



TEMPLE EMANU-EL OF LONG BEACH BULLETIN

www.temple-emanu-el.org

A Reform Jewish Congregation

October 2009

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am writing this on 9/11 and am reminded about the preciousness of life. While we mourn, we are also reminded about the sweetness of each soul and the accomplishments and sacrifices that were made by many of them to preserve and defend our country.

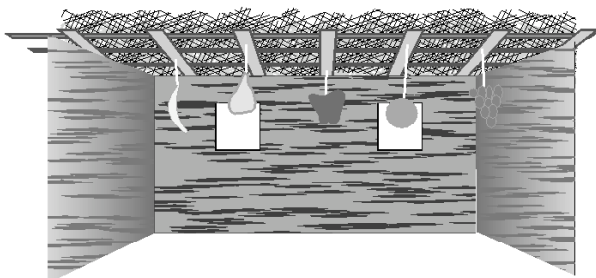
When you read this the High Holy Days will be ending and we start out with a "clean slate." What will we accomplish this new year? What will our legacy be?

I am reminded today not to take my life for granted, nor that of my family, country, synagogue, Judaism itself or Israel.

I do not take you, our congregants for granted either. I am grateful to you for all of your good works on our behalf and your generous contributions. You will help us create many new, fond memories in the year ahead. We will survive because you care.

Thanks you and G-d bless you.

*B'Shalom
Vicki Heller*



RABBI LINES

A man goes to his Rabbi and asks him, "How does one build a Sukkah?" The Rabbi gives him explicit directions. The very next day, the man comes running back and complains to the Rabbi, "I did everything you told me to do; but the Sukkah fell down with the first wind. So, Rabbi, why did the Sukkah fall down?" The Rabbi shook his head, "You know, the Talmudic Rabbi asked the same question."

The Sukkah is erected as a temporary dwelling reminding us of our ancestors' trek through the wilderness, when they built temporary huts at all the places they stopped on their way to the Promised Land.

Our Sukkot are erected first outside our permanent homes to indicate that event though we are entering the rainy and wintry season; we trust in God that He will protect us even if we dwell for seven days in our little Sukkah.

Enjoy the holiday. Be happy with the bounty that God gives us on a daily basis.

Happy Holiday from house to house.

Rabbi Hermann

🎵 CANTOR'S NOTES 🎵

Shalom. What is in a greeting? A simple "Hello" or "Shalom" can mean much more than we may think. A person who is lonely or has no family may be overjoyed to have us simply say "Hello" while we are passing by or waiting in line at the market. Never underestimate the power of a simple and easy action as a nice "Shalom". Did you know that when you make someone else feel better even in the slightest bit, your serotonin levels rise in your brain? Serotonin is the chemical that makes you feel good. The levels in the other person rise as well. Even a person watching your kind act has a rise in serotonin in their brain! What a fabulous way to walk around feeling good. Throw away the Prozac and simply do nice things all day long. (Please consult your doctor or physician before taking any actions like throwing away your Prozac!) We have just come off of the "High" of the High Holidays. Sometimes the effect of life events takes time to settle in. Be aware of the way in which you feel as the holidays drift away once again. The "rub off" is like a wonderful nap, it stays with you the rest of the day. You feel relaxed and cleansed and tolerant of those around you. This is the same effect the Holidays have on us. We need to be aware of the cleansing and clearing we did in front of God on those special days. Allow yourself to feel this cleansing and begin the year with a fresh and happy outlook. And by all means, don't forget to say "Hello"!

B'shalom,
Cantor Katz

BULLETIN

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Mon – Thurs 9 am – 4 pm* • Friday 9 am – 2 pm
*Except religious school nights to 6 pm

Bulletin Designed and Printed by E. Face Graphics

October Worship Schedule

Friday, October 2nd7:30 P.M.

Eve of Sukkot – Visit the Sukkah

"Is Everybody Happy?"

Preceded by Pizza in the Hut6:00 P.M.

Saturday, October 3rd9:00 A.M.

Rabbi's Study Group: Sukkot

First Day of Sukkot11:00 A.M.

Bat Mitzvah of Eliza Simons.11:00 A.M.

Friday, October 9th7:30 P.M.

Simchat Torah and Consecration Service

Carry the Torah ~ March With the Flags

"Who Wrote the Torah?"

Saturday, October 10th9:00 A.M.

Rabbi's Study Group: Shemini Atzeret

Shemini Atzeret – Yizkor11:00 A.M.

Bar Mitzvah of Joshua Schwimmer ...11:00 A.M.

Friday, October 16th8:00 P.M.

"Who Created the World?"

Saturday, October 17th9:00 A.M.

Rabbi's Study Group: B'reisheet

Bat Mitzvah of Shelby Applebaum ..11:00 A.M.

Friday, October 23rd8:00 P.M.

"Is the United Nations United?"

Saturday, October 24th9:30 A.M.

Rabbi's Study Group: Noah

Friday, October 30th8:00 P.M.

Band Ensemble Shabbat

"The Recognition of Israel by the United States in
1948"

Guest Speaker: Mr. Arnold Largever

Tot Shabbat6:30 P.M.

Saturday, October 31st9:30 A.M.

Rabbi's Study Group: Lekh Lekha

SISTERHOOD NEWS

Thanks to all who joined us last month at our Sisterhood events and activities. Your support is needed and appreciated. We look forward to seeing more of you at future events.

In October, in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Sisterhood will present a Health and Wellness Program on Tuesday, October 20th at 7:30 p.m. Our guest lecturer will be Dr. Ira Gruschack, a local chiropractor and Temple Board trustee.

October is the beginning of a new Sisterhood mitzvah project. One Friday every month, members of sisterhood will be meeting at a local nursing home, where we will conduct a short Shabbat service for the Jewish residents. The service will be held in the afternoon and anyone interested in participating in this mitzvah project should contact me. Come help us put a smile on someone's face and remind people that even though they are confined to a nursing home, they are still a part of our community and we have

not forgotten them – especially on the Sabbath.

In November, a very special event is being sponsored by Sisterhood. Together with the Long Beach Theatre Guild, we will be producing performances of two Neil Simon plays – Rumors and The Odd Couple. Rumors will be presented on Saturday, November 7 at 8 p.m. and on Sunday, November 8 at 3 p.m. You can see The Odd Couple on Saturday, November 21 at 8 p.m. and on Sunday, November 22 at 3 p.m. Tickets are only \$18 for one show, or \$15 each for tickets for both shows. Tickets will be available in early October – be on the look out for flyers detailing how you can order your tickets.

For those of you who are interested in learning about how to use various networking resources available on the internet, a very special program (date and time to be announced), is being planned. Our own Hilary Topper (former Sisterhood President and current

Temple Board Vice President) will be presenting a seminar based on her recently published book entitled "Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Social Media, but were afraid to ask...". The book is designed to help people understand the new world of social media and learn about its uses for personal, professional and business development.

Again, I hope to see more of you at our events. We can't operate in a vacuum - an event needs an audience. In the next few weeks we are offering you entertainment, education, community service – take advantage of these programs and events!! If you have any interests or ideas, communicate with me and we will see how we can incorporate them into a program or event for the enjoyment of the congregation.

Shalom.
Maris Warfman
Sisterhood President

Jewish FAMILY ED

Dear Temple Family & Friends:

Shanah Tovah- A Happy & Healthy New Year to Everyone! Religious School has taken off! I am really excited about the opportunity to once again work as the Religious School Family Educator and this year to now wear the hat as the 7th grade Religious School teacher!

One MAJOR change to our Religious School Family Ed program is that ALL mailings (flyers, reminders, etc) will be done via email ONLY! There for, it is IMPERATIVE you submit an email to which you would like ALL correspondence to be sent. Please send your emails ASAP to the Religious School office OR you can send an email to: TEFamilyEd@aol.com with your child(ren)'s name and grade).

As a friendly reminder please ADD TEFamilyEd@aol.com to your address book to ensure proper mailbox delivery (NOT TO BE SENT TO YOUR SPAM).

Please mark your calendars for your child's class family ed program. These programs are not only part of your child's curriculum but a great opportunity to spend an evening with your family, do a little learning and A LOT of laughing! Please keep an eye out for a reminder email.

cont'd on page 4

Judaica Shop

Thank you to Marsha Sambol for all your help in the Judaica Shop. Your financial contribution to Sisterhood from the sale of your jewelry was greatly appreciated.
Good Luck!

Stop in, say 'hello,' and look at some new and interesting items.

Check out our shelf of "as is" merchandise for some great bargains.

Open before services and during the oneg. No charge for gift wrap. Want to help in the shop?? Call Alfreda.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NEWS

"One who observes mitzvot preserves one's own life."

-Pirke Avot 4:12

The school year is well underway. We celebrated the New Year 5770 and listened to Kol Nidre on Yom Kippur. We are now planning to celebrate Sukkot and Simchat Torah. On October 9th we will celebrate Simchat Torah and the Consecration of students who are "new" to Temple Emanu-El Religious School. During the service the new students will receive a "Certificate of Consecration" and their own miniature torah. Our 2010 Bar and Bat Mitzvah students will also receive their "Pentateuch & Haftorahs.": So Please come and join us that night as we "role out the Torah."

Our theme for this school year will be "Making a Difference." Making a difference through mitzvot (commandments), tzedakah (charity and justice), gemilut hasadim (acts of loving kindness), and study of Torah. The students individually, as a class and as a school will be "Making a Difference" in the school, their homes, their community, their country and in the world.

On October 19th our 4th graders will participate in a Family Education program called "Parashat Noah" and on October 26th the 7th graders will be making a "Torah

Wrap" for their class that each student will be able to use at their Bar and Bat Mitzvah. Our Religious School Family Educator, Lahna Bidner, has scheduled a wonderful year of Family Education programs for grades K-7. Please make every effort to attend these programs with your children. Dinner will be served followed by an educational program and craft project.

Finally, we are in the midst of our BIG school fundraiser: MY GRANDMA'S COFFEE CAKES. Last year these coffee cakes were a big hit with our families. These delicious cakes come in 12 varieties and are made with fresh natural ingredients certified Kosher. The cakes are on sale through the Religious and Nursery Schools for \$15 each with deliverer guaranteed before Thanksgiving. (Cakes can be frozen for use during the Winter Holiday Season too.) Please see Mrs. Cabrera, Ms Roberta or Ms. Sheila. Help support our school and enjoy a cake that is to die for!

*Shalom,
Vicki Cabrera
Educational Director*

Nursery School

Our Nursery School is in full gear! It is a pleasure to be back in the swing of things. It is nice to have the classrooms filled with the pitter-patter of little feet. We sing, dance, create, and enjoy while we learn letters, numbers and shapes, and the meaning of our religious holidays. We all enjoyed celebrating Rosh Hashanah, feasting on apples and honey for a sweet New Year. We are looking forward to celebrating Sukkot and Simchat Torah with the children. They will be snacking in the sukkah and singing songs about this festive and happy holiday. Our youngsters will also experience shaking the lulav and etrog while learning the meaning of each symbolic item. If you happen to be in the Temple during our own Simchat Torah celebration you might just see the children parading and singing in the hallways. Feel free to join in! We are so very proud of all that is going on here and we know that you will be, too!

From the Temple Emanu-El Nursery School family to yours, we wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year.

*Shalom,
Roberta Abramowitz*

Family Ed - cont'd

Here are the dates for this year Religious School Family Education Programs:

4th Grade: October 19th and February 8th

7th Grade: October 26th

6th Grade: November 16th

3rd Grade: November 30th and March 8th

5th Grade: January 11th and April 12th

K, 1st & 2nd: March 22nd

** Also the 6th grade will be leading our Annual Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Memorial Day, Service on Wednesday, April 14th at 5p.m. (Family, Friends, and the Community is welcome to attend)

TOT SHABBAT: A Community Favorite (An Interactive Shabbat experience for Families with young or young at heart, children! Join us: Friday, October 30th at 6:15p.m. See you there!

LAHNA'S MITZVAH MOMENT: Want to get involved... next time you are in the grocery store grab an extra box of cereal, can of soup, or package of pasta (anything non-perishable) All donations will be collected in the 7th grade Religious School classroom and will be donated to a local food bank. Our donations are needed! Todah Rabah- Thank you J

*B'shalom,
Lahna Bidner,
Religious School Family Educator
TEFamilyEd@aol.com*

OCTOBER TEMPLE TIDINGS

The following friends and families have made donations to the perpetuating fund:

Jessie and Howard Broxmeyer, wishing Bonni Goetz a speedy recovery
Toby Gordon, wishing Bonni Goetz a speedy recovery
Pam, Mark and Seth Gutman (Jaffe), wishing Bonni Goetz a speedy recovery
Fran and Stanley Fleishman, in honor of Abbey Tannenbaum on her Special Birthday
Fran and Stanley Fleishman, in memory of Natalie Weinberg's brother, Isaac
Sidney Schwartz, in memory of the birthday (Oct. 25) of Bebe Schwartz
Fran and Scott Gerstner, in honor of Tina Kovolisky being selected as Woman of the Year

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Rudy and Ruth Schwartz, wishing Bonni Goetz a speedy recovery

Cantor's Fund

Edie Rubin, wishing Bonni Goetz a speedy recovery
Edie Rubin, wishing Ellin Stracher a speedy recovery
Mike and Brenda Tribush, wishing Bonni Goetz a speedy recovery

The Lynne Cahn Friendship Flower Garden Fund

Bill Cahn, wishing Dorothy Wesker a Happy Birthday
Bill Cahn, wishing Scott Nigro a Happy Birthday
Bill Cahn, wishing Stuart Kahan a Happy Birthday
Bill Cahn, wishing Dr. Lowell Taubman a Happy Birthday
Bill Cahn, wishing Cantor David Katz a Happy Birthday
Bill Cahn, wishing Gerri Klenosky a

Happy Birthday

Bill Cahn, wishing Lillian Baum a Happy Birthday
Bill Cahn, wishing Dorothy Wesker a Happy Birthday
Bill Cahn, wishing Joseph and Tina Kovolisky a Happy Anniversary
Bill Cahn, wishing Raymond and Betsy Kotcher a Happy Anniversary
Bill Cahn, wishing Maurice and Phyllis Vegh a Happy Anniversary
Bill Cahn, wishing Michael and Brenda Tribush a Happy Anniversary
Barbara and Jack Solomon, in memory of her beloved brother, Gilbert Wolkenberg
Mike and Brenda Tribush, in memory of Dick Bailey

Religious School Fund

Mike and Brenda Tribush, wishing Ellin Stracher a speedy recovery
The Cabrera Family, wishing Bonni Goetz a speedy recovery

Dr. Jerry Oberman Nursery School Fund

Edith Oberman, in memory of her beloved mother in law, Rose Oberman
Edith Oberman, wishing Larry Gutman a Happy Birthday
Edith Oberman, wishing Larry Elovich a Happy Birthday
Edith Oberman, wishing Bonni Goetz a Happy Birthday
Edith Oberman, wishing Bonni Goetz a speedy recovery
Roberta Siroka and Steven, Alex & Matthew Strauss, wishing Bonni Goetz a speedy recovery
Roberta Abramowitz, wishing Bonni Goetz a speedy recovery

Yahrzeit

Wally and Bonni Goetz & Family, in memory of Edith Goetz, beloved mother and grandmother
Wally and Bonni Goetz & Family, in memory of Shirley Gershenfeld, beloved mother and grandmother
Paul Atlas, in loving memory of his wife, Joan Atlas
Rose Honig, in memory of her beloved husband, Nathan Honig
Jessie Broxmeyer, in memory of her beloved mother, Mollie Greenberg
Frieda Pike Cassano, in memory of her beloved brother, Conrad Kooritzky
Bruce Levy, in memory of her beloved mother, Rosalind Levy
Rona Geller, in memory of her beloved mother, Sophie Guttman
Lois Lutwin, in memory of her beloved mother, Lilian Halperin
Ileane Levin, in memory of her beloved mother, Mary Schwartzberg
Lester Fleischer, in memory of his beloved wife, Rose Fleischer
Fran Miller, in memory of her beloved mother, Helen Reiss
Anita Bickman, in memory of her beloved father, Jack Blazer
Alfred and Alice Wolkenberg, in memory of his beloved brother, Gilbert Wolkenberg
Carol and Larry Wagner, in memory of their beloved Uncle Gilbert Wolkenberg
Harriet Forman, in memory of her beloved father, Sam Kitchenoff
Marty Kaminsky, in memory of his beloved grandmother, Kitty Kaminsky
Sidney Schwartz, in memory of his beloved father, Samuel Schwartz
Debbie Bernstein, in memory of her beloved mother, Marcia Rendel
Barry and Ellen Mason, in loving memory of Lona Tannenbaum

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|-----|---------------------|
| 1 | William Taplitz | 16 | Lisa Ochs |
| 2 | Harry Hammer | 17 | Henry Baum |
| 3- | Richard Rubin | | Chris Chernoff |
| 4 | Scott Gerstner | 18 | Dr. Henry Cuttler |
| 5 | Irwin Lederer | 19 | Judy Leibowitz |
| | Yanina Krayevsky | | R. "Larry" Stracher |
| 6- | Barry Ungar | 20 | Jill Blumenfeld |
| 7 | Carl Lieberman | 21 | Maxine Portnof |
| 9 | Bruce Aldewereld | | Liesel Danon |
| | Jessie Broxmeyer | | Sharon Persky |
| | Yen Lee Mandell | 22 | Joseph Gleich |
| 10 | Steve Silverman | 24 | Ivy Leibowitz |
| | Richard Bailey | | Madaleine Weinstein |
| | Faith Steinberg | 27- | Ronald Friedl |
| 11 | Frieda Friedman | | Isidoro Korn |
| | Diana Sloane | 28 | Dr. Arnold Fleisher |
| | Felice Platzer | | Warren Jaffe |
| 14 | Helen Elovich | 29 | Sid Sinetar |
| | Steve Ochs | | Stephen Simons |
| 15 | Mark Frances | | |

Anniversaries

- | | |
|-----|--------------------------------|
| 5- | Mark and Esther Frances |
| | Scott and Rose Nigro |
| | Chris and Phaedra Chernoff |
| | Max and Amy Saatchi |
| 6- | Stanley and Beth Mayper |
| 9- | Ron and Ellen Friedl |
| | Martin and Amy Goldenberg |
| | Neal and Nancy Goldstein |
| 10- | Bernard and Edith Hiller |
| 12- | Irwin and Martha Lederer |
| 16- | Stuart and Rosie Kahan |
| 18- | Hal and Caren Riskin |
| | William and Bernice Taplitz |
| 20- | Fred and Lorraine Levi |
| 22- | Allan Brenner and Karen Smolar |
| 23- | Sol and Beverly Gold |
| 25- | Frank and Susan Odery |
| 26- | Raymond and Lisa Smith |
| 28- | Stephen and Karen Karafiol |
| 29- | David and Jennifer Zelinger |

SUKKOT begins on the fifteenth of the Hebrew month of Tishri, and concludes on the twenty-second with *Ashret/Simchat Torah*. Sukkot is the fall harvest festival.¹⁷⁹ The eighth day, *Ashret*, functions as the conclusion of Sukkot but is also a separate festival.¹⁸⁰ Since Reform Jews follow the calendar of the Torah and (like the Jew living in Israel) do not add a ninth day to the Festival, they celebrate *Simchat Torah* and *Ashret* on the same day.

More than any other of the Pilgrimage Festivals, Sukkot has retained its agricultural character. However, Sukkot is also the commemoration of a significant event in the life of the Jewish people; the journey through the wilderness toward the Land of Israel. The Torah identifies the *Sukkot* (booth) with the temporary dwellings in which the Israelites lived during that journey (Leviticus 23:42).

The mood of Sukkot is particularly joyous. Its beautiful symbolism of the successful harvest provides a welcome change of religious pace from the solemn days of prayer and introspection of *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*. While all of the Three Pilgrimage Festivals are times of rejoicing, Sukkot is specifically designated as "*Zeman simchataw*," the season of our rejoicing.¹⁸¹ Even while we rejoice, the *Sukkot*'s temporary and fragile structure reminds us how precarious life may be.

Through the use of the *Lulav* and *Egg*¹⁸² we acknowledge our dependence upon God for the food we eat. Living in an urban environment, it is easy to forget that both human labor and divine blessing make the world fruitful. On Sukkot our thoughts turn to the wonder and beauty of the world, to our responsibilities as its caretakers, and to our obligation to share, for God is the true owner of the land and its produce.

Ashret/Simchat Torah is the day on which we finish reading the last verses of Deuteronomy and immediately begin again with the first verses of Genesis. The Torah scrolls are removed from the Ark and carried around the synagogue. The celebration is one of unbridled joy as we express our happiness at having lived to complete the reading of the Torah yet another time and to begin reading it again.

D. SUKOT (INCLUDING ASHRET/SIMCHAT TORAH)

D-1 The *mitzvah* of observing Sukkot

It is a *mitzvah* to observe Sukkot from the fifteenth of the Hebrew month of Tishri for seven days and to conclude on the twenty-second (the eighth day) with the observance of *Ashret/Simchat Torah*. As the Torah says, "On the fifteenth day of the seventh month there shall be a Feast of Booths to the Lord seven days. . . . On the eighth day you shall observe a holy day" (Leviticus 23:34, 36).

D-2 The *mitzvah* of rejoicing

It is a *mitzvah* to rejoice on Sukkot. As the Torah teaches, "You shall rejoice on your festival . . . for the Lord your God will bless all your crops and all your undertakings, and you shall have nothing but joy" (Deuteronomy 16:14, 15). While rejoicing is a *mitzvah* on all of the Three Pilgrimage Festivals, it is characteristic of the observance of Sukkot. So much so that the tradition has designated it as "*Zeman simchataw*," the season of our rejoicing.

D-3 The *mitzvah* of *Tzedakah*

It is always a *mitzvah* to give *Tzedakah*.¹⁸³ However, since on Sukkot we give thanks for the harvest, all the more should we feel obliged to share with those who are less fortunate than we.

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