

Israel at 60: Where do we go from here?

**Sunday, September 21 • 10 AM • Marvin & Elisabeth Cassell
Community House (One East 65th Street)**



THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY and MEN'S CLUB cordially invite all Temple members to their opening meeting and brunch, featuring **Professor Fred A. Lazin**, chairman of the department of politics and government at Ben Gurion University of the Negev. In celebration of Israel's 60th anniversary, Emanu-El is delighted to host this distinguished political scientist and author. Cost is \$30 for Women's Auxiliary and Men's Club members; \$40 for all others. (212) 744-1400, ext. 235

IMPORTANT REMINDERS/UPCOMING EVENTS

Nursery School Applications

Applications for the **2009-2010** school year will be available by request through **Friday, September 26. Call the Nursery School office at (212) 744-1400, ext. 230 during this period only.** Although it is our policy to give priority to members of the congregation and siblings, acceptance is not automatic.

Mitzvah Corps: Unit 1
Wednesday, Sept. 24 • 4 PM
OR Sunday, Sept. 28 • 9:30 AM
10 East 66th Street

The Mitzvah Corps program for seventh and eighth graders kicks off with learning components focused on *Hava'at Shalom* (Making Peace Where There is Strife). Students may attend either the Wednesday afternoon or the Sunday morning session.

Tikkun Olam:
Volunteer Opportunity
Sunday, Sept. 28 • 11:30 AM
211 East 81st Street

Adults and high school students are needed to set up and serve lunch to formerly homeless adults at a residence run by Neighborhood Coalition for Shelter. Space is limited, so register soon: tikkunolam@emanuelnyc.org or (212) 744-1400, ext. 452.

High School Confirmation
Sunday, Sept. 28 • 6 PM
One East 65th Street

Step 1 will focus on smashing "idols"—things that society tells us will provide happiness and success but that really leave us feeling empty. Dinner will be provided. To register or ask questions, call Youth Coordinator Danny Mishkin at (212) 744-1400, ext. 329.

DAILY SUNSET SERVICE
SUNDAY — THURSDAY
5:30 PM, One E. 65th St.

SABBATH WORSHIP
FRIDAY EVENING
Sanctuary (Fifth Avenue @ 65th Street)
Organ Recital—5 PM
Service Begins—5:15 PM
WQXR Radio (96.3 FM) and Internet (www.wqxr.com) broadcasts—5:30 PM

SATURDAY MORNING
Sixth Floor Lounge
Torah Study—9:15 AM
Sanctuary (Fifth Avenue @ 65th Street)
Service Begins—10:30 AM

Worship services also can be heard through the Emanu-El Web site: www.emanuelnyc.org



Hearing loop in Sanctuary and Beth-El Chapel; switch aid to T-coil. Headsets or neck loops also available.

WEEKLY PARASHAH

Saturday, September 27

Torah Portion—*Nitzavim*

Readings—

Deuteronomy 29:9-30:20;

Isaiah 61:10-63:9

Sermon: Rabbi Posner

Saturday, October 4

Torah Portion—*Vayeilech*

Readings—

Deuteronomy 31:1-30;

Hosea 14:2-10; Micah 7:18-

20; Joel 2:15-27

Sermon: Rabbinic Intern

Ariana Silverman

The following students of our Religious School will become B'NEI MITZVAH:

Saturday, September 27

Anna Catherine Carroll, daughter of Amy Gibbons and Edward Carroll

Samuel Albert Weintraub, son of Benjamin Weintraub and Lucy Prager

Matthew Joshua Wachter, son of Nicole and David Wachter

Saturday, October 4

Benjamin Michael Croen, son of Caroline and David Croen

Ali Paige Gordon, daughter of Caryn and Gregg Gordon

Tatiana Dubin, daughter of Tiffany and Louis Dubin

We are grateful for their sponsorship of each week's Friday evening *Oneg Shabbat*.

Jews and Indians

Monday, September 22 • 6:30 PM • Marvin & Elisabeth Cassell Community House (One East 65th Street)

AFASCINATING BEVY of encounters, both face-to-face and imaginary, have taken place between Jews and Native Americans from the discovery of the New World right up to the present. Drawing from his freshly completed dissertation research, *The Jews' Indian*, **David S. Koffman** will present highlights from among these imaginations, including the claim that Indians descended from the Lost Tribes and the role of “the Indian” in Jewish literature, poetry and theatre. He also will touch on their interactions on the ground in the American West through business, military and politics. How and why have American Jews found Natives “good to think with”?

DAVID S. KOFFMAN is a doctoral candidate in NYU's departments of history and Hebrew and Judaic studies. He holds master's degrees in anthropology (University of Toronto), Hebrew and Judaic studies (NYU), and public administration (Wagner School of Public Service, NYU). He also is an alumnus of the Wexner Graduate Fellowship.



This event is the first of three lectures sponsored jointly by the Stettenheim Library and the Bernard Museum of Judaica as part of our annual Library-Museum Lecture Series. For a description of all programs in this series, visit the Temple Emanu-El Web site (www.emanuelnyc.org). Click: Learning → Stettenheim Library → Library-Museum Lecture Series.

If the subject of this lecture interests you, then you might consider David Koffman's seven-week course to be taught through the Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Temple Emanu-El. Log on to the Skirball site at www.adultjewishlearning.org or call (212) 507-9580.

The Cemeteries of
Congregation Emanu-El
Salem Fields and Beth-El

A limited number of
above-ground crypts are available
in our community mausoleum.

For information, please call
Dr. Mark W. Weisstuch at the
Temple Office, (212) 744-1400.

Charles S. Salomon
The Universal
Funeral Chapel

1076 Madison Avenue
(212) 753-5300

Our service is available in the
Temple, home or our Chapel.

PULPIT FLOWERS for Rosh Hashanah have been donated generously by our congregants:

Rabbi and Mrs. Ronald B. Sobel in loving memory of *Ethel B. and Peter P. Sobel*

Mrs. Constance A. Austin in loving memory of *Anita K. Agate*

Rhoda Weiskopf Cohen in loving memory of my dearest parents, *Dr. Samuel and Esther Altman Weiskopf*, and my beloved grandmother, *Gussie W. Altman*

Georgia K. Horner in loving memory of *Norma K. and Jerome Friedman*

In memory of *Lawrence Lachman*, from his loving family

Mrs. Ann Perse in loving memory of her husband, *Harry H. Perse*

Jeanine P. Plottel and Roland Plottel in loving memory of *Lea and Maurice Parisier* and *Frances and Charles Plottel*

Edith R. and Edwin C. Scheurer in loving memory of their parents, *Norma and Lewis Raabin* and *Harry Scheurer*

Mr. and Mrs. Seymour Schneiderman in loving memory of *Shelly Taylor*

To sponsor pulpit flowers or an *Oneg Shabbat*, call (212) 744-1400 or send an e-mail to *sponsorships@emanuelnyc.org*.



High Holy Days worship schedule

Eve of Rosh Hashanah: Monday, September 29 • 5:30 PM

Sanctuary: Rabbi Posner (Sermon), Rabbinic Intern Ariana Silverman and Cantor Lori Corrsin

Lowenstein: Rabbi Ehrlich (Sermon), Rabbi Goldsmith and Cantorial Intern Joshua Breitzer

Day of Rosh Hashanah: Tuesday, September 30 • 10 AM

Sanctuary: Rabbi Ehrlich (Sermon), Rabbi Goldsmith and Cantorial Intern Joshua Breitzer

Lowenstein: Rabbi Posner (Sermon), Rabbinic Intern Ariana Silverman and Cantor Lori Corrsin

Family Service • 2:30 PM • Sanctuary (Fifth Avenue @ 65th)

Admission to the Rosh Hashanah Family Service is by ticket. Only one ticket is needed per family. A reception will follow.

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Eve of Yom Kippur (*Kol Nidrei*): Wednesday, October 8 • 8 PM

Sanctuary: Rabbi Posner (Sermon), Rabbinic Intern Ariana Silverman and Cantor Lori Corrsin

Lowenstein: Rabbi Ehrlich (Sermon), Rabbi Goldsmith and Cantorial Intern Joshua Breitzer

Day of Yom Kippur: Thursday, October 9 • 9:45 AM

Sanctuary: Rabbi Ehrlich (Sermon), Rabbi Goldsmith and Cantorial Intern Joshua Breitzer

Lowenstein: Rabbi Posner (Sermon), Rabbinic Intern Ariana Silverman and Cantor Lori Corrsin

Yom Kippur Study Sessions • 12:15 PM to 1:15 PM

Family Service • 1:30 PM • Sanctuary (Fifth Avenue @ 65th)

Admission is by ticket. Only one ticket is needed per family.

Avodah Service • 2:15 PM • Lowenstein (10 East 66th Street)

Led by Ariana Silverman and Joshua Breitzer

Afternoon/Memorial/Concluding Service • 3:15 PM

Sanctuary: Rabbinic Intern Ariana Silverman (Sermon), Rabbi Posner and Cantor Lori Corrsin

Lowenstein: Rabbi Goldsmith (Sermon), Rabbi Ehrlich and Cantorial Intern Joshua Breitzer

**PULPIT FLOWERS for
the Sabbath of October
3 and 4 are the gifts of:**

Ellen J. Weiss
in *Celebration of Life*

Yves-Andre Istel in loving
memory of *Andre Istel*

Diane and David Koplik
in loving memory of
Kenneth E. Koplik

Roberta S. Lazar and
Kathryn S. Pershan in loving
memory of *Gertrude* and
Leon Schaeffler

Jane G. Rittmaster in loving
memory of her mother,
Hilda K. Goldstone

John, Laurie, Matthew,
Spencer and Amanda Rudey
and Liz, Kirk and Kate
Rudey Ruebenson in
loving memory of *Thelma
Barasch Rudey*

Dan K. Wassong in
loving memory of *Maria
Czudnowski*

**INTERESTED in
receiving Temple news
and other information
(including your *Temple
Bulletin*) by e-mail?
Then sign up for our new
electronic newsletter!
Call the Temple Office
at (212) 744-1400 and
provide us with your
preferred e-mail address.**

**Get more out of the
Torah! Read the weekly
commentary written by
our clergy and senior
staff, available online.**



A New Year's wish...

Dear Members of Temple Emanu-El,

ON BEHALF OF our Temple President Marcia Waxman, our board of trustees and the professional staff of the congregation, it is with greatest pleasure that I wish you all a New Year of blessing for you, your loved ones, our Jewish people and all of God's children. May the Holy One lead us all in straight and good paths.

The calendar of Jewish life is punctuated by feasts and fasts, historic memories and sacred experiences. At no time during the year is the experience of Judaism as poignant and meaningful as it is during the Days of Awe...the *Aseret Y'mei T'shuvah*...the Ten Days of Repentance beginning with Rosh Hashanah and culminating with Yom Kippur. Issues of faith and belief, identity and affiliation, and commitment and practice take on a greater urgency, more so at this time than at other periods of the year and at other seasons in the festival calendar.

I have been occupied during this past year, as always, with thoughts and musings about the nature of meaningful Jewish living. Most specifically, I have been focusing on an issue that at first may seem novel to many of us and to some as an inherent contradiction: the nature and character of the devout Reform Jew. How can we give a meaningful definition to piety and devotion within the context of the Reform Jewish community?

One way is by focusing on the book that is most immediate and central to the life of the Jewish people—and I *don't* mean the Bible. Rather, it is the prayer book, the siddur. Thus, a pious Reform Jew is the person who lives according to the letter and the spirit of the siddur.

For us at Temple Emanu-El—and for that of Classical Reform Judaism—our siddur is the *Union Prayer Book*. It is this volume that contains our prayers for the Sabbath—evening, morning and afternoon. It is this prayer book that contains our rubrics for the festivals of Passover, Shavuot and Sukkot. Further bound within the covers of the *Union Prayer Book* are services for the weekdays—evening and morning—and even for Sabbath and festival observance at home.

Ritual aside, the *Union Prayer Book* articulates a passion for *tikkun olam*—the repair of the world—and for social action and justice. It exhorts us to “care for the poor, the sick, the ignorant and those who have lost their way in the world.” It inspires us to “be among those who are willing to sacrifice that others may not hunger...who struggle and even bleed for the triumph of righteousness...” The *Union Prayer Book* is a volume of ethical passion, and it urges us to love and to study Torah: “Grant O God that we may learn to love Thy law ever more deeply and to find in it the beauty of holiness.” Again and again, there are passages in the *Union Prayer Book* that sing the praises of Jewish learning. Is it not obvious that the pious Reform Jew is one who is faithful to the prayer book of Reform Judaism?

continued

ATTENTION EMANU-EL COLLEGE STUDENTS...

Would you like to receive birthday and holiday care packages while you are away at school? Learn about educational programs organized over school breaks? Attend social events with other college students when in New York City? Then sign up to be part of the University Club of Temple Emanu-El. Send your name, college or university name, mailing address, e-mail address, year at school, birthday and cell phone number to universityclub@emanuclnyc.org. Even if you signed up last year, please send your information again, as school addresses change regularly.



New Year's wish (continued)

There is yet another manner in which we may give Reform Jewish meaning to piety. It comes from a custom that was prevalent in the great yeshivot of Lithuania from the 18th century until their destruction during the Holocaust—centers of learning that we might call the “Ivy League yeshivot.” Students were instructed to take one commandment—one mitzvah—and personalize it. This would be an interesting practice to follow, especially if the commandment were not necessarily of a ritual nature but rather of an ethical and spiritual observance. Certainly, Judaism does not lack for ethics!

What kind of commandments? I'll mention a few...

Nibbul peh (the prohibition of inappropriate language)—Imagine how different our homes and our workplaces would be if we committed ourselves to that mitzvah! There is the classic prohibition against *lashon ha-ra* (gossip). *Salchanut* (forgiveness) is another classic virtue, as is *rachmanut* (mercy) and *kapdanut* (control of temper). The Rabbis of the Talmud had a delightful saying about three traits that distinguish a person: *B'keeso*, *b'koso* and *b'kaso*, How he handles his money, how he handles his liquor and how he controls his temper. It's a wonderful Hebrew quote, and it loses nothing in translation.

The theme of the pious Reform Jew—let it be part of our reflections during this holy season. And so, I encourage you to take one ethical ideal from our tradition and make it your own.

With deepest affection for you all,

David M. Posner, Senior Rabbi



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Project Backpack: Starting the school year off right

MEMBERS OF the Women's Auxiliary helped bring a happy start to the new school year for students entering kindergarten at PS.112 in East Harlem by donating 100 backpacks filled with school supplies. Project Backpack is just one of several community-service projects in which the Women's Auxiliary participates. To learn about becoming a Women's Auxiliary member, call (212) 744-1400, ext. 235 or send an e-mail to womaux@emanuelnyc.org.



DON'T MISS OUR NEXT EVENT...
"Dead Sea Scrolls: Mysteries of the Ancient World" at The Jewish Museum • Monday, October 6 • Tours at 10 AM and 11:30 AM

Cost is \$50 for Women's Auxiliary members, \$60 for all other Temple members; includes a private, docent-led tour followed by lunch at Pascalou on Madison. No walk-ins allowed.

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Men's Club Book Group Tuesday, October 7 • 9 AM

All Temple members are invited to join the discussion. Our first selection will be *1948: A History of the First Arab-Israeli War* by Benny Morris.

**PERIODICALS POSTAGE
PAID AT NEW YORK, NY**