

Temple Beth El^{Electronic} News

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Elul 5770

August 2010

Thank You

- ✧ To Louie Landau; Emily, Terry and Scott Kruse; Hank Goldstein; Phyllis Garfield; and Rebecca Gottlieb for their tireless work on the first temple clean up day. Thanks to the folks who also worked the second clean up day; their names will be listed in the next newsletter.
- ✧ To Kanndo Cleaners and our wonderful cleaning person for drying out the temple basement after we had water there a few weeks ago.
- ✧ To Alan Garfield for attending a meeting of the Jewish Community Resource Council. It is terrific that we have a presence in that organization.
- ✧ To everyone who attended our start-of-the-year picnic in Flora Park and brought yummy food.

When Rabbi Jennifer Joins Us

During the time that Rabbi Jennifer joins us for services, she would like to stay with different families, and as noted above, we will have a sign-up sheet available at the upcoming picnic. The rabbi does not have a restriction on where people live in the tri-state area; She realizes that we are spread out and that some members' homes will require a little more travel. Jennifer doesn't need a private bath - and it is OK if people have pets as long as they will not sleep in her room and the room has been vacuumed before she stays there,

Volunteer Opportunities

Below is a list of our temple committees and the people, so far, who have volunteered to chair a committee for this year. If you have chaired one of these in prior years and wish to chair again, please contact temple president, Cindy Mikel (mikelcinkc@aol.com). Or, if you haven't chaired previously and/or are a new member, we WELCOME your participation! Just let Cindy know what you are interested in doing. ☺

Adult Study Organizer:

Oneg Organizer: **Fern Reinstein**

Rabbi Dinner Organizer:

Cemetery:

Challah Preparation:

Chanukah Dinner:

Cleaning Person (organizer):

DACU Representatives: Jaclyn Aidenbaum,
Phyllis Garfield, Cindy Mikel

End of Year Social:

Gift Shop:

Kitchen Supplies: **Phyllis Garfield, Cindy Mikel**

Maintenance:

Membership:

New Year Bulletin: **Ellie Landau**

Newsletter: **Kate Scheinman**

Phone Messages and Mail:

Purim Dinner:

Rabbi Car Arrangement:

Rosh Hashanah Luncheon: **Fern Reinstein**

Sisterhood: **Emily Kruse**

Social Action: **Rebecca Gottlieb**

Summer Family Picnic:

Worship Committee: **Rebecca Gottlieb**

Yahrzeits:

Yom Kippur Break-the-Fast: **Rebecca Gottlieb**

First Weekend with Rabbi Jennifer Flatté

On behalf of the board and the membership of Temple Beth El, we are very excited to welcome Rabbi Jennifer to Dubuque. Here is a framework for the first weekend:

- ✧ There will be a regular Shabbat service on Friday night at 7 PM with an Oneg hosted by the Kruse family.
- ✧ We will have family school for the younger children on Saturday morning at 10 AM.
- ✧ Then at noon, anyone with older children can meet with the rabbi to plan religious school activities for the coming year.
- ✧ At 4 PM the board and anyone else who would like to attend will meet with the rabbi to discuss the High Holiday plans
- ✧ Then at 6:30 PM we will have dinner with the rabbi: We invite everyone to join the board at the House of China (on JFK in Dubuque). This will be a chance to meet the rabbi and to brainstorm our plans for her visits. Discussion will include how to schedule Jennifer's Saturday activities (afternoons and evenings). Everyone will be responsible for paying her or his own meal, and we have reserved a private room. We really encourage everyone to attend!!!

High Holidays

Once the plans for the High Holidays are confirmed, another newsletter will be sent out. For now, here is preliminary information:

September 8-9 - Rosh Hashanah

Fern Reinstein will once again host the luncheon following the morning service. Please bring a salad, cold dish, or dessert to serve approximately 12 people. (**Dairy meal:** fish, eggs, and milk products.) Please bring in a serving bowl or tray, with serving utensils. Contact Fern with any questions (threemstamper@yahoo.com).

September 17-18 - Yom Kippur

Rebecca Gottlieb will once again host the break-the-fast meal following the Concluding Service. Rebecca will have a sign-up sheet over the next few weeks, and she asks that you sign up to bring one of the following: herring, hard-boiled or deviled eggs, egg salad, lox, cream cheese, bagels, sliced vegetables, fruit, or kugel. Contact Becca with any questions or if you would like to help her (gottlieb@uwplatt.edu).

Member News

From Rhea Kirk: My grandson, Tony Alan Jenkins III (hence the nickname "Trey," which is French for three), was born Aug 15, weighed 7 lb, 4.9 oz and was 19 inches long. He has blond hair like his mom and dad when they were born, and he has his dad's dimples and his mom's chubby cheeks.

From Ruthie Silverberg: Here is my address in Florida.

7623 Southampton Terr. B 403

Tamarac, Fl. 33321

I love getting the newsletters from home. Sending all my love to you all.

Welcome home Emily Goldberg. We can't wait to hear about your trip to Israel this summer!

Onegs

It is that time of year when Fern Reinstein is looking for people to host the onegs following our services. Please volunteer to host. Contact Fern to sign up for a date or two or if you have any questions! (threemstamper@yahoo.com)

From Rabbi Jennifer

We have just returned from a trip to Great Britain, and it would be fair to say that we spent a large proportion of our time wandering about castles and cathedrals. I love old cathedrals. I love the history buried in the floors and I am intrigued by the monuments to people and events that are positioned in every available nook and cranny. I can stare for hours at windows that tell stories both ancient and modern. Above all, however, I am fascinated by a space designed to simultaneously echo the glory of God and reflect the concerns of humanity.

Whenever I walk into a cathedral - whether large or small, full or empty - I always seem to stop dead in my tracks and-stare. At first I thought it was the novelty and an awareness of the noticeable differences between a space that is Jewish and one that is not. Then I thought it was the change in lighting (cathedrals often seem dark especially after walking in the sunlight). Finally, I thought maybe it was the crowds. But one afternoon I walked into a reasonably well lit, mostly empty cathedral that I had visited before and I stopped so abruptly that my youngest daughter (who hadn't yet learned to go first) plowed straight into me, knocking us both down.

As I sat on the floor with her, I realized that it is that curious balance between the glory of God and the will of humanity that gets me every time. Most of the time I don't think too much about the glory of God. Do I think about Torah? Definitely. How to live my life as a responsible and responsive Jew? Positively. How to understand my part in the covenant between God and Israel? Absolutely. God? Not so much.

Except for now. With Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur mere weeks away, the focus shifts. The liturgy of the High Holy Days reminds us of the true grandeur and power of God. The liturgy of the High Holy Days reminds us to compare the concerns of humanity with the authority of the Divine. The liturgy of the High Holy Days brings into focus that very balance between the glory of God and our own human will.

With each renewal every year, we are offered the chance to think about not just **what** we do as Jews but also **why** we do it. It may be because it is what our parents taught us. It may be because it is what our tradition teaches us. It may be because it is what fulfills us. It may be because it is what God tells us. It may be for reasons too complex or arcane to articulate. But I think it is a good thing that, at least once a year, we are given the opportunity to stop dead in our tracks, and do nothing but think and wonder.

*Michael joins me in inviting our new Beth El family
to celebrate with us as our daughter
Naftalia Hadar
is called to the Torah as Bat Mitzvah
Saturday the 4th of September at 9:30 am
Agudas Achim Congregation
602 E Washington Street
Iowa City, Iowa
Kiddush luncheon to follow*

*The celebration continues at 5:30 pm
with a backyard barbecue
1165 Oakes Drive, Iowa City*

Rabbi Jennifer Flatté

Here is a non-final schedule of temple events. I have kept the design of previous years until we decide if we will have the same format (e.g., will we still have Saturday evening adult studies, or some other type of get together?). So the formatting of this schedule is in process. Note that a new line item—who will be hosting the rabbi for the weekend—is included. There are many available opportunities. PLEASE VOLUNTEER to host the rabbi for the weekend or for a dinner, to host an oneg or a Saturday evening event.

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|---|---|
| Friday, August 27 ...7:00pm Shabbat service | dinner: Mikel/Pearce; oneg Kruse |
| Saturday, August 28...6:30pm | group dinner and planning meeting: House of China |
| September 8 to 9: Rosh Hashanah | weekend host: Mikel/Pearce |
| September 17 to 18: Yom Kippur | weekend host: Alexander |
| Friday, October 22 ...7:00pm Shabbat service | dinner: TBD; oneg TBD |
| Saturday, October 23...7:00pm adult study | dinner: TBD; study: TBD |
| | weekend host: Garfield |
| Friday, November 19...7:00pm Shabbat service | dinner: TBD; oneg TBD |
| Saturday, November 20...7:00pm adult study | dinner: TBD; study: TBD |
| | weekend host: Landau |
| Friday, December 3...6:00pm Hanukkah lay service | (dinner hosted by ? with menorah lighting to follow) |
| Friday, December 17...7:00pm Shabbat service | dinner: TBD; oneg: TBD |
| Saturday, December 18...7:00pm adult study | dinner: TBD; study: TBD |
| | weekend host: Kruse |
| Friday, January 21, 2011...7:00pm Shabbat service | dinner: TBD; oneg: TBD |
| Saturday, January 22...7:00pm adult study | dinner: TBD; study: TBD |
| | weekend host: TBD |
| Friday, February 18...7:00pm Shabbat service | dinner: TBD; oneg: TBD |
| Saturday, February 19...7:00pm adult study | dinner: TBD; study: TBD |
| | weekend host: TBD |
| Friday, March 18...6:00pm Purim service | (with congregational dinner to follow; we need a Purim Dinner host) |
| Saturday, March 19...7:00pm adult study | dinner: TBD; study: TBD |
| | weekend host: Yaunches |
| Friday, April 9...7:00pm Visitors' service | dinner: TBD; Group oneg |
| Tuesday, April 19 (Passover)—Congregational Seder | overnight host needed? |
| Friday, May 13...7:00pm Shabbat service | dinner: TBD; oneg: TBD |
| Saturday, May 14...7:00pm adult study | dinner: TBD; study: TBD |
| | weekend host: Goldstein |
| Friday, June 3...7:00pm Shabbat service | dinner: TBD; oneg: TBD |
| Saturday, June 4... Time TBD | End-of-Year Adult Social (host needed) |
| | weekend host: TBD |