



Temple Shalom

Shofar

June 2005 • Iyar/Sivan 5765

Volume XLIX Issue X

www.templeshalom.net

Friday, June 3

Family Shabbat Service 7:30 PM

Saturday, June 4

Shabbat Morning Worship and Study 10 AM
B'not Mitzvah of Dawn Finzi & Emily Branton 10 AM

*Parashat Bemidbar
Numbers 1:1-4:20*

Friday, June 10

Erev Shabbat Service with Shir Shalom Choir, 10th Gr. Graduation & Board Installation 8 PM

Saturday, June 11

Shabbat Morning Worship and Study 10 AM
Bat Mitzvah of Sophie Fierst 10 AM

*Parashat Naso
Numbers 6:1-7:89*

Sunday, June 12

Confirmation Service 10 AM
Tot Shavuot 6:45 PM
Erev Shavuot Service 8:00 PM

Monday, June 13

Shavuot Festival Morning & Yizkor Memorial Service at Temple Emanuel 10 AM

Friday, June 17

Erev Shabbat Social Concerns Service 8 PM

Saturday, June 18

Shabbat Morning Worship and Study 10 AM
Bat Mitzvah of Lauren Stamm 10 AM

*Parashat Be Ha'alotekha
Numbers 8:1-12:16*

Friday, June 24

Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6 PM
Pot Luck Dinner 7 PM
Erev Shabbat Service 8 PM

Saturday, June 25

Shabbat Morning Worship and Study 10 AM
B'nai Mitzvah of Nate Schrier & Aaron Kuhn 10 AM

*Parashat Shelah-Lekha
Numbers 13:1-15:41*

When Do All Flavors and Streams of Judaism Study and Celebrate Together?

This Year in DC at the **Tikkun Leil Shavuot**

An ALL NIGHT* Study and Worship Experience: 8 PM until Dawn
Sunday/Monday, June 12-13

Begin at Temple Shalom for our moving (literally) Shavuot Services 8 PM
(Tot Shavuot Service for our younger friends at 6:45 PM)
Traditional Foods like Cheesecake and Blintzes 9:15 PM
Study and Song Session at Temple Shalom until 10:30 PM

Then we will join Adat Shalom (Reconstructionist), Fabrangen Chavurah, Ohev Shalom (Orthodox), and Tifereth Israel (Conservative) at 1600 Jonquil Street for Study Sessions, Meditation, Indoor and Outdoor Singing from 11 PM until 4:30 AM followed by Morning Services concluding around 6 AM

Special Teaching and Food for Teenagers at 11 PM and later Sessions

Can't make it all night this year? Join Temple Shalom and other Reform Congregations for a 10 AM Festival Service, including Yizkor Memorial Prayers on Monday at Temple Emanuel (see below)

*According to the narrative in the Torah, the Jewish people assembled at Mt. Sinai 49 days after the liberation from Egyptian slavery. There they pulled an all-nighter, listening to the lightning and watching the thunder (you can look it up Exodus 19 and 20)! So nowadays we stay up late and study on the anniversary of that event during the night of Shavuot.

Shavuot Festival Morning and Yizkor Memorial Service

Our tradition of coming together with other area Reform synagogues continues for the Festival of Shavuot as Temple Shalom holds its service with Temple Sinai and Temple Emanuel on

Monday Morning June 13, 10 AM

At Temple Emanuel

10101 Connecticut Avenue, Kensington, MD

The Festival liturgy includes Hallel, the Psalms of Praise, recited from ancient days as pilgrims wound their way up to Jerusalem. The morning of Shavuot is also one of the four times a year during which we recite the Yizkor Memorial Prayers for loved ones whom we have lost.

Yizkor offers an opportunity for reflection and meditation in memory of those who shaped who we are today.

The Festival services are less familiar to many of us

than the High Holy Days or even the more minor holidays of Chanukah and Purim, but these are both important and powerful moments on the Jewish calendar. Coming together with other congregations has helped add a sense of celebration and depth to our observance of the Festivals. Please try to attend either the Tikkun Leil Shavuot (the evening service and study session on Sunday night, June 12 through the wee hours of June 13—see details above) and/or the joint Festival Morning Service.



June



sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
			1 Wednesday Morning Minyan Service 7 AM Mitzvah Corps Committee Meeting 6 PM Confirmation Rehearsal 7 PM	2 Prophets 12:15 PM Shir Shalom Concert 8 PM	3 Erev Shabbat Family Service 7:30 PM	4 TASTY goes camping at Little Bennett State Park Shabbat Morning Worship and Study 10 AM B'not Mitzvah of Dawn Finzi & Emily Branton 10 AM
5 TASTY goes camping at Little Bennett State Park Joy of Judaism – Shavuot 9 AM Tikkun Olam Comm. Mtg. 10 AM Confirm. Rehearsal 10:30 AM Israel Fest. 2005 at the JCC of Greater Washington 12 NOON	6 Torah Stories: Dilemmas, Legends & Folklore 7 PM	7	8 Wednesday Morning Minyan Service 7 AM Confirm. Rehearsal 7 PM	9 Prophets 12:15 PM (last day) Congregational Dinner 6 PM Congregational Meeting 7 PM Choir 7 PM Bereavement Group 7 PM	10 Confirmation Class Shabbat Dinner 6 PM Erev Shabbat Service with Shir Shalom, 10th Gr. Graduation & Board Installation 8 PM	11 Shabbat Morning Worship and Study 10 AM Bat Mitzvah of Sophie Fierst 10 AM
12 Confirmation Photo Session 8 AM Confirmation Service 10 AM Confirmation Reception 1 PM Tot Shavuot 6:45 PM Erev Shavuot Service 8 PM	13 Shavuot Festival Morning & Yizkor Memorial Service at Temple Emanuel 10 AM Women's Torah Study Group 7:30 PM	14	15 Wednesday Morning Minyan Service 7 AM Finance Committee Meeting 7:30 PM	16 Choir 7 PM	17 Erev Shabbat Social Concerns Shabbat 8 PM	18 Shabbat Morning Worship and Study 10 AM Bat Mitzvah of Lauren Stamm 10 AM
19	20 Amcha for Tzedukah Board Meeting 7 PM	21	22 Wednesday Morning Minyan Service 7 AM	23 Executive Committee Meeting 7:30 PM	24 Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6 PM Shabbat Pot Luck Dinner 7 PM Shabbat Service 8 PM	25 Shabbat Morning Worship and Study 10 AM B'nai Mitzvah of Nate Schrier and Aaron Kuhn 10 AM
26 Memorial Day Office Closed	27	28	29 Wednesday Morning Minyan Service 7 AM	30		

From the Rabbi

Marbles and Messages: In and Out of the Boycott Business



It all has the feel of a child getting mad and saying:

*“Oh, yeah!
Well, I’ll
take my
marbles
home!”*

Only it’s adults who are shouting. And the stakes are serious.

Last week I read that the ADL is asking Mayor Anthony Williams of Washington D.C. to boycott a conference or event of some kind being sponsored by Louis Farrakhan and other anti-Semitic thugs. Now, I am not a fan of Farrakhan. And it is true that some of what he says is despicable beyond belief—and *still* he is practically a saint in comparison to some of his sidekicks. (Right: you think Farrakhan is bad, try listening to the others. Reminds me of the old Chassidic tale about a man who thought his house was too crowded. Bring in a goat, says the rabbi. Then a chicken. Then a sheep. Then get rid of the animals. See how spacious the house is now?) But I am...leery of the boycott business. I am sensitive to how it sounds when one group tells another group with whom it is allowed or “kosher” to meet. I am loath to burn bridges where any may be built. And I am aware that coalitions are built precisely on the premise of *partial* agreement—that is, to appear with someone in common cause does *not* have to mean that you support everything the person has ever said or done.

So the question is: in what ways do we and can we work together in solidarity with others on areas of agreement and at what point do others become so heinous, so problematic, so downright *treif* (non-kosher) that it is

impossible to talk to them at all? I know people who won’t read Milton because of his misogyny or Ezra Pound because of his sympathy for the Nazis. In what way are we composites of many parts and where is the line where one part of who we are contaminates and taints all others?

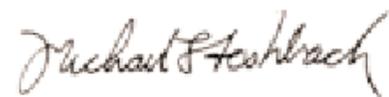
In this regard I believe that many of the “defense” agencies of the Jewish world are over-zealous, and too quick to point fingers and draw lines in the sand. Must anyone who has ever said anything remotely critical of Israel be forever banned from all lists of invitees and honorees? Or can we perhaps draw the line at those who flat-out deny Israel’s right to exist as a Jewish state in safe and secure borders? And while I believe a commitment to Israel’s existence is *absolutely, positively fundamental* and a minimum standard of belief for Jews and friends of Jews in the world today—to what extent should I, even believing that, cut off all ties to those who do not share that view? (This is a tough call, and yes, there are things that I myself would not do with someone opposed to the right of Israel to exist.) Or does there come a point when, in drawing *no* lines, we stand for nothing?

I was reminded of the boycott business the other day in reading about the United Kingdom. No, I do not mean the British election. I mean the decision of several universities in the UK to boycott all academics and scholars from certain universities in Israel, *just because* they are Israeli. Never mind the position of individuals on issues, never mind that universities are supposed to stand for intellectual inquiry and freedom of thought (and if not that, then why do they exist at all?) never mind that there are people on those faculties who support a wide variety of positions on, say, the IRA. (That’s the Irish group: the Irish Republican Army, not a bank account.) One chemistry professor at

one of these schools recently refused to take on a graduate student because the student had served in the Israeli army, and the professor *actually admitted* that this was the reason. He seemed proud of his position.

Now, of course, there are Jewish groups (notably the Simon Weisenthal Center) who are calling on us to “boycott the boycotters.” And while I find the whole thing distasteful, there is a real problem here. I am going to say something as a double negative: just because I am not one who sees an anti-Semite behind every bush does not mean that we are not seeing real, rank anti-Semitism here.

There are people in this world I don’t want to talk to. There are people in this world I’d rather not deal with. There are people who make me mad, and people I actually think are evil. But our gut reactions may not always be the best ones. Those who have been in this congregation for some time may even remember that there is a history here, of this very question, having to do with whether dialogue is possible with someone like Louis Farrakhan. I don’t know an answer for sure. But I know that taking our marbles away when we are mad is the act of an angry child. And that problems may be better solved by mature adults. Without affection, perhaps. And without an assumption that the whole world is going to think the same way we do. But, within some lines, with some limitations, with a commitment to reach out, to be open and vulnerable, to build bridges, to make peace in a world which needs peace very much.



Rabbi Michael L. Feshbach

IT’S BEEN THREE DECADES AND WE NEED YOUR INPUT....!

A stirring new project is about to begin that hasn’t happened in more than 30 years at Temple Shalom.

In acknowledging the upcoming one-year anniversary of the Temple Shalom Cemetery at Garden of Remembrance, members of the Temple’s former Cemetery Committee along with Rabbi Feshbach will be attempting to create a new, useful, and up-to-date Guide to Jewish Funeral and Mourning Practice.

Please help us include the information that is important to you by e-mailing **Judy Kaplan** at jgkaplan1@verizon.net or **Barbara Saragovitz** at Barbara.Saragovitz@faa.gov with your thoughts, ideas, and the kinds of information you think is most helpful to have in such a Guide.



Temple Shalom

The Temple Shalom
Confirmation Class of 5765-2005

Cordially Invites You

to Attend Its Confirmation Service

**On Sunday the fifth of Sivan, five thousand seven hundred sixty-five
June twelfth, two thousand five**

At Ten O'Clock in the Morning

**8401 GRUBB ROAD
CHEVY CHASE, MARYLAND**

**THE TEMPLE SHALOM CONFIRMATION CLASS
OF 5765-2005**

ALEXANDRA BETH ABELS

ALEX ENGLAND AKMAN

GABRIEL AARON BAROUH

KENNETH HARRISON COLEMAN

MITCHELL ARDEN CRISPELL

LEAH MICHELE FLAMM

RACHEL HILARY GLASSER

MICHAEL THOMAS GOFFREDI

JESSICA WARREN HALLBERLIN

PRISCILLA MIRIAM HALPERN

SAMANTHA BERNADETTE JACOBS

LAURA ELIZABETH KARP

DANIEL FRANK KLEIN

ADAM PHILIP KOPP

JASON BRADLEY MEER

PAMELA ELAINE MORIARTY

ABIGAIL SARAH REZNEK

REBECCA MIRYAM REZNEK

KELSEY ELIZABETH SIEGEL

MICHAEL ANDREW STAMM

JESSICA SVETLANA TRENT

NICHOLAS JACOB WILKES

JESSICA CARA WOLFE

Shabbat at Home Episode II—The Sequel

By Rabbi Gerry Serotta



The results are in, the votes counted, and the award goes to—Andrea Mark and JoHanna Potts, who hosted 31(!) congregants for an intimate Shabbat at Home Dinner in the party room at Andy's build-

ing for Temple Shalom's Shabbat at Home on April 15. Just like it used to be in the old country, as JoHanna said, whenever they ran into somebody the previous week without plans, all of sudden those folks were sharing Shabbat dinner with friends.

Once again, in what has quickly become a venerable tradition, about 100 families and as many as 400 congregants participated. This has truly become a "Holy Day" for us at the Temple, with more people observing a "worship" experience simultaneously than at any time other than the High Holy Days (unless you count Mitzvah Day, which is certainly another form of holiness!) If you hosted someone at the last minute, or were a last minute guest we would like to know, just to keep a nice comprehensive record. Especially if you think we may not have known about it, please contact Kecia at the Temple office (or email khill@templeshalom.net).

If you missed the day this year, don't worry. Plan ahead to next year when Shabbat at Home III takes place on January 27, 2006. In the mean time if you've not yet shared the feeling, here is a sample observation: "This is the second year we hosted the Shabbat at Home. I think I can speak for everyone that it was a truly wonderful and spiritual gathering. After introductions, we said the blessings and ML read a modern interpretation of the Sh'ma. During dinner I don't know if the kids in the kitchen or the adults in the dining room were laughing louder. Temple Shalom's 'feel the warmth' was heartfelt this Shabbat."

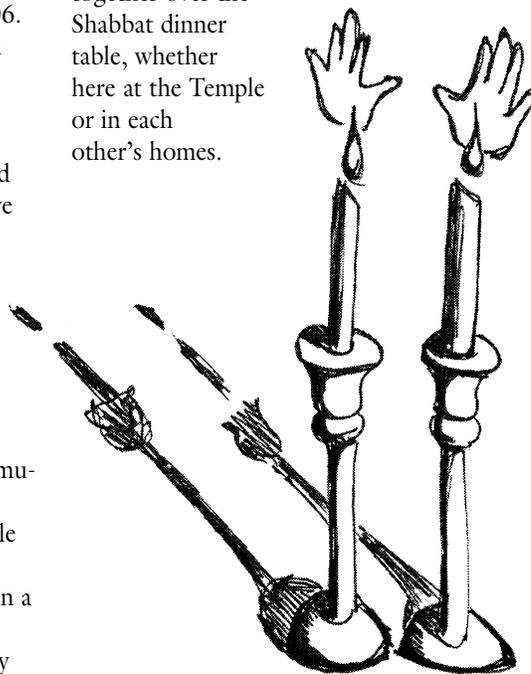
Building on the joy, spirituality, and community feeling of this program, we are also planning to add Shabbat Dinner at Temple as a semi-regular feature of our calendar. Whenever there is a fifth Friday Shabbat in a month (beginning with September 30, 2005,) there will be an inexpensive (partly

potluck) dinner. On those evenings there will be an early service at 6 PM, followed by a dinner starting around 7 PM. Watch for details in the near future.

I love to think about the most poignant story of our new tradition of Shabbat at Home, left over from the first year, and contained in a message left with the Temple Staff. A new member called the office and left the following message with a staff member: "I love the idea of hosting a Shabbat dinner at our home for other members, but we are going to be out of town on that date. Maybe there are some other members who will be away that Friday night also. Can I invite folks to my house on another Friday night?"

If we succeeded in giving permission for members to invite their fellow members, friends, or acquaintances into their homes, then as it says in the prayer we just recited on Passover, Dayeinu, that would have been enough for us! But did it have to wait for us to create Shabbat at Home before we felt comfortable experiencing the warmth of Shabbat and community?

Of course it doesn't really matter what the answer to that question is. Our lives will give the answer when we figure out the best way for each of us and all of us to experience the "Gift of Shabbat," especially so when we join together over the Shabbat dinner table, whether here at the Temple or in each other's homes.



drawing by Debbie Kopp



Garden of Remembrance
GAN ZIKARON MEMORIAL PARK

Unite in a new tradition.

By reserving burial space at the Garden of Remembrance Memorial Park, you make a covenant with the visionaries of the past and the generations of the future. You help unite the Jewish community of greater Washington in building the area's most inclusive Jewish cemetery.

The Garden of Remembrance is the area's only not-for-profit cemetery operated by a board of Jewish community leaders. Orthodox, Reform, Reconstructionist and Conservative congregations, as well as many individuals unaffiliated with congregations, have reserved areas at the cemetery.

Begin a new tradition for your family and community. To learn more, call Susan Zemsky at (301) 587-2273.



Temple Shalom

Post Confirmation Graduation Speech

by Rachel Ross

Each one of us must play a part

Each one of us must heed the call

Each one of us must seek the truth

Each one of us

Judaism has always been a choice for me. I was never forced to go to Sunday School or synagogue when I was little. In fact, when I was ten, I spent third grade trying to convince my parents to let me go. Ok, so realistically it was just because I wanted the same bat mitzvah parties that my cousins had had. Anyhow, that Fall I finally began attending Sunday and Hebrew School with no formal religious training. Sure, I had lit the menorah every Hanukkah, but I did not really know what it meant, or understood its impact on the Jewish people.

But can you really be taught to be Jewish? In my life I always felt like that answer was an obvious yes. I was always one of maybe two Jews in my grade in elementary school and I thrived on every little story my Kindergarten teacher told the class about the matzah factory and the piece of paper she wrote my Hebrew name on. But even after I began Sunday School, I really didn't feel like I was learning to be Jewish. Like many other kids throughout the years, I too felt like Sunday School was just another school day when I had to wake up early and sit through class.

Each one of us is a part of it all

Each one of us must remember the pain

Each one of us must find the joy

Each one of us

Last week in my last session of formal religious school, we had an open question forum. I asked what can be done to our religious school structure to make kids less turned off from Judaism. I got a surprising answer. It wasn't the system, it was the people who were not supporting the system-

the parents. Many Jews, especially Reform, do not see their parents attending synagogue every week, other than when their class is leading Friday night services or on the High Holy days. This disconnect does not exist in a church setting where kids are attending Sunday school while parents are in the service every Sunday.

Each one of us must start to hear

Each one of us must sing the song

Each one of us must do the work

Each one of us

But it shouldn't be this way. I do not want to be limited by the amount of Jew hours in my life. Yes, kids should learn to be able to interpret the Torah and formulate their own opinions. But a kid should not be shoved in a classroom once a week and told how to be a Jew. It should be what they do in their life and the influence of the actions of the people around them that helps them learn what it means to be Jewish.

One Saturday morning this year I woke up and decided to start writing about my involvement in Judaism. It ended up being turned into a college essay. While I had tried to start out writing about Judaism and myself I realized that I had kept talking about NFTY. At the beginning of freshman year I was able to attend my first NFTY-MAR event. From that event on, NFTY has had such an amazing impact on the way I think, towards Judaism and life in general. I wrote in that essay "I am constantly bombarded with hugs, kisses, and the religion I felt was missing from the first 14 years of my life. It is when I am at a NFTY event that I can again be myself and continue to learn about the world around me. NFTY has taught me how to pray and what spirituality is. The best feeling in the world for me is closing my eyes during the Shema at a NFTY service, surrounded by my friends, feeling the energy around me."

Each one of us must right the wrong

Each one of us must build the home

Each one of us must hold the hope

Each one of us

Two weeks ago I decided to attend Clark University next year. I had just visited Ohio Wesleyan a few weeks prior. It had a cute little town, amazing themed housing, a really cool club that meets Tuesday nights called Socrates' Café, and a hilarious little mascot who happens to be a battling bishop. But it didn't have the opportunity to attend Friday night services every week. Yes there is a Hillel but it is not very active and as the president said to me "it's a very small, close knit group of people". Clark's Hillel offers student led evrep Shabbat services every week. The Reform services offered are always accompanied by a guitar—quite NFTYesque. It sounded so exciting. It just so happens that, that day two weeks ago that I made this decision, I was at my last NFTY event. It was after three days of straight crying about how I would miss my friends and everything that NFTY has given me until I realized that my Judaism wouldn't end that Sunday morning. Although I am not sure if I will attend services every Shabbat or if the services really will be like NFTY every week, just the opportunity to further my involvement in Judaism will make my college decision worth it. So what if Worcester isn't one of the most picturesque places?

I consider myself lucky. I believe that I have been able to find the side of Judaism that isn't represented in Sunday School classrooms or in many homes. I hope that the junior class and all classes to come will be able to grasp this and work outside the box on expanding their spirituality and the role of Judaism in their own lives. We wish you all the luck in your senior year and hope that you find the right college for you. Because really, we all stand here and remember the dream. Each one of us. Each one of us.

RENAISSANCE

On April 12, thirty members of the Temple Shalom Renaissance Group visited the Phillips Collection and enjoyed a docent-led tour of the very well-received Modigliani exhibit. We were fortunate to have as our docent a woman who was able to relate much information regarding the Jewish background of this very interesting artist. We then walked to a nearby Italian restaurant, Sette Osteria, and had a delicious lunch. As usual, our group was treated to a delightful morning, and a good time was had by all!

Following up on our successful theatre party at Kennedy Center last summer, we have reserved a block of tickets to this year's production of the Tony-winning smash hit,

Hairspray, for Sunday evening, August 14. Tickets are in a choice orchestra location and are \$77 per person. To order your tickets, send a check, again payable to Temple Shalom, to Helen Crystal, 10813 Bucknell Drive, Wheaton, MD 20902.

The Renaissance Group Steering Committee is currently planning events for next year. The Annual Meeting/Ice-Cream and Dessert Social will be held this year on Sunday evening, September 25th, at the Temple. At that time, plans for the year will be announced. We hope you will join us then.

As always, your ideas and suggestions are welcome.

For further information about the Renaissance Group contact:

Francine Simons at 301-838-9530 or francine311@comcast.net

Also, please let her know if you wish to be added to the Renaissance Group's email list. If you already have asked to be on this list but have changed your email address in the last six months, please forward your new address to her.

The Temple Shalom Renaissance Group is for Temple members over 50 who want to join other members in a variety of social activities.

Join The Temple Shalom Renaissance Group To SEE



The Kennedy Center
Theater

Hairspray

Winner of 8 Tony Awards®, including best musical!



Sunday, August 14 at 7:30 PM

To order your tickets, send a check, payable to Temple Shalom, for \$77 per ticket* (all seats are in a choice orchestra section) by July 15, to:

Helen Crystal
10813 Bucknell Drive
Wheaton, MD 20902
301-649-4048

Email: Hacrysal510@aol.com

hairspray

*These tickets sell at the box office for \$83

Temple Shalom ★ Tikkun Olam
Repairing the world through



Service ★ Education ★ Advocacy

INSPIRED TO PUT YOUR SOCIAL CONSCIENCE INTO ACTION?

**Please join the Tikkun Olam Committee for a
Spring planning meeting**

**Sunday, June 5
10:00 – 11:00 AM**

Bagels and coffee will be served

For more information contact Caryn Anthony at
cl.anthony@att.net or Suzanne Mintz at topj@erols.com

IN THE COMMUNITY

Yachad Thanks Temple Shalom For SUKKOT IN APRIL Accomplishments

On Sunday, April 17, over 500 volunteers from more than two dozen Washington area synagogues and Jewish organizations spent the day restoring the homes of 18 area lower-income and elderly residents as part of Sukkot in April, the annual home renovation program sponsored by Yachad, the Jewish Housing and Community Development Corporation of Greater Washington, in partnership with area chapters of Rebuilding Together. Yachad thanks Temple Shalom for its participation in the project — your volunteers, financial contribution, dedication, and considerable energies made 2005 another banner year for Sukkot in April.

As the Washington-area affordable housing crisis grows, the need to preserve the existing stock of affordable housing, keeping people

in the homes they can afford, is critical. Sukkot in April volunteers restore the homes of lower-income area residents, many of whom are elderly and/or disabled and are living with multiple generations of the same family. The goal of the program is to make these homes safe, dry and accessible. As part of the program, professionals give many homes new roofs and make plumbing and electrical repairs. The volunteers then move in to replace fallen ceilings, patch and paint water-damaged walls, clean and renovate kitchens, make accessibility modifications for residents with disabilities, and more. Yachad is grateful that Temple Shalom's work on a Sukkot in April house this year made the dream of a livable, affordable home a reality for one more area homeowner.

Yachad is a nonprofit organization that mobi-

lizes the resources of the Washington metropolitan Jewish community to support the restoration of urban neighborhoods. Working with synagogues, churches, and community organizations, Yachad builds bridges of understanding while producing affordable housing and revitalizing commercial areas. Yachad's other programs include the Faith-to-Faith Community Development Program, in which Yachad works with minority churches to tackle challenging housing and commercial projects in their neighborhoods, and outreach and education programs designed to educate Jewish adults and teens about housing and economic development. To learn more about how you can support and participate in our work year-round, visit Yachad's website at www.yachad-dc.org or call 202-296-8563.

THE UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM

A Leadership Opportunity for NFTYites

Calling all teenagers! Make sure you and your friends have heard about the NFTY Leadership Track at the Union's Biennial Convention—the event that will bring more than 200 of your peers to Houston, TX this fall. Teens will mix learning and prayer with networking and fun—participating in NFTY workshops, listening to special keynote addresses, joining a special trip to NASA, and schmoozing with friends from summer camp and Israel trips.

The NFTY Leadership Track begins on Thursday, November 17

To register, contact NFTY at:

212.650.4070

nfty@urj.org

For additional information – as well as online registration, visit the Web site at:

www.nfty.org

Spend a High School Semester in Israel

Attention high school students: Can you imagine spending your spring semester in Israel? Instead of feeling confined by the walls of your home high school, your classroom could be the entire nation of Israel. NFTY's Eisendrath International Exchange has been sending students to Israel since 1962—why not make 2006 the year you're a part of it? You'll earn a full semester of high school credit while living on a kibbutz on the outskirts of Jerusalem that serves as a base for your exploration of ancient and modern Israel.

To learn more – and to download an application and course catalog –

visit the Web site at:

www.nfty.org/eie

or contact:

Jillian Camero

212.650.4073

jcameron@urj.org

The Biennial Approaches!

We're now only five months away from the Reform Movement's Biennial Convention this November 16-20 in Houston, TX. Whether you're a delegate to the Union for Reform Judaism's convention, or the Women of Reform Judaism's convention, you'll want to be part of the crowd that determines the future direction of the Reform Movement. Speakers will include former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright; Dr. Eugene Borowitz, the "dean of American Jewish philosophers;" and many others. There are workshops, music, scholars-in-residence, networking...and, of course, an intimate Shabbat with 5,000 of your fellow Reform Jews.

Registration opens June 30

at www.urj.org/biennial

– if you register before

September 25,

you'll be eligible for

an Early Bird Discount.

Stay tuned for more

**Please
remember
to get your
school
registrations
into the
school
office
SOON!**

**Members have
priority
Registration
until June 30!**



The Sixth Annual Washington Jewish Music Festival

The Sixth Annual Washington Jewish Music Festival will be held June 7-11 & 15, 2005 at the Washington DC Jewish Community Center. The Festival is an annual week-long series of concerts and programs designed to increase public awareness and appreciation of the cultural and stylistic diversity of Jewish music.

The Festival schedule of events is listed below, and full festival information may be found on the Washington DCJCC website at <http://www.djcc.org/arts/music/musicfest.php>

Schedule of Events

John Zorn's Masada String Trio

Friday, June 10th

Tuesday, June 7 at 7:30 PM

10 AM: Kids' Show-Basya Schechter
& Queen's Dominion

American Jewish Music: Spirituality
and Inspiration

Wednesday, June 8

7:00 PM: Film - "A Journey of Spirit"
& panel discussion: "The Music of
Debbie Friedman"

One Ring Zero: Lit Rock in Film,
Music and Words

Saturday, June 11

8:30 PM

Film: "As Smart As They Are:
The Author Project"

9:00 PM: Concert - David Schneyer
& The Fabrangens Fiddlers

Concert: One Ring Zero featuring
author Jonathan Ames

Esther's Children: Persian-Jewish
Culture in Music & Dance

Thursday, June 9

7:00 PM: Queen's Dominion,
featuring Basya Schechter

Homelands: The Roots of Klezmer
Wednesday, June 15 8:00 PM

Concert: Harmonia:
Music of Eastern Europe

Opening: The Alexandria Klezmer

Purchase tickets in advance by calling (800) 494-TIXS or visit www.boxofficetickets.com

ISRAEL

Israel's Supreme Court ruling on non-Orthodox conversions 'a personal victory' for ARZA

Landmark ruling removes an obstacle to State-recognition of Reform conversions and has implications on the involvement of Reform Jews in the future of the Jewish State

The Association of Reform Zionists of America (ARZA), the Zionist arm and voice of the Reform Movement in the United States and an affiliate of the Union for Reform Judaism, sent its congratulations today to the Israel Religious Action Center (IRAC) on the news of a landmark decision by Israel's Supreme Court that removed one of the obstacles to the recognition of non-Orthodox conversions in the Jewish State.

Earlier today, The Israel Supreme Court ordered the government to recognize "leaping conversions," non-Orthodox conversions in which the study process was conducted in Israel but was finalized overseas.

Such individuals will now be considered Jews according to the Law of Return, a humanitari-

an policy which awards immediate citizenship and benefits to Jews wishing to settle in Israel.

The ruling is widely viewed as a major victory for Reform Jewish interests in Israel, as it removes an obstacle to complete recognition of all denominations of Judaism in the eyes of the government.

The court ruled on two petitions filed by the Center for Jewish Pluralism and the World Union for Progressive Judaism. The case had been fought in the Court by lawyers affiliated with IRAC, which is supported in part by ARZA.

The Court declined to rule on a second part of the petition which asked the Court to force Israel to recognize non-Orthodox conversions finalized inside the country.

However, Supreme Court President Judge Aharon Barak opined in a non-binding part of his decision that there were, in fact, no legal grounds for the State to continue to refuse to recognize non-Orthodox conversions performed entirely in Israel.

IRAC promised to continue to petition the Court for complete and total recognition

of non-Orthodox conversions in all its manifestations.

Rabbi Gilad Kariv of IRAC said that ARZA shared credit for this historic advancement of religious freedoms in Israel.

"We need to remember that ARZA is one of the biggest and most important 'shareholders' of IRAC," Kariv said. "And so, this is not only a victory for IRAC and the IMPJ, but also a victory for the URJ and especially ARZA."

"Every member of ARZA should regard today's ruling as a personal victory," Kariv said. "This historic ruling serves as yet another building block in our case to bring full religious freedom to the State of Israel," stated Rabbi Andrew Davids, Executive Director of ARZA. "While we can pause briefly to congratulate our colleagues at the IRAC in Israel who have been relentless in the pursuit of justice and equality for all streams of Judaism, we both understand that we cannot and will not rest until the citizens of Israel can choose from a range of conversion processes that will be recognized equally by the State."



Shalom,

Have you heard about Melitz's new program to Israel for college-age young adults? It's two weeks this summer of exploring and learning for young adults ages 18-25. This is unlike the standard tours of Israel with a tour guide speaking at participants. The Melitz Israel Summer Happening has fun, educational content and interactive activities. Melitz uses dynamic, interactive techniques to challenge participants to grapple with cutting edge issues that face Israeli society and the Jewish world, while visiting Israel's highlights and hidden treasures. This is a trip that will

engage participants with intense conversations, where everyone will grow and learn. At the end of the trip, participants won't even have to ask "What am I taking home with me?" because it is, without a doubt, more than photos and bought souvenirs.

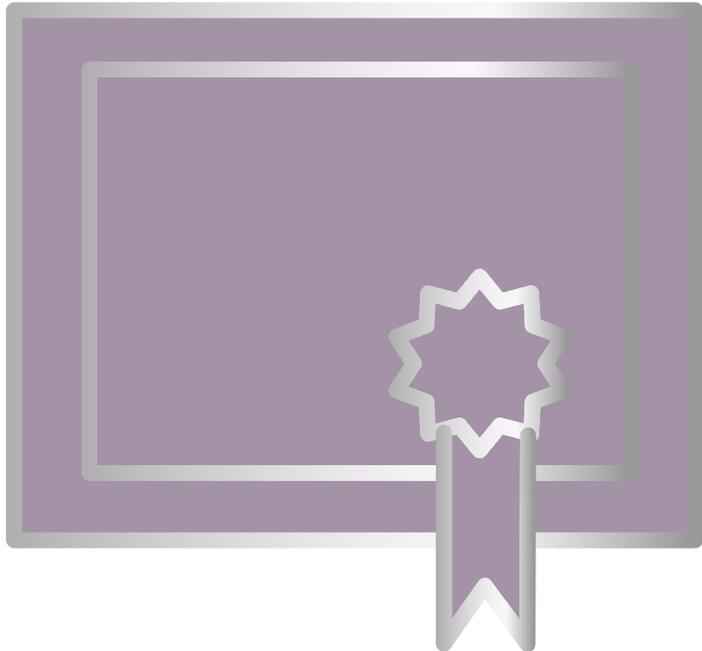
This trip is offered by Melitz, a highly respected educational program that has been the leading provider of informal Jewish education since 1973. The dynamic and bright staff have given Melitz the edge that has made their programs so successful. For more on Melitz, visit www.melitz.org.il

The Melitz Israel Summer Happening focuses on letting participants explore Israel themselves, through interactive educational programs, tours, the outdoors and exploring on their own. In a two-week program, participants will visit the "must-sees" and "off the beaten paths" by touring, exploring, hiking, walking, climbing, swimming, learning, discussing, and having fun. The interactive pro-

grams will discuss and explore dilemmas facing soldiers their age and environmental problems challenging the State and their solutions. Participants will observe Arab and Jewish communities living side-by-side and help modern-day student pioneers. They will have the freedom to explore the towns and cities along the way... getting a real taste of what it's like for an Israeli their age.

For students with questions about Israel and students who want to learn more, this is a great opportunity to be engaged in the issues of Israel, while seeing it first-hand. I encourage you to tell friends and family in your congregation and community about this program and suggest it to those who are the best candidates.

Also, for more details, questions or promotional items about the program, we'd be happy to hear from you. Please email info@melitz.org.il or call +972 (0)2 621 6451



Annual Congregational Meeting with Awards and Honors

Thursday, June 9th, 2005

**Come for Dinner at 6 PM
Meeting follows at 7 PM**

Honor our Volunteers Who Help Make Temple Shalom a Special Place!

Hear the "State of the Temple."



Yes! Sounds Great! Count me/us in!
Dinner Reservation:

Name _____

Adults @\$15.00 each _____

Children @\$7.00 each _____

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ payable to Temple Shalom

Mail to: Temple Shalom, 8401 Grubb Road, Chevy Chase, MD 20815
Fax (check to follow) to 301-588-9368

RSVP NO LATER THAN MONDAY JUNE 6TH!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Fourth Friday of the Month

Early Kabbalat Shabbat Service

June 24, 2005, 6:00 PM

Families of all ages but especially with kids pre-k through 6th grade: Please join us Friday night, June 24th for an early family friendly service and a DAIRY/PARVE pot-luck dinner.

Weather permitting we will have services and dinner outside

Join us in welcoming the Shabbat through song. Enjoy the "greatest hits" of Reform movement melodies in an informal service. Have Shabbat dinner and socialize with new and old friends. Your children will have a wonderful time with their friends, and you'll all be on your way home by bed-time.

6 PM: Snacks in the foyer

6:15 PM: Kabbalat Shabbat service

led by Ruti Kadish in the Sanctuary

7 PM: Pot Luck Dairy/Vegetarian Dinner in the Chapel

(see details below)

With questions or comments, please contact Ruti Kadish at:

ruti.kadish@starpower.net 301-891-3114

For June 24th, 2005 Please bring: last names beginning with A-H: side dish/salad, I-O: main dish, P-Z: dessert and drinks
for 8 people

(Remember: it is a dairy/vegetarian dinner)

Please note, while this may be the first time in recorded Jewish history, nonetheless, at several of the previous potlucks (which were otherwise fabulous) we have experienced a shortage(!) of food (I know, it's hard to believe). Hence, please bring enough of your dish to feed 8.

(Our "regular" 8 PM Erev Shabbat service in the Sanctuary follows unchanged on all of these evenings; those attending the "late" service should easily be able to participate in the 7 PM Pot Luck dinner as well.)

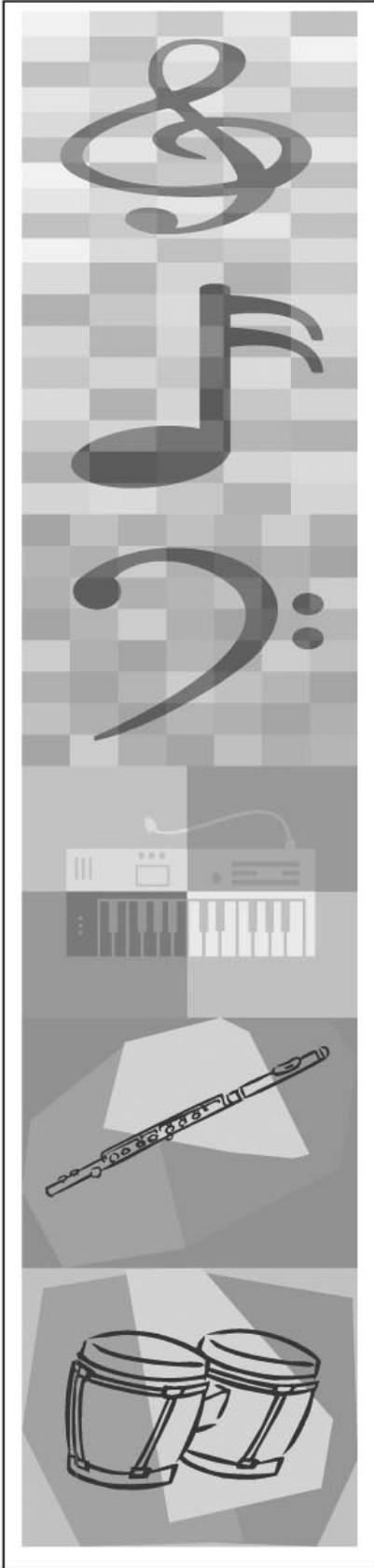
Come visit Temple Shalom's New Website:
<http://www.templeshalom.net>

To see our most up-to-date information on religious services, activities and programs,
please visit our newly designed website (<http://www.templeshalom.net>).

Over the past year, this has been a joint effort on the part of the membership committee,
communications committee, and the board of trustees.

Your feedback and suggestions are welcome:
contact Ben Bederson at bederson@cs.umd.edu.

**B o o k m a r k o u r n e w l y r e v i s e d w e b p a g e a t
w w w . t e m p l e s h a l o m . n e t**



Shir Shalom

Shir Shalom

שיר שלום
שיר שלום

In Concert: the Best of 5765

Thursday June 2, 2005
8–9 PM

**Selections from the Cemetery Dedication,
Music Shabbat, Strathmore & Ohr Kodesh concerts
Sephardic, Yiddish and Hasidic melodies,
American Jewish composers**

Eugenia Shiuk, Flute
Kathy Hermann, Piano
Steve Bloom, Percussion

Hazzan Dr. Ramón Tasat, Director

*If you have heard Shir Shalom at services,
You'll be delighted to hear them in concert!!*

Admission is free but consider making a donation:
All proceeds will go to further the musical programs of Shir Shalom

Temple Shalom
8401 Grubb Road, Chevy Chase,, Maryland
301-587-2273



**ARE YOU LOST ON WHAT
TO GIVE?**

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The Gift Shop

**We are open
during regular school
hours
and by appointment.**

We feature exciting
new items all your
special occasions!



Temple Shalom

Rabbis: Michael L. Feshbach
Gerald Serotta

Rabbi Emeritus: Bruce E. Kahn

Cantor: Ramón Tasat

Cantor Emeritus: Saul Rogolsky

Executive Director: Susan Goutos Zemsky

Director of Education: JoHanna Potts

President: Marilyn Ripin

Board Installation

On Friday, June 10, 2005

We will install
the Board of Trustees for
2005-2006.



*Please join us as our Board members accept
the honor and responsibility of serving
Temple Shalom in the upcoming year.*

SHOFAR DEADLINE for the July issue is June 15

Submission should be on a computer disk, preferably in a Microsoft Word (.doc) format or a text (.txt). Please use no left or right justification, no hard returns, underlines, etc. Also please attach a separate hard copy of instructions as to where you wish centering, bolding etc. to appear. Email submissions will be gladly accepted, send to:

execdir@templeshalom.net.

A HARD COPY MUST BE SUBMITTED ALONG WITH ALL SUBMISSIONS.

**Please remember to get your
school registrations into the
school office soon!
Members have priority
registration
until June 30!**