

THE AARONION

TEMPLE OF AARON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

616 S. Mississippi River Blvd. • St. Paul, MN 55116-1099
(651) 698-8874 • www.templeofaaron.org

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December 1, 2009

14 Kislev 5770

THE TRASHMEN

"A-Well-A, Everybody's Heard About the Bird, B-B-B-Bird, Bird, Bird, B-Bird is the word. Well, Everybody's Talking About the Bird."

Centennial Rockets to Entertainment Night

On January 30, 2010

JoAnn and Harold Silvers and Laurie and Dave Kuretsky are organizing a totally fun event for people from 10 to 100, with multiple activities. See page 10 for more details.



In the 1960s, local rock & roll band The Trashmen captivated the United States, Venezuela, Sweden, Australia and Mexico with their blockbuster hit "Surfin' Bird" — which rocketed all the way to #1! — Save the date —

Light the First Candle on Friday, December 11

Members of all ages and their friends are invited to the annual 10:00 AM Sunday morning Hanukah Party.

Music, games, food, friendship, and fun.

The David A. Berg Family Endowment.

From the Rabbi's Desk . . .

Our Shared Journey

Several weeks ago, I completed a journey that many of our ancestors had taken. From the cavernous hall at Ellis Island, to the narrow streets of the Lower East Side, I walked the path of so

many Jewish immigrants. And I was not alone, 11 students and two adult members of the Temple joined me on this educational journey. In addition to exploring the physical sites of immigration, we learned several valuable lessons.

1. Different immigration groups share similar stories. In exploring what it took for Jewish communities to come to the new world, we realized quickly that similar motivations and experiences were shared by other immigrant groups also. While each group has its own story to tell, many parts of the story are shared. Some were pushed out of their homelands, and some were pulled by the promise of a better life, but all found it to be a much bigger struggle to integrate than they originally had planned.

2. Immigrants generally start out in small communities, and then move on.



Extended family is central to each immigrant experience. Families traveled together and neighborhoods are created that offer the familiar language and foods from home. As immigrants assimilate into American culture, they will often leave the crowded areas

like the Lower East Side for areas further uptown, and then to the suburbs.

3. Perspective is critical. Each year we visit New York, the confirmation students are challenged by the time they spend in the Tenement Museum, which re-creates the living situation in tenements, and includes actors portraying the actual Jewish families who lived in these apartments. The stark differences in the living spaces, and expectations of young adults, help our students find a greater appreciation of their own homes and lives.

4. Prayer can unite us, even when we pray differently. The time we spend at services demonstrate how much we take for granted about the way we pray. On Friday night, we attend services

at a Conservative synagogue, with a service very similar to Erev Shabbat Live. But it is the small differences that are the most noticeable; changes in the prayers that are included, the melodies that are used; and the way the cantor and rabbi lead the congregation. On Shabbat morning we pray at an Orthodox synagogue where



Rabbi Alan Shavit-Lonstein

rabbishavitlonstein@templeofaaron.org
651-698-8874, ext. 111

men and women are separated by a physical barrier (mechizta). These few hours never fail to elicit a discussion on the role of women in Judaism. When all is said and done, each synagogue helps us to understand what is unique about the Temple of Aaron, and what is universal.



5. Each trip brings its own unique lesson. When we arrived in New York this year, it was cold, with a light rain. Our first day was spent walking in this rain. By the next day, the rain had stopped, and it had warmed up a few degrees. To our students, however, it was a beautiful day. It is all about perspective!

Indeed, the entire trip is about perspective. Our goal each year is to expand our students' perspectives of their own lives, and how they fit into the larger picture of the Jewish family.



Cantor's Column

The Coolest Holiday of All

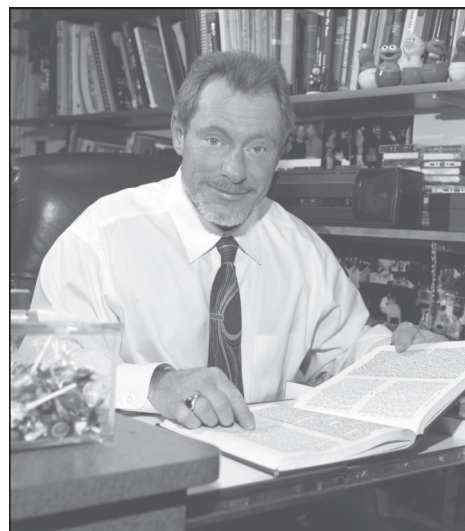
The month of December for all children and adults is an exciting month. Most all adults plan on spending a certain time with their families, and children look forward to no school and holidays. Being Jewish is very challenging in the month of December. Feeling the pressure from television, advertising and print news makes us feel that perhaps we are missing out on something. My message is that we are not. Hanukah is a joyous eight-day celebration that goes far beyond anything that I can possibly describe. I remember when I was a child, my non-Jewish friends used to say to me "we only have one holiday of Christmas while you get to celebrate 8 days of fun and presents." This is certainly a joyous holiday filled with the idea that miracles still happen in this day and age.

Music is an integral part of each and every holiday and Hanukah is no exception – from the traditional songs of Ma-oz Tzur to the Peter Yarrow of Peter, Paul and Mary fame "Light One Candle," Hanukah is a vibrant and energetic

holiday. I just received an email a few days ago of a song from a current rock group about Hanukah. The rock group is called Bare Naked Ladies and the song is a delightful interpretation of Hanukah night and lighting the candles. I love the busyness of this time of year.

The Temple of Aaron choir and I will be giving you Hanukah songs on Friday, December 11 and Friday, December 18. We will also bring the choir to the St. Paul Sholom Home on Thursday, December 10 at 7:00 pm. Please invite any family members and friends to join you. It will be a joyous sing along.

In addition to all of this, the Minnesota Cantors' Association, which is all of the Cantors in the Twin Cities, will be putting on a Gala Hanukah concert on Saturday evening, December 12 at 7:00 pm at B'nai Emet Congregation. I hope to see each and every one of you there. And remember, Hanukah, as my kids would say, is the coolest holiday of all.



Hazzan Mitchell D. Kowitz
hazzanmitch@templeofaaron.org
651-698-8874, ext. 113

Just in case you missed it...

The Temple of Aaron partners with synagogues, universities and community groups to bring the best programming possible to our congregation. This year is no exception. With lectures, panels, large events and everything in between, the Temple has promoted involvement and community building around the Twin Cities.

On November 9, 2009, the Temple of Aaron hosted the SPIN (St. Paul Interfaith Network) Interfaith Dialogue. As one of the five-sessions in the interfaith dialogue series focusing on "Family Feuds: How We Deal with Difference – Across Faith Traditions, Within Our Own Tradition, and Inside Ourselves," representatives from several faith traditions considered how to deal with perceived difference as reflected in five different subjects that frequently engender controversy: race, gender, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, and religious difference. The mission of these sessions was to provide an illustration of how religious traditions can either help us to embrace one another beyond apparent differences or serve to perpetuate enmity and divisiveness.

The session held at Temple of Aaron focused on the controversial topic of sexual orientation. Rev. Grant Abbott, Executive Director, St Paul Area Council of Churches, moderated the panel discussion with guest panelists Dr. Jay Barnes (Christian), Bishop Peter Rogness (Christian), Rabbi Sharon Steifel (Jewish). Following the panel discussions, participants continued the conversation in small, facilitated dialogue groups.

Family Israel Trip June 13-24, 2010

Contact Irene Goldman at
hgiggoldman@msn.com or
651-690-4997.

Need interest level by Dec. 10.

DECEMBER WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

We display every 5 years and all
anniversaries of more than 50 years

מזל טוב

- 15 Kristin and David Gantman
- 25 Joanne and Tom Kieffer
- 25 Karen and Ron Balto
- 40 Elaine and Mark Adelman
- 40 Yelena and Leopold Vigdorovich
- 50 Lucille and Burt Garr
- 50 Elaine and Howard Kuretsky
- 52 Joanie and Alan Levey
- 53 Honey and Larry Zelle
- 56 Evie and Mel Kamin
- 62 Ann and Hersh Spektor
- 62 Esther and Marty Capp
- 63 Amy and George Sitkoff

Department of Youth Services

INVEST IN OUR FUTURE

We have steadily strengthened the Rabbi Bernard S. Raskas Religious School over the past ten years. Dedicated faculty and staff, parents and an active Jewish education committee have worked hard to improve numerous aspects of the students' educational experiences.

Tuition paid by the families of students covers the majority of educational costs. For decades, the general congregation has supported the educational options through monthly dues payments. The third area of financial support for our students is the special endowment gift.

Families have made gifts (bequests in wills, cash, stock, and life insurance) to help pay faculty in numerous grade endowments. Opportunities still exist for three Sunday faculty positions and six Wednesday faculty positions. Our students are fortunate to have their education enhanced by the generosity of our synagogue families.

We are grateful to the following families for helping make Jewish education special and affordable for future generations: Hebrew School by Rossy and Richard Shaller; Toddler Program in memory of Samuel Tanner and Gertrude Rabinovitz by Marvell and Stanley Ginsburg; Kindergarten by Alvin and Judith Brown; 1st Grade by Sherman and Ruth Gordon; 2nd Grade in memory of Sam Goldberger by Howard and Debbie Goldberger and Family; 3rd Grade by Richard and Rossy Shaller; 5th Grade in memory of his Family by Dr. Henry Oselka; 6th Grade by Jackie Bregman; 7th Grade by Angie and James H. Moore; 9th Grade by Jack and Molly Handelman; Confirmation in memory of Leonora Greenberg by Dean and Marilyn Greenberg, Steven Greenberg, Robert and Ellenjoy Fields; Arts and Crafts in memory of Joyce Tilsen by Robert Tilsen; Music by Louis and Dr. Lydia Schaffer; Confirmation class New York trip in memory of Bradley Straus by Tony and Brenda Straus; and Confirmation New York trip by Dr. Alan and Susan Divine; Shabbatonim by Sherman and Lois Devitt; Special Speakers by Nancy and Dr. Steven Lane and Polly and Michael Saxon.

To explore options, please contact Executive Director Ken Agranoff (651)698-8874 or kenagranoff@templeofaaron.org.

The month of NOVEMBER brought days of fun of being together — 5th and 6th grade shabbaton, Special Person's day during Sunday School, everyone made Challah. Todah Rabah to our challah helpers George and Cheryl Bier, Sherri Gleekel, Dina Castle, Neil Derechin, Laurie Kuretsky. We had visits to the Sholom Home by the seventh and eighth graders. 20 USY'ers went to Emtza Region's Kinnus held in Kansas City and nearly 40 students attended USY's lock-in for the homeless.

FAVORITE PLACE TO VISIT FOR OUR STUDENTS!! Each school year brings frequent visits for our students to visit with the residents of Sholom East — some with more regularity than others. Our seventh grade Hebrew School class visits monthly and reaps the rewards of developing relationships with special people there. Our entire Elementary Department will visit on January 24, leading services, singing songs, sharing snacks and distributing gifts that they made in Art for the residents.

HEBREW SCHOOL CONFERENCES will be held on December 9 beginning at 4pm. Classes will not be held that afternoon and parents are asked to sign up for times with their child/ren's teachers. We are continuing to build real communication between our parents and our teachers, and have seen that conferences are positive and productive. Sign up sheets are being mailed to families.

USY PLAY GETS OFF TO A GREAT START! USY'ers are having a grand old time practicing for "Guys and Dolls" — always a family favorite! They are working hard but together, loving the tap dancing and uplifting songs!!

PERFORMANCES ARE: February 4, 6, and 7 at the synagogue. Cost is \$8/regular admission and \$5 for every child/student/senior. Special this year is a parent ticket special: \$15.00 for all three performances. Parent volunteers include: Polly Saxon, Roz Segal, Jim Berg, and Lisa Lerman.



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Jodi Saltzman,
Director of Youth Services
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651-698-8874, ext. 103



Wendy Goodman Hemingway,
Director of Youth Services
wendyhemingway@templeofaaron.org
651-698-8874, ext. 115

Thank You

Todah Rabah

תודה רבה



נחמו נחמו עמי

Thank you (*todah rabah*) to those listed below who supported our Yahrzeit Fund in memory of loved ones with donations of \$10 or more
October 2009 Tishri-Heshvan 5770

- | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Agranoff, Betty | Katz, Chelle & Leon | Pilko, Agnes & Roman |
| Applebaum, Lorraine & Sid | Klein, Marion & E. Gary | Raskin, Maria |
| Axelrod, Linda | Kopilenko, | Royce, Bruce & Phyllis |
| Berde, Doris | Alexander & Bella | Schneider, Margie & Bart |
| Besner, Rae | Kukulevskiy, Yuliy | Sevak, Delia & family |
| Burstein, Scott | Levine, Allen & Nancy | Simes, Josephine & Hy |
| Divine, Arnold & Rae | Levinsohn, Dr. & Mrs. Mark | Simon, Jerome |
| Edelstein, Rebecca | Leyderman, Mikhail & Anna | Simon, Phyllis |
| Esrig, Evelyn | Lyons, Stephen & Patti | Skadron, Nancy & Stanley |
| Fayngersh, Inna | Mack, Ellen & Tom Bates | Smith, Richard |
| Fradkin, Ruta & Mikhail | Makiesky, Bernice | Smookler, Richard & Diane |
| Goldberg, Shirley | Mary, Bob, Florie & family | Strickon, Beryl |
| Goldman, Irene | Mesnik, Rosaline | Supornick, Edith |
| Grobovsky, Shirley | Oselka, Dr. Henry | Tenenbaum, David |
| Grossman, Rose | Oskey, Wendy & Tim | Uchenik, Esfir |
| Guiver, Abby | Paster, Arnold | Vigdorovich, Leopold |
| Gurstelle, Alice | Paster, Celia | Vinitsky, Shirley |
| Hirsekorn, Fred & Barbara | Patterson, Esther | Vinokur, Roza |
| Kagan, Galina | Phillips, Jan & Janet | Zaretsky, Karolina |

Our deep and sincere sympathy to the families of the following members who have passed away

**Grace Granzberg
Reuben Kaplan**

*A Memorial Plaque
Has Been Displayed For*

Rosa Nisenholz

**Co-Chair Becca Kvasnik with Robin Abel and Hoffman Family
Observe Wonderful Things at Gemilut Chassadim Day**



Save Time With Our Phone System: 651-698-8874

Save this article so you know how to bypass the voice message system to quickly leave a message or ask a question: Extensions are:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| Rabbi Shavit-Lonstein | 111 |
| Hazzan Kowitz | 113 |
| Wendy Goodman, Dir. Yth Serv. | 112 |
| Wendy Hemingway, Dir. Yth Serv. | 115 |
| Bill Jorke, Bldg. Superv. | 116 |
| Kathy Berg, Ritual Clergy Asst. | 107 |
| Kim Thomey, Admin. Asst. | 100 |
| Shelley Diamond, Bus. Mgr. | 110 |
| Ken Agranoff, Exec. Dir. | 106 |
| Svetlana Kazistova, Kitchen Sup. | 121 |
| Lisa Rothstein, Program Mgr. | 104 |
| Jodi Saltzman, Dir. Yth Serv. | 103 |

**Join Temple of Aaron
Book Club**

Tuesday, Dec. 15,

For info, call Deb Bachrach,
651-690-4130 or
deb.bachrach@yahoo.com
A Golda Meir book will be
featured.

תודה רבה

... to Burt Katz, Delia Sevak and Betty Agranoff for labeling nearly 1,200 November Aaronions for our members.

... to JTS Chancellor Arnold Eisen for visiting St Paul/Minneapolis and sharing his vision of our Jewish future.

Sisterhood News

Game Night - Thursday, Dec. 10th, 7:00 p.m. in the card room of The Regency, 2275 Youngman Ave., St. Paul. Bring your favorite games to play and let's warm up a cold, winter night together. No charge for this event. RSVP to Marcia Taple, 651-688-3030.

* * * *

Purim Hamantashen Baking - Sisterhood will begin baking our very tasty Purim treats by the end of December. Baking days will be determined and baking will be in the afternoon. Call Marcia Taple if you are interested or have any questions.

* * * *

Sisterhood Shabbat - Friday, Jan. 15 and Sat., Jan. 16, Temple of Aaron Sisterhood will be leading Shabbat Services. To participate in the Hebrew and/or English parts of the service, contact Reenie Gitlin (651-699-1343) or Sue Schwartz (651-451-2188). Join your Sisterhood family for this very special annual event.

* * * *

Book Club - The Sisterhood Book Club meets the third Sunday of every month at 10:00 a.m. at The Highland Café and Bakery in Highland Park. For more information regarding the upcoming books or any other questions, call Teddy Gerr (651-405-6658) or Anna Specktor (651-454-4612).

* * * *

Torah Fund - Julienne Applebaum is chairing this fund and all monies collected go to The Theological Seminary students in the form of financial support for our future rabbis, cantors and educators. New pins are now available for all who donate at the \$180 level. Watch for more info to come and feel free to call Julienne at 651-699-0153 with any questions.

* * * *

Giftshop News - The Sisterhood Giftshop is gearing up for Hanukkah. Hanukkah begins on Dec. 11 so get all of your holiday gift shopping done in one spot. Also, all Blenko glassware is 30% off. Questions, call the Giftshop at 651-699-9192.

* * * *

Building Fund Cards - Use these cards for all occasions. It is a simple phone call and the card will be personalized and mailed for you. Using these cards supports Sisterhood and Temple of Aaron. Call Janet Gordon (651-698-8809) or Sis Goren (651-686-0425).

SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP
651-699-9192

New Tallitot
Yads

Giftware & Judaica

Shop Early - Shop Often!
We Gift Wrap!

Bar/Bat Mitzvah
& Bridal Registry

Can't Think of What to Buy?

We Offer Gift Cards!

Support Your Sisterhood Gift Shop
Support Your Synagogue

Open Hours:

Sunday 9:00 - Noon

Tuesday 10:00 - 2:00

Wednesday 10:00 - 1:00
and 6:00 - 8:00

By Appointment Call:

Marcia Taple / 651-688-3030

Centennial: 100 Years and Soaring

Todah Rabah,

We are very grateful for everyone who helped make Gemilut Chassadim Day a true "Act of Loving Kindness." It is impossible to acknowledge and fully appreciate the total financial commitment, donation of gift items, and the volunteers' limitless passion.

Thank you to Janie & David Berg for stepping forward to sponsor the lunch.

Thank you to Judy Freeman for designing the memorable art piece and appearing on Sunday to help raise funds. Thank you to Lori and Jeff Marks for working on the fundraising with Judy. Thank you to Sam Rafowitz for donating hundreds of hats.

Thank you to the following members of the committee: Anna Angus, Bayley Taple, Burt Katz, Catherine Wheaton, Janie and David Berg, Deborah Bachrach, Diane Smookler, Jeff and Lori Marks, Ken Boschwitz, Marcia Taple, Marshall Hoffman, Ira Hoffman, Mary Clark, Melinda Bonk, Michael Feinstein, Morrie Katz, Peter Setter, Renee Kvasnik, Robin Abel, Vic Rosenthal, Betty Agranoff, Steven Jones, Matt Clark, Barbara and Rick Bergeron, Marsha Schwartz, Ruth and Jim Wessman, Sasha Kvasnik, Evana Kvasnik, Walter Kvasnik.

Thank you to Nancy Lane and the Temple Board whose leadership provided invaluable guidance and financial

support. Thank you to the Jewish War Veterans and Irving Rosenbloom for helping everyone prepare Hanukkah cards for Jewish troops in Iraq. Thank you to David Baldinger for the Shofar blowing helping control the successful event. Thank you to Vic Rosenthal for the educational session. Thank you to the teachers for adding meaning. Thank you to Rabbi Shavit-Lonstein for his vision, passion and understanding of what this day could be. Thank you to Cantor Kowitz for creating and performing the special Centennial song. Thank you to Doris Rubenstein for the singing. Thank you to Renee Kvasnik for the piano playing and the recruitment of other musicians.

Thank you to Marcia Taple and Sisterhood members, Gail Rosenberg, Etta Lambright, Barb Kaster, Barb Weil, Alexandra Ganzel for serving the lunch.

We great appreciate our partnerships with Jewish Family Service of St. Paul (Ruth Olkon) and the JFCS of Minneapolis (Norma Shpayher and Joanne Savitt).

Todah Rabah,

Centennial Steering Committee: Marilyn Smith, Layne Rosen, Becca and Jonathan Kvasnik, Nicole and Ben Gitler, Sally Loberbaum-Advisory

Membership Committee Spotlight on ...

Native Detroitier Doris Rubenstein joined the Temple of Aaron shortly after moving to Minnesota from New York City in 1984. A chance encounter with Phyllis Brody on an airplane tipped her off to the Temple's choir which had tremendous appeal for this life-long singer. Doris has written several parodies that the choir performed for events like Rabbi Raskas; retirement; her latest piece "Our Jewish Home" celebrates the Temple's centennial.

Doris has been active not only in the choir. She's a stalwart of the Social Justice committee, working to organize the choir to cook and serve at the Ronald McDonald House several times; getting down and dirty with Habitat for Humanity; delivering Divrei Torah, and other projects. Doris lives Tikkun Olam outside of the Temple as well: She has spent her entire professional career working for non-profit organizations like CARE, the University of Minnesota and currently is

with the Minnesota Civil Liberties Union. Following her graduation from the University of Michigan, she served in the Peace Corps in Ecuador.



Doris Rubenstein

Many Temple members have seen Doris' journalistic work in the Jubilee book *You're Always Welcome at the Temple of Aaron*. The local Jewish community also knows her as the Arts reviewer for the *American Jewish World*. Twin Cities business owners are familiar with her columns on philanthropy in the *Business Journal*. Doris has published two other books: *The*

Good Corporate Citizen: A Practical Guide (John Wiley, 2004) and *Itasca* at 90 (University of Minnesota).

Doris lives in Richfield and is active in civic affairs there. On top of all this, she maintains a consulting firm, PDP Services, that help private family foundations to get off to a good start "doing well by doing good."

DECEMBER 20 — COMMUNITY ADULT EDUCATION

Free and Open to the Public
Co-sponsored by St. John Neumann and Temple of Aaron

Sunday, December 20, from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. at St. John Neumann Church, 4030 Pilot Knob Road in Eagan.

Affordable Housing

Who do you know who has lost their house or is close to losing their house? Each session will include a short film followed by small group discussions and an action that can be taken. Refreshments will be served and daycare will be provided.

YJDDJSH FARBRENGEN

Lo Mir Leben un Lachen
Dertzeilen Meises

Monday, Dec. 28, 2009 — 1:00 pm

Shaller Family Shalom East Campus
740 Kay Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55102

FREE

Co-Sponsored by Shaller Family
Campus, St. Paul J.C.C., Temple of
Aaron and Friends

For further information, contact Betty
Agranoff — 651-698-8275

2nd Annual 5k Dreidel Dash, Maccabee Mini-Mile and St. Paul Community Hanukah Party

The Temple of Aaron is proud to be the host of the starting line again for the second annual 5k Dreidel Dash on December 13, 2009 at 1:00pm. Register to run or walk in a fun winter event to celebrate Hanukah. The race starts on Raskas Road and goes along Mississippi River Boulevard, winds through Highland neighborhood and finishes in front of the St. Paul JCC. Run or walk with your friends and family then watch the kids participate in the second annual Maccabee Mini-mile in front of the JCC.

As one of the community partners, we are excited to participate in the St. Paul Community Hanukah Party to follow the race at the St. Paul JCC. Come play dreidel and eat latkes with the St. Paul Jewish community!

To register for the 5k or Mini-Mile go to www.stpauljcc.org. For more information or to volunteer at the Temple of Aaron, contact Lisa Rothstein by e-mail at lisarothstein@templeofaaron.org or by phone at 651-698-8874 extension 104.

2010 HAZAK EVENTS

Get ready for five events during the upcoming year, set after a planning session that was held on September 3! These include:

(Dates TBD: Watch for Information)

- Social Mixer Night (movies, games, etc.)
- Minnesota Jewish Theater
- Spring gardening workshop and potluck at Mary and Bill Lerman's home
- History of the Mississippi River presented by Dr. John Atkinson of the National Park Service
- Annual Minnesota Centennial Showboat performance

RSVP to: Margie Schneider,
1837 Eleanor Ave., St. Paul, MN 55116
651 698-4358 or email:
7381jbs@comcast.net

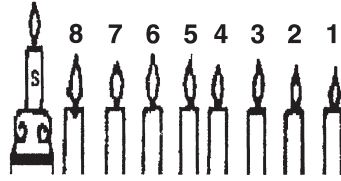
Basic Steps for Hanukah Home Service

Hanukah is a wonderful holiday and our celebration must include more than just the custom of giving gifts. Decorating the home with *Hanukah* symbols increases the holiday spirit. The most important part of the holiday is lighting of the *Hanukah* candles.

Everyone is obligated to light the candles. If possible, there should be a *hanukiyah* (*menorah*) for every member of the family. A *hanukiyah* is easy to make and using a home-made one can enhance the joy of the holiday.

Home Service

1. Place the candles in the *hanukiyah* as shown in the diagram. The number of candles should equal the number of the night of *Hanukah*, plus one for the *Shammash*. When the candles are lit, the highest number candle is lit first. The *Shammash* (S) is lit nightly to light the other candles.



Note: On Friday night, light the *Hanukah* candles before the *Shabbat* candles. On Saturday night, light them after *Havdalah*.

2. Place the *hanukiyah* near a window so people can see the lights. The purpose of lighting the candles is *pirsuma d'nisa*, to publicize the miracle of *Hanukah*.

3. After lighting the *Shammash* and before lighting the other candles, say the following *brakhot*:

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם
אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו להדליק נר של חנוכה.

Barukh ata Adonai elohenu melekh ha'olam, asher kideshanu bemitz'votav ve'tzivanu lehadlik ner shel hanukah.

Praised are You, Adonai our God, Master of time and space, who has sanctified us with His Commandments and commanded us to light the Hanukah lights.

Barukh ata adonai elohenu melekh ha'olam, she-asah nissim la'avoteinu ba'yamim ha'heim u'vazman hazeh.

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם
שעשה נסים לאבותינו בימים ההם ובזמן הזה.

Praised are You, Lord our God, Master of time and space, who accomplished miracles for our ancestors in ancient days, and in our time.

On the first night only, the following is added:

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם
שהחיינו וקיימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה.

Barukh ata adonai elohenu melekh ha'olam, shehehyanu ve'kiyemanu ve'hig'ianu lazeman hazeh.

Praised are You, Lord our God, Master of time and space, who has kept us alive, sustained us and enabled us to reach this day.

4. After lighting the candles, recite the following:

We kindle these lights to recall the great and wonderful deeds done by You, Lord our God, through the Maccabees. May their light remind us to look to You, source of our help. We remember those who came before us who made every sacrifice to keep the light of Your truth burning brightly. May we and our children be inspired by their example so that Israel may continue to be a light to the world in the ways of righteousness and truth. Amen.

5. All join in singing *Ma'oz Tzur*.

Ma'oz tzur ye'shua'ti lekha na'eh le'shabay-ah. Tikon bate tefilati ve'sham todah niza'bay-eah. Le'ate takhin mat'bay-ah me-tzor ha'mina'beyah. Az eg-mor be-shir mizmor hanukkat ha-mizbe'ah.

מעוז צור ישועתי לך נאה לשבח
תבון בית תפילתי ושם תודה נזבח
לעת תכין מטבח מצר המנבח
או אנמר בשיר מזמור חנוכת המזבח.

Other Notes

Tefillin are donned during *Hanukah*, except *Shabbat*, of course. They are worn for the entire morning service. A special paragraph is added to *Birkat HaMazon*, as noted, on the holiday.

Hanukah Gift on December 12, at 7:30 PM

Bnai Emet will host Cantor Kowitz and nine other members of the Minnesota Cantors Association.

Enjoy an evening of song filled with light, peace and freedom.

FREE CONCERT

Please make a donation to the Emergency Energy Fund at St. Paul JFS or Minneapolis JFCS.

Hanukah Miracles

The most commonly mentioned miracle surrounds a cruse of oil. Idolators entered the sanctuary, but ultimately were defeated.

The Jews found only a single flask of oil, which would normally last only one day; however, the single flask of oil continued to burn for eight days.

Also, consider the military miracle of the Maccabees, who battled for religious freedom against a much larger, stronger foe. Their fight was a fight for Jewish survival.

For many, Hanukah symbolizes the fight against totalitarianism, so Hanukah represents liberty and freedom.

Some believe the lesson of Hanukah is to clarify the only effective response to oppression: to defend and battle for key principles and values that oppression tries to suppress.

Hanukah

There are eight nights of Hanukah and eight opportunities to light candles in our homes. Besides the presents, food, blessings and singing, it can be an important educational opportunity. Please save this page and each night, before you light the next candle, read the brief paragraph and have a discussion about it with someone in your household or a friend.

As you light the **Shamash** - One of the roots of the word Hanukah is *Henuk*, education. The Talmud says the study of Judaism is more important than all the other commandments put together since it helps foster the rest. This Hanukah, let us re-dedicate ourselves to Jewish study through the year. May the light of this **Shamash** candle be a flame of enthusiasm to further explore the spiritual treasures of our people.

Candle #1 - Hanukah means dedication. Our blessings and our prayers are in Hebrew; the language of our national homeland is Hebrew. The one language that the Jews have spoken over 4,000 years has been Hebrew. Let us rededicate ourselves to improving our Hebrew this coming year...reading, writing, conversation. Spend a few minutes each day reciting prayers in Hebrew. Put yourself in an environment to speak and read Hebrew in one of the many community Hebrew programs.

Candle #2 - The ritual of candle lighting is chanting blessings to God. We thank God for the opportunity to light candles and for the miracles in our history and in our personal lives. Let us turn to God regularly in prayer, as we spiritually grow in feeling God's purpose in our life. As we light this third candle, let us rededicate ourselves to regular Jewish prayer. Let us thank God daily for the blessings in our lives at home and in the synagogue.

Candle #3 - Candle lighting is a ritual act. We perform it many times during the year. We light candles before Shabbat, *Yom Tov*, (holidays) *Yahrzeit* and when the lights go out. Judaism is special because our rituals reinforce our values. On this Hanukah third night, we rededicate ourselves to Jewish ritual practice. Add a *mitzvah* to our Shabbat, *kashruth* and holiday observance.

Candle #4 - Many of the *mitzvot* of Judaism are concerned with *tikun olam* (making the world a better place). It is deeds of loving kindness that make the critical difference in our world. When we light our candle on this fourth night, let us think about how we can help the world become a better place.

Candle #5 - The essential story of Hanukah is one of trying to drive the oppressors of the Jewish people from our ancient home land. The victory of the Maccabees was only the second time in history that the Jewish people had sovereignty over the land of Israel. After they lost it, the next time was 50 years ago when the State of Israel was established. As we light candles on the fifth night, let us think about our love and attachment to *Medinat Yisrael* - The State of Israel.

Candle #6 - One of the central rituals and celebrations on Hanukah is the giving of gifts to friends and family. As we do so, we need to think about the need to give to others who are not so



fortunate. *Tzedakah* is a fundamental commandment in Judaism. Let us reach beyond ourselves, and share what we have with the needy. As we light candles on this night, let us also contribute *Tzedakah* to our favorite cause.

Candle #7 - Hanukah is a quintessential family holiday. It is a time to reflect on our Jewish ancestry as well as our current Jewish community. We reflect in the lights of the candles with our *mishpacha* and friends and pray for their health and welfare.

Candle #8 - On this final night of Hanukah, we understand that Hanukah was essentially a holiday to rededicate the ancient synagogue. The synagogue has been the key institution in Jewish history of 2500 years. Every study of Jewish identity indicates the synagogue is the key player in determining commitment to the Jewish community. As we celebrate this holiday of the rededication of the original Temple, let us consider the crucial role our synagogue holds in the Jewish community. Let us rededicate ourselves to get more involved in our synagogue.

Help Those Who Help Others:

FOOD SHELF

Stretch your donation of cash by enabling our food shelf to access discount products and programs. Chair Mitzie Miller will mail donation cards.

HIGH HOLYDAY APPEAL

This annual mitzvah provides money to help pay dues for those members experiencing a job loss or major medical condition.

USCJ

United Synagogue is our national association for nearly 700 synagogues throughout North America, focusing on youth programs and training future lay leaders. Your annual support is greatly needed.

*A Celebration 100 Years
In The Making*

A Night of Entertainment

*In Honor of Temple of Aaron's
Centennial Year Celebration*

*Saturday, January 30th 2010
7:00 - 11:00 P.M.*

Karaoke + Wii + Photo Booth +

+ Poker +

Featuring Music & Dancing By
The TRASHMEN

Mahjong +

Wine, Beer & Soda Available For Purchase

\$18 per person/\$36 per family advanced tickets (\$25/\$50 at the door)

For More Information and Advance Tickets please contact:
Lisa Rothstein, Temple of Aaron at (651)698-8874 or lisarothstein@templeofaaron.org



Kashrut: A Potential Partnership in Postville

On May 12, 2008, federal agents conducted one of the largest single-site immigration raids in American history at the Agriprocessors meat-packing plant in Postville, IA. Agriprocessors was the nation's largest supplier of kosher meat and the main employer in Postville. As a result of the raid, hundreds of workers lost their livelihoods, Postville suffered drastic economic loss, Agriprocessors went out of business, and the kosher supply dropped.

Yet this crisis has presented an opportunity. The raid inadvertently publicized the unethical, and often illegal, labor practices at Agriprocessors: underage workers, dangerous working conditions, abusive managers, and unpaid hours, to name a few. Along with our work on behalf of those in Postville who have lost jobs, we continue to advocate for a kosher plant in Postville that will respect worker rights, help Postville thrive, and build a successful and ethical business enterprise. To this end, the Temple of Aaron Social Justice Committee, Jewish Community Action and Jewish Council on Urban



Hershey Friedman in front of Agri Star

Affairs' members sent hundreds of high holyday cards to the plant owners expressing our hopes for a new beginning.

Shortly after the arrival of these cards — after several months of public silence — Hershey Friedman, the new leader of the kosher plant in Postville, has promised new worker-friendly policies and practices and told the press that “the company has improved safety training and raised wages for production workers.”

We welcome Friedman's comments. We also look forward to verifying his specific promises as Agri Star expands production and hires more workers.

If Agri Star achieves Friedman's goal of fair salaries, fair benefits, and fair treatment of workers, we have no doubt that workers, the people of Postville, our organizations, and our many allies in the

Jewish community will treat Agri fairly. For this reason, we continue to encourage Friedman — or his son-in-law, Agri Star President Daniel Hirsch — to meet and work with the Postville Community Benefits Alliance, of which Jewish Community Action and Jewish Council on Urban Affairs are members.

Such collaboration will help us pursue our shared goals together. This will also enable Hershey Friedman to put his encouraging words into meaningful action.



Agri Star replaces Agriprocessors on Postville water tower

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE JOINS WITH ST. JOHN NEUMANN IN THE THIRD OF A SERIES OF ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMS

December Topic: Affordable Housing

Discussion co-sponsored by
St. John Neumann

and Temple of Aaron

Sunday, December 20

7:00 to 9:00 PM

St. John Neumann Church
4030 Pilot Knob Road, Eagan

Refreshments will be served. Childcare is available by reservation. Event is free and open to the public. Questions? Call Danielle Baas Molliver at 651-454-2079 ext 2230.

Temple of Aaron Calendar of Events

December 2009
Kislev - Tevet 5770

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<p>For more information on these and other events and programs, please visit our website at www.templeofaaron.org</p>	1 7:30 am Minyan 6 pm Minyan 7 pm Bldg. Closes	2 7:30 am Minyan 4 pm Hebrew School 6 pm Minyan 6 pm Honors, 7 grade 7:30 pm Fundamentals	3 7:30 am Minyan 6 pm Minyan 6:30 pm Talmud Class 7:30 pm Bible Class	4 7:30 am Minyan 8 pm Service, ESL Rachel Feinstein's Bat Mitzvah Candlelighting 4:14 pm	5 8am coffee w/Rashi 9 am Service, School Rachel Feinstein's Bat Mitzvah 4:15 pm Service
6 9 am Service & Sunday School 11 am Consecration 6 pm Minyan	7 7:30 am Minyan Office Closed 6 pm Minyan 7 pm Bldg. Closes	8 7:30 am Minyan 6 pm Minyan 7 pm Bldg. Closes	9 7:30 am Minyan 4 pm Hebrew School Conf. 6 pm Minyan 6 pm Honors, 7 grade 7:30pm Fundamentals	10 7:30 am Minyan 6 pm Minyan 6:30 pm Talmud Class 6:30 pm Networking Group 7:30 pm Bible Class	11 7:30 am Minyan 8 pm Service, ESL Maya Strom's Bat Mitzvah Candlelighting 4:13 pm 1st Hanukkah Candle	12 8am coffee w/Rashi 9 am Service, School Maya Strom's Bat Mitzvah 4:15 pm Service
13 9 am Service & Sunday School 10 am Hanukkah Celebration 1 pm Dreidel Dash 6 pm Minyan	14 7:30 am Minyan Office Closed 6 pm Minyan 7 pm Bldg. Closes	15 7:30 am Minyan 6 pm Minyan 7 pm Bldg. Closes	16 7:30 am Minyan 4 pm Hebrew School 6 pm Minyan 6 pm Honors, 7 grade 7:30 pm Fundamentals	17 7:30 am Minyan 6 pm Minyan 6:30 pm Talmud Class 7:00 pm Board Meeting 7:30 pm Bible Class	18 7:30 am Minyan 6 pm School Dinner 8 pm Service Candlelighting 4:15 pm 1 Tevet	19 8am coffee w/Rashi 9 am Service, School Lunch & Learn 4:15 pm Service
20 9 am Service & Sunday School 6pm Minyan	21 7:30 am Minyan Office Closed 6 pm Minyan 7 pm Bldg. Closes	22 7:30 am Minyan 6 pm Minyan 7 pm Bldg. Closes	23 7:30 am Minyan No Afternoon or Evening School 6 pm Minyan 7:30pm Fundamentals	24 7:30 am Minyan 6 pm Minyan	25 9:00 am Minyan 6 pm Service & Dinner Candlelighting 4:18 pm	26 8am coffee w/Rashi 9 am Service No School 4:30 pm Service
27 9 am Service No Sunday School 6pm Minyan	28 7:30 am Minyan Office Closed 6 pm Minyan 7 pm Bldg. Closes	29 7:30 am Minyan 6 pm Minyan 7 pm Bldg. Closes	30 7:30 am Minyan No Afternoon or Evening School 6 pm Minyan No Fundamentals	31 7:30 am Minyan 6 pm Minyan		

B'not Mitzvah



Rachel Feinstein

Rachel Feinstein, daughter of **Faye and Ed Feinstein**, will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on December 4 and 5, 2009.

Rachel is in 7th grade at Friendly Hills Middle School, where she participates in swim team, serves on the student council, and plays the oboe in the band. She also enjoys dancing at her dance studio, hanging out with friends, going to Camp Chi, and spending time with her family (and her dog Ginger) at home and on vacation.

Rachel is a member of Temple of Aaron Kadima.

Rachel has designated Avenues for Homeless Youth and The Sholom Home for her tzedaka contribution.

Oneg Shabbat and Kiddush refreshments will be sponsored by Rachel's parents, **Faye and Ed Feinstein**.

Maya Strohm, daughter of **Leslie and James Strohm**, will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on December 11 and 12, 2009.

Maya is in 7th grade at Friendly Hills Middle School, where she participates in swim team and band. She also enjoys gymnastics, playing with animals (especially her two cats) and Circus Juventas, where she does hoops, trapeze and acrobatics.

Maya is a member of Temple of Aaron Kadima.

Maya has established a Geshar L'Keshet Fund for her tzedaka contribution.

Oneg Shabbat refreshments will be sponsored by Maya's Bubbe, Betty Brown. Kiddush luncheon will be sponsored by Maya's parents, **Leslie and Jim Strohm**.



Maya Strohm



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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