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 Joan Cooper.....Elementary School Coordinator
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 Youth and Informal Education
 Rosie Zweiback.....Program Director
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 John Lehr.....Assistant Treasurer
 Dr. Michael Walts.....Past President
 Stacey Rockman.....WRJ-O President
 Janet Baack.....OTYG President

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 Michelle Shkolnick, Executive Director, at 556-6536.

\$6.00 fund contributions:

David Bleicher Camp Scholarship
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 Rabbi Azriel's Discretionary
 Rabbi Marantz's Discretionary
 Cantor Shermet's Discretionary
 Michelle Shkolnick's Discretionary

Tidings

Omaha, NE Founded 1871 Vol. XCII No. 7 Adar 12, 5764 March 5, 2004

As I See It...

First there was psychotherapy. Then there was family therapy and scream therapy. But for pure fun, my favorite is Purim therapy.

Purim therapy exposes us to hundreds of children during the reading of the Purim story.

"This is therapeutic?" you scoff. "The children are noisy. They shout and make a commotion. What's therapeutic about that?" The children *are* rambunctious. They also possess incredible healing powers. They have the powers to heal the most indelible scars caused by anti-Semitism.

Every Jew has been scarred by anti-Semitism. Those who lived through the Nazi Holocaust were scarred in ways that I can only dimly imagine. Even those Jews who merely observed the Holocaust experienced a powerful bruising. The reality of mass Jewish graves seared our imaginations. We should not trivialize the impact of this nightmare. It sent us a bleak message: we too would have died if we had been there.

Though anti-Semitism in America is not as virulent as that of Nazi Germany, it does exist. It also can scar. A tiny minority of anti-Semites can make us feel like outsiders. They evoke a fear that in America, too, we will not belong.

There are many ways we can overcome these fears. First and foremost, we can participate in the work of Jewish organizations. Employing one's power constructively is good medicine for a weakened self-image. Second, we can become knowledgeable Jews. We can undertake the study of the Jewish classics, the Bible, Talmud and Jewish philosophy. In this way we rediscover the brilliance of our heritage, and the gift we have yet to share with the world. Nothing gives us more appreciation for our Jewish identities than such knowledge.

But even after these efforts, there is a residue of bitterness that may cling to us. Only Purim therapy can serve as an antidote. Purim therapy burns it away through laughter. We make fun of the anti-Semite. We laugh at Haman. Only then are we able to let go of the last residue of bitterness that we feel.

Children are crucial in this process. Without children we adults feel too self-conscious to carry off this purging. We are uncomfortable stamping our feet, shaking our groggers. We need our children to encourage us with their uninhibited enthusiasm, their hopeful gaiety and their playful energy.

We need to think we are doing it for their sake, so that they will have fun at the Purim services. But we, the adults, who have felt the sting of anti-Semitism, are the true beneficiaries of this process.

Children love Purim services. But Purim services are for adults, too.

The Rabbi Says...
Check out page 7 for a great
treat before Passover!

Harold Brodsky



"Is your costume ready, dear?
 'cause Purim's almost here!"

Erev Purim
Saturday, March 6

6 p.m. Bring your own box dinner
 Temple will provide beverages



Make your own mask
and get ready for
the Purim Spiel
at 7 p.m.!

Followed by a
 fabulous costume parade and a
 delicious hamantaschen Oneg
 Shabbat sponsored by the
 Women of Reform Judaism-Omaha

Purim Carnival
Sunday, March 7

Pre-Kindergarten and
 Kindergarten children
 get a sneak preview
 at 11:30 a.m.

Open to the community
 from Noon to 1:30 p.m.

*Have lunch, popcorn, cotton candy,
 win prizes, have your face painted,
 enter the cake walk, take home a
 balloon animal and more!*

The Purim Carnival is
 sponsored by the
 Omaha Temple Youth Group

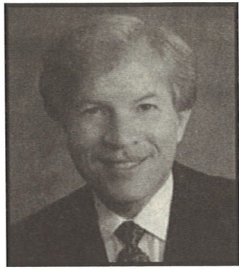


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Rabbi Zola Brings Great Reform Voices Of The Past To Life



Jewish leader Stephen Samuel Wise? And what would it have been like to listen to the eloquence of Abba Hillel Silver, Joachim Prinz, Nelson Glueck or Jacob Rader Marcus?

On **Thursday, March 25 at 10 a.m.**, Rabbi Gary Zola, Executive Director of the Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati, OH, and associate professor of the American Jewish Experience, will join the Adult Study with the Clergy class at Temple Israel. He will lead a dialogue on "Great Voices in American Reform Judaism," introducing next year's adult education topic at Temple, "Celebrating 350 Years of Jews in America."

This rare opportunity to hear remarkable digitized recordings (with visuals added) of these towering voices of Reform Judaism comes from the American Jewish Archives collection.

Calling Advanced Jewish Learners...

Are you:
~ready to study Jewish topics in greater depth?

~looking for engaging courses taught by nationally acclaimed teachers?

~interested in online learning?

Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religions (HUC-JIR) and the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) are offering a myriad of exciting courses, mini-courses and study groups. Check out Temple's website for more information or grab a registration brochure from our display rack in the south entrance foyer.

"These are the voices that you may know of by reputation but have never actually heard!" observed Rabbi Aryeh Azriel.

Rabbi Zola is originally from Chicago and a graduate of the University of Michigan. He earned a master's degree from Northwestern University and was ordained at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) in 1982. His doctoral degree in American Jewish history is from HUC-JIR where he studied with American Jewish historians Jacob Rader Marcus and Jonathan D. Sarna.

While he is in Omaha, Rabbi Zola will also speak to Temple's ninth graders and their parents during Religious School on **Wednesday, March 24, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**, as the students study Reform, Conservative, and Orthodox Judaism. His topic will be "Rabbi Wise and His Impact on Reform Judaism and Zionism."

Middle/High School Director Elyce Azriel has experienced Rabbi Zola's presentation of old reels of Rabbi Wise, which have been transferred to video. Elyce said, "Rabbi Zola brings life to a dynamic leader of Reform Judaism with his presentation and visual tools."

Join us for a beautiful,
poignant evening...

Poetry of the Holocaust

Presented by
Dr. Susan Aizenberg
Assistant Professor at
Creighton University

Tuesday, March 9
7 p.m.
Temple Israel

Open to the Community ~ No Charge

Wednesday, March 10

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Grade 6-12 Boys and Fathers Only
(or another significant adult!)

More than a Few Good Men:
A Lecture on American Manhood
and Violence Against Women

Featuring Jackson Katz,
founder of the "Mentors
in Violence Prevention Program"
at Northeastern University's
Center for the Study of Sport in Society

Jackson Katz's program is sponsored by Temple
Israel's Middle/High School, the Robert and Ellen
Gordman Donor Advised Fund of the
Jewish Federation Foundation,
in association with Jewish Family Service

Bequest To Temple

Temple Israel is the beneficiary of a very generous bequest from a donor who prefers to remain anonymous. Over 200 acres of wooded rolling hills near Glenwood, IA have been donated to be "used as a place for spiritual experiences in nature and a religious retreat." The property is adjacent to the Pony Creek Recreation area and to a small lake. It also provides a modest income to Temple.

We hope to have volunteers this summer clear an amphitheater area for use as an outdoor chapel. Additional improvements may be funded through the sale of part of the property.

The deed further specifies that the purpose of the gift is to support the educational and spiritual work of Temple Israel, but shall not be sold to provide funds to build a new temple. The donor requested that we look for ways to let other Jewish groups use the property as well.

If you would like to help us study how best to use this property, please call Gary Kaplan at 558-2448.

Please consider including Temple in your will. This is an excellent way to perpetuate your values.

"He who executes charity and justice
is regarded as though he had filled
the entire world with kindness."

~The Talmud

Temple Israel

Mitzvah Day 2004



Sunday, May 16

Kickoff at 11:30 a.m.

in the Sanctuary

Lunch at Noon

followed by your choice of

Mitzvah projects:

- Help with mailings at Temple

- Cook meals for
The Stephen Center

- Paint walls inside Temple

- Beautify the grounds
outside Temple

- Clean up the grounds at the
Temple Israel Cemetery

- Make teacher appreciation gifts
for Castelar and Lothrop Schools

- Play Bingo and visit with
the residents at the
Thomas Fitzgerald Veterans Home

- Participate in Special Olympics
with Rose Blumkin Home residents

*You're never too old and you're
never too young to be part of
Mitzvah Day!*

**If you missed the
wonderful weekend with
Scholar-in-Residence
Rabbi Earl Grollman, we
have videocassettes of his
three talks available in the
Temple office for check-out.**



The Shul Shuttle Rides Again!

Our maiden voyage of the "Shul Shuttle" was a huge success! All who participated were provided a ride, good company and a chance to participate in a beautiful Shabbat service.

The next monthly Shul Shuttle will take place on Friday, March 19. Scholar-in-Residence Rabbi William Cutter will speak on "Apollo, Elvis and the Rabbis: Israel's Struggle Between Secular Culture and the Culture of Faith."

This transportation is available for those who wish to have a safe door-to-door ride to Shabbat evening worship services.

Please join us! Make your reservation by calling Temple by Thursday, March 18.

Any questions? Please call Shelly Fox 397-1578.

Jewish Journey Group:

Blame and Bloodshed: The Ethics Of The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Thursdays, March 25, April 1, 15 and 22

7 to 8:30 p.m.

"We have all been touched in some way by the disputes in the Middle East," said Dr. Toby Schonfeld, Assistant Professor of Humanities and Law in the Department of Preventive and Societal Medicine at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC). "We take interest in the leaders' actions, avidly watch television and read newspapers to stay abreast of daily occurrences, and mourn with those who have lost loved ones during this struggle. Yet much of the time, conversations we have around this issue remain largely political: What policies are more appropriate? In what direction should the leaders head?, etc."

In her upcoming Jewish Journey Group at Temple, Dr. Schonfeld intends to shift the focus of discussion by looking at the ethics of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. "I hope to use essays and media from the corpus of Jewish ethics to inform our discussion group about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict," she explained. "Issues such as power, value conflicts and justice in government will be topics."

A member of the graduate faculty

of UNMC since 2002, Dr. Schonfeld said that "history will tell us what happened; our job will be to evaluate whether or not the actions of individuals conformed to either secular or Jewish standards of morality and to discuss what future courses of action can be ethically justified. Please note," she added, "we will analyze issues on both sides of the conflict. Those with and without strong political commitments are welcome to participate in an open and frank discussion where everyone's opinion will be heard and considered respectfully," she emphasized.

Originally from Wilkes-Barre, PA, Dr. Schonfeld earned her undergraduate degree in philosophy and religious studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Both her master's and doctoral degrees in philosophy, from the University of Tennessee, concentrated on medical ethics. She has been at UNMC since 2001.

To register, contact Program Director Rosie Zweiback at 556-6536 or rzweiback@templeisraelomaha.com



Celebrating A Joyous Passover

Do You Need Passover Haggadot?

The Temple office has several *haggadot* available.

The Central Conference of American Rabbis has published a beautiful *haggadah* with traditional and innovative blessings. Price: \$19.95 each.

We continue to carry the *haggadah* illustrated by Leonard Baskin. Price: \$12 each.

These beautiful *haggadot* will be exquisite additions to your Seder. They are both works of art you will be proud to own.

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

Also available is the "Family Haggadah: A Seder for All Generations." This *haggadah* contains readable text with prompts for stimulating discussion and traditional order with abridged text, short enough to maintain interest. Price: \$7 each.

Other *haggadot* are available in the Temple Gift Shop.

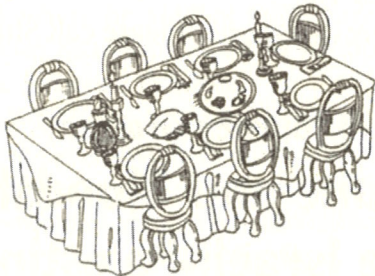
Yizkor

If you would like to have names of your loved ones read at the Morning Yizkor Service, **Monday, April 12**, call the Temple office, 556-6536, with the names. Please phone by **Thursday, April 8**.

Do You Want To Share the Seder?

The first Seder will be celebrated Monday, April 5.

If you are new to the community or do not have extended family in the Omaha area with whom to share this joyous holiday, please call Caring Committee Chairman Shelly Fox, 397-1578, or the Temple office, 556-6536, and we will find a host family for you.



Passover Recipes

Passover Peanut Butter Cookies

1 ½ cups peanut butter
2 egg whites, unbeaten
1 cup sugar

Combine ingredients and mix thoroughly. Roll into walnut sized balls and place on ungreased cookie sheet. Flatten with fork. Bake at 350 degrees for 10-12 minutes. Cool slightly before removing from pan. Makes 3 dozen.

Charoset

½ cup ground nuts
½ tsp. cinnamon
1 apple, peeled and chopped
2 T. sweet red wine

Mix all until smooth.

Temple Israel Congregational Seder

Tuesday, April 6 at 6 p.m.
Second Night of Passover

Our Congregational Seder is always a beautiful and festive occasion. Pesach is the time when we want to be with family and friends.

Bring guests and - certainly, grandchildren! But please help us plan properly for food and seating by making your reservations early.

Reservation Deadline: Friday, March 26. The Seder will be open to non-Temple members after Friday, March 19. Reservations received after March 26, accepted on stand-by basis only. No reservations will be accepted unless accompanied by payment!

Return your reservation form and check to: Temple Israel, 7023 Cass, Omaha, Nebraska 68132.

Here's my reservation for the Congregational Seder:

NAME _____

_____ Adult Chicken + # _____ Adult Vegetarian x \$16 each = \$ _____

_____ Child Chicken + # _____ Child Vegetarian x \$7.25 each = \$ _____
(Grade 6 and under)

No charge, age two and under. # attending _____ Total \$ _____

We would like to sit with: _____
(Name of family)

Worship Services

Friday~March 5

6 p.m.
Tot Shabbat
Dinner immediately following
7:30 p.m.
Shabbat Service
Sermon
Christianity Through Jewish Eyes Series
"Basic Concepts"
Rabbi Craig Marantz

Saturday~March 6

9:30-10:15 a.m.
Bagels and Sacred Books
10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Service
Bar Mitzvah of Jory Goldstrom
Son of Carol and Larry Goldstrom
Torah Portion: Tetzaveh
Exodus 27:20-30:10
Haftarah: Esther 7:1-10; 8:15-17

Friday~March 12

7:30 p.m.
Shabbat Service
Sermon
Christianity Through Jewish Eyes Series
"Jesus, The Man"
Rabbi Aryeh Azriel

Saturday~March 13

9:30-10:15 a.m.
Bagels and Sacred Books
10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Service
Bar Mitzvah of Nathan Wolf
Son of Nancy and Phil Wolf
Torah Portion: Ki Tissa
Exodus 30:11-34:35
Haftarah: Ezekiel

Friday~March 19

7:30 p.m.
Shabbat Service
"Apollo, Elvis and the Rabbis:
Israel's Struggle Between Secular Culture and the Culture of Faith"
Rabbi William Cutter
Scholar-in-Residence

Saturday~March 20

9:00-10:15 a.m.
Bagels and Sacred Books
with Rabbi William Cutter
10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Service
Bar Mitzvah of Adam Goldberg
Son of Cindy and Bruce Goldberg
Torah Portion: Vayachel/Pekude
Exodus 35:1-40:38
Haftarah: Ezekiel 45:16-26

Friday~March 26

6 p.m.
Family Service
6 p.m.
Early Worship Service
Union Prayer Book

Saturday~March 27

9:30-10:15 a.m.
Bagels and Sacred Books
10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Service
Bat Mitzvah of Andrea Holmberg
Daughter of Helene Blair and Mark Holmberg
Torah Portion: Vayikra
Leviticus 1:1-5:26
Haftarah: Isaiah 43:21-44:23

Friday~April 2

6 p.m.
Tot Shabbat
Dinner immediately following
7:30 p.m.
Shabbat Service
Sermon
Christianity Through Jewish Eyes Series
"A Taste of the Gospels and Their Significance"
Rabbi Craig Marantz

Saturday~April 3

9:30-10:15 a.m.
Bagels and Sacred Books
10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Service
Bar Mitzvah of Samuel Salzinger
Son of Lynn and Fred Salzinger
Torah Portion: Tzav
Leviticus 6:1-8:36
Haftarah: Malachi 3:4-24

Rabbis To Present Four Teaching Sermons

Rabbi Aryeh Azriel and Rabbi Craig Marantz will present a series of four teaching sermons about Christianity from a Jewish perspective beginning with the March 5 Shabbat worship service. "We see this as an opportunity as a result of the showing of Mel Gibson's movie, *The Passion of the Christ*, to enhance the knowledge of the congregation about Christianity."

"This is not a critique of the movie," pointed out Rabbi Azriel. Rather he and Rabbi Marantz plan to take a look at how Judaism views Jesus, Christian theology, the Gospels, and what Christianity and Judaism have in common as well as their differences.

"Christianity Through Jewish Eyes" will start with Rabbi Craig Marantz's sermon, "Basic Concepts." Other sermon topics and dates are:

March 12, "Jesus, The Man"

April 2, "A Taste of the Gospels and Their Significance"

April 9, "The Jewish Messiah"

Members of the congregation are welcome to invite family and friends to all of these Shabbat services.

Don't forget...the Shul Shuttle is up and running for services on Friday, March 19! Seniors interested in riding along should call Temple, 556-6536, by Thursday, March 18.

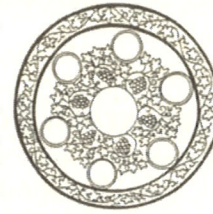
Please Note Our New Emails...

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(Elementary & Middle/High School Secretary)
Maureen Kube-mkub@templeisraelomaha.com
(Secretary/Receptionist/Donations)
Bonnie Sullivan-bsullivan@templeisraelomaha.com
(Clergy Secretary)

Anatomy Of A Seder Plate

The word *Seder* means "order," and the foods on the *Seder* plate symbolize the pain and bitterness of slavery. We eat these special foods to internalize the experience of slavery so that we may love freedom all the more.



ROASTED EGG: The *betzah*, boiled first, then roasted in the oven, is a reminder of the special sacrifices brought to the Temple on Passover and other festivals. In addition to the roasted egg on the Seder plate, there is a custom of serving hardboiled eggs in salt water as the first course of the meal. The egg is a symbol of redemption and rebirth.

BITTER HERB: The *maror* of the horseradish root's taste is a reminder of the bitter lash of slavery.

SHANK BONE: The *zeroa*, roasted by some for authenticity, boiled by others to make clear that it's only a symbol, represents the paschal lamb sacrifice eaten by our ancestors as they prepared to leave Egypt. The rabbis point out that the paschal sacrifice was an act of courage and independence; in Egypt, the lamb was an object of worship. You can use either a lamb shank or chicken bone on your Seder plate.

MORTAR MIXTURE: The *charoset* symbolizes the mortar that the Jewish slaves used in Pharaoh's projects. *Charoset* is made of nuts, apples, raisins, cinnamon and wine.

VEGETABLE OF THE GARDEN: *Karpas*, usually a green vegetable like parsley, but sometimes a boiled potato, is dipped into salt water that is symbolic of the tears shed by our ancestors.

New York Style Deli Night at Temple Israel

**Sunday,
March 21**

Seatings:

5:00, 5:15, 5:30, 5:45, 6:00,
6:15, 6:30 and 6:45 p.m.

Reservations through
the Temple office preferred –
delinight@templeisraelomaha.com
or 556-6536.

Free Sitter Service

Menu

Cheesecake
Chopped Liver
Corned Beef
Kreplach Soup
Matzah Ball Soup
Pastrami
Tongue
Turkey

Carry-out available!

**What a mechaieh
(enjoyment)!**

**Indulge yourself in
"deli"ghtful food!**

**Sponsored by
Men's Club and the
Women of Reform
Judaism-Omaha.**



Women of Reform Judaism-Omaha



The Journey Begins ~ A Women's Seder

Wednesday, March 17, 7 p.m.
Jewish Community Center

Join the Women of Reform Judaism-Omaha for the very first city-wide Women's Seder!



Featuring Rabbi Amy Katz and Yachad, the Travelling T'fillah Band of Kansas City.

Singing, dancing, studying...
a Dessert Seder unlike any other!
Adults: \$12, Teens and pre-teens \$10

Please return your reservation card by March 8.



Order Israeli Roses!!

Israeli roses are coming for Mother's Day! These beautiful roses from Israel are a wonderful way to love the moms in your life and help Israel at the same time. Only \$18/dozen for long-lasting, exquisite roses. Look for the order form in the April issue of *Temple Tidings*. Orders will be delivered to Temple for you to pick up.



Attention Please!

Have you been married 20 years? 30? 40 or more? Would you be willing to share your secrets of a successful marriage with the women of our community?

We are looking for women to participate in an exchange of marital experiences during our Donor Tea this spring.

Is your wedding dress sealed in a box yearning to be free? Take that dress out for a little fresh air and put it on display at our Donor Tea.

Please contact Stacey Rockman at stacey14@cox.net if you and/or your wedding dress would like to be a part of our program.

Did you know...

- We collected over 300 personal care items for The Stephen Center.
- WRJ-O sponsors and hosts the Minister's Institute luncheon. Contact Andie Gordman (andieg@cox.net) if you'd like to help.
- We want you to help us with future events! Contact Stacey Rockman (stacey14@cox.net) if you are interested.
- The six new computers and new network server we purchased for the Temple business office have been successfully installed!

Annual Friendship Tea Always A Success!

About 150 guests from area churches attended the Rabbi Sidney H. and Jane Brooks Friendship Tea at Temple in February. Sponsored annually by the Women of Reform Judaism-Omaha, the visitors learned about Jewish holidays, customs and traditions.



Patsy Wallace (pictured left) talked about life-cycle events while Jane Rips (above) discussed Shabbat. Reflecting the opinion of the attendees that afternoon, guest Amy McClellan said, "I thought it was wonderful an extremely informative."



Needed: Your Used Books

The Women of Reform Judaism-Omaha will be holding their Used Book Sale June 27-July 1. Books are still needed! Just bring them to Temple Israel or call the office, 556-6536, for pick-up.

Acceptable magazines: Arts & Crafts, Bon Appetite, Gourmet, Architectural Digest, National Geographic. We are unable to accept travel guides prior to 2000, Reader's Digest magazines or condensed books, textbooks or encyclopedias.

What's Happening in Religious School

Joan Cooper, Elementary School Coordinator

A "Novel" Invitation due March 21
All Religious School students in Kindergarten through sixth grade are invited to participate in the Elinor Whitman Jewish Book Report and Book Jacket Design Contest. Entry forms were sent home this month and are also available in the Religious School office. All entries are due March 21 in the Religious School office.

Purim Carnival **Sunday, March 7**
Students in Grades 1-6 will be able to attend the Purim Carnival with their parents after our Noon dismissal. Students not attending the carnival will depart as per the regular dismissal routine. PLEASE NOTE: Kindergarten students and their parents will have a preview of the carnival at 11:30 a.m.

No Religious School..... **Tuesday, March 9-Thursday, March 18**
Classes will be held on Sunday, March 7 and resume on Sunday, March 21. Please check your Religious School Calendar/Handbook carefully!

Grade 2 Parent Meeting..... **March 28**
At 10:30 a.m. second grade parents will meet with Rabbi Marantz and Joan Cooper to discuss ways to help their children succeed in third grade, which marks the beginning of mid-week attendance at Religious School.

Grade 2 Model Seder **March 28**
While the parents are attending an important Second Grade Parents Meeting, our students will be leading a model Passover Seder at 10:30 a.m. with some very important guests. GRANDPERSONS (or special senior friends) have been invited to participate and represent all our loving grandparents near and far. Please call the Religious School office if you know of a GRANDPERSON that would like to spend the morning with us.

A round of applause goes out to Kathy Beauchaine Deirdre Evans and Diane Gaul for coordinating the Jewelry and Bake Sale FUNdraiser. Their hard work and devotion to our school is truly appreciated. Special thanks to all of the parents who became bakers and workers to help make this event a great success!

Way to Go OTYG!

Over \$20,000 was raised at the Omaha Temple Youth Group Spaghetti Dinner and Auction on Sunday, February 22. Special Projects Coordinators Caroline and Margaret Terry did a wonderful job organizing the event.

Special thanks goes to auctioneer Jim Farber; kitchen helpers Elly and Jon Bleicher, Barry Grossman, Michele Marsh and John Terry, and Jane and Harlan Rips; Dennis DePorte and the Sons of Italy for donating the delicious sauce and meatballs; and OTYG members Janet Baack, Nick Laudin, Molly Needelman, Anne and Sara Rips, Adam Trubnikov and numerous others for their help!

Thank you to all who came to enjoy dinner and to bid on the wonderful donated auction items.

Tot Shabbat Friday, March 5 6 p.m.

Livingston Chapel



Especially for families with young children, Tot Shabbat monthly worship services are an opportunity for youngsters to begin to enjoy praying together with their parents and the congregational community at Temple Israel.

Join Rabbi Azriel and special surprise visitors for a Purim adventure!

You'll Flip For The Pancake Man!



Pancake Breakfast Sunday, March 28 9 to 10 a.m.

Women of Reform Judaism, Omaha is again sponsoring a pancake breakfast, featuring Jim the Pancake Man!

Cost is \$4.25 for adults and \$3.50 for children 12 and under for an all you can eat breakfast including pancakes, beef sausage, juice, milk and coffee.

Calling All Volunteers!

NFTY MoValley
Spring Chavurah
in Omaha

April 16-18, 2004

Hosted by Temple Israel
Volunteers needed for:

- housing
- transportation
- event supervision

Contact Stephanie Grossman at sgrossman@templeisraelomaha.com or 556-6536 to volunteer!

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

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IN HONOR OF B'NAI MITZVAH OF: Lauren Davis: George Eisenberg; **Max Sherman:** Litzie and Yale Trustin

IN HONOR OF ANNIVERSARY OF: Norma and Marshall Frie... Joyce and Shelly Cohen; **Gloria and Don Vann:** Soralee and Jerry Cohn

IN HONOR OF ENGAGEMENT OF: Robin Dann and Michael Ewoldt: Anne and Bruce Shackman

IN APPRECIATION OF: Rabbi Aryeh Azriel, Rabbi Craig Marantz, Cantor Wendy Shermet, Michelle Shkolnick, Elyce Azriel, Joan Cooper, Stephanie Grossman, Claudia Sherman, Rosie Zweiback, Lori Bennett, Willie Clark, Vicki Ducharme, Gloria Ketter, Maureen Kube, Bonnie Sullivan, Lonnie Williams

Women of Reform Judaism-Omaha Tribute Fund

IN MEMORY OF: Mark Epstein: Lois and Mel Epstein; **Harold Novak:** Marilyn and Marty Warren; **Martha Wolper:** Jeanne and Dave Dvorkin



Tree of Life

Commemorating the joyous moments in families' and friends' lives

The following leaves have been added to our Tree of Life:

In Honor of the
70th Birthday of
Frances Fried
By Your Friends

80th Birthday Wishes to
Barbara Rips
With love,
Dear Friends and Family

Our Sympathy

The Congregation records with sorrow the deaths of...

Pauline Sandow Chasser, grandmother of Seth Frishman;

Gladys B. Jacobs, dear friend and beloved family member;

William Kully, husband of Leslie Kully, father of Cathy, Denese and Tim Kully, and brother of Bob and Tom Kully;

Dr. J. Joel Milder, brother of Judy Vann and uncle of John and Tom Vann;

Leonard Potash, uncle of Spencer Brookstein and cousin of Janey Dann;

Ruth Salomon, mother of Mark Salomon

...and extends sympathy to their bereaved families.

Birthday Blessings

March 26 at 6 p.m.

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

Healing

Mi Shebeirakh, the prayer for physical and emotional healing, is recited at the Friday evening Shabbat service. If you are ill and would like a *mi shebeirakh* recited on your behalf, please call the Temple office (556-6536) before noon, Fridays, so the congregation may offer its prayers for you.

If you know another person who needs the same, please ask the individual for permission to read his/her name before calling the office.

Congratulations

On the Birth of:

Leo Solomon Yudelson, son of Stephanie and David Yudelson. Grandparents are Eloise Herr, Lincoln, NE, Theron Volkman, Lincoln, NE, and Sandra and Michael Yudelson, Bainbridge Island, WA. Great-grandmothers are Opal Herr, Lincoln, NE, and Lorraine Volkman, Norfolk, NE.

Jane Elizabeth Boggust, daughter of Paula and Matt Boggust. Grandparents are Nancy and David Friedland, and Marilyn and Jack Boggust.

Kaleb Forest Savoie, son of Lindsey and Brian Savoie, Washington, D.C. Grandparents are Sherry and Jeff Taxman, Babs and Mike Weinberg, Jeanne Savoie, Florida, and Dennis Savoie, Florida. Great-grandparents are Barbara and Marvin Taxman.

On the Adoption of:

Brandy Elizabeth Vann, daughter of Wendy and Dr. John Vann.

On the Engagement of:

Robin Michelle Dann and Michael W. Ewoldt. Parents are Janey and Jerry Dann, and Myrna and Wayne Ewoldt, Bentonville, AR.



In The Mail...

Students from Bellevue West and Ralston High Schools visited with Cantor Wendy Shermet and Rabbi Aryeh Azriel as part of their Comparative Religion classes. Some excerpts from their thank you notes follow:

"Many thanks for taking time out of your day to give us a tour of your synagogue and for your wonderful speech on the history and tenets of the Jewish faith. Hebrew is a beautiful language both written and sung."

"I didn't know much about Judaism because there are not a lot of Jewish people in Germany. I am a German exchange student and I found it really interesting to hear what people in WW II didn't understand."

"We all learned much more than we thought we would. We all found it to be more education to meet you and talk, rather than read from a book. You really pulled us in. A couple of us are looking more into Judaism out of the interest you started."

"Thanks for taking the time to tell us about your religion. I think it's pretty interesting, but would never convert from mine which is Christianity."

Forum Recommendation Approved

On February 8, 25 people gathered in the Milder Center to explore Jewish, legal and ethical perspectives on the issue of women's reproductive choice. The purpose of this educational forum was to help prepare Temple's Board of Trustees in making a decision allowing congregants to march in a national pro-choice rally in Washington, D.C. under Temple's name. The Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) is a co-sponsor of the March.

Careful consideration was given to Jewish responsa, the legal implications of Roe vs. Wade, the staunch opposition of abortion by fundamentalist religious institutions, and the ethical dimensions of this issue. On Tuesday, February 17, the Board approved a motion to allow Temple congregants who participate in the "March for Women's Lives" on Sunday, April 25, 2004, to march under the Temple Israel banner. Approval of this motion demonstrates Temple's support of a woman's right to choose safe, legal abortion and birth control.

Are you interested in attending the "March for Women's Lives?" Contact Wendy Goldberg at wgoldberg@cox.net.