOR THE RECOVERY OF:
Marilyn Braslow, Sid Coren, Bobbi Epstein, Idell Itkin, Gene Kaplan, David Krantz, Ann Turchin.

IN MEMORY OF:
Mother of Sam Ban, Gabriel Bergman, Sol Epstein, Adolph Frohman, Sam Ginsberg, Grandmother of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Hoberman, Emma Kirschbraun, Jacob Kirschbraun, Betty Krasne, Fannie Katzman, Joe Lipton, Sylvia Mayer, Nancy Hiller Rasmussen, John Rosenblatt, Helen Silberman, Madeleine Cohn Silver, Martin Sugarman.

GIFTS OF PRAYER BOOKS

IN HONOR OF:
40th Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Cherniack.

IN MEMORY OF:
Sylvia Mayer, Sam Greenberg, Morris Klausner, Marka Goldberg.

RECOVERY OF:
Rose Katelman, Roy Feltman, Mrs. Stephen H. Simon.

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