



TEMPLE EMANU-EL Bulletin

Volume 80, Number 4

September 21, 2007

**PASSION ON ALL SIDES:
Building a Memorial at Ground Zero**
Sunday, September 30
10 A.M.

OPENING BRUNCH

The Women's Auxiliary and the Men's Club invite all Temple members to attend their opening event of the season. This year's guest speaker will be **Alice M. Greenwald**, director of the National September 11 Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Center, who will offer her view of the highly charged planning process. As director, Ms. Greenwald will oversee the museum and its exhibits, which will preserve the historical artifacts associated with the events of 9/11 and present the intimate stories of loss, compassion and courage that have come to define that day. Prior to her current position, Ms. Greenwald was associate director for museum programs at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and part of the team that conceptualized its creation.



Photo by Carl Cox — AP

The cost for this event, which includes brunch, is \$30 for members of both auxiliaries who have paid their 2007–2008 dues and \$40 for nonmembers and walk-ins. Checks, made payable to the Women's Auxiliary, must be received by Monday, September 24.

Questions? (212) 744-1400, ext. 235 or womaux@emanuelnyc.org.

WORSHIP SERVICES

SUKKOT
Wednesday, Sept. 26—5:15 P.M.
Thursday, Sept. 27—10:30 A.M.
Temple Sanctuary
Sermon: Rabbi Amy B. Ehrlich

Many thanks to the Women's Auxiliary for the gift of our beautiful sukkah.

SABBATH
Friday evening, September 28
Temple 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 29
Women's Auxiliary Lounge
Torah Study—9:15 A.M.
Temple Sanctuary
Service—10:30 A.M.
Torah Portion—Ecclesiastes
Readings—Exodus 33:12-34:26
Numbers 29:17-25;
Ezekiel 38:18-39:16
Sermon: Rabbi Howard J. Goldsmith

Sabbath and holiday services will be available for downloading from the Emanu-El Web site (www.emanuelnyc.org) generally within one hour of the conclusion of the live service and for up to one week.



Hearing Loop installed in Temple Sanctuary and Beth-El Chapel; switch aid to T-coil. Headsets or neck loops also available for use.

B'NEI MITZVAH

**The following students of
our Religious School will become
b'nei mitzvah this weekend:**

*Philip Heller, son of
Mr. and Mrs. Henry C. Heller*

*William Franklin Eckstein, son of
Cathy Franklin and Warren M. Eckstein*

*Alex Franklin Eckstein, son of
Cathy Franklin and Warren M. Eckstein*

*Samuel I. Sherman, son of
Linda and Fred R. Sherman*

*Emily Speyer, daughter of
Mr. and Mrs. Franklin C. Speyer*

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

PULPIT FLOWERS

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

Hon. Susan S. and Martin A. Danoff
in loving memory of
our dear father, *Harry B. Stein*

Jane G. Rittmaster
in loving memory of her mother,
Hilda K. Goldstone

Virginia and Benjamin Sadock
in loving memory of *Fred Alcott*

*Inquiries to sponsor Pulpit Flowers or an Oneg Shabbat
should be directed to (212) 744-1400, ext. 312
or sponsorships@emanuelnyc.org.*

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

TO BE NOTED

ADULT EDUCATION

The Skirball fall semester begins Sunday, October 14, with more than 40 courses (eight-week courses, individual lectures, workshops and seminars) covering all areas of Jewish study. In addition, Skirball is offering two discussion subjects ("What is the Relevance of Judaism Today?" and "Jews and Politics") for its "Openings" program—a monthly study experience for 30- and 40-something Jewish New Yorkers featuring dinner, discussion and debate. Other highlights include "New Israel Cinema" (a film festival taking place on Wednesday nights at 7 P.M.) and "After Words: New Perspectives on the Weekly Torah Portion" (an exciting new lecture series led by a diverse group of intellectuals, writers, artists and scholars). For a full course listing, log on to www.adultjewishlearning.org or call (212) 507-9580.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Emanu-El's *Tikkun Olam* Committee has teamed up with Habitat for Humanity to provide a great volunteer opportunity for Temple members. Habitat for Humanity—NYC transforms lives and our city by uniting all New Yorkers around the cause of decent, affordable housing for everyone. Join thousands of volunteers from across the city in building homes for low-income families in the Bedford-Stuyvesant neighborhood. No prior experience is necessary. Habitat construction staff will train you in tasks such as framing, installing sheetrock and laying floor as you build alongside the future homeowners. Volunteers must be at least 16 years old and members of the congregation. Our team will meet at the Temple at 8 A.M.—sharp! Transportation will be provided to and from the site. Space is extremely limited. Register by calling (212) 744-1400, ext. 452 or sending an e-mail to tetikunolam@yahoo.com

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.

THE FOUR SPECIES: SYMBOLS OF SUKKOT

By Rabbi David M. Posner

THE BOOK OF LEVITICUS (23:40f) mentions four kinds of species—*arbaah minim*—to be used in the observance of the holiday of Sukkot. Known collectively as the *lulav*, they are used on the first seven days of the holiday, except the Sabbath. Separately, the four species are the *etrog* (citron fruit), the *lulav* (branches of palm tree), *hadasim* (branches of three-leaved myrtle) and *aravah* (willows of the brook).

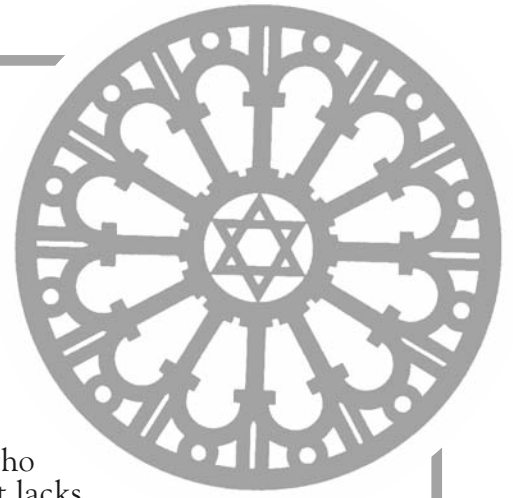
Many meanings have been ascribed by the Rabbis of the Talmudic period to the four species. They have been likened to the four characteristics of man: *etrog*—the fruit of good deeds; *lulav*—stature of pride; *hadasim*—the flower of beautiful qualities; *aravah*—the symbol of humility. Others insisted that the four species represented the four elements of nature (earth, air, fire, water), and others still likened each symbol to a part of the human body. The *etrog* is said to be shaped like a heart, symbolizing service to God. The *lulav* represents the spine, the foundation of the body. The *hadasim* resembles the human eye. And the *aravah* symbolizes the lips, that with speech we may praise and give thanks to God.

Even the very fruitfulness and aroma of the species were thought to have a hidden meaning. The *etrog*, beautiful in form and of pleasant odor, was compared to a righteous and intelligent man. The *lulav*, which bears fruit but has no odor, was likened to one who is learned but wanting in good deeds. The *hadasim*, possessive of

odor but no fruit, was compared to one who is righteous but lacks education. The *aravah*, which has neither fruit nor odor, was thought to represent one who remains uneducated and devoid of good deeds.

Maimonides, in his *Guide to the Perplexed*, states that God commanded the Israelites to take these four species during the festival to remind them that they were brought out from the wilderness, where no fruit grew and no people lived, into a land of brooklets and waters, a land flowing with milk and honey. For this reason did

God command us to hold in our hands the precious fruit of the land while singing praises to him, the One who wrought miracles in our behalf, who foresees and supports the productivity of the earth.



EVENTS FOR SUKKOT

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 5:15 P.M.

SERVICE OF WELCOME—

Sabbath services include the Service of Welcome for Religious School families, including blessings under the sukkah.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 10 A.M.

YOUNG FAMILIES SUKKOT

CELEBRATION—

Festivities include Storytime and an art project. RSVP to (212) 744-1400, ext 242.

View our **FAMILY ACTIVITIES FOR SUKKOT**—and more!—on the Web at www.emanuelnyc.org.

AROUND THE TEMPLE

This year's Emanu-El Reads program, our congregationwide book discussion group, will be centered around *The Sabbath*—the classic work by Abraham Joshua Heschel, one of the most important Jewish thinkers of the 20th century.



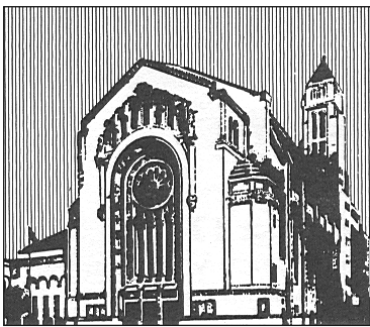
Our opening lecture will be held on **Wednesday, October 10** from **6:30 P.M. to 8 P.M.** Attendees should enter at the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65th Street.

Professor Susannah Heschel, daughter of the author, will speak on "A Life of Moral Grandeur: Abraham Joshua Heschel as Thinker and Activist."



Susannah Heschel is the Eli Black Professor of Jewish Studies at Dartmouth College. Her scholarship focuses on Jewish-Christian relations in Germany during the 19th and 20th centuries. Her publications include *Abraham Geiger and the Jewish Jesus* (University of Chicago Press)—which won a National Jewish Book Award and Germany's Geiger Prize—and a forthcoming book called *The Aryan Jesus: Christians, Nazis and the Bible* (Princeton University Press). She also has edited *Moral Grandeur and Spiritual Audacity: Essays of Abraham Joshua Heschel*.

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