

Temple Beth Or

bulletin

December 2009 ~ Kislev/Tivet 5770

A VIEW FROM THE BIMAH



As many of you know, last month I represented Temple Beth Or at the biennial convention of the URJ – the Union for Reform Judaism. The URJ Biennial, I am

confident, is the finest major convention available in Judaism, bringing together literally thousands of Reform Jews from throughout North America, as well as Europe and Israel. For a rabbi, nothing beats the networking opportunities and fellowship of seeing hundreds of colleagues, as well as hundreds of cantors, educators, temple administrators, congregational officers, leaders of Sisterhoods, and committed Reform Jews. The exhibit area alone is unequalled, and those of us who are bibliomaniacs always look forward to seeing the latest publications. I was Beth Or's only delegate at this Biennial, but I wish I could somehow convey to you the vitality, the energy and, literally, the inspiring reality of today's Reform Judaism. I am convinced that no other expression of Judaism comes close.

Perhaps most inspiring was the presence of many hundreds of our youth. NFTY – the North American Federation of Temple Youth – has a parallel convention that enables youth groups from throughout North America to join the adults for Shabbat worship and certain major Biennial events, while going off on parallel tracks for study, workshops, social action initiatives and fellowship.

It is a cliché and a platitude to say that our youth are our future. They are the bright spot on an otherwise fairly bleak

demographic picture. The truth is, many congregations around the country are in decline – with a few exceptions here and there – and the American Jewish community as a whole is demographically very challenged. The data have been available for some years now: We Jews get married later than any other identifiable socio-economic group; we have fewer kids, at a later age, and would not even be close to reproducing ourselves even if we were not faced with unprecedented rates of assimilation and mixed marriage. The latest National Jewish Population Study shows clearly that a majority of the children of mixed marriage are lost to Judaism, and by the next generation, the grandchildren almost certainly are.

So to see hundreds of Reform Jewish youth worshipping together, singing together, sharing their pride and their involvement together, was not only inspiring, but very, very moving. I am sorry that none of our own young people were with us to experience such a conference. The experience can truly be life-transforming, and I hope we will plan for a real contingent of youth and adults from Temple Beth Or at the next Biennial, coming up in two years in Washington, DC.

In highlighting our youth, the Biennial also honored Movement leaders who have donated or raised millions of dollars to enhance the network of Reform Jewish camps. All URJ camps have been so upgraded in recent years as to be competitive with the finest camps available. This coming summer a new camp will join the list – the first Jewish sports academy with superb facilities is being opened on a gorgeous campus in Greensboro, North Carolina, sponsored by the Reform

Movement for kids 10-15 years of age; I have brochures with more information. If you are interested in your kids' or grandkids' Jewish identity, and enhancing the prospect that they will marry within Judaism, I urge you to select a Jewish camp this coming summer. They're great, and they do wonders for Jewish identity.

The programmatic highlight of a Biennial is always the Shabbat morning service, and the Biennial address given by the president of the Union, Rabbi Eric Yoffie. It's not easy to transform a major function room at a convention center with thousands of people in attendance into a sacred space for Shabbat worship, but somehow it works.

Rabbi Yoffie's sermon was wide-ranging, provocative and inspirational. He's an amazing speaker. His full address was available immediately via streaming video on the URJ website – and not only that, but for the first time in URJ history, the posting was accompanied by a blog and discussion forum that allows anyone – whether they had been present or not – to respond to the issues or take the dialogue in new directions.

I mention this because one of the Union's initiatives this year is to help

continued on Page 6.

Shabbat Morning Services

Saturday morning, December 19th, Rabbi Stevens (along with Student Cantor Andrea Markowicz) will lead a Shabbat morning service, including Torah reading and Torah study. Service including Torah study and a light brunch will run from 9:30 – 11:15 a.m.



Celebrating Our 158th Year

ELLIOT L. STEVENS, D. D., RABBI
 Andrea Rae Markowicz, *Student Cantor*
 David A. Baylinson, D.D., *Rabbi Emeritus*

Temple Beth Or Officers

Morris Capouya *President*
 Jenny Ives *Vice-President: Programs*
 Jamie Loeb *Vice-President: Finance*
 Steve Wallace *Treasurer*
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Gina Friday *Temple Administrator*
 Andrea Rae Markowicz *Student Cantor*
 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, AL 36106

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

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

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

SEPHARDIC COOKBOOK

The Food Fest is planning to add a section devoted to Sephardic recipes to our very successful cookbook, "L'Dor V'Dor, From Generation to Generation."

Please send your recipes to Louisa Weinrib or to the Temple office during the next three months. For questions call 262-6155. Thank you!

TBO President's Message

Shalom,

If you have not attended our Sabbath Morning Services that are held once a month, then I would ask that you give it a try. The service is delivered by Rabbi Stevens in order to create a more meditative environment for our congregants than a typical Sabbath Eve Service. Rabbi Stevens also reads and interprets the weekly Torah portion during the service. At the conclusion of the service, the participants convene from the sanctuary and gather in the Baylinson Social Hall for a brunch and open commentary on the weekly Torah portion.

As many of you are aware, we will be instituting the use of the new prayer book in the coming months. Please be advised that we will make a gradual transition from the *Gates of Prayer* to *Mishkan T' Filah*. There is a schedule of services published in this edition of the newsletter which will inform you as to the prayer book to be used on a given service. The Rabbi and I welcome your input with regard to the service delivery and structure so that we ensure that we are providing content that is meaningful to our congregants.

Please welcome Evette Franks as our new Temple custodian. She will work under the direction of Gina and Rabbi Stevens to ensure that our facility is consistently maintained to our standards.

Finally, Temple Beth Or and Rabbi Stevens have agreed to a five year extension of his contract. Rabbi Stevens has proved to be a good fit for our community and is poised to lead our congregation into the future.

Best regards,

Morris E. Capouya

MACOA Report

Our next date to cook for MACOA is Monday December 14th at 9:30. We are preparing 100 meals each month. We feel this is a wonderful project and appreciate the support of the Social Concerns Committee.

Mazel Tov!

Mr. and Mrs. Terry Toney announce the marriage of their son, **Michael Finley** to **Deisha Shah** of Knoxville, TN on August 24, 2009. They reside in Knoxville.

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.

CAROL LOBMAN HART FUND

In Honor of Carol Hart's 85th Birthday

From the "Lunch Bunch"

Betty Bloom

Peggy Cohn

Mickey Feldman

Lucille Goldsmith

Anne Levin

Anita Reznikoff

Rita Sabel

Marjorie Koch

Maurice & Phrose Raphael

Sara Matile Schwarz

In Honor of Bubba Marcus' Birthday

Sara Matile Schwarz

FLORAL FUND

In Honor of Gaby Capp's Birthday

Jeanette and Richard Hanan

Joan Hanan

In Honor of I. E. Cohen's 95th Birthday

Joan Hanan

GENERAL FUND

In Memory of Dr. Morris N. Capouya

Susan and Bobby Kohn

In Memory of Helen Diamant

Sigmund Diamant

L'CHAIM LEAGUE

In Honor of Carol Hart's 85th Birthday

Seymour and June Cohn

PRAYERBOOK FUND

In Memory of Beloved Music Teacher

Dora Sternfeld

Ann P. Thorington

In Honor of James L. and Joan B. Loeb

Ann P. Thorington

In Honor of and with Gratitude

David A. Baylinson

Ann P. Thorington

In Honor of

Carol Lobman Hart's Birthday

Jack and Michal Hart Hillman

This copy was donated by

Forrest and Jo Durham

**In memory of Jeannette & Simon Nyman
and Bernard Goldberg**

Karen and Lew Nyman

**Honoring the 50th Wedding Anniversary
of Michael and Louisa Weinrib**

David Weinrib and Liz Wahls

**In celebration of the 50th wedding
anniversary of**

Barbara and Robert Shinpaugh

With love from Letitia, Michelle, & Heather

In Loving Memory of Diana G. Hanan

Isaac and Felice Cohen

In Memory of

Morris and Jeannette Capouya

Eliot and Terri Capouya

In Memory of Jean F. Capouya

Eliot M. Capouya

**In Memory of the parents of Alan E. and
Myrna Sheftall Rothfeder**

This copy was donated by

Lucille and Alan Goldsmith

In Memory of

Edith P. and Harry Stiller

Anna Jacob Anshel

Pearl and Mannie Rosen

Charles Stiller

Anna and Irving Bean

Emily and Irvin Gassenheimer

Rabbi Cyndie Culpepper

Micki Beth Stiller

In Honor of Rabbi Elliot L. Stevens

Micki Beth Stiller

In Honor of their sons Mark and Robb

Linda and Bob Herzfeld

In Honor of their grandchildren

Josh, Caroline, Zach, and Robert

Linda and Bob Herzfeld

In Memory of John Herzfeld

Elsa Herzfeld

In Loving Memory of

Bette Soloman Saperstein, grandmother of

Anna Saperstein

Tammy and Anna Saperstein & Family

In Loving Memory of

Bette Soloman Saperstein

The children and grandchildren of

Bette Saperstein

In Memory of

Clara Mussafer

David Mussafer

Gracie and Jack Hanchrow

In Memory of

Morris and Jeannette Capouya

In Memory of

Charles J. Schulwolf

Roslyn Blitz Schulwolf

Jeff and Robin Blitz

In Honor of

the 60th Birthday of John E. Ives

Jeff and Robin Blitz

In Memory of

Roz and Sumner Goldberg

Isabel and Morris Goldberg

Arthur B. Beringer, Jr.

This copy was donated by

Betty and Bob Goldberg

In Memory of

the parents of Alan E. and

Myrna Sheftall Rothfeder

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Donation

Tammy Saperstein

ROTHSCHILD BLACHSHLEGER

LIBRARY FUND

In Honor of Rabbi Elliot Stevens

Audrey and Ron Crowe

SABEL FUND

Donation

Jo and Forrest Durham

SAMUEL SCHLOSS

COMMUNITY FUND

In Honor of

Carol Hart's 85th Birthday

Burke Schloss

SELMA MARCUS FUND

In Memory of Dr. Morris N. Capouya

Marks Marcus

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings
on December 4th.

ANNIVERSARIES

- 10..... Celia & Ken Wool
- 20Sherry & Russell Levy
- 22Elna & Michael Behrman
- 27Alvin & Sharon Benn
- 29Peggy & Maurice Mussafer

BIRTHDAYS

- 3.....Esther Scheuer
- 4.....Carol Hart
- 4.....Robin Kromis
- 4.....Marks Marcus
- 8.....Jan Hoffman
- 9.....Kenny Capouya
- 10.....Jamie Loeb
- 10.....Barbara Shinpaugh
- 10.....Ken Wool
- 13.....Rubin Franco
- 16.....Seymour Cohn
- 19.....Sharon Berry
- 21.....Shirley Beringer
- 24.....Ward Newcomb

⚡ **YAHARZEITS** ⚡

To be read 12/4/2009

- Ethel Heilpern
- Julian S. Leet
- Lucien S. Loeb
- Charles McDaniel
- Peggy Simon
- Leonel Weil

To be read 12/11/2009

- Nellie Beringer
- Mose Brownstein
- Eli R. Capouya
- Babs Landau Klein
- Wilma Coleman L'Engle
- Deborah Marcus
- Terese Cahn Richards
- Edna Rosen
- Evalyn Rosenberg
- Amelia Strauss Schloss
- Charles Max Stiller
- Adolph Weil, Jr.
- Florence M. Wolfson

To be read 12/18/2009

- Arthur Beringer, Sr.
- Berneice Blachschleger
- Dr. James Glassner
- Lillie O. Hart
- Thelma B. Monsky
- Myron J. Rothschild
- Phyllis Simon

To be read 12/25/2009

- Frances Mandell
- Barbara Marcus
- Adler Rothschild
- Jerry Tillinger

Sisterhood

Happy Chanukah! It's almost here and we hope to have every one of you join us for a wonderful Chanukah dinner celebration. Please mark your calendars for Friday evening, December 18th after services. Jamie Loeb has planned a fun evening of activities for our children and a scrumptious meal that Eastside Grille is catering. The cost is \$8 for adults and \$3 for children, 10 and under. Of course, we'll have Susan Bernstein's famous latkes. I can smell them now! See page 10 for more details.

As I write this article we are busy getting ready for our joint Thanksgiving service with First United Methodist Church. Carol Loeb has worked very hard on this evening and I know it will be beautiful.

I want to make a correction to last month's bulletin article. It was actually Karen Lieberman who helped Suzanne Coleman (her sister-in-law) with Simchat Torah. Thank you ladies for all of your help.

Our cheesecake fundraiser was a huge success and we have many of you to thank: Marlene Beringer for keeping it all organized; to Sharon McDaniel, Susan Bernstein, Carol Loeb, Maxine Goldner, Lynne Ginsburg and Marlene, thank you for your friendly smiles during curb side pick-up. It all went very smoothly and was lots of fun. This is a great time and we welcome anyone who would like to help with this next year. We sold 390 total cheesecakes and we want to sell twice that many

next year! This is really an easy sell, especially before the holidays.

I look forward to seeing everyone during the holidays and when you see Evette, our new custodian please say hello. Have a safe and happy Chanukah.

My very best always,
Lisa Weil

L'Chaim

Mark your calendars for **Tuesday, December 15th**, to join in for our annual Chanukah Luncheon to be held this year at City Grill on Vaughn Road. We ask that you bring **NEW** items for donation to the B'nai Brith home in Memphis, such as: sunglasses, gloves, hat, scarves, ear covers, slippers, socks, and anything else you would like to bring. A box will be set up at TBO for anyone that would like to drop off any items. I will ship the box the day after the luncheon.

We have many exciting programs in the works for 2010 including: Book review by Rabbi Stevens and deli lunch - visit with local artist - "makeovers" by the Cosmetic Team from Dillards at a local restaurant - and a travel presentation from our members who visited the Galapagos Islands with a pot luck lunch. So much more to come - join in at any time.

Linda R Smith

Youth Group

BOOTY will be kicking off its annual Camp Jenny Fundraising Raffle during TBO's Hanukkah Dinner with a special drawing for one of the following themed gift baskets: Pamper Yourself, Date Night, Sports Fan, Rise & Shine or Shabbat for Two. The remaining prize winners will be drawn on January 10th and will be contacted. Tickets go on sale at TBO on Friday, Dec. 18th at 4:00 pm. Come early and purchase your \$10 raffle ticket in support of Camp Jenny. Visit www.campjenny.org for more

continued on next page

information. Raffle tickets can be purchased at anytime by contacting Danielle Berry at (334) 290-0445 or at the Temple office

Greetings from the **Men's Club!**

Our annual Men's Club Shabbat will be Feb. 12th. Rabbi Stevens and Dr. Wick Many will be discussing selected topics of bio-medical ethics. Dr. Many is the Program Director and Professor of Medicine, Discipline of Infectious Diseases at the UAB School of Medicine Health Center in Montgomery.

The Men's Club will host another movie night on Wednesday, April 14th. The movie title will be released later! We are also working on co-sponsoring some speakers, so please look to future bulletins for more information.

I hope to see you all at a Temple event soon!

Kent Long
Men's Club President

Religion School

DECEMBER SCHEDULE

Dec. 6 - Classes will be held at AIEA from 9:30 am - 11:00 am

AIEA's Hanukkah Hoopla begins at 11:00 am

Dec. 13 - Classes will be held at TBO from 9:30 am - 12 noon

Dec. 20 - NO SCHOOL

Dec. 27 - NO SCHOOL

If you would like to be a volunteer for our religious school program, please contact Sharon Berry at (334) 290-0445 or daberry40@netscape.net.

SOCIAL CONCERNS PROJECT

Child Protect is enthusiastic about TBO members repeating this holiday season the Bedtime Bundles project for local victims of child abuse and molestation. There were 500 such children seen by the agency in the past year 10/08 - 9/09.

This time the agency asks that we, in effect, "unbundle" the bundles, and have the items delivered loose, so that the agency can give out to children more selectively, or let the children themselves choose what they want. We will have a playpen in the Temple lobby during November and December for members to deposit new items for children ages 6-14, both boys and girls:

- pajamas
- socks
- combs and brushes
- magic washcloths (from Dollar Tree)
- soaps
- toothpaste, toothbrushes
- shoelaces
- pillowcases (plain and child themes)
- books
- journals
- pads, pencils, crayons
- other appropriate kid things

If you prefer to donate money, we will do the shopping for you! Your check is very welcome. For questions, contact Louisa Weinrib 262-6155.

from the Library

As you plan for your festivities over the next month, keep in mind that the library has a number of books that might be of help in you. We have books on general entertaining (e.g. table settings and decorating), and of course, a number of cookbooks, some of which focus primarily on more "healthful" recipes (but the more traditional recipes are certainly represented in the collection). Here is a sampling from the library collection:

Fast and Festive Meals for the Jewish Holidays: Complete Menus, Rituals, and Party-Planning Ideas for Every Holiday of the Year by Marlene Sorosky in collaboration with Joanne Neuman and Debbie Shahvar (699.1 SOR 1997)

The Children's Jewish Holiday Kitchen by Joan Nathan (Juv 699.4 NAT 1987)

Jewish Holiday Traditions by: Joyful Celebrations from Rosh Hashanah to Shavuot by Linda Burghardt (236.1 BUR 2001)

Jewish Cooking in America by Joan Nathan (699.9 NAT 1998)

Light Jewish Holiday Desserts by Penny Wantuck Eisenberg (699.9 EIS 1999)

Nechama Cohen's Enlightened Kosher Cooking: More than 250 Good-Carb, Healthy-Fat, Sugar-Free Recipes from the Simple to the Elegant by Nechama Cohen (699.9 COH 2006)



Lunch at Chez Lulu on November 20th by members of L'Chaim League.

congregations use the Internet in ways that go far beyond what most of us are used to.

Most of us these days are pretty good at using the Internet to access information. The web has indeed opened up to us the vast treasury of Jewish knowledge. Rabbi Yoffie pointed out that Judaism is not a religion of elites – we are all expected to learn and to know, and the web provides access to Jewish learning on a scale that was unthinkable a decade ago. Our own website is a portal to the world of Jewish information, with the links we’ve provided in a whole host of areas. I hope you’ve become a frequent user of templebethor.net. The web gives us an instrument to involve and include Jews as never before. As Rabbi Yoffie said, “this is enormously exciting, and more than a little scary.”

But then he asked: “Are we making the most of this potential?” And he answered, “not even close.” Because we and most other congregations limit our use of the web to presenting information, rather than as a means to engage our members.

Most of you have probably used interactive websites. You read an on-line editorial in the *New York Times* and discover that the editorial is followed by wide-ranging comments posted by readers. But the possibilities don’t stop there. Listen to the words of Rabbi Yoffie:

“I believe that we are missing a critical opportunity. The Internet and cyberspace are changing all the rules of Jewish interaction, and we need to be at the forefront of these changes. We need to create an online, Oral Torah of ongoing Jewish discourse, and invite in the opinions of our members. We need to ask our members to share their personal stories and Jewish memories – which they love to do when given the chance. We need to encourage hotly debated, multi-voiced, civil discussions on synagogue and local issues, and on Israel and national issues.” He said, “Let’s talk about why we come to services or why we don’t. Let’s discuss the big issues of the Jewish world. And Presidents and board members can test ideas and ask for feedback, on anything from dues and membership to personal theology.”

We often talk about ways to create community, and how to engage our members. What we are seeing here is a new approach not only to serving members, but truly engaging them and thereby creating and re-creating a sense of community. The idea, as Rabbi Yoffie states, is not just to see the web as a bulletin board for announcements but as an act of communal collaboration.

And of course there are tremendous implications for our young Jews, and therefore for our very future. We have young people in our congregation, but look around you – for the most part, they’re not here. If we are ever to succeed with our younger members and our children, we need to know who they are, where they are, and what they want. And I have to tell you: As I’ve been working with the kids

in our religious school, I’ve seen many who want to inquire, discuss, argue and learn. They are natural collaborators and community-builders. As Rabbi Yoffie notes in his address, they will not be attracted by authoritarian Judaism; they want a temple that is more bottom-up than top-down.

And so Rabbi Yoffie proposes that Reform temples become the address for technological experimentation – including web streaming, virtual Board meetings, congregational blogs, and truly interactive, on-line forums. The era of one-way, passive information, he says, is over. We need to think in terms of networks rather than hierarchies.

I don’t know how much of this will be of interest here at Beth Or; I don’t know if *any* of it will be of interest. There are always practical considerations – who has any time to devote to these things, even if the technological costs are essentially free? None of these things are even possible without substantial lay leadership. The need for guidelines is clear, along with the will to work towards creating community in new ways to augment – not replace! – the historic community that must endure.

But how can one not be inspired by the vitality and creativity of a Reform Judaism that will never let itself become stagnant! I have already shared these and other initiatives with some of our leadership, and invite your participation in the months ahead.

Elliot L. Stevens

SCHEDULE FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF MISHKAN T'FILAH

Following is a list of Friday night services in which *Mishkan T'filah*, the new Reform prayer book, will be used. Our student cantor, Andrea Rae Markowicz, will be with us on December 18, January 29, February 26, March 12, April 9 and May 14. On March 12, we will be using the *Union Prayer Book*.

December 18	February 26	April 9
January 15	March 5	April 16
January 29	March 19	April 30
February 19	March 29	

From May on, we'll be using *Mishkan T'filah* full time, although we will be continuing our periodic use of the *Union Prayer Book*.

Student Cantor Andrea Rae Markowicz Weekends:

December 18 - 20	(Cantor Markowicz will usually participate in Friday night Shabbat services, Saturday morning Shabbat services and Religious School on Sundays.)
January 29-31	
February 26-28	
March 12-14	
April 9 - 11	
May 14 - 16	

Volunteer Now

for Temple Beth Or's Seventh Annual
Jewish Food Festival and Treasure Market



Please select the items which interest you and which shift you prefer:

Starting now and during the next few months:

- Cooking at home (kugel or quajado)
- Cooking/Baking at the Temple (bakery items, Challah, stuffed cabbage). Check your email and bulletins for cooking times.
- Putting up signs
- Being a guest on radio/television shows

Week of:

- Helping in kitchen on Tuesday
- Helping in kitchen on Wednesday
- Helping in kitchen on Thursday
- Helping in kitchen on Friday
- Setting up tables, decorations, signs (inside)
- Setting up in Treasure Market
- Packaging bakery items on Saturday

First Shift
8:30 to 12:00

Second Shift
11:45 to 3:00

Day of:

- | | | |
|---|-------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Selling tickets at table | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Selling tickets-walking around | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Selling cookbooks | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Selling in the bakery | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serving lunch | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Helping in the Treasure Market | _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clean-up | _____ | _____ |

We also need your items for the Treasure Market. Please deliver to the Temple, Tuesday thru Friday
Contact Alan Weil, Sr. (281-1737) with questions.

Please mail or drop this form off at the Temple office as soon as possible.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

All proceeds benefit the Temple General Fund.

2246 Narrow Lane Road ▪ Montgomery, Alabama 36106 ▪ (334) 262-3314

Sunday, February 21, 2010

9 AM - 3 PM

Seal here

Kahl Montgomery
Temple Beth Or
2246 Narrow Lane Road
Montgomery, AL 36106



Karen Goldstein
2026 Myrtlewood Drive
Montgomery, Alabama 36111

fold here

I can't wait to help!

Sign Me Up!

TEMPLE BETH OR ADULT EDUCATION
INTRODUCTION TO JEWISH MYSTICISM

The Jewish mystical tradition, assumed by many modern Jews to have been only peripheral to mainstream Judaism, has in fact been central to our tradition since biblical times. Jewish mysticism has influenced Jewish philosophy, practice, liturgy and worship, and offers a vast literature. The literature of Jewish mysticism includes biblical texts, commentaries, parables, prayers and mystical testimonies, extending well into modern times. Jewish mysticism continues to influence all streams of Judaism into our own day.

This course will be led by Rabbi Stevens, and will consist of five classes:

- January 6: Mysticism in the Bible
- January 20: The Origins of Kabbalah
- February 3: Lurianic Kabbalah
- February 17: Hasidism
- March 3: Mysticism Meets Modernity

All classes will convene at the temple on Wednesday evenings at 7:00, and all classes are open to the public. Bring a friend!

JFCA Shaliach Calendar **Saturday, Dec. 12, 7 PM,** Havdalah service and JFCA's Shaliach event: Film Club at TBO (movie to be announced).

Tuesday, December 15, 7 PM, Yuval presents Conversational Hebrew for adults at 7 PM. Café Israel to begin at 7:30 PM. Topic: Life in the Israeli Kibbutz. Presented by Tair Patishi (wife of an Israeli pilot). Location AIEA.

Future dates: **Café Israel** at AIEA on Jan. 19th, Feb. 2nd and Feb. 16th. **Film Club:** Jan. 23rd (AIEA) and Feb. 13th (TBO)

Kol Ami Religious School

Meets at TBO
December 13

Meets at AIEA
December 6
January 10
January 24
January 31
February 7
February 28
March 7
March 14
March 28
April 11
April 18
April 25
May 2
May 16

Temple Beth Or thanks the Carol Lobman Hart Educational Fund for funding the October visit of our guest speaker, Rabbi Walter Hamolka.



(If you know someone who's done something nice for our Temple, please email or call Gina with their name and good deed.)

You're invited to attend Rabbi Kramer's Torah Study at Agudath Israel ☆ Etz Ahayem on Mondays at 7 PM

To see other AI☆EA events go to www.agudathmontgomery.com and click on *calendar*.

PRESS RELEASE:

For Immediate Release

Open Auditions for "Black History Play HALO"

Ely Junior Productions announces open auditions for a new play by S.K. Folks titled "HALO." Performances will be at the Davis Theatre for the Performing Arts on January 29 and 30, 2010. "HALO" involves an incident in WWII between a group of African American soldiers and the Jewish refugees they are assigned to protect; coming to terms with their differences and the things both groups have in common. Casting requirements are: B/M and W/M between the ages of 19 to 65, B/F and W/F between the ages of 14 to 65. Auditions will be held from 5:00pm until 10:00pm, Saturday, December 5, 2009 at the Brookview Church of Christ, 100 Brookview Dr., Montgomery, AL. Auditionees will read from the script and they may bring a prepared monologue if they wish but it is not required. All roles are paid positions. For more information please call the director, Sam Wallace, at 334-396-1751.

Jewish Federation of Central Alabama presents NY's 92nd Street Y Satellite broadcast:



The Coming Commercial Revolution in the Muslim World

Monday • December 7 • 7 PM • AUM TechnaCenter

Vali Nasr, a senior fellow for Middle Eastern studies at the Council on Foreign Relations, argues that the great battle for the soul of the Middle East will be fought not over religion, but over business and capitalism. Learn why extremism has become such a problem, how regional stability can evolve, and how Middle East-U.S. relations can be dramatically improved.

Sponsored by JFCA and AUM. Location AUM TechnaCenter.

Beyond December!

Wednesday, January 6, 7 PM, Adult Ed: Introduction to Jewish Mysticism: Class 1 of 5: Mysticism in the Bible.

Saturday, January 9, 9:30 AM, Shabbat morning service and Torah study. Light brunch served.

Sunday, January 10, 9:30 AM, Religious School at AIEA.

Saturday, January 16, 6 PM, JFCA's Fab 7 event. Join us at Temple Beth Or for a discussion with a panel of 7 Shlichim about being a woman in Israel.

Sunday, January 17, 6 PM, JFCA presents Israeli Folklore activities with music, dancing and cooking at Agudath Israel.

Tuesday, January 19, 7 PM, JFCA's Shaliach presents Conversational Hebrew for adults at 7 PM. Café Israel to begin at 7:30 PM. Location AIEA.

Wednesday, January 20, 7 PM, Adult Ed: Introduction to Jewish Mysticism: Class 2 of 5: The Origins of Kabbalah.

Thursday, January 21, 7 PM, Guest Speaker David Lehman, author of *A FINE ROMANCE: JEWISH SONGWRITERS, AMERICAN SONGS*.

Saturday, January 23, 7 PM, Havdalah service and JFCA's Shaliach event at AIEA: Film Club presents a movie (to be announced).

Sunday, January 24, 9:30 AM, Religious School at AIEA.

Friday, January 29, 6 PM, Sisterhood Shabbat and Shabbat Shira Service with Student Cantor Markowicz.

Saturday, January 30, 9:30 AM, Shabbat morning service and Torah study with Student Cantor Markowicz. Light brunch served.

Saturday, January 30, 5 PM, Havdalah Healing Service and Reception.

Sunday, January 31, 9:30 AM, Religious School at AIEA.

Tuesday, February 2, 7 PM, JFCA's Shaliach presents Conversational Hebrew for adults at 7 PM. Café Israel to begin at 7:30 PM. Location AIEA.

Wednesday, February 3, 7 PM, Adult Ed: Introduction to Jewish Mysticism: Class 3 of 5: Lurianic Kabbalah.

Saturday, February 6, 6 PM, TENTATIVE: Lecture by the Israeli Vice Consul. Sponsored by JFCA. Location TBO.

Sunday, February 7, 9:30 AM, Religious School at AIEA.

Friday, February 12, 6 PM, Men's Club Shabbat. Guest Speaker, Dr. Wick Many, Program Director and Professor of Medicine, Discipline of Infectious Diseases at the UAB School of Medicine Health Center in Montgomery. Selected topics of bio-medical ethics will be discussed.

Saturday, February 13, 7 PM, Havdalah service and JFCA's Shaliach event at TBO: Film Club presents a movie (to be announced).

Tuesday, February 16, 7 PM, JFCA's Shaliach presents Conversational Hebrew for adults at 7 PM. Café Israel to begin at 7:30 PM. Location AIEA.

Wednesday, February 17, 7 PM, Adult Ed: Introduction to Jewish Mysticism: Class 4 of 5: Hasidism.

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

Friday, February 26, 6 PM, Shabbat Youth Service with Student Cantor Markowicz. Pot luck dinner to follow at 7 PM.

Saturday, February 27, 9:30 AM, Shabbat morning service and Torah study with Student Cantor Markowicz. Light brunch served.

Saturday, February 27, 6 PM, Purim Celebration.

Sunday, February 28, 9:30 AM, Religious School at AIEA.

Wednesday, March 3, 7 PM, Adult Ed: Introduction to Jewish Mysticism: Class 5 of 5: Mysticism Meets Modernity.

Saturday, March 6, 10 AM, Jack Loeb's Bar Mitzvah and Shabbat morning service.

Sunday, March 7, 9:30 AM, Religious School at AIEA.

Sunday, March 14, 9:30 AM, Religious School at AIEA.

Thursday, March 18, 7 PM, Guest speaker, David Kushner, author of *LEVITTOWN: TWO FAMILIES, ONE TYCOON, AND THE FIGHT FOR CIVIL RIGHTS IN AMERICA'S LEGENDARY SUBURB*.

Chanukah Shabbat with Family and Friends



Friday, December 18

There will be a special Chanukah worship service and candle lighting, which will begin at 6 PM. Please bring your favorite Chanukah Menorah and candles.

Following the service will be our annual Sisterhood Latke Dinner.

\$8 for Adults; \$5 for Children 10 & under, free for children under 5.

Checks should be made payable to:


Temple Beth Or Sisterhood

Please send your check as your reservation by Tuesday, December 15th to Sharon McDaniel, 2632 Old Orchard Lane, Montgomery, 36117

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.

December 2009

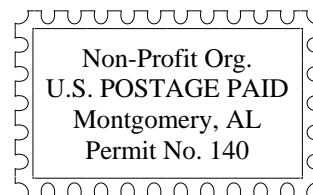
Want an updated look at what's going on at Temple? Go to www.templebethor.net.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7 PM <i>Board of Trustees</i>	2	3	4 6 PM <i>Shabbat Service Birthday & Anniversary Blessings Reception follows for Carol Hart's Birthday</i>	5
6 9:30 Kol Ami at AIEA. Hannukah Hoopla follows.	7 7:15 PM <i>Satellite broadcast of "The Coming Commercial Revolution in the Muslim World." Location AUM TechnaCenter.</i>	8	9	10	11 6 PM <i>Shabbat Service</i>	12 7 PM <i>Havdalah service and JFCA's Shaliach event: Film Club at TBO.</i>
13 9:30 <i>Religious School at TBO</i>	14 9:30 AM <i>MACOA cooking</i>	15 <i>Noon, L'Chaim League's Chanukah Luncheon at City Grille.</i> <i>7 PM, Café Israel to begin at 7:30 PM. Location AIEA.</i>	16	17	18 6 PM <i>Annual Chanukah dinner and informal service, accompanied by Student Cantor Markowicz.</i>	19 9:30 AM <i>Shabbat morning service and Torah study with Student Cantor Markowicz.</i>
20	21	22 7 PM <i>Board of Trustees</i>	23	24	25 <i>Office closed. Doors open at 4 PM for service.</i> <i>6 PM Shabbat Service</i>	26
27	28	29  Office Hours from Tuesday to Thursday, 9 - Noon	30	31	Jan. 1 <i>Office will be closed. Temple will open at 4 PM for evening service.</i>	

Kahl Montgomery—Temple Beth Or
2246 Narrow Lane Road
Montgomery, AL 36106

Dec 09 Bulletin

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



The Temple Beth Or administrative office will be closed on Friday, December 25th and Friday, January 1st. The Temple will open at 4 PM on these days for services.

Just as an FYI - Gina Friday will be on vacation from December 28th - January 1st. Office hours from Tuesday - Thursday of that week will be 9 AM - noon. All efforts will be made to keep the office open and the phones staffed during her absence.

Remaining Food Festival Cooking Dates

Cooking time begins at 9 AM unless otherwise noted. Time and dates are subject to change so please call the Temple to confirm times.

- 1/4ChallahMarlene
- 1/10HamantaschenAlison
- 1/12Mandelbrot.....Lynne
- 1/15Praline MatzahDiane W.
- 1/17ChallahMarlene
- 1/31LatkesSusan B.
- 2/2Mandelbrot.....Lynne
- 2/5Kugel.....Diane W.

Celebrate Carol Hart's 85th birthday at a special Oneg Shabbat in her honor Friday, December 4, 2009 at Temple Beth Or

6:00 Shabbat Service
7:00 Oneg and Birthday Celebration
Hors d'oeuvres and wine

given by:
Michal and Jack Hillman
Alice and Brian Wertheim
Julian and Gail Hart
Van and Jeri Hart