



TEMPLE EMANU-EL Bulletin

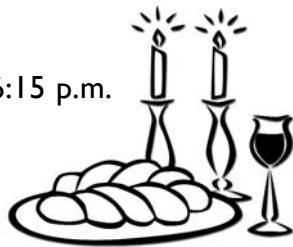
Volume 79, Number 20

January 12, 2007

UPCOMING EVENTS

FAMILY SHABBAT: Worship & Dinner

Friday, January 19 6:15 p.m.



Families with children through early school age will celebrate at a **Young Families Tot Shabbat**. Those with children who can read (through B'nei Mitzvah age) will celebrate with our **Junior Congregation**, led by Rabbinic Intern Adam Rosenwasser. Afterwards, we'll gather for dinner and an art project. RSVP by Wednesday, January 17. (212) 744-1400, ext. **242** for **Young Families**; ext. **501** for **Junior Congregation**

OUR PAST RENEWED, OUR SANCTUARIES PRESERVED

Tuesday, January 23 6 p.m.

The Women's Auxiliary cordially invites Temple members to an insider's tour and explanation of the restoration of our Temple sanctuaries, led by Temple Administrator Mark Heutlinger. Interested in knowing something specific about the restoration? Submit your questions for Mark to the Women's Auxiliary office. Light refreshments will be served.



Enter at the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65th Street. RSVP by phone or e-mail: (212) 744-1400, ext. 235 or womaux@emanuelnyc.org

ALSO: Don't forget the next session of our Book Discussion Group for Women's Auxiliary members—**Tuesday, January 30 at 12:30 p.m.** Rabbi Amy Ehrlich will lead our discussion on *A Woman in Jerusalem* by A. B. Yehoshua.

TIKKUN
OLAM

STITCH'N TIME Sunday, January 21

We are working on two projects: clothes and accessories for babies born at the Maternal Child Health Division of Beth Israel Hospital and blanket squares for the "Sanctuary Blanket" project of The Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services. Attend our group session in the Women's Auxiliary lounge (Room 602) or work from home.

The group meets from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Enter at the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65th Street. (212) 744-1400, ext. 452



SABBATH SERVICES

Friday evening, January 19 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, January 20 Women's Auxiliary Lounge

Torah Study—9:15 a.m.

Main Sanctuary

Service—10:30 a.m.
Torah Portion—Va'era
Readings—Exodus 6:2-9:35
Numbers 28:9-15
Isaiah 66:1-24, 66:23

Sermon: Rabbi Nadia E. Gold

NOTE OF THANKS

As part of Mitzvah Day 2006, congregants prepared Chanukah gift boxes that were sent to our troops overseas. We received the following letter of appreciation.

Dear Congregation Emanu-El,

Thank you very much for the Chanukah presents that you sent our congregation in Baghdad. It was so thoughtful!

Just a bit about myself, I am 26 and the executive officer of a Military Police company. We deployed from South Korea, and when we leave (in about six months), we will go to Hawaii.

Again—Thank you very much!

*First Lieutenant Kathryn Shaw
92nd MP Battalion, 57th MP Company*

BAT MITZVAH

The following student of our Religious School will become a Bat Mitzvah this weekend:

*Sylvana Paola Tishelman,
daughter of
Edward and Ana Tishelman*

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

PULPIT FLOWERS

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

*Mrs. George Lust
in loving memory of
George Lust*

*Rosalind Pretzfelder
in loving memory of her mother,
Tillie Pretzfelder*

**SKIRBALL
CORNER**

*Spring semester begins
Monday, January 29.
To register or for more
information, call (212) 507-
9580 or log on to our Web site
at www.adultjewishlearning.org.*

WHAT'S NEW @ SKIRBALL?

This spring, Skirball will offer six daytime courses—from an early morning Talmud class to a special four-week course exploring women in the Bible. Other semester highlights include several classes in preparation for Purim and Passover; a one-day seminar about Holocaust memorials in Berlin—held on Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day); a special evening lecture with internationally renowned Bible interpreter and teacher Avivah Zornberg; six new Sunday Seminars; and an eight-week course using text and film to explore tensions between Judaism and modern society. And, on January 17, core faculty member David Wachtel continues the second half of the extraordinary multimedia course “Heritage: Civilization and the Jews.” (*This second semester class may be taken independently of the first.*)

SKIRBALL



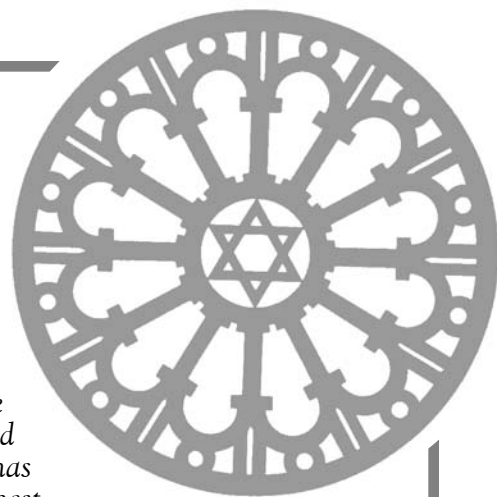
The Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Temple Emanu-El

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.

FROM THE ARCHIVES: CELEBRATING "120 YEARS"

From the Archives is a periodic feature offering a look at the history of Temple Emanu-El.



For those who attended Temple Emanu-El's December 15, 2006, rededication service, it was an evening to remember for many years to come. Not that this should be a surprise...Congregation Emanu-El has a history of celebrating in style.

Among the Emanu-El "notables" is that of the 120th anniversary of the congregation, which culminated in a dinner attended by nearly 1,000 Temple members in the grand ballroom of the Waldorf=Astoria on December 14, 1965—coincidentally, almost 41 years to the day before the recent sanctuary rededication. According to the comments of Dr. Julius Mark, then senior rabbi, the congregation's 120th anniversary was selected because of the significance of "120" in Jewish tradition. Moses was 120 years old when he died—"neither senile nor bowed down by the years." (*Deut. 34:7*) Consequently, 120 is considered an ideal age, and it has become

common in Jewish tradition to wish a person well by saying, "May you live to be 120." Emanu-El's anniversary garnered attention not only within New York but from around the country—evidenced by many telegrams and letters received. Included among these in the Temple Archives is a letter from President Lyndon Johnson, who so eloquently wrote the following:

It has been said that there are two ways of spreading light—by being the candle or the mirror that reflects it. Temple Emanu-El has kept aflame

the candle of the Jewish faith. And its membership has reflected the highest traditions of your heritage.

As part of the 120th anniversary festivities, attendees were treated to a performance of *A Legacy of Light*, a "dramatic narrative recalling" of the foundation of the congregation. This was not an amateur production but rather one with a professionally commissioned script written especially for the 120th anniversary by Marc Siegel. Professional actors were hired—including New York City native

and actress of stage, screen and television Marian Seldes. It also featured music composed by singer/songwriter Oscar Brand, host of the weekly radio show *Oscar Brand's Folksong Festival*, which has aired on Saturday evenings for 81 years.

While serious in nature, *A Legacy of Light* also had humorous moments. In one scene, two women discuss the congregation's decision to purchase an organ:

"I do love the sound of organ music."
"How will we ever afford it?"
"My dear, how can we not afford it? Have you listened to our volunteer choir lately?"

One other passage of the play stands out particularly, perhaps because of its continued relevance:

How shall we measure the influence for good of Emanu-El? Its impact on Jewish life. Its impact on America. Its impact on the world.



From left to right: Robert Bloch, Dr. Julius Mark, Alfred Bachrach, Rabbi Nathan Perilman, Herbert Bernard, Henry Fruhauf

UPCOMING LECTURES

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

Tuesday, January 16
6:30 p.m.



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.

Maimonides and the Art of Giving
Wednesday, January 31
6:30 p.m.



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*.



Maimonides and His Image: The Legacy of His Works and Their Interpreters
Wednesday, February 7
6:30 p.m.

Dr. Benjamin Gampel, the Dina and Eli Field Family Chair in Jewish History at The Jewish Theological Seminary, teaches about medieval and early modern Jewish history, with a focus on the Sephardim.

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Web site: www.emanuelnyc.org

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President
Rabbi Leon A. Morris
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Administrator Emeritus

Published weekly September 1 through May 25 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 65th 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