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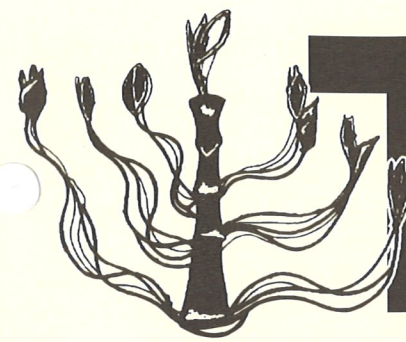
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Turning the Torah...

"Some are guilty, all are responsible."

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel penned this during the civil rights era. Rabbi Heschel "prayed with his feet," as his actions in the world reflected his theology. He believed that a relationship with God was dependent on one's relationship with people. Most of our *mitzvot* center on economic issues, obligations of one spouse to another, and our treatment of the widow, stranger and orphan. Much of our religion, then, centers on our relationships to our fellow human beings.

I have been thinking about this a lot lately, especially with the idea of the Tri-Faith project looming large in all of our minds.

As Reform Jews, I believe that we have the obligation to create relationships with those outside of the Jewish faith, even though it entails possible discomfort and disagreement. The Talmud teaches us that the wise person "learns from everyone." Furthermore, it is possible to learn a great deal from people whom we may not like. A serious relationship does not necessarily equate to friendship. It does, however, equate to understanding, compassion and growth.

Unfortunately, most of what we **think** we know about the Muslim world stems from newsreels and editorial pieces in the newspaper. As Jews, we

know what it's like to be stereotyped. Let us not be guilty of the same. I ask, how many of us have actually spoken to a Muslim?

Whereas I fully understand that Islamic extremism is a dangerous and scary thing, I **don't** understand why we would allow that to preempt possible relationships with the vast majority of the Islamic faith. Should we not have dialogue with those different from us? Should we not have dialogue with those who perhaps even disagree with us?

Once a year, we mention the word 'xenophobia,' as we enumerate all of our shortcomings on Yom Kippur. Let us not be so insular and defensive as to shut out conversations with non-Jews, whether they be Muslim or not. Instead of finding reasons why we should **not** be in dialogue, I challenge us to find reasons why we must.

This is not about a new building for Temple Israel; this is about our relationships. As the Egyptians were drowning in the Red Sea, God said to the Jews, "Stop your singing, for my children are drowning. My children are drowning." Let us engage with our Muslim brothers and sisters. Perhaps together, we can pull each other out of the water. This is a responsibility I am proud to accept.

Eric Linder

Architects to Meet with Committees

Two representatives from Finegold Alexander + Associates, the Boston architectural firm selected to build the new Temple Israel, came to Omaha in November for meetings with programming committee chairs and a few of the committee members. Each programming committee is assigned to a specific area within the new building such as offices, classrooms, social spaces and sacred spaces.

There are 22 committees assigned to this project. During these meetings with the architect, the majority of individual committees began to discuss the physical requirements of their respective areas.

Two weeks after these initial meetings, the architect returned notes taken from each of the groups to confirm what the designers had heard. Subsequent meetings to further refine these requirements occurred throughout November and December.

A few spaces on the committees are still open. A total of 40 congregants are involved in current discussions. Please contact Building Steering Chairs Jon Meyers, Stacey Rockman, Rick Fox or John Waldbaum if you have someone to recommend as a member of a programming committee.

Continued on page 2



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SHEMA TEMPLE ISRAEL
MANY STORIES...ONE CONGREGATION

Tri-Faith Alliance Update

Following the approval of the Memorandum of Understanding at the August Board of Trustees meeting, Temple Israel congregants have had several opportunities to meet with representatives from the Episcopal Diocese of Nebraska and the American Institute of Islamic Studies and Culture (AIISC). The open forums invited concerns and questions, and provided updates on Temple's own building progress.

Episcopal Diocese of Nebraska

Woody Bradford, representing the Episcopal Diocese, explained that there are 61 churches or congregations in the diocese. The diocese is presided over by a bishop who chooses, and ordains, priests and deacons to serve the congregations.

Walking a middle ground between Roman Catholicism and Protestant traditions, the Episcopal Church grew out of the Anglican Church of England. Anglicanism stands squarely in the Reformed tradition, yet considers itself just as directly descended from the Early Church as the Roman Catholic or Eastern Orthodox churches. Episcopalians celebrate mass in ways similar to the Roman Catholic tradition, yet do not recognize a single authority such as the Pope.

The diocese's purpose for joining in the Memorandum of Mutual Understanding is two-fold. Temple Israel's future site at 168th and West Dodge Road fulfills the vision of expanding west to meet congregational growth in that area. Also, the diocese recognizes and supports the vital need of partnering with other faiths to promote peaceful religious diversity.

American Institute of Islamic Studies and Culture

Less than a year old, the AIISC was established in Omaha to promote a better understanding of Islam as a religion of peace in the United States, said

Shakiel Ahmed, vice president serving on the Board of Directors of AIISC. Aware that Islam is not well understood in the western world, especially in the United States, AIISC wants to establish a center to enhance the study of and research in the religion of Islam. A new facility would provide a place for worship, for development of programs and new facilities, and enhancement and support of cultural and social activities for the Muslim population in and around Omaha. According to Shakiel, there are 4,000 to 5,000 Muslims in the area.

"Education is the main thrust," said Shakiel. In addition, a new center would be a place for cultural activities such as observing Ramadan and celebrating religiously inspired activities together. "There are a lot of myths" about Islam that the AIISC would like to set straight by informing Muslims and non-Muslims alike.

An 11-member Board of Directors, consisting of nine Muslims and two non-Muslims, direct the AIISC which has made a strong commitment to interfaith dialogue and activities. The institute might also establish a day care center at a new center and in the long term, a religious school for children and activities for youth like basketball.

Dr. Syed M. Mohiuddin, president of AIISC, informed his fellow Muslims that the AIISC would hopefully result in better understanding among all people "as well as our knowledge of and respect for other faiths. This opportunity is unprecedented," he pointed out. He invited Muslims to join him in "endorsing this unique concept and sustaining this very worthy effort."

Community Conversations

The next three Tri-faith Community Conversation are at **10 a.m. on Sunday, January 21, Noon on Friday February 9, and at 10 a.m. on Sunday, February 25** (in the Milder Center).

Architects to Meet with Committees *continued from page 1*

When more details are available from the committees, an event inviting the congregation once again to participate and comment on the process will be scheduled.

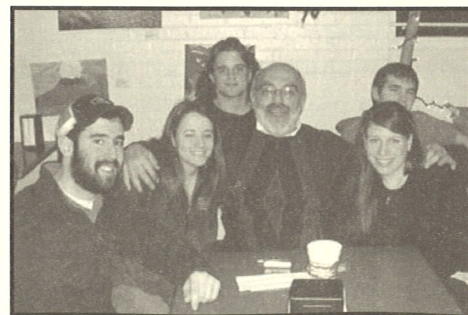
For a complete listing of Committee Chairs please contact Dennis DePorte at ddeporte@templeisraelomaha.com.

Rabbi Azriel to Visit Arizona Snowbirds Sunday, January 28 10:30 a.m.

Do you live in the Phoenix/Scottsdale, AZ, area? Rabbi Aryeh Azriel will be there for the Midwest Association of Reform Rabbis (MWARR) Conference in January. He'd like to have brunch with all the Jews from Omaha who have "transplanted" to the area. Meet him at Goldman's Deli (6929 N Hayden Rd, Scottsdale, AZ).

"Just come for coffee and a bagel," he requested. "It'll be another 'Rabbi Azriel Unplugged' but with better weather."

College Ice Cream Night With Rabbi



Pictured (l-r): Ben Taxman, Emilv Sternberg, Jeff Gates, Rabbi Azriel, J Searson and Janet Baack enjoyed some schmoozing and ice cream at Ted and Wally's on Tuesday, January 2.



Shop...Eat...Help Temple Israel, Too!

Gift certificates in denominations of \$10 to \$25 for Whole Foods, Baker's, Kwik Shop, Bag 'N Save and The Bookworm are available in the Temple office. Buy them and keep them handy for shopping at these stores which are gracious enough to return a percentage to Temple.

The reimbursements are used for camp scholarships. If you have children attending Religious School classes on Wednesday afternoons or Sunday mornings, Toby Fellman makes it convenient to buy the gift certificates by selling them in the foyer.

Shema Temple Israel, Many Stories, One Congregation

There are still two more congregant speakers at Shabbat services in January.

• **Friday, January 19** - Bob Cohen will take "A Personal Journey into Jewish History - with No Ending in Sight." He'll share the story of his small town, multi-generational Midwestern Jewish family, and his intense experience of reading Jewish history.

• **Friday, January 26** - Mary-Beth Muskin will give her view "On Being Jewish" as she describes how "being Jewish manifests itself into my life personally and professionally."

All Friday night Shabbat services in January begin at 6 p.m.

Sabbath of Song to Celebrate With Music by Franz Schubert Friday, February 2, 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Shira, the Sabbath of Song was named in honor of the song sung by Moses and the People of Israel after they crossed the Sea of Reeds. Shabbat Shira is a celebration of the miracles that the Israelites experienced on their journey to the Promised Land. This "Sabbath of Song" has become an annual celebration of spectacular Jewish choral music.

Temple's Kol Rina Choir and the St. Paul United Methodist Church Choir, conducted by the church's Music Minister Jerry Brabec, will sing "Miriam's Song of Triumph" and "Tov l'hadot," both by Frank Schubert, an Austrian composer who lived from 1797 to 1828. The two compositions are the only Jewish pieces Schubert ever wrote. While Miriam's song is the story of the Exodus, "Tov l'hadot" is Psalm 92.

On **Sunday, February 4**, at 11 a.m., this interfaith service will be repeated at St. Paul United Methodist Church (5410 Corby).

Make Erev Purim a Date Night!

Saturday, March 3, 7:30 p.m.

Purim isn't just for kids! And to prove it, Temple Israel will host a *spiel* on Erev Purim written especially for grown-ups, followed by an Oneg with a DJ. The service and *spiel* will be a costume event,



so start digging through your closet! Ask your "date" to save the date, and watch for more details in next month's Tidings.

Religious School students and parents will hear the *Megillah* read on **Sunday, March 4**, at 10 a.m.

New York Style Deli Night at Temple Israel

**Sunday, February 11
5 to 7 p.m.**

**Reservations appreciated.
With comedian Joel Chasnoff!**



Joel brings creativity and imagination to comedy and an innovative look at Jewish life. His comedy is based on his Jewish experiences such as nine years in Jewish Day School, his service in the Israel Defense Forces and your family's Shabbat dinner table.

While you listen to and laugh at Joel's jokes, have a bowl of real chicken soup with plump matzo balls or succulent kreplach cooked to perfection. Also, try some chopped liver. Enjoy a pastrami, turkey, tongue or corned beef sandwich piled high on crusty Jewish marble bread with cole slaw and a dill pickle on the side. How long has it been since you tasted a piece of rich New York-style cheese cake?

Make reservations by contacting the Temple office at 556-6536 or mkube@templeisraelomaha.com.

In The Mail

"Thank you for making the Chanukah at Remington Heights so great! Everyone of the group that you sent were darling. We had a wonderful holiday. We enjoyed each evening service - what a Chanukah! Next year again!"

Thanks

All of us at Remington Heights

Adult Education

Join the Clergy at the Theology Café

Thursday, February 15, 7 p.m.

Cantor Wendy Shermet will meet again at the Barnes & Noble Booksellers, just south of Oak View Mall (144th and West Center Road) for a another cup of Starbucks coffee and conversation at the second session. Join her to discuss: The God you believe in as well as the God you don't believe in.

The third Theology Café is planned for **Thursday, March 8**. This one will meet at Borders on 72nd and Dodge.

Dr. Dvora Weisberg to Tell Stories from Early Rabbis

Friday, March 23-Sunday, March 25



Temple Israel's next Scholar-in-Residence, Dr. Dvora Weisberg, will talk about good and evil, the well-lived life, women as pray-ers in the Jewish tradition, rabbis' daughters in the Talmud and gender issues in classic Midrash.

Associate professor of rabbinics and director of the *Beit Midrash* at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Los Angeles, Dr. Weisberg will discuss, "God, Torah and Israel: Stories From Our Early Rabbis" when she visits.

Dr. Weisberg's residency is sponsored by the Hermene Zweiback Center for Lifelong Jewish Learning.

Torah on Wheels

Thursday, February 1, Noon

Gordman's (12100 West Center Road)

Drive, bike, roller blade...whatever wheels you prefer...to Gordman's for Torah on Wheels hosted by Jeff Gordman. Explore and analyze Jewish law and commentary with Cantor Wendy Shermet.

On **Thursday, March 1**, John Lehr will host Torah on Wheels at Grace-Mayer Insurance.

Please call the Temple office at 556-6536 to make a reservation. Lunch is \$6.

Save the Date!

Rabbi Steven Leder to

Speak at Four Bs

Sunday, March 18, 10:30 a.m.

Rabbi Steven Leder, senior rabbi of Wilshire Boulevard Temple and an instructor at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Los Angeles, will discuss "Raising Mensches in a World of Excess," at Temple Israel's popular Four B's series. He received national acclaim for his first book, *The Extraordinary Nature of Ordinary Things* and has been described as "everything we search for in a modern wise man."

Shabbat Shalom, Welcome to Our Home

With all the conversation about the potential neighbors at our new Temple site, wouldn't it be nice to break bread with members of the Muslim and Episcopalian communities?

On **Friday, April 27** we invite interested congregants to open their homes to a Shabbat dinner for friends old and new. We will help fill out your guest list for an unforgettable Shabbat. Not sure you want to cook that night? Volunteer to be a "guest" and we'll find you a host home. Services will be extra early that evening (5:30 p.m.) to allow plenty of time to get to dinner!

Please contact Program Director Rosie Zweiback at 556-6536 or rzweiback@templeisraelomaha.com if you would like to be a host, a guest or help with this event in any way!

On My Mind

Rosie Zweiback, Program Director

Are we a welcoming congregation? Do you personally help make it so? Do you introduce yourself to people you don't know at services, at the Oneg Shabbat or while hanging around in the lobby waiting for Religious School to dismiss?

In the winter edition of Reform Judaism magazine, Rabbi Eric Yoffie, the President of the Union for Reform Judaism, notes that "Every Reform synagogue leader I know is committed to making his or her congregation a community of warmth and intimacy.... Yet we know from research and personal experience, that unaffiliated Jews, and especially the young, continue to say that synagogues are unwelcoming, even intimidating."

Rabbi Yoffie urges us to consider two resources for inspiration. One is a book by native Omahan Dr. Ron Wofson called *The Spirituality of Welcoming*. The other is to "learn from Chabad, the 'radical hospitality experts' of the Jewish community. Visitors to Chabad receive incredible levels of personal attention, including invitations to Shabbat meals, home visits, phone calls... and step-by-step instruction in Judaism."

He adds that "spiritual communities are not built with more adult ed lectures, better brochures, and efficient administrators. They are built with caring relationships and very large doses of personal attention. When Jews enter our gates, we need to embrace them, invite them to Shabbat dinner, share our enthusiasm for Torah and treat them with love and respect always."

Becoming the congregation we want to be – a place that is warm, welcoming, nonjudgemental and inclusive – only happens when EVERY member takes on the responsibility to reach out. If five people engage and the rest wait to be asked, we will never become the community we hope to build.

(P.S. Call me if you would like to help the Membership Committee!)

Temple Tapestry Project

Marge Bresel, Tapestry Committee Chair

Are you curious about this project? Do you have friends who are working on a block?

Whether you answered yes or no to the above, you and your family can participate in the project that will be displayed on the Temple walls for years to come.

We are creating tapestries made of 18 blocks each, along with short (1 paragraph) stories in the spirit of our Temple theme of Many Stories, One Congregation.

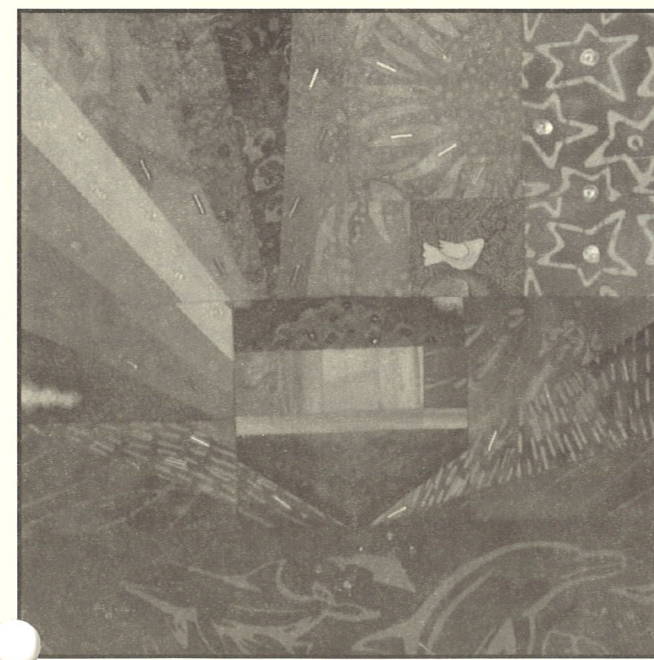
Families who have moved out-of-town are also invited to participate along with current members. If you know a member who has moved away, ask them if they want to be included. They can contact program director Rosie Zweiback, 556-6536 or rzweiback@templeisraelomaha.com.

Learn more about this project at a workshop to see samples and explore materials that will unleash your creativity!

- **Thursday, January 25, 11:45—1 p.m.**
(\$6 box lunch available. Please RSVP for lunch 556-6536.)
- **Wednesday, February 28, 4 - 5:30 p.m.**
- **Wednesday, March 7, 6:30 - 8 p.m.**
- **Sunday, April 22, 10 a.m.**
- **Sunday, May 6, 1 - 2:30 p.m.**

A suggested minimum donation of \$18 is greatly appreciated to defray some of the costs.

And The Temple Tapestry Continues To Grow...



Pictured above: Noah's Ark by Dr. Jeffrey and Sandra Passer and Joel and Aaron Passer

Joel and Aaron both had the honor of reading from Parashat Noah as they each celebrated their Bar Mitzvah. This portion therefore holds special meaning for our family.

We all know the familiar story of how God had become angry with man and caused a great flood to destroy the world. God called Noah to build an Ark and save two of every animal to repopulate the earth after the flood... We may never be called upon

to build an Ark, but we are called upon daily to see life as a privilege. With this privilege comes the responsibility of all mankind to value life and its purposes.

Jewish Notions of the Afterlife

Begins February 7 at Temple Israel

Dr. Guy Matalon, executive director of the Center for Jewish Education, will lead an exploration of the Jewish understanding of what happens after we die. The class will meet on **Wednesdays, February 7, 14, 21 and 28** from 7 to 8 p.m. In March, the class will continue at Beth El Synagogue.

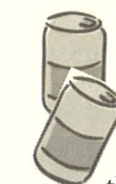
"We will see how different models of afterlife explain how a person enters paradise," said Dr. Matalon. "The course is based on my research of different notions of the afterlife. Jewish sources such as the Torah, Talmud and many Rabbinic works offer different perspectives on the afterlife."

As the class explores the texts and the various alternatives that are presented in the Jewish tradition, "we will look at Biblical passages, Jewish philosophy, *Kabbalah* (Jewish mysticism) and *Hasiduth* (the inner, mystical dimension of the Torah)." He added that the concept of afterlife is tied to other key concepts such as messianism, resurrection of the dead, immortality and non-existence. "We will discuss not only the meaning of the terms but their implications on our relationship with God and Torah."

"Jewish Notions of the Afterlife" is co-sponsored by the Center for Jewish Education and the Howard and Judy Vann Temple Israel Family School Educational Grant.

To register for this class or any others offered by the Hermene Zweiback Center for Lifelong Jewish Learning, contact Temple's Program Director Rosie Zweiback at 556-6536 or rzweiback@templeisraelomaha.com. The class fee is \$18 for each of the two sessions.

Recycle Cans Benefit Temple



Save your Aluminum beverage cans. They are worth \$\$\$ to Temple Israel.

Take your empties to Can-Pak, 85th and Blondo, and ask them to credit Temple Israel.

Youth & Education

What's Happening In Religious School

Elyce Azriel, Director of Religious Education

Religious School Steering Committee Meeting Tuesday, January 23
Join us at Noon in the library in our continuing effort to strengthen our school and the partnership between school and home. Please contact Katherine Finnegan, kfinnegan@cox.net, to let her know if you are planning to attend this meeting.

No Religious or Family School..... Wednesday, January 31

Parent/Teacher Conferences for Grades K-6..... Sunday, February 4
Kindergarten through Grade 6 parents and teachers will meet to discuss student progress this Sunday morning. Families with last names beginning with A-L will meet from 10-11 a.m. Families with last names beginning with M-Z will meet from 11 a.m.-Noon.

Prayer Assembly Sunday, February 11, 10 a.m.
Our monthly Prayer Assemblies give families an opportunity to pray and sing together. Join us for a fun and meaningful half hour.

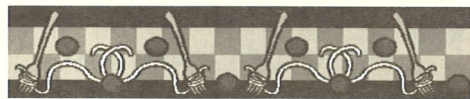
No Religious School..... Sunday, February 18



A Big Thank You!

Thank you to all who helped make "i had a little meatball," OTYG's annual Spaghetti Dinner and Auction, a success this year! We raised over \$17,000 for Temple Israel Youth Programming and Camps CoHoLo and Rainbow, which provide fun summer experiences for youth with cancer and blood disorders. Honored for this success, OTYG brought home the "Rah Rah Sis Boom Bah!" Awesome Fundraiser Award from the NFTY-Missouri Valley Regional Chavurah (conclave) held in St. Louis, MO, December 28-31. OTYG could not have received this recognition without your generous moral and financial support. "Mazel tov!" to all of you from all of us. We are grateful for your support and hope you will join us again next year!

OTYG Board



Mitzvah Man, Danny Siegel, to Visit Temple Wednesday, February 14, 6:30 p.m.

Sometimes called the "Pied Piper of *Tzedakah*," Danny Siegel has distributed more than \$7 million since he started the Ziv *Tzedakah* Fund about 23 years ago. A free-lance author, poet and lecturer from Rockville, MD, Danny has provided grants to organizations such as one in Israel which offers horseback riding lessons to disabled children, and to AMUTA which provides emotional support to fiancées of fallen soldiers of the Israel Defense Force.

Danny will share his personal stories and practical suggestions at a workshop with middle and high school students and their parents at Temple Israel. The community is welcome to attend Danny's presentation sponsored by the Lazier L. Singer Memorial Fund for Youth.

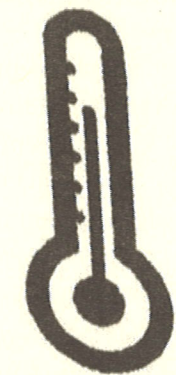
"Our Judaism has much to offer the world, particularly in the area of *kavod*, *mitzvahs*, *tzedakah*, *gemilut chasadim* and *tikun olam*," Danny wrote in the Ziv Giraffe Curriculum Guide for teachers.

"Danny's a magical person," said Elyce Azriel, director of religious education at Temple. "His *mitzvot* are intriguing. He doesn't just give money. He takes people under his wing and delivers a very positive message. There's a lot of give and take when he talks to groups -- it's not a lecture."

In addition to getting ideas for Bar and Bat Mitzvah *tzedakah* projects, "the kids do things on their own" after talking to Danny, noted Elyce. "We're planting the seed of social justice in their hearts which is so central to Reform Judaism."

How High Is The Religious School Thermometer?

Tzedakah is a *mitzvah*. It signifies a person's responsibility to participate in acts of kindness. At Temple Israel,



we feel *tzedakah* is important that students learn that caring for all people in need is an integral part of Jewish life.

Our students can make a difference. *Tzedakah* in the form of small change will be collected each week on Sunday in class. At the end of the year the class will vote on where the funds should go. Please consider giving *tzedakah* a priority in your family. Each week when you enter Temple Israel, take a look at the thermometer and see it rise.

Memories of Summer Camp 2006 Making Jewish Connections

Ben Hale, 12, spent his first summer at OSRUI in Wisconsin where his favorite food was pancakes. The seventh grader was a Geshur camper which gave him a chance to pick two electives each day. He chose sports and also worked on his Hebrew.

Also a first-timer, Brooke Schneiderman, ten, went to Missouri's Camp Sabra in the Lake of the Ozarks last summer. Pancakes were also her preferred fare! A fifth grader, Brooke said her favorite activity at camp was tubing. Both Ben and Brooke hope to be back at camp next summer.

Service Attendance

Attendance at services, and in particular, Shabbat services is an important element of the learning process, particularly as it relates to learning prayers, being comfortable in services and preparing for Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Attendance at services is now included as part of the "tefilah" (prayer) curriculum.

To that end, The Board of Trustees and the Religious School Steering Committee have endorsed the following policy and guidelines:

- Kindergarten - Grade Two: Four Friday evening or Saturday services (including Tot Shabbat).
- Grades Three - Four: Six Friday evening or Saturday morning services.
- Grade Five - Six: Five Friday evening services and Ten Saturday morning services with a Bar or Bat Mitzvah is required.

Kindergarten thru Grade Four will check in with their teacher on the Sunday following the day that they attended a service. Grades Five and Six will check in with Cantor Shermet after a service.

Service attendance is considered to be a critical part of the curriculum. For the purpose of monitoring attendance each "year" is the August 15 to June 30 period that corresponds to the grade in school. Summer services will not be counted towards attendance standards.

Celebration of Learning: Educators Shabbat

Friday, March 2, 6 p.m.

Religious School students will have the opportunity to invite their public school and religious school teachers to Temple Israel to be honored at an Educators Shabbat. Children are also welcome to invite their principals. At past Educators Shabbats, which are scheduled about every three years, parents have even brought school district superintendents.

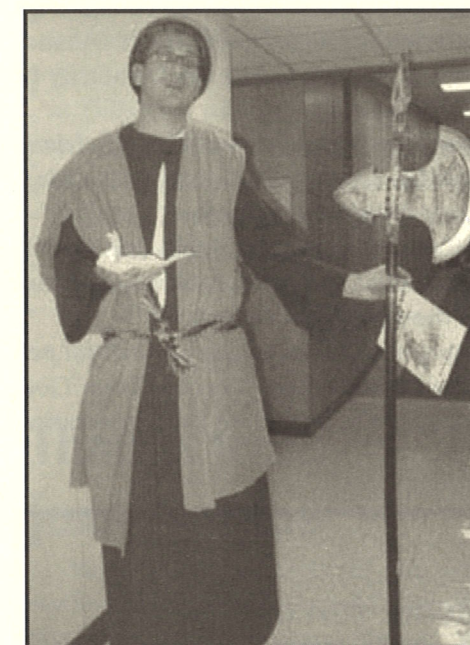
"It's a great opportunity for the kids to share something that's important to them with their teachers," said Stephanie Grossman. Her children, Hannah and Noah, invited several of their teachers, a counselor and a principal to the last Educators Shabbat. "They were impressed that Rabbi Azriel came around and talked to all of them," Stephanie added. "We got lots of thank yous from the teachers."

Children will be given invitations at Religious School to present to their educators.

Following the worship service, a traditional Shabbat dinner will be served. The Torah will be read during the service, and the teachers will be invited to the bimah for a blessing by the clergy and an opportunity to see the Torah.

"Very often, our public school teachers don't know what our children do here," said Temple's Director of Education Elyce Azriel. At the Educators Shabbat, the public school teachers will learn a little about Judaism and see the emphasis on education at Temple. Usually about 300 people attend the Educators Shabbat, a celebration of learning.

Mystery Person



What "blast from the past" roamed Temple's Religious School halls on Sunday, December 17? Judah Maccabee! Well, not Judah himself, but Rabbi Linder who thought history to life. Who will visit next? Maybe the evil king Nebuchadnezzar or Theodor Herzl, the founder of modern zionism.

Save the Dates!



OTYG Pottery Party!

Sunday, January 21, 1 - 3:30 p.m.
at That Pottery Place

Are you a Picasso, or have you never picked up a paint brush? Either way, you'll have a blast with OTYG at That Pottery Place, where you can paint a picture frame (we'll provide the picture!) or other ceramic piece of your choice. Cost is \$7 to \$10. Meet at Temple Israel. RSVP to Amy Cotton, 556-6536, or acotton@templeisraelomaha.com.



Camp CoHoLo Fun Fair!

Sunday, February 12, 12:15 - 5:30 p.m.
Eastern Nebraska 4-H Center

Have a great time and earn some community service hours! Run game tables, pass out prizes and interact with kids when you volunteer with OTYG at a Fun Fair run by Camp CoHoLo, designed to give fun camp experiences to youth with cancer and blood disorders. Meet at Temple Israel. RSVP by Sunday, January 28 to Amy Cotton, 556-6536, or acotton@templeisraelomaha.com.

Winter Middle/High School Curriculum a Flurry of Innovative Subjects

Winter classes have just begun for middle and high school students at Temple Israel. Israeli natives Orly Gilat and Zohar Winer will continue teaching *Ulpan Hebrew I and II* for students interested in continuing to master conversational Hebrew.

Another continuing class is Steve Danon's *Jewish Current Events*. Topics for the class include Israel and its geography, Palestinian and Hezbollah conflicts, and the media slant on news about Israel.

Rita Paskowitz will resume *The Holocaust and Beyond* which she taught in the fall. The effects of the Holocaust on Jewish life in America and other issues will be explored through discussion, guest speakers, and film.

Jewish Symbols from Home is one of eight new classes offered during the winter mini-mester. Lee Needleman's students will study Jewish ceremonial art to develop aesthetic appreciation and a connection with their Jewish heritage. Students will tell the stories of Jewish objects they bring to class from home.

Kripke Jewish Federation Library Administrator Gary Katz's course on *Contemporary Jewish Fiction* will explore the work of several major writers from the Jewish-American literary tradition and modern cultural themes such as heritage and identity.

In *Learning How to Speak with Your Hands*, Amy Katz will demonstrate the richness of a unique language and how Judaism comes to life through the hands and body of the interpreter.

Miriam Moran and Leora Azriel will be the instructors for another creative class, *Jewish Greeting Cards*. They'll help their students find "hands-on" satisfaction in Jewish learning. All proceeds from the sale of the cards will benefit KAVOD, a non-profit Omaha-based *tzedakah* collective.

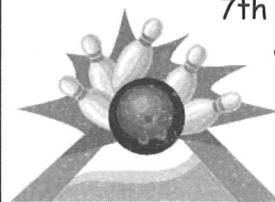
No prior experience is required for students in Rosie Zweiback's new class: *Jewish Fiber Arts: Knitting and Needlepointing Our Way Through Jewish Music*. As they learn knitting basics, the class will make caps to be donated to the University of Nebraska Medical Center to help underweight babies stay warm.

Rabbi Aryeh Azriel's new class is *Know Thy Neighbor as Thyself: Islam, Christianity, and Judaism: What Bonds Unite Us*. Leaders from the Omaha community will be speaking and presenting different religious teachings.

iPods and Movies - A Torah for the 21st Century, taught by Rabbi Eric Linder, will be a lesson in using the music, movies, and books that students know and love to examine how they can help reframe Jewish thoughts and concepts.

Rabbi Jonathan Gross of Beth Israel Synagogue will lead a class on *she'bial peh* (oral Torah) as he and his students study how all that Moses learned from God, then transmitted orally, by heart, to his successors was passed on from generation to generation.

7th and 8th Graders



"Strike" up some fun at the
JYG Cosmic Bowling Night!

Saturday, February 10
8:30 - 11 p.m.

Prizes

Snacks Mockingbird Lanes (4870 South 96 Street)

Cost is \$5 ~ RSVPs to Lori or Elyce
(556-6536 or tisrael@templeisraelomaha.com)

by Wednesday, February 7

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

Sokolof Merit Scholarships and Awards Available

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

Applicants must be Jewish and residents of the Omaha metropolitan area. Scholarships are not awarded on financial need but on merit - good character, scholastic performance, achievements and community service.

Application forms that are due by **Thursday, March 1**, may be downloaded from the Center for Jewish Education Scholarships and Grants page on the Jewish Federation's website at www.jewishomaha.org or contact Janet Henthorn at the Jewish Federation Foundation, 334-6551 or jhenthorn@jewishomaha.org.

The Sokolof Fund also has a \$10,000 award for an Outstanding Jewish Teacher in the Omaha metro area, with preference given to a teacher in K-12. Nominations by letter are due by **Thursday, March 1**, to Janet Henthorn, Jewish Federation of Omaha Foundation, 333 So. 132nd St. 68154. There is no limit to the number of times a teacher can be nominated.

Education Fund Augments Religious School Budget

Special Religious School and Middle/High School projects and opportunities that are not supported by the Temple budget are augmented by the Temple Israel Education Fund. A portion of *madrachim* salaries as well as scholarships to help families cover the cost of Religious School tuition are also made available through the Education Fund.

Minimum contributions of \$6 will help sustain the Education Fund. Larger donations are also welcome at all times and add to the learning experiences of Temple's younger generation. Contact the Temple office, 556-6536, or email mkube@templeisraelomaha.com to make a donation.



We are pleased to announce our
annual Barton's Passover Candy
sale has begun!

Barton's Passover Candy is
• a delicious addition
to your Seder table!

- a beautiful hostess thank you gift!
- an easy way to keep your sweet tooth satisfied during Pesach!
- and a wonderful way to support Temple Israel's Religious School!

Ordering is simple...

1. Religious School students are taking orders and earning prizes.
2. Visit our candy table on Sundays and Wednesdays during school hours, or leave your order and payment in the Temple office.
3. Go to www.misschocolate.com and use Code 703002 when ordering.

The sale ends February 19. Orders will be delivered in time for Passover.

Welcome New Members!

• **Jane Doman**

• Jane moved to Omaha from Los Angeles a few years ago to be closer to her husband Doug's family. Sadly, Doug passed away unexpectedly on Memorial Day of last year.

• Jane has a master's degree in clinical psychology and is a licensed mental health practitioner. She teaches human relations part-time at Metropolitan Community College and also works as a counselor at the Samaritan Counseling Center. She enjoys the pace of life in Nebraska and is thankful for her many friends here and in California.

• **Boris and Lara Usherenko**

• **Alex, age 23**

• **Irina, age 21**

• The Usherenkos came to America 15 years ago as refugees from Kiev, Ukraine. They lived in Kansas City where Boris worked as an architect. In 2003, the family moved to Omaha for Boris' job at HDR. Lara works at Dillards. Alex is studying architecture at Kansas State University. Irina is a pre-med student at Grinnell College. Boris plans to run his first half-marathon in 2007. Lara loves to cook and bake.

Thanks from Joan Marcus

Many thanks to those of you who worked and provided food for the Stephens Center Christmas Dinner. We served over 125 guests. It was a great success due to those who provided the work and food. Special thanks for the casserole dishes. We ran out of meat and those dishes saved our lives!

Extra special thanks to Sandee Friedman for her great favors and to Allison Latenser for the wonderful fruit.

Thanks again and we will see you on Easter!

Women of Reform Judaism-Omaha



Brunch: It's Not Just For The Morning

Sunday, January 28, 10 a.m.

Join some very talented WRJ cooks and their moms for some family favorites and other great dishes. Cost is \$7 which includes a full brunch and recipe packet. A \$2 raffle ticket could be your ticket to an overflowing basket of kitchen gadgets and a gift certificate at Sur la Table - a \$100 value.

Please RSVP by Monday, January 22. WRJ chefs are Stacie Brodkey and Vicki Chesen, Patty Gilinsky and Deanna Gilinsky, and Danielle Gordman and Linda Stark.



Tot Shabbat Friday, February 2, 6 p.m.

Bring your young ones up to five years old or let grandma and grandpa bring them for some special time with those tots. There will be a dinner to follow. Please RSVP to Temple, 556-6536 or mkube@templeisraelomaha.com to make a reservation for dinner. The cost is \$5 for adults and children are no charge.



Getting Ready For The Annual Book Sale Sunday, February 11 10:00 a.m.- Noon

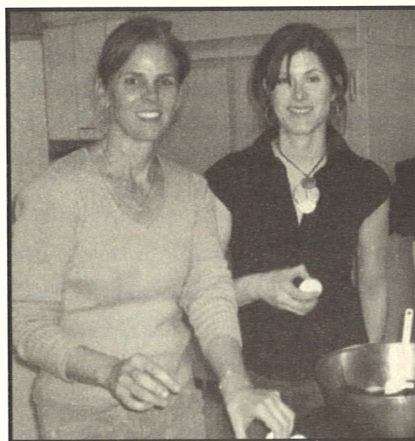
WRJ-O is starting to prepare for our annual book sale. We would like to start our organizing by having a work day to sort books at Temple. Come one, come all and bring a friend. We could use all the help we can get.

Kitchen Camaraderie at Temple Beats Making a Mess at Home

"It's a great feeling of friendship, bonding and learning different recipes," according to Jennifer Glazer, one of many who get together in the Temple kitchen prior to a *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* to help family members and friends bake. "It's just something I feel I can do for them," she added.

"We are solving world peace!" quipped Cindy Goldberg, another member of the baking patrol. "Truthfully, its fun. Everybody's happy. We could do the baking individually, but this builds community. Everyone is all excited about the special day coming up, and the mother of the *Bar* or *Bat Mitzvah* feels the support of her friends and family." Besides, she added, "You don't have the big mess at home!"

Since her own daughter's *Bat Mitzvah*, Kim Noddle has organized a group to bake or come to Temple to help. "It's fun," she admitted, even if "it does get warm in the kitchen, and it's like a scavenger hunt trying to find things. There's a lot of camaraderie -- not to mention new recipes!"



Pictured left (l-r) Katherine Finnegan, Jordana Glazer, (pictured below l-r) Lori Miller, Nanci Kavich and Andrea Siegel get together to help bake in the kitchen for a bar/bat mitzvah.



Voices from the Pews: Imagining a Synagogue for the 21st Century

Wendy Manvitz has been a member of Temple Israel for 28 years along with her husband Todd. She has served as vice president of Women of Reform Judaism. "My favorite memory at Temple Israel is the Bar and Bat Mitzvahs of our three children," she said. "Having our family and friends gather together to celebrate a milestone and our children's hard work" is something she'll always remember.

"The simplicity of a Friday night service," is one of Gordon Moshman's favorite times at Temple. He also especially enjoys hearing the song, "Shalom Rav." A member of Temple for 12 years with his wife Ann and four children, Gordon has enjoyed taking a lot of classes over the years.

Sandy Martin remembers her Dad taking her to the Temple on Park Avenue. "As a young child, I remember walking around the *sukkah* in the sanctuary or *Sukkot*," she recalled. "It looked like a king's palace to me. It was so ornate and beautiful. This was probably just before Temple moved to 70th and Cass." Sandy continued, "It's a good feeling to see my grandkids go to Religious School at Temple now, keeping up the traditions. Temple has always been there for me."

Men's Club

Texas Hold 'Em Tournament Thursday, February 8



Doors open 6 p.m. for registration
Table assignments at 6:30 p.m.
First Hand at 7:15 p.m.

The event will feature No Limit Hold 'Em until the winner prevails.

All players will be welcome, including players that are not Temple Israel members.

Food and drinks will be available during the event.

1st prize is expected to be a \$1,000 gift card.

Top 10 winners will win prizes!!

\$50 Tickets may be purchased in advance.

Please contact Adam Kirshenbaum at 965-8935 or akirshenbaum@blackwellsanders.com to purchase tickets.

Proceeds to support Temple's Music Program



ADL Director
Alan Potash
Sunday,
February 11
10:30 a.m.

Alan Potash, regional director of the Plains

States Region of the Anti-Defamation League/Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Omaha, has had his position for a relatively short time. After being gone from Omaha for eleven years, Alan returned to replace exiting director Bob Wolfson.

Alan is not a new face in the ADL. Prior to taking over the leadership of the Plains Region, he was the ADL community director in Austin, TX. He'll bring his message, "ADL Issues Today and Their Impact on Omaha," to the Temple Men's Club meeting in the Milder Center.

An artist, educator and traveler at heart, Alan is also an award winning artist and film maker. Alan and his wife Amy Nachman are parents of twin boys.

Mark your calendars 59th Annual Yom Ha'Atzmaut Celebration Jewish Arts Festival

Sunday, April 22
11 a.m. - 6 p.m. at J.C.C.

Jewish Artists from around the United States and Israel will be displaying and selling their creations.

For more information and to submit an Artist Application, contact Gady Tene, Jewish Arts Festival Coordinator, 650-0912 or JARTFest@gmail.com.



Women of Spirit

Dear Women of Temple Israel,

I know that many of you, like me, have been able to enjoy the incredible Women of Spirit annual late January event.

We wanted to let you know that Women of Spirit will be taking a Sabbatical from our January 2007 conference. While Women of Spirit regrets needing to take time to address organizational changes, the Women of Spirit planning team is actively

working toward ways to continue our multi-faith dialogue and gatherings.

** Your ideas and/or participation in the planning process are most welcome.

Please contact Nancy Phillips: njhphill@creighton.edu or (402) 280-2934.

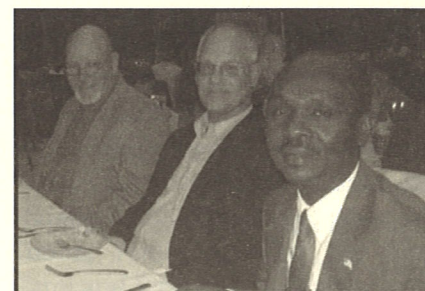
**Women of Spirit news? -See our website: <http://groups.creighton.edu/womenofspirit>

**In the meantime, if you wish information about multi-faith opportunities which come to our attention, please send your email address to Cathy Pedersen: pfamily@creighton.edu.

Thank You!

Lee Needelman, member of the Women of Spirit planning team

Chanukah Dinner - An Interfaith Event



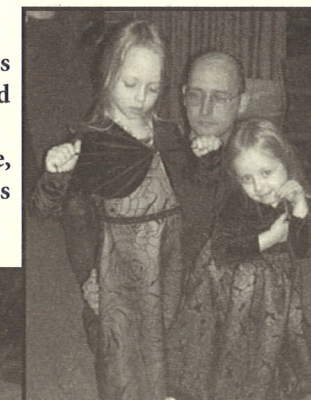
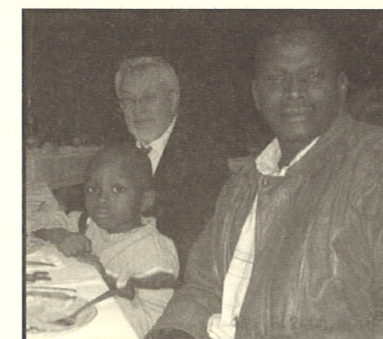
Pictured above (l-r): Tom Barnhart, a good friend of Marty Leiserowitz and Bakheit Shata who has lived here almost three years.

Pictured right: Molly Goldberg is selling t-shirts to raise money to help Darfurian refugees.



Pictured right: Chris Edwards with his daughters O'Bryen and Gavriella.

Pictured below (l-r): Paul Fine, Adam Mohammed, six, and his dad Ali Ahmed.



From the Center for Jewish Education

Gary Katz, Kripke Jewish Federation Library administrator, will present a four-week class to discuss the multitude of work by Isaac Bashevis Singer. **Beginning Wednesday, February 7, the class will focus on Singer's short stories including Gimple the Fool and Yentle the Yeshiva Boy.** Classes will meet from 11 a.m. to Noon every Tuesday in February in the Kripke Library. Tuition is \$18 for anyone who donated to the Jewish Federation Campaign. Otherwise, the tuition is \$23.

"Eye on Israel" continues to meet from Noon to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays in January, March and May with Dr. Guy Matalon, executive director of CJE. Various guests will also talk about the latest happenings in Israel and events affecting Israel. The class meets in the Kripke Library, attendees are encouraged to bring their lunch.

Beth Seldin-Dotan, director of the Institute for Holocaust Education, and Dr. Matalon will jointly teach **"Lessons of the Holocaust."** Classes will meet from **7 to 8:30 p.m. on Thursdays, February 8, 15 and 22** in the Kripke Library. Cost is \$18 for Jewish Federation donors and \$23 for others.

"It's Not Your Maxwell House Haggadah Anymore!" a pre-Pesach program sponsored by the CJE, will introduce the community to the wide variety of *haggadot* available. Planned for **7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 6**, at the Kripke Library, the event will feature displays of *haggadot* and provide an opportunity to place orders to purchase them.

Congregational rabbis from the area will be included in an informal panel discussion on their favorite *haggadot* and perhaps share a favorite *Pesach* experience.

Pre-registration for all classes is required. To register or if you have any questions, please contact Mary Sue Grossman at CJE at 334-6445 or at mgrossman@jewishomaha.org.

Congratulations

On the Birth of:

Siobhan Liora Rose Edwards, daughter of Frances and Chris Edwards. Grandparents are Kathleen and Charles Lester, Ft. Thomas, KY, and Sherry and Don Edwards, Murray, KY. Great-grandparents are Janie Edwards, Murray, KY, Madaline and Robert Rodger, Cincinnati, OH, and Margaret and Charles Lester, Alexandria, KY.

Amanda Jayne Gershoni, daughter of Jodi and Yoav Gershoni. Grandparents are Janet and Jerry Slusky, Harriet Fishel, Bethesda, MD, and Denise and Amnon Gershoni, North Miami, FL. Great-grandmother is Esther Dolgoff.

On the Engagement of:

Andrea Kramer and Robbie Epstein. Parents are Susan and Allyn Kramer, Dallas, TX, and Lisa and Gary Epstein.

Amy Willensky and Andy Isaacson. Parents are Andi and David Willensky and Suzi and Michael Isaacson, Encino, CA.

Our Sympathy

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

Margie Gendler Alperson, aunt of Larry Gendler, sister of Hymie, Jean, Norman and Sam Gendler, and Sally Wintroub, and mother of Joel Alpers, Amie Wolf-Mehlman, and Carol Porter;

Juni Bloch, wife of Al Bloch, mother of Pamela S. Bloch and Larry Bloch, and sister of Linda Bookin and Renee Partelow

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

Temple Funds

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

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

Tree of Life leaves are \$300. Tree of Life Boulders are \$3,000. If you would like information on these donations, please call Dennis DePorte, Executive Director, at 556-6536.

\$6.00 fund contributions:

- David and Rachel Bleicher
Camp Scholarship
- Mel and Genevieve Bornstein
Social Justice
- Rabbi Sidney H. and Jane Brooks
Institute on Judaism for Clergy
- Caring
- Cemetery Improvement
- 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 Linder's Discretionary
- Cantor Shermet's Discretionary
- Executive Director's Discretionary
- Prayer Book (\$30 donation)*

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

IN MEMORY OF: Bob Aronson: Susie and Irvin Blumkin, Chris and Ronald Blumkin, Cindy and Steven Blumkin, Frances and Sam Fried, Susie and Marvin Cohn, Roz Friedman, Phyllis and Dick Glazer, Nancy and Don Greenberg, Eileen and Leonard Jacobson, Doris and Richard Rosinsky, Anne and Bruce Shackman, Joodi and Norm Veitzer, Russell Winkelbauer, Terri and Dick Zacharia; **Lillian Bergman, Stewart Gilinsky:** Frances Gilinsky; **Julius Bernstein:** Fritzi Luefshuetz, Rosalie and Ernie Saltzman; **Juni Bloch:** Dodi and Steve Redler, Susan Rothholz, Susie and Jim Silverman; **Lillian Finkel:** Edythe and Lloyd Krasne; **Sadie Gitlin:** Ann Cohen; **Sylvia Goldberg:** Dodi and Steve Redler, Terri and Dick Zacharia; **Mimi Malacoff:** Cathy Bard and Jorge Rawicz; **Adele Mandell:** Thelma Lustgarten; **Lloyd Mitchell:** Shelly, Rick and Naomi Fox; Judy and Keith Josephson, Amee and Ted Zetzman; **Sherman Neff:** Carol and Steven Bloch, Nancy Noddle; **Harlan Noddle:** Carol and Steven Bloch, Connie and Bob Kully; **Barbara Kutler Peck:** Phyllis and Harvey Aronson, Anne and Alan Cohen, Susie and Marvin Cohn, Roz Friedman, Nancy and Don Greenberg, Frankie and Sandy Kasin, Connie and Bob Kully, Linda Siref-Simons, Janet and Jerry Slusky; **Norman Rips:** Cindy Anderson, Karen Hawkins, Emily Kozlik, Michaela Theisen, Ellen Wright; **Nancy Robinson and Dr. George Roffman:** Harriett and Sherm Sperling; **Virginia Sandene:** Toby Fellman, Lisa and Denny Lewis; **Bea Schimmel:** Dana, Chris, Madison and Tyler Kiper, Harriett and Sherm Sperling; **Steve Simon:** Nancy Noddle; **Irv Singer:** Carol and Steve Bloch; **Audrey Sophir:** Cheri and John Spitzer

IN HONOR OF RECOVERY OF: Dr. Ron Cooper: June Goodbinder; **Arthur Davidson, Bernie Meyers, Howard Ruback:** Suzy Rubin; **Hilde Gottlieb:** Rosalie and Milton Saylan; **Alan Kulakofsky:** Judy and Keith

Josephson; **Marty Lehr:** Barbara and Marshall Kushner; **Mike Mogil and Ann Roitstein:** Sheila and Ray Tomps; **Ellen Slosburg:** Debbi and Larry Josephson; **Joodi Veitzer:** Barbara and Marshall Kushner; **Sandi Whitman:** Norman Whitman

IN HONOR OF BIRTHDAY OF: Toby Fellman: Rosalie and Maurie Meiches, Sheila and Ray Tomps; **Marshall Fried:** Debbie and Scott Friedman, Judy and Jerry Marburg; **Frances Gilinsky:** Phyllis and Dick Glazer; **Jerry Hoberman:** Harriet and Sonny Marko, Stacey and Jonathan Rockman; **Suzy Rubin:** Sylvia and Jerry Kaiman, Doris Parker, Cynthia and Charlie Schneider, Harriett and Sherm Sperling; **Suzanne Singer:** Dora Goldstrom and George Walker

IN HONOR OF ANNIVERSARY OF: Doris and Alvin Abramson: Barbara Frohman; **Betty and Stuart Muskin:** Nancy and David Jacobson; **Sarah and Ted Seldin:** Stacey and Jonathan Rockman; **Mr. and Mrs. Abe Victor:** Harriett and Sherm Sperling

IN HONOR OF ENGAGEMENT OF: Andrea Kramer and Robbie Epstein: Nancy and David Jacobson

IN HONOR OF MARRIAGE OF: Beth and Moshe Gershovich: Betty Fisher

IN HONOR OF BIRTH OF: Talia Bahar: Lisa and Denny Lewis, Debbi and Speedy Zweiback; **Allyson Sherman:** Lisa and Denny Lewis

IN HONOR OF PhD DEGREE: Daniel Rosen: Ann Kaiman

IN HONOR OF GRADUATION OF: Annelise Ocanto: Rosalie and Maurie Meiches

IN APPRECIATION OF: Lisa Epstein and Judy Josephson: Harriett Sperling; **Colleen Kennealy:** Jeff Schweid; **Joan and Milton Marcus, Denise and Jon Meyers:** Marvin Parilman; **Joyce and Sheldon Cohen:** George Eisenberg

CHANUKAH WISHES: Toby Fellman: Sandy, Jeff, Joel and Aaron Passer; **Orly Gilat:** Aaron Passer; **Dr. Larry Kipperman:** Toby Fellman; **Katherine Finnegan, Doris Parker, Patsy Wallace, Tereza Wigodsky:** The Zetzman Family

IN APPRECIATION OF: Rabbi Aryeh Azriel, Rabbi Eric Linder, Cantor Wendy Shermet, Dennis DePorte, Elyce Azriel, Lori Bennett, Willie Clark, Amy Cotton, Vicki Ducharme, Edith Gamble, Misty Heller, Maureen Kube, Claudia Sherman, Bonnie Sullivan, Lonnie Williams, Rosie Zweiback

Women of Reform Judaism Tribute Fund

IN HONOR OF BIRTH OF: Talia Bahar: Lois and Mel Epstein, Marilyn and Marty Warren

IN HONOR OF ENGAGEMENT OF: David Spizman: Lois and Mel Epstein, Marilyn and Marty Warren

IN MEMORY OF: Ruth Maline: Lois and Mel Epstein, Marilyn and Marty Warren

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.

January/February • Tevet/Shevat 5767

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					19	20 Sparks Beneath the Surface 9:15-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m. Bar Mitzvah of Vincent Long
21 Teacher Learning Coffee 9:30 a.m. Grades K - 6 10 a.m. - Noon Community Conversations 10:30 a.m. Grade 1 Parent Session 10:30 a.m. OTYG Pottery Party at That Pottery Place 1 p.m.	22	23 RSSC Meeting Noon Adult B'nai Mitzvah 6:30 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gamblers' 12-step 7:30 p.m.	24 Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. Scrapbook Club 5 p.m. Family School 6-8 p.m. Grades 7 - 12 6-8 p.m.	25 Adult Study with the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m. Tapestry Workshop 11:45 a.m.	26 Shabbat Service 6 p.m.	27 Sparks Beneath the Surface 9:15-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
28 Teacher Learning Coffee 9:30 a.m. Grades K-6 10 a.m.-Noon WRJ-O Cooking Program 10 a.m.	29	30 Adult B'nai Mitzvah 6:30 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gamblers' 12-step 7:30 p.m.	31 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL, FAMILY SCHOOL, MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL	1 Adult Study with the Clergy 10 - 11:30 a.m. Torah on Wheels at Gordmans Noon	2 Shabbat Shira Tot Shabbat Dinner Following 6 p.m. Shabbat Shira Service 7:30 p.m.	3 Sparks Beneath the Surface 9:15-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m. Bat Mitzvah of Jordan Jensen
4 Teacher Learning Coffee 9:30 a.m. Grades K - 6 Parent/Teacher Conferences 10 a.m. Kol Rina at St. Paul Methodist Church 10 a.m.	5	6 Adult B'nai Mitzvah 6:30 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gamblers' 12-step 7:30 p.m.	7 Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. Family School 6-8 p.m. Grades 7-12 6-8 p.m. Jewish Notions of the Afterlife 7 p.m.	8 Adult Study with the Clergy 10 - 11:30 a.m. Theology Cafe at Borders 7 p.m. Poker Night 6 p.m.	9 Community Conversation Noon Shabbat Service 6 p.m.	10 Sparks Beneath the Surface 9:15-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m.
11 Teacher Learning Coffee 9 a.m. Grades K - 6 10 a.m. - Noon Prayer Assembly 10 a.m. WRJ-O Book Work Day 10 a.m. Men's Club Speaker 10:30 a.m. Camp CoHoLo Fun Fair in Gretna 12:15 p.m. Deli Night 5 p.m.	12	13 Adult B'nai Mitzvah 6:30 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gamblers' 12-step 7:30 p.m.	14 Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. Family School 6-8 p.m. Grades 7 - 12 Danny Siegel 6-8 p.m. Jewish Notions of the Afterlife 7 p.m.	15 Adult Study with the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m.	16 Shabbat Service 6 p.m.	17 Sparks Beneath the Surface 9:15-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m. Bar Mitzvah of Steven Vinci
18 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	19	20 Adult B'nai Mitzvah 6:30 p.m. Board of Trustees 7:30 p.m. AA, Alanon & Gamblers' 12-step 7:30 p.m.	21 Religious School Grades 3-6 4-6 p.m. Scrapbook Club 5 p.m. Family School 6-8 p.m. Grades 7-12 Informal Education 6-8 p.m. Jewish Notions of the Afterlife 7 p.m.	22 Adult Study with the Clergy 10-11:30 a.m. RSSC Meeting Noon	23 Shabbat Service 6 p.m.	24 Sparks Beneath the Surface 9:15-10:15 a.m. Shabbat Service 10:30 a.m. Bar Mitzvah of Ben Hale

Worship Services

Friday~January 19

6 p.m.
Shabbat Service
D'var Torah - Bob Cohen: "A Personal Journey into Jewish History - With No Ending in Sight"

Saturday~January 20

9:15-10:15 a.m.
Sparks Beneath the Surface
10:30 a.m.

Shabbat Service
Bar Mitzvah of Vincent Long

Son of Ellen Long
Torah Portion: Va'era
Exodus 6:2-9:35
Haftarah: Isaiah 66:1-13, 23

Friday~January 26

6 p.m.
Shabbat Service
D'var Torah - Mary-Beth Muskin: "On Being Jewish"

Saturday~January 27

9:15-10:15 a.m.
Sparks Beneath the Surface
10:30 a.m.

Shabbat Service
Torah Portion: Bo
Exodus 10:1-13:16
Haftarah: Jeremiah 46:13-28

Friday~February 2

6 p.m.
Tot Shabbat
Dinner immediately following
7:30 p.m.
Shabbat Shira Service
Along with Kol Rina and St. Paul
United Methodist Church Choir

Saturday~February 3

9:15-10:15 a.m.
Sparks Beneath the Surface
10:30 a.m.

Shabbat Service
Bat Mitzvah of Jordan Jensen
Daughter of Lynne and Patrick Jensen
Torah Portion: Beshalach
Exodus 13:17-17:16
Haftarah: Judges 4:4-5:31

Friday~February 9

6 p.m.
Shabbat Service
Saturday~February 10
9:15 - 10:15 a.m.
Sparks Beneath the Surface
10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Service
Torah Portion: Yitro
Exodus 18:1-20:23
Haftarah: Isaiah 6:1-7:6; 9:5-6

Friday~February 16

6 p.m.
Shabbat Service
Saturday~February 17
9:15-10:15 a.m.

Sparks Beneath the Surface
10:30 a.m.

Shabbat Service
Bar Mitzvah of Steven Vinci
Son of Jody and Gino Vinci
Torah Portion: Mishpatim
Exodus 21:1-24:18
Haftarah: II Kings 12:5-16

Friday~February 23

6 p.m.
Shabbat Service
Saturday~February 24
9:15-10:15 a.m.

Sparks Beneath the Surface
10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Service
Bar Mitzvah of Ben Hale
Son of Debbie and Pat Hale
Torah Portion: Terumah
Exodus 25:1-27:19
Haftarah: I Kings 5:26-6:13

Did You Know?

- Since Rabbi Aryeh Azriel arrived in Omaha in 1988, there have been 420 B'nai Mitzvah of children at Temple Israel.
- To date, there are about 115 adults enrolled in adult education courses this year. The number doesn't include classes yet to start this winter and spring or adults who attend scholar-in-residence presentations.
- Beginning with Bernard Gladstone (from 1871 to 1873) and continuing through the term of the current president, Wendy Goldberg, there have been 58 presidents of the Temple Israel Board of Trustees.

Birthday Blessings

Family Service

Friday, February 9

6 p.m.

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

Sitter Service

- is available...
- each Friday evening for the 7:30 p.m. service;
 - Saturday mornings when there is a bar or bat mitzvah;
 - Sunday mornings when there is Religious School.

Advance reservations and a \$5 donation are appreciated. Please email Maureen at mkube@templeisraelomaha.com for reservations. Sorry, there are no facilities for infants.



PLEASE NOTE FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE:

Temple's East entrance has 3 handicap parking spots – and no steps into Temple.