

Temple Israel & JCC
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TEMPLE TALK

December 2011

Kislev-Tevet 5772



Dr. David J. Fine
 Rabbi
 Caitlin O. Bromberg
 Cantor
 Sharon Litwin
 Associate Rabbi
 Denis Vogel
 President



Karaoke Night Saturday, December 3 8:00 pm

Join us for a fun evening of singing,
 schmoozing & plain old fun

More information on page 14



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Advertisement Back Cover

Installation of Sharon Litwin as Associate Rabbi Sunday, December 4 10:00 am

Performances by NNJJA Students, Tavim, Jewish ACapella,
 Temple Israel's Choir
 Keynote Speaker: Rabbi Perry Raphael Rank
 Brunch Reception



Family Service Friday, December 9 7:00 pm

Families with children of all ages are encouraged to attend.
 Led by Cantor Bromberg and Rabbi Sharon Litwin.
 We look forward to *davening* with the whole family!



Hanukkah Celebration Sunday, December 18 10:30 am

At Temple Beth Sholom

Latkes, singing, games, magician, prizes and of course...the dreidel spinning contest followed by our children's *Hanukkah Cantata*



Nosh & Drash Saturday, December 24

9:00 to 10:00am

Preliminary Service and *Shacharit*
 10:00 to 11:00am

Light Kiddush Breakfast and Communal Torah Study

11:00 am to 12:30 pm

Torah Service and Musaf

FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY



Our New *Torah* Mantles

What follows is an abbreviated version of my sermon on Yom Kippur evening about our beautiful new *Torah* mantles.

We are all grateful to David Brown, who made this project possible through a gift in memory of his parents. I am grateful to Chuck Fleischman for his help in getting us started. Stephanie Gottesman, Jo Rosen, Denis Vogel, Cantor Bromberg and Rabbi Litwin worked on a special committee with me and the artist to work on the design. Our artist was Reeva Shaffer, one of the foremost designers of sacred fabrics in the Jewish world today.

Our four beautiful mantles were designed specifically for the Temple Israel sanctuary. Reeva Shaffer studied the design of our ark and the colors of our carpeting and woodwork before we even began to talk specifics. We met with her several times in the sanctuary, deciding on colors, fabrics and then various design concepts. What we have is a single art piece that is saturated with religious motifs and suggestions. Four scrolls representing each of the four seasons: winter, spring, summer and fall. Together they form the picture of a single tree, with the wood background of our ark as a part of the wood of the trunk.

When I look at the four *Torah* mantles I think of the famous passage from Ecclesiastes: “There is a season for everything.” A synagogue, and a sanctuary, are defined by the Ark. How appropriate then for the Ark to remind us of the flow of the seasons. Because we who walk through the doors of this sacred space do so through all the seasons of life. Seasons of joy and seasons of sorrow. Times of constancy and change, of abundance and scarcity. The metaphor of the seasons of a tree are a metaphor for our lives.

In the Ark, the Winter scroll is marked by bare branches with a couple falling leaves. The Spring scroll has new budding. The Summer scroll is in full bloom, whereas the Autumn scroll is losing its leaves. Together, the four scrolls appear as a single tree, reminding me of the phrase from the Siddur that is originally from Proverbs: *Etz hayim hi*, it is a tree of life. That tree in Proverbs refers to Wisdom, and in the Siddur it refers, of course, to the Torah, as we sing it when we close the ark at the conclusion of the Torah service. The passage in Proverbs may itself be a reference to Genesis 2:9, where we learn of the trees in the Garden of Eden, and it says: *v’etz hahayim betokh hagan*, that the Tree of Life stood in the midst of the garden. If the Torah scrolls here are the *Etz Hayim*, the Tree of Life that stands amidst the Garden, then the Garden is Temple Israel. The synagogue is a sanctuary, a refuge from the outside world, a place of nurturing, growing and learning, both for our children and for us.

Our art piece is also special because there is another picture that is super-imposed on that of the four seasons which is itself super-imposed over the picture of a single tree. The other picture is the cycle of the day, specifically of Shabbat. Each scroll has a Hebrew phrase written on it. Reeva Shaffer, by the way, is known particularly for her skill in painting Hebrew calligraphy on fabric.

Starting with the Winter scroll, we find the phrase *ma’ariv aravim*. This comes from the evening service, which is often called “Maariv.” Taken from the first benediction before the Shma, the phrase is difficult to translate. It is preceded by *barukh atah Adonai*. In this case, God is praised for being *ma’ariv aravim*, which can be literally translated as “Who evenings the evenings.” *Erev* would be the noun that means evening. *Ma’ariv* is the verb that means to evening, or to make evening. And *aravim* is the direct object, but oddly in the plural. The word *erev* has a number of other meanings, including “west” in the form *ma’arav*. That is of course connected to the fact that the sun sets in the evening and in the west. Some scholars suggest that the name Europe may derive from this Semitic root, meaning the West. (Replace the “p” with a “v” and it is the same word!) One way to translate it, out of context of course, is that God makes the West Western. That idea is particularly evocative, since fundamentalists often dismiss Western culture as foreign, secular and sinful. We acknowledge that Western thought and science is a part of Torah, and so within our very Ark we praise God as *ma’ariv aravim*.

The phrase could also mean: Who sets the evenings in the west. This is suggested by the medieval rabbi Abudaraham, who, in responding to the strange plural form of *aravim*—why evenings? There is only one evening—writes that the phrase refers to two acts that God does, first causing the sun to set in the west from its noontime zenith in the sky, and second, causing the sun to then set into the horizon. The plural form here makes me think of the famous scene in “Star Wars” where Luke Skywalker is inspired by the setting of the twin suns on his home planet of Tatooine. Lest we think that is too fantastical, just a few weeks ago astronomers discovered a twin-sun solar system. That image remains in my head because in our ark we do have two twin orbs: the sun and the moon. The moon is depicted on the Winter scroll, here to indicate the association with evening, and the sun on the Autumn scroll. The sun on the Autumn scroll is a setting sun, so both orbs are evening orbs, or evenings.

The meaning of *ma’ariv aravim* is really just that God makes the evening. We should be reminded of the recurring verse in Genesis 1: *vayehi erev veyehi boker*, that there was evening and then morning. God begins the creation of the world with the creation of light out of darkness, but both evening and morning are created by God. God effects the separation between light and darkness through words. Those words are understood as the *logos*, the spirit of God or *ruah hakodesh*. But the Word of God, the Divine Spirit, is also what becomes incarnate in the Torah, which these mantles adorn.

The Spring scroll has the words *Yotzer Or*, also referring to God who “creates light.” This derives as well from the first benediction before the Shma, but from the morning liturgy rather than the evening liturgy. Light, especially the light of the first day of creation, is not the light of the sun, moon and stars, as those are created later. The primordial light is the light of God’s spirit, and while Christian tradition understands it as the *logos* or the Holy Spirit or Ghost, our tradition understands it as Torah. In the Talmud and subsequent literature of Jewish law, the Torah is actually referred as light, by the

FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY (cont.)

Aramaic word for light *Oraita*. That comes from the Hebrew *Or*. In the modern Western tradition, Light has a different connotation. Rather than refer to inherited religious tradition, Light refers to reason. One who sees the light has experienced Enlightenment. The difference between revealed Torah and reasoned Enlightenment is merely academic to the religious soul. Since God has given me the ability to reason, the fruits of my reasoning are Torah, a gift from God. Whether it is my insight or something handed down to me, God is still *Yotzer Or*, the creator of that wisdom.

Thinking of God as *Yotzer Or*, creating light, reminds me of the phrase that appears further on in the first benediction before the Shma in the morning liturgy: *bekhol yom tamid ma'aseh vereishit*, that God each day creates the world anew. That daily act could be setting the sun on its path across the heavens each morning. But then I remember that the earth is not flat and the sun does not revolve around us. That knowledge, though, is still Light, it is the light of wisdom that God imparts to me each day. Torah, as an idea, is always changing and evolving, as God creates light anew each day. This scroll, the Spring scroll, is the one we use most regularly at Temple Israel. Every time we open it up and read from it, it should be as if the words, the Light of God, are new. Even if they have not changed, the way we read them does change.

The Summer scroll reads: *yismehu bemalekhutekha*, you shall rejoice in your kingdom. These words are from a well-known song from the Musaf Amidah for Shabbat. Rejoice in Your kingdom, observers of the Sabbath, and call the Sabbath a delight. While I have been writing about day and night with its images of sunset and sunrise, here we have a different reality, a spiritual reality of a Kingdom that we can all enter every Friday night and Saturday. Why a Kingdom? Heschel explained that the Sabbath should be understood as a palace in time. The Musaf tells us to rejoice in that palace. But the passage is curious because it combines with *simhah*, rejoicing, the idea of *shmirah*, observance. Why should the observance of the multitude of minute restrictions regarding the Sabbath cause me to rejoice? Rabbi

Elliot Dorff, expanding on Heschel's metaphor of the Sabbath as a palace in time, suggests that the mitzvot, the rules of Sabbath observance, are the moat that protects the castle. By keeping the mitzvot that derive from the Torah, we can build our palace in time, another Garden within which the Torah stands as an Etz Hayim, a Tree of Life.



The Autumn scroll has the phrase *yom menuhah ukedushah* on it. That means: a day of rest and holiness. This comes from the Amidah for the Shabbat Minhah or Afternoon service. At the end of the day as the sun is about to set—as suggested by the golden sun on the mantle—we can enjoy the Sabbath rest, which makes it a day set apart as sacred and holy. A place of rest, *menuhah*, and holiness, *kedushah*, is what a sanctuary is. An escape from the world where one can find peace and security. While that is what this room strives to be, it is also what the Torah can achieve for each of us in our own lives. This is the Autumn scroll, where the tree begins to rid itself of its leaves so that it can rest through the winter. Rest is needed, it is restorative for the tree, as it is for us.

The phrases that appear on each of the four mantles mark the cycle of the Sabbath day. The Winter scroll has a passage from the Evening service, the Spring from the Morning service, the Summer from the Musaf (Additional) service, and the Autumn from the Afternoon service. This Sabbath cycle is suggested by the design of the branches on the two upper scrolls, the Winter and the Autumn. On the Winter scroll, two bare branches appear as extended hands that are waving over the lighting of Shabbat candles, with two falling leaves appearing now as flames. On the Autumn scroll, the two intertwining branches with different colored leaves now appear as a latticed havdalah candle. Shabbat candles on the right and a Havdalah candle on the left, marked by the light of the moon and the setting sun, these are the poles, the boundaries of the Sabbath, the palace between which we and the Torah rejoice. The sun and moon are natural light from God's creation, whereas the Shabbat and Havdalah candles are fire lit by our control, they are our lights. God grants Wisdom and Torah, and we respond by producing our own light, by writing our own Torah with our lives. Perhaps that is why it is called a Tree of Life.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



One of the major goals of any religious institution is to build community. Temple Israel of course is no different in trying to achieve this goal. We attempt through programming and outreach to help get the desired outcome. Every once in a while we are lucky enough to see where our efforts pay off. I was a witness to such an event this weekend.

One might think it was through being at our blood drive, marrow matching drive or river clean up. All of these individually are worthy of praise and admiration, but it was something much deeper. During last weekend's Bar Mitzvah I witnessed the passing of the torch. Our *Hey* class of last year shared their final class *simcha* with each other. No egos. No fear of losing the limelight, just a group of children collectively becoming young adults. Temple Israel was able to share the joy of knowing that through its religious school and programming, we were able instill in our youth the ideals of community, responsibility and friendship. It was a Shabbat service not to be missed and I can guarantee that there will be more to come.

Speaking of community, have you taken advantage of our *Kehillah* partnership with the YJCC \$360.00 annual family membership? This is a pilot program that will not continue unless we shop support for it. And why wouldn't we. This is not a bargain to be passed up.

There are so many events going on at Temple Israel, it is hard to keep up with them. There is something for everyone. With the abundance of e-mails we get every day, I can understand how one's eyes can glaze over when reading the weekly announcements, but please realize that you could be missing something really great or important. I would not want anyone to miss something that they might really enjoy.

As always at this time of year, I ask that you please look at your account and try to be current with your synagogue bill. Proper cash flow allows us to be current with our bills and keep a good relationship with our lenders. Also, all contributions must be paid by the end of December to count toward the current tax year. We appreciate your support of Temple Israel and your efforts to help maintain and grow our community and Jewish home.

Todah Rabbah,

Denis

TORAH READERS

Todah Rabbah and Yashar Ko'ch'chem to all of our October and November *Torah* Readers.

Cheryl Alterman
Abe Davis
Christine Dobkins
Rabbi David J. Fine
Tamara Freeman
Alan M. Gallatin
Sharyn J. Gallatin
Howard Gilman

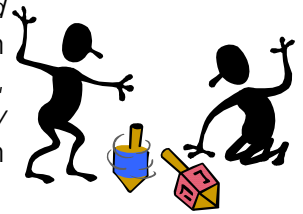
Adam Hirsch
Lauren Kirshner
Ben Liebson
Adi Melamed
Elan Melamed
David Millman
Dan Mosenkis
Nanette Rosenbaum

Rebecca Rosenthal
Elaine Silverstein
Cayla Whittaker
Anne Wolf
Vlad Vandalovsky
Jerry Vogel
Jeffrey Zachem

NNJJA DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



It's hard to believe the first semester of school is almost over! November was a very full month, with *Kitot Aleph, Bet and Gimmel's* family workshop, over 30 students participating in Junior Congregation, *Kitah Aleph-Gimmel* learning new *Tefillot*, a visit from Israeli *Shlichah Tamar Chovav* to the *Dalet and Hey* students, and all of our students preparing songs in anticipation of my installation as Temple Israel's Associate Rabbi.



Our teachers participated in the Jewish Federation sponsored Teacher In Service program in conjunction with the Global Day of Jewish learning on the Sunday of NJEA Teachers Convention weekend. The theme of the learning was *Shema Yisrael* – and teachers studied in workshops on many themes of the *Shema*, including best practices in listening to the needs of all students, connecting to Israel, strengthening our students' Hebrew skills and others.

On a very personal note, I am very touched by the outpouring of support of the NNJJA, Temple Israel and Temple Beth Sholom communities on my coming installation. It has been wonderful watching the children prepare for this special program, and I am very grateful for their enthusiasm as well.

Mark your calendars and keep your eye out for all the fun and exciting happenings at the NNJJA this month!

Friday, December 2, 2011 – Class service and dinner for *Kitot Dalet and Hey*. All of the NNJJA families are welcome to join us at this special dinner when we will learn more about the very local issues of hunger and homelessness and will be served a delicious hot meat meal cooked by our *Tikkun Olam* committee in the style of the food that they prepare for the Bergen County Walk-In Dinner program four times each year. Dinner is at 6:15, Services are at 7:30pm

Sunday, December 4, 2011 – Rabbi Sharon's Installation. 10:00am. Followed by a festive brunch. Please RSVP to the Temple Israel office that your family will be attending. There will be no regular classes on that day.

Saturday, December 10 – Junior Congregation at Temple Israel

Sunday, December 11 – *Kitah Dalet to Kehillah* Partnership at the YJCC.

Friday, December 16 – Kindergarten - Second Grade Family Workshop...Join us as we experience Shabbat Alive at Temple Beth Sholom. Family Workshop begins at 6:30pm followed services at Temple Beth Sholom led by Rabbi Sharon and Cantors Bromberg and Barr.

Sunday, December 18 -- – Chanukah Celebration at Temple Israel – 10:30-12:00. Classes will be from 9:30-10:30am, followed by fun and games at the Chanukah Celebration.

Sunday, December 25 – Sunday January 1, 2012 – Winter Recess

Tuesday, January 3 – Classes Resume

JUNIOR CONGREGATION

December 10, 10:30am-12:00pm in the *Beit Midrash*
Parents are always invited to attend Junior Congregation with their children. We welcome your presence. Please make sure your child is dressed appropriately for *Shabbat*.
(No sweats, jeans, uniforms, or sneakers please).

MILESTONES

BIRTHS

Aaron Menken, son of Christina & Greg Menken

We wish our new born and his family strength, good health, and joy.

B'NEI MITZVAH

Josef Goldberg, son of Joan & Barry Goldberg

Adam Hirsch, son of Sandy & Harris Hirsch

Benjamin Liebson, son of Nancy Liebson

Vlad Vandalovsky, son of Emily & Steve Vandalovsky

We wish our B'nei Mitzvah a lifetime of Torah, Mitzvot, and Gemilut Hasadim (Acts of Loving-kindness)

DEATHS

George Katzman, father of Nancy Bortinger

May the families be comforted among all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

ONEG/KIDDUSH SPONSORS

Oneg Shabbat Sponsors

Dec. 2 Parents of our *Kitah Dalet & Kitah Hey* Students

Dec. 9 June & Barry Kaplan in honor of their daughter, Allison Kaplan, on the occasion of her *bat mitzvah*

Dec. 16 OPEN FOR SPONSORSHIP

Dec. 23 OPEN FOR SPONSORSHIP

Dec. 30 OPEN FOR SPONSORSHIP

Kiddush Sponsors

Dec. 3 Marcia Minuskin & Jeffrey Zonenshine in honor of the aufruf of their daughter Sarah and Matthew Green

Dec. 10 June & Barry Kaplan in honor of their daughter, Allison Kaplan, on the occasion of her *bat mitzvah*

Dec. 17 Joan and Barry Goldberg in honor of their son Josef

Dec. 24 OPEN FOR SPONSORSHIP—NOSH & DRASH

Dec. 31 OPEN FOR SPONSORSHIP



Do YOU have something to celebrate?

Please celebrate with us on *Shabbat* by sponsoring an *Oneg* or a *Kiddush*.

No upcoming celebrations? Then join the *Kiddush Club* for \$144. Just send your check marked "*Kiddush Club*", to the synagogue office. We'll do the rest. All you need to do is come to *Shabbat* services and enjoy!

THANK YOU to the Kellner Family, Wayne, Denise, Harrison and Justin for their generous donation of the shipping costs to return the unsold Book Fair books to the book company.

CIRCLE OF HONOR

TODAH RABBAH TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

Benefactor's Circle

Beth & Freddie Kotek
Tricia & Howard Schreiber

Sustainer's Circle

Sue Rubinoff
Lenore & Neil Sherman

Pillar's Circle

Audrey Meyers & Scott Agins
Shari & Manny Haber
The Gruber Family
Rita & Robert Obeiter

Sponsor's Circle

Cheryl & Allan Alterman
Anonymous
Christine & Evan Dobkins
The Fels Family
Roberta & Charles Fleischman
Tamara & Barry Freeman
Sharyn & Alan Gallatin
Susie & Shelly Goldstein
Suzanne & Joshua Holden
Debbie, Wayne & Jared Miller
Peri & David Namerow

Johanna & Michael Rosen
Ellen & Allen Rubin
Kurt Rosenberg
Sisterhood of Temple Israel
Carla & Denis Vogel
Bonita & David Weiss

WAYS & MEANS

Request for help with the March Ways and Means Dinner

I have been asked to lead the Temple's Ways and Means Dinner next March. It promises to be a fun evening for all.

The event has three components:

1. The dinner dance/party at Temple Israel
2. An Ad Journal
3. A Silent Auction

We will need people to take leadership positions as well as people who can volunteer to serve on committees.

If you can sell an ad or would like to place an ad, we need to hear from you.

If you would like to donate items to the silent auction or would like to solicit, we need to hear from you.

If you would like to help plan the party or have theme ideas, we need to hear from you.

Please don't assume others will do the work. You can be very involved or take a small role. People have already come forward to get us started.

Please email me at arty.freed@gmail.com to get involved. My cell is 917-576-7800. Thank you all.

Arty Freed

ISRAEL ACTION

Disabled Israeli War Veterans Fund Raiser, December 10, 2011

The Glen Rock Jewish Center Zahal Shalom program is marking its 20th year of bringing delegations of 10-12 disabled Israeli war veterans to Bergen County for a two week visit.

We are having a fund raiser at the Barnert Temple in Franklin Lakes at on December 10, at 8 pm. The evening will feature light refreshments and both a DJ and live music from the *Maccabeats* led by Temple Israel member Michael Rosen. It should be a great evening for a very worthwhile cause.

The purpose of the program is to help strengthen the relationship between Israelis and the American Jewish community. Our veterans are hosted by local families for two weeks, during which they make tours of the local community, New York City and Washington D.C. They visit local synagogues and schools to relate their life experiences and allow many people who have never visited Israel to have a better understanding of its challenges and achievements from a very human, down to earth perspective.

Although their time with us is very short, the impact on their lives and those of their hosts is profound and even miraculous. Many of the veterans suffer from post traumatic stress disorder and have lost their love of life's simple joys....to dance, to sing, to laugh. After just days with us, they begin to emerge from a shell that may have hardened over 30 years or more, and demonstrate a renewed interest in their environment and making the most of the rest of their lives.

Many of the hosts have little direct personal knowledge of Israel other than what is available through the news media and have no intention of visiting the Jewish homeland. They frequently create lifelong relationships, an expanded family with their veteran, culminating in numerous visits to Israel and a strong, resilient bond with the people and country.

We welcome you to show your support for this incredibly effective program, administered solely by volunteers to assure that every penny of donations goes to the needs of the veterans.

To make a reservation, please contact Sigal Ron at 201 280-5980 or by email at dsadron@hotmail.com. The cost of the evening is just \$50/person.



MEMBERSHIP

The High Holiday season has passed and Temple Israel's calendar is chock full of activities, besides weekly services, to attend.

Please consider attending the *Shabbat* dinner on Friday, December 2, 2011 at 7 pm where the food that will be served will be cooked by members of our congregation and will mimic the menu of what we serve, four times a year, to over 120 homeless Bergen County residents in Hackensack, NJ. While the *Dalet* and *Hey* classes are scheduled to attend as classes with their family members, we as a community can take this opportunity to welcome *Shabbat* and be thankful for all that we have.

On December 3, adults can socialize together at our karaoke evening - which will include singing, eating and libations. It's a fun way to get to know fellow Temple Israel members. The cost is \$20/person.

Please save Friday, January 20, 2012 for a dinner for all of our families who have children attending Jewish day schools. This will be an opportunity to get to know one another and attend services together after dinner.

Please save Friday, March 16, 2012 for a dinner honoring all of our families who have joined our community in the last two years.

If you'd like to get involved with our membership committee, please call me at home, 201-670-8199.

I hope that each of you considers yourself an ambassador to our community and will invite your friends who are unaffiliated to attend a function or service with you at our *shul*. I am happy to speak with any people who have questions about joining our *shul*.

Enjoy *Chanukah*. May you bask in the glow of your *Chanukah* lights and rejoice in the freedom we have to be Jewish in our country.

Jo Rosen



TIKKUN OLAM

When the Going Gets Tough Temple Israel Members Turn Out to Feed the Homeless....

Despite the Nor'easter and the lack of power for many congregants, Temple Israel volunteers delivered again for our quarterly commitment to Feed the Homeless on Tuesday Oct. 31st. Since we could not cook in the kitchen on Sunday, Sue Hill orchestrated sandwiches from Costco, who funded half the costs, and Naomi Strachman baked over 200 brownies and festive cookies, plus a sheet cake. Sharon Mosenkis, Howard Schreiber and Evan Dobkins donated other key food items. Joining Sue and Naomi on site serving were: Peri Namerow, Irene Bressler (a first timer), Eitan Cohen, Les Birenbaum, and Jo Rosen. Not surprising the number of people we served was the highest to date ---140.

Next Date: December 29, 2011

Temple Israel supports Mitzvah Day with Blood Drive and Bone Marrow Register

In conjunction with St. Elizabeth's we held our biannual Blood Drive on November 6 with over 44 registered donors, nine of whom were first-timers. Thanks to Jerry Birenz for orchestrating our efforts, Pam Cohen, Hillary Kaye and Jo Rosen for generating attendance and managing on site.

Please plan to participate in our Spring 2012 Drive.

Our first Bone Marrow Registry Drive in support of 2-year old Ezra (a local Bergen County resident) was very successful resulting in 34 registrants----a remarkable turnout for this type of event. Many thanks go to Bob Rohrberger for driving this effort both from inception to on-site coordination.



KEHILLAH-YJCC MEMBERSHIP

A wonderful perk to joining Temple Israel is the opportunity to join the Bergen County YJCC at a greatly reduced annual rate, if you are a member in good standing at Temple Israel. For this program to succeed we need to become “gym rats”. May the “workouts begin”.

Joining the Kehillah Partnership: YJCC Membership at Reduced Fees

The Kehillah Partnership is a community-wide effort to build a stronger, more engaged Jewish community across institutional and denominational lines. To further this community-building endeavor, members of your synagogue are being invited to become members at the Bergen County YJCC in the Township of Washington at greatly reduced membership fees.

This pilot program offers YJCC membership to an individual, couple or family for \$360 for the YJCC fiscal year, September through August.

Why join the YJCC?

Your membership entitles you to full use of the facility, including:

- * Fitness Center, with state-of-the-art equipment for strength training and conditioning
- * Double-sized gymnasium
- * Raquetball courts
- * Indoor walking and jogging track
- * 75-foot, 6-lane heated indoor swimming pool
- * 400-square-foot indoor kiddie pool

The Bergen County YJCC offers programs for all ages, including:

- * Parenting Center and Nursery School
- * Children and Teen programs, including summer day camp at the YJCC and at Woodmont Day Camp in New City, N.Y.
- * Programs for children and young adults with special needs
- * Adult and Senior Adult programming, including social, educational and creative options

Membership fee does not include:

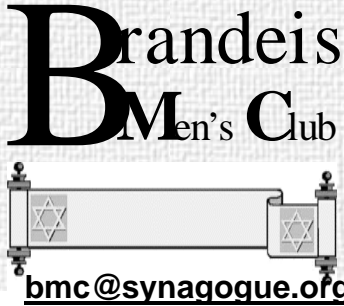
- * Group fitness classes (ie: zumba, total tone, spin & pilates). To participate in classes, Kehillah members pay \$20 per month or \$180 per year payable to the YJCC, per person, unlimited attendance. The group fitness class option may be added at any time. (Please note that yoga and karate have their own fee structure, applicable to all YJCC members.)
- * Special programming on Tuesdays and Thursdays for Senior Adults. A supplemental fee of \$60 per person per year, payable to the YJCC, is required for participation.
- * Use of upstairs locker room, including towels, laundry service and permanent locker. There is a \$400 per year fee, payable to the YJCC, to take advantage of this locker room and services. *(Please note that 50 percent of this fee is applied to YJCC charitable programs and is tax deductible.)*

To join the Kehillah Partnership's YJCC membership initiative:

Your YJCC membership fee will be processed through Temple Israel. Please contact our synagogue office to arrange payment. Our synagogue office will then notify the YJCC that you are part of the Kehillah Partnership and have joined the YJCC. Then, go to the YJCC, 605 Pascack Road, Township of Washington, fill out a membership application and health release form and have your required photo ID's made (age 6 and up). *Please note that there is a \$5.00 fee for each photo ID.*

If you would like to take a tour of the YJCC or have questions about the facility or its programs, please contact Michele Jaffe, YJCC member services manager, at (201) 666-6610. **Want to know more about the YJCC?** Go to www.yjcc.org.

BRANDEIS MEN'S CLUB



Our Man Of The Year NNJ-Regional dinner was held on Wednesday, November 9 at Temple Beth Ahm. Temple Israel was represented by over 35 spirited members to honor our MOY, Mr. Bob Obeiter! Of all the honorees, and participants Temple Israel was honored to have Cantor Caitlin sing the national anthem, and Bob Obeiter lead the *Ma'ariv davening*! Plan to attend our Brandeis Men's Club's *Shabbat* weekend, March 24-25, 2012. On



Shabbat morning our men will lead and participate in our service, and Sunday morning will be our MOY brunch and 'toast & roast' of Bob. Plan to attend both for a weekend of fun!

BMC annual Ski Trip to Bellayre Mountain, in Pine Hill, NY will be on **Sunday, January 15, 2012**. We all drive ourselves to the mountain which is about 2-1/2 hours from Ridgewood. We have a private room in the main lodge to leave our belongings in, and then have lunch together. This is Martin Luther King weekend, so it is a great activity to participate in. The discounted lift ticket rate for BMC members and their extended families is \$38 per person or \$74.00 for non BMC members (it pays to join BMC!). Equipment rental is \$25.00/pp for the day, available at the mountain. To RSVP please e-mail Denis Vogel ASAP! denis.s.vogel@gmail.com

Saturday, January 21 – in conjunction with our Music Committee, the BMC is co-sponsoring **Gerard Edery**-Recognized as a leading musical folklorist and a master singer and guitarist, Gerard Edery has at his command a remarkable range of ethnic folk styles and traditions from around the world. He sings in fifteen languages and speaks four fluently. Not only does he regularly uncover and preserve songs, stories and melodies from Europe, the Middle East, South America and ancient Persia, he energizes these repertoires by interpreting them for contemporary audiences and by teaming up with some of the world's most highly acclaimed virtuoso musicians.

This will include a dinner, for all of us to enjoy. Take a look at Mr. Edery's web site to get a glimpse of the fantastic program we are expecting. <http://www.gerardedery.com/>

Cost: Cocktail hour w/passed hors d'oeuvres and catered buffet dinner: \$50/pp

Concert: \$18/pp

Cocktail Hour begins at 6:30

Sunday, February 5, will be our **World Wide Wrap**, at our 9:00 AM minyan, when our Hey Class will learn how to Ley Tefillin, and we will all learn the history and details of our Tefillin. This is always a very memorable event. Rabbi Fine will educate us on how to use our Tefillin, and other important facts of the rituals of Tefillin. This is open to all members. When was the last time you Ley'd Tefillin...sure it may seem awkward at first, but this is a great opportunity to reacquaint yourself with one of our wonderful Jewish customs!

If you need a BMC membership form you can find it on our web site:

<http://www.synagogue.org/OurCommunity/BrandeisMensClub.aspx>

B' Shalom,

Howard Schreiber, BMC President

SISTERHOOD

Sisterhood has begun the new year with a series of exciting events. Please join us: Dues are still just \$36 for synagogue members, \$54 for nonmembers, the first year free for new members.

Hanukkah Party

Join us on Thursday evening, December 15 at 8:00 at the home of Shari Haber, 35 Elizabeth Terrace, Upper Saddle River. Once again we will make (and eat) latkes and applesauce and collect holiday gifts for Shelter Our Sisters (new, unwrapped gifts for women and children).

Sisterhood *Shabbat*

Join us on Saturday, January 21, for this wonderful annual event. Sisterhood members will conduct the entire service, including the torah reading. Parts are available in English or in Hebrew. For parts, contact Anne Wolf at 201-612-1261 or Sandy Wechsler at 201-956-5649. We will once again be preparing the kiddush; details to follow, but contact Elaine Silverstein at 201-251-9727 or Waltraud Unger at 201-444-3094 if you would like to help out.

Other upcoming events include a joint Paid-Up Membership event co-sponsored with Men's Club, our second annual Vashti's Feast co-sponsored with the Sisterhood of the FairLawn Jewish Center, a mah jong night, a pre-Passover recipe swap, and a congregational trip to the new Museum of Jewish History in Philadelphia.

Torah Fund

This year's *Torah* Fund pin is available, and it's gorgeous. Contact Peri Namerow at 201-652-4200. Get yours before the High Holy Days!

Kippots for your *Simchas*

Sisterhood is once again selling **custom kippot**. Before you buy on line, check with us--you'll **save money** AND **benefit the synagogue**. Contact Carla Vogel at 201-670-1642 or Carla@synagogue.org.

Join Hadassah

Lifetime memberships are available for **just \$100** through December 31. To join the North Bergen chapter, contact Susie Goldstein at 201-444-4704 or email susieg70@aol.com. To join the Paramus Bat Sheva chapter, contact Elyse Levene at elyselawyer@msn.com

Thanks

Many thanks to **Cheryl Alterman** for her hard work in planning and organizing this year's Progressive Dinner, to **Patricia and Howard Schreiber** for hosting the cocktail hour, to **Stephanie Gottesman and Bob Zeller** for hosting dessert, and to all our wonderful dinner hosts.



KARAOKE NIGHT

2ND ANNUAL ADULT KARAOKE NIGHT



Please join us for another
fine evening of singing,
schmoozing and plain old fun! Prior singing experience is
not necessary. Light refreshments will be served.



DATE: DECEMBER 3, 2011

TIME: 7:00 PM

RSVP: by November 30, 2011

DONATION: \$20/person

Sponsors Welcome!

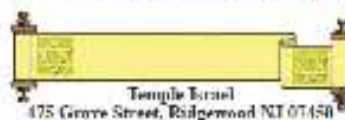
Temple Israel & JCC
475 Grove Street
Ridgewood, NJ 07450

Phone:
201-444-9320
E-mail:
office@synagogue.org

SKI TRIP



Brandeis
Men's Club



SKI TRIP TO BELLEAYRE Mountain!

❖ **\$38.00/person for BMC members* and extended families. Includes, lift ticket and lessons, if desired.**

❖ **Beginners welcome!**

❖ **\$25.00 equipment rental**

❖ **Open to all TI members & families**

Car pool to the slope

***Please join Brandeis Men's Club!**

Car pool leaves Temple parking lot 6:30 am returning approx 6:30pm.

Sponsored by the Brandeis Men's Club. Space is limited. Please reserve by Jan 9th, 2012

For info call Denis Vogel 201-670-1642 or e-mail president@synagogue.org

Name(s) _____ # skiers _____ X \$38.00 _____
 #rentals needed _____ X \$25.00 _____
 Non Member fee \$36.00 _____

Lessons needed _____ Total _____

Check to be made out to Brandeis Men's Club.
 Please fill out and send back with your reservation to TI office!

DONATIONS

We thank all of our donors:

Temple Israel *Chai* Campaign Fund

Susan and Joseph Landau in honor of Roberta Fleischman on the occasion of her birthday

Temple Israel Operating Fund

Tema Ackerman in honor of Temple Israel's High Holiday services

Deborah & Jan Corwin in honor of Howard Schreiber

Linda & Abe Davis in honor of Susan & Edward Green on the birth of their granddaughter, Zahra Hans Naryla-Green

Linda & Abe Davis in honor of Susie & Shelly Goldstein on the birth of their granddaughter, Elise Marie Dorothy Goldstein

Linda & Abe Davis in honor Rabbi Sharon Litwin on the occasion of her installation

Charlotte Ginsburg in honor of her grandson, Adam Hirsch, on the occasion of his *bar mitzvah*

Erin & Matthew Lindenberg in honor of Temple Israel

Rebecca Vogel in honor of Temple Israel

Susan Reeve/Temple Israel Feed the Hungry Fund

Risa & Robert Rohrberger in appreciation of Bob's Yom Kippur aliyah

Risa & Robert Rohrberger to commemorate Bob's grandmother, Manya's yahrtzeit

Temple Israel General Endowment Fund

Arlene & David Cox in honor of Hatan Torah, Howard Schreiber and Kallat Bereshit, Suzanne Holden

Linda & Abe Davis in honor of Robert Obeiter for a most deserving "Man of the Year-2012"

Amsterdam Family Endowment Fund

Marcia Minuskin & Jeffrey Zonenshine in honor of Anne & Barry Kornblum on the marriage of their son, Joshua to Lisa Vilchez

Marcia Minuskin & Jeffrey Zonenshine in honor of Bob Obeiter on being chosen Brandeis Men's Club "Man of the Year-2012"

Max Aaron Strachman Memorial Library Fund

Laura & Philip Brody in honor of Mike Landau on the occasion of his engagement to Marina Gerbin

Mahzor Lev Shalem

Donna & Eric Lindenberg in honor of the blessing of our grandchildren, Helena May & Michael Evan

Lindenberg

Maureen McLeod in honor of Linda Davis on the occasion of her significant birthday

Rabbi Selig Salkowitz in honor of Linda Davis on the occasion of her significant birthday

Barbara Schneider & Robert Smolen in memory of Daniel Schneider, father of Barbara Schneider

Barbara Schneider & Robert Smolen in memory of Beatrice Smolen, mother of Bob Smolen

Barbara Schneider & Robert Smolen in memory of Bernard Smolen, father of Bob Smolen

Associate Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Manny & Shari Haber in honor of Rabbi Sharon on the occasion of her installation as Associate Rabbi of Temple Israel

Bequests To Temple Israel

You can make an enduring gift to Temple Israel through your will as a bequest. A bequest is perhaps the simplest form of planned giving to arrange, and Temple Israel can be named as one of your beneficiaries. A bequest could involve cash, stocks, real estate or other property and is usually a percentage of the residue of your estate, which is given after your family needs are cared for. You may designate that your bequest be used for a particular purpose, and you may indicate whether it is for current needs or endowment. Because a bequest is revocable, there is no immediate income tax deduction, but your gift will be deductible from your taxable estate. Please consult with an attorney when writing your will in order for your wishes to be clearly articulated.





OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIVING

Donations & Dedications

While Judaism itself can thrive without reference to finances, a community of Jews who are committed to the purpose of the synagogue—learning, worship, and fellowship—does need financial resources to help each other and themselves.

Most of us recognize our obligation to maintain membership in Temple Israel and to support it by payment of annual dues. However, dues alone do not cover all of our costs. There is a continuing need for donations to help assure the synagogue's strength and development.

We encourage any and all donations to Temple Israel. The following are suggested giving opportunities in which the funds are used to support all aspects of synagogue life:

| | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Temple Israel Operating Fund | any amount |
| Tributes | \$5 |

DEDICATION OPPORTUNITIES

| | |
|--|----------|
| <i>Siddur Sim Shalom</i> for Weekdays | \$54 |
| Mahzor Lev Shalem For Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur | \$64 |
| <i>Chumash Etz Hayim</i> | \$118 |
| Simcha Terrace Paver | \$136 |
| Memorial Plaque | \$540 |
| Large Memorial Tablet | \$54,000 |

The following are suggested giving opportunities in which the funds are used to support specific areas of synagogue life:

| | |
|---|------------|
| Temple Israel <i>Chai</i> Campaign Fund | any amount |
| Funds the major capital improvements from our synagogue building renovation | |
| Religious School Enrichment Fund | any amount |
| Funds religious school enrichment programs & materials | |
| Endowment Funds \$25,000 to establish a fund; \$18 donation to established funds | |
| Each Fund has a specific purpose. Consult column on the right | |
| Susan Reeve/Temple Israel Feed the Hungry Fund | any amount |
| Funds Temple Israel's Tikkun Olam Feed the Hungry Program | |
| Kiddush Club Funds the kiddush when there is no regular kiddush sponsor | \$144 |
| Rabbi's Discretionary Fund | any amount |
| Funds charitable purposes, at the discretion of the Rabbi | |
| Cantor's Discretionary Fund | any amount |
| Funds charitable purposes, at the discretion of the Cantor | |
| Associate Rabbi's Discretionary Fund | any amount |
| Funds charitable purposes, at the discretion of the Associate Rabbi | |

Endowment Funds

TEMPLE ISRAEL GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND
PURPOSE: To fund maintenance and/or capital improvement projects to Temple Israel properties.

AMSTERDAM FAMILY ENDOWMENT FUND
PURPOSE: To provide siddurim to Temple Israel religious school students.

DONALD FELLOWS HOLOCAUST EDUCATION MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND
PURPOSE: To fund the education program portion of the Annual Holocaust Remembrance.

PHYLLIS ANN ZWEIG FRIEDMAN ENDOWMENT FUND
PURPOSE: To provide scholarship to a Temple Israel high school student to attend an Israel/Eastern Europe educational program.

BARRY H. GLICK CHESSED ENDOWMENT FUND
PURPOSE: To fund both the cost of a professional motivational speaker who will inspire attendees to perform acts of lovingkindness AND the *Chesed* forum which will follow the talk.

DAVID & SARA GOODMAN ENDOWMENT FUND
PURPOSE: To fund supplemental Jewish experiences for Jewish youth.

DAVID & SALLY KIRSCH SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND
PURPOSE: To provide scholarship to a religious school graduating student for continuing Jewish religious education.

ALEXANDER & SOPHIE PURITZ MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND
PURPOSE: To fund the Temple Israel Annual Hanukkah Party, which shall include the distribution of silver dollars to all students.

MAX AARON STRACHMAN MEMORIAL LIBRARY ENDOWMENT FUND
PURPOSE: To purchase educational materials for the library as well as fund library related educational events.

WILLIAM & RHODA TOONKEL JEWISH MUSIC ENDOWMENT FUND
PURPOSE: To promote Jewish musical education for the Temple Israel religious school, as well as other musical and cultural experiences for Temple Israel and Jewish Community Center.

Contribution Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____ to

Checks for General Donations or Dedications should be made payable to Temple Israel. Checks for an Endowment or Discretionary Fund should be made payable to the specific Fund.

This contribution is _____ in honor of or _____ in memory of

December 2011 Kislev-Tevet 5772

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 Vayetzei 9:00 am Service 10:30 am <i>Na'areynu</i> 7:00 pm Karaoke Night |
| Babysitting Available during service at 9:00 am, Rm # 5 | | | | | 4:11 pm Candle Lighting 6:15 pm Dalet & Hey Class Dinner 7:30 pm Service | |
| 4 9:00 am <i>Minyan</i> 9:30 am Hanukkah Boutique 10:00 am Sharon's Installation | 5 7:30 pm Adult B'Nei Mitzvah Prep w/ Rabbi Sharon | 6 6:00 pm Hebrew HS 6:00 pm Torah Club 7:45 pm <i>Minyan</i> 8:00 pm Talmud w/Rabbi Fine | 7 | 8 | 9 4:10 pm Candle Lighting 7:00 pm Family Service | 10 Vayishlach 9:00 am Service <i>Bat Mitzvah</i> Allie Kaplan 10:30 am <i>Na'areynu</i> 10:30 am Jr. Congregation 11:00 am Tot Shabbat |
| 11 9:30 am <i>Minyan</i> Pre-K 9:30 am Hanukkah Boutique 10:30 am The History of the Land and Peoples of Israel w/Rabbi Fine 11:30 am B'nei Mitzvah Workshop 11:30 am Early Childhood Hanukkah Celebration El Al Event 7:30 pm Ritual Com Mtg | 12 7:30 pm Adult B'Nei Mitzvah Prep w/ Rabbi Sharon | 13 6:00 pm Hebrew HS 6:00 pm Torah Club 7:45 pm <i>Minyan</i> 8:00 pm Talmud w/Rabbi Fine 8:45 pm School Committee Mtg | 14 6:00 pm Kadima Lounge Night 8:00 pm Board of Directors | 15 7:30 pm 5 Rabbi's Program at the Glen Rock Jewish Center Sisterhood Hanukkah Party (offsite) | 16 4:11 pm Candle Lighting 6:30 pm K-2 Grade Workshop @ Temple Beth Sholom 8:30 pm Service @ Temple Israel | 17 Vayeshev 9:00 am Service 10:30 am <i>Na'areynu</i> |
| 18 9:30 am <i>Minyan</i> 9:30 am Hanukkah Boutique 10:30 am Chukkah Celebration @ Temple Beth Sholom | 19 7:30 pm Adult B'Nei Mitzvah Prep w/ Rabbi Sharon | 20 Hanukkah 6:00 pm Torah Club 7:45 pm <i>Minyan</i> | 21 | 22 | 23 4:14 pm Candle Lighting 8:30 pm Service | 24 Miketz 9:00 am Nosh & Drash 10:30 am <i>Na'areynu</i> |
| 25 No School 9:30 am <i>Minyan</i> | 26 | 27 7:45 pm <i>Minyan</i> Cooking for the shelter | 28 | 29 Shelter Feeding | 30 4:19 pm Candle Lighting 8:30 pm Service | 31 Vayigash 9:00 am Service |
| Winter Break | | | | | | |

January 2012 Tevet – Shevat 5772

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| 1 New Years Day No School | 2 | 3 School Resumes 7:45 pm Minyan 6:00 pm Hebrew High School 6:00 pm Torah Club 8:00 pm Talmud w/Rabbi Fine | 4 | 5 | 6 4:25 pm Candle Lighting 8:30 pm Service | 7 Vayechi 9:00 am Service 10:30 am <i>Na'areynu</i> 10:30 am Jr. Congregation Musical Havdallah |
| 8 9:30 am <i>Minyan</i> Pre-K Byachad Wafflemania (offsite) B'nei Mitzvah Parent's Meeting 10:30 am The History of the Land and Peoples of Israel w/Rabbi Fine 7:30 pm Ritual Com Mtg | 9 7:30 pm Adult B'nei Mitzvah Prep | 10 6:00 pm Hebrew High School 6:00 pm Torah Club 7:45 pm <i>Minyan</i> 8:00 pm Talmud w/Rabbi Fine | 11 8:00 pm Board of Directors Mtg | 12 | 13 4:32 pm Candle Lighting 7:00 pm Family Service | 14 Shemot 9:00 am Service <i>Bar Mitzvah</i> of David Bernhardt 10:30 am <i>Na'areynu</i> 11:00 am Tot Shabbat Kadima Overnight (Sat-Sunday) |
| 15 No School 9:30 am <i>Minyan</i> BMC Ski Trip | 16 Martin Luther King Day Office Closed | 17 6:00 pm Hebrew High School 6:00 pm Torah Club 7:45 pm <i>Minyan</i> 8:00 pm Talmud w/Rabbi Fine | 18 6:00 pm Kadima Lounge Night | 19 | 20 4:40 pm Candle Lighting 8:30 pm Service | 21 Vaera 9:00 am Service/Sisterhood Shabbat 10:30 am <i>Na'areynu</i> 10:30 am Jr. Congregation 6:30 pm Gerard Edery Dinner & Weekend Special Byachad Adult Night Out |
| 22 9:30 am <i>Minyan</i> Alef-Gimmel Family Workshop @ Temple Beth Sholom 10:30 am The History of the Land and Peoples of Israel w/Rabbi Fine | 23 7:30 pm Adult B'nei Mitzvah Prep 8:45 pm School Com Mtg | 24 6:00 pm Hebrew High School 6:00 pm Torah Club 7:45 pm <i>Minyan</i> 8:00 pm Talmud w/Rabbi Fine | 25 Rosh Chodesh | 26 | 27 4:49 pm Candle Lighting 6:30 pm Schechter Dinner @ TI 8:30 pm Service | 28 Bo 9:00 am Nosh & Drash 10:30 am <i>Na'areynu</i> Men's Club Fundraiser |
| 29 9:30 am <i>Minyan</i> 10:30 am The History of the Land and Peoples of Israel w/Rabbi Fine 1:30 -4:30 ESC Dalet Family Workshop @ Temple Beth Sholom Dead Sea Scrolls Trip to NYC | 30 7:30 pm Adult B'nei Mitzvah Prep | 31 6:00 pm Hebrew High School 6:00 pm Torah Club 7:45 pm <i>Minyan</i> 8:00 pm Talmud w/Rabbi Fine | 30 | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> Babysitting Available during service at 9:00 am, Rm # 5 </div> | | |

Temple Israel & Jewish Community Center

475 Grove Street

Ridgewood, New Jersey 07450

Non-Profit Org.

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Permit No. 887



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