

# TEMPLE EMANU-EL Bulletin

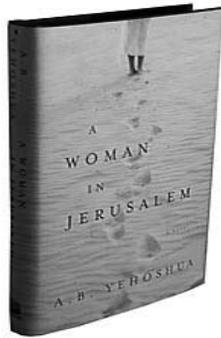
Volume 79, Number 17

December 22, 2006

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Women's Auxiliary:  
Book Discussion Group**  
Tuesday, January 30  
12:30 p.m.

**R**abbi Amy B. Ehrlich will lead us in a discussion of *A Woman in Jerusalem*, a novel by the award-winning Israeli author A. B. Yehoshua (translated from the Hebrew by Hillel Halkin, published by Harcourt Books). Feel free to bring your lunch. Coffee and cookies will be served. RSVP by Tuesday, January 23. We look forward to a provocative discussion! (212) 744-1400, ext. 235



## SABBATH SERVICES

**Friday evening, December 29  
Main Sanctuary**

Organ Recital—5 p.m.

Sabbath Eve Service—5:15 p.m.

WQXR Radio (96.3 FM) and Internet  
(www.wqxr.com) broadcasts—5:30 p.m.

**Saturday morning, December 30  
Women's Auxiliary Lounge**

Torah Study—9:15 a.m.

**Main Sanctuary**

Service—10:30 a.m.

Torah Portion—Vayigash

Readings—Genesis 44:18-47:27

Ezekiel 37:15-28

**Sermon: Rabbi David M. Posner**

SHABBAT  
SHALOM!

**SONG \* PRAYER \*  
COMMUNITY**

**D**ecember's inaugural  
**Shabbat Shalom!**

session was a rousing success,  
with more than 50 congregants  
sharing in our worship celebration.

A new expression of faith at Emanu-El,  
Shabbat Shalom! is a late worship serv-  
ice held once a month at **6:30 p.m.**  
Services currently are being held in  
our Stettenheim Library. The next serv-  
ice will be held on **Friday, January 5.**  
Participants should enter at the Mar-  
vin and Elisabeth Cassell Community  
House, One East 65<sup>th</sup> Street.

Throughout the Shabbat Shalom! serv-  
ice, we engage the meaning of prayer  
and find ways to make it our own. Using  
a newly designed prayer book, we con-  
nect with familiar melodies from our  
heritage as well as new ones that create  
a dynamic and refreshing approach  
to prayer. All congregants (adults and  
youth) are encouraged to sing, pray and  
learn with us. (212) 744-1400, ext. 215

**REMAINING DATES**

**FOR 2007:**

- February 2
- March 2
- April 13
- May 4



## PULPIT FLOWERS

**Pulpit flowers at Sabbath services this weekend are the generous donation of our congregants:**

Rhoda Weiskopf Cohen  
in loving memory of  
my dearest husband and best friend,  
*Herbert George Cohen, M.D.*  
(January 31, 2004)

Mary Louise Fleur  
in loving memory of her mother,  
*Mary Cisterna Schwartz*

Dr. Gerald Leinwand  
in loving memory of *Selma Leinwand*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Men's Club: Breakfast  
With Steven Emerson**  
January 7, 2007 10 a.m.



An award-winning investigative journalist and one of the world's foremost experts on militant Islamic terrorism, Mr. Emerson is the author of *Jihad Incorporated: A Guide to Militant Islam in the U.S.* and producer of *Terrorists Among Us: Jihad in America*, the 1994 television documentary in which he successfully infiltrated key conferences and rallies with hidden cameras to track down people responsible for supporting and abetting terrorist activities on U.S. soil. In 1995 Mr. Emerson formed The Investigative Project on Terrorism, which has developed the nation's largest database on Islamic and Middle Eastern terrorist groups.

The cost for this event—which includes a hot breakfast—is \$25 for Men's Club members in advance, \$35 for all paying at the door (members and nonmembers). Make checks payable to the Men's Club. (212) 744-1400, ext. 250

Charles S. Salomon  
The Universal Funeral Chapel  
1076 Madison Avenue (212) 753-5300  
Our service is available in the Temple, home, or our Chapel.

TIKKUN  
OLAM

Temple Emanu-El's  
TIKKUN OLAM committee  
is pleased to announce the  
following upcoming "mitzvah"  
opportunities for all congregants.  
To register for these activities,  
call (212) 744-1400, ext. 452 or  
e-mail [tetikkunolam@yahoo.com](mailto:tetikkunolam@yahoo.com).

**HABITAT for  
HUMANITY**  
Sunday,  
January 14



**W**e will  
build with  
Habitat-NYC at a site on Halsey  
Street in Bedford-Stuyvesant. Vol-  
unteers must be 16 years or older.  
Some heavy lifting and walking up  
stairs is involved. Dress warmly—  
We work rain or shine! Round trip  
transportation will be provided  
(departing Emanu-El at 8 a.m.,  
returning by 4 p.m.) Space is ex-  
tremely limited, sign up soon!

**STITCH'N TIME**  
Sunday, January 21 11 a.m.

**C**alling all knitters and cro-  
cheters! Attend our group ses-  
sion in the Women's Auxiliary  
lounge or work at home.

**SANDWICHES on SUNDAY  
& COOKIES and MILK**  
Sunday, January 28 12 p.m.

**V**olunteers are needed to make  
sandwiches and bake cookies  
to help feed the hungry. Partici-  
pants are asked to contribute two  
loaves of sliced bread.

The Cemeteries of Congregation Emanu-El  
Salem Fields and Beth-El

A limited number of above-ground crypts are available in  
our community mausoleum. For information, please call  
Dr. Mark W. Weisstuch at the Temple Office, (212) 744-1400.

# Emanu-El Reads!



## EXAMINING MAIMONIDES: A READER'S GUIDE

# M

OSSES MAIMONIDES was a Renaissance man before there was a Renaissance. Eight hundred years after Maimonides' death, his ideas about God, belief, the afterlife and the Messiah still provoke debate, and the enigmas of his character continue to fascinate. The following questions are ways to begin exploring the life and work of the great physician and philosopher.

- 1 Should Maimonides be considered the first Jewish scholar? In what ways was Maimonides an original thinker? Were there other qualities that distinguish him as a great philosopher?
- 2 Maimonides insisted that pretending to convert to Islam is permitted by Jewish law. How can we reconcile his dismissal of the Muslim assertion of faith with his insistence on a Jewish one?
- 3 What made the *Mishneh Torah*, in which Maimonides compiled all Jewish law, so revolutionary? Why was Maimonides so intent on simplifying and codifying the law? Are there any contemporary parallels?
- 4 Maimonides is the archetype of the Jewish doctor, and his writings on Judaism and medicine still influence Jewish physicians today. Why was the maintenance of the body so important to Maimonides? How does he conceive the relationship of body and soul? How does this compare with traditional Christian beliefs?

### UPCOMING LECTURES

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 16  
6:30 PM**

*Making the  
Irrational Rational:  
Maimonides' Advice for  
Living a Virtuous Life*



**RABBI KERRY M. OLITZKY, D.H.L.**, is executive director of the Jewish Outreach Institute and a fellow at the Center for Jewish Studies, Graduate School and University Center, CUNY. He also is the author of commentaries on biblical texts and books on Jewish outreach and inter-faith families.

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31  
6:30 PM**

*Maimonides and the Art of Giving*



**JULIE SALAMON** is a culture writer and critic for *The New York Times*. She also is the author of *Rambam's Ladder: A Meditation on Generosity and Why It Is Necessary to Give*.

## A NOTE OF THANKS

*An appreciative listener of our Friday evening worship services sends the following message.*

**F**OR MANY YEARS I have had the pleasure of listening to your Friday evening services over the radio at WQXR. I am Catholic, but I find that the service brings me much peace after a long work week.

My daughter was married recently at a Jewish ceremony, and she plans to raise her children in the Jewish faith for her husband. I am very happy that her husband is a wonderful man and that our families are so similar. We know that she always will be loved by her in-laws as well.

At the wedding, my dearest cousin remarked that she had never attended a Jewish wedding ceremony but that she



always loved listening to your service on Friday nights. We were both thunderstruck at the coincidence. She also is a devout Catholic, so I found it remarkable that we had this in common.

My point is this: Your service reaches people of all faiths. We share many beliefs in common, and I always have felt that my prayers during the service were heard by the God we also share. I consider this experience with my cousin to be a miraculous thing.

Please accept my sincerest thanks for your beautiful outreach through the radio. May God bless you and your congregation always.

— J. Richardson, Bellport, NY

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*Associate Rabbi*

**Nadia E. Gold**

*Assistant Rabbi*

**Lori Corrsin**

*Cantor*

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