
FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY



The Jewiest Jew (Yom Kippur Sermon)

Who is really a Jew? And who isn't? Are Jews marrying other Jews? Why? Why not? If I disagree with the Israeli government, am I a bad Jew? If I put on tallis and tefillin everyday, am I more Jewish than a Jew that does not? Are Orthodox Jews the only real Jews? Can I be a good Jew if I don't go to services?

I'm guessing some of these questions might sound familiar to you. We in the Jewish community spend a lot of time asking questions about Jewish identity and status. While I believe, as the adage goes, that "there are no stupid questions," I do think some questions are more useful than others. Some questions move us forward while other questions lead us to simply spin our intellectual wheels. I often think that we spend too much time asking the latter kind. In the end, many conversations in a Jewish community end up being discussions about who gets to be the "Jewiest Jew" of them all. I wonder, what would happen if we chose better questions?

Don't get me wrong. There are some important issues raised by the questions I mentioned, and I am not trying to just make light of them. However, I want to suggest that there is a real problem with the amount of focus we put on all these identity questions. When we ask the question, "who is Jewish?" we inherently describe "Jewishness" as a state of being. Essentially, we have confined the discussion to one about ethnicity. We talk about who gets a membership card in the "I'm a Jew Club" without talking about why it is worth being a member.

We are then left with the question, "Why, in the grand scheme of things, does it matter if someone is Jewish or not?" I do not believe that Jews are inherently better than anyone else. Do you? And if Jews are not inherently better than other people, why does it matter if there are more or less of us in the world?

It is with great pride that I say that Jews have been on the frontlines of most of the major social movements of the past century. This includes the labor movement, the civil rights movement, and the women's movement. American Jews have continually chosen to stand up for the rights of other people and declare: we are all created equal. I think this is one of the best attributes and greatest strengths of our community. So what are we doing spending so much time classifying people?

I am much more concerned with what people *do* than what they *are*. I believe that being Jewish is about how one chooses to live. To me, Judaism is a living, breathing system that, when followed, enriches our lives. I want to know if people are living Jewishly. Do they do Jewish things? Do they act in ways that makes our world a better place? Do they ever read a Jewish book? Do their relationships reflect the values of honesty and respect that our tradition holds dear? Do they ever try to connect with a higher benevolent power? Do they see our rituals as a resource and an opportunity or as an impediment to living a meaningful life?

I wonder about these questions because I believe Judaism itself is truly a force for good in the world. I think that the more people *do* Jewish things, the better the world will be. I do not believe our rituals and culture should be taken out of context, however, as if our Jewish tradition is just something to taste at a buffet table. Don't get me started about churches that do Passover Seders. Our tradition, even with all its various interpretations, developed in a particular context with certain beliefs attached to it.

Continued on Page 2



Your Spiritual Home

924 Polk Boulevard
Des Moines, IA 50312
Phone: 515-255-1137

www.tifereth.org
Email: office@tifereth.org

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Regular Shabbat Services

Shabbat services are held at the following times, unless otherwise stated:

Friday Evenings: 6:00pm

Saturday Mornings: 9:00am

Shabbat Parashat Va-Yetzei

2-3 December | 7 Kislev

Candle Lighting: 4:27pm

Shabbat Parashat Va-Yishlah

9-10 December | 14 Kislev

Candle Lighting: 4:26pm

Shabbat Parashat Va-Yeishev

16-17 December | 21 Kislev

Candle Lighting: 4:28pm

Shabbat Parashat Mi-ketz

23-24 December | 28 Kislev

Candle Lighting: 4:30pm

Shabbat Parashat Va-Yiggash

30-31 December | 5 Tevet

Candle Lighting: 4:35pm

Shabbat Parashat Va-Y'hi

6-7 January | 12 Tevet

Candle Lighting: 4:42pm

Shabbat Parashat Sh'mot

13-14 January | 19 Tevet

Candle Lighting: 4:49pm

Shabbat Parashat Va-Era

20-21 January | 26 Tevet

Candle Lighting: 4:57pm

Shabbat Parashat Bo

27-28 January | 4 Shevat

Candle Lighting: 5:06pm

Weekday Minyanim

Sundays and most legal holidays: 9:00am

Tuesdays: 7:00am

Other days: By request

Weekday minyanim are your opportunity to start your weekdays off davening! By joining us in morning prayers, you also show support for congregants who are observing a *yahrzeit* for someone they love. We hold regular minyanim on Sundays and Tuesdays; minyanim for other days can be arranged by request.

RABBI'S STUDY (cont. from Page 1)

I am also not saying that I think Judaism is better than any other religion or that it does not have its share of negative parts. In addition, I do not claim to know if Judaism is the one true religion. Let's be honest, none of us are going to know until it is too late to do anything about it. Personally, I do not feel like I need that answer right this moment. But I do know that I like Judaism and I do not want to miss the opportunity to engage in it while I have a chance.

Focusing on what people do instead of what to call them enlivens our community. I think the more we invite people, including non-Jews, to do Jewish things, the better. Of course there are some things that non-Jews cannot do in a synagogue, such as leading certain prayers. But that does not mean that they are unwelcome to participate or be part of our community. I know that in the past, some clergy at Tifereth have treated interfaith couples with too little respect and a little animosity. I will not stand for this any longer nor will the Tifereth community.

At this point you may be asking yourselves, "So Rabbi, what are the better questions to ask? What could be more important than asking why Jews marry Jews or non-Jews?" Let me tell you what I think are better questions. Why do so many of us, including Jews who married other Jews, not feel drawn to doing many Jewish things? Why do so many Jewish people simply opt out of Judaism all together? Why is Judaism no longer a source of meaning, strength, guidance, or comfort in the lives of many Jewish people?

We need to approach these essential questions with a hopeful spirit and a belief that we can answer them. I *know* we can answer them, but we need to do that together.

Together we will work to create a more dynamic Jewish community in Des Moines. We do not need to be satisfied with a Judaism that only talks about status, about who is Jewish and who is not, about who people marry and who they don't.

Together we can create something exciting right here at Tifereth. A passionate Jewish community that supports its members, both Jewish and non-Jewish. One that is more interested in lifting people up than judging them. A community that personifies the power and potential of living a Jewish life and helps individuals reconnect us to what is beautiful about our faith.

These are the questions I now challenge each of you to answer: "Are you satisfied with your spiritual life?" And if you are not, "What are we, together, going to do about it?"

— Rabbi Edelman-Blank

A NOTE FROM THE CANTOR



Hopefully, you are reading this in time to come to the second Rock Shabbat on Friday, December 2nd at 6:00pm. This time I'm please to have Laura Bernstein and Jarad Bernstein joining me on the vocals. If you thought it was fun last time, just think how much more fun this will be. Our Tifereth Rock band will be back with Danny Klass on guitar, Grey Lovelace on bass, and Logan Abdulghani on drums, and Louis Sachs will join the band on piano.

Thank you to all of you who supported the Sababa concert last month. Thank you especially to the committee members: Jarad Bernstein, Jill Cantor, Bev Ellis, and Beth Ohringer. Also, a big thanks to all the generous patrons who were listed on the program. I had a wonderful time and I hope you did, too. Stay tuned for the next concert announcement! If you would like to work on a concert committee, please let me know.

It's not too early to sign up for Adult Education classes that start in January. I'll be teaching two classes that I'm really looking forward to. *Making Prayer Real* is a course based on a book by Rabbi Michael Comins. Rabbi Comins is the founder of Torah Treks – an organization that does Judaism in the wilderness. He's been a part time rabbi of a congregation in Wyoming for several years. Let me know if you're thinking of taking this class so that we will have enough books for everyone. The book is *Making Prayer Real: Leading Jewish Spiritual Voices on Why Prayer is Difficult and What to Do About It*. The course is especially aimed at people who have trouble relating to Jewish prayer.

My second class is *Writing Your Spiritual Autobiography*. You may think that there isn't much to your personal spiritual journey but I hope by taking this course you will be surprised at the spiritual influences on your life that you haven't really thought about. I hope to create a safe space that will open us to sharing influences on spiritual life.

The fall classes are almost finished. The group that took the Art of Tifereth really learned a lot about the techniques of how our art was made and the lives of the artists and the symbolism in the art. Tifereth is so blessed to own such amazing art work. Thank you to our guest docent Stan Miller who taught us so much!

My students Louis Sachs and Patrick Courtney are finishing up learning the Shabbat Shacharit service. I'm sure you'll be hearing each of them soon as they join the wonderful corps of people who lead services.

At 6:30pm on Dec. 29, together with Louise Kaufmann, I'll be emceeing the annual New Year's Eve party at the Iowa Jewish Home. I'm sad that Abe Rissman won't be joining us for the first time in many, many years. We'll be thinking of him for sure!

—Cantor Linda Shivers



UPCOMING EVENTS

INTERFAITH ALLIANCE FORUM



Rev. Dr. C. Welton Gaddy, national president of Interfaith Alliance, a non-partisan grassroots and education organization, will speak at a public event at Tifereth Israel on **Thursday, December 1 at 7:00pm**. Rev. Gaddy will discuss the dangers our country faces as politics and religion become increasingly intertwined. The forum is free and open to the public.

Rev. Gaddy is the author of over 20 books, including *First Freedom First: A Citizen's Guide to Protecting Religious Liberty and the Separation of Church and State*. He hosts a weekly radio show and regularly provides commentary to the national media on issues relating to religion and politics.

FIDDLER SING-A-LONG



When was the last time you got to sing "If I Was a Rich Man" at the top of your lungs?

Get off of your "biddy-biddy-bum" and come to Tifereth Israel's Fiddler on the Roof Sing-a-Long on **Saturday, December 24th at 6:00pm!**

Come dressed as your inner Tevye or Golde or Fruma Sarah or Motel the Tailor or whoever else your favorite character is. We'll have some costume parts here for those of you who come costume-impaired. Musically-challenged singers are definitely welcome as well!

Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. We will be lighting the 5th Hanukkah candle so feel free to bring your menorah. We will not be watching the entire movie - only the good parts.

Come be a part of this fun evening!



ROCK SHABBAT



Join us on **Friday, December 2 at 6:00pm** for the next installment of Rock Shabbat!

The band will again feature Danny Klass on guitar, Grey Lovelace on bass, and Logan Abdulghani on drums, and we will welcome the addition of vocalists Laura Bernstein and Jarad Bernstein and pianist Louis Sachs.

Come ready to experience Friday night with a strong beat and be ready to rock out! No sitting still allowed.

"PARADE" PREVIEW



Join the Jewish community on **Thursday, December 22nd from 7:30-9:00pm** at Caspe Terrace for an exclusive, intimate live performance of musical excerpts from the Tony Award-winning musical *Parade*, followed by a conversation with the director and a dessert reception with the cast. Tickets cost \$12 in advance or \$16 at the door. Call Tammy at 987-0899 to reserve your spot!

DEBBIE FRIEDMAN REMEMBRANCE



In honor of the one-year anniversary of the death of Jewish composer and musician Debbie Friedman, the choirs of Tifereth Israel Synagogue and Temple B'nai Jeshurun will join together for a concert on Friday, January 20th at 6:00pm in the Tifereth Israel sanctuary. It's not yet confirmed, but the choir of the Ames Jewish Congregation may also be able to join with us for this special evening.

The choirs will be singing only music composed by Debbie Friedman. In addition to singing the t'fillot (prayers) of the service, the choirs will also be singing a sermon in song.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAZEL TOV

מזל טוב!

Allison Wolf and Daniel Klass happily welcomed a new baby girl, Naomi Devon Wolf-Klass (Naomi Dara bat Daniel v' Hannah), on Sept. 26, 2011. She weighed 6 pounds, 14.5 ounces, was 20 inches long and has been bringing great joy to her mommy, daddy, and big brother Ari ever since.

Congratulations to Tibby and the late Sam Rissien on the birth of their great-grandson, Samuel Lawrence Katz, on October 10, 2011. The parents are Rebecca and Jonathan Katz and the grandparents are Aaron and Shelley Rissien, all of Overland Park, Kansas.

Congratulations to Rose Lee Pomerantz, Marcie and Jay Morrison, and Mike Kuperman on the birth of their great-granddaughter and granddaughter, Mara Anne Garnaas, daughter of Rachel and Luke Garnaas, on Sunday, November 13, 2011.

Congratulations to Esther Sandler and Louise Kaufmann, who were recently honored with the Friend of Beth El Jacob award at BEJ's annual Gala last month.



Esther and Louise were also honored as this year's *Kallat HaTorah* and *Kallat B'reishit* at Tifereth Israel's Simhat Torah services in honor of all their work at the synagogue and for the Jewish community in general.

TUTORING AVAILABLE

Shirley Hadenfeldt is offering tutoring services in Reading and Math. If you are interested, you can contact her at 554-5484.

WINTER WEATHER REMINDER



We are approaching the bad weather season. For your safety, please remember that if the Des Moines schools cancel classes due to weather conditions, Tifereth offices will be closed and all activities will also be cancelled. Also posted on KCCI-TV weather announcements.

LEAVING FOR THE WINTER?

If you will be leaving Des Moines over the winter months, please contact the office as soon as possible to make sure we have your winter address on file and to inform us of the dates you will be gone. Thanks very much!

NITHAZEIK: A CARE GIVER SUPPORT GROUP



This new support group, a program of Temple B'nai Jeshurun, will be led by Marilyn Parsons, a Psychiatric Nurse.

When we finish a book of the Torah, it is customary to say, "Hazak, hazak, v'nithazeik," "Be strong, be strong, and let us strengthen one another." Nithazeik (Neet-hah-zake), "Let us strengthen one another," is a support group for those caring for loved ones that will meet once a month. Dates and times for the group's meetings were discussed at the first meeting, in late November (and were unavailable at the time of this article's printing); For information on when the group will be meeting, please contact Marilyn Parsons at the number below.

This group will not have a formal curriculum, but will discuss issues related to caring for someone who is ill and maintaining a sense of belonging as well as of spiritual fulfillment while doing so. It is likely that the group will be joined by guest speakers from time to time, who will help us to explore issues related to their field of expertise.

For more information call Marilyn Parsons at 727-6046.

RABBI'S AND CANTOR'S CLASSES

FALL / WINTER 2011-12

RABBI'S CLASSES

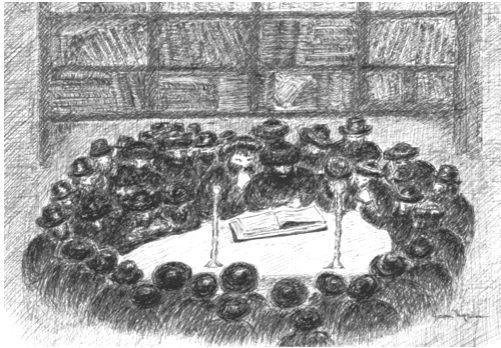
Introducing a New Program: The Rabbi's Study

Saturday afternoons following Shabbat Café

Rabbi Edelman-Blank is pleased to announce the beginning of a new weekly study program. Held on Saturdays following services and our Shabbat Café refreshments, the Rabbi's Study will feature two independent sections.

In the first section, we will explore, discuss, and contemplate a different topic each week, such as views on the afterlife, various lifecycle events, Jewish ethical opinions, and elements in Jewish mysticism. In the process, students will have the opportunity to examine and become better acquainted with some of the central texts of our tradition. Rabbi Edelman-Blank will also strongly encourage students to recommend other topics of interest for study during the course of this program.

The second section of the study each week will be devoted to lessons in beginning Hebrew. This section will be designed with the particular goal of helping participants to get more out of religious services. No prior experience with Hebrew is required.



Conversion to Judaism Class

The rabbi will continue to meet with individuals interested in converting to Judaism. These hour-long sessions will be held on Sunday afternoons at a local coffee shop. Please contact Rabbi Edelman-Blank for more information. The rabbi is also willing to schedule sessions at other times based upon the student's schedule.

CANTOR'S CLASSES

The Art of Tifereth Israel Synagogue *Wednesdays at noon, through December 14th*

Tifereth Israel Synagogue owns quite a wonderful collection of art that is all newly hanged in our renovated building. The collection consists of works by Warhol, Chagal, Agam, Lasansky, Weil, Ben Shahn, Miro, Szyk and others. This course will include the history of the artists, the story of the art and an analysis of the art itself perhaps with comparable art and/or other similar works by each artist. We will look at how the art came to be at Tifereth and how it relates to Jewish culture.

Shabbat Shacharit *Thursdays at 5:15pm, through December 8th*

The Shacharit service follows P'sukei D'zimra on Shabbat morning and precedes the Torah Service. Shabbat Shacharit includes the Barchu and Shema and the Shacharit amida which is the heart of this portion of the service. We will look at the meanings and significance of this part of the Shabbat service as well as how to lead it properly. Each student will receive a Sid-dur Sim Shalom to use and a cd of the service.

Writing Your Spiritual Autobiography *Wednesdays at noon, Jan 18 – Feb 15*

Using both words and drawing we will explore the history of the spiritual journey of each of us. Based on Dan Wakefield's *The Story of Your Life: A step-by-step approach to exploring your past and understanding your present*, we will look at the big questions: Who am I? Why am I here? What is the meaning of my life? We will map our spiritual journeys. Joan Borysenko wrote: "The writing and sharing of spiritual autobiography is one of the simplest and most healing practices we can undertake."

Making Prayer Real *Thursdays at 7:00pm, Jan 19 – Mar 8*

Don't like services? Prayer doesn't work for you? This class is aimed at people who have trouble relating to Jewish prayer. The class will be based on Rabbi Michael Comins' *Making Prayer Real: Leading Jewish Spiritual Voices on Why Prayer is Difficult and What to do about it*. Each student will need to buy a copy of the book and we will be piloting a course put together by Rabbi Comins. Rabbi Comins will be joining us by Skype and hopefully also in person in the spring.

COMMITTEE NEWS

YAD COMMITTEE



This month, the YAD Committee will be hosting a Hanukkah Party for our young families and the rest of the congregation following YAD Shabbat services on **Friday, December 16th**. We will celebrate the coming holiday with latkes and sufganiyot! Please watch your email for further information.

On **Saturday, January 14th**, YAD will host a Havdalah party and dance following the end of Shabbat. We will serve pizza and desserts, and a DJ will provide music.

YAD is also currently planning a Tu b'Shevat Seder for **Saturday, February 4th**.

More information on all upcoming YAD events will be sent to the congregation as the YAD Committee meets to put the details together. We look forward to celebrating these special occasions with everyone able to attend!

LIBRARY NEWS



Book Exchange: FREE BOOKS!

Do you have books you no longer want? Are you looking for something to read? We are starting a free book exchange at the TI library. Please bring any books you would like to donate to the desk in the library during normal office hours. Any books that we can use in our permanent collection will be accessioned and duplicate books will be made available for anyone to take home and enjoy. Our collection is limited to Jewish authors, illustrators or Jewish content but any topics are welcome for the exchange.

The exchange area will be the last section on the east wall next to the Casper Collection. Please stop by and drop off your books or come look for a new read. As always, the library is available whenever the building is open. Thank you.

TIKKUN OLAM COMMITTEE



Residents at the New Directions Shelter at 3100 Grand enjoyed another delicious evening meal prepared by Tikkun Olam committee members and congregants on October 30. Volunteers who donated the food items and/ or prepared the food included Peggy Altman, Lois Brown, Adam Egberman, Alyseann Galinsky, Jody Jacklin, Samantha and Lindsey Johnson, Maddie Schoen, Nancy Waldman, and Rita Weinberg. Dinners have been scheduled for four dates in the first half of 2012: January 29, February 19, April 29, and June 24. Please let the office know if you would like to contribute or participate on any of these Sundays. Preparation time is 2:00-4:00pm in Tifereth's kitchen, and donations can be dropped off the week before.

The Tikkun Olam committee decided at its fall meeting to not sponsor any specific activity for families in need this holiday season. But committee members encourage all congregants to choose one or more favorite local charities and give generously of your resources to help the many in our metro who don't have enough.

Also, please remember that the red can for DMARC food collections sits again in our vestibule. This provides us the opportunity to engage in the good habit of bringing non-perishable food items every time we visit Tifereth. Thank you for your generosity.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE



Women's League 2011-2012 billing statements have been mailed! In order to submit the names of our members and the \$10 per capita we are required to submit to National, we will need your dues paid no later than December 31, 2011. If you have any other questions, please contact Gwen Griger at 537-1454.

The Torah Fund Campaign has begun! Please send your Torah Fund donation to Gwen Griger, 7955 Wistful Vista Dr #26, West Des Moines, IA.

LATKES, LATKES, AND MORE LATKES!

Tifereth Israel Women's League will again this year be selling latkes for your Hanukkah enjoyment. They will be \$8.00 per dozen and will be available the 2nd week of December through the synagogue office.

Since Women's League is not hosting a Hanukkah event this year, pre-ordering is a must! Orders must be received by December 14th. If you have any questions, please call Louise Kaufmann at 255-4613 or 480-9037.

Name _____

Number of dozens _____

Phone Number _____

Please make checks payable to Women's League and mail your order form to:

Tifereth Israel Synagogue
924 Polk Blvd.
Des Moines, IA 50312



HANUKKAH DECEMBER 20-28

CANDLE LIGHTING



Candles should be lit immediately after nightfall every evening but Shabbat; on Friday, light them before the Shabbat candles, and on Saturday, light them immediately after Havdalah. The lights should burn for at least 30 minutes after nightfall.

The first candle is placed on the right side of the Hanukkiah; subsequent candles are added immediately to the left. Candles are lit from left to right (newest to oldest).

- December 20:** Light 1 candle at nightfall
- December 21:** Light 2 candles at nightfall
- December 22:** Light 3 candles at nightfall
- December 23:** Light 4 candles before sundown, before lighting Sabbath candles
- December 24:** Light 5 candles at nightfall, after making Havdalah
- December 25:** Light 6 candles at nightfall
- December 26:** Light 7 candles at nightfall
- December 27:** Light 8 candles at nightfall

YAD HANUKKAH PROJECT



We are starting a new YAD tradition at Hanukkah. We will be sponsoring two Jewish families to help them celebrate Hanukkah. We will have a "wish list" of items these families need. Any YAD family that would like to participate can choose an item on the list to purchase or donate money towards purchasing the items. We will wrap the presents and they will be distributed to the families. We hope that this project will be rewarding for those YAD families who participate and will bring joy and community to those families who are going through some financially difficult times.

If you have any questions about this project, please contact Alla Mintzer Zaprudsky at mikeandalla@msn.com or Samantha Johnson at rsjohn@msn.com.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

TBJ's Hanukkah Happening
Sunday, December 4, 12:30-3:30pm
Temple B'nai Jeshurun

The Temple's annual Hanukkah Happening will feature Hanukkah games led by the TBJ youth group, latkes, and a vendor fair. Food, fun, and early shopping for Hanukkah will lend to the festive atmosphere.

JRC's Hanukkah on Ice
Wednesday, December 21, 6:00-8:00pm
Brenton Skating Plaza

Join the Jewish Resource Center's 5th annual Hanukkah on Ice, an evening of skating and fun. Enjoy lively music, doughnuts, and hot latkes. Fee for skating is \$4 per person. Dress warmly! For info or to RSVP, call 277-1718 or email jrcspark@msn.com



ACTIVITIES

S.T.E.P.



**Sunday Torah
Education Program**
Moderated by Mike Kuperman
Sundays at 10:00am

With the new year, STEP has restarted its continuing study of the Hebrew Bible and is now focused on a text review orientation. We will look at major events including creation, the flood, the creation of monotheism, the exodus, and the united monarchy.

Although other interpretations will be discussed, we will focus on a Jewish interpretation of the major players, including Adam and Eve, Abraham and Sarah, Moses and Aaron, David and Solomon, and a vast assortment of prophets, monarchs, and military figures who have shaped our people. As always, we will focus on how this affects our lives today, in current times.

Feel free to stop in anytime. The discussion meets most Sundays (except holidays) in the Tifereth Israel classroom and generally runs for two hours. Regular attendance is helpful but not mandatory — so you may come for a set period, text, or topic of discussion. There is always a fresh pot of coffee and something sweet to eat.

STEP UP NOW
to learn our history and our future!

TOT SHABBAT



Tot Shabbat will meet on **Saturday, December 31st** this month.

Reminder: Tot Shabbat is an opportunity for parents and children to get together to celebrate Shabbat. Tot Shabbat meets from 10:30 – 11:30 AM. After our official programming of stories and songs, which starts at 11:00 AM, we rejoin the main service for Adon Olam and Kiddush.

Tot Shabbat meets in the Youth Lounge.

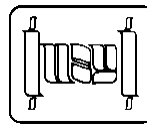
EREV NASHIM



Erev Nashim will not be meeting in December. We will resume our nights out in January; watch your email and next month's bulletin for information on our plans for January.

If you are new to Erev Nashim, this is a ladies night out open to any women (multi-generational!) in the Jewish community (or associated with anyone in the Jewish community). Purely social! If you have any questions, please contact Laura Bernstein.

UNITED SYNAGOGUE YOUTH



The USY Shabbaton will be held **December 23rd-24th**. A member of the Executive Board should be calling you soon to make sure you're up to speed about the Shabbaton, and to see if you can attend. If you can't make it, don't worry - we'll be having lots of fun events next year!

The cost of the Shabbaton is \$25 per person. This covers activities and three meals. All those attending will need to bring a signed permission form; contact the Tifereth Israel office if you need a copy.

Remember to bring the following items: sleeping bag and pillow, toothbrush, toothpaste, and other toiletries, snow gear (including gloves and boots), tallit (if desired), and board games. Please do NOT bring iPods or laptops.

All RSVPs *must* be finalized by December 5th.

The Executive Board is hard at work planning fun activities and stimulating Jewish content for the Shabbaton - it should be a blast! See you there!



DONATIONS: OCTOBER 17 - NOVEMBER 12, 2011

Building Revitalization Fund

Phyllis and Richard Braverman
 In Memory of Velma Cohen
 Lynne and Ralph Schatz
 In Honor of Dorothy Schatz's 90th Birthday

Camp Ramah Fund

Roselind and Sheldon Rabinowitz
 In Memory of Mildred Bernstein
 In Memory of Ron "Uby" Rabinovitz
 In Memory of Rose Rabinowitz

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

Barbara Leventhal-Beckerman and Aaron
 Beckerman
 In Honor of Dorothy Schatz's Birthday
 Esther Sandler
 In Honor of Great Grandson-
 Miles Dillion Sandler
 Allison Wolf and Daniel Klass
 In Honor of the Birth of
 Naomi Devon Wolf-Klass

General Fund

Dorice Bassewitz
 In Memory of Max Bassewitz
 Suzanne and Larry Engman
 In Memory of Irving Cohn
 Gary and Peggy Epstein
 In Memory of George Epstein
 In Memory of Joseph Epstein
 Helen Galinsky
 In Memory of Jacob Duitch
 Elise and Jim Galinsky
 In Memory of Sarah Galinsky
 Jim Galinsky and Family
 In Memory of Louis "Blackie" Galinsky
 Elaine Green
 In Memory of Lucille Green
 Thelma Kardon
 In Memory of Fred Kardon
 In Memory of Ruth Schwartz
 In Memory of Dora Sherman
 Jacob and Christina Lederman
 In Memory of Meyer Sidney Lederman
 Paulee Lipsman
 In Memory of Poli Lipsman
 In Memory of Maurice Siev
 Linda Podolsky
 In Memory of Ben Beckerman
 Robert Press
 In Honor of Dorothy Schatz's Birthday

General Fund (continued)

Garry Rissman
 In Memory of Ruth Rissman
 Frances Rosen
 In Memory of Minnie Rimmerman
 Nate Ruben
 In Memory of Dave Ruben
 In Memory of Abe Subotnik
 Maddie and Don Schoen
 In Honor of Dorothy Schatz's Birthday
 In Memory of Mildred Bernstein
 Tannye and Mal Shafran
 In Memory of Velma Cohen
 Esther and Milton Shepard
 In Memory of Nettie Oppenham Brooks
 In Memory of Goldie Oppenham Fein
 In Memory of Louis Oppenham
 In Memory of William Oppenham
 Renee Robinow Soskin
 Bennett Robinow
 In Honor of Robbie and Marvin Winick's
 New Home
 In Appreciation of a Wonderful Yom
 Kippur Service

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Susan Fisher and Jonathan Yenkin
 In Appreciation
 Esther Sandler
 In Memory of Jill Sandler
 Steven Sandler
 Geoffrey Sandler
 Louise Kaufmann
 Mark Sandler
 Michael Sandler
 Susan Sandler
 James Sandler
 Zachary Sandler
 Ben Kaufmann
 Matt Kaufmann
 In Memory of Jill Sandler
 Allison Wolf and Daniel Klass
 In appreciation
 Laurel and Kenneth Wolf
 In Honor of the Birth of
 Naomi Devon Wolf-Klass

Religious Fund

Elizabeth Sherman
 In Honor of Dorothy Schatz's Birthday

DONATIONS (continued)

Harry Simon Fund

Barbara and David Lettween
In Memory of Max Lettween

Spiro Music Fund

Jeri Dunitz
In Honor of the Marriage of
Corey and Michael Hurwitz
Lora Lee Spiro
In Honor of Dr. Henry Corn's 100th Birthday
In Memory of Mildred Bernstein
In Memory of Max Port
In Memory of Cantor Pinchas Spiro

Sound System Donation

Sandra Pomerantz Reed

Tifereth Israel Synagogue families and friends who wish to remember their loved ones throughout the year may make contributions to any of our funds listed below.

General Fund
Building Endowment Fund
Building Revitalization Fund
Brody Youth Fund
Cantor's Discretionary Fund
Casper Library Fund
Choir Fund
Gendler Lecture Fund
Harry Simon Memorial Fund
Levitt Family Fund
Marcovis Youth Fund
Nussbaum Memorial Fund
Pidgeon Book Fund
Pomerantz Camp Ramah Scholarship Fund
Prayer Book Fund
Program Endowment Fund
Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
Rosenthal Memorial Fund
Ruth Rissman Children's Book Fund
Stanley Isaacson Torah Fund
Spiro Music Endowment Fund
Tifereth Israel Foundation
USY Youth Fund
YAD Group

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS



Our local food pantries are in greater need as we approach the winter months. If you are able to donate food or other needed items, our red barrel remains near the synagogue doors. Cash donations would also be very helpful and can be brought into the office at any time.

Local food pantries' most needed items include:

- 100% Juice (tomato, orange, or vegetable in a can or plastic bottle)
- Fruit (canned in water or 100% juice, not in heavy syrup)
- Vegetables (tomatoes, green beans, mixed vegetables, or sweet potatoes, canned with no salt added)
- Beans (dry or canned in water)
- Peanut butter
- Meat (tuna or chicken canned in water)
- Whole-grain dry pasta or egg noodles
- Brown rice (regular or instant)
- Vegetable soup (low-sodium)
- Spaghetti sauce
- Cereal (instant or regular oatmeal with no sugar added, whole grain cheerios, wheat chex, wheaties,
- granola or shredded wheat
- Shelf-stable low-fat UHT milk (in aseptic packaging, no canned milk)
- Infant/baby formula
- Diapers and baby wipes (size 3 and up including pull-up trainers)
- Personal products (shampoo, soap, feminine hygiene, toothpaste, or deodorant)
- Fresh whole grain bread items (with generous expiration dates)
- Fresh fruits and vegetables (potatoes/sweet potatoes, bananas, apples, carrots, grapes, oranges, tomatoes, melons, broccoli, or bell peppers)

*Please donate far before expiration and prime ripeness.

It is with great sorrow that we recall the passing of...



11/4 Mildred Bernstein
Mother of Edward (Madelyn) Bernstein
and Joyce Barman

May her memory always be for a blessing.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Dec 1	Sheya Finkelstein Jessica Harrington	Dec 16	Jennifer Metcalf
Dec 2	Albert Mintzer Tanya Shoykhet	Dec 18	Lorraine Neiman
Dec 3	Allan Rovner	Dec 19	Mindy Bell Joshua Waltman
Dec 4	Adi Hazan	Dec 20	Sandra Pomerantz- Reed George Shcharansky
Dec 5	Marilyn Nussbaum Susan Zuckman	Dec 21	Roger Hon
Dec 7	Jeanette Rosen Rose Toubes	Dec 22	Leonid Resh
Dec 8	Charlotte Raush	Dec 23	Anya Finkelshteyn Harlan Rosenberg Eleanor Wolfson
Dec 9	Barbara Lettween	Dec 24	Grant Oxer
Dec 10	Cynthia Shulman	Dec 25	Jeffrey Marcovis Michael Marcovis Marcie Morrison
Dec 11	Eli Frankel Frank Levy	Dec 27	Lindsey Johnson Aaron Rosenberg Tatiana Shcharansky
Dec 12	Tiffany Deal Samuel Engman David Greenspon	Dec 28	Elizabeth Sherman Robert Singer
Dec 13	Harry Freund David Hurkin Bernard Levine	Dec 31	Blaine Bookey
Dec 14	Shelley Kitsis		
Dec 15	Ariel Simon		

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Jan 1	Betty Bernstein	Jan 17	Max Putnam
Jan 2	Jill Cantor	Jan 19	Alexsey Resh
Jan 3	Wendi Harris Asher Lipman	Jan 20	Roselind Rabinowitz
Jan 4	Louise Kaufmann	Jan 21	Aaron Beckerman Rian Bevan Neil Freund Laurie Wahlig
Jan 5	Pauline Altman Elisabeth Pusin Will Rogers	Jan 23	Andrew Giller Hannah Rogers
Jan 7	Jacob Fuller	Jan 24	Katherine Levy Allison Ohringer
Jan 8	Frederick Stern	Jan 25	Jeff Farber Kelsey Kupitz
Jan 9	Allison Engman	Jan 26	Harriet Feder
Jan 10	Ron Feder Noa Kaufman Warren Kruger	Jan 27	Vera Aginsky Molly Bremen
Jan 14	Deirdre Farr Jacob Goldstein Rachel Sandler	Jan 29	Brian Pearl
Jan 15	Adam Kaplan	Jan 30	Lois Brown David Hadenfeldt
Jan 16	Benjamin Hockenberg Harriet Pidgeon	Jan 31	Miriam Copeland Ron Rosenblatt
Jan 17	Chelsea Bear Andrew Goodman Mark Levitt		

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Dec 11	Wendi Harris and Stuart Oxer
Dec 14	Heidi Schneider and Joel Mintzer
Dec 15	Maria and Mikhail Mendelev
Dec 17	Toni and Tim Urban
Dec 18	Robin and Philip Bear Allyson and Scott Reister
Dec 21	Laurie and Joe Wahlig
Dec 26	Siggy and David Frankel
Dec 29	Vicki and Alan Givant Liz and Bruce Lefkow
Dec 30	Vera and Gennady Aginsky

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Jan 1	Linda and Bob Carpenter
Jan 12	Shari and Stanley Engman
Jan 17	Eleanora and Alexsey Resh
Jan 20	Elisa and Patrick Jones
Jan 23	Ludmila Rizshsky and Alex Yakobson
Jan 25	Barbara and Melvin Grundleger






Celebratory Aliyot

If you are celebrating a birthday or anniversary in the coming months, please join us for a special Aliyah on the following dates:

Birthday Aliyot: December 3rd, January 7th
Anniversary Aliyot: December 10th, January 14th


December 2011 / Kislev — Tevet 5772

Calendar subject to change

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
						
4 8 Kislev Minyan 9:00am S.T.E.P. 10:00am Hanukkah Happening at TBJ 12:30-3:30pm	5 9 Kislev	6 10 Kislev Minyan 7:00am Meditation 7:30am Federation Board Mtg at Life Center Choir 7:00pm	7 11 Kislev Art of Tifereth Israel Noon	8 12 Kislev Shacharit Class 5:15pm Interfaith Alliance 7:00pm	9 13 Kislev Evening Services 6:00pm  4:26pm	10 14 Kislev Shabbat Services 9:00am Rabbi's Study After services
11 15 Kislev Minyan 9:00am S.T.E.P. 10:00am	12 16 Kislev Bulletin Deadline	13 17 Kislev Minyan 7:00am Meditation 7:30am Choir 7:00pm	14 18 Kislev Art of Tifereth Israel Noon	15 19 Kislev	16 20 Kislev Evening Services: YAD Hanukkah Celebration 6:00pm  4:28pm	17 21 Kislev Shabbat Services 9:00am Rabbi's Study After services
18 22 Kislev Minyan 9:00am S.T.E.P. 10:00am	19 23 Kislev	20 24 Kislev Minyan 7:00am Meditation 7:30am Choir 7:00pm Erev Hanukkah (first light in eve)	21 25 Kislev Hanukkah Day 1 (2 lights in eve)	22 26 Kislev "Parade" Preview at Caspe Terrace Hanukkah Day 2 (3 lights in eve)	23 27 Kislev Evening Services 6:00pm USY Shabbaton Hanukkah Day 3 (4 lights in eve)  4:30pm	24 28 Kislev Shabbat Service 9am Rabbi's Study Fiddler Singalong 8:00pm Hanukkah Day 4 (5 lights at end of Shabbat)
25 29 Kislev Minyan 9:00am S.T.E.P. 10:00am Hanukkah Day 5 (6 lights in eve)	26 30 Kislev Rosh Hodesh Tevet Day 1 Hanukkah Day 6 (7 lights in eve)	27 1 Tevet Minyan 7:00am Meditation 7:30am Choir 7:00pm Rosh Hodesh Tevet Day 2 Hanukkah Day 7 (8 lights in eve)	28 2 Tevet Hanukkah Day 8	29 3 Tevet New Year's Party at Life Center 6:30pm	30 4 Tevet Evening Services 6:00pm  4:35pm	31 5 Tevet Shabbat Services 9:00am Tot Shabbat 10:30am Rabbi's Study After services

January 2011 / Tevet — Shevat 5772

Calendar subject to change

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1 6 Tevet	2 7 Tevet	3 8 Tevet	4 9 Tevet	5 10 Tevet	6 11 Tevet	7 12 Tevet
8 13 Tevet Minyan 9:00am S.T.E.P. 10:00am	9 14 Tevet	10 15 Tevet Minyan 7:00am Meditation 7:30am Choir 7:00pm	11 16 Tevet	12 17 Tevet Fast of Tenth of Tevet	13 18 Tevet Bulletin Deadline Evening Services 6:00pm Confirmation Trip to Washington, DC 4:42pm	14 19 Tevet Shabbat Services 9:00am Rabbi's Study After services
15 20 Tevet Minyan 9:00am S.T.E.P. 10:00am	16 21 Tevet Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	17 22 Tevet Minyan 7:00am Meditation 7:30am Choir 7:00pm	18 23 Tevet Writing your Spiritual Autobiography Noon	19 24 Tevet Making Prayer Real 7:00pm	20 25 Tevet Joint T/ITBJ Choir Concert: Debbie Friedman Yahrzeit 6:00pm 4:57pm	21 26 Tevet Shabbat Services 9:00am Rabbi's Study After services
22 27 Tevet Minyan 9:00am S.T.E.P. 10:00am	23 28 Tevet Board Meeting 6:00pm	24 29 Tevet Minyan 7:00am Meditation 7:30am Choir 7:00pm	25 1 Shevat Writing your Spiritual Autobiography Noon Rosh Hodesh Shevat	26 2 Shevat Making Prayer Real 7:00pm	27 3 Shevat Evening Services 6:00pm 5:06pm	28 4 Shevat Shabbat Services 9:00am Tot Shabbat 10:30am Rabbi's Study After services
29 5 Shevat Minyan 9:00am S.T.E.P. 10:00am	30 6 Shevat	31 7 Shevat Minyan 7:00am Meditation 7:30am Choir 7:00pm				

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Thursday* 9:00a.m.—5:00p.m.

Friday 9:00a.m.—3:00p.m.

*Closed Monday through Thursday from 12:30p.m.—1:30p.m.

The Rabbi and Cantor are usually in the building except on Mondays. Please feel free to call the office and set up an appointment.

STAFF

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TIFERETh BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Sheldon Ohringer & Steve Weiss, Co-Presidents

Jody Jacklin, 1st Vice President

Harvey Weinberg, Treasurer

Mindy Nussbaum-Bell, Secretary

GIFT SHOP HOURS

Sunday 9:00a.m.—12:00p.m.

Wednesday 9:30a.m.—12:00p.m.

*Also open during Office Hours

LIBRARIAN HOURS

Wednesdays 9:00 am - 11:00 am

On the Web:

www.tifereth.org

www.facebook.com/tiferethdesmoines

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Tifereth Israel Synagogue

