



The Shofar

Beth Am Shalom - A Reform Jewish Congregation
A New Beginning . . . to an Old Tradition
www.bethamshalom.org

Message from Rabbi

“OCCUPY LAKEWOOD”

Last month I had the honor of participating in a march and addressing a rally in solidarity with Ocean County’s homeless residents. I was heartened that several of our members, including our congregation’s President, Pam Litman-Ligorski, and Second Vice President, Fran Gimpel, students and parents, also attended with about 200 other supporters. We marched from “Tent City” with our homeless neighbors and stood with them in downtown Lakewood for a candlelight vigil as we listened to speeches by advocates for the homeless. The speakers included Mr. Jeffrey Wild who is the attorney representing Ocean County’s homeless in a suit against the county. The idea was to give them a voice and shed attention on this evil in our community; I hope the *Asbury Park Press’s* front-page story and WOBM radio reports will have that effect. Reverend Steven Brigham, who ministers to Tent City’ residents and other poor and homeless, reminded us that Lakewood’s Township Committee has said that if the Tent City residents will simply come out of the woods, Lakewood would find them a home, and he continued, “We are out of the woods, we are here in town square, please, please help us.”

Below is an edited version of the talk I gave at the rally, but even before you read it, I make this plea to you, members of the Jewish Community, to join a local effort to end homelessness in our communities. Simply visit www.njcoalitionhomeless.org to read about and join the just formed, statewide non-profit corporation, the NJ Coalition to End Homelessness (the “Coalition”). Please share this information with anyone else who agrees that everyone needs a home.

Long before there was the “Occupy Wall Street” protest, there has been “Occupy Lakewood,” or what is better known as “Tent City”—that encampment of 70 people in the woods off Cedar Bridge Avenue near Clover Street. There are significant differences, although they are related to each other. “Occupy Wall Street” is a protest against an economic system that creates an unequal economic playing field and against how our elected leaders mishandled the recession. Washington bailed out banks and car makers but did too little for hardworking American citizens who lost jobs, savings, homes, and for too many—hope. “Occupy Lakewood” is a **result** of that economic system and a result of politics where elected leaders care more about their jobs than ours.

Tent City, therefore, is a necessity, borne of the evil of poverty and homelessness. Tent city is the “Hooverville” of the 21st Century. The Torah warns us, “There will never cease to be needy ones in our land....” so it commands, “... open your land to the poor and needy kinsman in your land” (Deut 15:11). We find throughout scripture an emphasis on protecting society’s most vulnerable: the Poor, Stranger, Orphan and the Widow.

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December 2011
Kislev 5772 –
Tevet 5772
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Check out our
WEBSITE!

www.bethamshalom.org

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Worship Services

We are accepting seasonal clothing and non-perishable food for the needy and homeless of the Lakewood area through **Lakewood Outreach**. You may leave donations in the box in the foyer.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

THIS MONTH:

December 15, 2011
10:00AM
"Jewish Winners of Nobel Peace Prizes" series begins

December 18, 2011
11:45 – 2:30
Chanukah Party

Friday, Dec. 2
6:00PM Pot Luck Dinner
7:00PM Erev Shabbat Service
w/ 6th Grade

Shabbat Vayeitzei

Gen. 28:10-32:3
Haftarah Hosea 12:13-14:10

Friday, Dec. 9
8:00PM Erev Shabbat Service
& Torah Ritual

Shabbat Vayishlach

Gen. 32:4-36:43
Haftarah Hosea 11:7-12:12

Friday, Dec. 16
8:00PM Erev Shabbat Service

Shabbat Vayeishev

Gen. 37:1-40:23
Haftarah Amos 2:6-3:8

Saturday, Dec. 17
10:00AM Morning Shabbat Service
w/ Bat Mitzvah of Sarah Berger

Friday, Dec. 23
8:00PM Erev Shabbat Service
w/ Anniversaries

Shabbat Chanukah / Miketz

Gen. 41:1-44:17
Haftarah Zekhariah 4:1-7

Friday, Dec. 30
8:00PM Erev Shabbat Service

Shabbat Vayigash

Gen. 44:18-47:27
Haftarah Ezekiel 37:15-28

Friday, Jan. 6
7:00PM Erev Shabbat Family Service

Shabbat Vayechi

Gen. 47:28-50:26
Haftarah I Kings 2:1-12

Friday, Jan. 13
8:00PM Erev Shabbat Service

Shabbat Shemot

Exod. 1:1-6:1
Haftarah Isaiah 27:6-28:13; 29:22-23

Friday, Jan. 20
8:00PM Erev Shabbat Service

Shabbat Va-eira

Exod. 6:2-9:35
Haftarah Ezekiel 28:25-29:21

Friday, Jan. 28
8:00PM Erev Shabbat service

Shabbat Bo

Exod. 10:1-13:16
Haftarah Jeremiah 46:13-28

Thursday, December 15, 2011 **10:00 AM**

The Adult Education course on the
"Jewish Winners of the Nobel Prizes"
is scheduled to begin on Thursday, December 15 at 10:00 AM.
We will cover peace prizes, as well as prizes in the sciences and economics.
If you are planning to attend, PLEASE let the office know
as soon as possible.

Thank you, Debby Wasserman

Rabbi's Message cont'd

Leviticus, tells us to leave corners of our fields unharvested for the "poor and the stranger" (19:9-10). Whether we are farmers or not, this means some of what we have does not belong to us; our tradition obligates us to leave (or give) it to those in need. Later in the chapter, God commands us never to wrong the stranger in our land, rather, "...the stranger who resides with you shall be to you as one of your citizens; you shall love him as yourself..." (19:33-34).

We are so obligated as individuals, but so too are whole societies. When there exists widespread suffering, and individuals and private charities have become overwhelmed with the number of people in need, government must step in. The Torah does not exist only to create moral people, but a moral society as well. Thus, we must pressure elected officials to formulate and execute public policy that creates and preserves justice for all.

Sadly, that is not the policy in Ocean County or Lakewood. Our Freeholders should explain why other New Jersey counties have homeless shelters and we do not, and why other counties saw fit to take advantage of a law allowing county governments to collect a simple real estate related filing fee and use the money for homeless shelters and programs and Ocean County did not. We should ask the Lakewood Township Committee why it is again trying to evict our homeless neighbors in Tent City after promising to wait until the suit against Ocean County is concluded. In short, this public policy goes beyond refusing to help by actively hurting people who have lost almost everything and who have run out of options.

Is this how a moral society behaves? Is this loving the stranger, our neighbors as ourselves? It is up to us to remind the Lakewood Township Committee and the Ocean County Freeholders of our obligations to the most vulnerable among us—to our homeless neighbors. Please become involved; join The Coalition, write letters, emails and make phone calls until our leaders get the message that a society is judged on how it treats its most vulnerable members. We can and must do better.

Rabbi Steve

Adult Academy

RABBI STANLEY & MYRA YEDWAB ADULT ACADEMY OF JUDAISM

Torah Study

Torah forms the basis of our beliefs, values and practices; it is the document from which all other issues arise. This year we will meet on the **second Thursday of each month** (exceptions noted). We will add additional sessions as interest dictates. Participants are encouraged to read the portion of the week in advance of each class and explore any Torah study site on the World Wide Web to consider various interpretations. Copies of the Torah are available, but participants are free to bring their own copy. Most Jewish Calendars indicate the portion of the week as does our newsletter, the *Shofar*.

Text: The URJ Torah Commentary or other translation with commentary is suggested.

Dates: Oct. 13 (includes Sukkot Festival Service!) Nov. 10, Dec. 8, Jan. **19(3rd Thur!)**, Feb. 9, Mar.8 (Purim! Study Book of Esther), Apr. 12, May 10, June 14

Time: 10:00 AM-11:30 AM

Location: MP-2

Additional course offerings will be made available and announced by our Adult Academy Committee and Rabbi Steve in future editions of the *Shofar*, weekly emails and our website.

Registration Form

Please print really neatly or email your registration to: office@bethamshalom.org

Name(s): _____

Phone number(s) Home: _____ Cell _____

Email address(es): _____

Course _____

Cantor's Message

Chanukah, a Major Holiday

The following are excerpts from an article by William Berkson from one of Reform Judaism's websites (RJ.org) from December 15, 2008

Technically, it is true that Chanukah is a "minor holiday," in the sense that it does not contain a yom tov, a day on which work is forbidden. However, this reflects the fact that Chanukah is post-Biblical more than its importance or lack of importance. On one hand Chanukah is traditionally viewed as a critical event in Jewish history. But on the other hand, our tradition hasn't wanted to talk too much about it.

The reluctance to look too closely at Chanukah seems to be a result of the experiences of the Pharisees, who had bitter conflicts with the Hasmoneans--the descendents of Mattathias who were rulers in Judaea for over a hundred years. John Hyrcanus, grandson of Mattathias, turned against the Pharisees toward the end of his life. And in subsequent generations of Hasmonean rulers, actual civil war broke out between factions supported by the Pharisees and the Saducees. The resulting weakness of Judea contributed to the eventual Jewish loss of political power to Rome.

The sages of the Mishnah and Talmud were the Pharisees and their successors, the rabbis. Bitter memories of the Hasmoneans may have led to their not including First Maccabees--originally written in Hebrew when John Hyrcanus was still pro-Pharisee--in the Jewish Biblical Canon. This is in spite of the fact that Chanukah is undoubtedly historical, whereas Esther, as the rabbis knew, is of dubious historical reality and yet is included in the Canon.

Another sign of reluctance to go into real history is the supposed 'miracle' of the oil that lasted eight days. This story was originally in a Baraita--a statement outside the canon of the Mishnah--and the Encyclopedia Judaica reports that even in the middle ages it was doubted to be historical. Yet the 'miracle' of the oil that God performed, rather than the deeds of the Maccabees are put at the center of the story.

The central issue of Chanukah is assimilation. But it's more complicated because in fact the Pharisees and rabbis themselves incorporated key elements of Greek culture--such as the high importance of study and learning--in Judaism, while rejecting other features. Thus when we in the Diaspora write about the "December Dilemma" and try to understand what we should accept and reject of our surrounding culture, we are in fact carrying on the work commemorated by Chanukah. And we can and should do it consciously, not suppressing but studying and building upon our history.

And in Israel, at last the third Jewish Commonwealth, established by the victory of the few against the many, there is every reason to rejoice in both the ancient and modern miracles.

So enjoy a "major" Chanukah! Chanukah Sameach--Happy Chanukah!

Cantor Alisa Forman

President's Message

As I sit at my kitchen counter today I am watching the leaves falling from the trees at lightning speed. That beautiful time of year when the leaves change color and become magnificent shades of red and gold and brown has passed. We are left with the mess to clean up, how sad. And winter is around the corner. I often think of winter as my chance to renew, a quiet time when I can look inwards. And yet, it is a time full of great anticipation for the spring which is yet to come.

It is that time of year again, when our snowbirds travel south. Please travel safely, enjoy your winter and return to us refreshed and renewed.

It is also that time of year when we formulate a new nominating committee and we are looking for a FEW GOOD PEOPLE. As per our constitution, the committee will again be chaired by our Immediate Past President, Lee Krislow. This committee will be putting together a slate of nominees for the Executive Committee, Board of Trustees, as well as the Financial Arrangements Committee to be voted upon at the 2012 Annual Meeting, May 20th. Are you interested? Do you have some time that you could donate to Temple, time to help shape Temple's future for all of us? Do you have a vision for Temple, one that would continue the traditions we have fostered, Faith, Family and Community; investing in our youth and respecting our seniors. Then please step forward. Get in touch with Lee or me. We will be happy to submit your names to the Committee.

By the time you read this, it will be December. Thanksgiving, my favorite National holiday will have passed, and we will all be looking forward to Chanukah and the New Year. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I wish each of you a Happy and a Healthy Holiday Season. May the coming year shine brightly for all of you as brightly as the candles on your menorah. And remember, Temple is here for you throughout the year in every season. No matter where you travel, you are in our thoughts and prayers, and we look forward to your return.

Pam Ligorski

President



Religious School

Yom Wholedit Samayach – Happy Birthday to:

Marissa Bastian, 25 Kislev
Frank Durkas, 13 Tevet
Gavin Heagele, 15 Tevet
Sara Nissen, 25 Kislev

Sarah Berger, 27 Kislev
Ilana Farrell, 6 Tevet
Adam Jones, 10 Tevet
Evan Rosenstock, 13 Tevet

Jake Card, 19 Kislev
Mallory Friedman, 3 Tevet
Jordyn Katz, 6 Kislev

Religious School has been a very busy.

Our 7th and 8th Grade class helped Rabbi Gold conduct the Kristallnacht Service and did a wonderful job. The students in our upper grades are becoming proficient at leading services with little time taken away from their regular class studies. Could this be, and I hope it is, because they are attending more services with their families?

Mrs. Zirin's students invited parents and the students to a moving and informative program dealing with Kristallnacht.

Our third graders are collecting Biblical Heroes cards. As they study post Biblical characters (Joshua, Deborah, King David.....) they are required to give two or more facts about each one in order to receive a card.

Mazel tov to our students who were recently consecrated. May this be the start of a long and educational road to Jewish learning and a life of practicing Judaism.

IF YOU HAVE NOT SIGNED UP FOR OUR NEW 'RAINEDOUT' TEXTING, WHICH WILL INFORM YOU OF EMERGENCY OR INCLEMENT WEATHER SCHOOL CLOSINGS, PLEASE DO SO ASAP. PLEASE TEXT the following to sign up:

Bethamshalom to 84483

Our annual Chanukah Party will be held on Sunday, December 18th starting at 11:45 P.M. Please join us for food, song, candle lighting and entertainment.

Mazel tov to Sara Nissen and her family on her recent Bat Mitzvah, and Sarah Berger and her family on celebrating her Bat Mitzvah this month.

Thank you to all of you who continue to support RS with your donations.

Josh Tuzelbuch,

Religious School Administrator



Men's Club

The cold weather is upon us, therefore we are planning for our next event which is Chanukah. This holiday celebrates the freedom to follow our religion and the miracle of the oil that surprisingly burned for eight days.

By combining their efforts, the Sisterhood and the Men's Club have planned and will present this year's Chanukah Party for you on December 18th starting at 11:45AM. We hope you and your children will attend and celebrate the miracle of Chanukah.

Anyone wishing information on the Men's Club can contact me any time at 732-323-0899, or any of the other officers— Glen Levine (VP), Fischel Myers (Secretary), or Stan Lechner (Treasurer). Any of us can be contacted through the central office.

Stan Kane, President

Sisterhood

There was a very nice turnout for the Sisterhood Brunch, and plenty of good food and friendship.

There was also a nice turnout for the book signing for Dr. Ali. The topic of how Lakewood was and is today was extremely interesting, and to think how it had looked so many years ago boggles the mind. Thank you, Jackie, for your time and energy to make this event happen.

With the year almost at an end, my where did the time go, we are in the mode to get ready for Chanukah. I know the children can't wait, and neither can I. We are looking forward to having a nice time at the annual Chanukah party on December 18, 2011.

As of yet, Sisterhood has nothing planned for January, but things can change. I am always skeptical of the weather that time of year. Don't forget February 12, 2012 the annual Sweetheart Brunch and then April 25, 2012 for the annual Mahjong/game/card party. Again, Sisterhood will be hosting the Women's Seder. More information will follow.

As always, the Sisterhood meeting is the first Wednesday of the month at 11:00. All are welcome to attend. We are always looking for help in the bingo kitchen on Sunday nights. Come out, have fun, meet new people and participate in fundraising for the Temple.

Evelyn Zucker

Evelyn Zucker, President

TZEDAKAH

Yahrzeit Fund

Marion & Paul Schneider in loving memory of her brother, Bernard Meiselman

Elaine Kravetz in loving memory of her mother, Bertha Shankman

Judith Shalitt in loving memory of her mother, Ruth Shalitt

Phyllis & Arnold Schlisserman & Family in loving memory of Philip Schlisserman

Sandra Sperber-Penn in loving memory of her daughter, Marla Kopstein

Michael & Edith Yudkin in loving memory of his mother, Dora Yudkin

Michael & Edith Yudkin in loving memory of her mother, Sylvia Berger

Sylvia Levey in loving memory of her sister, Doris Feinstein

Raymond Zolla in loving memory of his mother, Ruth Zolla

Susan Zolla in loving memory of her mother, Viola Swetlitz

Sondra & Joseph Ranoff in loving memory of her mother, Ruth Knopf

Fran & Harold Gimpel in loving memory of her grandfather, Louis Hill

Paul & Marion Schneider in loving memory of his father, Abraham Schneider

Claire Kramer in loving memory of her son, Stephan Schiffman

Harry Dorowsky in loving memory of his mother, Irma Dorowsky

Arline Dorowsky in loving memory of her grandmother, Rachel Stegman

Philip Cohen in loving memory of his wife, Marilyn Cohen

Lynn & Vic Silverman in loving memory of her father, Herbert Dimentstein

Marilyn Slipe in loving memory of Anne Lerner

Barbara & Jim Woldow in loving memory of her mother, Ruth Hendler

Rose & Sheldon Fialkoff in loving memory of her niece, Heller Jo Mosca

Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Gluck in loving memory of his brother, Louis Gluck

David Fried in loving memory of his mother, Hannah Fried

David Fried in loving memory of his wife, Ethyl Fried

Rochelle Rosenberg in loving memory of her husband, Peter Rosenberg

Paul & Marion Schneider in loving memory of his mother, Anna Schneider

Joel & Karel Schnitzer in loving memory of his mother, Celia Schnitzer

Judy & Marty Lefsky in loving memory of her grandfather, Samuel Wiener

Martin & Cecile Kayne in loving memory of their family members:
Abraham Sasson
Allegra Sasson
Sol Kayne
Adele Kayne
Suzanne Abboudi
Norma Pinto
Janey Toledano

Jim & Barbara Woldow in loving memory of his father, Barney B. Woldow

Judy Bernard in loving memory of her brother, Ira Eilbaum

Judy Bernard in loving memory of her husband, Barry Bernard

Marilyn Gilbert in loving memory of her dear husband, Lawrence Gilbert

Marilyn Gilbert in loving memory of her dear step-father, Samuel W. Fassler

Joseph Levine in loving memory of his wife, Frances B. Levine

POLLINGER SCHOLARSHIP

Dick & Lenore Turteltaub send Best Wishes for a Speedy Recovery to Marty Lefsky

Lois Pollinger sends sincere Get Well wishes to Marty Lefsky

Pearl Epstein in loving memory of Lois Pollinger's Uncle Bob and her cousin, Marian

GENERAL

Heidi Vallon in honor of the **105th Birthday** of **Pauline Vallon**

Phyllis & Arnold Schlisserman wishing a Speedy Recovery to Marty Lefsky

Bernie & Gail Grabelle in appreciation of his special honor on October 14th

Judy Starrels in loving memory of Elaine Roffman

Marvin & Deborah Wasserman wishing a Speedy Recovery to Marty Lefsky

Ron & Shari Schiller: Mazel Tov on the marriage of Dustin & Jamie Friedland

Diane & Stan Zweback wishing a complete recovery to Marty Lefsky

Jane Ellis in loving memory of Elaine Roffman

Robert & Gloria Bernstein in loving memory of Jack Schneider

Continued on page 8

TZEDAKAH continued

ONEG SHABBAT FUND

Martin & Judith Lefsky in honor of their Anniversary
December 2

Reuben & Iris Baumgarten in honor of their Anniversary
December 22

TREES

Harriet Saltzman in loving memory of Phyllis Nathanson

Fran & Marvin Cohen in loving memory of Lloyd Halpern

The Bussell Family in loving memory of Shirley Roche

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Sonya Wallace in loving memory of Lois Pollinger's cousin,
Marion Kartin

Shelly & Dennis Newman wishing continued Good Health to Marty Lefsky

Shelly & Dennis Newman: Mazel Tov to Josh & Susie Inzelbuch on the birth of twin granddaughters

BETH OLAM CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE

David Fried in appreciation of maintenance of cemetery

Robert Zirin in loving memory of his father,
Leonard Zirin

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Wayne & Rose Friedland

Irene Wolinsky in loving memory of Jack Schneider

Marcia & Bill Rubin in loving memory of Jack Schneider

Marion & Paul Schneider in appreciation of Rabbi's time spent and assistance

Judy & Yaacov Eisak send wishes for a Speedy Recovery to Marty Lefsky

Judy & Yaacov Eisak send wishes for a Speedy Recovery to Keith Sacks

Correction to last month:
Millie & Jim Donahue in honor of the marriage of Anne Greer's granddaughter – not the Donahue's granddaughter

"CIRCLE OF FRIENDS"

Bill & Dorothy Freiman

Wayne & Rose Friedland

Howard & Lois Geschwind

Marilyn Gilbert

Harold & Francine Gimpel

Ben Goldberg

Stephen & Marcia Liu Kupferberg

Jacky & Mike Philips

Arnold Schlisserman

Phyllis Schlisserman

Harriet Selinger

Dollie Sussna

"SUSTAINING MEMBERS"

Hazel Gluck

Wayne & Rose Friedland

Howard & Peggy Kaplan

Morris & Pam Ligorski

Dennis & Shelly Newman

Fred & Muriel Rosenfeld

Helene & Harold Wechsler

Harvey & Barbara York

Refuah Shleima

Fred & Shirley Ashton
Andrea Avella
Lillian Bauman
Shelly Beach
Shirley Blenner
Karen Castor
David Cohen
Steven Cohen
Robert Coulon
Dee Dansky
Bill Davis
Roslyn Davis
Alan Doyno
Dov Eisak
Trish Frankenberg

Shawn Friedman
Samantha Gertner
Leonard Gibel
Linda Gillick
Michael Gillick
Harold Gimpel
Blanche Goldberg
Irwin Goodman
Frieda Grossman
Phyllis Guida
Harriet Hecht
Ron Henefer
Mark Kaban
Thomas Kelly
Rayna Kravetz
Lisa Krislow
Marty Lefsky

Anne Maltzman
Florence Markowitz
Milton Markowitz
Frank Metta Jr.
Eric Nappa
Ida Olshin
Alvin Sabo
Ron Salsbury
Gloria Sandbank
Richard Schwartz
Ellen Shurak
Jacob Silverstein
Howie Singer
Steven Stern
Frieda Topf
Bobby Zick
Steve Zucker

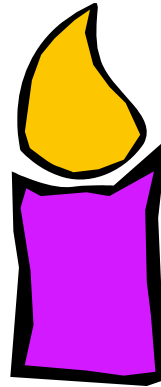
Yahrzeits

December 2

Benjamin Arons
David Brownstein
Max Cohen
Barbara Frey
Barney Gertner
Barry Gindoff
Louis Gluck
Roy L. Kern
Harry Kolinsky
Heller Jo Mosca
Samuel Oldsman
Hannah Rosenberg
Sandra Rosenthal
William Ross
Anna Schneider
Ruth Silverberg
Julius Silverman
Leona Silverman
Mollie Weissbard
Andrew Will

December 9

Nathan Albaum
Barry Bernard
Adele Bierman
Abraham Cohen
Lillian Cohen
Helen Fein
Mary Friedman
Lawrence Gilbert
Adele Kayne
David Rogove
Joseph Solomon
Jordan Sosis
Beatrice Vertun
Barney Woldow



December 16

Sidney Bussell
Richard Cole
Sam Federman
Pincus Feldman
Michael Fried
Louis Gindoff
Pauline Goodman
Sarah Griffiths
Isadore Ittelman
Ruth Keats
Isaac Lechner
Frances B. Levine
Sidney Liptzin
Helen Newman
Harry Scher
Martin Schnitzer
Martin Segal
Robert Woldow
Ida Yedwab



December 23

Louis Bassoff
Julius Brandes
Harold "Steve" Brody
Harry Cutler
Sarah Cutler
Julius Federman
Adolph Frey
Oscar Gertner
Catherine Gimpel
Max Graff
Mary Ittelman
Jacqueline Klein-Rothenhaus
Anna Kolinsky
Martin Korenthal
Debra Kreitman
Eva Lefsky
Eva Schank
Dorothy Segal
Rae Wallace

December 30

Rosalie Albaum
Edward Bernstein
Sidney Feldman
Nancy Fleming
Joseph Friedman
Miriam Goodman
Herman Gordon
Bertha Lerner
Henry Lipsky
Molie Lipsky
Helen Mopsick
Esther Moss
Margaret Nappa
Gitta Seliger
Abe Singer
Hyman Surasky
Nellie Surasky
Selim Terzi

When observing a Yahrzeit, please check the Kaddish list to be sure your loved one's name is included. If omitted, please inform Rabbi Gold so he can add it to the list. The Kaddish list is displayed on the Yahrzeit Wall.

MEMORIALS

Beth Olam Cemetery
Located at 1235 Highway 70 in Lakewood

A perpetual care memorial park with ground level grave markers only.

For information and availability, contact:
 Sonya Wallace - 732.323.8722 or
 Marilyn Gilbert – 732.657.4119 or
 Temple Office - 732.363.2800

* * * * *

Toms River Jewish Cemetery
Whitty Road, Toms River

Section One reserved for Jewish decedents, with traditional upright grave markers.
 Section Two reserved for non-Jewish decedents, with ground level grave markers only.
 Section Three reserved for Jewish decedents, with ground level grave markers only.

For information and availability, contact:
 Michael Philips - 732.914.0010 or
 Temple Office - 732-363-2800

The Rabbi, Cantor, Officers and Members of the Congregation extend their heartfelt sympathy to . . .

*Ricki Casey and Family on the loss of her mother,
 Joan Furman*

*Lois Pollinger & Family on the loss of her cousin,
 Marion Kartin*

*Fran Cohen on the loss of her friend,
 Fran Chupper*

When Tragedy Strikes

Tragedy often comes suddenly and unannounced, therefore, it is wise to plan for the eventuality when death touches us. We want to be there for you, and accordingly, we have prepared this emergency guideline, which we hope you will save:

1. If a loved one becomes seriously ill and is taken to the hospital, please call Rabbi Gold at his temple office.
2. If the situation is grave, do not hesitate to call Rabbi Gold at his home: 732-363-4986.
3. If the Rabbi is unavailable, we do have contingency plans. Please call a Temple Officer or Committee Chairperson listed below:

Pamela Ligorski732-505-8204
 Charles Flum 732-240-3437
 Francine Gimpel.....732-657-7120

Cemetery Committee:
 Sonya Wallace732-323-8722
 Marilyn Gilbert..... 732-657-4119
 Mike Philips.....732-914-0010

Memorializing Our Loved Ones

Temple has different ways for you to keep alive the memory of your loved ones.

There is the Memorial Wall of bronze Yahrzeit plaques in the hallway. The cost for the bronze plaque is \$250.
 All names on these Memorial Plaques go into the annual Yom Kippur Memorial Booklet.

There are also Patio Pavers that may be used in memory of a loved one. The cost of a Patio Paver is \$150.

There will be more options for memorialization in the very near future as we are still in the planning and designing stage of the displays in our new building.

Please contact the Temple Office at 732-363-2800

Open Letter to Temple Members

As Chairperson of the Casino Night Committee, I want to thank those of you who attended and supported the Casino Night event held on October 22, 2011. To say it was a successful enterprise and evening is not to say enough. Although it was a huge undertaking and there were many who worked months to put it together. The payoff was in the profit we earned as well as the good time had by all. The Casino Night event provided an invaluable opportunity for members of all adult ages to mingle, gamble, eat, drink and be merry together.

Through the generosity of the community, the religious school, local businesses and Temple members who contributed to our success with their efforts, gifts, and baskets filled with goodies, artwork, sponsorships, gift certificates and just good old elbows to the grindstone, we turned a fundraiser into an extravaganza. We couldn't have done it without you.

I want to especially thank a few dedicated members who worked tirelessly in preparation for this enormous undertaking. Those persons who deserve a special mention are: Fran Gimpel, Shelly Newman, Pam Ligorski, Karen Blenner, Cindy Gold, Carl and Tama Nelson, Sylvia Thurschwell, Stan Kane, Joan and Marvin Weiss, Rueben and Iris Baumgarten, Fran Cohen, Ilana Silvan, Bonnie Knopf, and Lynn Kaban. Their dedication enabled us to accomplish far more than otherwise could have been expected.

I know there were many of you who left big winners, but Beth Am Shalom was the biggest winner of all!

Sincerely Submitted by Laurie Keats



Israel for Adults 55+ / April 26 - May 9, 2012

Show your love and support for Israel

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MEET THE NEW CONGREGANT

Because all the members of Beth Am Shalom are important and valued, this column seeks to introduce new members to you. Each month, we can get to know more about a new member. You may have similar interests, and you may want to know more about her.

Joyce Gartenberg

Joyce has lived in New Jersey her whole life. She was born in Newark, grew up in Hillside, graduated from Newark Rutgers, and was married and lived in Livingston when it was farm country. Her son, Gary, lives in Convent Station, her daughter, Jill, lives on Mercer Island, Washington, another daughter, Jane, lives in Poolesville, Maryland, and another son, Dave, lives in Bellevue Washington. Joyce has ten grandchildren, nine boys and one girl. She calls them her baseball team and cheerleader. They range in age from ten to twenty-four.

Joyce taught Remedial Math on the elementary level, and much later in life, she taught English as a Second Language (ESL) to adults for fifteen years. She says she doesn't know who learned more – they from her or she from them.

When Joyce lived in Convent Station, her husband, Richard, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and bone cancer at the age of 57. When it was time for her to put him in a nursing home, she bought a bunch of funny tee shirts to wear when she went around the nursing home introducing herself to patients. When one of the geriatric doctors wanted to talk to her about Richard, he said, "How long has your father been ill?" Richard and I were only three years apart. She then made it her business there and at other care facilities to have pictures of the patients when they were well, outside the doors to their room.

Joyce volunteered for Northern New Jersey Alzheimer's Association for eight years, speaking in the offices of pharmaceutical companies, libraries, health fairs, care facilities, and schools. She was a spokesperson for Alzheimer's at Seton Hall Law School. They were giving away two prizes of \$10,000 each to two speakers, and she was fortunate enough to receive one of the prizes for her organization.

In 1978, her husband tried to get Joyce to play tennis, then golf, but she failed miserably. He then took her out running, and she loved it. She ran her first three mile race that year in Edison. There were fourteen men, two teenage girls and Joyce. Joyce says, "Naturally, I won every woman's category." She has run four races in the four years she has been in this area, including the Jingle Bell Race, a 5K (3.2 miles) in Toms River. She joined the Sierra Club out of San Francisco after her husband died, and has traveled extensively with the Club, learning how to do normal (not technical) climbing. She has visited China, Thailand, Burma (now Myanmar), Yosemite, parts of Europe, East Africa, Kenya, and Tanzania. She went on a safari for publicity for Alzheimer's disease. On her second trip, she climbed 15,000 feet, on the third trip, 17000 feet. The summit is 21,241 feet. Her group got press and TV coverage. Joyce carried a daypack sign which read, "Conquer Alzheimer's." She says that climbing so high is a religious experience – nothing man-made, all God-made. She made a DVD for her grandchildren about one of the climbs up Mount Kilimanjaro and has lots of pictures on her walls, as well as a Masai spear.

In 1996, Joyce was honored by the Freeholders of Morris County for her work with Alzheimer's.

Joyce lives with her her eight year old black cockapoo named Boo who allows her to live there. She believes that Reform Judaism allows her to live every day with her religion and easily accept into her and her family's lives. Her children were brought up in the Reform tradition at Temple Emanuel in Livingston, and they have continued the tradition with their children.

She is very comfortable at Beth Am Shalom. She says the sanctuary is a place of peace.



Calendar page



All the questions you ever
wanted to ask will be
answered:



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**ISRAEL TRIP: OCTOBER 19-OCTOBER 31, 2012
TRAVEL WITH WALTER ZANGER**

Walter is an Israeli lecturer, author, columnist, film-writer, television personality, and one of Israel's best-known guides. He was born in New York and emigrated to Israel in 1966. He has lectured in synagogues, churches, museums and universities in the USA and Canada.

See www.walterzanger.net.

Visit Jerusalem, Masada, the Dead Sea, the Galilee, Haifa, Tel Aviv, and the Negev Desert. The trip is open to everyone. First timers and people looking to return to Israel will love it. Walter will try to include special requests. You stay mostly at Dan hotels and two nights on a kibbutz. For more information call Marlene Snedaker at 732-899-8357 or email her at msneda911@verizon.net

MAKING A DONATION IS EASY

In an effort to make it easier for you to help make the office run more efficiently, we request that the form below be used when making a donation. Please fill it out and mail or drop it off at Temple, **along with your check**. Thank you for your cooperation.

(The minimum donation for an acknowledgement card to be sent is \$10.00)

Funds to which donations can be made are:

Rabbi Stanley & Myra Yedwab Adult Academy of Judaism, Sheldon Puritz Building Fund, Harry David Sussna Memorial Fund, Merrill Pollinger Scholarship Fund, Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, Building Fund, General Fund, Oneg Shabbat, Religious School, Honorial/Memorial, Social Action, Yahrzeit, Youth Group, Prayer Book*

*Please note: while lesser donations are welcome, the cost of a Prayer Book is now \$35.00 & large print is \$45.00

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Please contact Fran Gimpel, 732-657-7120

and give her the name of the honoree or decedent, and the name and address where to send the acknowledgement.

(Donations to this program will be listed on the Tzedakh Page)

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Jacky Philips 732 914-8011 or
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BETH AM SHALOM

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 Ph: 732-363-2800 • Fax: 732-363-7823

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MONTH	CLOSED	SPECIAL EVENTS
December	25, 27	<i>Fri. 2nd: 6th Grade Service</i> <i>Sun. 18th: Family Chanukah Party</i>
January	1, 15	<i>Fri. 6th: Family Service</i>
February	19	<i>Fri. 3rd: 5th Grade Service</i> <i>Sun. 5th & Tues. 7th: Tu B'Shevat celebration</i>
March		<i>Fri. 2nd: 4th Grade Service</i> <i>Sun. 4th: Purim Carnival</i> <i>Wed. 7th: Magilla Reading</i>
April	8, 10	<i>Sun. 1st: Model Seder, K-3 & 6th Grades</i> <i>Tues. 3rd: Model Seder, 4 & 5, 7-9 Grades</i>
May	13	<i>Fri. 4th: 3rd Grade Service</i> <i>Fri. 25th: Confirmation</i>

Last Sessions: Sunday, 20th: Grades K-2
 Tuesday, 15th: Grades 3-9

*Grades K-3 will be participating in all family services. Although attendance is not mandatory, it is a learning experience, enjoyable for the children, and an honor to be called up to the Bima. Please help your children to have this wonderful experience as often as possible.

Check out our website:
www.bethamshalom.org

Beth Am Shalom: Reform Jewish Congregation, Est. July 2007 by the merger of Temple Beth Am and Temple Beth Shalom.
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