

Temple Emanu-El Bulletin



CELEBRATING 40 YEARS

All are invited on **Friday, November 9** to attend the first of several celebrations honoring **Rabbi David Posner's** 40 years of devotion to Emanu-El. This special Shabbat service will be followed by a festive *oneg*. (**Details, page 2 »**)

WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY — THURSDAY

5:30 PM • Marvin & Elisabeth Cassell Community House (One East 65th Street)

FRIDAY EVENING

Main Sanctuary (Fifth Avenue at 65th Street)

Organ Recital—5:45 PM
Service Begins—6 PM

SATURDAY MORNING

Sixth Floor Lounge (One East 65th Street)

Torah Study—9:15 AM

Main Sanctuary (Fifth Avenue at 65th Street)

Organ Recital—10:15 AM
Service Begins—10:30 AM

K. Scott Warren,

Organist/Choir Director

Services may be heard live or via podcast through the Temple website at www.emanuelnyc.org. Follow the "Listen to the Broadcast of Services" link from the Home Page.

Hearing loop in Sanctuary and Beth-El Chapel; switch aid to T-coil. Headsets or neck loops also available.



Reform Judaism: What, Where and Why?

By Rabbi David M. Posner

WERE I TO BE ASKED what aspect of the rabbinate I cherished most, I would respond that teaching has given me the most sustained gratification—Hebrew and Semitic studies, and medieval Jewish philosophy. Mysticism was never my "thing."

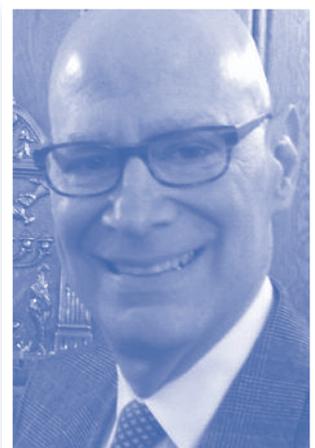
I thought it might be worthwhile to write a concise essay on the genesis and basis of Reform Judaism—something that would be in harmony with my own understanding and appreciation. What brought me to Reform Judaism—then and now?

About 25 years ago, Dr. Michael Meyer—a professor of Jewish History at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati—wrote "Response to Modernity," which should be considered the definitive history of the Reform Movement in Judaism. The title is illuminating. Dr. Meyer's essential thesis is that Judaism and the Jewish people always have managed to respond to forces of modernity. Sociologically speaking, there were times when modernity—the social status quo—was something that was appalling and terrifying by what we hope are today's normative standards. The Jews of antiquity

lived either surrounded by or in the midst of people for whom the practice of human sacrifice was not uncommon, where slavery was brutal and the treatment of women appalling by today's standards.

On an intellectual level, great changes were starting to be made by the discoveries of Aristotle, Galileo and Newton, as well as the theoretical investigations of Descartes, Kant, Hegel and all of the schools of speculative philosophy. Ancient texts, in modern universities, were becoming the subject of critical analysis. A true cultural clash had begun: between the age of faith and the age of reason. For Judaism, the interplay of these forces was nothing new. For our ancients, polytheism no longer made sense. On the other hand, monotheism did.

continued on page 12





WEEKLY TORAH PORTION

Vayeira

(Genesis 18:1-22:24)

Read Saturday, November 3

Synopsis: God promises a son to Abraham and Sarah; Abraham argues for Sodom and Gomorrah; cities are destroyed; birth of Isaac; Hagar banished; binding of Isaac.

Sermon: Rabbi Ehrlich

Chayei Sarah

(Genesis 23:1-25:18)

Read Saturday, November 10

Synopsis: Sarah dies; Abraham buys a burial plot; Isaac and Rebecca marry; Abraham takes a new wife; Abraham dies.

Sermon: Rabbi Zeidman

Tol'dot

(Genesis 25:19-28:9)

Read Saturday, November 17

Synopsis: Birth of Esau and Jacob; Esau sells Jacob his birthright; Jacob steals Esau's blessing; Jacob flees to escape Esau's anger.

Sermon: Rabbi Posner

Vayeitzei

(Genesis 28:10-32:3)

Read Saturday, November 24

Synopsis: Jacob dreams about the ladder stretched between heaven and earth; Jacob meets Rachel; Jacob works for Laban for 14 years, marrying daughters Leah and then Rachel; after much strife, Jacob makes peace with Laban.

Vayishlach

(Genesis 32:4-36:43)

Read Saturday, December 1

Synopsis: Jacob sends gifts to Esau; Jacob wrestles at Peniel and receives a new

(continued)

Worship & Spirituality



Celebrating 40 Years

Friday, November 9 • 6 PM • Main Sanctuary

PLEASE JOIN US as we honor and celebrate Rabbi David M. Posner's 40 years of devotion to Temple Emanu-El at a special Sabbath service and festive *oneg*. The Honorable Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Dr. David Ellenson, president of HUC-JIR, will join Rabbi Posner on the *bimah*. Please feel free to invite your nonmember friends to share this special service. **RSVP with the total number of guests in your party: 40years@emanuelnyc.org or (212) 744-1400, ext. 215.**



SHARE YOUR MEMORIES

An online Tribute Message Board has been established on the Emanu-El website, and we encourage you to post brief reflections of your special Rabbi Posner memories. To submit your message, log on to **www.emanuelnyc.org/shareyourmemories**. 

Do you have a cherished photo taken with Rabbi Posner at a life-cycle or Temple event? If so, then we would love for you to share it with us by emailing it to **dmpphotos@emanuelnyc.org**. Please note that photos may be used throughout the year in connection with "Celebrating 40 Years."

WINTER WISHES

In keeping with Rabbi Posner's love of children and commitment to mitzvot, Temple Emanu-El—in partnership with the **Association to Benefit Children**—will fulfill the holiday wishes of 125 children from low-income families in New York. Temple members may select a "wish" at the *oneg* following Sabbath services on November 9.

Questions? Send an email to WinterWishes12@gmail.com, or call (212) 744-1400, ext. 452. (Learn about other Tikkun Olam events on pages 4 and 5. »)



SAVE THE DATE

The celebration will continue on **Wednesday, April 17, 2013**, at the **Mandarin Oriental**.

Young Families: Tot Shabbat

Saturday, November 10 • 10 AM • One East 65th Street



FOR OUR PRESCHOOL through kindergarten families we offer a creative and age-appropriate service that incorporates singing, movement and storytelling. Guests are welcome; reservations required.

RSVP by Friday, November 9: youngfamilies@emanuelnyc.org or (212) 744-1400, ext. 242.

Shabbat Kodesh Service

Friday, November 16 • 7 PM • Beth-El Chapel

JOIN OUR clergy, Lifelong Learning Director Saul Kaiserman and members of our Religious School faculty for an inspirational and uplifting prayer service. **All are welcome at this service**, which builds upon the curriculum and community of the Religious School. Afterward, we will celebrate with a festive *Oneg Shabbat*.

Become familiar with the service's prayers and blessings through recordings on the Temple website (www.emanuelnyc.org). Click "Learning" → "Religious School" → "Shabbat Kodesh."



Photo by Elizabeth Wright Kahane

Thanksgiving Service

Wednesday, November 21 • 5:30 PM • Greenwald Hall



OUR WORSHIP SERVICE for Thanksgiving will be held the night before the holiday, as part of our Sunset Service, which is led by the Reader's Panel under the auspices of the Men's Club. The rabbis and cantor will officiate. Enter at the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65th Street.

Volunteers are needed for our fourth annual Thanksgiving dinner, where we will serve seniors, cancer patients, and women and children from local homeless and domestic-violence shelters. Learn more on page 4. »



WEEKLY TORAH PORTION (*cont'd*)

name, Israel; Jacob and Esau reconcile; rape of Dina; brothers retaliate; birth of Benjamin; death of Rachel and Isaac. **Sermon: Rabbinic Intern Hannah Goldstein**

TORAH COMMENTARY

Get more out of the Torah! Read our weekly Torah commentary, written by our clergy and Temple staff, on the Emanu-El website: www.emanuelnyc.org.  **Follow the link from the Home Page.** Previous commentaries can be read through the archive.

BROADCAST OF SERVICES

Sabbath and holiday worship services may be heard live through the Temple website, as well as downloaded and used with a personal audio player. **Follow the "Listen to the Broadcast of Services" link from the Home Page.** 

Launch the Live365 Radio audio player starting at 5:45 PM on Fridays, 10:15 AM on Saturdays and just prior to the start of holiday services. At any other time, launch the Emanu-El audio player, or download the MP3 files. (Right click the links and save the files.) MP3 files and podcasts are available shortly after the completion of the live service and for one week afterward.

Tikkun Olam of Emanu-El

The activities described on these pages have been organized by Temple Emanu-El's Tikkun Olam Committee. All Temple members are invited to participate. Questions should be directed to (212) 744-1400, ext. 452 or tikkunolam@emanuelnyc.org.

(Photos by Gary K. Deane)

Thanksgiving BakeFest

**Tuesday, November 20 and
Wednesday, November 21**

BAKE SWEET TREATS—cookies, brownies and cupcakes (No nuts, please!)—for Temple Emanu-El's Thanksgiving Community Dinner.

This is a wonderful mitzvah that you can do at home. Baked goods must be dropped off at the Temple (One East 65th Street lobby) by 3 PM on Wednesday.

Thanksgiving Community Dinner

**Wednesday November 21 • 1 PM - 6 PM
One East 65th Street (I.M. Wise Hall)**



TEMPLE MEMBERS ARE NEEDED to assist with our fourth annual Thanksgiving dinner for senior citizens, cancer patients, and women and children from NYC homeless and domestic-violence shelters to be held at the Temple on the day before Thanksgiving. Help is needed for setup, kitchen duty, serving dinner and cleanup. Volunteers are needed from 1 PM to 6 PM. Teens and "tweens" are needed to care for and play with the young children.

MITZVAH DAY 2012 —

Donate Goods to Help Others

FROM NOVEMBER 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 9, congregants are invited to donate **new and gently used items**. All items should be in **good condition** and capable of being used for their intended purposes.

WINTER COATS AND JACKETS, HATS, GLOVES AND SCARVES — All sizes for adults and children to be distributed throughout New York City by **New York Cares**.

TOILETRIES — Hotel and trial-sized soap, shampoo and conditioner, hand and body lotion, mouthwash and toothpaste for homeless men and women through our partner organizations, including Temple Emanu-El's **Sunday Lunch Program**; all items must be new and unopened.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS — Has your child given up music lessons? Do you have an instrument, in good condition, that you want to pass along to a NYC public school student?

SPORTING GOODS — We are collecting various types of sporting equipment including baseball mitts and bats, tennis rackets, basketballs and volleyballs.



Sunday Food Delivery

TEMPLE EMANU-EL CONTINUES to make weekly deliveries of food to **Yorkville Common Pantry** on Sunday afternoons. The meals, prepared by the **Sunday Lunch Program**, are distributed through YCP's Emergency Window.

Meals need to be picked up at Temple between 4 PM and 5:30 PM and dropped off at YCP at 8 East 109th Street. Are you able to sign up for one or more of the following dates? This "30 Minute Mitzvah" helps feed some of New York's hungriest men, women and children.

- December 9, 16, 23, 30
- January 6, 13



To volunteer for a specific date, please email tikkunolam@emanuelnyc.org.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9



**ADULT
EDUCATION**

SKIRBALL



Skirball Sunday Seminars are open to the public. Enter at One East 65th Street. Charge is \$60 per person; register with the Skirball Center by calling (212) 507-9580.

From Persecution to Partnership: Jewish-Catholic Dialogue in Recent Times
Sunday, November 4 • 10 AM - 2 PM

JOIN US IN STUDYING some of the classic texts in Jewish-Catholic relations of the last half century. Watch the award-winning film *I Am Joseph, Your Brother* and discuss some of the key issues raised in the film: the history of Catholic anti-Judaism, the problematic period of the Shoah, the relationship of the Catholic Church to Israel and contemporary Jewish responses.

Ask: How has the Catholic Church changed its relationship with Jews and Judaism in recent decades? How have the Jews responded (or not)?

(Lecturers: Rabbi Ron Kronish, EdD, and Father Michael McGarry)

(continued on page 7)

Early Childhood



Holiday Show & Book Fair

**Wednesday, November 14 • 9 AM - 3 PM and
Thursday, November 15 • 9 AM - 2 PM • 10 East 66th Street**

ALL TEMPLE MEMBERS are invited to the Holiday Show and Book Fair sponsored by the **Temple Emanu-El Nursery School**. Take care of all your holiday shopping from our large selection of books, jewelry, clothing, accessories, toys and more!

Temple members who do not have children in the Nursery School MUST register by calling (212) 744-1400, ext. 230.

Religious School



FOURTH GRADE FAMILY PROGRAM

The Story of Prayer

**Sunday, November 4 • 9:30 AM • 10 East 66th Street
Monday, November 5 • 4 PM • 10 East 66th Street**

TEFILAH (PRAYER) PLAYS an important role within the Religious School and the Emanu-El community as a whole. This program will enable **Fourth Grade families** to think and talk about what it means to participate in regular Jewish prayer, to ask big questions, to engage in some "God Talk" and to get connected to worship at Emanu-El.

K-2 GRADE FAMILY PROGRAMS

Food, Family, Blessings

**Sunday, November 18 • 10 AM • 10 East 66th Street
Monday, November 19 • 4 PM • 10 East 66th Street**

PARENTS OF **Kindergarten and First Grade students** are invited to discover how timeless Jewish rituals can guide us in how to make family time special. This brief exploration of food, family and blessings will be followed by our yummy challah baking program for families in **Kindergarten through Second Grade**. Come for the schmooze and stay for the food! You won't be disappointed.

Attendance at all family programs is free, but reservations are required. Contact (212) 744-1400, ext. 334 or family@emanuelnyc.org.



Greenwich Village Excursion

Thursday, November 8 • 11:30 AM • Il Cantinori (32 E. 10th St.)

THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY cordially invites Temple members to join them in the heart of Greenwich Village first for lunch at **Il Cantinori**, a Tuscan restaurant, and then a guided tour of the **Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art School** and discussion with **President Jamshed Bharucha**. (We will meet at Il Cantinori, 32 East 10th Street.)



The Cooper Union, established in 1859, is among the nation's oldest and most distinguished institutions of higher learning—housing schools of art, architecture and engineering, as well as a worldclass faculty of humanities and social sciences. Founded by industrialist, inventor and philanthropist Peter Cooper, the school admits undergraduates solely on merit and awards full scholarships to all enrolled students.

The charge for this event is \$60 for Women's Auxiliary and Men's Club members, \$70 for all other Temple members and their guests. RSVP by November 5: (212) 744-1400, ext. 235 or womaux@emanuelnyc.org.

An Evening With City Council Member Jessica Lappin

Monday, November 19 • 6 PM • One East 65th Street

THE MEN'S CLUB cordially invites Temple members to a reception with **NYC Councilwoman Jessica Lappin**, who will be discussing the Cornell-Technion campus on Roosevelt Island and the Second Avenue Subway. Ms. Lappin represents the Fifth District of Manhattan (Upper East Side and Roosevelt Island) and is an advocate for education reform, the environment and public safety.

The charge for this event is \$30 for Men's Club and Women's Auxiliary members, \$35 for all other Temple members and their guests. RSVP to (212) 744-1400, ext. 250 or mensclub@emanuelnyc.org.



ADULT (cont'd) EDUCATION

Blurring the Lines Between Holy and Profane: Abusive Leadership From the Pages of the Bible to the Pages of Today's Newspapers
Sunday, November 11 • 10 AM - 2 PM

HOW DOES A religious leader become a predator? How does an abusive leader overcome resistance from victims? Is it possible for a leader to repent once the leadership role has been exploited for personal gratification? The Bible addresses these questions in two very disturbing stories: the story of Judah and Tamar, and of David and Batsheva. Note the remarkable similarities between these narratives and then see how the stories demonstrate troubling problems and patterns that persist until this day.

(Lecturer: Judy Klitsner)

PODCASTS

Can't make it to Skirball? Then enjoy the learning experience another way, with Skirball podcasts!

How do you listen?

- iTunes
- Skirball website (Log on to <http://adultjewishlearning.org/index.php?podcasts>)
- RSS feeds





BOOK DISCUSSIONS

MEN'S CLUB

**Wednesday, November 7
8:30 AM • One East 65th
*Hitlerland: An American
Eyewitness to the
Nazi Rise in Power*
by Andrew Nagorski**

**Wednesday, December 5
8:30 AM • One East 65th
*When General Grant
Expelled the Jews*
by Jonathan D. Sarna**

**STETTENHEIM
LITERARY CIRCLE**

**Wednesday, November 14
10:30 AM* or 6:30 PM •
One East 65th Street
Second Person Singular
by Sayed Kashua**

**Wednesday, December 5
10:30 AM* or 6:30 PM •
One East 65th Street
The Sense of an Ending
by Julian Barnes**

** Morning sessions co-sponsored
by the Women's Auxiliary*

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

**Tuesday, November 27
12:30 PM • One East 65th
The Crisis of Zionism
by Peter Beinart
(Our discussion will be led
by Dr. Mark Weisstuch.
Bring your lunch; coffee and
cookies will be served.)**

**Tuesday, January 8
12:30 PM • One East 65th
*Gilgamesh: A New
Rendering in English
Verse* by David Ferry
(Our discussion will be led
by Rabbi Ben Zeidman.)**

Community



Club 65: A Group for Seniors

CLUB 70 STARTED the New Year with a new name—**CLUB 65**, symbolizing both our street location and the lowered age of membership eligibility for Temple members. We look forward to meeting many new members!

Mark your calendars for these upcoming Club 65 events:

Wednesday, November 14 • 11 AM

Dr. Mark Weisstuch presents “The Temple Mount in Jerusalem: Where Earth Meets Heaven.” The Temple Mount is holy ground for all three Abrahamic religions and has been the source of much contentiousness and bloodshed. We will take a visual guided tour of the Temple Mount to gain a deeper, historical understanding of its place in Jewish consciousness.



Tuesday, December 11 • 11 AM

Take a trip with **Cantor Lori Corrsin** into the musical world of Temple Emanu-El and learn about the production of our wonderful choral-music program. Get a peek at what goes on behind the scenes, and tour the second floor choir loft and choral library. You'll have a deeper understanding of what makes our Emanu-El musical repertoire—sung every week, 52 weeks a year—completely unique in the Jewish world.

Tuesday, January 8 • 11 AM

Temple Administrator Mark Heutlinger will reveal an amazing parallel journey. As Jewish immigrants in the mid-19th century were creating an increasingly visible and viable influence in the United States, the phenomenon was mirrored simultaneously in New York City by Temple Emanu-El's rapid growth—from its modest beginnings on the Lower East Side to its magnificent current home on Fifth Avenue.



Tuesday, February 12 • 11 AM

Temple Librarian Liza Stabler will lead a discussion of the book ***When General Grant Expelled the Jews*** by Jonathan Sarna, a riveting account of General Ulysses S. Grant's decision, in the middle of the Civil War, to order the expulsion of all Jews from the territory under his command. Is it time to forgive President Grant?

Participation in CLUB 65 is open to all Temple members age 65 and over; attendance is free of charge. Those interested in becoming a part of CLUB 65 should contact the Men's Club to get on the mailing list, which includes regular newsletters and other items of interest: (212) 744-1400, ext. 250 or mensclub@emanuelnyc.org.

Saviv Shabbat and Oneg

Friday, November 30 • 7:30 PM • One East 65th Street

JOIN US FOR a chance to wind down from the week. We'll enjoy Shabbat services together followed by an *Oneg Shabbat* with wine, appetizers and the chance to schmooze with both new people and old friends! (Make plans with friends for dinner afterward.) Saviv is a program for Temple members and nonmembers in their 20s and 30s.

 **There is no fee for this event, but reservations are required. Send an email to info@saviv.org. Saviv is for 20s and 30s only.**

OTHER EVENTS...

RONALD McDONALD HOUSE

**Next Dinner: Thursday,
November 15 • 5 PM**

Volunteers must be at least 18 years old and in good health. Preregistration with the **Women's Auxiliary** is required; call (212) 744-1400, ext. 235. (Open to Temple members only.)

STITCH'N TIME

**Next Meeting: Sunday,
November 18 • 11 AM - 2 PM**

All Temple members are invited to knit or crochet items for various groups in need. Yarn and patterns are provided, but you must bring your own needles (#8). Light refreshments are served.

Musical Programs



Organ Recital and Demonstration

Sunday, November 11 • 4 PM • Main Sanctuary

TEMPLE EMANU-EL ASSOCIATE ORGANIST

Dr. Andrew Henderson will perform a recital on our magnificent 8,000-pipe organ featuring J.S. Bach's famous *Jig* fugue, Felix Mendelssohn's fifth organ sonata, and works by Edward Elgar, Herbert Howells and Percy Whitlock. He also will perform the colorful *Scherzo-Pastorale* by Gottfried Federlein, Temple Emanu-El's organist from 1915 to 1945. Because the organ console is hidden from view, an image of Dr. Henderson will be projected onto a large screen on the *bimah*. Following the recital, attendees are invited to join Dr. Henderson and **Assistant Organist Daniel Beckwith** in the choir loft for a brief demonstration of the instrument.



EMANU-EL
EATS

WITH ALL BEST WISHES for a happy Thanksgiving, here is another preview recipe from the forthcoming ***Emanu-El Eats*** congregational cookbook.

Temple member Sharon Oberman tells us that this side dish has been a family favorite at her Thanksgiving dinners for many years. She originally received the recipe with a packet of personal recipes tucked into one of her wedding gifts, more than 30 years ago. She has been making it for almost as many years and has found that children prefer an extra tablespoon of butter and no hot mustard. It is a most adaptable recipe.

GREAT CARROTS AND CHIVES

(Serves 6-8)

4 large loose "horse" carrots, peeled and cut in ¼-inch slices
2 tablespoons unsalted butter
2 tablespoons brown sugar
1 bunch chives, finely chopped
dash hot mustard (optional)

1. Steam carrots until soft, yet slightly crunchy.
2. Melt butter in 10-inch or larger skillet; saute carrots.
3. Stir in brown sugar, chives and hot mustard (if using it).



LIFE-CYCLE EVENTS

BAR/BAT MITZVAH PREPARATION

Children must be enrolled in Religious School in order to celebrate bar or bat mitzvah at Emanu-El.

A date can be scheduled when a child is in fourth grade or is 10 years old.

To register your child for Religious School, call (212) 744-1400, ext. 226.

To schedule a date, call Sherry Nehmer at (212) 744-1400, ext. 312.

Families are encouraged to make use of bar/bat mitzvah resources available on the Temple website.

Click "Learning" →

"Religious School" →

"Bar & Bat Mitzvah Program."



A REMINDER ABOUT SPONSORSHIPS

Because the Emanu-El *Bulletin* is a monthly publication, please be advised that we need one month's notice for Pulpit Flower dedications and *Oneg Shabbat* sponsorships.

Call Sherry Nehmer at (212) 744-1400, ext. 312.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY TRIBUTE FUND

Commemorate significant life-cycle events in a meaningful way *and* support the activities of the Women's Auxiliary.

All contributions are listed in *Window on Emanu-El*.

Contact the Women's Auxiliary at womaux@emanuelnyc.org or (212) 744-1400, ext. 235.

Life-Cycle Events



The following students of our Religious School will become *B'NEI MITZVAH* in November:

Saturday, November 3

Samantha Lauren Cole, daughter of Margie and Warren Cole

Jake Ross Cohen, son of Michael and Laura Cohen

Saturday, November 10

Grace Amelia Khaner, daughter of Debbie and Lloyd Khaner

Saturday, November 17

Max Schussler, son of George Schussler and Celia Divino

Josephine de La Bruyère, daughter of Marc de La Bruyère and Stacy Schiff

Caleigh Elson Bader, daughter of Amy and Neil Bader

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

PULPIT FLOWERS at worship services have been donated by the following congregants:

For the Sabbath of November 2 and 3

Jim, Susan and Hannah Baumann
in loving memory of *Jay S. Baumann*

Rhoda Weiskopf Cohen and Family
in loving memory of our dearest
Fanny de Margoulies-Rosenak, today and always

(continued)

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

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.

PULPIT FLOWERS *(continued)*

Mary L. Fleur in loving memory of
her brother, *Robert Thomas Schwartz*

Judie and Howard Ganek in loving memory of
their father, *Reuben Goldstein*

For the Sabbath of November 9 and 10

James Buttenwieser in loving memory of *Bernard Klingenstein*

Kathy Rocklen and Linda Silberstein
in loving memory of our father, *Samuel Hellenbrand*

For the Sabbath of November 16 and 17

Jim, Susan and Hannah Baumann
in loving memory of *Hannah Hirschhorn Baumann*

June H. Jones in loving memory of
Hannah Cohen, and *Helen and I. Henry Hirsch*

For Thanksgiving Services (November 21)

Donald and Susan Marley Newhouse
in loving memory of *Lillian and Harry Marley*

Peg Ogden in loving memory of her parents,
Margaret S. and Stephen A. Ogden; her brother, *Stephen A. Ogden Jr.*;
her grandmother, *Tilda W. Stern*; her aunt, *Katherine S. Oppenheimer*;
and her friend *Twig*

Mr. Harold Prince in loving memory of
his mother, *Blanche Prince*

Oneg Sponsorship (Thanksgiving)

Susan and Donald Newhouse
in loving memory of *Mitzi and Samuel Newhouse*

For the Sabbath of November 30 and December 1

Susan and David Rahm in loving memory of
Susan's mother, *Selma Wiener Berkman*



LIFE-CYCLE EVENTS

OF BLESSED MEMORY

At the time of death, as well as during a period of illness, family members need the comfort, support and caring of a community. Temple Emanu-El's clergy and staff always are available to help soothe these difficult hours. Because there are many ways to honor a loved one, the rabbis and cantor can provide guidance that is suited to your family's personal philosophy. Call (212) 744-1400.

REMEMBERING LOVED ONES

Now that Temple Emanu-El broadcasts its own services over the Internet, we are able to accommodate all congregants who wish to share Sabbath services and have the name of a loved one read during *Kaddish*. If you wish to have a name read, then please call one of the rabbis during the week of *yahrzeit* observance.

WEDDING MUSIC

Planning a wedding at Emanu-El? Well, don't forget about the music! Music can set a memorable tone at your wedding. Listen to musical selections performed by Temple organist K. Scott Warren. MP3 files may be downloaded from the Temple website (www.emanuelnyc.org) to a personal listening device.

Click "Life Cycles" →
"Weddings" →
"Wedding Music."





CLERGY

Dr. David M. Posner, *Senior Rabbi*
Amy B. Ehrlich, *Associate Rabbi*
Benjamin J. Zeidman,
Assistant Rabbi
Lori A. Corrsin, *Cantor*
Dr. Ronald B. Sobel,
Senior Rabbi Emeritus
Hannah Goldstein, *Rabbinic Intern*
David Mintz, *Cantorial Intern*

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Lifelong Learning
Rabbi Alfredo Borodowski,
Executive Director, Skirball Center
for Adult Jewish Learning
at Temple Emanu-El
Ellen Davis, *Director,*
Nursery School
Elizabeth F. Stabler,
Temple Librarian, Ivan M.
Stettenheim Library
Elka Deitsch, *Senior Curator,*
Herbert & Eileen Bernard
Museum of Judaica
Charles S. Salomon,
Funeral Director



Kathryn M. Roberts,
Bulletin Editor/Webmaster

Reform Judaism (from page 1)

But other revolutions were taking place as well. One of them was a mercantile revolution: the development of capitalism. Another was political: the destruction and disappearance of the ancient regimes. By the end of the 18th century, the Jews of Europe started to find themselves caught in the middle of all these revolutionary upheavals. For some, the conclusion was to fight ever more deeply to retain the status quo. As Rabbi Moses Schreiber (the Chatam Sofer) said: “Innovation is forbidden by the Torah.” For others, there was no choice but to travel in new paths.

Conventionally speaking, the beginning of the Reform Movement in Judaism is dated back either to the founding of a private synagogue held first in the home of and then in the school organized by Israel Jacobson in Seesen, Germany, in 1808, or to the establishment of the Hamburg Reform Temple in 1817. It was not uncommon then—or even now—for synagogues to be housed in homes. The father of Henry Toch lived on the Lower East Side and made of his house a *shtiebel* (Yiddish for “little house”), a small synagogue. (Henry was one of our illustrious Temple members and a member of our board in the 1920s, who laid the foundation for our Herbert & Eileen Bernard Museum of Judaica.)

Israel Jacobson did the same thing in 1808. It was interesting that Jacobson’s school admitted both Jews (a majority) and non-Jews as well—perhaps to curry favor with the local authorities. The VERY interesting thing (to me especially) is that one of the non-Jews who attended the Jacobson school was none other than Heinrich Engelhart Steinweg, who came to America in 1853, established a piano manufacturing company and changed his

name from Steinweg to the more English-sounding Steinway. It may have been for this reason that the Nazis suspected the Steinways as having once been Jews—which they never were. Trust me.

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Most historians attribute the beginnings of a reform process in Judaism to this Jacobson school. However, Columbia University historian and professor of Jewish history Michael Stanislawski has brought to light that—unbeknown to most—a private congregation similar to the one established by Israel Jacobson in 1808 actually was founded in Warsaw, Poland, in 1802! This was the initiative of one Isaac Flatau, a former resident of Danzig. Flatau’s synagogue was at first meant only for him and his extended family. After his death, however, it also attracted Jews from Warsaw who already desired a more “modern” service.

In 1840—in the Northwest of the Russian Empire—a modernized synagogue was founded, where the Bavarian-born Rabbi Max Lilienthal preached in German. Let the

record books show that it was he who—in 1846—conducted the first “confirmation service” at Temple Emanu-El—with the participation of both young men and women.

Stanislawski tells us even more. Even in Vilna—the unofficial home base of Eastern European Orthodoxy—a modern synagogue, organ and all, was built in 1847.

With this history of innovation as our premise, we have no doubt that we at Temple Emanu-El have enhanced and augmented the ambiance and the aesthetics of our worship service. Virtually all American synagogues have done the same thing, more or less. Some services are referred to as “folk.” Others are termed “rock.” Even the synagogues of the Conservative and Orthodox American movements have services that are more formal or less formal—some with separate services for women, others that don’t.

The architects of American Reform Judaism in no way termed their aesthetic as “Classical Reform.” For them, it was contemporary—not classical. I can assure you that Bach, Mozart and Beethoven were not under the impression that they were writing “classical” music. They were writing music, period. They just happened to be great—and that is why they endured—while many others were just ordinary.

So, in essence, what are the roots of what we today call “Classical Reform Synagogues”? Professor Stanislawski points out—and as a musician, I believe he is most justified—that “Classical Reform Synagogues” are synagogues that follow the musical tradition of what is called the “Vienna Rite”—a tradition started by the great cantor (and friend of Franz Schubert) Solomon Sulzer of Vienna. His was the first of the great “choral synagogues.” Later, the main and so-

called choral synagogues of St. Petersburg and Moscow were built, essentially according to the Vienna Rite, and then others followed.

This is the chain of tradition that forms the root and core of the “Classical Reform” style of Temple Emanu-El. It has nothing to do with whether one wears or does not wear a *kippah* or a *tallit*. Each and every “Classical Reform Synagogue” can be called “classical” because the music offered in these synagogues was influenced by Europe’s greatest composers and their students—so many of whom were Jews.

The defining characteristic of the Classical Reform service is its music—the spirit of which was translated and transformed from the concert hall to the sanctuary. True, the reality of appreciation for such an aesthetic has diminished over time. There was a time when many more Jewish children were studying music seriously, when more Jewish students filled the great conservatories, and when their faculties were predominantly Jewish artists. It’s an era that has come to a conclusion. My dear friend Byron Janis—one of the great concert pianists of modern times—told me that only 7 percent of the children in the United States currently take music lessons of any sort.

Yet, we ought never despair. Everything has a time, a place and a purpose. Do not forget the words of Ben Azzai in *Pirkei Avot*: “Despise no man, and consider nothing as too far-removed to come to pass; for there is no man but has his day, and no thing but has its place.”

Torah blessings to you all.

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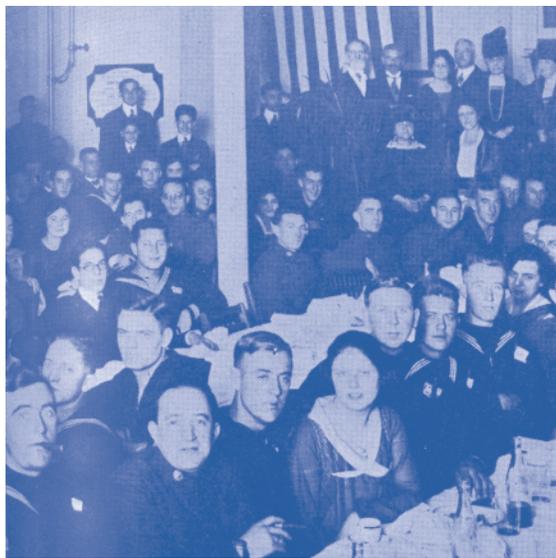
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HERBERT & EILEEN BERNARD MUSEUM

From the Archives

ON NOVEMBER 11, 1918, when the armistice agreement marked the end of World War I, nearly a thousand people of all faiths convened at Temple Emanu-El, and an impromptu Thanksgiving service was held. Two weeks later, Temple Emanu-El hosted a Thanksgiving meal for the 150 soldiers and sailors pictured here. The picture caption in *The Emanu-El Review* noted that the “keynote of the dinner was the patriotic joy over the victory of America and the Allies.” This image was taken in Temple Emanu-El’s home on 43rd Street and Fifth Avenue.

Learn more on the Temple website.
Click “Museum” → “Collection Highlights.”



“Thanksgiving Day Dinner for Soldiers and Sailors at Temple Emanu-El”

November 28, 1918

Photographed by H.J. Paul & Co.

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