

Upcoming Events

**Erev Sukkot Service,
 Dinner and Bonfire**
Sunday, October 16, 4:30 p.m.

Sukkot
Monday, October 17
 Breakfast, 9:30 a.m.
 Services, 10:30 a.m.

The Lost Art of Jewish Cooking!
*Wednesdays, October 19 & 26 and
 November 2-16, 6:30 p.m.*

**The Art of Writing a Torah
 Scroll: Majesty and Meaning
 with Rabbi Crystal**
Wednesday, October 19, 6:30 p.m.

**What's It All About God:
 An Introduction to Jewish
 Mysticism with Rabbi Crystal**
*Thursdays, October 20-27 and
 November 3 & 10, 10 a.m.*

Sukkot with JYG
Friday, October 21, 5:45 p.m.

**Erev Simchat Torah
 Service & Consecration**
Sunday, October 23, 4:30 p.m.

**Simchat Torah
 Morning Service & Yizkor**
Monday, October 24, 10:30 a.m.

Fall into Fall with OTYG
Saturday, October 29, 6:30 p.m.

**Seeking Everyday Holiness:
 The Mussar Path of Jewish
 Spirituality with Rabbi Crystal**
*Sundays, October 30 and
 November 6 & 13, 10:30 a.m.*

Installation of Rabbi Deana Berezin

Friday, November 18

Services, 6 p.m. followed by an Oneg
 Rabbi Berezin, who has been at Temple Israel since July, will be officially installed at this special Shabbat Worship service. Several members of her family will also attend this special occasion as our entire congregation welcomes Rabbi Berezin. Rabbi will be installed by her former colleague Rabbi Susan Talve, founding rabbi of Central Reform Congregation, St. Louis, MO. Everyone is invited to stay for the Special Oneg following services.



Annual Interfaith THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Sunday, November 20, 5 p.m.

St. Margaret Mary Church, 6116 Dodge Street

Rabbi Crystal, Rabbi Berezin, Cantor Shermet and the Kol Rina Choir will represent Temple Israel and participate in the Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service along with First Christian Church, First United Methodist Church, St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church, Underwood Hills Presbyterian Church, Hanscom Park United Methodist Church and members of the Muslim community. Following the service, there will be a reception with baked goods provided by each congregation. We need a few volunteers willing to help bake some sweets for the service. Contact Program Director Scott Littky if you can help.



Clergy Report

'Tis the Season

There is something about the fall that makes me nostalgic. When I start to see the leaves change on the trees and turn from green into the beautiful yellows, reds, and oranges that are the essence of fall, I think about raking leaves with my dad and flopping down into the big piles only to have to rake them up again. I think about apple picking and apple cider and pumpkin carving. I think about the first time this season that I will really be excited to hold a cup of steaming hot chocolate to warm my hands.

But more than anything else, fall has always seemed like a “family” time to me. Though the dates vary from year to year, there is always a several week block that encompasses the Jewish “holiday season.” As the weather begins to get cooler, we start thinking about what this season will bring us. Growing up, my great grandma, my grandma, my mom, my sister, and I would gather in the kitchen every fall to make honey cakes and apple cakes (using the apples we had picked ourselves, of course!). We would start calling family members to assign who should bring what to our Yom Kippur “break the fast.” Just days later, we would start assembling our sukkah and creating beautiful works of art (and I use that term loosely) with which to decorate it. Before we knew it, it was time to make candy apples for Simchat Torah.

Each family and community celebrates the holidays a bit differently, but nearly everywhere, this season is “family time” whether they are the families we are born with or the families we create for ourselves. This is the season that encourages us not only to think about Judaism, but to live Judaism. These fall holidays are full of opportunities for us to engage in the rituals and traditions that have the power to shape our lives and help us grow and change each season.

During the High Holy Days, we think about ourselves and how we can grow and change in the year to come. During Sukkot, we dwell in our huts and eat delicious meals with our families and friends to celebrate the joy of the season.

We shake the lulav and the etrog to remind us of the bounty of the earth and our connection to it. When it comes time to celebrate Simchat Torah, we consider all the ways that Torah has influenced our lives in the past year and how we it will continue to touch us as we start from the beginning again.

What are some of the ways that we can bring Judaism and Jewish traditions into our lives each and every day? How can we bring some of these traditions from Temple into our homes? How can we create meaningful traditions for ourselves and for our families that help us to access the traditions of our ancestors in new ways?

In this holiday season, I pray that we are all able to find ways to bring these festival rituals and traditions into our lives in ways that help us to expand our understanding of living Jewishly. May we embrace and connect with one another as we allow them to help shape us and our experience of Judaism in the year to come.

May this year be for you and your families a good year, a healthy year, and a year of peace.



Rabbi Berezin



Our Congregation

1st Fridays

Return of First Fridays!

First Friday Shabbat Service & Dinner

Friday, November 4

Candlelighting & kiddush in the Simon Community Court, 5:30 p.m., Services, 6 p.m., dinner following services

Come spend a relaxing Shabbat evening with your Temple Israel family. Our First Friday Temple Israel Band will enrich our service which will then be followed by an amazing Shabbat Dinner prepared by Chef John and will feature his out-of-the-world challah.

Cost is \$5/person, max of \$20 per family.

Please RSVP to Temple Israel, 402-556-6536 or RSVP@templeisraelomaha.com, by Wednesday, November 2.

MENU

chicken piccata
chicken tenders for children
mashed potatoes • seasonal vegetable
apple pie



Bingo • Martinis • Snacks • Fun!

BINGO-TINI

Thursday, November 10, 7 p.m., Temple Israel

For adults of all ages! Come enjoy an evening of bingo and martinis. Cost is \$10. Please RSVP to Temple Israel, RSVP@templeisraelomaha.com or 402-556-6536.



Updates from your Temple Israel Caring Committee!

Temple Israel's newly-formed Caring Committee is only a couple of months old, and we're already off to a great start! We've stocked Temple Israel's freezer with delicious homemade soups, delivered several meals to families in need, and scheduled baking days to supplement various Temple Israel events.

But that's just the beginning! By now, you have hopefully completed and returned Temple Israel's "Needs Survey," which outlines our many upcoming projects and the ways you can get involved. (The survey is available online at www.templeisraelomaha.com)

You can volunteer for a specific project, offer financial support, or join our energetic and enthusiastic committee members, which include: Chair: Gretchen Radler; Assistant Chair: Iris Ricks; Elyce Azriel, Stacie Brodkey, Penny Endelman, Paul and Sally Fine, Shelly Fox, Mitzi Friedman, Andi Willensky Goldstein, Sandi Martin, Jenny Meyerson, Lisa Scheet, Anthony Scioli, Stacie Spies-Matz, Rosie Zweiback, Rabbi Deana Berezin, and Cantor Wendy Shermet.

Please help us reach our goal to create a more caring Temple Israel community!

Calendar

תפילות Pray

Erev Sukkot Service, Dinner and Bonfire

Sunday, October 16, 4:30 p.m.

Our Sukkot celebration and observance will start at 4:30 p.m. with services in the sanctuary. At 6 p.m. we will enjoy dinner and our annual bonfire together. The entire congregation is invited. Bring your family!

Sukkot

Monday, October 17

Breakfast, 9:30 a.m., Services, 10:30 a.m.

Erev Simchat Torah Service & Consecration

Sunday, October 16, 4:30 p.m.

Simchat Torah is a joyous festival, in which we affirm our view of the Torah as a tree of life and demonstrate a living example of never-ending, lifelong study. Simchat Torah also celebrates the beginning of formal Jewish education for young children. An Oneg enlivened by the music of Tuffy Epstein will follow the worship service. The entire congregation is invited. Bring your family!

Simchat Torah Morning Service & Yizkor

Monday, October 24, 10:30 a.m.

If you would like to have the names of your loved ones read at the Yizkor service, please contact the Temple Israel office, 402-556-6536, by Wednesday, October 19.

Blessing of the Pets

Sunday, October 30, 11:45 a.m.

First Friday Shabbat Service & Dinner

Friday, November 4,

Candlelighting & kiddush

in the Simon Community Court, 5:30 p.m., Services, 6 p.m., dinner following services

See information on page 3.

Temple Tots Shabbat

Saturday, November 5, 9 a.m.

All children and their families are invited to participate in a morning of stories, songs, crafts, and activities!



למודים Learn

Religious School Grades PreK-12

Contact Interim Religious School Director Sharon Comisar-Langdon for more information.

Grades PreK-6, Sundays, 10 a.m.-Noon

Grades 3-6, Wednesdays, 4-6 p.m.

Grades 7-12, Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m.

Family School, Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m.

No Morning Religious School on Sunday, October 16 and 23

Erev Sukkot Service

Sunday, October 16, 4:30 p.m.

Join us for 4:30 p.m. service in lieu of morning classes.

Erev Simchat Torah Service & Consecration

Sunday, October 23, 4:30 p.m.

Join us for 4:30 p.m. service in lieu of morning classes.

Grade 5 B'nai Mitzvah Meeting with Cantor Shermet

Sunday, November 6, 10 a.m., Chapel

Adult Education

Contact Program Director Scott Littky for more information.

Torah Study

Saturdays, 9:15 - 10:15 a.m.

Wednesdays @ Temple

The Lost Art of Jewish Cooking!

Wednesdays, October 19 & 26 and November 2-16, 6:30 p.m.

We all love traditional Jewish cooking. Each week we will learn and cook a Jewish recipe with different members of Temple Israel.

The Art of Writing a Torah Scroll:

Majesty and Meaning with Rabbi Crystal

Wednesday, October 19, 6:30 p.m.

Rabbi Crystal has assisted a number of congregations in restoring their Torah Scrolls. He had the opportunity to study with a master sofer, Dr. Eric Ray. Rabbi Crystal will share his experiences in Torah restoration.

Calendar

What's It All About God: An Introduction to Jewish Mysticism with Rabbi Crystal

Wednesdays, October 26, November 2 & 9, 6:30 p.m.

Today, exploration of mystical texts in Judaism is combined with insights from meditation, world spiritual traditions and modern visions of the self and the soul. We will explore mystical texts from the Bible, the master work of mysticism called the Zohar, Hasidic masters and modern rabbis and teachers, including Rabbi Larry Kushner, Sylvia Boorstein and Rabbi Art Green.

A Taste of Talmud: The Most Important Rarely Studied Text in Reform Synagogues

Wednesdays, November 16 & 30, December 7, 6:30 p.m.

The Talmud is the standard upon which modern Jewish life is based. This class will introduce major themes in the Talmud including guidelines for constructive debate, the Rabbis' vision of an ideal society, and the importance of affirming human dignity.

Thursday Mornings @ Temple

What's It All About God: An Introduction to Jewish Mysticism with Rabbi Crystal

Thursdays, October 20-27 and November 3 & 10, 10 a.m.

Today, exploration of mystical texts in Judaism is combined with insights from meditation, world spiritual traditions and modern visions of the self and the soul. We will explore mystical texts from the Bible, the master work of mysticism called the Zohar, Hasidic masters and modern rabbis and teachers, including Rabbi Larry Kushner, Sylvia Boorstein and Rabbi Art Green.

The Magic of Rituals with Rabbi Berezin

Thursdays, November 17, December 1-15 and January 5-12, 10 a.m.

Ritual is one of the cornerstones of Judaism, becoming the way in which we mark significant, transitional moments in our lives. In this class, we will explore Jewish rituals: where do they come from? How have they evolved? What makes a ritual successful? And most importantly, how can we reimagine and reinvent rituals to become meaningful markers in our lives?

Sundays @ Temple

Temple TED Talk

Sunday, October 30, 11 a.m., Media Center

Seeking Everyday Holiness: The Mussar Path of Jewish Spirituality with Rabbi Crystal

Sundays, October 30 and November 6 & 13, 10:30 a.m.

Mussar is a centuries old Jewish body of teachings, a perspective, and a disciplined practice that provides distinctively Jewish answers to the sorts of questions any thinking person asks about life:

- Why do I keep making the same mistakes over and over?
- Why do I cause pain to myself and others?
- What steps can I take to bring my life closer to my spiritual potential?
- Are there lessons I can learn from the experiences of previous generations?

Mussar provides guidance in identifying your uniquely personal path of spiritual growth and offers practices to help bring about that growth. Seeking Everyday Holiness is a program developed by Alan Morinis the founder and Dean of The Mussar Institute. The course will delve into nine of the soul-traits including humility, gratitude, equanimity, patience, order and honor, among others.

Thoughts on Democracy

Sunday, November 6, 10 a.m.

Using the art exhibit in the Simon Community Court, Dr. Ari Kohen, PhD., professor of political science at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, will examine how the different posters relate to the American political system.

Temple Israel Book Club

Sunday, November 13, 10 a.m. Media Center

All are welcome to join our book club. If you would like to join the book club or would like more information, please contact Program Director Scott Littky.

Temple Tots Sunday Mornings

Sunday, November 13, 10:30 a.m.

Children 4 and under (unless enrolled in PreK) and their families are invited to participate in a morning of stories, songs, crafts, and activities!

Calendar

Engage פעילות

OTYG

Contact Director of Youth & Young Adult Engagement Aliyah Lasky for more information.

Sukkot with JYG

Friday, October 21, 5:45 p.m.

Join our 7th and 8th graders at Temple Israel, as we celebrate the Jewish holiday of Sukkot. We will go to services, have dinner in the Sukkah (with a great discussion), followed by snacks and movies! Please RSVP to Aliyah Lasky, alasky@templeisraelomaha.com, or 402-556-6536, by Monday, October 17.

Fall into Fall with OTYG

Saturday, October 29, 6:30 p.m., 4316 S 174th Avenue
Join OTYG 9th-12th graders as we jump right into the fall festivities. This includes dinner, story telling, games, hot cocoa, Havdalah and s'more making! Please RSVP to Aliyah Lasky, 402-556-6536 by Monday, October 24.

OTYG Meeting

Sunday, October 30, Noon

OTYG Program

Saturday, November 5

OTYG Meeting and Donation Day

Sunday, November 6, Noon

Congregation

New Members

Naomi and Michal Gaca along with their daughters, **Annika and MilenaMae** have recently joined Temple Israel. Naomi grew up in Omaha and met Michal in college. They returned to Omaha eight years ago to be closer to Naomi's family. The whole family loves to do outdoor activities as much as possible. Over this past summer, they went camping on the peak of Mount Elbert in Leadville, CO. Both girls enjoyed fishing, hiking, and boating. Naomi, Michal and their girls are thrilled to be a part of the Temple Israel family!



Cari Green, has recently joined Temple Israel. Cari grew up in Omaha. She attended Bradley University where she received her Bachelor's Degree and she received her Master's Degree at UNO. Cari is employed at Russell Middle School in the Millard Public School District. Cari also has been a huge help so far this year in our religious school serving as a substitute teacher.

Jayne and Altan Ruback are new to Temple Israel. Both have lived their whole lives here in Omaha where they also raised their sons, **Andy and Michael**. Currently, Andy and his wife Teresa and their two children are also members of Temple Israel. Both Altan and Jayne are now retired and are looking forward to being involved at Temple Israel.

Kari and Brandon Tauber have recently moved back to Omaha over this past summer. Kari grew-up here at Temple Israel and her father Paul is a past president of the congregation. They have three children, **Taylor** who is in kindergarten and twins, **Tori and Halle** who are four years old. They are excited to be back in Omaha and Temple Israel where they are now closer to Kari's family and old friends.



Congregation

B'nai Mitzvah בני מצוה

Emma Fingold, daughter of Carrie and Steven Fingold, will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, October 22. Emma is a 7th grade honor roll student at Kiewit Middle School. She is a member of the cross country and track team at Kiewit. Emma enjoys golfing, baking, traveling and spending time with her family and friends. For her Mitzvah Project, Emma cooked and baked meals for the Rainbow House. She also created and sewed, "healing bags," for families of sick children at Children's Hospital. Emma is the sister of Mikey Fingold.



McKenna Blake will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, October 29. She is the daughter of Denise and Chris Blake and the sister of Peyton. McKenna attends Bennington Junior & Senior High School where she is an 8th grade honor roll student. McKenna enjoys dance, plays the tenor saxophone in band, is on the track team and plays soccer for Bennington United. For her Mitzvah Project, McKenna volunteered at the Stephen Center serving meals and HETRA. For HETRA (Heartland Equine Therapeutic Riding Association), she worked with horse trainers that offer therapeutic riding to people with disabilities.



In Sympathy נחמה

The Congregation records with sorrow the deaths of our members' relatives...

LeRoy Gilmore, preceded in death by wife Oralea, and parents Warren and Bernice Rose. Survived by children Sharla Tanga (James), Raymond Gilmore (Kimberly), Rebecca Gilmore, Rockie Gilmore, LeRoy Gilmore, Annette Pena (Lorenzo), nine grandchildren, thirteen great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild, brothers Don, Lloyd, Lyle, and Michael Gilmore, sister Kaye Gilmore;

Helen Levin Glazer, preceded in death by parents Joseph and Esther (Goodsite) Levin. Survived by husband Milton, three children and their spouses Jane and Harlan Rips and their children Sara and Anne; James and Liz Glazer and their daughter Madelyn; Bruce and Wendy Glazer and their children Shayna and David; brother and his wife David and Marcia Levin;

Michael Litt, preceded in death by parents Margeree and Joseph Litt, and pets Buddy, Cookie, and Bethoven. Survived by wife Debra Litt, daughter Jill Oseas, brother David Litt, sister Shari Lipshutz, nieces and nephews;

Stanley C. Silverman, preceded in death by parents Bessie and David Silverman, sisters Esther (Al) Weiner and Goldie Rosenbaum. Survived by wife Norma Silverman, daughter Denise Silverman, son Jeffrey (Mary Kay) Silverman, grandchildren Monica Stoney, Lance (Anne) Silverman, Brian Silverman, and Howard Scott (Yael) Silverman, great-grandchildren Jacob, Andrew, and Abigail, Gabrielle and Noah Silverman. Brother-in-law William Rosenbaum, brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law Millard (Beverly) Seldin and Ted (Sarah) Seldin and many nieces and nephews;

Joodi Veitzer, preceded in death by parents, Benjamin and Sylvia Lewis. Survived by husband Norman Veitzer, children Scott (Chris) Veitzer, Pamela (Matt) Schwab, Poly Veitzer, grandchildren Jordan and Zachary Schwab, sister Nancy Lazer, other loving family and friends;

...and extends sympathy to their bereaved families.

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CANTOR Wendy Shermet
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Dennis DePorte
INTERIM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DIRECTOR Sharon Comisar-Langdon
PROGRAM DIRECTOR Scott Littky
DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT ENGAGEMENT Aliyah Lasky
OFFICE MANAGER Misty Weidner



*LEFT: Andie Gordman, Lindsey Thomas and Dan Fitzgerald snap a selfie while picking apples at Ditmar's Orchard as part of our new 613 Mitzvah Club.
RIGHT: Changing the Torah covers on S'lichot.*