



# TEMPLE EMANU-EL Bulletin

Volume 77, Number 37

May 13, 2005

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, May 18 9:30 a.m.  
**Young Families:  
Storytime in the Library**

**J**oin Temple librarian Elizabeth Stabler as she reads from our wonderful collection of children's books. All attendees must preregister by calling (212) 744-1400, ext. 362. This is our final session for the school year.

Monday, May 23 6:30 p.m.  
**Masters of the Baroque:  
Baroque Brass**

**T**he St. Luke's Chamber Ensemble will perform music from the Spanish Renaissance, Isaac, Praetorius and Gabrielli. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, call (212) 594-6100.

## SABBATH SERVICES

**Friday evening, May 20  
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, May 21  
Women's Auxiliary Lounge**

Torah Study—9:15 a.m.  
**Main Sanctuary**  
Service—10:30 a.m.  
Torah Portion—Behar  
Readings—Leviticus 25:1-26:2  
Jeremiah 32:6-27  
**Sermon: Rabbi Amy B. Ehrlich**

Thursday, May 19  
6 p.m.  
**Annual Dinner  
and Samuel Sacks  
Achievement Award**

**MEN'S  
CLUB**

**Honoree: Richard R. Valcourt**

**T**emple members and their guests are invited to join in honoring Richard R. Valcourt for his outstanding dedication and devotion to the congregation. Mr. Valcourt is a past president of the Men's Club and has been a member of the Readers Panel for more than a decade. He currently serves on the Temple Finance Committee.



Mr. Valcourt is a past president of the Metropolitan Conference of Temple Brotherhoods and past chairman of the Social Action Committee at the New York Federation of Reform Synagogues.

**The cost for this event is \$50 person, which includes a cocktail reception and sit-down dinner. RSVP to the Men's Club by calling (212) 744-1400, ext. 250. Please enter through the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65<sup>th</sup> Street.**

Sunday, July 31 1:05 p.m.  
**Outing to Yankee Stadium**

**W**e have obtained an additional block of tickets to see the Yankees play the Angels. Cost is \$20 for Men's Club members, \$25 for nonmembers. To reserve your seats, call (212) 744-1400, ext. 250.

Tuesday, May 17  
6:30 p.m.

**Assimilation and  
Its Discontents:  
Untold Tales From the  
Early History of Reform Judaism**

**Guest Lecturer:  
Jonathan M. Hess**

**A** distinguished expert in German-Jewish cultural and intellectual history, Mr. Hess is professor of Germanic languages at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he also holds an adjunct position in religious studies and serves as the director of the Carolina Center for Jewish Studies.



His most recent book, *Germans, Jews and the Claims of Modernity* (Yale University Press, 2002), explores the contentious debates over the emancipation of the Jews in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early

19<sup>th</sup> centuries in Germany. *Germans, Jews and the Claims of Modernity* was selected by *Choice* magazine as an outstanding academic title for 2003, and it won honorable mention in the Modern Languages Association's Scaglione Prize in Germanic Languages and Literatures for books published in 2002 and 2003.

**This program is the final session in our lecture series co-sponsored by the Herbert and Eileen Bernard Museum of Judaica and the Ivan M. Stettenheim Library in honor of the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Jews in America. Light refreshments will be served after the lecture. Enter at One East 65<sup>th</sup> Street.**

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

MEET  
THE AUTHOR

Tuesday, May 24  
**Playing With Modernity:  
Jewish Popular Culture in  
Prewar Poland**

6 p.m.

**T**emple Emanu-El and the American Society for Jewish Heritage in Poland are pleased to present this multimedia presentation by

**Professor Michael Steinlauf.** The senior historical consultant to the Museum of the



History of Polish Jews, Professor Steinlauf will discuss the thriving culture, both religious and secular, that existed at the crossroads of the *shtetl* and urban metropolis. Through recordings and slides, he will bring to life the political cartoons, postcards, klezmer and theater music, and *badkhonim* that shaped the sights and sounds of everyday life for prewar Polish Jews. This event will be held in Greenwald Hall, One East 65<sup>th</sup> Street.

Wednesday, June 1  
**An Evening of  
Russian and Jewish Music**

6:30 p.m.

**A** principal bass singer with Moscow's famed Bolshoi Opera and a young artist of considerable status, Alexander Kisselev will perform Russian operatic arias and Eastern European Jewish folk music. The cost is \$40 per person, which includes the concert and a champagne reception with Russian delicacies. All Temple members, their families and guests are welcome to participate. RSVP to the Men's Club. Call (212) 744-1400, ext. 250.

Sunday, June 12  
**Shavuos Service and Celebration**

5:30 p.m.

**T**emple members are encouraged to join us for Eve of Shavuos services followed by a dairy dinner and discussion with our rabbis. The cost is \$18 per person. Reserve your seats by calling (212) 744-1400, ext. 215. Make checks payable to Congregation Emanu-El.

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.

## B'NEI MITZVAH

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

*Geoffrey Owen Goldberg,*  
son of  
Dr. Maxine Lubner and Paul Goldberg

*David George Gore,*  
son of  
Heidi and Nathaniel Gore

*Lucas Reed Page,*  
son of  
Janet and Dennis Page

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

## PULPIT FLOWERS

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

Heidi and Nathaniel Gore  
in honor of their son  
*David*  
becoming a Bar Mitzvah,  
and in memory of  
*Jerald Gore and Bertha Rapp*

Richard H. M. and Gail Maidman  
in honor of *Starr Haymes*  
being named  
Manhattan Jewish Experience's  
"Scholar of the Year"

Renee S. Neu  
in loving memory of  
*Emma, Amedeo and Dario Sabatello*

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**For information about sponsoring Pulpit Flowers or an Oneg Shabbat, contact Sherry Nehmer at [snehmer@emanuelnyc.org](mailto:snehmer@emanuelnyc.org) or (212) 744-1400, ext. 312.**

## THE MORGENTHAUS:

By Bettijane Eisenpreis

**B**y an accident of geography, District Attorney Robert Morgenthau is the only one of his siblings to be involved actively in Temple Emanu-El at this time. His sister, Joan Morgenthau Hirschhorn, lives in Connecticut, and his brother, Henry Morgenthau III, in Massachusetts, where he worked at the PBS flagship station WGBH as producer, commentator and writer. After retirement, Henry III wrote *Mostly Morgenthau: A Family History*, a social history of his family, which won the 1992 Jewish Book Council award for best biography/memoir.

Despite the geographic challenges, Dr. Hirschhorn is tied to Temple Emanu-El not only through her family but also through marriage. "My husband's family was very involved with Emanu-El," she says. "His parents were Fred and Hannah Scharps Hirschhorn, and both the Scharps and Hirschhorn families were active members. His uncles, Benjamin and David Scharps, donated the four southeast clerestory windows in memory of their parents."

Dr. Hirschhorn's sister-in-law, Hannah Hirschhorn Baumann, also maintained ties to Temple Emanu-El until her death in 1995. Hannah's son (James Scharps Baumann), his wife (Susan) and their daughter, who attended Temple Emanu-El's Nursery School, remain actively connected to Emanu-El. In 2001, the Baumanns dedicated the Baumann Family Nature Center of the Nursery School.

On a separate note, Joan Morgenthau and Fred Hirschhorn Jr. were married by Dr. Samuel H. Goldenson, who served as rabbi of Congregation Emanu-El from 1934 to 1962. "He had retired by the time we got married, but he agreed to perform the ceremony," Dr. Hirschhorn says. When the Hirschhorn's daughters were very young, the family moved from Manhattan to Old Greenwich, Conn. A pediatrician and the founder of the Mount Sinai Adolescent Health Center, Dr. Hirschhorn commutes to Manhattan to teach at the Mount Sinai Medical School.

Dating back to the first Henry Morgenthau, the ties between Temple Emanu-El and the Morgenthau family run deep. Of Henry's three daughters, Helen (Mrs. Mortimer Joseph Fox) and Alma (Mrs. Maurice Wertheim) are listed in Temple Emanu-El's membership records. There

## A LEGACY OF SERVICE

(PART 4 OF 4)



**THEN  
AND NOW:  
THE FAMILY  
OF DR. JOAN  
MORGENTHAU  
AND FRED  
HIRSCHHORN**



is no information in the Temple archives regarding the affiliation of Ruth (Mrs. George W. Naumburg).

One of Alma's three daughters, the historian Barbara Tuchman, was a member. Our Senior Rabbi Emeritus, Dr. Ronald B. Sobel, officiated at the wedding of Mrs. Tuchman's daughter.

More recently, two of the three Hirschhorn daughters—Joan and Elinor (Ellie)—live in New York and are members of Temple Emanu-El. The third, Elizabeth Hirschhorn Wilson, lives in West Newton, Mass., with her husband (Bruce) and their three children. Both Elizabeth and Joan were married by Temple Emanu-El's Associate Rabbi Amy B. Ehrlich.

In an e-mail, Joan Hirschhorn Bright writes: "One often-retold story of my wedding at our home in Old Greenwich is that Rabbi Ehrlich

kindly insisted that she drive a rental car rather than accept the car service we offered to arrange. It was her first out-of-town wedding, and [because of] the stresses of driving and arriving on time (which was very important to my father), she now only goes by car service!"

The importance of their Temple membership has been something that Mrs. Bright and her sister Elinor Hirschhorn Carroll have chosen to pass along to their children. Both Bright daughters were attendees of Temple Emanu-El's Nursery School and have maintained close ties to some of their Nursery School friends. As the girls have gotten older, however, they've become involved in other Temple programs. "We try to keep them connected to the Temple through volunteer opportunities," Mrs. Bright writes. "They have served Passover dinner to the elderly at Emanu-El and have assisted their father (David Bright) with meal deliveries to the elderly homebound in upper Manhattan."

Mrs. Carroll is likewise enthusiastic about the role of Temple Emanu-El in her family's life. "My husband (Michael Carroll) and I chose Temple Emanu-El's Nursery School because we wanted our children to learn the richness of their Jewish heritage and to enjoy participating in its traditions," she says. "The school has been a terrific experience for them. A highlight this past fall was the special Succah blessing bestowed on them, their classmates, teachers and parents.

"The children love the rituals of the faith, although the theology and history can still be challenging. Last spring when we were reading about Passover at home, my daughter asked, 'What does bondage mean?' 'It means the Jews were slaves,' her father explained. 'And do you know who freed them?' 'Yes,' my daughter replied without hesitation, 'Abraham Lincoln.'"

The story of the Morgenthau family remains inextricably entwined with that of Congregation Emanu-El. It is the story of proud Reform Jews whose Judaism is expressed through devotion to the principles expressed by the prophet Micah: "It has been told thee, O Man, what is good and what the Lord doth require of thee, only to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God." □

## YOUTH GROUPS ON THE MOVE

**A year-end review of youth group activities in words and pictures...**

### **Senior Youth Group's NFTY Program a Major Success**

**T**emple Emanu-El hosted its first-ever National Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY) event on January 9, 2005. With a turnout of more than 65 high school students from 10 different schools, a packed program and Emanu-El's amazing facilities, the event truly was a success.

Borrowing from Lance Armstrong's "Livestrong" campaign, we called the program "Jewstrong." It was the senior youth group's job to give a feeling of empowerment to its guests by going into thorough detail about anti-Semitism in the media, how Jews are portrayed by the media and how our generation can take a positive stand rather than remain passive.

The event was held in I. M. Wise Hall, and many were impressed with its grandeur. As one person noted, "It is the size of my entire temple!" Discussions were led by members of the Senior Youth Group board (Stephanie Gold, Perry Leon, Katherine Haves, Alex Hess, David Guerian-Peck, Seth Werfel, Daniel Bloch Jeydel). Under the direction of Rabbi Nadia Gold and Student Rabbi Howie Goldsmith, youth group members gained experience as Jewish educators. To try and heighten the feeling of community, we sang songs in both Hebrew and English.



After lunch, our discussion shifted toward one of the "hottest" subjects in the Jewish world—Kabbalah. We had a "fact or fiction" game, through which we pointed out many facts that most people did not know about Kabbalah. We looked at Madonna and her obsession with Kabbalah and tried to figure out whether she should be allowed to practice Kabbalah, as she has not yet converted to Judaism.

The entire youth group, led by Ali Kaplan and Alix Greenberg, did a phenomenal job presenting our Temple and our religion in a positive way to our guests. We look forward to hosting future events.

**— Daniel Jeydel**



**Photos from left: Fifth and sixth graders celebrating Chanukah at Our Name is Mud; senior youth groupers in Washington, DC; making mishloach manot at Purim; rehearsing "I Never Saw Another Butterfly" for Yom HaShoah**

## AROUND THE TEMPLE

The Herbert and Eileen Bernard Museum has installed a new exhibition in an illuminated case in the **Leon Lowenstein lobby**. Featuring a lively assemblage of glass lantern slides, these hidden treasures relate to different aspects of Jewish history, art, culture and ritual, and were discovered in boxes among the old Stettenheim Library materials. This spectacular collection of photographic images documents one of the earliest uses of audio-visual techniques for classroom instruction.

The Museum has installed 189 of the slides, which includes images of historical figures; Jewish neighborhoods in Europe and the Middle East; synagogues and cemeteries; Jewish ceremonies; Biblical scenes; illuminated



manuscripts; early printed books; and ritual objects used in the home and synagogue. Some of these pictures are the only known records of objects and places long lost or destroyed. The display is located directly opposite the doors of the Lowenstein auditorium.



**A glass lantern slide is a positive photographic transparency sandwiched between two 3¼-inch by 4-inch glass plates. The slides were projected onto a screen by means of a projector called a “magic lantern.” In the early years of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, glass lantern slides—sometimes hand tinted—were used for entertainment as well as for educational lectures. The slides on view were most likely used for lectures on Jewish history, art and worldwide communities.**



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Web site: [www.emanuelnyc.org](http://www.emanuelnyc.org)

**Dr. David M. Posner**

*Senior Rabbi*

**Rabbi Amy B. Ehrlich**

*Associate Rabbi*

**Rabbi Nadia E. Gold**

*Assistant Rabbi*

**Lori Corrsin**

*Cantor*

**Dr. Ronald B. Sobel**

*Senior Rabbi Emeritus*

**Robert A. Bernhard**

*President*

**Rabbi Leon A. Morris**

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for Adult Jewish Learning*

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*Director of Development*

**Henry Fruhauf**

*Administrator Emeritus*

**Published weekly** September 3 through June 10 by Congregation Emanu-El of the City of New York, formed by the consolidation of Emanu-El Congregation (founded 1845) and Temple Beth-El.

**Postmaster**, send address changes to: Temple Emanu-El Bulletin, One East 65<sup>th</sup> Street New York, NY 10021 (212) 744-1400 Periodicals Postage Paid at New York, NY USPS 891-160.

PERIODICALS POSTAGE  
PAID AT NEW YORK, NY