

Temple Emanuel of North Jersey

BULLETIN

An Egalitarian Conservative Congregation
serving North Jersey since 1906

May 2007

No. 5

Sivan 5767

Shavuot



Joshua S. Finkelstein, Rabbi
Nathan Feiles, Cantor
Joe A. Herrmann, President

Calendar of Events

Temple Emanuel of North Jersey

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Nathan Feiles.....Cantor
Lea Greenspan Hebrew School Principal
Cathy Pavlica.....Office Administrator
Ruth Clarin.....Administrative Assistant
Joe A. Herrmann..... President
Cathy Goldman.....Vice President
Seth Lipschitz.....Vice President
Andrea RosenVice President
Linda Schwager.....Vice President
Debbie Zingler.....Vice President
Molla Reisbaum.....Secretary
Vicki Rosenblith.....Treasurer
Marian Friedman & Hazel Korman.....
Co-Presidents, Sisterhood
Joel Zingler.....President, Men's Club
Ajudia Persaud.....Custodial Personnel

Website: www.tenjfl.org
E-Mail: office@tenjfl.org

Wednesday, May 9th & 16th

Adult Education session at 8:00 PM at the Franklin Lakes office, the topic will be "Israel: It's Past and Our Future".

Friday, May 11th

Hebrew School Friday night dinner 5:45-7:00PM at the Gerrard Berman Day School 45 Spruce St, Oakland

Sunday, May 13th

Mother's Day

Sunday, May 20th

Last Hebrew School Session

Thursday, May 31st

Annual Congregational Meeting 8:00PM at the Franklin Lakes Office

Services

Saturday, May 5th

Join Rabbi Finkelstein for Shabbat Services in our temporary home at St Albans Church on the Franklin Lakes/ Oakland border. Services at 9:30AM. Kiddush will follow. Torah for Tots will begin at 11:00AM.

Saturday, May 12th

Join Rabbi Finkelstein for Shabbat Services in our temporary home at St Albans Church on the Franklin Lakes/ Oakland border. Services at 9:30AM. Kiddush will follow. Torah for Tots will begin at 11:00AM.

Saturday, May 19th

Join Rabbi Finkelstein for Sisterhood Shabbat Services in our temporary home at St Albans Church on the Franklin Lakes/ Oakland border. Services at 9:30AM. Ellen Lipschitz will read the haftarah. A social kiddush to follow is sponsored by Sisterhood.

Tuesday, May 22nd

Erev Shavuot at 8:00PM at St Albans Church on the Franklin Lakes/ Oakland border.

Wednesday, May 23rd

Shavout 1st Day at St Albans Church on the Franklin Lakes/ Oakland border. Services at 9:30AM. Kiddush will follow.

Thursday, May 24th

Shavout 2nd Day at St Albans Church on the Franklin Lakes/ Oakland border. Services at 9:30AM. Yiskor Services begin at 11:30AM. Kiddush will follow.

Saturday, May 26th

Please join Elana Gershen and Rabbi Joshua Finkelstein and family for the Bar Mitzvah of Elliot Ari Finkelstein at The Jewish Theological Seminary, 3080 Broadway (corner of West 122nd St.) New York City, NY. Kiddush luncheon will follow.

Congratulations to:

The Rosenbliths and Berlingers on the birth of their grandchild, Isabella Reese Berlinger
Roz and Roy Strauss on the engagement of their daughter, Alissa
Ted Shapiro, on the marriage of his grandson, Andrew Gitkin
Joy and David Levitt on the engagement of their daughter Cindy to Ari Amadour
The Rosenbliths on the birth of their grandson Eli Julian Sholly

Condolences to the families of:

Robert Cantor
Milton Edelman
Henry Goldberg
Saul Schiffman
Norman Schwartz
Helene Sparber
Seymour Weitz

Rabbinical Reflections

Counting Days

You shall count for yourselves — from the day after the Shabbat, from the day when you bring the Omer of the waving — seven Shabbats, they shall be complete. Until the day after the seventh Sabbath you shall count, fifty days... (Leviticus 23:15-16)

You shall count for yourselves seven weeks; from when the sickle is first put to the standing crop shall you begin counting seven weeks. Then you will observe the Festival of Shavu'ot for the Lord, your God (Deuteronomy 16:9-10)

These are the counting days. According to the Torah we are to count from Passover. In the time of the First and Second Temples, an omer, a biblical measure, of barley was brought to the sanctuary as these days were counted. The significance of the counting is never made explicit and the import of these days was lost to later generation.

Later generations knew these days as a period of mourning, when weddings are not performed, hair is not cut and men traditionally do not shave. The origin of these mourning practices is vague. In a recent article, Rabbi David Golinkin, the President and Rector of the Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem, gives several reasons scholars believe why and how the counting of the days of the omer period became a period of mourning.

Among the reasons for this transformation is a legend tied to Rabbi Akiva. According to Rabbinic lore "Rabbi Akiva had 12,000 pairs of disciples and they all died between *Pesah* and *Atzeret* because they didn't treat each other with respect" and they further taught "and they all died a cruel death from diphtheria" (*Yevamot* 62b). Rabbi Golinkin writes, "Indeed, Dr. Aaron Amit of Bar Ilan University and the Schechter Institute has recently shown that this story has no historical basis at all. It was woven together from various legendary motifs . . ."

Another reason Rabbi Golinkin brings is a nineteenth century theory by Dr. Julius Landsberger, who explained that the prohibition of weddings during the period of the omer was borrowed from ancient Rome. Romans did not marry during the 31 days of May which was called Lemuralia, according to Rabbi Golinkin, "This superstition later migrated from Rome to France, Scotland and Germany and gave birth to the popular couplets: "If you marry in Lent, you will live to repent" and "Marry in May, rue the day". Indeed, this is why so many people get married in June!"

These and other reasons for the transformation of the omer to a period of mourning obscure the basic proscription to count the days. We are never told why to number them, only commanded to count them. Perhaps the simple reason behind the mitzvah is found in the instruction to count the days. As we count each day, we are reminded how much each day counts. By counting the days it is not the historical transformation that we focus on, but the transformation in our lives, as we realize how blessed we are each and everyday.

Rabbi Joshua S. Finkelstein

Rabbi Joshua S. Finkelstein of Temple Emanuel of North Jersey selected for STAR's Unique Leadership Program *From Good to Great*

Beginning this June, Rabbi Finkelstein will be embarking on a "journey toward greatness" as one of only seventeen rabbis throughout the country participating in the second year pilot of STAR Rabbis: *From Good To Great* program. *STAR Rabbis: From Good to Great* is the first initiative to explore excellence in leadership with rabbis who have at least 10 years experience.

Experienced rabbis have many opportunities to attend conferences and meet with colleagues. But, *From Good to Great* provides them with a very different experience. The program offers rabbis at mid-career a unique way to re-energize their dreams and lead their communities with greater impact, along with a select group of colleagues from across the denominational spectrum.

"Rabbis need ways to re-connect with the ideals that called them into the congregation and develop new strategies for bringing those ideals to life," said Rabbi Hayim Herring, STAR's Executive Director. Inspired by the best selling book, *Good to Great*, by business consultant Jim Collins, the program uses trusted principles of leadership to energize, inspire, and support rabbis who compare their current achievements to their future aspirations.

Through participation in two leadership retreats, several "webinars" (learning sessions over the Internet) and mentored project work, rabbis practice the art of leadership and change management within their congregation. The program places special emphasis on building a more vibrant congregation through partnership with lay leadership.

Faculty and guest teachers for *From Good to Great* include some of the leading rabbis and experts from the Jewish world and corporate leaders who also understand synagogues and the Jewish community.

"I view this program as a wonderful opportunity to focus on my past experiences in the rabbinate and to maximize my efforts going forward for the benefit of my congregations and the Jewish community. This comes at an auspicious time for me and our synagogue, as Temple Emanuel is preparing for its future in northwest Bergen County," said Rabbi Finkelstein.

About STAR:

STAR (Synagogues: Transformation and Renewal) is a philanthropic partnership of the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation, Jewish Life Network/Steinhardt Foundation and The Samuel Bronfman Foundation. STAR Rabbis: From Good to Great is funded by the Lasko Family Foundation of Philadelphia.

STAR (Synagogues: Transformation and Renewal) promotes renewal of the American Jewish community through congregational innovation and leadership development. Learn more at www.starsynagogue.org.

President's Article

Normally, I try to keep the subject matter of my bulletin article to past and present events in the Synagogue, and sprinkle in words of appreciation and thanks. This month I feel it important to start off with information about the recent Special Congregational meeting.

During the second week of April you received a letter from me pertaining to that special meeting. I reported on the Strategic Planning Committee's final recommendation that was unanimously approved at a Special meeting of the Board of Trustees on April 5th, and accepted without dissent at the special Congregational meeting on April 8th.

The recommendation stipulated that the current needs of the congregation are best served by purchasing an existing facility that can be renovated, as necessary, to serve as a home for Temple Emanuel of North Jersey for its long term needs.

So far the reaction by our members, and the community at-large, has been very positive. Most people feel that finally the Congregation has a vision and direction that makes sense, and can be implemented because it is within our present financial capabilities. Many feel "a burden has been lifted", and one of our members said "it will give us a feeling of permanence which is lacking during this transition period".

Seth Lipschitz and the Property Acquisition Committee are already busy, working towards identifying a facility. If you would like to be on the committee or have information about a specific facility/property please contact the Synagogue office and leave a message for Seth or myself.

On behalf of our entire Congregation, I would like to thank the men and women of the Strategic Planning Committee and their chairperson. They are: Marc Zitcer (chair), Larry and Rosalie Berman, Neil Gelerter, Bruce Goldman, Meyer Levine, Seth Lipschitz, Ellen Pall, Alvin Reisbaum, Bob and Vicki Rosenblith, Merrill Rutman, Linda Schwager, Norman Treistman, Joel Zingler, and Rabbi Finkelstein.

Please plan to join us on Thursday evening, May 31st for our Annual Congregational meeting. That night we will approve the slate for the Board of Trustees. I hope to see you there.

And finally, while the school year is coming to an end, we still have more programs and a holiday to go. The Adult Education committee is meeting on May 9th. The Ritual committee will meet and begin their 2007 High Holiday planning. Sisterhood will be honored with a Special Shabbat on May 19th. And finally, Shavuot will begin on the evening of May 22nd and conclude Thursday evening May 24th. Please join us for services.

In closing, please join us in growing our community and building a future. Once again I ask you to join us in this endeavor by involving yourself, your family, and your friends. We request your support, and your participation. Call me to get involved!

Joe Herrmann

Hebrew School

Congratulations to the following winning classes for
Pesach Color War 5767/2007

First Place: 6th and 7th Grade

Second Place: 3rd Grade

Best Cheer: 4th and 5th Grade

Best 5th Manishtana Question: Kindergarten-First Grade

Best Art Representation of What We are Slaves to
today and Should be Free of: Second Grade

Congratulations on the Second Grade collecting a total of \$50 for the Aleh Foundation, for the month of March. The Aleh Foundation provides schools and residences for thousands of disabled children in Israel. The second grade will be putting their collections toward electronic toys for the foundation.

Hebrew School Shabbat Dinner: May 11th at 5:45

Kindergarten-First Grade: These past couple of months has been very busy and exciting in our classroom. We learned all about Pesach (Passover), focusing on what it was like for the Jews to be slaves in Egypt and how we can relive it at the Seders, to better appreciate our freedom. We also finished learning all of the letters of the Aleph-Bet and are now able to recognize and sound out all of the letters. We will soon be reading like pros! I look forward to the last few weeks ahead! - *Morah Shoshana Mazin*

Second Grade: In The last couple of months the students learned about the Jewish holidays, Purim and Pesach. We discussed why and how we celebrate these holidays. For Pesach the themes of freedom and liberation were emphasized. They collectively worked on a project with the idea of liberating themselves from watching too much TV, and came up with a series of activities that they can do instead of watching TV. Some examples of their ideas are reading a book, exercise, help at home, etc. The students have been practicing to count from one to ten and the days of the week. We also worked on the mitzvah 'Shem Tov'- a Good name. We discussed the importance of having a good name or reputation, which can be acquired by doing as many mitzvot as possible. – *Morah Carmelle Aronovits*

Third Grade: This year came to an end much too quickly. It has been a wonderful year full of success and accomplishment. We have completed learning the Aleph-Bet and have moved

onto reading and writing words. Every student has improved his or her Hebrew skills significantly. We have finished the first of the five books of Torah, Breishit (Genesis) and have gone through much of the second book, Shemot (Exodus). We have learned about the holidays in their appropriate time of year and have gained more of an in-depth understanding of the meaning behind the holidays. We have spent some time learning some new prayers and the meaning behind them. We developed an ability to look introspectively at our own character and behavior towards our friends and peers. It has been a year in which each student truly participated in creating a wonderful sense of community in our classroom. I will not only miss each one of your children individually, but also the group we became as a whole. –*Morah Roni Issacson (Sundays)*
A theme we learned about was the landscapes of Israel, like the deserts in the south and the mountains in the north. It was emphasized how such a small country has so many diverse landscapes. The students watched 3D large pictures of these areas.

Another important activity was the discussion on the holocaust and the story of Anne Frank. The students made a list of the things we need to remind ourselves. For example, that some peoples can be terribly cruel and some people can be very brave when they try to help others. – *Morah Carmelle Aronovits (Thursdays)*

Fourth-Fifth Grade: The fourth and fifth graders have been very busy “springing” back into action as the Hebrew school semester sadly comes to an end. We’ve been focusing a lot on traditions such as bar or bat mitzvah and the hidden behind that special/mature age. The holiday of Pesach kept us very busy as we joined in the school’s “Pesach Color war” and won the incredible cheer which every student took part in. Our parents were nice enough to join the mock Seder where each student presented an activity for each step of the Seder. From writing poetry, to convincing a stranger how “delicious” marror is, we definitely made it a load of fun. Recently discussing the horrific history of the holocaust and the importance of Zechor, by remembering the tragedy and the triumph of the Jewish nation. We learned about the great father of modern Zionism, Theodore Hertzl and the

Hebrew School

frustration of seeing anti-Semitism before his eyes, especially toward Alfred Dreyfus. The topic of anti-Semitism in the world got heated, as we discussing meaningless hatred humans are capable of creating. Our learning did end with the wonderful miracles God made for those fighters on May 14th, 1948, when Israel became a Jewish State. It's been a wonderful year and the students have truly grown in their Jewish faith and identity. I hope this growth continues throughout the summer months (even as Hebrew school is out of session) and throughout all their lives. – *Morah Aliza Ben-Baruch*

Sixth-Seventh Grade: Wow! It's been a long and productive month. It's hard to believe how much material there is to learn about Passover, what is only an 8-day holiday. We began by discussing the theme of freedom and the fact that it's purpose is to be able to choose God as our king. We explored the intricacies of the Seder, and of course - the familiar customs and songs that go along with it. We learned the Ma Nishtana in Hebrew by heart, and were rewarded with Baskin Robbins Ice Cream. We designed our own Kippot on Discovery Hour day and learned the true meaning behind wearing them. And to top it all off, we were victorious as the first place winners in the Passover Color War that was held right before vacation. There are now only 5 weeks to go and so much to do. The Omer, Shavuot, a discussion about post Bar/Bat Mitzvah, and maybe a surprise or two down the road. Can't wait till next year! – *Rabbi Mark Nenner*



Sisterhood

Although Purim is behind us, we want to thank everyone who purchased Shalach Manots bags to celebrate the holiday. We appreciate your support of this traditional project that is so dear to our hearts. Now we are planning our annual Sisterhood Shabbat. This year it will take place on the morning of Saturday, May 19th in our temporary home at St. Albans in Oakland. Members of Sisterhood will participate in the service and we will have a special Kiddush afterward to which everyone is invited. We look forward to seeing you again.

Co-Presidents
Marian Friedman
Hazel Korman



In the United States Mother's Day was first suggested in 1872 by Julia Ward Howe (who wrote the words to the Battle hymn of the Republic) as a day dedicated to peace. Ms. Howe would hold organized Mother's Day meetings in Boston, Mass ever year.

In 1907 Ana Jarvis, from Philadelphia, began a campaign to establish a national Mother's Day. Ms. Jarvis persuaded her mother's church in Grafton, West Virginia to celebrate Mother's Day on the second anniversary of her mother's death, the 2nd Sunday of May. By the next year Mother's Day was also celebrated in Philadelphia.

Ms. Jarvis and her supporters began to write to ministers, businessman, and politicians in their quest to establish a national Mother's Day. It was successful as by 1911 Mother's Day was celebrated in almost every state. President Woodrow Wilson, in 1914, made the official announcement proclaiming Mother's Day as a national holiday.

Bar Mitzvah

Book Club

OUR NEXT BOOK CLUB MEETING...

Mark your calendars: Thursday 6/7/07 @ 8pm

"Daniel Deronda" by George Eliot

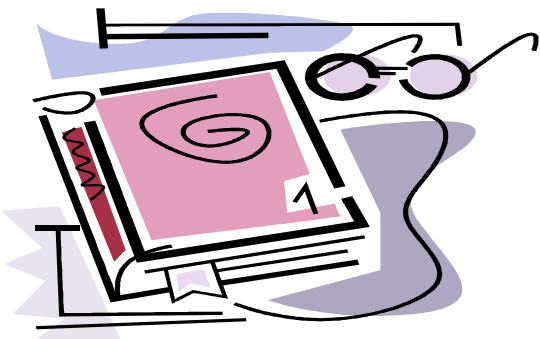
Daniel Deronda is set in England in Victorian times. It is basically two intertwined tales united by the title character. Deronda was raised by a wealthy man, Sir Hugo Mallinger, but his relationship to the man is ambiguous - he is widely believed to be his illegitimate son though Sir Hugo never says so. He becomes attracted to the beautiful, arrogant and willful Gwendolen Harleth, whose family falls on hard times. In order to save herself from becoming an impoverished governess, Gwendolen marries wealthy, but cruel, Henleigh Grandcourt.

Deronda, in the meantime, rescues a poor but beautiful Jewish singer, Mirah, from committing suicide. To escape her cruel father, she comes to England to find her long-lost mother and brother, but she too falls upon hard times in a friendless city. Daniel assists her in her search, during which time he is introduced to London's Jewish community. Eliot introduces the reader to Jewish ways in a positive fashion, while Mirah and Daniel become closer. The virtuous Mirah's behavior is contrasted with the selfish Gwendolen's.

Be part of Daniel Deronda's spiritual journey...be there when he discovers the world of his ancestors and ultimately his life's purpose...

**Join us at my house: 6 Tecumseh Trail,
Oakland 201 337 5793**

**E-mail: Sophi@verizon.net for
directions**



Adult Education

Our Adult Education program continues to provide interesting and stimulating topics for discussion and enlightenment. During April we began a new topic in our Wednesday evening program entitled "*Israel: Its Past and Our Future*". This topic will continue into May with a discussion on May 9 about the *Establishment of the State and the Jewish Diaspora* and will conclude on May 16 with a discussion of the *Future of the Jewish State: Trends and Possibilities for Coming Generations*. You do not have to attend all sessions to participate. Join us for the ones that are of interest to you at 8:00 PM in the Temple Office in Franklin Lakes.

We will be holding our third Joint Program with St. Albans on Wednesday evening, May 16 at 8:00 PM. The topic will also pertain to Israel. Please join us so that Temple Emanuel is well represented.

Our Sunday morning Minyan and Study will continue throughout May. Please join us at the Gerrard Berman Day School in Oakland at 9:00 AM to pray and allow those who need to, say Kaddish.

There will also be a study session on May 22 at 9:00 PM following our Shavuot Service at St. Albans in Oakland on the topic of Shavuot.

Sheila Jacobs-Carey



Temple Emanuel of North Jersey

Join us for

Sisterhood Shabbat



Saturday, May 19, 2007

9:30AM Services

Members of Sisterhood will be participating

Delicious Kiddush Luncheon will follow

At St. Albans Church, Oakland

A Fuchsberg Story – An Appreciation

by Joanne Palmer

It was late autumn in Jerusalem. The air was crisp but not cold, and the light – the light was Jerusalem light, that clear, piercing, stern, soul-revealing light that makes you understand why the city makes some people crazy with joy and belief, others with rage and despair.

It was a Friday afternoon, and Shabbat comes early in late autumn. Shopkeepers started to cover the windows of their stone storefronts with brightly colored metal gates that looked even brighter in the glinting, slanting light. The last minute shoppers seemed ever more frenzied as they confronted fewer and fewer options. People carried bottles of wine and bunches of flowers, as they rushed by, heads down.

And then we joined the rush, joined the men in their black suits and black hats and fur streimels and embroidered robes and knit kippot and embroidered Moroccan hats, joined the women – although there were far fewer women on the streets by then – in their sturdy, boxy long suits and their floaty dresses and fluttery layers of scarves, as we too walked to shul. The sun gleamed from the west, still high above the horizon but already beginning to gild the city with the pure gold that heralds the arrival of the Shabbat queen.

We were in Israel just for one week, and we decided to spend the one erev Shabbat we had at the shul at United Synagogue's Fuchsberg Jerusalem Center. We knew that the synagogue, Moreshet Israel, has a beautiful building, but we did not know what to expect.

Native students led services that night, as they are once a month; students at the Conservative Yeshiva lead them another once a month. Native is United Synagogue's program for high school graduates, who choose not to go directly to college but instead to spend that year in Israel. For the first semester, the students study either at Fuchsberg's Conservative Yeshiva or at the Hebrew University. The second semester's program takes many of them out of Jerusalem to do social service work on kibbutzim or absorption centers throughout Israel.

The sanctuary at Moreshet Israel, which is elegant, spare, and lovely, was entirely filled, and there were quite a few people standing against the walls in the back and on the side. Most of the people there were students, some seemed to be teacher age, and some were older people, members of the community.

The service was almost entirely sung, Carlebach style; some of the melodies were ethereally beautiful and some were rousing, even raucous. When the singing began, I must admit that it sounded to me like noise, loud, tuneless, braying noise. But then something happened. The noise resolved itself into melody, and soon into the sounds of pure joy. I looked around at the young people, davening with enormous, visible, and touching kavanah. The energy level was extraordinarily high, the hormones practically visible, and the goal of all this was to create a community through prayer, to draw closer to God both individually and as a group, and to welcome in the wonder and joy of Shabbat.

Services at Moreshet Israel are not always like this, I am told. The shul has more than one constituency; others have more sedate tastes. But certainly at least this night, the level of spiritual and emotional energy was so high that the lovely stonewalls could barely contain it. Some of the best and brightest of our next generation, the future of the Conservative movement, the future, even, of the Jewish people, were in that room.

The Fuchsberg Jerusalem Center, home to this overflowing of kavanah, is an unusual place, a hidden gem in Jerusalem, the city at the center of the Jewish world.

Lag B'Omer May 6, 2007

The “Omer” Offering - “Something Old, Something New”
”Yashan” and “Chadash”

Lag B'Omer - The word “Lag” is not really a word; it is the number 33 in Hebrew, as if you were to call the Fourth of July “IV July” (IV being 4 in Roman numerals). It is the letters *Lamed* and *Gimel*. The numerical equivalent of the Hebrew letter “*lamed*” is thirty. Similarly, the numerical equivalent of the letter “*gimel*” is three.

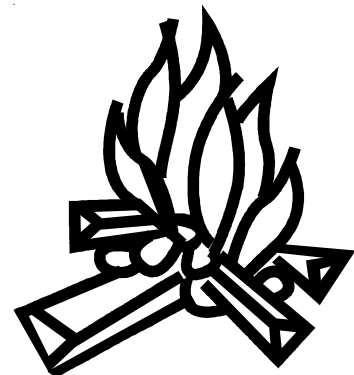
Thirty-three days following the first day of Passover, Jews celebrate a “minor” holiday called Lag B'Omer, the thirty-third day of the Omer. It is an oasis of joy in the midst of the sad *Sefirah* period, which is almost unnoticed by most contemporary Jews. Yet it contains historic lessons of such great severity — that this generation must not only unravel the mystery of Lag B'Omer but will discover that its own fate is wrapped in the crevices of its secrets.

The seven weeks between Passover and Shavuot are the days of the “Counting of the Omer,” the harvest festivities which were observed in the Land of Israel when the Temple stood on Mt. Moriah in Jerusalem.

This fifty-day period should have been a time of joyful anticipation. Having experienced the Exodus from Egypt on Pesach, every Jew literally “counts the days” from the first night of Passover until *Mattan Torah* — the revelation of Torah at Mt. Sinai which took place on Shavuot, exactly fifty days after the Exodus. While the Exodus marks the physical birth of the Jewish nation — the Giving of Torah completes the process through the spiritual birth of the Jewish nation.

Each year, as we celebrate the Seder on Passover, we are commanded to “see ourselves as though each of us actually experienced the Exodus.” It therefore follows that we must prepare ourselves during the *Sefirah* period (counting of the Omer), to once again accept the Torah on Shavuot — to make our freedom spiritually complete.

Clearly then, the *Sefirah* days should have been days of joy, but instead, they are observed as a period of semi-mourning. Weddings, music, and haircuts are not permitted; some do not shave during this entire period. It is on the sad side of *Sefirah* that we come across the holiday of Lag B'Omer, the one day during this sad period when our mourning is halted, when sadness is forbidden.



The Congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions

**BUILDING FUND
IN HONOR OF**

THANK YOU TO THE RABBI,
SISTERHOOD, MICKEY LEVINE,
ENTIRE CONGREGATION AND
STAFF WHO SUPPORTED US IN
THE TIME OF OUR NEED
Joe Persaud & Family

SPEEDY RECOVERY BETTE
VERP
Mickey Levine
Bea, Marty, Mindy & Alan
Vicki & Bob Rosenblith

ROZ & ROY STRAUSS, MAZAL
TOV ON YOUR DAUGHTER'S
ENGAGEMENT
Harriet & Harvey Halem
Vicki & Bob Rosenblith
Linda & Jerry Berlinger
Sophie and Goerge Weitz

ALICE & MIKE ARENSTEIN MAZAL
TOV ON THE BIRTH OF
GRANDSON, JACK
Harriet & Harvey Halem

RABBI & FAMILY, MR. & MRS.
MERRILL RUTMAN, ROSALIE &
LARRY BERMAN,
VICKI & BOB ROSENBITH, THANK
YOU, YOU MADE PURIM
PERFECT
Sophi & George Weitz

SPEEDY RECOVERY BARBARA
GREENBLATT
Vicki & Bob Rosenblith

CONTINUED GOOD HEALTH VICKI
ROSENBLITH
Sheila & Howard Schnoll
Roz & Roy Strauss

RABBI, THANK YOU FOR YOUR
HELP AND KINDNESS DURING MY
FATHER'S ILLNESS
Michael Edelman

SOPHI WEITZ
Joan & Norman Treistman

GET WELL WISHES TO ROSALIE
BERMAN
Vicki & Bob Rosenblith
Mickey Levine
Barbara & Marc Zitcer
Harriet & Harvey Halem

RABBI & FAMILY, ROSALIE &
LARRY BERMAN, VICKI & BOB
ROSENBLITH & MICKEY LEVINE,
THANK YOU FOR THE PURIM
PACKAGE
Linda & Steve Schwager

THE BIRTH OF ISABEL REESE
BERLINGER, GRANDDAUGHTER
OF LINDA & JERRY BERLINGER
Mickey Levine
Barbara & Marc Zitcer

THE BIRTH OF ISABELLA REESE
BERLINGER, GRANDDAUGHTER
OF VICKI & BOB ROSENBLITH
Mickey Levine
Barbara & Marc Zitcer
Sophi & George Weitz
Cathy & Bruce Goldman
Rosalie & Larry Berman
Bea & Marty Rittenberg
Harriet and Harvey Halem
Dee and Joe Herrman

ELINOR & GENE HAUBENSTOCK
ON THEIR 60TH WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY
Mickey Levine

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JOE PERSAUD
Mickey Levine

CONGRATULATIONS TO JOY &
DAVID LEVITT ON THE
ENGAGEMENT OF THEIR
DAUGHTER, CINDY TO ARI
Mickey Levine
Vicki & Bob Rosenblith

MR. & MRS. MICHAEL MAISEL,
THANK YOU FOR THE
WONDERFUL SEDER
Shirley Kaufman

MR. & MRS. JOE PERSAUD,
SPEEDY RECOVERY FOR YOUR
DAUGHTER, CHERI
Mickey Levine

MARRIAGE OF ANDREW GITKIN,
GRANDSON OF TED SHAPIRO
Mickey Levine

GET WELL WISHES TO BONNIE
KARG
Laura Fram

THANK YOU MICKEY FOR
PICKING UP THE WINE
Ellen Lipschitz

CONGRATULATIONS TO VICKI &
BOB ROSENBLITH
ON THE BIRTH OF THEIR
GRANDSON, ELI JULIAN
Linda & Jerry Berlinger
Mickey Levine
Barbara & Marc Zitcer
Dee and Joe Herrmann

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Laura & Merrill Rutman
Sylvia & Sam Gordon

MILDRED, SISTER OF SOL
SCHWARTZBARD
Bea & Marty Rittenberg

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ROBERT CANTOR

Bea & Marty Rittenberg
Mickey Levine
Cathy & Bruce Goldman
Hilda Levine
Linda & Steve Schwager
Bonnie Karg
Sophi & George Weitz
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Linda & Jerry Berllinger
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Sylvia Goldberg



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YAHREZITS BY:

Marcia Berkowitz
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MEESCHABERACH

In honor of our new
granddaughter
Vicki & Bob Rosenblith



Yahrzeit Donations

The Congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions which were made in memory of beloved departed. We identify our dear ones with eternity when we give in their names to the eternal Synagogue.

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Shavuot

The crowning event in the month of Sivan is the Festival of Shavuot, the Zeman Matan Toraseinu (the Season of the Giving of the Torah), which is celebrated on the sixth and seventh days of Sivan. The name of the festival Shavuot (Weeks), is derived from the fact that the holiday is observed seven weeks after the bringing of the Omer on the second day of Passover. Thus the first day of Shavuot, which is the fiftieth day after the bringing of the Omer always falls on the same day in the week as the second day of Passover.

The Torah has prescribed no specific ceremony, by which the festival of Shavuot should be celebrated, except by not doing work. In ancient times, when the Beis Hamikdash (the Holy Temple) was in existence, Shavuot was one of the three festivals during which every Israelite had to make a pilgrimage in the House of God in Jerusalem

The Akdamos

Before the reading of the Torah on the first day of Shavuot, we recite a most inspiring poem called Akdamos. The poet Rabbi Meir ben Isaac who lived in Germany in the eleventh century composed this hymn of glory to God and the Torah. The poem gives expression to the greatness and eternity of the Torah, to Israel's unbounded love for it, as well as our determination that come what may, we will never abandon the Torah for other religions.

The Festival of First Fruits

The Festival of Shavuot is also known in the Torah as Yom Habikurim, "the day of the First-fruits." The reason for this is that in ancient days, when the Holy Temple was in existence, the first offering from the new wheat was brought on that day. From then on, continuing throughout the summer, Jewish farmers brought Bikurim (First-fruits) from their fields to the Temple. It was an inspiring scene when the Jewish farmers with their First fruits drew near to Jerusalem and the Temple.

The Book of Ruth

Tradition has marked the second day of Shavuot as the anniversary of the death of King David, the great warrior and poet of Israel. Since David was a descendant of Ruth and since The Book of Ruth traces the family of David to Ruth, The Book of Ruth is read in the synagogue on the second day of Shavuot at the conclusion of the Morning Service, before the reading of the Torah.

**Yahrzeits - The memory of the righteous is for a Blessing
 THE FOLLOWING NAMES WILL BE READ ON THE SHABBAT BEFORE THE YAHRZEIT.
 WHEN THE YAHRZEIT FALLS ON THE SHABBAT, THE NAME IS READ ON THAT SHABBAT.**

May 4 - 10
 17 - 22 Iyar

Melvin Abrash
 Jerome Cantor
 Herbert Falk
 Bessie Finkle
 Helen Finkle
 Samuel Frishman
 Louis Greenblatt
 Hyman Kaplan
 Sarah Kessler
 Betty Kirsch
 Minnie Metz
 Lucille Pall
 Robert D Peyser
 Barbara Shapiro
 Rebecca Siegel
 Anna Verp

May 11 - 17
 24 Iyar - 01 Sivan

Anna Goldstein
 Celia Locker
 Sadie Preblvd
 Charlotte Scherker
 Janet Springer
 Arthur Stein

May 18 - 24
 2 - 8 Sivan

Dr. Howard M. Diamond
 Isidor Dorman
 Edith Feldman
 Herman FRiedman
 Eva Goldberg
 Irving Jaffe
 Herbert Kirsch
 Rose Polonetsky
 Joseph Polonetsky
 Samuel Saltzman

Esther Silk
 Max Silverstein
 Philip Simon
 Minnie Stern

May 25 - May 31
 9 - 15 Sivan

George Abrash
 Samuel Behar
 Dr. Harold Feldman
 Nancy R. Gelman
 Carl Handman
 Denette Malkin
 Stephen Miller
 Rita Nathans
 Reuben Roemer
 Jacqueline Rothstein
 Ida Rubin

June 1 - June 7
 16 - 22 Sivan

Miriam Bernstein
 Clara Dorman
 Harold Goldstein
 Martin Kessler
 David Kimmel
 David Nathans
 Elsie Peres
 Herman Prell
 Mort Rittenberg
 Newton Roemer
 Benjamin Rosenfelt
 Sidney Schenker
 Dr. William Snyder
 Sally Wichman
 Melita Wishnia

June 8 - June 14
 23 - 29 Sivan

Sydell Diamond
 Abraham Dresner
 Bessie Friedman
 Louis Lippan
 Mamie Migdall
 Dorothy Peller
 Richard Rosenthal
 Henry Voehl

SHAVUOT SCHEDULE
All services at St Albans

Tuesday Evening, May 22, 2007

Candle Lighting Times	7:55 PM
Minha/Ma'ariv	8:00 PM
Dessert & Tikun L'el Shavuot	8:45 PM

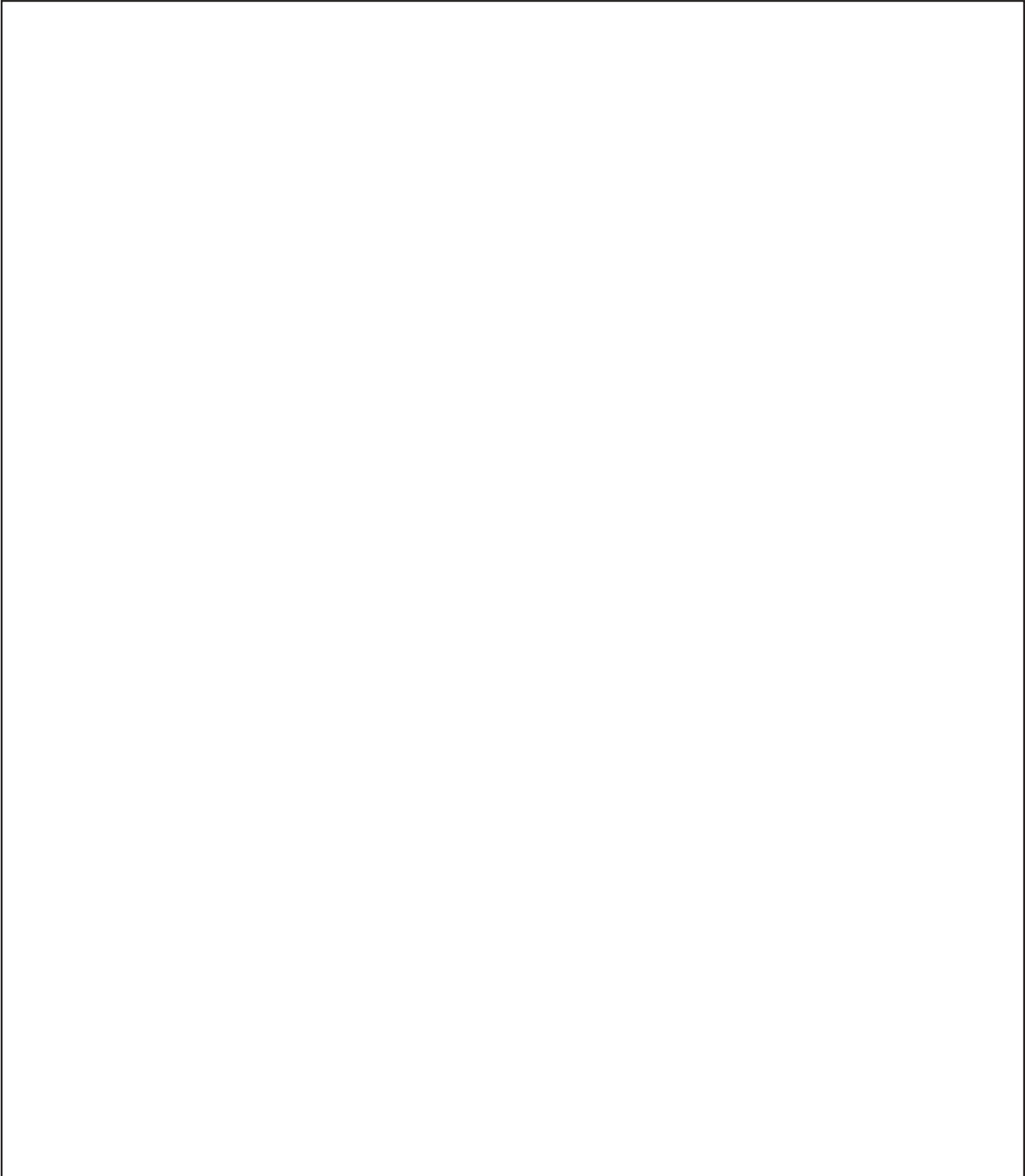
Wednesday, May 23, 2007

Morning Service	9:30 AM
Candle Lighting Times	8:03 PM

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Morning Service	9:30 AM
Yizkor	11:30 AM

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