

TEMPLE EMANU-EL Bulletin

Volume 78, Number 2

September 16, 2005

SABBATH SERVICES

Friday evening, September 23 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, September 24 Women's Auxiliary Lounge

Torah Study—9:15 a.m.

Main Sanctuary

Service—10:30 a.m.
Torah Portion—Ki Tavo
Readings—Deuteronomy 26:1-29:8
Isaiah 60

Sermon: Rabbi David M. Posner

SELICHOS SERVICE

Saturday evening, September 24 8 p.m.

Join us in the **Beth-El Chapel** for this special service involving the recitation of penitential prayers that are the work of medieval liturgical poets.



The liturgy and music of the Selichos service instill a mood of solemnity that serves as a prelude to the sacred themes of the High Holy Days.

After the service, a gathering will be held in the Leventritt Room of the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65th Street.

CURRICULUM HOUR

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Parents of Religious School students are invited to start the year by attending one of three information sessions. View curriculum text, read about the goals of each class, and enjoy coffee and a few edibles provided by the Religious School Parents' Organization. Sessions will be held as follows:

- Monday, September 19—5 p.m. – 6 p.m. (Grades K–4)
- Wednesday, Sept. 21—5 p.m. – 6 p.m. (Grades 5–7)
- Sunday, October 2—11 a.m. – 12 p.m. (Grades K–7)



UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, September 24
Sunday, September 25

11:30 a.m.
12 p.m.

Youth Groups: Opening Events!

Members of "Club 56" and "Club 78"—our youth groups for fifth/sixth graders and seventh/eighth graders—will gather on Saturday to watch the Yankees play the Toronto Blue Jays. For details, call Lori Jacobson (our new youth group advisor) at (516) 965-4736.



Senior Youth Group members (Grades 9–12) are invited on Sunday to participate in a "Limo Scavenger Hunt." The cost is \$20 per person. A late lunch will be served upon return from the hunt and should conclude by 4 p.m. Pick up and drop off will be at One East 65th Street. RSVP to (212) 744-1400, ext. 244.



PULPIT FLOWERS

Pulpit flowers at Sabbath services have been generously donated by our congregants:

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Asher Kraut
in honor of their granddaughter
Carlyn Alexis Shear
becoming a Bas Mitzvah

B'NEI MITZVAH

The following students of our Religious School will become B'nei Mitzvah this weekend:

Otto Franklin Eckstein, son of
Cathy Franklin and Warren Eckstein

Carlyn Alexis Shear, daughter of
Deborah and Ronald Shear

We are grateful for their sponsorship of Friday evening's Oneg Shabbat.

The Ethics of Sacrifice
and the Sacrifice of Ethics:
Towards an Ethic of
Love and Money

DR. TOVA HARTMAN
Wednesday, September 21 8 PM

The Skirball Center 2005/2006
Scholar-in-Residence, Dr. Hartman is
a lecturer at Hebrew University's School
of Education in Jerusalem. Her writings
include numerous articles on
gender, religion and education.
This and more than 30 other
classes make up our fall course
schedule. Eight-week classes
begin Thursday, October 27. To register,
log on to www.adultjewishlearning.org
or call (212) 507-9580.



SKIRBALL



The Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Temple Emanu-El

SKIRBALL
CORNER

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, September 25 10 a.m.
Brunch With David Schizer
Dean of Columbia
University Law School



The Women's Auxiliary,
the Men's Club and
the Religious School
Parents' Organization
invite Temple members
and guests to their annual
joint opening meeting.

Appointed the 14th dean of Columbia Law in
July 2004 at age 35, David Schizer became
the youngest dean in school history and the
youngest at the country's top law schools.
A member of Columbia's faculty since 1998,

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

Professor Schizer made his course in tax law one
of the most popular on campus. He won the
Willis Reese teaching prize, and he was granted
tenure at 33. In May 2005, Dean Schizer, now
36, was selected for *The National Law Journal's*
"40 Under 40" listing of leading young lawyers.
He also is a former clerk for U.S. Court of
Appeals Judge Alex Kozinski and Supreme
Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

The cost for this event is \$25 per person.
Your check made payable to the Women's
Auxiliary of Congregation Emanu-El must
be received by Sunday, September 18.
Mail checks to Temple Emanu-El,
One East 65th St., New York, NY 10021,
attn: Women's Auxiliary.

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.

CREATED IN GOD'S IMAGE: MALE AND FEMALE

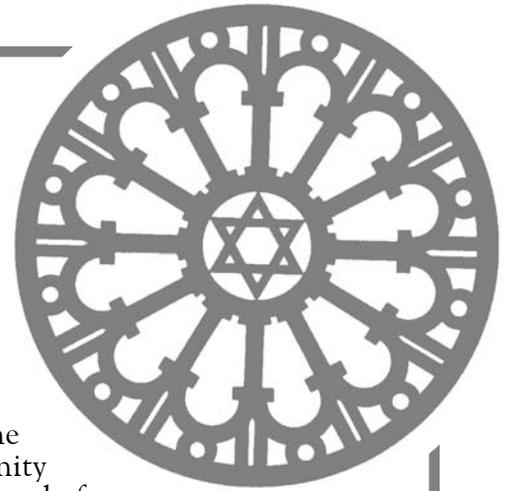
By Rabbi Rachel Sabath Beit-Halachmi

Our enormous and varied Jewish tradition teaches us hundreds if not thousands of principles of human life. Some of humankind's greatest ideas are found in these foundational texts: the idea of basic human dignity and the equality of all human beings, the prohibition against murder, the notion of the value of human labor, protecting the most vulnerable, restricting the power of authority, offering compassion and aid to those in need, the prohibition against illicit and abusive sex, the value of family...just to name a few. This year-long column will address the foundational texts that ground the greatest values in Judaism.

In the beginning (quite literally, for it appears in Genesis Chapter One), the Bible defines the nature of human life: We are created in God's image, all of us, male and female. "God created humankind in his own image, in the image of God he created humankind; male and female he created them." (Genesis 1:27) The sacred texts of the Sages, as well as works by the great ethical teachers of our time, all point to this foundational text because of what it so simply tells us about being human and the dignity and responsibility that flow from that knowledge: Human life is sacred, and every human being has some trace of the divine in him or her.

Thus, as the ancient text Tosefta Yevamot 8:7 teaches us, injury to a human being is an injury to God. In a similarly

ancient text (Mishnah Sanhedrin 4:7) we are taught of the precious humanity even of one accused of murder. As those testifying against him are reminded—based on the idea that the first human being was created in God's image—every human life is sacred, unique and of infinite value.



God Creating Eve — Engraving by Claes Janz Visscher, after a painting by Marten de Vos (Amsterdam, circa 1600)

with an additional unique responsibility not only to protect other human beings and other Jews but to protect the image of God, our covenantal partner, in return.

Rabbi Rachel Sabath Beit-Halachmi, a founding faculty member of the Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Temple Emanu-El, is a member of the faculty at the Shalom Hartman Institute and HUC-JIR in Jerusalem.

The implications stemming from such understanding of human dignity in the context of modern Jewish ethics is what supports claims for gender equality and the ethical treatment of all human beings. To perceive the trace of the face of God in the face of another human being, according to the French Jewish philosopher Emmanuel Levinas, leads to infinite ethical demands on us. Just to exist, as a human with other humans, means that we are responsible for others. As Jews, we are blessed with particular ways of applying such profound wisdom and

FOR OUR COUNTRY

In response to the devastation and despair caused by Hurricane Katrina, Rabbi Amy B. Ehrlich offered the following words of comfort during Sabbath services on Friday, September 2:

This evening, as we gather to welcome the Sabbath, our hearts are broken. We stand humbled by the terrifying forces of nature and the unspeakable losses to our Southern neighbors. Immersed in the sights and sounds of tragedy that is beyond comprehension, we pray that we may respond to the sorrows before us according to Your will and our faith. Bring healing and help us to care for one another during the many difficult days to come. May we show compassion that does not fade and resolve that does not falter. Let us reach out in support and comfort to those who are suffering.

Our Jewish tradition requires us to respond to those in need...and the needs defy description! This evening, we add our voices to those of a caring nation, and we ask and implore all of our friends to turn now to relief agencies who are mobilizing rescue efforts. In our tradition, we are all required to give charity. Let us act immediately and, thus in the end, reaffirm our faith in God—who feeds the hungry, clothes the naked and brings comfort to those in need.

*May God give strength unto his people.
May God bless all his children with peace. Amen.*

At the recitation of Kaddish, the entire congregation was asked to stand together as “a nation united in sorrow.” Services concluded with Cantor Lori Corrsin and the Temple Emanu-El choir singing “God Bless America.”

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