



TEMPLE NER AMI
515 Temple Avenue
Camarillo, CA 93010

“The Temple on Temple Ave.”
is affiliated with the
Union for Reform Judaism

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What Every Jew Should Know About the Messiah

Message from Rabbi Mike Lotker

It's that time of the year again – Christmas decorations, Christmas giving, Christmas songs and TV programs, you know what I mean. I confess that I do love this time of the year and the very Jewish values that are espoused: loving one's neighbor, charity, peace on earth and goodwill among people, family getting together and eating! I even love the Christmas decorations and sappy old black and white movies. But it is especially in this season that it is important for every Jew to understand why we don't accept Jesus as Messiah.

Most important to appreciate is that when we Jews speak of Messiah, we mean something completely different than when Christians speak of Messiah. The English word *messiah* comes from the Hebrew *mashiach*, literally meaning “anointed one.” In biblical times, the ascension of kings to their positions was marked not with a crown but with holy oil being poured over their heads, *anointing* them. When the Hebrew Bible was translated into Greek some 200 years before the time of Jesus, the word *mashiach* was translated into the Greek word *christos*, eventually giving us the English word *Christ*. This is why Jews should never refer to Jesus as “Christ” or “Jesus Christ,” because doing so would be giving him the title of messiah.

Very little is written directly about the Messiah in the Hebrew Bible (in fact, the title “the Messiah,” as a specific personality, does not appear at all there), although there is

considerable discussion in the *Talmud*, *Midrash* and other rabbinic sources. While there is not absolute agreement on the details of the Messiah, virtually all Jewish sources would agree on the following points:

1. The Messiah will be *fully human and only human*. He will be born and die in the natural manner expected of any man. He will be a “son of God” in the same way each and every one of us is a “child of God.” He will come from the line of King David.
2. He will be a ruler (probably political and possibly military in the model of King David) and an agent of God who will restore the sovereignty of the Jewish people and usher in the Messianic Age, gathering the Jewish people from exile to the holy land (Isaiah 27:12-13 and Isaiah 11:12).
3. The Messianic Age will be a time of peace among all peoples (“they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks,” Isaiah 2:4) and even among animals (“the wolf shall dwell with the lamb,” Isaiah 11:6). It will be a time when the entire world accepts the one God (“the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord,” Isaiah 11:9).
4. The Messiah will not be God. Only God is God and “God is One” (Deuteronomy 6:4). For Jews, the concept of God becoming human or taking on human form is foreign. There is no concept of anything resembling the Trinity of Christianity.



Continued - "What Every Jew Should Know About the Messiah"

5. The Messiah will not be involved in the redemption of sin any more than any human Jewish leader, certainly not by his sacrifice. Only God is described as "Redeemer" in Judaism. Specifically, the Messiah will not come to redeem original sin since Judaism does not believe in original sin. For Jews, the salvation of the world does not depend on the Messiah but upon people doing the will of God as expressed in God's commandments.

As most of us know, the Christian concept of Jesus as Messiah is quite different. Jesus is understood by Christians to be God in an important sense and to be central to the question of redemption from sin. As I often say, the idea that God would become human and suffer with and for humanity, even sacrificing his life for us, is a moving, beautiful idea. It simply is not a Jewish idea. The key question is not about the nature of Jesus; the key question is about the nature of God.

There is wide disagreement among Jewish thinkers

about the nature of the Messiah when he or she arrives. Some mystics believe that the Messiah will be a miracle worker in the fashion of some of the Hebrew prophets. Others believe that the Messiah will come only after no longer needed; that is, the Messianic age will be brought into place by ordinary humans working to bring about world peace, to cure disease, hunger, prevent injustice, etc. In this view (which I share) the Messiah's role will be to wish us a hearty "*Mazel Tov!*" – congratulations for a job long awaited and well done.

My prayer is that we Jews and Christians each live up to our highest religious teachings and ideals – that Christians inspired by their biblical teachings embrace the true spirit of peace and love this Christmas season (and all seasons) and that we Jews continue to work together, 24/6 (we get Shabbat off), with each other and with people of good will of all faiths to bring about a world that will truly seem like paradise.

Happy Hanukkah and Happy New Year!



Dedicated Beth Shalom Lawn Section



Beth Shalom

Many years ago, the Jewish Community celebrated the dedication of *Beth Shalom*, a special area of 800 spaces set apart to honor Jewish traditions and remember those we've lost.

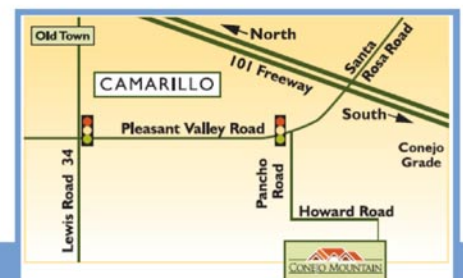
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Sharon Spielman
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Just in time for Hanukkah!

Order a Temple Ner Ami logo necklace, earrings or tie tac.
Show your TNA pride and have a beautiful showpiece!

The jewelry is a fundraiser for the Temple and will be ready by the first day of Chanukah. For more information or to order,

Contact Sarene Wallace via eMail at tresidents@templenerami.org.



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Tie Tac \$14



Paul Dwork's "The Magic of Merlin"

6:30 pm

Hanukkiot

7:15 pm

Shabbat Service

7:30 pm

Israel Trip Deadline!

Interest in and enthusiasm for our Israel trip is growing and several of you have already sent in your deposits. The trip will take place from May 18-29, 2011, and, based on our current registrants, will be especially focused on the interests, needs and capabilities of seniors. So you have no excuse! Sign up today! For more information, call the office or check the Temple's website, www.templenerami.org and click on our Israel Trip page.

**THE DEADLINE FOR SIGNING UP
IS DEC. 31ST.**





CHEDER CHAPPENINGS

from Julia Newman

Shalom Haverim,

November's Family Shabbat service was led by the 7th grade B'nai Mitzvah class and teachers, Avram Kohls and Jeffrey Lee Steinberg.

The students include: Griffin

D'Inca, Rena Dvoretzky, Sophie Elliott, Nolan Grossmann, Hannah Harris, Emily Henderson, Fallon Highfill, Brandon Pritz, Josh Pritz, Rachel Pritz, Ariel Saleh, Daniel Siela, Adam Sookikian, Evan Spitzer and Shoshi Steinberg. In addition to conducting the Shabbat service, the students presented a powerful program in commemoration of the anniversary of *Kristallnacht* - the Night of Broken Glass that signaled the beginning of the Holocaust 72 years ago. The students read eye-witness accounts of the events of *Kristallnacht* along with writings by Elie Wiesel. The program was concluded by a showing of the photographs of the Berlin Synagogue which had been set afire on *Kristallnacht* but was rebuilt and reopened in 2007.

For their unit of study on the Holocaust, the 7th grade class was fortunate to have two guest speakers, Annelies Regen and Lee Edwards, talking to the students and parents about their personal experiences.

What's going on lately??

- 5th graders (Sharon Spielman) have focused on the Prophets and Proverbs. A culminating project was to create a bookmark with proverbs that each child chose.
- 2nd & 3rd graders (Karen Dworsky) has been studying the Ten Commandments
- 1st graders (Avram Kohls) have been learning about the symbols that we find in the synagogue.
- 6th graders are team-taught by Cantor Karen (prayer), Saul Lessler (discussion of the weekly parasha—Torah portion)

and Jeffrey Lee Steinberg (Jewish Studies).

B'nai Mitzvah students and their parents participated in the annual tallit-making project (see photos). A special thanks to Sonia Banon, who sewed all of the tallitot.

We have had wonderful participation by 7th graders in the drop-in prayer-tutoring class. This is an optional program for B'nai Mitzvah students and it is heartwarming to see that they are taking advantage of the opportunity.

We employ six teen Madrichim (classroom assistants) thanks to help from a grant from the Jewish Federation.

With their facilitator, J. Lee, they've gone through special training and are proving to be an invaluable help to our teachers. Our Madrichim are: Garrett Erickson, Michael Fishler, Danielle Gaynor, Kyle Gaynor, Daniel Hartman, and Cara Weinstock.

Chanukah Chappenings

Our Children's Choir will have its debut at Hanukah Shabbat, December 3rd.

Galia Lapidot-Boaz' PreK & Kinder class is so creative! They have made

hanukiyot out of blocks of wood and tiny flower pots! I was thinking to sell them in the gift shop—but they are priceless.

Our Winter JOLT event (Jews out Learning Together—sponsored by a grant from the Jewish Federation) took us to a small, local candle factory where we learned how candles are made. Returning to the Temple, students made their own beeswax Hanukah candles.

Camp Kadimah Chanukah is on Monday, December 6 & Wednesday, December 8. If you'd like to come and help us with making latkes, playing dreidl, leading songs—we'd love to have you.



Thank You from Arla Crane & Arlene Cohen

We want to thank all the people who helped us have a wonderful Holiday Boutique. You're all awesome:

Hannah, Abbie and Mary Harris, Dale and Bobbe Jacobs, Robin and Zeke Elliott, Jodi and Evan Spitzer, Allyson Williams, Sonia Lotker, Amy Goltz, Jean Shev, Naomi Brill, Ann Burke, Harriet Lit, Elvira Cabelli, Susan Weinstein, Ana Durkin, Raja Desenberg, Shari Brody, Annie Regan, Aaron Rena, and Ayla Dvoretzky, Sarene Wallace, Cathy Kim and Gary Lieb, Nadine Frankel, Beverly Kerwien, Carole Warren, and Christine and Joe Taylor.



Our staff was superb...thank you Mark Malloy, Kaila Kaden, and Julia Newman for all your support.

Please remember to visit and thank our sponsors: Baron's Fabrics, Chili's Grill and Bar, Earl Joseph Shoes, Jessica's Cafe, McDonalds, Merlin Medical Supply, Outback Steakhouse, Ralph's Market, Texas Cattle Company, TGI Fridays, The Olive Garden, Von's Market, and Yolanda's Mexican Cafe.

The Holiday Boutique was a grand success as a fund-raiser and we managed to make \$600 for the Torah School Support Fund and the Temple Choir. Way to go one and all! The next Holiday Boutique will be November, 2011 with co-chairs Bobbe Jacobs and Arlene Cohen.



In the Hustle...

by Student Rabbi Lisa Bock

In the hustle-bustle that the November/December part of the year brings to our lives, we are impacted and bombarded by so much. I thought I would share with you a few of my favorite teachings and sayings that I find inspiring, and at the same time, I

wish you shalom (peace), ahavah (love), and beriut (health).

“A miracle cannot prove what is impossible; it is useful only to confirm what is possible.”

--- Maimonides

The essence of peace is to join together two opposites. Do not be alarmed if you see someone whose way of thinking is completely opposite your own, so that you imagine that it is absolutely impossible that the two of you should ever be at peace.

On the contrary.

That is the essence of the wholeness of peace; to find peace between two opposites, just as God makes peace above between fire and water which are two opposites.

--- Rebbe Nachman of Breslov

“Wonder, rather than doubt, is the root of knowledge.”

--- Abraham Joshua Heschel

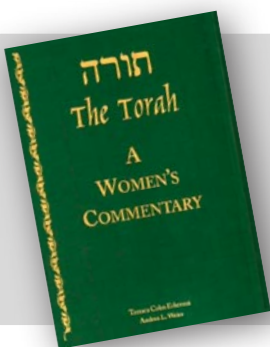
“Words which come from the heart enter the heart.”

--- Rabbi Moshe ibn-Ezra

“Life isn't about having, it's about being.”

--- Jewish saying

May you have miracles, love, peace, wonder, and joy. May the light of Chanukah bring you meaning and connection.



Torah Study: The Women's Perspective

Join us from Noon-1:00 pm
Wednesdays – bring your lunch,
and join Student Rabbi Lisa Bock as
we shine light on the Torah from
the women's perspective!



SACRED STORIES OF HOLY OBJECTS

“Chanukah Gelt” by Shlomo Kreitzer

It was not really a surprise, but it was so unusual and so special, that I remember it clearly, more than sixty years later.

When I was a young boy, our family tradition for Chanukah was this. On the first night, after dinner, we lit our *chanukiyah* (the special, eight-plus-one candelabra) and chanted the *b'rochas* together. That was the only night we sang *Shebechyanu*, my favorite *b'rocha*.

Then, we had *latkes* for dessert, intermixed with traditional songs -- “I Have a Little Dreydl,” “Oh Chanukah, Oh Chanukah,” “Mo’az Tzur,” and, sometimes, others. Our inviolable family tradition, each year, was arguing: should *latkes* be eaten with sour cream, applesauce or jam (or all of them).

We weren’t well off and this was before parents tried to compete, gift-wise, with Christmas. So, this was our **one** big night! Holding off my sisters’ and my impatient entreaties as long as they could, my parents would finally bring out our Chanukah gifts, usually something practical, maybe a pen, maybe a shirt, maybe a book and

We got Chanukah *Gelt*. We each got a silver dollar. (At that time, they were really silver. If only I had kept them all!) They were the physically biggest U.S. coin. It was a big deal! The coins were always shiny. They spun really well, and then

made a good noise when they fell on the wood or formica table. This was the only time of the year that I saw these special coins other than in my own treasure box.

For many years I saved my Chanukah *Gelt* in a secret hiding place in a small box, in the back of my underwear drawer. The box was reassuringly heavy and, somehow, I felt rich. By the time I went away to college, I may have had a dozen such coins.

Now, over the years, my wife, Chana, and I have continued this tradition with our daughter, even offering to match the number of dollars she still had from the previous years, but, fortunately for us, she usually spent her Chanukah silver dollars by then.

Now, with our daughter and our grandchildren we have continued to give them so-called silver dollars for Chanukah. It’s not easy to get these, the big ones, the “real” ones, any more. Our oldest grandson carries one of his special “Chanukah dollars” from *Bubbe* and *Zeyde* with him in a “hidden” pocket in his wallet as he has for a few years. It’s special to him, as he is to us!

I still have a few of the very silver dollars, now blackened, my parents gave me many years ago. These old coins and the ones we give out now, clearly repeat a happy scene of proud parents and delighted children. That’s our, now, four generation Jewish family tradition: Chanukah *Gelt*.



WE WANT TO KNOW!

What were your traditions when you were young? Is there any special tradition that you observe presently that started in your parents’ or grandparents’ home? Do you have any Jewish memorabilia more than 30, 50, 70, 100 years old? Do you have anything Jewish given to you by your parents or grandparents?

Sharing your special experiences enhances everyone who hears your story, and telling stories of those who have passed is a blessing and keeps our loved ones’ memories alive. Please share your special stories with your community through this column.

Send your article by the 5th of the month to Kaila Kaden, our Accountant at accounting@templenerami.org, or call Kaila in our temple office to tell your story, and she will write it up for you. Claim your 15 minutes of fame and tell your story in next month’s Megillah. It’s a *mitzvah*!

NEW LOW RATES!

MEGILLAH

2010-2011 Advertising Info



The *MEGILLAH* for 2010-2011 is a 20 page monthly newsletter mailed eleven times per year to members of Temple Ner Ami and to other people interested in the activities and events at Camarillo's only Jewish Reform Temple. It is a must read for our subscribers. The *MEGILLAH* is unlike most mediums for advertising, in that Temple members are anxious to support businesses supporting the Temple. So the response your ad generates is typically comparable to publications with many times our circulation of approximately 350 families.



There are a variety of ad sizes from business card size at \$20 a month to full pages at \$110. So there's an option to fit any advertising budget. The more frequently you advertise the lower the cost for each ad. Our low multi-issue rates make it affordable for your ad to become familiar to the congregation so that your ad delivers the response you are looking for.

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VISIT TO

ISRAEL

Led by

RABBI MICHAEL LOTKER

MAY 18 – 29, 2011



HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ 1 Shabbat in Tel Aviv & 1 Shabbat in Jerusalem.
- ◆ Palmach Museum.
- ◆ Independence Hall.
- ◆ Secret underground munitions factory.
- ◆ Tour ancient port of Jaffa.
- ◆ Roam through Caesarea.
- ◆ Zippori – see mosaic 'Mona Lisa of the Galilee'.
- ◆ Walk through Tel Dan where Rabbi Mike excavated!
- ◆ Visit IDF base on Golan Heights (*pending military's authority*).
- ◆ Have a tasting at the Golan Heights Winery.
- ◆ Browse through mystical city of Safed.
- ◆ Tour Old City of Jerusalem – Jewish & Christian Quarters.
- ◆ Tunnel along Kotel (Western Wall).
- ◆ Yad Vashem – Holocaust Museum & Memorial.
- ◆ Dead Sea Area including Masada.
- ◆ Plant a tree sapling in the hills of Jerusalem.
- ◆ Pay respects at Har Herzl – Israel's military cemetery.
- ◆ Ride a camel and have dinner in the "Land of Genesis".

AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

LAND PACKAGE

Per person sharing a Double Room:

20 – 24 participants: \$2,589
25 – 29 participants: \$2,479
30 – 34 participants: \$2,421
35 – 39 participants: \$2,338
Single Supplement: \$ 875

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TODAH RABBAH Means Thank You!

Message from Naomi Brill, Oneg Chair

The following people graciously volunteered their time and effort to help sponsor Onegs for the month of November. They are:

Naomi Brill

Sponsored in memory of her mother,
Rose Marcus.

Della Carmona

Sponsored in memory of her mother,
Zlotta Lertzman

Families of our Seventh Graders

Sponsored in honor of conducting the services.



Thank you to all of you for offering to do this Mitzvah. You certainly helped to make the Onegs a beautiful experience.

Please call me if you would like to honor a loved one this way or celebrate a Simcha by sponsoring an Oneg. I am most willing and happy to explain the procedure and how you can do this. My phone number is (805) 388-8511. Thank you for your consideration.



Book Group for Eager Readers

We plan to meet on the **Second Tuesday** of each month 10:30 a.m. in the Temple Library. Our first gathering will be on 1-11-11 (an easy date to remember!) Each member will take a turn choosing a paper back book for the group discussion. Temple membership is not required. For more details call Jean Shev at 484-8106. Come join us!

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Buenos Aires Cantors' Concert to Benefit Torah School

by Rabbi Michael Lotker

On **Saturday night, January 15th at 7:30PM**, we will have two wonderful cantors from Buenos Aires join us for a concert with all net proceeds going to our Torah School. Sonia and I have seen these Cantors lead services in California and Buenos Aires and we attended a concert of theirs some two years ago. They are talented, funny and entertaining (and married to each other). We adore them!

Cantors Diego Rubinsztein and Alejandra Levi are among the pioneers of Jewish renewal in prayer through music in South America. Rubinsztein is a composer, pianist and recording artist, as well as the cantor of Libertad synagogue, the oldest and most traditional synagogue in Buenos Aires. Levi works for the Schlichei Tzibur Institute and Libertad synagogue in the Argentine capital, and is also the director of the Zimra Musical Institute. The two cantors have performed throughout the world, from New York and Miami to Brazil, Uruguay and Israel. Their latest CD is "Paths".

Jewish prayer in Argentina has a very particular musical sound and emotion. "We are always trying to create



different spiritual moments," said Rubinsztein. "For that, we use a lot of melodies and styles." Cadences, rhythms and moods utilized by the two singers range from Hasidic melodies, Sephardic tunes and spirituals to lyric-free meditations — all with a Latin flavor.

"Our idea about t'fila (prayer) is to always pray in community," said Rubinsztein. "That's why in our congregation, we're a lot of cantors, singing and leading the service together."

In our everyday lives, we don't always take advantage of unique moments and opportunities. The religious experience is, sadly, something we often don't mind skipping. But there are moments that shouldn't be missed. On Saturday January 15th, we have a one-of-a-kind opportunity.

Let's embrace it. Come see, hear and be part of an uplifting experience. The music of these two Latin cantors is sure to leave you with joy and spirit in your hearts.

The suggested donation is \$25 for adults and \$18 for kids with all profits to go to the Torah School. A dessert reception will follow the program. The concert will include both prayers from the liturgy and popular Yiddish and Sephardic music. Call the Temple for tickets.

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Spotlight On Volunteers

from Shari Brody

Our Congregation is blessed with a comfortable new building and key people who handle the leading, administrating, collecting, teaching, singing, managing and cleaning. In addition, we have volunteers who organize the library, set up the Friday evening Onegs, answer phones, proofread the Megillah, manage the gift shop, help at events, and handle special projects. People have been generous in sharing their skills and we are very blessed to have many people who can be counted on to help physically and financially.

There is another group who volunteer their time and are seldom recognized. Their work goes on for a two year term and many have served for two or more terms. I am referring to the members of the Temple Board of Directors.

This year, we are fortunate to have three people in the top leadership positions. We refer to them as the Executive Leadership Team (ELT). They are **Dan Harris**, President, **Sarene Wallace & Nadine Frankel** Vice-Presidents. They complement each other with different strengths, approaches and backgrounds which they bring to each decision that they make. This enables them to look at all angles of an issue and come up with a well -thought out answer. Dan, Sarene and Nadine work well as a team and support each other.

Sarene Wallace is a native Californian who grew up in the Bay area and has been a member of Temple Ner

Ami since moving to Camarillo in 1994. She joined the Board in 1995 for three years and has been on the Board again for the past five plus years. She works in marketing and public relations and freelances as a food journalist. Sarene & Ron are the parents of a son and daughter.

Nadine Frankel is a Registered Nurse who has worked in critical, home and hospice care. She has been a temple member for 6 years and has served on the Board for the past three years. She has two daughters, is a grandmother and soon will become a Great Grandmother! She cooks, raises her own vegetables and is a multiple Blue Ribbon winner for her preserved food in the Ventura County Fair.

Dan Harris is President of Hurculeads.com, a company that connects buyers and sellers through live chats on the internet. He is able to stay active in his favorite sport as a soccer coach for his son Noah's team. Dan and his wife, Mary, have two sons and two daughters. Born in St. Louis, he has lived in the Ventura area since he was five. A board member for the past four years, Dan is an avid reader who spent his third year of college studying at the University of Kent, Canterbury, England and Oxford University's Breadloaf School of English.

Our Temple has a talented Executive Leadership Team who devote countless hours to helping the Board guide the Temple through its trials and tribulations and for that we are grateful...Many thanks!

Special thanks to Saul Lessler our excellent Torah School teacher, and also Darryl Sobelman & Steve Moore who frequently work on Temple needs and projects.



Come Join the Hiking Havurah - Dec, 5, 2010

by Arla Crane

We call ourselves the "Walkie Talkies"

because we enjoy visiting together as well as hiking together. Usually we have a meal following our hike.

This will be an easy hike beginning at Sand Pit Road near the Santa Barbara Airport and traveling to the Goleta Pier. We will be



joining hikers from Temple Beth Torah and plan to meet the whole group at Sand Pit Road at 1:45. Don't miss out. These are lots of fun.

If you need a ride there, call the Walkie Talkie headquarters at 987-2000. If we're not home, leave a message and we'll get back to you.

This month I will be “reading” the shelves. “Reading” is the Librarian’s term for taking inventory. The Librarian has a set of catalogue cards that are in the same order as the books are shelved in each classification section.

Are the books mis-shelved?

Do the books need to be repaired? (Pages to be tipped in, or the end papers to be glued, or the spine to be tightened, or torn pages to be taped?)

Which books are missing?

The missing books are then checked against the borrower’s sign out sheet.



Library News

by Phylis Mandel

Are the books borrowed overdue (more than 30 days)?

Next month, I will list the books that are missing from the shelves.

Look on your shelves at home and return the books that you have borrowed and “forgotten” to return.

Some of the shelves are so tightly packed, that some books cannot be put in their classified order properly. Some shifting of books will be taking place.

A Library is never stagnant. Books are borrowed. Shelving has to be done. New books to be catalogued. Catalogue cards to be typed. See you in the Library!

Traditional Christmas for Jews – Chinese Food and a Movie

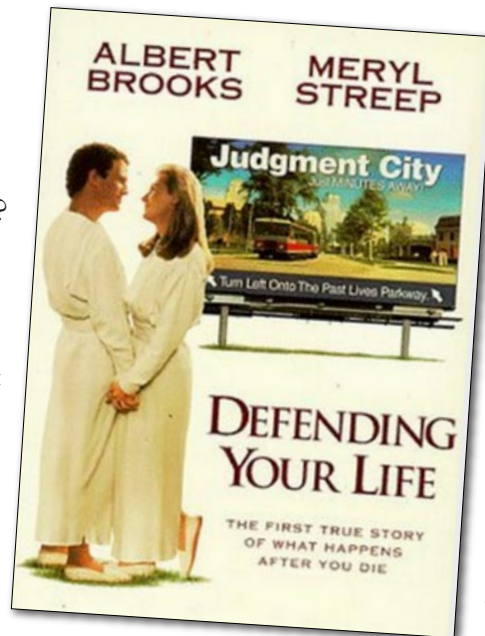
by Rabbi Mike Lotker

When I was a boy (am I really saying these words? *Oy veh!*) growing up in the Old Country (New York City), all of the stores, restaurants, and entertainment venues were closed on Christmas day – with the important exceptions of Chinese restaurants and movie theaters. So what was a nice Jewish family to do on Christmas night? Go out to eat Chinese food and then take in a movie!

We are reviving this “sacred” tradition at Temple Ner Ami. So here’s the plan:

- We will gather on Saturday night, Dec. 25 at 6PM at the Temple for *Havdalah*, a *motzie* and Chinese food (I bet that sentence has never before appeared in print!).
- The suggested donation is \$10 per person and we will make all the complex choices from Column A, Column B, egg roll soup and even Jewish fortune cookies (here’s an example: “You will meet a real *mench* - tall, dark, and calls his mother every day!”).
- After this sumptuous feast, we will adjourn to our theater for a showing of *Defending Your Life*,

a 1991 PG rated, romantic comedy/fantasy film about a man who must justify his life-long lack of assertiveness after he dies and arrives in the afterlife. The film was written, directed by, and stars Albert Brooks. It also stars Meryl Streep, Rip Torn and Lee Grant. Shirley MacLaine has a cameo appearance as herself, acting as the holographic host of the “Past Lives Pavilion”, a reference to her publicly known belief in reincarnation. The movie was filmed entirely in and around Los Angeles, California. Despite its comedic overtones, *Defending Your Life* contains elements of drama and allegory.



- We need you to RSVP to the Temple so we know how much *Kung Pao* and *Moo Shoo* to order (sorry, no pork or shell fish to be served). Please call the Temple [805-388-3824] and pay at the door (or in advance if you insist).

Seriously, I do hope that many of you will attend (and feel free to invite your friends) and that this will become a Temple Ner Ami tradition.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Dr. Robert Improta	Wednesday	1-Dec	Marcia Zatkin	Tuesday	14-Dec
Rene D'Inca	Thursday	2-Dec	Howard Barr	Wednesday	15-Dec
Elinore Felder	Friday	3-Dec	Dr. Gina Burstein	Wednesday	15-Dec
Celia Tobey	Friday	3-Dec	Jeil Liorah Shapiro	Wednesday	15-Dec
Robert Sacks	Monday	6-Dec	Mariana Krastein	Thursday	16-Dec
Robin Lefkovits	Tuesday	7-Dec	Brian Sadowsky	Thursday	16-Dec
Dorothy Rosenfeld	Tuesday	7-Dec	Sanford Garfield	Tuesday	21-Dec
Tobie Treitman	Tuesday	7-Dec	Julian Weiss	Tuesday	21-Dec
Barbara Finsten	Wednesday	8-Dec	Russell Kamola	Friday	24-Dec
Ellen Brand	Thursday	9-Dec	Stan Shaul	Saturday	25-Dec
Stanley Reshes	Friday	10-Dec	Gloria Brodie	Sunday	26-Dec
Robert Scheerger	Friday	10-Dec	Renee Stein	Sunday	26-Dec
Joel Zneimer	Saturday	11-Dec	Ron Wallace	Monday	27-Dec
Dr. Walter Burstein	Sunday	12-Dec	Stan Baratta	Tuesday	28-Dec
Lee Edwards	Monday	13-Dec	Gail Kleinman	Tuesday	28-Dec
Stefania Spiegel	Monday	13-Dec	Jennifer Greenblatt	Wednesday	29-Dec
Sylvia Leventhal	Tuesday	14-Dec	Susan Weinstein	Wednesday	29-Dec

** This table is based on Temple records. If your information is missing or in error, please contact the Temple office.*

Gift Shop News by Claire Goldstein

The Gift Shop is now open for business with new beautiful cases in their new home—the Temple Office which is open from 9am to 2pm weekdays. We are featuring Chanukah Gifts and supplies.

All Chanukah merchandise has been reduced 20%!

We have MENORAHS, A BEAUTIFUL TABLE RUNNER, GIFT BAGS, CANDLES & GIFT WRAPPING PAPERS.

Gold jewelry is still priced at 2006 prices—one third of today's prices! Stop by and browse, save money and support your Temple.

See you soon at the gift shop!





DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Shlomo & Charlotte Kreitzer	Wednesday	12/01/2010	25th anniversary
Paul & Joan Taubman	Friday	12/10/2010	58th anniversary
Jack & Marlene Votion	Sunday	12/19/2010	46th anniversary
Paul & Tobie Treitman	Monday	12/20/2010	56th anniversary
Howard Barr & Deborah Glasser	Tuesday	12/21/2010	8th anniversary
David & Sandra Fischler	Monday	12/27/2010	24th anniversary

** This table is based on Temple records. If your information is missing or in error, please contact the Temple office.*

Jewish Genealogical Society of the Conejo Valley & Ventura County (JGSCV)

Come to the December 6, 2010 meeting of the JGSCV

The JGSCV will hold a general meeting, co-sponsored with Temple Adat Elohim, on Monday, Dec. 6, 2010 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m at Temple Adat Elohim, 2420 E. Hillcrest Drive, Thousand Oaks.

“Genetic Genealogy Demystified -- Understanding and Interpreting Your DNA Results”

Genetic genealogy is a cutting-edge tool that genealogists have been using to supplement traditional genealogy research for the last 10 years. Using DNA for genealogy may seem daunting at first, but you definitely do not have to be a geneticist to make use of this great tool. Join us to learn about the major types of genealogical DNA tests in use today, the genetics behind them, how to read your results, and how to use those results to identify genealogical connections.

Speaker, Elise Friedman, is a professional genealogist, specializing in Jewish genealogy, genetic Genealogy, and technology. Ms. Friedman is very active in the field of genetic genealogy, where she volunteers as JewishGen’s (www.jewishgen.org) DNA Projects Coordinator, manages several DNA studies through Family Tree DNA, and co-authored a genetic genealogy case study that was published in the AVOTAYNU and FORUM genealogy journals. She is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists and the International Society of Genetic Genealogy.

For more information contact: information@jgscv.org
Jan Meisels Allen @ 818-889-6616



Temple Ner Ami – A Generous, Giving Community

A heartfelt thank you to the congregation of Temple Ner Ami for its overwhelming generosity. This year’s High Holiday food drive was a remarkable success. Hundreds of pounds of food were collected and distributed to needy families at the Somis Pantry (which also serves people in Camarillo). These families are working poor or

unemployed and the need and numbers continue to grow. Each of you who donated made a difference in the life of another family and helped us to continue during these difficult economic times.

On behalf of the families who benefit from the Somis Pantry, we deeply thank you.

Beth Yale and Julia Newman, Founders Somis Pantry.

TEMPLE NER AMI

Yahrzeits - December 2010

Friday, December 3, 2010

Adele Carner.....mother of Dorothy Rosenfeld
Ted Cook.....grandfather of Romy Henderson
Esther Lerner.....mother of Larry Lerner
Leo Schallheim.....father of Paul Schallheim
Becky Held.....Mother of Rosalie Sherbrooke
Michael Metz.....brother of Cathye Clark
Sid Reshes.....father of Stanley Reshes
Jack Gorelick.....father of Diane Honick
Abraham Shligersky.....father of Sara Shye
Samuel Weiss.....father of Julian Weiss
Sophie Behar.....mother of Regina Brutzkus
Meyer Joseph Karstadt.....father of Harriet Silvertrust
Emma Sacks.....mother of Robert Sacks
Dora Goldin.....mother of Leon Goldin
Jim Williams.....brother of Mary Grey

Friday, December 10, 2010

Nathan Isaacs.....father of David Isaacs
Natalie Krantz**.....wife of Marvin Krantz
Marcel Lerner.....father of Larry Lerner
Jack Stolman.....brother of Betty Stallman
Barnet Levene.....father of Helen Gardner
Louis Necowitz.....father of Sidney Necowitz
Anne Mesirov**.....mother of Fred Mesirov
Isaac Shev.....father-in-law of Jean Shev
Doris Hershberg.....sister of Frank Seiden
Morris Jaffe.....father-in-law of Elaine Jaffe
Robert Krakover.....son of Edward Krakover
Joyce Nathan.....late wife of Dr. Robert A. Nathan

Friday, December 17, 2010

Bert Traxler.....father of Gary Traxler
Dora Krasnoshtein.....mother of Greg Krastein
Bernice Persky**.....mother of Marlene Votion
Rose Weinstock**.....mother of Pam Veselak
Ann Geller.....wife of Paul Geller
Hyman Fink.....husband of Betty Fink
Eloi Sanchez.....father of Catherine Sidransky
Evelyn Motzkin.....sister of Dr. Ed Hawthorne
Sam Castin.....father of Rosalie Sherbrooke
Frank Spiegel**.....husband of Stefania Spiegel
Esther Zaid.....mother of Sadita Ovadia
Betty Miller.....mother of Isabelle Blau
Arnold Shaffron.....brother of Lorraine Weingardt

Friday, December 24, 2010

Barry Chasen.....father of Kathy Hay
Anne Borovoy.....mother of Verna Merrin
Grigory Krasnoshtein.....grandfather of Greg Krastein
Hy Pomonik.....husband of Rose Pomonik
Rose Klein Solomon.....mother of Michael Solomon
Florence Koenig.....mother of Sharon Green
Abraham Lewine**.....father of Dr. Yale Lewine, z"l
Mary Gordon.....grandmother of Barbara Groom
Larry Pallitz.....brother of Fayrose Gordon
Chris Allan.....brother of Dr. Jeff Allan
Oscar J. Feinberg.....father of Joan Taubman
Rose Natale.....mother of Linda Schlagel
Jacob Posner.....father of Jules Posner
Bertha Blau.....mother of Sy Blau

Friday, December 31, 2010

David Wise.....father of Howard Wise
Marilyn Rosenthal.....mother of Sarene Wallace
Minnie Lewine**.....mother of Dr. Yale Lewine, z"l
Bertha Miller.....mother of Tobie Treitman
Stanley Miller.....brother of Tobie Treitman
Leanore Pomonik-Drogin.....daughter of Rose Pomonik
Bernice Silver.....aunt of Dalya Dektor
Betty Steiner.....mother of Joan Stone
Seymour Cohen.....father of Roberta Jacobs
Stephen Jon Coshever.....son of Violet Coshever
Beatrice Weininger.....mother of Carole Leboff
Margie Bonderman**..... wife of Aaron Bonderman z"l
Sigmund Jaffe.....husband of Elaine Jaffe
Jeffrey Necowitzson of Sidney Necowitz
Bertha Geffner.....mother-in-law of Julian Weiss
Scott Goldie.....husband of Stephanie Goldie
Calman Rosenkranz.....husband of Muriel Rosenkranz
Syd Goldberg.....husband of Bernice Goldberg
David Sack.....father of Barbara Finsten
Gail Turken Sussman.....mother of Bob Sussman
Henry Brott.....late husband of Ruth Brott Nathan

* Deceased Member

** Name on the Yolanda Cramer Memorial *Yahrzeit* Board

The Temple's *Yahrzeit* Board has spaces available for remembering loved ones who have passed away. The requested donation for memorial plaques on the *Yahrzeit* Board is \$350.00 per plaque.

The Temple Gratefully Acknowledges the Following High Holy Day Pledge Contributions

Anita Levine	Marvin & Carol Short	Jack & Teri Milner
Stephanie Goldie	Robert & Kathy Sacks	Stephen & Karne Kerper
Jennifer & Christopher Brown	Stephen & Hillary De Cesari	Michael & Pam Veselak
Bernice Epstein	Larry & Celia Teitell	Ida Zeller
Richard Erlich	Lee Edwards	Muriel Rosendranz
Shlomo & Charlotte Kreitzer	Madelyn Miller	Irving & Arlene Bergman
Carolyn S. Berenson	Harriet Lit	Della Carmona
Bill Hatton	Marsha Richardson	Melvin & Frances Kuznets
Marcia Bock	Richard Levin	Stanley & Roze Feldman
Sandra Goodwin	Zelda Greentree	Len & Jill Polan
Nadine Frankel	Sharon Green	Paul & Tobie Treitman
Diane Honick	Bruce Reinauer	Gary & Kim Lieb
Jules & Leatrice Posner	John & Beverly Kerwien	Darryl Sobelmann
Carole Warren	William H. & Judi Slapin	Rebecca Crocker
Michael Fontaine	Mel & Vicki L. Dick	Paula-Jeanne Feinberg
Leona Hallman	Michael & Sharon Gross	David & Sandra Fischler
Elsie Lichtbach	Sanford & Bernice Garfield	Andrew & Shellie Leff
Richard & Robin Lefkovits	Elva Levine	Robert & Pamela Weinstock
Seymour & Myrna Zimmerman	Robert & Joyce Brown	Michael & Cathye Clark
Joel Zneimer & Betty Fink	Jeffrey & Elinore Felder	Joan Frank
Russell & Becky Kamola	Maynard & Jeri Belzer	Sy & Isabel Blau
Doris Weinberg	Walter & Gina Burstein	Harry Lichtback
Bernard & Helene Scherer	Kurt and & Danalynn Pritz	Lawrence Borelli
	William, Marsha, & Hatton Richardson	

In Focus Photography and Video



Kenneth Bahr
(805) 558-4048
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info@infocusphotographyandvideo.com

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~BAR/BAT MITZVAH

~PORTRAITURE

~WEDDINGS



A Special Thank You to Ken Bahr

...and to those Temple members who participated in the special portrait photography session here at Temple that Ken provided as a fund-raiser for our Torah School. You will see a lot of his work here in the MEGILLAH. Ken is Temple Ner Ami's photographer of choice for weddings, B'nai Mitzvahs and family portrait photography.

The Temple Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Contributions

Annual Giving Campaign

Walter & Gina Burstein

Honorariums/Memorials

Irving & Arlene S. Bergman: In loving memory of Irving's father, Joseph Bergman

Naomi Brill: In loving memory of her friend, Rose Marcus

Gloria Brodie: In loving Memory of Gloria Brodie's Uncle, Edward Pollock

Della Carmona: In loving memory of her mother, Zlotta Lertzman

Della Carmona: To Saul Lessler & Julia Newman - Mazel Tov on your 20th Anniversary

Dr. Israel Feingold: In loving memory of Isaac Diamond beloved father of Clarice Feingold

Dr. Israel Feingold: In loving memory of Mary Diamond, beloved mother of Clarice Feingold

Dr. Israel Feingold: In loving memory of Rose Feingold beloved mother of Israel Feingold

Ruth Fridberg: In loving memory of her dear late husband, Charles Fridberg

William & Claire Goldstein: In loving memory of Nanette Lippencott's Mother, Beverly Levine

Marvin Krantz: In loving memory of Samuel Krantz

Robert Moskowitz & Esther Torres: In loving memory of Robert Moskowitz's grandmother Edith Medlevine

Charles & Libby Pierce: In loving Memory of Abraham & Matthew Beacher

Charles & Libby Pierce: In loving Memory of Libby's Mother, Emma Beacher

Muriel Rosenkranz: In loving Memory of her mother, Jennie Tenenbaum

Harriet Silvertrust: In loving Memory of Harriet's Father, Meyer Joseph Karstadt

Seymour & Myrna Zimmerman: In Loving Memory of their Daughter, Barbara Zimmerman

General Donations

Alex & Alyse Borla

Jack & Teri Milner

Ada Leff

Newman Scholarship Fund

Dr. Israel Feingold: In honor of Clarice Feingold's birthday from her loving husband

Music Fund

Joan Frank: High Holy Day Pledge

Melvin & Frances Kuznets: In honor of the 90th Birthday of dear friend George Rose

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Joseph Aaronson & Irene Olson: In loving memory of Irene Olson's mother, Natalie Brody

Dr. Israel Feingold: In honor of Dubby Carmona's 90th Birthday

Dr. Israel Feingold: In honor of the birth and naming of his sweet grand-daughter, Chaya Hinda Feingold, born September 6, 2010 from her loving grandfather, Israel Feingold.

Gerald & Natalie Rosen: In loving memory of Sol and Theodora Rosen

Torah School Principal's Chair

Joan Frank: In Honor of Arla Crane running a marathon

Nadine Frankel: In honor of Arla Crane running a marathon



Johnny Rockets Fund-Raiser - Dec. 1st

December 1st is our date! Yes, you can go out to dinner and help our Torah School at the same time. Johnny Rockets has given us the date of December 1st - all day -- for our Fund Raising efforts. The owners of Johnny Rockets (in the Outlet Mall - Promenade section) will donate 15% of the bill back to the Temple Ner Ami Torah School. How great is that!

Also, "tributes" to friends or family for birthdays, anniversaries, or New Year's greetings are available in the office. Just tell Mark who you wish to honor - the Temple will send that person or persons a lovely card for you. It's a great way to show someone you care and, through your donation, help the Torah School at the same time.

See you at Temple. Arla Crane, Committee Chair

TORAH SCHOOL SESSIONS & EVENTS

NOVEMBER

- 24 **NO SCHOOL** – Thanksgiving Holiday
- 26 **College Students Shabbat**
- 29 Regular session
Junior Youth Group (including 4th & 5th Graders- Fall Event!)

DECEMBER

- 1 Regular session
Johnny Rockets Fund-Raiser
- 3 **Hanukah Shabbat**
- 4 Bat Mitzvah – *Shoshannah Steinberg*
- 6 Regular session + Camp Kadimah Hanukah
- 8 Regular session + Camp Kadimah Hanukah
- 10 **Family Shabbat Service led by the 6th Grade (Dinner)**
- 11 Bar Mitzvah – *Griffin D'Inca*
- 13 Regular session
- 15 Regular session
- 20-29 **NO SCHOOL** – Winter Vacation

JANUARY

- 3 **NO SCHOOL** Winter Vacation
- 5 Regular session
- 10 Regular session
- 12 Regular session
- 17 **NO SCHOOL - MLK Holiday**
- 19 Regular session + Camp Kadimah
Tu B'Shevat
- 22 **B'nai Mitzvah Family Education (Saturday – 9:30-12:30)**
- 23 **JOLT – Tu B'shevat Hike (Sunday)**
- 24 Regular session – Camp Kadimah –
Tu B'Shevat
Junior Youth Group 6:15 -7:30
- 26 Regular session
- 28 **Family Shabbat Service led by the 5th Grade (Dinner) + Tot Shabbat**
- 31 Regular session

Teen Connection Calendar 2010 - 2011

☞ **NAUTY - 1st & 3rd Mondays 6:30-8:30**

Weekend social activities to be announced

☞ **Place of Our Own - 2nd & 4th Wednesdays 6:30 – 8:30**

NOVEMBER

- Wed 24 **NO SESSION** – Thanksgiving
- Fri 26 **College Students Shabbat**
- Mon 29 **NAUTY**

DECEMBER

- Fri 3 **Hanukah Shabbat**
- Mon 6 **NAUTY**
- Fri-Sun 10-12 **FALL KALLAH (Retreat)**
- Wed 15 **Place of Our Own**
- Dec. 20 – Jan. 4 – **WINTER VACATION**

TEMPLE NER AMI - December 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
	4:15pm - No Torah School		12pm - Torah-Woman's 4:15pm - Torah School @	1st Day of Hannukah @ 10am - ORT Board Meeting 12:30pm - Lunch N' Learn	6:30pm - Hannukah	Shoshanah Steinberg Bat 9:30am - Torah Study @
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10am - ORT Board Meeting 5pm - Child Storytime @	4:15pm - Torah School @		12pm - Torah-Woman's 4:15pm - Hanukah Camp 7pm - Board of Directors	12:30pm - Lunch N' Learn	6pm - 6th Grade Dinner 7:30pm - Shabbat Service	9:30am - Torah Study @ 4pm - Griffin D'Inca Bar
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	4:15pm - Torah School @		12pm - Torah-Woman's 4:15pm - Torah School @	12:30pm - Lunch N' Learn	7:30pm - Shabbat Service	9:30am - Torah Study @
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	4:15pm - No Torah School		12pm - Torah-Woman's 4:15pm - No Torah School	12pm - ORT General 12:30pm - Lunch N' Learn	5:45pm - Tot Shabbat 7:30pm - Shabbat Service	Christmas 9:30am - Torah Study @ 6:30pm - Movie & Chinese
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
9:30am - City of Hope 4:15pm - No Torah School			12pm - Torah-Woman's 4:15pm - No Torah School	12:30pm - Lunch N' Learn	New Year's Eve 6pm - Wine & Cheese 6:30pm - Shabbat Service 7pm - Dinner	New Year's Day 9:30am - Torah Study @

For the Latest Calendar info and details on each event visit www.TempleNerAmi.org

December Outside Organizational Meetings



CITY OF HOPE - GENERAL MEETING
(Not Meeting at the Temple in November)
Donald Seidler - 805-987-0917 - President

CITY OF HOPE - BOARD MEETING
Monday December 27, 2010 - 9:30 AM
Donald Seidler - 805-987-0917 - President

HADASSAH GENERAL MEETING
Now meeting at "The Center for Spiritual Living"
Natalie Rosen - Co-President 805-484-3523
Judy Meisels - Co-President 805-482-9222

ORT BOARD MEETING
Thursday, December 2, 2010 - 10am
Annelies Regen - 805-445-9722

ORT General Meeting
Thursday, Dec. 23, 2010 - 11:30 am
Annelies Regen - 805-445-9722

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS
Tues-Wed 7-8:15 pm,
Sat. 6:30-7:30 pm,
Sunday Mens 7-8 am



Jewish Families of Camarillo, Inc.
515 Temple Avenue
Camarillo, CA 93010

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



TEMPLE NER AMI Appreciates Your Continued Support!

If you would like to make a contribution, the following funds are available. Donations are graciously accepted. The Temple's appreciation of your donation will be published in the following month's issue of the **MEGILLAH**:

- _____ Temple General Fund
- _____ Temple Building Fund
- _____ Newman Scholarship Fund
- _____ Torah School Principal's Chair
- _____ Irv Dubin Teen Scholarship Fund
- _____ Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- _____ Temple Music Fund
- _____ Art Fund
- _____ Sigmund Jaffe Memorial Library Fund
- _____ Temple Prayer Book Fund

In Honor of: _____

In Loving Memory of: _____

From: _____

The **MEGILLAH** is published monthly for members of TEMPLE NER AMI. Complimentary copies are available by contacting the Temple Office.

Suggested donation for non-members is \$36.00 per year. Make your check payable to Temple Ner Ami.

For information Call 805-388-3824, or eMail your request to:
admin@templenerami.org

Submission date for all material:
12th of each month