

THE AARONION

TEMPLE OF AARON'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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

Vol. 84 • No. 8

April 1, 2009

7 Nisan 5769

Board Approves Annual Passover Fund

Passover means religious freedom in our tradition and it now means economic freedom at Temple of Aaron.

Our Board has heard your firm and unrelenting voice to maintain our foundation of daily services, Shabbat & holiday services, educational programs for children and adults, community-building social programs, life-cycle events, social justice, maintain our beautiful functional building, and the clergy/support staff to operate everything 365 days of the year.

Your Annual Passover Fund donations will provide necessary money to fill the small gap in our 2009 budget. Every level of support matters for meeting the ongoing needs of our synagogue members.

Select a donation level (\$18, \$36, \$54, \$72, \$180, \$360, \$540, \$720, \$1,276) so we can make more success stories at Temple of Aaron. Look for pledge options on your April monthly statement.

Temple of Aaron has worked effectively for nearly 99 years because its members are generous with time, caring, spirit, creativity and financial support. Make your voice heard with a donation in April and help us meet the goal of 100% participation. The synagogue's vital future needs you.

Selling Hametz and the Maot Hittim (The Matzah Fund)

Selling Hametz: Jews do not eat Hametz on Passover. Hametz must be removed from our possession. To prevent great financial loss, it is possible to sell our Hametz for the duration of Passover. Hametz can be sold by contracting with Rabbi Shavit-Lonstein to be your agent in this sale. Please return your form (below) by 10:00 a.m. on April 8, 2009.

Maot Hittim: The Matzah Fund: Passover can be an expensive holiday and there are those in our community who cannot afford to buy Matzah and wine for Seder. There are Jews in our community who go to bed hungry and cannot feed their families. As Passover approaches, we give out "Maot Hittim, or "money for wheat" a Matzah Fund to insure that all Jews can celebrate Passover and feed their families. We ask that you take some time to make a contribution to this important fund that provides food for Jews in our community and for Mazon, a nationwide Jewish response to hunger. Every dollar collected will go to feed the hungry. Make your check payable to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund and be sure to mark it for "the Matzah Fund."

I designate Rabbi Shavit-Lonstein to be my agent in the sale of my Hametz for Passover 5769

Name: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____

Donations for sale of Hametz should be made out to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund and marked for "Sale of Hametz."

Donations for the Matzah Fund: Providing food for the hungry for Passover and beyond should be made out to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund and marked for "The Matzah Fund."

**All Donations must be at the synagogue office
by 10:00 am on Wednesday, April 8, 2009**

From the Rabbi's Desk . . .

Following the Vision

There is a great commercial that aired on Israeli television, and made its way to U.S. Jews via You-Tube. It shows a haggard and lost Moses trying to lead the people through the desert to the Promised Land. Not sure which way to turn, he stands on top of a mountain imploring God to help guide him. A meteor streaks down from the heavens, and lands at his feet. It is the answer to his prayers, clear and direct guidance, in the form of a new GPS unit, with the land of Israel clearly marked. Guidance and direction is no less important today than it was then, and lacking a GPS from heaven, and a Moses to lead us, we look to our tradition for guidance. Over the past months, I have been looking ahead, and considering where the Temple of Aaron could be in five years. It is based strongly upon history and customs of this community, on the needs of current members, and upon Jewish tradition. As staff, we have been developing the vision; finding ways to make sure it applies to everything we do. Since we as a community move best when we move together, I would like to share this three-part vision with you. As always, I welcome your feedback.

A connected community that honors its diversity. One of the many strengths of the Temple of Aaron is that it has a 100-year history of many diverse circles within a larger synagogue community.

As we look forward, we will honor these differences, while taking advantage of every Jewish resource, ritual and teaching to make sure each member can forge their own connection with the tradition, with themselves and with God. We need to continue what we began last High Holydays, to make sure everyone has multiple opportunities to build connections.

A wellspring of innovative, relevant programs. We will continue to provide programs that reach and engage members in ways that speak to their needs. Temple of Aaron has a long, proud history of creating exciting programs that engage and excite members, and catch the attention of those beyond our walls. This synagogue created Erev Shabbat Live, revolutionized the Second Day of Rosh Hashanah, and helped to develop the national USY program. We have also been recognized nationally for our Jubilee programming. But it is not for the sake of awards or recognition that we push for innovative programs: rather it is to enable connections.

A context and culture of joy. At the root of the many programs and life cycle events should be a feeling of joy. Our tradition gives us many tools and reasons for celebrations. During these celebrations we can dig deeper for religious meaning, but can do it in a relaxed atmosphere that makes everyone feel welcome. We should have a goal that



Rabbi Alan Shavit-Lonstein

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everyone who attends a service, a program, a meeting, leaves with not only their minds engaged, but also their hearts.

In order for all of this to work, it requires continued participation by all of us. On the staff level, we are working to ensure that our commitment to this evolving vision is demonstrated in every program and religious service that the Temple of Aaron sponsors. But this vision will only be realized if we work together as a community, putting our energies, resources and hearts into it. Please join us.

Congregational Second Seder

Join us this year for a redesigned Second Seder at the Temple of Aaron on April 9th at 6:15 pm. As we move through the Haggada, we will explore what freedom means to each of us. There will be song and food, and chances to read and participate in this innovative approach to celebrating Passover. Mail in your check or call with VISA.

Adult Members: \$32
Adult Non-members: \$36
Children 12 & under: \$16

Passover Service Schedule

April 8 -	7:30 am Service, Study and First Born Breakfast	April 15 -	9:00 am Service followed by Kiddush
	6:00 pm Mincha Service		7th Day Passover
	First Seder		6:00 pm Mincha Maariv
April 9 -	9:00 am Service followed by Kiddush	April 16 -	9:00 am Service followed by Kiddush
	5:30 pm Mincha-Maariv		8th Day Passover and Yizkor
	6:15 pm Congregational Seder		6:00 pm Mincha/Maariv
April 10 -	9:00 am Service followed by "Matzah Brei" Lunch		<i>Herbert & Marcia Bernick Endowment provides Breakfast on April 10, 2008.</i>
	8:00 pm Shabbat Service		<i>David A. Berg Family Endowment provides Kiddush on April 9, 15 and 16, 2008.</i>

Cantor's Column

From Slavery to Freedom: Passover is Here

Nobody has to tell anybody Jewish that the month of April is the time that the holiday of Passover is celebrated. It is a time of great joy and reflection. I will have dozens of Golden Kephah students and adults who will read from the Torah during this festive holiday. Our successful Golden Kephah Torah reading is a visionary project created by Rabbi Raskas and endowed by Nancy & Rick Grobovsky. Rabbi Shavit-Lonstein and I will lead a highly participatory Congregational Seder on April 9 with spirit and song. Of all the holidays, this 8-day festival is one that we can all agree is extremely moving. To think of our people, is to examine the past, praise God for the present, and with hope and confidence, look towards the future.

This year I wanted to be able to share something joyous with all of you. Most of you will be at either your own Seder or attend one at a relative or friend's house. I would like to leave you with something that will make the evening more joyous and fun for both kids and adults. You may already know this and if you do all the better. But at every Seder, this is something that my family and I have done for years. I wish to share with you a song:

Our Passover Things

(sung to the tune of "My Favorite Things" from "The Sound of Music")

*Cleaning and cooking and so many dishes
Out with the chametz, no past, no knishes
Fish that's gefilted, horseradish that stings
These are a few of our Passover things.*

*Matzah and karpas and chopped up charoset
Shankbones and Kiddush and Yiddish neuroses
Tante who kvetches and uncle who sings
These are a few of our Passover things.*

*Motzi and moror and trouble with Pharaohs
Famines and locusts and slaves with wheelbarrows
Matazah balls floating and eggshell that clings
These are a few of our Passover things.*

*When the Plagues strike
When the lice bite
When we're feeling sad
We simply remember our Passover things
And then we don't feel so bad.*

May each and every one of you feel the presence of God in your heart and appreciation for friends and family.

Come Sing With Us on Shabbat for Passover !

*On Friday, April 10, please join us as the Hazzan and choir will lead the congregation in traditional Passover songs for that service.
Hope to see each and every one of you there.*

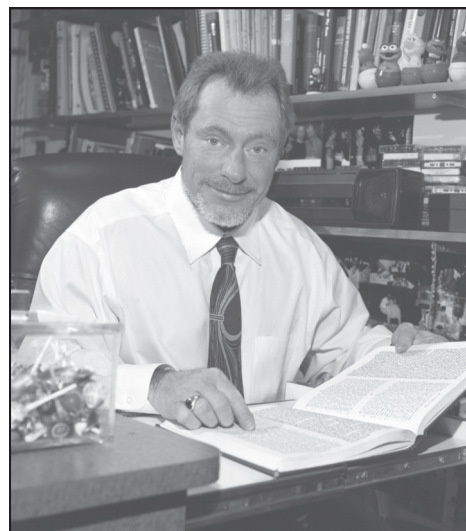
Temple of Aaron Centennial Plans:

Launch Event: Sept. 20, 2009 **Community Service Day:** Nov. 15, 2009

Game Night: Feb. 6, 2010 **Festival:** May 2, 2010

Time Capsule: Oct. 10, 2010 *Interactive Display & Golf Tourney in the works.*

VOLUNTEERS ARE THE KEY TO SUCCESS — CONTACT OFFICE



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

APRIL WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

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

מזל טוב

- 10 Glenyce and Jeff Stine
- 20 Sally and David Tushin
- 20 Laurie and Bruce Goldfarb
- 50 Judy and Bunny Kuller
- 50 Toba and Allen Freeman
- 51 Rhoda and Gene Engelson
- 55 Helene and Jim Biglow
- 57 Bea and Arthur Levitt
- 62 Rose and Bill Meltzer

Matzah Brei Luncheon

Following morning services on April 10th, matzah brei lunch and sponge cake will be served in memory of Bessie and Morris Mayeron, who believed deeply in our tradition.

Their children established this permanent endowment in their loving memory. All are invited at no charge. Stay for an interesting discussion.

Department of Youth Services



Wendy Goodman,
Director of Youth Services
wendygoodman@templeofaaron.org
651-698-8874, ext. 112

MARCH was busy and crazy!! Eighth-graders went to Kadima Kinnus, a regional conclave held in Missouri which introduces 8th graders to USY. We baked hamantashen in each class because the older grades wanted to bake as well, and we exchanged Shalot Manot packages with each other. Purim was kicked off with the Purim Carnival, which was fun, frenetic and fabulous!! We enjoyed the Seudah and Megillah reading and we had a great time with friends and family, admiring the costumes and loving the great food.

TODAH RABAH to our fabulous

Shabbat tutors: Danny Axelrod, Natalie Baldinger, Ellie Berg, Jenny Bernick, Andy Bernick, Elianna Bier, Jeanne Bloomberg, Michael Feinstein, Sara Gotlieb, Sophie Gotlieb, Rachel Haim, Rachel Kaplan, Maddie Gleekel, Tess Glassman Kaufman, Jessica Kauffman, Jayme Kauffman, Sophie Kaye, Michael Kowitz, Shelly Kowitz, Evana Kvasnik, Sam Lane, Joe Lane, Rachel Lerman, Paulina Marell, Robbie Miller, Justin Oskey, Danielle Perle, Melia Rosen, Sonya Rosen, Ellie Rosenthal, Samantha Saltzman, Ben Saxon, Ellie Schneider, Sam Schrabner, Gilad Segal, Erica Solomon, Elliott Stern, Isaac Spektor, Ezra Strohm, Bayley Taple, Bevan Waters, Andrew Weil, Taylor Werthaus Morgan Werthaus, Devin Werthaus, William Zien.

TODAH RABAH to Cheryl and George Bier and Karen Balto for heading up our Hamantaschen making.

THE DR. JEFFREY WEINGARTEN AWARD is given annually to one student in each grade 5 through 9 who exemplify Dr. Weingarten's Judaic values, love of learning, respect towards Judaism, teachers and classmates, compassion and interest in public service. These characteristics of Dr. Weingarten serve as a goal for all young people to emulate. His parents, Felicia Weingarten and Leon Weingarten of blessed memory, sponsor this award. Those students will receive their awards during services on April 24.

Grade 5: Macy Alexander
Grade 6: Brandon Krisko
Grade 7: Jamie Oskey
Grade 8: Bailey Alexander
Grade 9: William Zien

THE JASON ANDLER AWARD is given annually to an outstanding young person going to Israel. Jason was a leader in the Jewish community through significant involvement in Jewish youth and artistic activities. The synagogue's Scholarship Committee, chaired by Paul Schanfield, is pleased to announce that this year's awardee is Bayley Taple, daughter of Robin Taple and Loren Taple. Bayley is attending the USY Poland/Israel program this summer. Jason's parents Mary and Bill and his sister Susie established this special award. It will be given during services on April 24 .

CAN YOU HELP??? Please remember our scholarship funds when honoring a life cycle event, or sending condolences in the case of a death. Through your generosity, children who would not otherwise be able to attend Jewish summer camps are able to participate in life-altering Jewish experiences. Call our synagogue office to send donation cards!

TODAH RABAH... to Purim Booth Sponsors: Tilsner Carton, Wholesale Imprints, Peter Wilton Family, Skadron Animal Hospital, West River Dental, the Larry Solomon, and Yoav Segal families, Twin Cities Magic and Costume, the David Kuretsky family, Newport Cold Storage, Augeomarketing.com, David Gantman



Aaron Liebo – Youth Director
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Financial, Inver Grove Ford, Victory Parking and the Geller Family, Milbern Clothing and the Bernick Family, Men's Club and Sisterhood, St. Paul Plumbing and Heating, Ernest I. Fink Agency, Bernie Schneider, Nancy and Steve Lane ...to our Purim kitchen helpers Paula Schrabner, Susie Haim, Barb Weil; Co-chairs Sara Gotlieb, Lauren Oskey, Tracy and Dustin Trusedell, and Sophie Gotlieb.

We appreciate all of the support that the Temple community continues to show for our Purim Carnival. It is wonderful to see our families participating in this fun tradition.

Important Dates to Remember

- | | | |
|-------|----|--|
| April | 4 | Siddurim Given to 5th Graders |
| | 5 | B'nai Mitzvah meeting for 5th, 6th, 7th grade families |
| | 8 | 1st Seder
NO SCHOOL |
| | 9 | 2nd Seder |
| | 11 | NO SCHOOL |
| | 12 | NO SCHOOL |
| | 15 | NO SCHOOL |
| | 24 | Weingarten Awards
Andler Award |
| | 26 | ISRAEL festival for everyone |

KOSHER FOODS FOR PESACH, PERMITTED FOODS FOR PESACH:

DO NOT REQUIRE Kosher l'Pesach label if purchased PRIOR to Pesach: unopened packages or containers of natural coffee without cereal additives. (General Foods coffees are NOT kosher for Pesach unless marked KP), sugar, pure tea, non iodized salt, pepper, natural spices, frozen fruit juices with no additives, frozen raw vegetables, milk, butter, cottage cheese, cream cheese, ripened cheeses such as cheddar (hard), Muenster (semisoft), and Camembert (soft), frozen raw fruit with no additives, baking soda. Canned Tuna Fish in water (not vegetable broth).

DO NOT REQUIRE Kosher l'Pesach label if purchased BEFORE or DURING Pesach: Fresh fruits and vegetables, eggs, fresh fish and fresh meat.

REQUIRE a Kosher l'Pesach label if purchased BEFORE or DURING Pesach: All baked products (matzah, cakes, matzah flour, farfel, matzah meal, and any products containing matzah), canned or bottled juices, canned tuna in vegetable broth or oil, wine, vinegar, liquor, oils, dried fruits, candy, chocolate flavored milk, ice cream, yogurt and soda.

REQUIRE a Kosher l'Pesach label if purchased DURING Pesach: Processed Foods: (canned, bottled, or frozen foods), milk, butter, juices, vegetables, fruit, milk products, spices, coffee, tea, fish and foods listed in the preceding paragraph.

KOSHER L'PESACH LABELS:

Caveat emptor, "Let the buyer beware," especially during Pesach! The most important thing to remember when buying food for Passover is to read all labels with care. Although a product may or may not have a statement reading kosher l'Pesach, it cannot be relied upon without some official trademark indicating rabbinic supervision. The most common symbol is the OU, the circled-U symbol found on the labels of many commercial and consumer food products. If the product is kosher l'Pesach the OU will be accompanied by a "P" signifying Passover, or the statement "kosher l'Pesach." A "K" or "KP" is not a copyrighted symbol and therefore is not a reliable symbol for the kashrut status of foods. The label should be a part of the product label, not just a sticker on the product.

Most rabbis who are involved with the supervision of kosher foods have their own symbol which is placed on the label of various food products. If you are not familiar with a particular symbol, please feel comfortable consulting with Rabbi Shavit-Lonstein for advice.

PREPARING THE HOUSE FOR PESACH

During the festival of Pesach we are obligated to be very zealous in the preparation of our homes for the holiday. It is best to clean the rest of the house before one cleans the kitchen. Most of the house just needs a good cleaning. Family members should stop eating in rooms other than the kitchen/dining room. Closets and drawers should be examined and all food removed. Don't forget to check backpacks, camping equipment, cars and boats for stray food. Try and use up all non-Passover food prior to the holiday. Vacuum under furniture and even remove the cushions from upholstered chairs and sofas. You may as well get rid of all that food at the office as well. Food that has fallen into cracks and crevices does not need to be removed if not easy to reach. Children can participate in the process by cleaning their own rooms and searching for crumbs, and any residue of Hametz.

The next step in koshering a home for Pesach is to attack the kitchen! Begin by taking inventory of all foodstuffs and removing all chametz and all other food inappropriate for use during Pesach. Store this food in a closet or cupboard, or donate it to a food bank. The storage compartment should be locked or secured to prevent entry during the holiday. This will be sold for the duration of Pesach. You will need to sign the document at the Temple that makes the Rabbi your agent to sell this Hametz on your behalf.

Having removed the inappropriate foodstuffs from the kitchen, the remaining cupboards must be cleaned and lined.

Many families have separate sets of dishes, pots, pans, and utensils used only for Pesach. Since these objects have never been in contact with chametz, they require no special preparation prior to their use. Kitchen objects which have been used during the year and have been in contact with chametz require an appropriate kashering process before they are used during Pesach. (Not all objects can be koshered for Pesach - please consult a knowledgeable authority for advice.)

The kashering laws are based upon the principle stated in the Talmud, k'volokakh polto, "As the vessel absorbs so does it rid itself of what is absorbed." (*Pesachim* 30a) Utensils used for broiling must be koshered by heating over an open fire, objects used for cooking are koshered by immersion in boiling water, and utensils used only for cold food may be koshered by rinsing. The four methods used for koshering utensils are:

1. **Hagalah**-immersion in boiling water
2. **Libun**-fire
3. **Iru**-pouring water over a surface
4. **Milui v'irui**-soaking in cold water

Do not go overboard buying things for Pesach. Unless you are making Seder for 40 people, just some simple kitchen implements are all that should be needed. Many people use paper and throw-away items for the week to keep it simple.

Then onto the rest of the kitchen: stove, countertops, oven, refrigerator, freezer, microwave oven, sinks, and all other objects which have had contact with chametz must be thoroughly cleansed and koshered for Pesach. Those objects which cannot be purged of their chametz, (formica on kitchen countertops, for example) and are a necessity during Pesach, are covered with a secondary material.

With the kitchen purged of chametz, the kosher l'Pesach dishes and utensils are placed in their cupboards and the kitchen is ready for Pesach.

Thank You

Todah Rabah

תודה רבה

נחמו נחמו עמי

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

**Gregory Vaynerman
Shirley Barenbaum
Sonya Suponitskaya
Zinaida Lapitskaya
Dina Slutsky**

תודה רבה

... Delia Seval and Betty Agranoff for mailing over 1,100 March Aaronions.

... to Larry Eisenstadt, who led a Shabbat tour for Grace United Methodist Confirmation Class (Paynesville, MN).

... to Reenie Gitlin, who led a Shabbat tour for Bethel Lutheran Church Students (Willmar, MN).

... to Deb Bachrach, who led a day tour for St. Mary's 9th grade class (Sleepy Eye, MN).

... to Ted Kvasnik from Sew What for supporting USY Play.

... We would like to thank and acknowledge all of those who participated in this year's Purim reading the Megillah of Eshter: Evan Weil, Devin Werthausser, Abe Clark, Sonya Rosen, Larry Eisenstadt, Maddy Lerner, Justine Lange, Elliot Stern, Hazzan Mitchell Kowitz, Rabbi Shavit-Lonstein & Matt Clark.

The Howie Stillman Young Leadership Fund Presents: Michael Uslan at Adath on April 26 at 7:00 PM

Uslan is the originator of the "Batman" movie series. Uslan has authored many comic books and children's books. Each spring the Stillman Fund sponsors a program that includes a lecture given by a prominent journalist and the presentation of the youth achievement award.

Thank you (*todah rabah*) to those listed below who supported our Yahrzeit Fund in memory of loved ones with donations of \$10 or more
February 2009 Shevat-Adar 5769

Akkerman, Shimon	Grossman, Rose	Rosenberg, Rose
Alch, Sandra	Hertz, Joseph	Rosenblum, Rita
Alexander, Dana	Joseph, Geri & Burton	Rubenstein, Ada
Antonovskaya, Sofiya	Kahn, Marcella & Jim	Rubenstein, Robert
Appelbaum, Murray & Arlene	Kamin, Mel & Evelyn	Savage, Edith, Laurie & Rick
Applebaum, Sidney & Lorraine	Kanivetsky, Rozita	Schenker, Shirley
Averbakh, Boris & Irene	Kaplan, Bernard	Schloff, Lizann
Axelrod, Lenny	Kaplan, Esther & Reuben	Sevak, Delia & family
Baskina, Ella	Kaplan, Louis	Shaller, Rossy & Dick
Bernick, Lisa, Alan & family	Karon, Robert	Shimelfarb, Iosif
Besner, Rae	Kaster, Barbara	Silberman, Shirley
Binkin, Vladimir	Khaskin, Sofiya	Silverman, Artice
Blackman, Ruth	Kirschner, Richard	Silverman, Morton D.
Bomberg, Frank	Klein, Gary & Marion	Simes, Josephine & Hy
Braginsky, Isya	Kurland, Sandra	Slutsky, Efim
Brazeman, Marion	Lee, Lynne	Soroka, Tatyana
Bream, Rose	Leibman, Jack E.	Specktor, Harold & Ann
Breitman, Shirley	Levin, Albert & Jeanne	Stein, Abe
Burton, Julie, David & family	Levine, Nancy & Allen	Suponitsky, Yekaterina
Coursolle, Mary Etta	Leyderman, Roman	Swartz, Susie & Stu
Dietz, Alvin & Arlene	Lyons, Stephen & Patti	Tilsner, Ryvelle
Dreytser, Vladimir	Marofsky, Edith	Tragar, C.A.
Feldman, Nancy	Marvy, Bob, Florie & family	Uchenik, Esfir
Flynn, Susan & John	Mastbaum, Mildred	Upin, Bernice W.
Fridman, Sheva	Meltzer, William	Valdman, David
Ganz, Isaac & Eshter	Miller, Ann	Vigdorovich, Leopold
Ginzburg, Riva	Miller, Barbara	Vinitsky, Shirley
Gochberg, Peter & Vera	Mogol, Leo	Vysotskaya, Lyudmila & Eydelman, Grigoriy
Goldetsky, Celia	Nemer, Helen	Ward, Hillard
Goldish, Edith Bream	Nusbaum, Charlotte & Ed	Wittcoff, Roma
Goldman, Barry & Darlene	Paster, Celia	Wolkoff, Patty & Don
Graham, Esther	Perelman, Dimitry	Wolkowicz, Joe
Gralnek, Arlene	Pieser, Eleanor	Zien, Annette
	Prawer, Ken & Bonnie	
	Rein, Myndel	
	Ribnick, Renee	

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:

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Kadima Kinnus:

This year's Kadima (7th & 8th Grades) Kinnus was a blast! We went for the weekend of February 27-March 1 to Camp Chi in Wisconsin. We brought 17 and showed them a weekend they are not soon to forget. Led mostly by USYers (and planned by Andrew Weil), the Kadimaniks were given a taste of what it is to become USYers. The 150 total Kadimaniks from the Emtza Region took part in activities that included Yoga, Israel Experiences, a water park, and great religious discussions. Our kids got to meet and connect with other kids in the region, while also taking pride in the identity of Temple of Aaron.

Sisterhood News

Book Club — *Why Faith Matters* by Rabbi David Wolby will be discussed on Sunday, April 19th, 10:00 a.m. at The Highland Café and Bakery in Highland Park. The book club meets on the third Sunday morning of the month on a regular basis. Questions, call Teddy Gerr at 651-405-6658 or Anna Spektor at 651-454-4612.

* * * *

The Regional Conference of Women's League for Conservative Judaism will be held in Minneapolis from April 26-28, 2009. This year's theme is "Heart and Soul" and it will be hosted by B'nai Emet, Beth El and Adath Jeshurun. Watch for more info to come. If you are interested in attending, contact Paula Schraber at 651-454-2708 or Marcia Taple at 651-688-3030 **ASAP**.

* * * *

Gift Shop Sale — April 5th - May 31st, **20% off** of everything except tefillin and kosher parchments. This is the perfect place for purchasing your Passover items, confirmation and graduation gifts and so much more. If you are unable to shop during regular gift shop hours, special arrangements can always be made for individual appointments. Call Marcia Taple for more info.

* * * *

Don't forget to use our Building Fund Cards for any and all occasions. They are simply a phone call away; no need to leave your house, find a stamp or an address. By purchasing these cards you are supporting Sisterhood and Temple of Aaron. For more info, call Janet Gordon at 651-698-8809 or Sis Goren at 651-686-0425.

* * * *

End-of-the-Year Closing Program & Installation of Officers — Thursday, May 14th, dinner and program. The New Slate of Officers for 2009-2011 is as follows: President, Paula Schraber; Program Vice President, Marcia Taple; Membership Vice President, Roxanne Portnoy; Ways and Means Vice President, Shari Lowenthal; Treasurer, Marcella Kahn; Financial Secretary, Linda Eisenstadt; Recording Secretary, Margie Schneider; Corresponding Secretary, Barbara Kaster; Notification Secretary, Susan Kushner; Gift Shop Treasurer, Etta Lambright. New board members, Alexandria Ganzel, Linda Kowitz, Amy Miller Stern. Many thanks to the nominating committee: Marcia Taple (chairperson), Virginia Bordeaux, Alexandria Ganzel, Teddy Gerr, Etta Lambright, Roxanne Portnoy and Amy Miller Stern.

Synagogue Annual Israel Festival Is New, New, New

Temple of Aaron will honor Israel Independence Day. Students will spend the morning exploring cities of Israel, learn about different cultures and participate in exciting activities.

Adults will join an interactive tour of the map of Israel with the St. Paul Israeli Shaliach (Emissary), Erez Frankel. Erez will lead the group through the changes to the map of Israel while highlighting the changing population and peoples of Israel.

A lively debate on current Israeli politics will be a big attraction for all adults. An entertaining Israeli film will also be playing throughout the morning.

Join Temple of Aaron on April 26th, 2009 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Looking Purim Chic



Rabbi Shavit-Lonstein Looking Rather "Sheik" with Susan Flynn at 2009 Purim carnival

SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP

651-699-9192

**Sale Starts
April 5 - May 31**

*Regular Merchandise
Discounted**

Includes Books, Tapes, CDs

20% Discount

*Sale Merchandise
Take an Additional 20%!*
***Exceptions: Tefillin &
Mazzuzah Scrolls**

Open Hours:

Sunday 9-Noon/Tuesday 10-2

Wednesday 10-1 & 6-8 pm

By Appointment Call:

Marcia Taple, 651-688-3030

Invest in Our Future

I started as Program Manager on January 6. Over the last two months, I have participated in some meetings and events here at the Temple.

Our synagogue needs to do more bragging and kvelling about our successes. We have approximately 24 committees working hard to create a meaningful experience for each of our members. The Temple of Aaron has some great minds working towards making and building a strong Jewish community. However, as a large and diverse community it is our duty to reach out to our members in new and different ways.

Like almost all synagogues, we have historically fallen short in captivating the twenties and thirties crowd. Let me take a moment and "kvell" over the wonderful Attracting Young Jews Committee. Saturday, March 7, an energetic group of twenties and thirties gathered for a Pre-Purim Pub Crawl along Grand Avenue. The event was a great success, where friendships and community were built. This event is a perfect example of new and exciting programming that is emerging. I hope that everyone in our congregation gets an opportunity to try something new this year: attend a special event, join a committee, and help build friendships and community!

— Lisa Stein, Program Manager



Wendy Beth Gahm, Temple of Aaron Membership Committee co-chair, poses with her husband, Kevin, and their daughter, Beverly Rose.

Spotlight on ...

Hi, my name is Wendy Beth (Shiffman) Gahm and, compared to my fellow Membership Committee co-chairs, I am a relatively new member of Temple of Aaron. I came to the Temple of Aaron right out of college in the summer of 1997 when I was hired as the Youth Director, a position I held for two years. Since that time I have continued my involvement with the congregation's youth by serving as a teacher in the Sunday School and Honors/Bogrim programs for the past 9 years.

The Temple of Aaron is important to me because, as someone from another city with no in-town relatives, my husband and I consider the Temple of Aaron our extended Jewish family. We turn to the congregation for holidays, cultural events and to connect us with other community members.

The Temple of Aaron has wonderful facilities for the celebration of life-cycle events. We chose to hold our daughter's naming ceremony here so that she could enter the community in the same place in which she will receive her Jewish education. We look forward to enrolling her in the Toddler Program and know that she will receive a thorough Jewish education as she continues through the Temple of Aaron's quality Religious and Hebrew Schools.

Perpetuating the Ner Tamid Award

As the Congregation continues to celebrate the awarding of the prestigious *Ner Tamid* award, first to Morrie Katz and then, most recently, to Janet Gordon, plans are now well underway to ensure the award's continuity. Working with the Congregation, the *Keruv* (Building Participation) committee has taken two major steps in that direction. It has established the new *Ner Tamid* fund, a restricted fund, to underwrite the cost of each trophy awarded as well as that of a permanent commemorative plaque. In addition, it has established a specific nomination process designed to ensure that the Congregation's most deserving members will be recognized. The plan (and the hope) is that the members of Congregation will become full partners in the effort to honor its most outstanding longtime volunteers, whose efforts have proven to be the lifeblood of Temple of Aaron.



The nomination process is now well-defined. To be considered for the *Ner Tamid* award, the individual must be nominated to the *Keruv* committee by a chairperson of a standing committee at Temple of Aaron, by the president (or a past president) of the Men's Club or Temple of Aaron Sisterhood, or by a member of the Temple of Aaron clergy. The *Keruv* committee will vet each nomination in order to ensure that the nomination meets the recognition standard of the *Ner Tamid* award. Upon completion of the vetting process and recommendation of the *Keruv* committee, the *Keruv* committee will place the name of the individual into nomination before the Board of Directors of Temple of Aaron. The Board of Directors will have the sole discretion of awarding a volunteer the *Ner Tamid* award upon behalf of the Temple of Aaron.

In terms of the frequency of making the award and the manner of commemorating it, over time, the intention is to make the award on an annual basis, to be bestowed at a time that is either considered to be of particular importance to the recipient or at *Selichot*. The award of the *Ner Tamid* honor will be commemorated at the Temple of Aaron with the establishment of a permanent plaque designed to recognize the vital importance of dedicated volunteerism to the growth, vibrancy, and well-being of Temple of Aaron and the unique gift such volunteerism represents. The name of each individual recipient of the *Ner Tamid* award and the date he/she was so honored will be inscribed on the commemorative plaque.

With the establishment of the *Ner Tamid* fund, the members of the Congregation now have the perfect way to honor people like Morrie Katz and Janet Gordon, who have each meant so much to the richness of Temple of Aaron. The initial funding has been provided primarily by committee member Dave (along with Sue) Rosner and committee member Dick (along with Rossy) Shaller. Committee member Marcia Taple has agreed to dedicate all donations made to the Bertha Katzman Fund, in honor of her late mother, for use by the *Ner Tamid* Fund. In addition, the other members of the *Keruv* committee (Gary Portnoy, Bob Marvy, Jay Baldinger, and Beryl Berke) have indicated their support. With this generous support, the cost of the plaque is now covered. However, additional funds are needed to cover the acquisition of future trophies. So, please consider taking this opportunity to donate in honor of either Morrie or Janet or, preferably, both of them. In this way, the Temple will be in a position to not only commission and erect the plaque, but fund additional trophies in the years to come.

— Dave Rosner, Chair of Building Participation Committee



Social Justice

Passover is a curious Jewish holiday. It is celebrated “religiously” by Jews who would never identify themselves as religious, and by those who do, and even by those who are not even Jewish. The central idea of Passover has become so universal as to be adopted by freedom movements all over the world. All oppressed peoples can see themselves as part of the Children of Israel, enslaved to some modern day Pharaoh. All can look to the courage of the people as they took the difficult actions towards freedom.

Where does this universal appeal leave us as Jews? How do we understand this formative story as ours, when it is so easily adopted by others? I think the answer may lie in not just how we hear the story, but what we do with it. It is not just a story about an event in the past. It is also a reminder of present responsibility. As the Torah reminds us often, our memory of being slaves must inform our actions. Each of us must help others move from their slavery to freedom. The story is ours because the responsibility to make freedom a reality for everyone is also ours.

— Rabbi Shavit-Lonstein

Jewish Community Action is echoing the call from local and national immigrant-led and immigrant rights groups to end raids. We are speaking up as Jews, alongside immigrant communities. We know that we can only make change together.



Undocumented immigrants are lined up against a Homeland Security bus in El Paso, Texas, so they can be unshackled and led across the Mexican border to Juarez.



Howard Goldman at rally for immigrant rights at Governor’s mansion.



Vic Rosenthal speaking out in Postville, IA.



March in Postville, IA

PROGRESS BY PESACH is the national Jewish campaign to encourage the new administration and congress to choose humanitarian immigration reform over the failed policy of exclusively relying on raids and enforcement tactics as a means of controlling immigration.

Become a part of the campaign!

- 1) Go to the JCA (Jewish Community Action) blog (www.progressbypesach.blogspot.com) and sign the “Immigration Reform, not Raids” Petition AND send a letter asking President Obama and Congress to make progress on reform, and not raids, this year.
- 2) Participate in an evening or two of phone banking for Progress by Pesach; hold a house meeting and JCA will help you.
- 3) Write editorials and articles to local press with a pro-immigrant voice.

Update on Postville:

Jewish Community Action is offering assistance to the Postville Response Coalition should they wish to negotiate with potential purchasers of the plant. The goal is to offer interested buyers the support and acceptance of the town, consumers, workers and the broader community in return for improved working conditions, business practices and community relations.

Want to help? Please contact Lauren, Vic, or Melissa at Jewish Community Action.

Help the Postville Workers Today: Donations help cover food, rent, legal fees, clothing, and other basic necessities. Please send checks to: JCA (Postville), 2375 University Ave. W., Suite 150, St. Paul, MN 55114.

Temple of Aaron Calendar of Events

April 2009
Adar-Nisan 5769

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 7:30 am Minyan 4 pm Hebrew School 6 pm Service, Honors & 7th grade 6:30 pm Grief Group	2 7:30 am Minyan 6 pm Service 6:30 pm Talmud Class 7:30 pm Bible Study	3 7:30 am Minyan 8 pm Service—ESL Candlelighting 7:24 pm	4 8 am Coffee w/Rashi 9 am Service Shabbat School 5th grade siddur pres. 6 pm Minyan
5 9 am Service, School 10 am Bar/Bat Mitzvah Mtg. 5 pm Hebrew Class 6 pm Service	6 7:30 am Minyan OFFICE CLOSED 6 pm Service 7 pm Bldg. Closes	7 7:30 am Minyan 6 pm Service 7 pm Bldg. Closes	8 7:30 am Minyan 8:30 am Breakfast for 1st Born NO Hebrew School, Honors or 7th grade 6 pm Service EREV PASSOVER	9 OFFICE CLOSED 9 am Passover Service 5:30 pm Service 6:15 pm Congregational Seder PASSOVER	10 OFFICE CLOSED 9 am Passover Service <i>followed by</i> Matzah Brei Lunch 8 pm Service PASSOVER Candlelighting 7:33 pm	11 8 am Coffee w/Rashi 9 am Service NO Shabbat School 6 pm Minyan
12 9 am Service, NO School 5 pm Hebrew Class 6 pm Service	13 7:30 am Minyan OFFICE CLOSED 6 pm Service 7 pm Bldg. Closes	14 7:30 am Minyan 6 pm Service 7 pm Bldg. Closes	15 OFFICE CLOSED 9 am Passover Service NO Hebrew School, Honors, 7th grade 7th Day PASSOVER 6 pm Service	16 OFFICE CLOSED 9 am Passover Service <i>(Yizkor)</i> 6 pm Service 6:30 pm Talmud Class 7:30 pm Bible Study 8th Day PASSOVER	17 7:30 am Minyan 8 pm Service—ESL Carly Neren's Bat Mitzvah Candlelighting 7:38 pm	18 8 am Coffee w/Rashi 9 am Service Shabbat School Carly Neren's Bat Mitzvah 6 pm Minyan
19 9 am Service, School 5 pm Hebrew Class 6 pm Service	20 7:30 am Minyan OFFICE CLOSED 6 pm Service 7 pm Bldg. Closes	21 7:30 am Minyan 6 pm Service 7 pm Bldg. Closes	22 7:30 am Minyan 4 pm Hebrew School 6 pm Service, Honors & 7th grade	23 7:30 am Minyan 6 pm Service 6:30 pm Talmud Class 7:30 pm Bible Study	24 7:30 am Minyan 8 pm Service—ESL Aidan Arnold's Bar Mitzvah Weingarten/Andler Awards Candlelighting 7:50 pm	25 8 am Coffee w/Rashi 9 am Service Shabbat School Aidan Arnold's Bar Mitzvah 6 pm Minyan 1 Iyar
26 9 am Service, School 10 am Israel Festival 5 pm Hebrew Class 6 pm Service	27 7:30 am Minyan OFFICE CLOSED 6 pm Service 7 pm Bldg. Closes	28 7:30 am Minyan 6 pm Service 7 pm Bldg. Closes	29 7:30 am Minyan 4 pm Hebrew School 6 pm Service, Honors & 7th grade 6:30 pm Grief Group	30 7:30 am Minyan 6 pm Service 6:30 pm Talmud Class 7:30 pm Bible Study		

B'nai Mitzvah

Carly Rose Neren, daughter of **Mitch and Jeana Neren**, will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on April 17 and 18, 2009.

Carly is in 7th grade at Sunrise Park Middle School in White Bear Lake. At school she participates in volleyball and choir. She also enjoys competitive dancing, theater, water sports and traveling.

Carly has designated American Diabetes Foundation for her tzedaka contribution.

Oneg Shabbat and Kiddush refreshments will be sponsored by Carly's parents, **Mitch and Jeana Neren**, and by her grandparents, **Rupert & Jeanne Strobel**, and **Melvin & Joan Neren**.



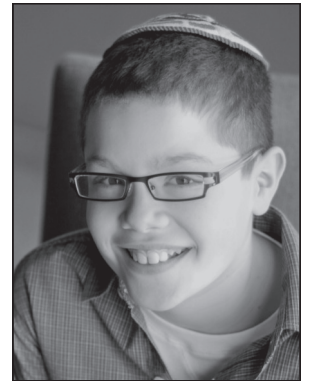
Carly Rose Neren

Aidan Arnold, son of **Sam and Tracy Arnold**, will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on April 24 and 25, 2009.

Aidan is in 7th grade at St. Paul Academy, where he participates in football, basketball, and baseball. He also plays violin in the orchestra. Aidan enjoys talking with friends and seeing new movies.

Aidan has designated Sports Gift — providing sports to underprivileged children around the world — for his tzedaka contribution.

Oneg Shabbat will be sponsored by Aidan's aunts and uncles: **Nikki & Todd Gagerman**, **Jessica Marland**, and **Becky & Jason Altman**.



Aidan Arnold

PUTTING THE MITZVAH BACK IN THE BAR/BAT MITZVAH CEREMONY

A beautiful and increasingly popular tradition is to open the ark and pass the Torah from grandparents, to parents, to the bar/bat mitzvah child. The passing of the Torah is the embodiment of L'DOR V'DOR — from generation to generation. Adolescence is by definition a time of transition, a steady stream of physical, emotional and social changes. Yet when a child receives the Torah on the morning of his/her bar/bat mitzvah, the stability, consistency and safety that comes with being embedded in generations of traditions is certainly deeply felt.

— Wendy Goodman, Director of Youth Services



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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