



Shabbat Shalom worship service

Friday, October 24 • 6:30 PM • Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House (One East 65th Street)

SHABBAT SHALOM incorporates creative liturgy, new and traditional music, poetry and other spiritual expressions into prayer in English and Hebrew. Presented in the round using an original prayer book, this service offers a more intimate worship experience. This month's service will honor the ushers and readers of Temple Emanu-El. An *Oneg Shabbat* will follow.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS/UPCOMING EVENTS

Stitch'n Time

**Sunday, October 19 • 11 AM
One East 65th Street**

Stitch'n Time volunteers knit or crochet blanket squares, baby sweaters and caps that are donated to Beth Israel Hospital and the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services. Yarn, needles and patterns are provided, and a professional instructor is on hand for assistance. No prior knitting experience is required. Temple members of all ages are welcome to join us. Light refreshments are served.

Young Artists Concert

**Sunday, October 19 • 3 PM
One East 65th Street**

Our featured performer will be 16-year-old Allen Yueh, First Prize winner of the New York Piano Competition. Admission is free and open to the public.

High School Confirmation

**Sunday, October 19 • 5:30 PM
One East 65th Street**

Our Step 2 session will be held in our outdoor sukkah (weather permitting). Dinner will be served.

Adult B'nei Mitzvah Class

**Wednesday, October 22
6 PM • One East 65th Street**

Classes meet Wednesdays through May 27. Don't miss this chance to participate. Register by calling (212) 744-1400, ext. 215.

Ronald McDonald House

Thursday, October 23 • 5 PM

Under the auspices of the Women's Auxiliary, volunteers prepare and serve dinner to guests of New York City's Ronald McDonald House. Volunteers must preregister by calling (212) 744-1400, ext. 235.

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

**SABBATH WORSHIP
FRIDAY EVENING
Sanctuary (Fifth Avenue
at 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 at 65th)**

Organ Recital—10:15 AM
Service Begins—10:30 AM

**Services may be heard
at www.emanuelnyc.org.**



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

HOLIDAY SERVICES

SH'MINI ATZERET

Monday, October 20
5:30 PM

Tuesday, October 21
10:30 AM

Services for the end of Sukkot are held in the Sanctuary (Fifth Avenue at 65th Street) and are open to the public. Tuesday's service will include a memorial.

Many thanks to the Women's Auxiliary for their gift of our beautiful sukkah.

WEEKLY PARASHAH

Saturday, October 25

Torah Portion—*B'reishit*
Readings—Genesis 1:1-6:8;
I Samuel 20:18-42
Sermon: Rabbi Goldsmith

Saturday, November 1

Torah Portion—*Noach*
Readings—Genesis 6:9-11:32; Numbers 28:9-15;
Isaiah 66:1-24; 66:23
Sermon: Rabbinic Intern Ariana Silverman

View our weekly Torah commentary on the Emanu-El Web site: www.emanuelnyc.org. Follow the link from the Home Page, or click "Learning" → "Adult Education." Previous commentaries can be viewed through the Commentary archive.



Begin again with Genesis

Rabbi Amy Ehrlich • Monday, October 27, November 3 and 10
12:15 PM – 1:15 PM • One East 65th Street

USING THE TORAH: A WOMEN'S COMMENTARY (published by the Union for

Reform Judaism) to guide our discussion, we will return to the familiar and endlessly engaging stories of Genesis to project a modern perspective onto our people's ancient myth. As Dr. Tamara Cohn Eske-

nazi, editor of the commentary notes: "We want to bring the women of the Torah from the shadow into the limelight, from their silences into speech, from the margins to which they have often been relegated to the center of the page—for their sake, for our sake and for our children's sake." Come join the discussion and add your voice.



PLEASE NOTE:
Sessions may be attended independently depending on your interest and availability:

- **October 27—Sarah and Hagar**
- **November 3—Leah and Rachel**
- **November 10—Tamar and Dinah**

"BEGIN AGAIN WITH GENESIS" is part of our "Mostly Mondays" study sessions being taught by our clergy and senior staff. Sessions are free but open to Temple members only. For a full description of classes and other education programs, visit the Temple Web site: www.emanuelnyc.org. Click "Learning" → "Adult Education."

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.

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

Friday, October 24

Jessica Hope Gartenstein, daughter of Anna and David Gartenstein

Saturday, October 25

Calypto Rachelle Leonard, daughter of Leslie Feder and Garrick Leonard

Jacob Nathaniel King, son of Diane King and Michael King

Saturday, November 1

Rex Fabrikant Fortgang, son of Terrie and Matthew Fortgang

Sacha Max Gross, son of Stephen and Ellen Gross

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

PULPIT FLOWERS at Sabbath services have been donated generously by our congregants:

For the Sabbath of October 24-25

Ann and Robert Freedman in loving memory of *Hilda Fertig*

Honey Gold and family in memory of my beloved husband, *Abe Gold*

Eleanor Ressler in loving memory of my cherished husband, *Dr. Charles Ressler*

Is religion good for the world?

Wednesday, October 29 • 7:30 PM • Leon Lowenstein Auditorium (10 East 66th Street)

TWO FORCEFUL ADVOCATES discuss the existence of God and the value of religion...



Christopher Hitchens

is the author of the best-selling book *God Is Not*

Great: How Religion Poisons Everything.

A prolific writer and polemicist, he argues

that religion is a toxic force that makes the world a more dangerous place.

He contributes regularly to *Vanity Fair*, *Slate* and *The Atlantic Monthly*.



Rabbi David Wolpe is the author of the new book

Why Faith Matters. Named the “#1 Rabbi in America” by

Newsweek Magazine, Rabbi Wolpe is the senior rabbi at

Temple Sinai in Los Angeles and argues powerfully for the place of God,

faith and religion in modern life. He writes for *The Jewish Week*,

BeliefNet.com, *The Jerusalem Post* and the *Los Angeles Times*.

This program is sponsored by *The Jewish Week* in association with Temple Emanu-El. A book signing and reception will follow.

Attendance is free, but reservations are necessary. RSVP to *The Jewish Week* by sending an e-mail to events@jewishweek.org.

Weekly Talmud study

Wednesdays (starting October 15) • 6 PM • One East 65th St.

RABBI PHILIP HIAT, professor of religion and humanities, once again is offering a weekly seminar on Talmud at Temple Emanu-El. This year's seminar will focus on *Avot D'Rabbi Natan* of the Babylonian Talmud.

For the Sabbath of November 1 and 2

Jim, Susan and Hannah
Baumann in loving memory
of *Jay S. Baumann*

Rhoda Weiskopf Cohen
in loving memory of
our dearest *Fanny de
Margoulies-Rosenak*,
today and always

NEW STAFF

David Wolkin has joined the Department of Lifelong Learning as coordinator of elementary and family learning. He will be involved in all aspects of school activities, as well as creating new family learning experiences and running the 5th and 6th grade Junior Youth Group.

Lisa Kingston, a master's student at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, will be joining the Department of Lifelong Learning for a yearlong internship.

Yael Shmilovitz has been the program director of the Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Temple Emanu-El since the summer of 2008. A native Israeli, Yael was ordained as a rabbi from HUC-JIR, where she also received a master's of religious education.

Joan Brown joins Skirball as the new director of development, and **Michele Davison** is the new office manager and registrar.

A hearty welcome to all!



Skirball fall semester



THE SKIRBALL CENTER for Adult Jewish Learning at Temple Emanu-El is entering its eighth year of programming. Sessions for the fall semester begin **Thursday, October 23**. To obtain a catalog, log on to the Skirball Web site (www.adultjewishlearning.org) or call (212) 507-9580. Following are several course highlights.

After Words: New Perspectives on the Weekly Torah Portion **Thursday, October 23 • 7 PM** **One East 65th Street**

After Words begins with author **Anne Roiphe** discussing *B'reishit*. Cost is \$10 per lecture (\$5 for registered Skirball students), or buy a book for five tickets for \$40.

Why Is This Vote Different From All Others? **Sunday, October 26 • 10 AM** **One East 65th Street**

Daniel Bronstein kicks off the "Sunday Seminars" lecture series by discussing if there is such a thing as "the Jewish vote" and what makes any given political issue a "Jewish issue." Seminars are pay-as-you-go (\$60 each). Coffee and bagels are served.

Making Sense of Judaism: A Sophisticated Reintroduction **Mondays (Oct. 27 – Dec. 8)** **4:15 PM • 10 East 66th Street**

Many of the keys to decoding Judaism—its philosophy, beliefs and practices—are embedded within the twin pillars of holidays and life-cycle events. **Arlene Agus** leads this study of the

intricate relationship between these two systems of meaning. Thought of as "Religious School for Parents," this course is perfect for those who want to beef up their Jewish education while their children are studying.

Havruta: A New Study Experience **Mondays (Oct. 27 – Dec. 8)** **7 PM • 10 East 66th Street**

Meaning "partnership," *Havruta* refers to one of the classic learning experiences in Jewish life—that of paired study. **Mishael Zion** will guide study partners as they read, question and discuss texts.

Heritage: Civilization and the Jews **Tuesdays (Oct. 28 – Dec. 9)** **7 PM • 10 East 66th Street**

This yearlong history course combines interactive DVD-ROM technology with the dynamic presentations and expert teaching of **David Wachtel**. A survey of Jewish history from the beginnings of Judaism through the present, the 22 classes are divided into three semesters. Sign up for all three now or just the first one. Enrollment is limited.

**For more in-depth information about all
Emanu-El events, log on to our Web site at
www.emanuelnyc.org. Click "Calendar."**

A call to obey... a call to study

By Rabbi Howard J. Goldsmith

Fall is a special time of year. Not only does it signify the beginning of our New Year and the High Holy Days, but it also signifies the start of the school year and the commencement of our educational programming here at Emanu-El.

The pages of this *Temple Bulletin* describe just a few of the numerous programs open to adults and youth—many of them free of charge. It is with this in mind, that I bring your attention to the first verse of *Parashat Eikev*, the Torah portion that fell this year at the end of August, just before the start of fall:

And if you do obey these rules and observe them carefully, the LORD your God will maintain faithfully for you the covenant that He made on oath with your fathers. (Deuteronomy 7:12)

One of the important things to take away from this sentence is that the laws God sets are not arbitrary. They are for the betterment of society, the betterment of the individual and the betterment of our relationship with God. If we don't follow the commandments, then we will better neither our society nor our selves. By making our relationship with God conditional, God ensures that we will follow the commandments and, therefore, improve our selves and improve society at large.

But there's a catch. We need to know what the commandments are in order to follow them. We need to know the stories of our people as told in the Torah so that we have the context for the laws to better

understand them.

Parashat Eikev tells us to keep

the laws over and over again, but nowhere does it tell us specifically what the laws are. We need to study to know the laws so that we can follow them, so that we can improve our selves, our society and our relationship with God.

Eikev, then, is not only a call to obey but also a call to study. Through study, we can understand God's plan for us as revealed in the laws God set down in the Torah.

*Through study,
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the Torah.*

If the Jewish world has anything, it is opportunities for study. Classes, weekly Torah study, newspapers, books and Web sites (including our own!) are among the resources available to help us learn (and continue learning) about our tradition. *Eikev* asks us to join together, to mine our tradition for wisdom to approach the present day.

May our study lead us to the fulfillment of our covenant with God and a better world for all.



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Amy B. Ehrlich

Associate Rabbi

Howard J. Goldsmith

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Cantor

Dr. Ronald B. Sobel

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The full text from this commentary can be found on the Temple Web site in the Weekly Torah Commentary archive. Click "Learning" → "Adult Education."

Past Perfect: The Jewish experience in early 20th century postcards

On view at the Herbert & Eileen Bernard Museum of Judaica (November 13, 2008 – February 25, 2009)

FROM 1898 UNTIL 1918, a period known as the “Golden Age of the Postcard,” countless picture postcards were produced and mailed throughout the world. It was within this larger popular context that the Jewish postcards featured in this exhibition were produced. *Past Perfect: The Jewish Experience in Early 20th Century Postcards* will display more than 200 postcards, including charming Jewish New Year’s greetings, images of synagogues of the United States and Europe, and depictions of Jewish communities from the Middle East, Europe and North Africa.



Postcard images courtesy of The Library of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America

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Sunday,
November 9
Call (212) 744-
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