

TIDINGS

October 2017 · תשרי / חשוון · 5778

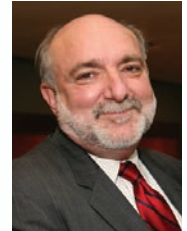
Temple Israel

The Reform Jewish Congregation of Omaha



Rabbinic Installation and Scholar-in Residence Weekend with Rabbi David Ellenson

Rabbi David Ellenson is an internationally renowned historian, sociologist, and scholar of Jewish life, an energetic and engaging teacher, and a true mensch. He is the immediate past president of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, the seminary that trains Reform rabbis and scholars, and currently serves as its Chancellor. For the past several years, he has also been one of Rabbi Stoller's primary mentors in his doctoral work in Jewish law.



Friday, November 3

Celebratory Shabbat Dinner, 5:30 p.m.

RSVP online at templeisraelomaha.com/stollerdinner by Monday, October 9, to confirm your seat at dinner.

Shabbat Installation Service, 7 p.m.

Jewish Meaning in a World of Choice: Visions of Synagogue Life in 21st-Century America

Judaism and Jewish institutions are changing rapidly as America's open and accepting society offers American Jews countless opportunities for engagement in cultural, social, and civic life. Rabbi Ellenson, Rabbi Stoller, and Rabbi Azriel will offer insights as to why the synagogue is more important today than ever as a place where we can discover meaning and purpose through the brilliance of Jewish tradition.



Saturday, November 4

Morning Adult Study With Rabbi Ellenson, 9:15-10:15 a.m.

Do Not Separate Yourself from the Community: A Study in Principled Rabbinic Leadership

As some Orthodox leaders argued for hostile resistance and complete separation from the new Reform Jewish movement in 19th-century Germany, one Orthodox rabbi stood firmly for reconciliation. Rabbi Ellenson will examine this rabbi's stance as an example of principled rabbinic leadership in the face of intense political pressure.

Afternoon Study with Rabbi David Ellenson and Rabbi Brian Stoller, 1 - 2:30 p.m.

Reform, Resistance, & Change Management: The Great Organ-Music Controversy

Organ music, one of the most radical and controversial innovations that early Reform Jews introduced into the synagogue, sparked both outrage and intrigue in its time. Rabbi Stoller and Rabbi Ellenson will explore responses to the organ, and lead us in conversation about what the great organ controversy can teach us about managing inevitable change in Jewish worship practices.

Sunday, November 5

All School Family T'filah, 10 a.m.

Join our Religious School for this special time of *t'filah*, story, and song as we celebrate Rabbi Stoller's Installation weekend.

This weekend is sponsored by the Hermene Zweiback Center for Lifelong Jewish Learning

It is a Tree of Life

"It is a tree of life to all who grasp it, and whoever holds on to it is happy; its ways are ways of pleasantness, and all its paths are peace." - Proverbs 3:17-18

The Torah is our tree of life to those who hold fast to it. We look to Torah to teach us the ways of living, to give us a framework for how we shape our lives. We study Torah each week and search for meaning in the text. We look to the ancient words to speak to us in our modern 21st century life – and they do. Though they were written in another time in a world far different from the one we live in today, they speak to us on an intellectual level, on an emotional level, and on a spiritual level. We read the stories of our matriarchs and patriarchs, about our miraculous escape from Egypt, about desert wanderings as our ancestors worked to create community, and even now, we see ourselves in the text. In our reading of Torah, we are linked to generations of Jews, past, present, and future as we hold fast to this sacred book.



Rabbi Berezin

The Torah is broken up into 54 different *parshiot*, or sections, which are assigned to different weeks of the year. Each year we study the entire Torah. Why? Because each year we find something different, something new that stands out to us.

We both conclude and begin Torah again on the holiday of Simchat Torah. This holiday, which immediately follows Sukkot, is a joyous celebration filled with singing, dancing, and prayer. During our service, we will unroll the entire Torah and read from the last verses of Deuteronomy and the first verses of Genesis. In doing so, we affirm that Torah is one of the foundation stones upon which we build our lives.

It has become a tradition at Temple Israel to include another very important milestone in our celebration: Consecration. Consecration represents the formal beginning to a child's Jewish education. Our kindergarteners will join us on the bima and we will put into their hands small Torahs to symbolize the important role that Judaism and Torah will play in their lives. We include this celebration on Simchat Torah as a reminder that we all play a part in the education of our children. Together, we teach our young people about the importance of Torah, of prayer, of *tzedakah*, of *tikkun olam*, and of being part of this holy community.

We hope that you will join us for this celebration of Torah and of learning on Wednesday evening, October 11, 6 p.m. Together, we will pray and sing the words of *Eitz chayim hi*, reminding us that the Torah is truly a tree of life for we who hold fast to it.

Deana S. Berezin

Temple Israel Tree of Life

Are you looking for a unique and symbolic way to honor a loved one or to commemorate a joyous occasion such as a birth, Bar or Bat Mitzvah, graduation, wedding, anniversary, or other milestone? Leaves or Boulders are available for purchase "in honor of" or "in celebration of" groups or individuals on the Tree of Life located in our community corridor. Each contribution is dedicated to the beautification of our synagogue. All donations are tax deductible. Contact Office Manager Misty Weidner, 402-556-6536, for more information.

Life and Legacy: Will You Ensure Jewish Tomorrows?

What is LIFE & LEGACY™?

Through training, support and incentives, LIFE & LEGACY™ motivates the Jewish organizations like Temple Israel to integrate legacy giving into their philanthropic culture assuring Jewish tomorrows.

Why Participate?

By leaving a legacy, you can assure that the traditions and our congregation will exist for future generations. Why did other Temple Israel members participate?

"We did it because it is important to sustain a vibrant Jewish community in Omaha, Nebraska."

- Denise and Jon Meyers

"We did it because we want to perpetuate our values. We believe Reform Judaism is our future - it integrates modernity and ancient teachings, a task that every generation needs to do. Looking at the stained glass windows reminds me of 40 years of celebrations, of family joy and family sorrows, we want that for our next generation, and that's why we did it."

- Sally and Gary Kaplan

How DO I Participate?

Temple Israel and the Jewish Federation of Omaha Foundation's professional staff can assist you in joining the other 60 Temple Israel families who have committed to create an endowed gift. Please contact Executive Director Dennis DePorte, 402-556-6536, with any questions or to establish your legacy. Together, we guarantee a Jewish tomorrow.



Religious School



Toda raba!

Thank you for being on the journey of learning with our children!

Religious School Families, watch for Sharon's monthly emails on Religious School event details and calendar changes. Contact Religious School Director Sharon Comisar-Langdon for more information.

Saturday, October 7	Temple Tots Shabbat
Sunday, October 8	Grades PreK-6 Clergy Sukkah Open House Hop Watch for details on this fun family Sukkah experience with our Clergy!
Wednesday, October 11	Grades K-12 Erev Simchat Torah & Consecration Watch for details on this meaningful family Simchat Torah experience.
October 13 - October 16	Grades 9-10 Class Trip to New York City
Sunday, October 15	Grades K-6 Religious School & Temple Tots Parasha Noach Bless the Pets
October 18 - 22	Fall Break, No Religious School
Wednesday, October 25	Grades 3-6 Religious School, School Dinner, Family School Grades 7-8 Religious School Grades 11-12 Student and Parent Israel Trip Meeting
Sunday, October 29	Grades PreK-6 Religious School & Jewish Camp Fair
Wednesday, November 1	Grades 3-6 Religious School, School Dinner, Family School Grades 7-12 Religious School
Friday, November 3	Rabbi Stoller's Installation
Sunday, November 5	All School Family T'filah: Join our Religious School for this special time of <i>t'filah</i> , story, and song as we celebrate Rabbi Stoller's Installation weekend. Grades K-6 Religious School Grade 5 Student and Parent B'nai Mitzvah Meeting
Wednesday, November 8	Grades 3-6 Religious School, School Dinner, Family School Grades 7-12 Religious School
November 10 - November 12	OSRUI Camp Weekend

OSRUI Weekend

Friday Night Service and Scholarship Drawings

Friday, November 10, 6 p.m.

Join us and the new OSRUI Camp Director Solly Kane for services, special scholarship opportunities, and a special drawing for scholarships! Parents may register their child(ren) to win 1 of 2 \$1,000 overnight Jewish Camp scholarships. One scholarship will be for OSRUI and one can be used at any Jewish overnight camp. Contact Temple Israel, 402-556-6536, to register no later than Monday, November 6.

Lunch Parlor Meeting with OSRUI

Saturday, November 11, 12:30 p.m.

Home of Rabbi Stoller, 16622 Howard Circle

Temple Israel families, join us and OSRUI Director Solly Kane for a lunch parlor meeting at Rabbi Stoller's house. If you have a child in 1st-12th grade and want to learn more about OSRUI and

all that it has to offer, join us for a more personal conversation about camp. RSVP to Aliyah, alasky@templeisraelomaha.com by Monday, November 10.

OSRUI Alumni Event

Saturday, November 11, 7:30 p.m.

Home of Rabbi Azriel, 13635 Walnut Street

Calling all alumni members of OSRUI: Join Solly Kane at Rabbi Azriel's home for Havdallah and desserts. A great chance to catch up with old campers/counselors and schmooze with the camp director! RSVP to alasky@templeisraelomaha.com by Monday, November 6.

OSRUI at Temple Israel's Religious School

Sunday, November 12, 11 a.m.

OSRUI Camp Director Solly Kane will be speaking with Grades K-6 during Religious School about what OSRUI is all about.

Youth & Young Adults

OTYG & JYG

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

Tri-Faith Teen Youth Program

Saturday, October 14, 2-4 p.m.

Join teens from Temple Israel, Countryside and AMI at the Sozo Coffeehouse downtown on October 14 for Minute to Win It and an Un-Talent show. Make sure to bring money for food and drinks! We hope to see you there with us. RSVP by Sunday, October 1, to benleathersarnold@yahoo.com.

OTYG's Lounge Night

Thursday, October 26, 5-7 p.m.

OTYG Meeting

Sunday, October 29 and November 5, 12-1 p.m.

Vala's Pumpkin Patch with JYG

Sunday, October 29, 2-5 p.m.

Join JYG at Vala's Pumpkin Patch for some hayrack rides, mazes, and apple blasters! \$25 includes admission fee and activities. RSVP to Aliyah, alasky@templeisraelomaha.com by Monday, October 23.

OTYG Program

Saturday, November 4, 1-4 p.m.

Mission Impossible with JYG

Sunday, November 5, 2-4 p.m.

Join JYG at The Escape Room in Omaha! An hour session where the JYG youth group will work together and strategize a mountain of puzzles and mysteries in a room. During this engaging and challenging game team members truly live and breathe in union for an hour. RSVP to alasky@templeisraelomaha.com by Monday, October 30.

High Holiday Thank You's

To those who accepted Pulpit honors: Jared Berezin, Sharon Comisar-Langdon, Justin Cooper, Karen Flayhart, Andie Gordman, Susie Norton, Rosie Zweiback, new members, members of 30 plus years of membership.

To Kol Rina and our Teen Choir for participating in High Holiday Services.

To the greeters and ushers who welcomed congregants.

To our readers and chanters: Zach Atlas, Julia Brodkey, Pam DePorte, Emma Fingold, Rose Friedland, Zev Gordman, Andy Isaacson, Susan Lehr, Adam Raffel, Miles Remer, Rachel Stoneking

To our Torah holders: Dan Gilbert, Andi Gordman, Lester Katz, Steve Levinger

To those who sounded the Shofar: Len Burrell, Henry Cohen, Dan Gilbert, Micah Gilbert, Noemi Gilbert, Anna Gittelman, Leo Grau, Joe Hack, Katie Howell, Gail Knapp, Alex Kraft, Ryan Kugler, Mario Lopez, Nate Shapiro, Lindsay Stoller, Asher Tipp, Brandon Wigodsky, Jacob Wigodsky

To those who baked for the S'lichot Oneg: Mindi Armstrong, Marlen Frost, Sandy Nogg

To those who changed the Torah Scroll covers on S'lichot: Jacob Arnold, Sophie Budwig, Naomi Fox, Marlen Frost, Hannah Goodman, Natasha Kraft, Justin Norton, Patsy Wallace

JYG and OTYG for kicking off the High Holiday food drive at Rosh Hashanah services.

To those who prepared and delivered apples and honey to our octogenarian members: Ilene Arnold, Jay Benton, Anne Cohen, Justin Cooper, Dennis DePorte, Pam DePorte, Penny Endelman, Renee Handleman, Kris Faier, Katherine Finnegan, Claire Flatowicz, Shelly Fox, Jackie Friedland, Gail Knapp, Gail Kohl, Sandra Martin, Margaret Mayhugh, Susie Norton, Sarah Odem, Ellen Platt, Gretchen Radler, Al Rieder, Joan Rieder, Lisa Scheet, Barb Widman, Rosie Zweiback

To those from the Tri-Faith committee for preparing apples and honey to share with our congregation: Gail Gnapp, Dora Goldstrom, Jackie Grau, Sheri Hess, Bonni Leiserowitz, Lee Needleman, Al Rieder, Judy Roberts, Dorothy Spizman

Pray • Learn • Engage

Temple Tots Program

Saturday, October 7, 9 a.m.

Sundays, October 15, 10:30 a.m.



We are looking forward to a year full of fun activities and Jewish learning with our youngest members and their families. Enjoy stories, songs, crafts (and bagels, of course!) with your child, while connecting with our Temple Israel community. All are welcome – bring your friends!

Simchat Torah Service and Consecration

Wednesday, October 11, 6 p.m.

Join us in celebrating our kindergarteners as they begin their Religious School education. The children will receive a blessing from clergy and join in parading the Torah scrolls around the Sanctuary. As in past years, there will be music provided by Tuffy Epstein and dancing with our Torah scrolls. Heavy hor d'oerves and ice cream will be served.



Simchat Torah Morning Service and Yizkor

Thursday, October 12, 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 Monday, October 9.

Young Families/Old School Shabbat

Friday, October 27, 5:45 p.m.

Looking to make friends at Temple Israel or reconnect with folks you already know?



In partnership with PJ Library, we invite you to join us for an Old School Shabbat dinner & songs. We welcome all families with young children, young couples, or anyone wanting to meet new people at Temple Israel. Dinner is included as well as fun activities to keep the kiddos busy. Together, we will talk, sing, eat, pray, and enjoy Shabbat together. We hope this becomes a tradition at Temple Israel and at your home as well. Cost: \$5 per child, \$7 per adult, max \$25 per family. RSVP to Temple Israel, 402-556-6536, by Tuesday, October 24.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 19, 5 p.m.

First Central Congregational Church, 421 S 36th Street

The service will include music and songs from a combined choir made up



of members of the various participating congregations, including Temple Israel's Kol Rina. Monetary donations and non-perishable food will also be collected for Together, a non-profit organization dedicated to preventing homelessness and assisting those in need.

Pray • Learn • Engage

Wednesday Evening Adult Education

Guiding Principles for the Synagogue Community

Wednesdays, 6:30 - 8 p.m.

What does it mean to be a community committed to principles like holiness, courage, kindness, compassion, respect for human dignity, and reverence for God? Are we living on a daily basis by the values we profess to hold dear? The traditional Amidah prayer provides keen insight into Judaism's guiding principles. During the course of the year, our clergy will lead us in an in-depth exploration of these principles and engage us in honest conversation about who we are and who we want to be – as a congregation, as Jews, and as human beings.

Avot v'Imahot: Know that We are Part of Something Bigger than Ourselves

Taught by: Rabbi Brian Stoller

October 25

G'vurot: Believe that We Can Achieve Greatness

Taught by: Rabbi Brian Stoller

November 1

K'dushah:

Embody Jewish Values in Everything We Do

Taught by: Rabbi Deana Sussman Berezin

November 8

Thursday Morning Symposium

Jewish Heroes, Heroines, and Personalities

Thursday, 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Through study of their writings, speeches, and music, along with biblical and historical sources, we will learn about some of the most fascinating personalities who have shaped the Jewish experience from ancient times to the modern day. The Symposium will be taught by Temple Israel clergy, with guest sessions led by our Tri-Faith clergy partners and other outstanding teachers in the Omaha Jewish community.

David Ellenson

Taught by: Rabbi Brian Stoller

October 19 & 26, November 2

Hagar and Ishmael

Taught by:

Imam Mohamad Jamal Daoudi,

American Muslim Institute

November 9 & 16

 Hermene Zweiback Center
Lifelong Jewish Learning

This is Hunger

October 1-4

This Is Hunger is rolling into your community! Join us and embark on

a 45-minute multimedia experience that will

challenge your beliefs about who in America struggles with hunger and why, and empower you to take action. Visit thisishunger.org to reserve free tickets! #thisishunger



Party in the Sukkah for Adults Only

Saturday, October 7, 6-10 p.m.

Home of Rabbi Stoller, 16622 Howard Circle

Celebrate the holiday with food, drink, music, and friends under the stars at Rabbi Stoller and Karen Flayhart's home. This event is free, though reservations are required. RSVP to Temple Israel, 402-556-6536 or RSVP@templeisraelomaha.com, by Friday, September 29.

Holy Smokes!

Stogies, Scotch, Snacks, Sukkah, and Stoller

Tuesday, October 10, Temple Israel Sukkah

Led by Rabbi Stoller, this men's only evening will feature cigars, beer, whiskey, and philosophical discussions of men's issues and perspectives from Jewish texts. This event is free, though reservations are required. RSVP to Temple Israel, 402-556-6536 or RSVP@templeisraelomaha.com, by Friday, September 29.

Temple Israel Book Club

Sundays, October 15 and November 12, 10:30 a.m.

Belonging to a book club gives you an opportunity to discuss your feelings about a book or author with others. It's a great way to meet people from Temple Israel and learn about new books to read and *kibbutz* over a cup of coffee. The group's next two books are: *The Boys in the Boat: Nine*

Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics by Daniel James Brown and *Hummingbirds Don't Fly In The Rain* by Kimberly Klein, a new member of Temple Israel.

A Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan Seminar by Susan Wier, Financial Advisor

Sunday, October 22, 4-6 p.m., Temple Israel

Susan Wier, Certified Financial Planner, Chartered Financial Consultant, and Registered Financial Consultant with over 34 years of experience will provide useful tips and advice to help you prepare to handle the affairs of a loved one following a death. Hosted by Pam DePorte and Penny Endelman. RSVP to Temple Israel, 402-556-6536 or RSVP@templeisraelomaha.com, by Thursday, October 19.

Pray • Learn • Engage

In Harmony: Shabbat Worship with Music by Omaha Conservatory musicians

Friday, October 27, 6 p.m.

Ruth Meints, the Executive Director of the Omaha Conservatory of Music since 2005, will be joined by several Conservatory students and Artist Faculty to celebrate Sabbath. Ms. Meints will discuss the building renovations to our former building on Cass Street which is now home to an outstanding artist-faculty with over 700 students taking private lessons and over 1,100 young musicians enrolled in the Omaha Conservatory's community programs, such as String Sprouts. In Harmony is under the auspices of the Hermene Zweiback Center for Lifelong Jewish Learning sponsored by Debbi and Speedy Zweiback.

Omaha Conservatory of Music Tours at 7023 Cass Street

Sunday, October 29, 1-2:30 p.m.

Tours of the renovation will be available for Temple Israel members followed by a sweet treat and an additional student performance by the Omaha Conservatory's premiere performing group, Frontier Strings.



Stephen Center 5th Sunday Breakfast Preparation & Serving

Sunday, October 29, 7:30 a.m.

Every 5th Sunday of the month, Temple Israel helps prepare and serve breakfast along with helping to provide the items for the breakfast. If you would like to volunteer or donate, please contact Temple Israel, 402-556-6536, for more information.



Temple Ted Talk

Sunday, October 29, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. Media Center

Temple Israel member Justin Cooper is sharing a talk from journalist Krista Tippett: "Reconnecting with Compassion." The term "compassion" - typically reserved for the saintly or the sappy - has fallen out of touch with reality. At a special TEDPrize@UN, journalist Krista Tippett deconstructs the meaning of compassion through several moving stories and proposes a new, more attainable definition for the word. All are welcome to come to this event. We will watch this video together and discuss our reflections with fellow Temple Israel members.

Grief Support Group

For many, support groups are also important in the grief process. Some feel ready to begin at 3 months, some at 6 months, some may not feel ready until a year passes. Whenever you feel ready, Temple Israel's Grief Support Group will welcome you. It is with this in mind that we would like to invite you to participate in our Grief Support Group, led by Marla Cohen, MS, NCC, LMHP. With Marla, you will have an opportunity to listen and learn from others who find themselves in similar situations as they strive to find a "new normal" in their lives. As you connect with others in the group, you will support one another through the grief process. If you have any questions about the Grief Support Group, please call the Temple Israel office, 402-556-6536.

Community

Unfinished Stories:

Hindu Scriptures and Jewish Midrash

Monday, October 16, 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Hindu Temple, 13010 Arbor Street

In the Hindu and Jewish traditions, storytelling is important to share the values of the religion. Please join us for an evening of presentation and conversation with two scholars of their traditions: Dr. Tulika Chandra and Rabbi Aryeh Azriel. They will share stories and explore the deeper meanings, allowing for dialogue with all those present. This event is sponsored by the Vedantic Center of Nebraska and the UNO Schwalb Center for Israel & Jewish Studies.

Calling All Families!

Tri-Faith Kids Welcoming New Members

2nd Saturday Each Month, 5-6:30 p.m.

Tri-Faith Kids is a family-centered group that invites community members to gather once a month to share stories and a potluck meal. We learn about each other's faith beliefs, prayer, and customs in a non-threatening, non-evangelical way through storytelling, conversations, and community service. Tri-Faith Kids is open to families with infant through high school aged youth. If you have any questions or would like to sign up, email Anji at anjistanek1@gmail.com.



Our Congregation

B'nai Mitzvah בני מצוה

Temple Israel has one Saturday Shabbat morning service for the entire congregation. When there is a B'nai Mitzvah followed by a reception, all are welcome to stay for lunch. The following B'nai Mitzvah students will lead services in the weeks ahead. We wish them and their families a mazel tov!

Max Vitek will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, October 14. He is the son of Edye Roffman. Max is a 7th grade Honor Roll student at Kiewit Middle School. He enjoys football, chess, gaming apps, and is a lover of dogs. Max has been helping out at the Rose Blumkin Home for his Mitzvah Project. He is the grandson of the late Normand and Phyllis Roffman.



Alexander Kugler will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, October 21. He is the son of Traci and Lance Kugler and brother of Lauren, Megan, Ryan, and Evan. Alex is a 7th grader at Westside Middle School. He enjoys tennis, spending time with family and friends, and attending Camp Sabra, where he received the Tomahawk Award given to the outstanding camper of the year. For his Mitzvah Project, Alex volunteered at the Special Olympics where he helped with swimming, track and field events, and played basketball with the athletes.



Abbey Michael Milder will celebrate her Bat Mitzvah on Saturday, October 28. She is the daughter of Emily Milder and Tim Duffy. Abbey is a 7th Grade Honor Roll student at Elkhorn Ridge Middle School. She enjoys playing softball of WWAA, drawing and art, acting, tennis, violin, and saxophone. For her Mitzvah Project, Abbey volunteered at Grief's Journey, a welcoming, safe place where grieving children, teens, and adults find help, understanding, comfort, and hope after suffering the loss of a loved one. Abbey prepared and organized supplies for art therapy projects. She also volunteered at the ADL office helping to get information to schools in the Omaha metro area. Abbey is the granddaughter of Ducky Milder and the late Myron Milder and the great-granddaughter of the late David and Idell Rodin and the late Hymie and Ella Milder.

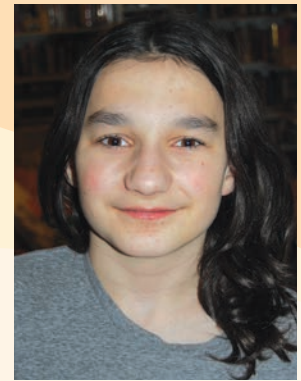


Gregory Sacks will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, November 4. He is the son of Jamie and Scott Sacks and the brother of Emile Sacks. Gregory is a 7th grader at LaVista Middle School. He enjoys hockey for the junior lancers and runs cross country for LaVista Middle School. He is helping out Project Harmony for his mitzvah project.



B'nai Mitzvah בני מצוה *continued...*

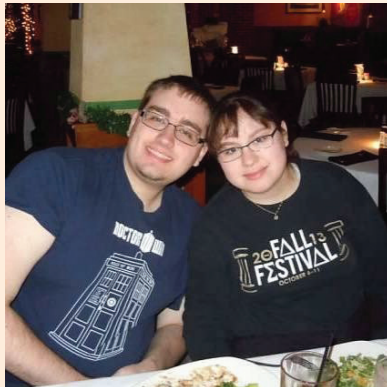
Mendel Wright will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, November 11. He is the son of Annette van de Kamp-Wright and Jeremy Wright and the brother of Isabella. Mendel is a 7th grader at Millard North Middle School. He enjoyed acting the parts of Lank Hawkins in Gershwin's "Crazy for You" and Marshall Cord Elam in Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma." For his Mitzvah project, Mendel is working with Safe Shabbat, where LGBT youth and allies, regardless of religious background, can find a meal and a safe place. As part of starting this and learning to "welcome the stranger," Mendel learned to cook. They hosted close to 150 youth during the past year.



New Members

Earnest Birt and his two sons, **Aidan and Logan**, are Omaha natives. Earnest retired from the army after 26 years and currently works at Kellogg's, where he has been for 20 years. Aidan is a 6th grader at Millard Central.

Rachel and Steve Gardiner are originally from Missouri and met on a study abroad trip in England. They married a year after graduating from Maryville University and moved to Omaha shortly after Steve starting working as an accountant with CSG International. Rachel is working towards her master's degree in social work from UNO and works part-time at DSW. They have one pet - a bunny named Happy.



Jennifer Katz and James Johnson recently joined our Temple Israel family along with their children, **Hannah and Maya**.

Jennifer and James lived in New York before relocating to Omaha six years ago, when James became President and CEO of the Omaha Symphony. Jennifer, once a dancer at the Martha Graham School in New York, is a social worker at the Douglas County Mental Health Center. Hannah is a senior in show choir at Westside High School. Maya is an 8th Grader at Westside Middle School and enjoys reading and playing the violin.



Angie Elliot and Matthew Margo and their daughter **Cecilia** are new to Omaha. They moved here for the educational, cultural, religious, and social opportunities for Cecilia. Angie is a healthcare recruiter with Senior Well, based out of Illinois. She is a member of the American Horticultural Society and the American Orchid Society. Matthew is a Harvard Law School graduate and works as a T.V. executive with CBS. He is a member of the Harvard Club, RAF Association, and WILDAID.

Our Congregation

לידה Birth

Mazel tov on the birth of...

Noah David Canfield, son of Rachel and Dan Canfield, grandson of Karen and Gary Javitch, Sandy and Rick Canfield, and great-grandson of the late Robert and Millie Javitch, the late Ruth and Phil Sokolof, the late Faye and Irving Gendler, the late Anne and Le Roy Canfield.

Elliott Lev Chester, son of Antonia and Jonathan Chester, brother of Gideon, grandson of Mary Jo Dark and Leroy Jacobs, and Susan and Leonard Chester, and great-grandson of Genevieve Auger.

Jared Hirsch and Michael Rubin Epstein, sons of Andrea and Robert Epstein, grandsons of Lisa and Gary Epstein, and Susan and Allyn Kramer, and great-grandsons of Harold Epstein and Katherine Bauer.

James Vincent Howell, son of Danielle and Bryan Howell, brother of Kathryn and Emelia, and grandson of Nancy and Larry Katz, and Sue and Jim Howell.

אירוסין Engagement

Shelby Rubin and Ben Epstein. Parents are Lisa and Ben Rubin, and Lisa and Gary Epstein.

נישואין Marriage

Shannon Behm and Aaron Bleicher. Parents are Cindy Behm, Randy Behm, and Sandy and Joel Bleicher.

נחמה In Sympathy

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

Janet L. Glass, beloved wife of our member Morton Glass; loving mother of Jeffrey Glass, M.D., and Lisa Glass; sister-in-law of Marvin and Marilyn Thomas; aunt of Jodi Eisner (Lorne), and Cindy Fleischner (Scott); and many friends;

Betty Ruth Goldstrom, beloved wife of the late Bernard; daughter of the late Morris and the late Regina Schlanger; mother-in-law of the late Kathi Goldstrom; loving mother of Jerry Goldstrom (Rona Weiss), our member Mark Goldstrom (June Richards), and Larry Goldstrom (Carol); proud grandmother of Jeffrey Goldstrom (Donna), Stephanie Edheimer (Roger), our member Bradley Goldstrom (Yesenia), Benjamin Goldstrom (Erica Paulsen-Goldstrom), Jory Goldstrom and Nikolai Maly; great-grandmother of ten great grandchildren;

Leo Kamisar, beloved husband of the late Irene Kamisar; son of the late Rebecca Beber, the late Albert Beber, and the late Harry Kamisar; loving father of Kim Hora and Dan Kamisar; proud

grandfather of Corey (Lora) Hora, Jason (Katelyn) Hora; brother of David (Arlene) Beber; brother-in-law of our member Judy Vann, and Susie (Artie) Friedberg; numerous nieces and nephews;

Bonnie London, loving mother of Jacqueline Monasebian and Steven Violet; proud grandmother of six grandchildren; and great-grandmother of five great-grandchildren;

Phyllis Roffman, beloved wife of the late Normand Roffman; daughter of the late Helen and the late Paul Bernstein; loving mother of Sherri (Gary) Green, Cindy (Alan) Shulewitz, Paul Roffman, and our member Edye Roffman; proud grandmother of our member Cari (Kevin) Hagemoser, Corey Green, Chad (Kelsea) Shulewitz, Brooke Shulewitz, our member Max Vitek; great grandmother of Jacelyn Shulewitz;

Meg Zweiback, cousin of our members Speedy Zweiback and Rosie Zweiback;

Hurricane Harvey Relief

Thank you to each and every person who contributed to our response to the devastation in Houston from Hurricane Harvey and to our volunteers who made this gift card drive possible. Temple Israel sent over \$17,000 to Congregation Emanu El in Houston to distribute to their congregants.



Paula and Larry Albert
Anonymous
Ilene Arnold and Carrie Leathers
Rabbi Aryeh and Elyce Azriel
Judy and Jack Baker
Shelly and Arnie Ban
Mary and Tom Bernstein
JoAnn and Mike Blatt
Fefe Passer and Al Bloch
Lauren and Leigh-Anne Brown
Sandy and Burton
Christopherson
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Andie Gordman and
Dan Fitzgerald
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Jamie and Troy Meyerson
Nancy McCormick and
Pete Brodkey
Lois Milder
Suzi and Mike Mogil
Phyllis and Bob Newman
Sandy and Alan Nogg
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Ann and Donald Osborne
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Joseph Pinson and
Samuel Bierner
Ellen and Jeff Platt

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Lenore Ross
Lisa Scheet
Andee and Anthony Scioli
Jessica and Andrew Shefsky
Cantor Wendy Shermet and
Len Burrell
Susan and James Silverman
Eve Simon
Jeff Saalfield
Dorothy Spizman
Rabbi Brian Stoller and
Karen Flayhart
Sheila Tomps
Marilyn Warren
Dana and David Wear
Barb Widman
Lois and Norman Wine
Lisa and Keith Winton
Hannie Wolf
Annette and Jeremy Wright
Debbi and Speedy Zweiback
Judy Zweiback and Allen Ross
Amy and Tim Zweiback

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Senior Rabbi Brian Stoller
Assistant Rabbi Deana Sussman Berezin
Cantor Wendy Shermet
Emeritus Rabbi Aryeh Azriel
Executive Director Dennis DePorte
Religious School Director Sharon Comisar-Langdon
Director of Youth & Young Adult Engagement Aliyah Lasky
Office Manager Misty Weidner



Temple Israel Jewish Summer Camp Fair

Sunday, October 29 at 10 a.m. - Noon



Religious School classes will visit with reps from each camp.
 Parents please join us, too!

