

Temple Beth Or

bulletin

June 2009 ~ Sivan/Tamuz 5769



REPORT TO THE ANNUAL MEETING

May 17, 2009

It's hard to believe that we're coming up on two years already since I began serving as rabbi of Temple Beth Or. I'm still introduced from time to time as "the new rabbi," though not quite so often any more, and indeed it almost feels as though we've been here forever. I continue to feel a sense of honor and privilege in serving as your rabbi and being part of this historic and wonderful community.

This year has been a busy one on the Temple's calendar. I've always had the sense that members join a congregation for many different reasons, and look for many different things; accordingly, the programming we've arranged or offered has been very eclectic. Inevitably, some programs are more successful than others, and I appreciate the opportunity to try new things. Hopefully we have more successes than failures.

Since our last meeting we've hosted three rabbis as guest speakers: Rabbi Selig Salkowitz, a specialist in Jewish family values; Rabbi Sally Priesand, the first woman rabbi, and Rabbi Harold Kushner, whose talk was attended by nearly 600 people. I've led discussions or adult education programs on mixed marriage, Basic Hebrew, Introduction to Judaism, the Jewish concept of soul; the Jewish concept of Messiah, Jewish philosophy, the development of the Torah and Prayer book,

rabbinic commentaries and others – about 40 classes in all. I'd love to find a way to involve more of you in our adult ed. programs. We launched a monthly community forum which offered some splendid speakers and discussions, though attendance has not justified the program's continuance. We planned a first-rate community Mission to Israel, just as the economy was entering free fall; we had to cancel, but need to re-open that discussion for this coming year.

This year we held what I believe was a first here in Montgomery: A Sephardic Shabbat, with a magnificent offering of traditional food and music, and Dr. Mark Kliegman presenting on Sephardic music and culture. We also organized what I *know* was a first, the interfaith Blessing of the Sun ceremony held with the Montgomery Chorale on the riverfront, just after dawn on a beautiful morning sandwiched in between two rain storms. Except for our joint Thanksgiving Service with First United Methodist, from everything I've heard this was the largest interfaith gathering for any purpose held here in Montgomery, and it was wonderful.

This year we launched our new joint religious school, "Montgomery Kol Ami," running pre-K through Confirmation, which by all accounts has been an outstanding success.

The joint confirmation class I coled with Rabbi Kramer has really come into its own, as we tackled a wide range of challenging issues, often engaging our students in spirited discussion and sharing our different points of view. I do believe that showing our students that Judaism includes differing and

authentic perspectives on critical issues has been healthy and mind-expanding.

Anyone who has come by on a Sunday morning this semester had to have been moved by a wonderful sight: our temple building filled with children and teachers; and though the administrative and other challenges have not always been trivial, what's really been gratifying is to see all the kids in our community relate to each other, learn from each other and become friends. We owe profound thanks to Sharon Berry, who this year has really been *the* driving force behind this achievement, in addition to her great work with the Youth Group.

In our worship, we have been using three prayer books: *Gates of Prayer* for most Friday nights; the *Union Prayer Book* once each quarter, and since November 2007 the Reform Movement's newest prayer book, *Mishkan T'filah*, for Shabbat morning worship.

This new prayer book is now being evaluated for possible adoption to succeed *Gates of Prayer* on Friday nights. A committee chaired by John Ives and representing the diversity of our congregation has been reviewing *Mishkan T'filah* – the title means "Tabernacle of Prayer"; their review has included hours of discussion, reading extensive background materials and experiencing the book in worship at our Shabbat morning services.

At its last meeting, the committee voted to include the entire congregation in this evaluation process. Accordingly, in a plan approved by our Board of Trustees,

continued on next page

we will be using *Mishkan T'filah* for 4-5 Friday night services in a row, starting on July 10; the committee will construct a means for evaluating our experience, as the committee prepares its report and any recommendations back to the Board. For those of you interested in this process, I urge you not just to sample a service, but to commit yourselves to attend the series: Experience has shown that the fairest evaluation of a new prayer book can only take place after multiple experiences.

This year, too, I launched a Rabbi's Round Table discussion, every two or three weeks inviting a small group to join me over lunch in my office for informal discussion and sharing. I've been going randomly through our directory, and will continue through this coming year until, hopefully, I'll have had a chance to get to know even more of you in ways that just aren't possible in a larger setting.

Among my more gratifying experiences this past year has been my teaching both semesters at Huntingdon College, first a class on Jewish history, and this spring a class on Rabbinic Commentaries on the stories of Torah. Through my teaching at a school tied to the Methodist Church, my work in the interfaith community and several dozen talks before Christian church groups or with individuals who seek some understanding of Judaism, I've learned more about the role of religion in people's lives here in the "Bible Belt." I've also learned that many in our community have a great respect for and interest in Judaism, often coupled with a profound ignorance not easily overcome. I also enjoyed teaching for a week at the Reform Movement's Camp Jacobs; I hope that more of our families would consider the lifelong impact of sending our kids to a Jewish camp.

There's almost too much to report in the few minutes I have – our authors series, bringing in Avi Beker on Chosenness; Ellen Feldman on the Scottsboro case; Cathcart and Klein, on philosophy through humor, and

Deborah Carr, on mother-daughter relationships – and our occasional "Bring a Friend" Shabbat, a teaching service for those unfamiliar with a Jewish service. I have to mention the Rothschild-Blachschleger Fund for its critical role in funding many of our speakers. Fortunately, our beautiful new website, created for us by my wife Sandy Lynn and launched last fall, has detailed information on everything we do, and links to just about everywhere in the Jewish world. Do explore it; I believe it to be – unbiased opinion! – one of the finest congregational websites.

Our new temple website will highlight our programs for the coming year, but let me mention two:

Next May, we will have an exciting opportunity, as 2010 marks the 200th anniversary of Reform Judaism. My thinking, still in process, will be to invite one or two major speakers to speak to the history and future of Reform Judaism; very possibly a concert or special service that will highlight the best of Reform liturgical music from our inception until today, and of course lots of food. Stay tuned.

Our participation with the Hebrew Union College's School of Sacred Music in hosting a cantorial student intern this coming year also presents us with an exciting opportunity to experience music and worship in new ways. Student Cantor Andrea Rae Marcowicz will be with us 9 times over the coming year – approximately monthly, and not including the High Holy Days – starting with the last Shabbat in August, August 28. She will at times work with our wonderful choir and its director, Elizabeth French; at other times accompanied by guitar or keyboard; her fresh, engaging manner and personal warmth will make each visit very special, and she'll be terrific at our Shabbat morning services and with the Sunday school children. I anticipate that she will have a strong role to play in our concert or service celebrating the 200th anniversary of Reform Judaism. My thanks to Gracie

Hanchrow for coordinating this process on our behalf, and to the Board for unanimously approving what I believe will be a very positive experience for us here at Temple. I will conclude my remarks by showing Andrea Marcowicz's audition DVD, a 2-3 minute demonstration video just to give you a hint of what we can expect.

I cannot finish this report without extending profound thanks to Gina Friday. Her output is nothing short of amazing. I usually get in to the office by 7:30 or so, after seeing Anna off to school, and by that time Gina is already taking her lunch break! Actually, that's not entirely true: Gina doesn't take a lunch break, even when she comes in on Mondays, nominally her day off.

While I'm extending thanks, I must express my appreciation to the Board for their support of new ideas and initiatives; Morris, Jenny and the other officers are a joy to work with, as are the leadership of our Sisterhood and Men's Club, Lisa Weil and Kent Long. Our leadership collectively is a real treasure.

In closing, let me emphasize something I mentioned a year ago, and mean in all sincerity. I not only welcome and appreciate your feedback, ideas and constructive criticism, I *need* them. Some of you have not been shy about making an appointment and sharing your concerns; some of you have written letters. Most of the comments I've had indicate that I seem to be on the right track with most of what I've been doing here. My hope is to continue to serve as your rabbi for many years to come; the success of our relationship depends upon the openness with which we share with each other. Please, for those of you who are here but rarely, let me hear from you. Our community is small; we don't have a cast of thousands, and every member is precious. Together, we can accomplish much and continue to create a community that is vital, responsive and embracing to all whom we serve.

Rabbi Elliot Stevens

President's Report Annual Meeting • 5/17/09

Welcome and thank you for attending our Annual Meeting this afternoon! Another year in the life of Temple Beth Or is in the books and I hope you have found the Temple's leadership both responsive and compassionate. The responsibility placed upon the Temple President can be overwhelming at times, but I have found it to be rewarding and a great learning experience and I sincerely appreciate the support that I have received from each of you. As community leaders, it is the responsibility of the board to listen to and support our congregation's members.

That being said, it is my hope that we indeed have attended to those responsibilities. Let me reaffirm our commitment to you that we will continue to operate our Temple in a highly ethical, positive, and spiritual manner.

It is difficult to summarize the many successes and positive moments we have experienced over the past year in the life of our congregation, but I would like to mention a few of them if I may:

- First on the list is the combination of the Temple Beth Or and Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem youth into one religion school. This effort has paid generous dividends to the Jewish community at large by providing a platform for enhanced learning and socialization under the careful direction of Sharon Berry, our Religious School Director.
- Another positive development for our congregation was the launch of a new website. Primarily through the efforts of Sandy Lynn Stevens, we now have a notable presence on the World Wide Web that allows our members to easily access information when they need it. The website also projects an impressive image of our organization to the public at large.
- In terms of financial operation, I am pleased to report that the Temple is projected to operate this fiscal year within budget and will end the year with a surplus.
- Another successful Food Festival was delivered to the community as we create added value through

our outreach efforts while also accruing material benefits from our largest fund-raising effort. Thanks again to Susan Bernstein and her committee for a job well done.

- Rabbi Stevens, now finishing his second year as our religious leader, continues to plan and deliver positive spiritual experiences through worship and sermon in addition to enriching us through the programming of adult education, guest speakers, and special events throughout the year.
- Our Temple Administrator, Gina Friday, manages the details of the daily operation to ensure that everything gets done correctly and on-time while also serving admirably as everyone's point-person.

Based upon the reports given by me and the balance of your Temple leaders, the current state of our congregation is solid! I look forward to another successful year before us as plans are well underway on many fronts including some capital improvement projects that I will present to you in the coming months. I want to publicly express my thanks to each member of the board, especially the executive committee, for their efforts during the past year.

Along with our successes, we also have issues of concern to contend with such as an aging facility and a limited pool of prospective members. In order to be better stewards of this organization, the Temple's executive committee has started work on developing a long-range plan that once completed will provide current and future leadership with a roadmap for success. This task will not be completed in just a few hours or days nor will it be the product of a select few opinions, but rather the product of our entire community.

Finally, we are all concerned about Israel and the economic pain that many in our community and nation are experiencing. Let us all work together to provide spiritual healing to those in need and fulfill the important missions of our congregation and the entire Reform Movement.

Shalom!

Morris E. Capouya

MACOA Report

We'll be cooking for MACOA's Frozen Meals program on the below dates at 9 AM.

June 15 & July 13

In May, approximately 100 meals were prepared.



Monthly Shabbat Morning Service

Saturday morning, June 6, Rabbi Stevens will lead a monthly Shabbat morning service, including Torah reading and Torah study. Service including Torah study and a light brunch will run from 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Contributions to Funds

We greatly appreciate the people who support Temple Beth Or by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions. Those that are received after the 20th of the month will be in the next bulletin.

BAYLINSON ART FUND

In Memory of
Victor E. Hanan
Harold and Franny Rosenbluth

BUILDING FUND

In Memory of
Victor E. Hanan
Lee, Adam and Bo Hanan

ENDOWMENT FUND

In Memory of
Victor E. Hanan
Regina Capilouto
Ken and Celia Wool

In Honor of
Marks Marcus
Ken and Celia Wool

FLORAL FUND

In Memory of
Victor E. Hanan
Mrs. Marie C. Berlin
Robin and Jeff Blitz
Rachel M. Capelouto
Eve Loeb and Jim McDonald
Charlotte and Joe Mussafer
Alan Weil, Sr.

In Memory of
Abbott Brand Walton, Jr.
Charlotte and Joe Mussafer
Alan Weil, Sr.

Good Health
Charles Wampold
Alan Weil, Sr.

Happy Birthday
Peggy Cohn
Alan Weil, Sr.

Happy Birthday
Hermine Herzfeld
Alan Weil, Sr.

Happy Birthday
Gay Winter
Alan Weil, Sr.

Mazel Tov on your Bar Mitzvah
Michael Wahls Weinrib
Alan Weil, Sr.

GENERAL FUND

In Memory of
Victor E. Hanan
Members and Staff of the Alabama Home
Builders Licensure Board
Sandra and Alan Berman
Lynn Capouya and Overton Kuhn
Rubin A. Franco
Katherine Hanan
Pearl C. Hasson
Jean Jones and Family
Rita and Sol Kimerling
Michael, Rochelle, Vicki and Sandra Koslin
Myron J. Page

In Memory of
Abbott Brand Walton, Jr.
Rubin A. Franco

GITENSTEIN FOUNDATION

In Honor of
Floral Health & Rehabilitation
Ann & Seymour Gitenstein
Foundation, Inc.

In Memory of
Victor E. Hanan
Arnold and Wendy Finkelstein

LUCIEN S. LOEB MEMORIAL

In Honor of
James Loeb's Birthday
Ms. Kathryn Wiener

In Honor of
Joan and James Loeb's Anniversary
Ms. Kathryn Wiener

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Memory of
Abbott Brand Walton, Jr.
Bette Sue and Charlie Strasburger

In Memory of
Victor E. Hanan
Robin and Andy Kromis

SELMA MARCUS FUND

In Memory of
Victor E. Hanan
Mr. Marks Marcus

In Memory of
Selma and Sanford Marcus
Mr. Marks Marcus

In Memory of
Barbara Marcus and Debbie Marcus
Mr. Marks Marcus

ANNIVERSARIES

- 8.....Suzanne & Steve Coleman
- 10Steve and LeAnne Wallace
- 12Lucille & Alan Goldsmith
- 12Lauda & Bill Heilpern
- 12Charlotte & Joe Mussafer
- 15Jean & Gene Harris
- 16Beverly & Hugh Bolen
- 18Janice & David Baylinson
- 18Liza & Sam Kaufman
- 19Joanne & Ronald Shum
- 20Louisa & Mike Weinrib
- 22Karen & Dan Weinrib
- 25Joyce & Sonny Strassburger

BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Michael Weinrib
- 8 Joan Hanan
- 8 David Lipton
- 11 Rosalind Markstein
- 19 Milt Livingston
- 20 Jim Levy
- 20 Carol Loeb
- 21 Ed Simon
- 21 Joyce Strassburger
- 23 Jay Van Cleeff
- 23 Stephen Weinrib
- 23 Greg Williamson
- 26 Charlotte Mussafer
- 27 Karen Lieberman
- 28 June Cohn
- 28 Erik Goldberg
- 28 Craig Goldstein

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings
on June 5th.

Recent Death

We offer our condolences to Allan Pirtle for the death of his Grandfather

Henry M. Pirtle, Jr.
Died April 29, 2009

To be read 6/5/2009

Joseph H. Abraham
Jules Adler
Frieda Kahn Berger
Jean Capouya
Jeannette D. Capouya
Mose Feinman
Denise K. Hanan
Sol Hersberg
Lloyd Vernon Julian
Julian H. Kohn
Alma Hertz Lobman
Samuel Moscovitz
Dr. Herbert Rosenberg

To be read 6/12/2009

Carrie Abraham
Jack H. Abraham
Evelyn Burger
Eli Capilouto
Albert Freehling
Carrie Pollock Lobman
Emanuel Rosenbluth
Maurice Kahn Weil

To be read 6/19/2009

Jack Bloom
Elinor Carlton
Carol Loeb Hagedorn
Nell Hagedorn
Bernard Hanan
Nellie Loeb
Estelle Popkin
Rosalie Rosenberg
Isidore Rosenbluth
Jack L. Toney
Charles H. Wampold, Sr.

To be read 6/26/2009

Leon Burger
Rachel H. Capp
Olga Franco
Helen L. Levi
Genevieve L. Roberts
Roy Shinpaugh
Kalman Shwarts
Philip Weisblum

SISTERHOOD

**Congregational Annual Meeting
Report**

May 17, 2009

Gosh, it really is hard to believe I have completed my first year as Sisterhood President, and may I add that it has been a real treat and a true pleasure. Maybe, just maybe, it is because of such a devoted group of ladies who have made this year so special in every way. From our opening and closing luncheons, to our elegant holiday receptions and dinners, including our beautiful 60th Anniversary dinner dance, to the candle lighters on Shabbat, just to name a few, all have all taken place without the least little glitch.

I have been lucky or should I say fortunate to have such a capable and reliable board and hard working membership. Marlene Beringer and Carol Loeb, you are the best vice presidents and it is because of you that I have really enjoyed this year. Corrie Long, our Financial Secretary, you really stayed on top of billing and getting our dues collected. We appreciate your working so diligently on shoring up our membership roster. Carol Hart, thank you for taking minutes and Sharon McDaniel, our Treasurer, we really appreciate your keeping a watchful eye on our money. And last, but certainly not least, Susan Bernstein, you're a hard act to follow. Nobody can ever or should remotely try to fill your shoes. You ladies are all amazing and so organized. I thank you for helping to make this year so wonderful.

I would like to recognize our members who are the heart and soul of our Temple sisterhood. Please stand when I call your name and please remain standing:

Alison Williamson, Joyce Strasburger,
Carol Loeb - *for providing candle lighters for our services;*
Karen Goldstein - *Membership;*
Joan Loeb and Ruth Rosenthal –

Opening luncheon;
Charlotte Mussafer – *Rosh Hashanah Reception;*
Mae Cohen – *Tu Bishvat;*
Susan Finklestein, Joy Kaplan, Alison Williamson – *Break Fast Reception;*
Marlene Beringer and Betty Goldberg – *Simchat Torah;*
Sandy Lynn Stevens - *Chanukah Dinner;*
Lisa Newcomb – *Sukkot;*
Marlene Beringer and Carol Loeb – *Sisterhood Shabbat with the first female rabbi, Sally Priesand.;*
Carol Hart – *Uniongrams*
Board of Directors – *60th Anniversary Dinner Dance;*
Alison Williamson and Joy Kaplan – *Purim;*
Aimee Harris – *Huntingdon College Night;*
Carol Loeb – *Passover Seder;*
Robin Blitz – *Closing luncheon;*
Susan Bernstein – *House;*
Peggy Cohn – *Gift Shop.* We all want to thank you for your devotion to our gift shop. It is a wonderful little shop and we appreciate all that you do to make it so special and profitable.

So now we see who the tireless worker bees are in our Sisterhood. I thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart.

Rabbi Stevens, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for all the guidance and support which you have given to me. It has been more than a pleasure to work with you and I look forward to working with you for another year.

Thank you again for a wonderful year and I look forward to working with you all again this coming year.

My Best Always,
Lisa Weil

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## L'CHAIM LEAGUE

*Jersey Boys* is the play to see in Atlanta on June 14th. We have transportation available. Call for further information.

On July 8th, join us at a local restaurant as we hear of the worldly travels and adventures of my niece, Deborah Iskandar, who is the Asian Art Curator for Christie's auction house. Her presentation should be quite interesting and something unique to hear. More details follow soon about this event.

Look for us to do an Outreach Project in August that I hope many of you will be able to participate in. The details and more about this are upcoming.

I am always open to suggestions for future activities. Join in as we follow the fun.

Linda R Smith

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RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Kol Ami religious school has now come to a close for the summer. We would like to thank all of our teachers, parents, and students for a wonderful year. The Temple teachers for this past year include Audrey Crowe, Ron Crowe, Mary Helmer, Carol Loeb and Naomi Pryor. We would like to express our appreciation and thanks for their commitment in the religious education of our children.

The ISJL Education Conference will be held June 28-30 in Jackson, MS. If you are interested in attending please contact me to register.

Sharon Berry
Co-Principal
(334) 290-0445
daberry40@netscape.net

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## VICTORY FOR LIBERAL JUDAISM IN ISRAEL

From Anat Hoffman, Executive Director, Israel Religious Action Center (Jerusalem):

"Tuesday [May 19] was a very important day for Progressive Judaism and the cause of Jewish pluralism in Israel. IRAC just won a precedent-setting case in the Israeli Supreme Court which says that the State has to provide equal funding for Reform and Conservative conversion classes.

The case itself may seem inconsequential but the implications are huge. This is the first time that the Court has declared that government funding must be provided to non-Orthodox Jewish religious services in Israel.

The verdict was amazing, going well beyond the issue of funding for conversion classes, and addressing the core issue of religious freedom in Israel. The three judge panel, including Chief Justice Dorit Beinisch, found the State's practice of favoring only one Jewish stream discriminatory and contradictory to their responsibility to ensure freedom of religion, ruling "The duty of the State to pluralism is not only a passive duty, but an active one as well." They also cited their previous ruling (Naamat and IRAC in 2002) that "Jews in Israel cannot be seen as only one religious sect."

It is a hot day in Israel but we all have goose-bumps."

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from the LIBRARY

A few books from the collection ... some new purchases and some not-so-new:

Bridges and Boundaries: African Americans and American Jews, edited by Jack Salzman with Adina Back and Gretchen Sullivan Sorin.

"A valuable purchase ...," states *Library Journal*, which goes on to say

that "(o)ver the last 25 years there has been a widening schism in relations between the African American and American Jewish communities. This volume, a collaborative effort between the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and New York's Jewish Museum that accompanies an exhibit, examines the prominent question of how and why the strong alliance for social justice among blacks and Jews in the United States began to disintegrate in the 1960s. A related issue is whether that alliance actually existed. Fifteen essays, authored by noted political and religious leaders, historians, and scholars, open with a historical overview and then continue with dialogs from African Americans and American Jews discussing current group attitudes and how these attitudes developed. Over 100 historically significant visual images link the text to the common experience of both groups."

All Rivers Run to the Sea: Memoirs by Elie Wiesel.

Not a new book (it was originally published in 1995), *All Rivers Run to the Sea* expands upon some of Wiesel's earlier autobiographical writings (e.g. *Night*), telling of his happy childhood in Romania, the horror that ended that happiness, and the life he built following his rescue from the concentration camp and reunion with two sisters who also survived the Nazis. In the mid-1950s, Wiesel comes to America and working as a journalist for an Israeli newspaper, covers "... civil rights struggles, the Eichmann trial in Israel and the 1967 Six Day War, befriend(s) Golda Meir and David Ben-Gurion and support(s) persecuted Soviet Jews. ... He writes also of his formative friendships with Yiddish poet/thinker Abraham Yeoshua Heschel, Talmudic scholars Gershom Scholem and Saul Leiberman and itinerant mystic rabbi Mordechai Rosenbaum ... This haunting, impassioned book will make you cry yet, somehow, leave you renewed, with a cautious hope for humanity's future."

A Shattered Peace: Versailles 1919 and the Price We Pay Today by David A Andelman.

As one critic points out, the Versailles peace agreement that concludes the First World War not only had a direct affect upon the conditions that created the Second World War two decades later, but helped to create many of the geo-political and social problems we are faced with today -- almost 100 years later. Andelman makes direct connections to many of the modern international conflicts we have witnessed in our lifetimes – Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf War, the situation in Iraq. As Richard Snow, editor-in-chief of *American Heritage* magazine states, “We could not find a better guide to a time that somehow seems to grow larger and closer even as it reaches beyond living memory.”

Eric A. Kidwell, MLS

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### **Research Project**

Below is an email that was received at the Temple. Contact Janet Owen (contact information below) if you have any interest in participating.

My name is Janet Owen and I am an American Ph.D. student at the University of Aberdeen in northern Scotland. I am writing to request your assistance with my research. The Jewish community is rather small in the UK so my supervisor suggested I contact synagogues in the States. I found your synagogue listed on [www.mavensearch.com](http://www.mavensearch.com)

My thesis is about female converts to Judaism and I am trying to find women to fill out a questionnaire. I am looking for women who probably would not have considered Judaism if they had not met and married a Jewish man. (Basically, women who convert before meeting their husbands don't qualify for my research.)

I would be most grateful if you could pass on my contact details to the female converts in your congregation. Even if you do not have any converts

in your congregation, please consider placing a notice on a bulletin board or in a newsletter. Someone might have an in-law, friend, co-worker, etc., who has converted.

Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to see the questionnaire. If you wish to contact my research supervisor, Robert Segal, about my credentials he can be reached at [r.segal@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:r.segal@abdn.ac.uk)

Thank you for your time.

Janet Owen

[j.owen@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:j.owen@abdn.ac.uk)

School of Divinity, History, and Philosophy King's College University of Aberdeen Aberdeen, AB24 3UB Scotland. The University of Aberdeen is a charity registered in Scotland, No SC013683.

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Hadassah

The Montgomery chapter of Hadassah is pleased to announce their selection for the 2009 Woman of the Year.

The Montgomery Chapter of Hadassah has had the good fortunate since 1987 of having the talents and dedication of a truly gifted marketing professional who has graciously given of her time, her expertise, and her resources to further our cause.

Anita Capouano worked professionally as the Director of Marketing for BASS for several years – when it was purchased by ESPN, she chose to follow its founder in her decision to create yet another innovative, niche organization – and she became Vice President of Marketing for STRATOS Publishing, the premier magazine service for private jet travelers and OakLeigh Press, a book publishing company. She was a member of the Direct Marketing Association for 15 years and is an associate member of the National Business Aviation Association.

All of her professional responsibilities have not kept Anita from community

involvement. She has been a board member and vice president of programming for the Jewish Federation of Central Alabama for three years – actively involved in the Jewish Film Festival and other events planning and marketing. For the past three years she has been a board member of the Montgomery Ballet, and her membership on the board of the Agudath Israel Etz Ahayem Synagogue is now in its fourth year.

As a Life Member of Hadassah, Anita has shown her dedication through out her tenure, as well as her time, creativity, resourcefulness, and stewardship. She chaired the first membership directory update in ten years and not only created a beautiful publication, but also had the paper, printing, and graphic design work donated by professional contacts she had in the community. She has been equally generous with her contacts in all of the events and projects with which she has been connected.

Leveraging her own talents and connections in the community, Anita has saved our organizations literally thousands of dollars while producing outstanding publications and events. One of the most successful fundraising events our chapter ever held was the Casino Night a few years ago. All of the artwork, invitations, publicity pieces, and creative efforts were the brainchild of Anita Capouano and she continues to bring that same quality of dedication and effort to every project on which she works.

As Vice President of Fundraising for 2008 through 2010, we have a number of opportunities to utilize Anita's special expertise and her love of Hadassah – we just finished a very successful Bunco, mah jongg afternoon and Anita has great plans for the coming year.

Montgomery, Alabama is very pleased to honor our member, Anita Capouano, as Woman of The Year.

Mazel Tov Peggy Cohn!

Son Stanley Cohn was recently elected President of the New Orleans Bar Association.

Grandson Martin Fishman graduates from Tulane University Law School.

Mazel Tov!

Announcing the birth of **Ellis Rose Nomberg**
April 26, 2009 - 8 lbs

Daughter of
Leigh Anne & David Nomberg
Granddaughter of
Marlene & Rick Beringer
Great Granddaughter of
Shirley Beringer



Mazel Tov!

Benjamin Austin Ray

Benjamin is graduating from Holtville High School and will be entering the University of Alabama's Honor College and playing trumpet for the Million Dollar Band.

Grandson of Sharon McDaniel



This lovely cake was made by our very own Susan Finklestein for Hadassah's Donor Event held on May 12th at Temple Beth Or.

Lost and Found

A lady's coat was left at the Temple after the Annual Meeting on May 17th. Call Gina Friday at 262-3314 to claim your coat.



You can see these photos in color by viewing the bulletin on our web site at www.templebethor.net



2009 Confirmand Class and Rabbis

Left to right, Rabbi Scott Kramer, Jeff Herring, Ashton Kupferberg, Danielle Berry, Storm McWhorter, Jonathan Capouya, Rabbi Elliot Stevens



Adult Education Programs and Special Speakers



TBO ADULT EDUCATION AND SPECIAL SPEAKER PROGRAMS

FINDING GOD: A NEW ADULT EDUCATION SERIES ON THE JEWISH VIEWS OF GOD

Judaism has never developed a creed that defines Jewish belief. Focusing instead on how we live our lives, Judaism has always left matters of belief up to the individual. As a result, through the ages Jewish philosophers and theologians have offered many schools of thought. In their diversity of approaches no one theology “defines” Judaism, yet each has its followers, and many of us who search for meaning and a belief we can call our own find that one or more of our great philosophers speaks to us in profound ways.

This class will cover five approaches, each on a Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m.:

- April 29, Saadiah Gaon (completed)
- May 13, Maimonides (completed)
- May 20, Hermann Cohen (completed)
- May 27, Abraham Joshua Heschel and Martin Buber (completed)
- June 3, Kabbalah and the mystical view of God

Each class will last about an hour. Registration is encouraged: Call Gina Friday at 262-3314.

Beyond June!

Wednesday, July 8, Noon, L'Chaim League Luncheon with Speaker Deborah Iskandar. Location to be announced.

Monday, July 13, 9 AM, Cooking for MACOA's Frozen Meals program.

Friday, August 7, 6 PM, Classical Reform Service with the Union Prayer Book.

Friday, October 30, 6 PM, Classical Reform Service with the Union Prayer Book.

Sunday, February 21, 2010, 9 AM - 3 PM, Jewish Food Festival.

Saturday, March 6, 2010, Jack Loeb's Bar Mitzvah.

**Be sure to check upcoming bulletins for possible date changes and more information.
You may also consult the TBO website for additional information at www.templebethor.net.**

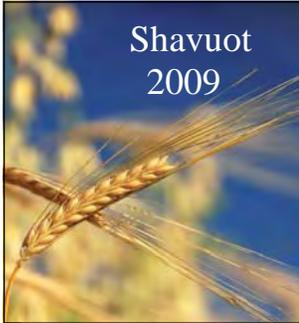
We would like to know. Please call the temple office when a family member is in the hospital or ailing. Too often we find out about illnesses, crises and hospitalizations long after they occur. This is a missed opportunity for the calls and visits the rabbi would like to share. Please let the temple know if there is a concern in your family or another congregation family (with their permission). *We need your help in order to offer ours.*

When scheduling calendar events involving the Temple it is important that you check dates with the Federation and the Temple for potential conflicts within the Jewish community. Their number is 277-5820 and you can view the community calendar at www.jewishmontgomery.org.

June 2009

Want an updated look at what's going on at Temple? Go to www.templebethor.net.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 <i>Adult Ed: Finding God: Kabbalah and the mystical view of God. 7 PM</i>	4	5 <i>Shabbat Service Birthday and Anniversary Blessings 6 PM</i>	6 <i>Monthly Shabbat Morning Service 9:30 AM</i>
7	8	9	10	11	12 <i>Shabbat Service 6 PM</i>	13
14 <i>L'Chaim League, Jersey Boy, Fox Theatre. 1 PM EDT Showtime</i>	15 <i>Cooking for MACOA's Frozen Meals program. 9 AM</i>	16	17	18	19 <i>Shabbat Service 6 PM</i>	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 <i>Shabbat Service 6 PM</i>	27
28	29	30				



Shavuot
2009

Shavuot/Confirmation Service ✪ Friday, May 29, 6 PM

The Confirmation Class of 2009 cordially invites you to attend the Erev Shavuot Confirmation Service on Friday, May 29th at 6:00 PM.

This is a joint service with Agudath Israel ✪ Etz Ahayem at Temple Beth Or. Reception following.

Your presence will make this important occasion even more meaningful.



Celebrating Our 157th Year

ELLIOT L. STEVENS, D. D., RABBI
David A. Baylinson, D.D., Rabbi Emeritus

Temple Beth Or Officers

- Morris Capouya.....*President*
- Jenny Ives.....*Vice-President: Programs*
- Jamie Loeb.....*Vice-President: Finance*
- Russell Levy.....*Treasurer*
- Gracie Hanchrow.....*Secretary*
- Alan Weil, Jr.....*Immediate Past President*

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- Louisa Weinrib.....*Social Concerns/L'Chaim League*
- Joy Kaplan.....*Youth & Scholarship*

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- Gina Friday.....*Temple Administrator*
- Sharon Berry.....*Religion School Director*
- Linda Smith.....*L'Chaim League*
- Walter Osborne.....*Maintenance Manager*
- Elizabeth French.....*Organist & Choir Director*

Office Hours

- Monday**.....**CLOSED**
- Tues., Wed. & Thurs.**.....**9-5**
- Fridays**.....**9-2**

**2246 Narrow Lane Road
Montgomery, Alabama 36106**

(334) 262-3314 Tel ✪ (334) 263-5183 Fax

Office: bethor@templebethor.net
Rabbi: rabbis@templebethor.net
www.templebethor.net

Please call Gina Friday at 262-3314 to report any corrections or inaccuracies in the bulletin.

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