



# TEMPLE EMANU-EL Bulletin

Volume 77, Number 30

March 25, 2005

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, April 3

3 p.m.

### Young Artists Concert

Award-winning pianist and musical prodigy Esther Park, age 20, will perform in this special program featuring works by Clementi, Chopin, Liszt and Rachmaninoff.



The recital, presented in association with the Stecher & Horowitz Foundation, is one of the rewards for winners of the New York Piano Competition. Born in Pusan, Korea, Ms. Park moved to the United States in 1995 and is a full-scholarship student at the Juilliard School.

This event is free and open to the public. Enter through the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65<sup>th</sup> Street. Call (212) 744-1400, ext. 215 for more information.

## SABBATH SERVICES

### Friday evening, April 1 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, April 2 Women's Auxiliary Lounge

Torah Study—9:15 a.m.  
Main Sanctuary  
Service—10:30 a.m.  
Torah Portion—Shemini  
Readings—Leviticus 9:1-11:47  
Ezekiel 45:16-25

**Sermon: Rabbi David M. Posner**

## WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

Tuesday, April 5  
6 p.m.  
**Holocaust  
Remembrance:  
A Personal Memoir**

Temple members and their guests are invited to a very personal discussion with our Administrative Vice President, Dr. Mark W. Weisstuch. Enter at One East 65<sup>th</sup> Street. RSVP by Friday, April 1 to the Women's Auxiliary at (212) 744-1400, ext. 235.



### Passover items for sale

Passover is right around the corner. We have the seder plate for you. Perhaps you can use candle sticks or a kiddush cup? These and other Judaica items will be on view and available for sale before and after Dr. Weisstuch's talk. Come early, stay late. We look forward to seeing you there!

### Women's Auxiliary membership

Do you know that the Women's Auxiliary...Serves dinners to young cancer patients and their families at Ronald McDonald House? Hosts parties for hospitalized veterans?

Don't delay!

Become a member of the Women's Auxiliary today. Call (212) 744-1400, ext. 235 for more information.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, April 4 6:30 p.m.  
Wednesday, April 6 6:30 p.m.

### **Youth Group Leadership Academy**

Don't miss our final sessions of the school year: Monday for eighth graders, Wednesday for ninth graders. Dinner will be served. We will meet in Room 602.

Saturday, April 9 1 p.m.  
**Fifth and Sixth Grade Youth Group:  
Chocolate Seder**

Join us for our second annual Passover event. Lunch will be served. Cost is \$10 per person. Enter at One East 65<sup>th</sup> Street. RSVP by Wednesday, April 6 to Arin Frome at fromearin@hotmail.com or (917) 886-2722.

Sunday, April 10 12 p.m.  
**Emanu-El League: Sunday Brunch**

Play your favorite board games and enjoy a delicious brunch. The Emanu-El League is a group for Jewish singles in their late 20s through early 40s. Watch your mail for details!

Tuesday, April 12 8:30 a.m.  
**Men's Club: Reading Group**

We will discuss *A Spectacle of Corruption*—author David Liss's sequel to the award-winning novel *A Conspiracy of Paper*—in which main character Benjamin Weaver finds himself convicted of a murder he did not commit and undergoes a daring escape from prison to prove his innocence.

Wednesday, April 13 12 p.m.  
**Beyond Brisket: Passover Luncheon  
and Cooking Demonstration**

The Women's Auxiliary invites all Temple members to this special event with Mark Strausman, executive chef and co-owner of Coco Pazzo Restaurant, who will prepare creative alternatives for Passover dinner, share his recipes and answer questions. The cost is \$60 per person. We will meet at Coco Pazzo, located at 23 East 74<sup>th</sup> Street (between Fifth and Madison). RSVP to the Women's Auxiliary by Friday, April 8. Call (212) 744-1400, ext. 235.

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

FOR  
THE KIDS

Friday, April 8  
6:15 p.m.  
**Junior Congregation**

Join Student Rabbi Howard Goldsmith for a participatory family Sabbath service where you can worship in a relaxed atmosphere with youth-friendly prayers and music. This service is appropriate for children in first through fifth grade, accompanied by their families. Dress is casual. RSVP to (212) 744-1400, ext. 501.

Friday, April 8 6:15 p.m.  
**Young Families: Tot Shabbat**

Families of preschoolers (from age 2½ years) are invited to this worship service geared especially for our youngest Temple members. Grandparents, aunts and uncles also are encouraged to attend. Dinner and an art project follow. RSVP to (212) 744-1400, ext. 242 and follow the prompts.

Families with both older and younger children are invited to attend the Young Families Oneg after services.

## PULPIT FLOWERS

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

Jocelyn and Allan Chait,  
Simone and Alan Hartman  
honor the birth of our grandson,  
*Jeremy Benjamin William Hartman-Chait*

Lisa and Richard Podos  
in loving memory of our mother,  
*Salle Podos Untermeyer*

In memory of *Audrey Priest Rosenfield*,  
a lady who loved flowers

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.

# 350 YEARS OF AMERICAN JEWISH THINKERS: A CELEBRATION OF JEWISH CREATIVITY (PART 7 OF 10)

By Rabbi Rachel Sabath-Beit Halachmi

**F**or many in the field of postmodern Jewish thought, Eugene B. Borowitz—through his careful philosophical and theological analysis of the problems of modernity and the lack of sufficient questioning of prior philosophical systems—has become the intellectual mentor for a new generation of thinkers.

A professor of Jewish theology and philosophy at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York City since 1962, Rabbi Borowitz has taught two generations of the Reform Movement's rabbis, cantors and educators. He is the author of 18 books and hundreds of articles. In 1970 he founded and began publishing *Sh'ma, A Journal of Jewish Responsibility*, a periodical that provided a forum for voices from all segments of the Jewish community to be heard on a wide range of controversial topics. His writings include works on Jewish theology, ethics, liberal Judaism, Jewish responses to Christianity and Rabbinic discourse. One of his earliest works, *The Mask Jews Wear* (written in 1974) received the National Jewish Book Award in the field of Jewish thought and in 1996 was granted the prestigious Achievement Award in Scholarship of the National Foundation for Jewish Culture.

Borowitz's colleagues have praised him with the ability to be a "midwife" to ideas—someone with the unique ability to cross boundaries. In *Renewing the Covenant: A Theology for the Postmodern Jew* (1991)—perhaps his most important work to date—Borowitz sets the agenda for a turn from the concerns and hopes of modernity that were disproved by the Holocaust to those of "postmodernity." Regarding this turn, he writes: "The particular Jewish turn to postmodernity must be envisioned as an aspect of civilization's disillusionment with the modern

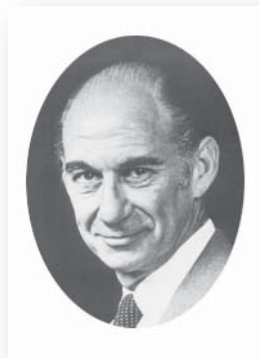
ethos: a consequence of our thorough Jewish modernization and secularization."

Borowitz identifies postmodern theology as the renewal of the Jewish people's covenant with God in a way that compels each of us to live a Jewish life where liberalism and the categories of traditional practice created by Rabbinic Judaism are complementary rather than competing modes of thought.

While Borowitz retains an important lesson of modernity in his theology—that of the autonomy and dignity of the individual—he maintains that we also must have a sense of the compelling nature of Jewish values. In order to live a robust Jewish life, we must have a sense of covenantal responsibility to other Jews (past, present and future) as well as to God. He argues that we, therefore, must carefully take account of our understanding and experience of God and our community's relation to God. "I believe," Borowitz writes, that "we come to God these days primarily as

the ground of our values and, in a non-Orthodox but nonetheless compelling fashion, as the 'commander' of our way of life."

Most recently, Borowitz has completed a long-researched project on the theology of the Rabbis entitled *The Talmud's Theological Language-Game: A Philosophical Discourse Analysis*, which will be published later this year. Students of religion and liberal thought also will be stunned by the power of his collected essays published in *Studies in the Meaning of Judaism* (2002), which outline the development of his thinking. Given his enormously productive life-long work as a theologian, educator, writer, editor, mentor and rabbi, Borowitz's influence is felt directly or indirectly in nearly every area of Jewish life in North America.



**EUGENE B. BOROWITZ**  
(B. 1924)



## AROUND THE TEMPLE

Wednesday, April 6

6:30 p.m.  
**Gotham and the Jews**

**G**uest speaker Kenneth T. Jackson is both the Jacques Barzun Professor of History and the Social Sciences and the director of the Herbert H. Lehman Center for the Study of American History at Columbia University.



This program is a part of a free lecture series open to the public and 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. Enter at the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65<sup>th</sup> Street.

Sunday, April 17  
**Homebound Delivery**

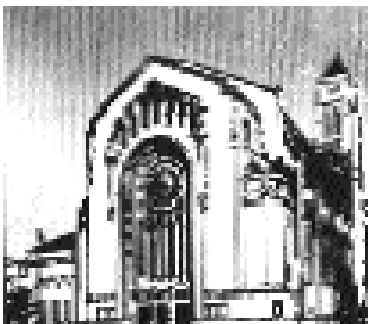
**W**e are seeking members of the Temple—both adults and children—to assist with the preparation and delivery of meals to the homebound for Passover. Preparation begins at 9 a.m. Please let us know if you have a car available for use. We will meet at One East 65<sup>th</sup> Street.

Sunday, April 24  
**Second Seder for the Elderly**

**T**emple members also are needed for our 30<sup>th</sup> annual Second Seder. Set up begins at 1:30 p.m., kitchen duty at 3 p.m. and dinner service at 5:30 p.m.

**To register for either of these mitzvot, call (212) 744-1400, ext. 210.**

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March 25, 2005  
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Web site: [www.emanuelnyc.org](http://www.emanuelnyc.org)

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*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**  
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*Director of the Skirball Center  
for Adult Jewish Learning*

**Dr. Mark W. Weisstuch**  
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**Mark H. Heutlinger**  
*Administrator*

**Robyn W. Cimbol**  
*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