

# Shofar

December 2006  
Kislev –  
Tevet 5767  
Volume LXXX Issue 4



www.templeshalom.net 

December

**1** Erev Shabbat Family Service  
7:30 PM

**FRI**

**2** Shabbat Morning Worship & Study 10 AM  
Shabbat Morning Service: Bat Mitzvah  
of Lyndsay Rini 10 AM

**SAT**

*Parashat Vayetzze*  
*Genesis 28:10-32:3*

**8** Erev Shabbat Service with Shir Shalom  
Choir 8 PM

**FRI**

**9** Shabbat Morning Worship & Study 10 AM  
Shabbat Morning Service: Bar Mitzvah  
of Daniel Norton 10 AM

**SAT**

*Parashat Vayishlach*  
*Genesis 32:4-36:43*

**15** Tot Chanukah Shabbat Service 6:45 PM  
Erev Shabbat/Chanukah Service 7:30 PM

**FRI**

**16** Shabbat Morning Worship & Study 10 AM  
Shabbat Morning Service: B'nai Mitzvah  
of Alex and Max Rosenberg 10 AM

**SAT**

*Parashat Vayeshev*  
*Genesis 37:1-40:23*

**22** Kabbalat Shabbat Services 6:15 PM  
Erev Shabbat Service 8 PM

**FRI**

**23** Shabbat Morning Worship & Study 10 AM  
Shabbat Morning Service: Bat Mitzvah  
of Rachel Gurevich 10 AM

**SAT**

*Parashat Miketz*  
*Genesis 41:1-44:17*

**29** Special Early Kabbalat Shabbat Services  
6:15 PM

**FRI**

**30** Shabbat Morning Worship & Study 10 AM  
*Parashat Vayigash*  
*Genesis 44:18-47:27*

**SAT**

## Chanukah Shabbat Service and Dinner



**Friday  
December 15  
2006**

*Food, Friends,  
Children,  
Community*

**6 PM Dinner  
6:45 PM Tot Chanukah  
Shabbat Service  
7:30 PM Erev  
Shabbat/Chanukah  
Service**

**\$15 for Adults, \$8 for  
Children for Dinner**

**Please make your  
reservations by—  
Monday, December 11**

**Chanukah Shabbat Service and Dinner on Friday, December 15, 2006 at 6 PM**

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

#Adults \_\_\_\_\_ #Children \_\_\_\_\_

I am willing to help set up \_\_\_\_\_

I am willing to help clean up \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ (Please make all checks payable to Temple Shalom)

Return to the Temple office or mail to: Temple Shalom, 8401 Grubb Road, Chevy Chase, MD 20815

Mark your calendars and hold  
the date for—

# THE PARTY!

Come schmooze and schmie  
with us at our very own  
Temple Shalom Fundraiser.

**MARCH 3, 2007**  
{Erev Purim}

**YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THE  
EVENT OF THE SEASON!**

## The Most Incredible Summer of Your Life!



46 Bowen Rd, Warwick, NY 10990  
845.987.6300 Ext 6351  
Email: nftytravel@urj.org

**FOR TEENS!**

Log on to  
[www.nfty.org/Israel](http://www.nfty.org/Israel)  
for more information  
or to register online!

- 5 Incredible Weeks Beautiful Prague and "Exodus" Voyage to Israel by Cruise Ship (1st week) 4 Amazing Weeks in Israel
- Magnificent Sights of Ancient and Modern Israel
- Jewish Pride and Self Esteem
- Superior Programs Designed Especially For Reform Jewish Youth
- Great Fun and Friendship
- Safety and Security our first priority



## RELAX @ The Parents Café

**December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, & 17<sup>th</sup> 2006**

*Join us inside the Temple office  
on these Sunday mornings!*

**Café hours: 8:45 AM-1:15 PM**

**Drink FREE Coffee or tea!  
Just read. Connect w/other  
adults. Join in the discussion.  
Consider hosting a future Café.**

**\*Nosh a bagel.\***

\* Cost of your Bagel/Cream Cheese benefits  
the Temple Youth Group\*



## Blood Drive

Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006

The Best Gifts Come  
From the Heart



## Temple Shalom Blood Drive

Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
9:00 am to 2:00 pm  
**Social Hall**

Please contact **1-800-GIVE-LIFE**  
to schedule your **Life-saving** donation.

**Gifts for all participants!**



## From the Rabbi

# The Seasons of Our Lives: A Plea to Parents to Consider Reform Jewish Summer Camps

Message from Rabbi Michael L. Feshbach

I love living in Washington! On a personal level, there is a sense of wholeness for me, a completion, of having come home. More broadly, I love that local news is often national or international news. I love not being in such a minority in following the minutia of political developments. I love the cosmopolitan feeling, the exciting work so many people do, the diversity of the population. I love the Jewish culture here, and I love the options for Asian food.

But there are some things I am less than fond of. One, of course, is the traffic. The other is something that flows from that: not just the press of the crowds, but the pressure to make decisions. What I find particularly frustrating is how fast you have to make a decision about what you are doing, and what you are doing with children, the following summer. I remember living in a place where you could still sign up for a popular summer camp in early May. Here: hesitate and lose! Visit to explore, a day after registration opens, and chances are there will be no spaces left.

There is one summer decision, though, which was easy for us to make. At some point, I knew, our kids would be old enough... to go to a Reform movement (Union for Reform Judaism, URJ) summer camp. And so this summer our boys will be attending Camp Harlam, in the Poconos, in Pennsylvania.

(As good as Harlam is, and as excited as I am about sending our children there... Harlam serves at least three URJ regions—the Pennsylvania region, the New Jersey region, and our Mid-Atlantic Council. There has been a great deal of effort towards the creation of a new camp just for our Mid-Atlantic region. So many people have worked towards that goal—they have worked so hard, and for so many years. Two sites were actually purchased recently. The first failed the environmental test, though, and was returned. The second would have been ideal in many ways—but was purchased on the contingency of raising enough money from our region to pay for it. Through the efforts of many people, the region raised several million dollars... and were several million dollars short of what was needed. That deal fell through. That site, too, was returned. So the region, as it were, holds its breath, and waits for another opportunity in the future. That day will come. In the meantime, we remain part of the Camp Harlam world.)

In rabbinical school I worked on the staff of the national high school leadership camp, URJ Camp Kutz. And in the summer of 2000, I served on the rabbinic faculty of URJ Camp George, in the mountain country north of Toronto, during that camp's inaugural season.

Why are these camps so special? What makes them so important? What is it about them that changes and deepens the lives of most of those who go there?

Almost any Jewish summer camp achieves some of what I write about below. Certainly there are many good things to say about the other Jewish camps in our area: Capital Camps, Louise, and others. And peo-

ple who are already connected to and through those camps have the beginning of a network of friendships that is likely to last a lifetime. So what I have to say about our URJ camps is not necessarily only true about those camps, but it is especially true about them.

We live our lives in a kind of bifurcation that is so much a part of our everyday existence we hardly even notice it. There are our “Jewish” lives, and our “general” lives, “Jewish” time and, for some, “real” time or, “most of the time.” We refer to Religious School or Hebrew School in contrast to “regular” school, as if there is not a real implication to that phrase. We relegate our Jewish lives to the “irregular,” the “unusual,” and that quickly becomes the “secondary,” the “add-on” to the ordinary and ongoing flow of our lives.

At a Jewish summer camp, without fuss or force, the worlds of our lives come together. Being Jewish is an integrated, ordinary, everyday thing. And the impact of that simple change on the lives of our young people is... extraordinary! It is one of those experiences (like describing Israel to someone who has not been there) where words fail, and it is hard to convey the importance of the experience—or the experience of such “importance.”

And with a dozen or more Reform rabbis, cantors or educators filling the “faculty” during every two week slot at our movement camps, the usual experience of climbing and hiking and kayaking and art and theater and the full range of expected camp activities has an added dimension, a greater depth, and a level of Jewish meaning that slips right on in, just as “fun” and “regular” as everything else.

And so, as your rabbi and as a parent, as a person committed to the Jewish future, I plead with our parents and grandparents: please know how important this experience is, for your children and grandchildren. Check out the websites, speak with people who have been there, please seriously consider the gift this will be... for all our children. (Camp Harlam's URL is <http://harlam.urjcamp.org>)

Two more things. First: The Jewish community wants to help kids go to Jewish camps. There are synagogue funds available (and those funds also accept contributions to them, as well as requests to use them), as well as community funds (especially for first-time campers). Please see me, or please see our Director of Education, JoHanna Potts, about how to access these funds.

And finally: please act quickly. Because like so many other options in this area, spaces fill fast.

But do act on this if you can. For the sense of “wholeness,” of “completion,” of “at-home-ness” that most of our kids feel at our URJ Camps... is hard to match, anywhere else.

Rabbi Michael L. Feshbach



FROM RABBI SEROTTA

# A Gift to Myself or “Oy Vey – Not Another Thing to Do ?!!”

Message from Rabbi Gerry Serotta

When non-Jews present themselves before a *Beit Din* to be accepted into the Jewish people, (for “conversion,” which means to me “mutual adoption into the Jewish people,”) there is one question I always ask. According to the Talmud, when someone comes to adopt our way of life we are to make sure that they understand the specific value of Tzedakah (doing justice and charity.) Likewise we are obliged to acquaint them with some of *mitzvos kalot* (the Hebrew means light or easy commandments) and the *mitzvos chamurot* (the stringent or hard commandments.) However, the Talmud does not provide examples to indicate which is which! So I like to ask folks in their own experience what elements of Jewish practice do they find easy to follow and which are difficult for them.

Not surprisingly, since Shabbat is one of the central practices of Judaism (after all, one seventh of our life is Shabbat), Shabbat is mentioned regularly. The amazing thing is that the majority of Jews-by-Choice who mention it say that Shabbat has been “easy” or “joyful” to them. Some naturally report, however, that they have found it challenging to slow down their pace and enjoy a meal with candles, conversation, and reflecting on their blessings, to attend services, or to otherwise make the day special and unique.

I was reminded of this “de novo” consideration of Shabbat on the part of those joining our people, by recent comments reported to me as verbalized during a Family Education program in the Sunday school. One parent reported that our emphasis on Shabbat was troubling and burdensome to her or him. (I have no idea who this was.) I suppose that any of the practices of Judaism which occur at a specific time, especially those which occur regularly may seem to some people at some point in their lives as a burden rather than as a gift.

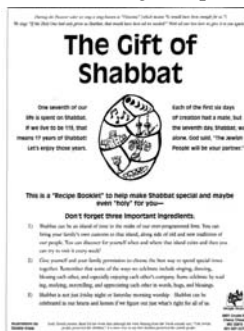
But those who know the approach of our congregation know that we feel strongly that Shabbat ought to be, and we claim is in fact, a gift that we can give ourselves and our families. How can we make this so? Given the lives so many (too many?) of us lead, especially those raising children, where can we find the space to slow down, to give ourselves permission to leave behind the oppressive elements of our overscheduled lives and work so that we learn again how to play, to recreate instead of create, to read and study for pleasure rather than to accomplish some task?

Shabbat means literally to “stop doing,” to fast from work. The related Hebrew word “shevithah” means “strike” in the sense of a labor action. How is it that someone who encounters this concept anew can see it as liberating, as providing a rhythm and pattern to our lives which seem out of control, while others respond to it as “you are making me do something else?”

The very comment itself seems to suggest the need to take control of our lives. One of the ways you can do this is by beginning to find at least one part of Shabbat which can be your special island in time, whether that means one of the meal times from Friday through Saturday nights, or

whether it means joining friends for spiritual and intellectual inspiration (we have multiple options every week including a relaxed and informal Shabbat Worship and Study Service 10 AM all year round.)

When we began experimenting four years ago with a *Shabbat at Home*



evening dinner with other Temple Shalom members, we produced a four page booklet called “*The Gift of Shabbat*.” I encourage you to take another look. If you don’t have your copy, we’d be delighted to send you another. It contains not just the traditional blessings in Hebrew, English, and transliteration, but also “practical spiritual recipes” for non-traditional ways to add the special “soul” that traditionally enters each of us for 24 plus hours every week when the sun sets on Friday evening.

We are going to do it again this year on January 26-27, 2007, with the traditional hosting and “greeting” of every single member of the congregation who wants to participate, singles, children, families of all types. And we will add some new elements on Saturday. Our Shabbat Worship and Study service, which is typically attended by an intimate one or two dozen folks, will expand to include all comers—although still retaining its intimacy, informality, and participatory discussion of the torah reading. A potluck Shabbat lunch will continue the spirit of the morning with singing and noshing and the conclusion of Shabbat will be marked with a joyful havdalah program, not for kids only, including guests who will enlighten and entertain.

But all of these special events of that weekend are only indications of some of the elements which can be a part of your life every week of the year, whether you spend some of that time with us at Temple (which of course we encourage because we love seeing you and being with you!) or you discover other parts of the island, reading, spending quality family time, walking (there’s even a Yiddish word for it, *shpabtziren!*) or just being content.

We still think Shabbat is a gift for you—maybe you haven’t figured out how to unwrap it. If you need help, any one of us at the Temple will be delighted to be there to teach, advise, or encourage. As the early Zionist thinker Achad Ha-Am wrote, it is more accurate to say that Shabbat provides for the Jewish people than that the Jews have provided for or observed the Shabbat. We hope this can be really true in your life as well. When we say Shabbat Shalom we include all meanings of Shalom, not just peace but well-being and completeness. We all need this kind of Shalom in our lives.

  
Rabbi Gerry Serotta

## Summary of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees— Nov. 9, 2006

The meeting opened at 7:30 PM with the D'var Toarah led by Ed Beeman. The minutes were approved as written and the meeting was well attended.

Those who attended the **MAC Biennial** gave an overview of their experiences. The attendees were mostly enthusiastic about the various workshops in which they participated. Rabbi Feshbach received positive feedback on his presentation and kudos were given to Joan Kalin who put a great deal of time into helping during the whole event. Many commented that the services were outstanding, especially the Friday night service hosted by Temple Beth Ami. Rabbi Eric Yoffie, President of the URJ, spoke at this service as well.

All are encouraged to make plans to attend the convention in December 2007 in San Diego with the reminder that members of the congregation are invited to attend as well as the Board members.

**School Report:** JoHanna Potts gave the school report which included the results of the Back to School discussion which was engendered by the handout on the Brit (Partnership) between the school and the parents. Many interesting and complex ideas arose from this discussion. A lively and thoughtful, interesting discussion took place around the Brit between the school and parents. The number of students in the religious school as of this date equals 403 students, which is about what was projected.

**Parlor Meetings:** The upcoming parlor meetings were explained by Andrea Mark. Members of the congregation will host the meetings of about fifteen people each. The point of this endeavor is to ask "What do you want Temple Shalom to be like in the Future?"

**Financial Secretary's Report:** Alan Lewis presented the losses and gains in membership. This is an ongoing yearly tally and there is a natural attrition. The status of current dues collection, mortgage maintenance and prior billings was also given. As far as membership in relationship to the school enrollment, Johanna Potts said that the Wednesday 6:45 PM Hebrew class is a major attraction. Added to this, the ability to switch classes temporarily along with the school's high expectations increases the desire to enroll children in our school.

**Good and Welfare** was held with the reminder of these events: **The Holiday Sale December 3rd.** **Our fund raiser Party will occur on March 3rd.**

## MEET OUR BOARD

### Steve Sacks—URJ Counsel, Ex-Officio Board Member

Steve and Helene Sacks have been members of Temple Shalom for over 25 years. For many years, Steve served as Temple Shalom's Legal Counsel. Helene was the Temple's Executive Director and retired several years ago. Steve is a senior partner at Arnold & Porter in Washington and specializes in litigation. For the last three years he has served as one of the national officers of the Union for Reform Judaism and is the Legal Counsel for both the URJ and the World Union for Progressive Judaism.

From the Financial Secretary

Dear Fellow Congregants,

There are always lots of things going on in our lives in December, not the least of which may be thinking about that this is the last month of the tax year and that there may be benefits to getting caught up on your commitments to Temple Shalom for Membership Dues, Sanctuary Fund or Mortgage Maintenance, Religious School charges and contributions to the many Special Funds that support aspects of the Temple's various programs and needs.

Although December is the end of the secular year, it is only the midpoint in the Temple's fiscal year. That make this a good time to review your December Statement when it arrives to be sure you're caught-up and to consider advanced payments for the other charges that will be coming on the next six months' statements. From the Temple's point of view, your advanced payments for charges that will come due in January through June 2007, give us a cushion to meet the expenses that always arise during the harder, colder weather of the winter months and the April showers that may test the few sections of our aging roof that haven't been replaced in the past year or two. Membership Dues pay the clergy and administrative staff salaries and general operating costs. Sanctuary Fund payments support capital projects, not the least of which will be the desperately needed new folding doors between the Sanctuary and Social Hall. Mortgage Maintenance payments support those costs. Religious School fees pay the salaries for the teachers and administration that support our programs and activities for the more than 400 students who attend.

The various Special Funds, and recent contributions to them, are described elsewhere in this edition of The Shofar. I can't say the funds range from A-to-Z but they do range from A-to-Y: the Adele D. Lewis Memorial Teachers Fund to the Youth Fund. All deserve your consideration.

... and what better way is there to remember departed loved ones than to purchase a Memorial Plaque. The Plaques are mounted on the back wall of the Sanctuary and are moved to a special location near the entrance to the Sanctuary during the week of that loved one's annual Yahrzeit. (On a personal note, I have plaques for my parents who are buried on Long Island, NY. I don't get there often enough so their names in our Sanctuary gives me a nearby, special and sacred place to pause and reflect on their lives and my own. I do it often.)

Returning to the practical: payments, contributions and purchases made before December 31st may have tax advantages for you. They also give us that cushion to get over the final months of the fiscal year.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy 2007,

Alan Lewis

Financial Secretary

TSFSShofarYearEnder

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Marvin & Sally Kranz, 7011 – 31st St., NW, Washington, DC 20015

Rhoda Schulzinger & Rochelle Granat, 705 Hankin St., Silver Spring 20910

**CONDOLENCES**

To Rhoda Friedman on the death of her sister Yeti Blumenthal and to Morton Friedman on the death of his sister in law.

To Karen Schlesinger on the death of her Aunt and God Mother Noreen Carpenter.

To Nicole Burner-Kadish on the death of her Aunt Beatrice Boyer.

**ADULT ED**

The Israel Program Group at Temple Shalom Presents:

**An Evening with Arie**

Our Temple Shalom tour-guide, Arie Mizrahi-Shoham, Straight from Jerusalem will speak on: **Coming Out of the City Walls: The “New” Neighborhoods of 19th Century Jerusalem**



An exploration in picture and word of the movement beyond the confines of the ancient city, with emphasis on the growth of neighborhoods of unique characteristics, including the enclaves of Sephardic Jews, Ashkenazic settlements, and the distinctive development of Charedi (Ultra-Orthodox) communities.

**Tuesday evening, December 12, 2006 7:30-9 PM**  
at Temple Shalom

**8401 Grubb Road, Chevy Chase, MD 20815 301-587-CARE (2273)**

**Free and open to the public**

The evening will also include a chance to chat with Arie about past and future trips to Israel, especially focusing on our upcoming **Temple Shalom July 2008 Congregational Trip to Israel—**

For further information, with any questions or to find out more about the upcoming congregational trip, please contact either Rabbi Michael Feshbach, at rabbifeshbach@templeshalom.net, or 301-587-2273, or Marilyn Goldfarb, at margold@ix.netcom.com, or 301-593-8565.

(A planning and organizational meeting for the July 2008 trip will be announced soon. Watch for further details in an upcoming Shofar, but also call the above numbers to express interest as soon as possible.)

**Heading South?**



**Snow Birds**

**Make Sure We Have Your Winter Address!**

As the weather gets colder, many of our Congregants head south for the winter. It is important that our office receives your winter address as soon as possible, as regulations are such that the US Post Office will NOT automatically forward the SHOFAR and other Temple Shalom mailings. A phone call or a note to the office now will help us help you stay in touch with your Temple Shalom family while you are away.



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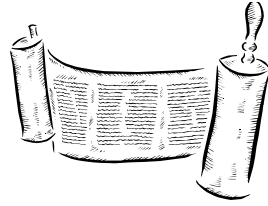
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# RELIGIOUS SCHOOL



## DECEMBER

Friday	1	1st, 2nd, 3rd Grades lead Family Service
Sunday	3	5th grade Family Ed
Fri-Sun	8-10	10th Grade Retreat
Saturday	9	Primary Age Shabbat Service led by K & 1
	9	Shabbat Morning Family Service led by 4th grade
Sunday	10	6th grade Family Ed
Friday	15	Chanukah Dinner and Service
Saturday	16	3rd Grade Havdalah & Chanukah Program
Sunday	17	Chanukah Centers
	17	Chai School Family ED
Sunday	24	NO SCHOOL
Tuesday	26	NO SCHOOL
Wednesday	27	NO SCHOOL
Sunday	31	NO SCHOOL

## Meet Our B'nei Mitzvah

*Rachel Curevich*



### SISTERHOOD

Join us for an **Author's Tea & Book Signing:**

# The Creed Room

**By Dan Spiro**

**Sunday, February 11, 2007**

**6:30-8:30 PM**

**Sponsored by the Temple Brotherhood & Sisterhood**

# December 2006

- 1**  
FRIDAY 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Family Service
- 2**  
SATURDAY 10 AM Shabbat Morning Worship and Study  
10 AM Shabbat Service: Bat Mitzvah of Lyndsay Rini
- 3**  
SUNDAY 7:30 AM Parents Café  
8:45 AM Religious School–Early Session  
9 AM Talmud Study  
11:45 AM Religious School–Late Session  
6:30 PM Post Confirmation Class  
6:30 PM Religious School–Evening Session
- 4**  
MONDAY 7:30 PM Introduction to Judaism Classes–MD/DC Classes
- 5**  
TUESDAY 4:30 PM Hebrew School
- 6**  
WEDNESDAY 4:30 PM Hebrew School–Early Session  
6 PM Confirmation Class–Special Session & Dinner  
6:45 PM Hebrew School–Late Session
- 7**  
THURSDAY 12:15 PM Lunch with the Prophets  
7:15 PM Shir Shalom Choir Practice  
7:30 PM Introduction to Judaism Classes–Northern VA
- 8**  
FRIDAY 5 PM 10th Grade Retreat  
8 PM Erev Shabbat Service with Shir Shalom Choir
- 9**  
SATURDAY 9 AM Primary Age Shabbat Service  
10 AM Shabbat Morning Worship and Study  
10 AM Shabbat Service: Bar Mitzvah of Daniel Norton  
11 AM Torah Study  
11 AM Youth Program
- 10**  
SUNDAY 7:30 AM Parents Café  
8:45 AM Religious School–Early Session  
9 AM Talmud Study  
11:45 AM Religious School–Late Session  
6 PM Renaissance Group Dinner at Tragara (Offsite)  
6:30 PM Chai School Family Education  
6:30 PM No Confirmation Class  
6:30 PM Religious School–Evening Session
- 11**  
MONDAY 7:30 PM Introduction to Judaism Class–MD/DC Classes  
7:30 PM Women’s Torah Study Group
- 12**  
TUESDAY 12:30 PM Kadimah Hadassah Meeting  
4:30 PM Hebrew School
- 13**  
WEDNESDAY 4:30 PM Hebrew School–Early Session  
6:30 PM Brotherhood Meeting  
6:45 PM Hebrew School–Late Session
- 14**  
THURSDAY 12:15 PM Lunch with the Prophets  
7:15 PM Shir Shalom Choir Practice  
7:30 PM Board of Trustees Meeting  
7:30 PM Introduction to Judaism Classes–Northern VA
- 15**  
FRIDAY 6 PM Congregational Shabbat/Chanukah Dinner  
6:45 PM Tot Chanukah Service  
7:30 PM Erev Shabbat/Chanukah Service
- 16**  
SATURDAY 10 AM Shabbat Morning Worship and Study  
10 AM Shabbat Service: B’nai Mitzvah of Alex and Max Rosenberg  
5:30 PM 3rd Grade Havdalah & Chanukah Program
- 17**  
SUNDAY 7:30 AM Parents Café  
8:45 AM Religious School–Early Session  
9 AM Talmud Study  
11:45 AM Religious School–Late Session  
4 PM Rosh Hodesh: “It’s A Girl Thing”  
6:30 PM Post Confirmation Class  
6:30 PM Religious School–Evening Session
- 18**  
MONDAY 7:30 PM Introduction to Judaism Classes–MD/DC Classes
- 19**  
TUESDAY 4:30 PM Hebrew School
- 20**  
WEDNESDAY 4:30 PM Hebrew School–Early Session  
6:45 PM Hebrew School–Late Session  
6:45 PM No Confirmation Class
- 21**  
THURSDAY 12:15 PM Lunch with the Prophets  
7:15 PM Shir Shalom Choir Practice  
7:30 PM Introduction to Judaism Classes–Northern VA

November 22, 2006

22 Kislev, 5767

Dear Fellow Temple Shalom Congregants:

Over the next couple of months, we will be hosting a series of “parlor meetings” – small group discussions about the future of Temple Shalom. What activities and programs are most important to you? What keeps our kids engaged in Jewish learning? What inspires you to be involved in Temple life? How do you see Temple Shalom developing in the next five years, and beyond? We want to hear your

ideas and dreams so we can work together to build a vision for our congregation’s future.

Please choose to attend a meeting that works for your schedule or location. RSVP to the Temple office at 301-587-2273 or [info@templeshalom.net](mailto:info@templeshalom.net) and let us know which meeting you would like to attend. Space is limited so we are asking that you provide a second choice as well.

We have also included a survey document for you to complete. Please take the time to fill it out and return it to the Temple by December 18th. The sur-

vey can also be completed on line by going to [www.templeshalom.net](http://www.templeshalom.net) and clicking on the button marked “Membership Survey.”

We look forward to sharing the results of our survey and findings of our parlor meetings with you in the spring.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 301-493-5833 or [president@templeshalom.net](mailto:president@templeshalom.net). I look forward to seeing you at one of our parlor meetings.

B’Shalom,  
Andrea Mark, President



## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Adult Education	Anne Feinberg
ARZA	Joan Kalin
B'nai Mitzvah	Marney Jacobs
Brotherhood	Myles Levin
Capital Projects	Mark Ross
College Outreach	Mary Jacobs
Communications	Ken Norkin
Finance Committee	Marc Feinberg Kenneth Kramer
Founders	Ed Beeman
Historian/Parliamentarian	Sandy Kamisar
House & Grounds	Mike Gurevich
Leadership	Julie Knoll
Legal Counsel	Ken Pollack
Membership	Allison Druin
Mitzvah Corps	Wilma Braun
Music	Debra Udey
Nominating	Marilyn Ripin
Outreach Committee	TBD
Religious Education	Debbie Kopp Marc Blumenstein
Renaissance Committee	Francine Simons
Sisterhood	Andrea Karp Susan Stamm
Special Funds	Harvey Berger
Tikkun Olam	Caryn Anthony
Worship	Marty Shargel
Youth Committee	Margo Gottesman

**22**  
FRIDAY 6:15 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service  
7 PM Pot Luck Dinner  
8 PM Erev Shabbat Service

**23**  
SATURDAY 10 AM Shabbat Morning Worship and Study  
10 AM Shabbat Service: Bat Mitzvah of Rachel Gurevich

**24**  
SUNDAY 8:45 AM No Religious School

**25**  
MONDAY 8 AM Office Closed in Observance Holiday

**26**  
TUESDAY 4:30 PM No Hebrew School

**27**  
WEDNESDAY 4:30 PM No Hebrew School

**28**  
THURSDAY 7:15 PM Shir Shalom Choir Practice  
7:30 PM Executive Committee Meeting  
7:30 PM Introduction to Judaism-Northern VA


**29**  
FRIDAY 6:15 PM Special Early Kabbalat Shabbat Service  
7 PM Congregational Shabbat Dinner

**30**  
SATURDAY 10 AM Shabbat Morning Worship and Study

**31**  
SUNDAY 8:45 AM No Religious School

DAY	DATE	TIME	PLACE
Tuesday	December 5, 2006	7-9 PM	<b>Home of: Bev and Jordin Cohen 20815</b>
Tuesday	December 12, 2006	7-9 PM	<b>Home of: Elizabeth Becker and Anthony Ruvulo 20910</b>
Sunday	December 17, 2006	2-4 PM	<b>Home of: Virginia Kling and Jonathan Greenbaum 20814</b>
Sunday	January 7, 2007	9-10:15 AM	<b>Temple Shalom Chapel</b>
Tuesday	January 9, 2007	7-9 PM	<b>Home of: Jane Harkaway 20904</b>
Thursday	January 11, 2007	7-9 PM	<b>Home of: Vivian Azar Newell and Jamie Newell 20901</b>

### Snow Policy Reminder



Religious School follows MCPS during the week, in the event of inclement weather. Thus if schools are closed, we are closed. If county schools close early, we are closed. On Sundays, please check the WTOP website after 7:30 AM for closing information. [www.wtop.com](http://www.wtop.com)

# Kol Hakavod to JoHanna Potts

## Honored as the Ammerman Distinguished Alumna

On November 5, 2006 at the Partnership for Jewish Life and Learning Professional Day, our Director of Education was honored as this year's recipient of the Dr. Harvey H. Ammerman Distinguished Alumni Award. This award is given to an alumna or alumnus of the George Washington University Cooperative Graduate program who has established a name in the community as a director of a program or an innovative teacher and whose work has contributed to the growth of Jewish life and learning in the greater Washington Jewish Community. The Cooperative Graduate Program is a joint venture of The George Washington University School of Education and Human Development and the Partnership for Jewish Life and Learning to educate and support professional Jewish educators.

In presenting the award to JoHanna, Rabbi Dr. Jacob Halpern, Dean of the Cooperative Program, cited JoHanna's work here at Temple Shalom and as Director of the Middle School at Geshet and the founding director of the Primary School of Washington Hebrew Congregation saying that she had enriched not only the programs at these schools but also the Jewish life and learning of their teachers, students and parents. He also praised her many contributions to enriching Jewish life in our community pointing out that JoHanna presently serves the Washington community on 5 Boards including Jewish Education for Teens (JET), the UJA camping committee, and Israel Quest as well as having served as chairperson and member of the Greater Washington area Education Director's Council and as the Conference Co-Chair of the last international Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education (CAJE 31) Conference.

*We here at Temple Shalom are daily recipients of her knowledge and caring and can take great pride that the greater community also recognizes the excellence she brings to her work in Jewish learning and living. Mazal tov JoHanna!*

### Temple Shalom Book Discussions 2006–2007

**Sunday January 14**—[Two for the price of one] *The Assistant*, by Bernard Malamud—Malamud's second novel, considered by some to be his best, a classic tale about the hopes and dreams of a Jewish grocer in Brooklyn in the 1950s; and *My Father is a Book*, by Janna Malamud Smith—his daughter's memoir, which offers an intimate look at Malamud's life, drawing on his correspondence and early journals

**Sunday March 11**—*The Attack*, by Yasmina Khadra—a story about a Bedouin Arab struggling to integrate himself into Israeli society, who learns that the terrorist responsible for a suicide bombing is identified by the Israeli police as his wife

**Sunday, May 6**—*Suite Francaise*, by Irene Nemirovski—the first two parts of what was envisioned as a series of five novels, which masterfully describes the German occupation of France, but was cut short when the author (an accomplished and recognized author) was deported to Auschwitz, where she died at the age of 39

**Temple Shalom, 9-10:30 AM (during the early session of religious school)** There is no fee to participate. All are welcome. Bagels and coffee will be served. For more information, contact Heidi Coleman, 301-588-1173

In addition, on Sunday, February 11, from 6:30–8:30 PM, the Sisterhood and Brotherhood will host an Author's Tea with Temple member Dan Spiro at Temple Shalom about his first novel *The Creed Room*.



Happy Reading!!

For the entire season list please go to [www.templeshalom.net](http://www.templeshalom.net)

## Jewish National Fund Alternative Spring Break

### What is it?

Answering the needs of the Jewish homeland, Jewish National Fund (JNF) will send 250 Jewish college students, graduate students and young adults (under the age of 30) to volunteer in northern Israel during their spring break vacations this March to help with JNF's Northern Renewal Campaign.

As a result of this effort, guest houses across the region — now suffering terrible economic losses from the war — will be full, forests cleared and replanted, environmental clean-up provided, bomb shelters refurbished, and parks rebuilt.

This trip will be JNF's second annual *Alternative Spring Break* connecting program participants to the land and the people of Israel by working in projects benefiting communities. Last year, students had the time of their lives while experiencing what the early pioneers of Israel experienced: building the land of Israel.

Participants will spend a full week volunteering. While days will be filled with hard but fulfilling work, nights will be filled with entertainment, music, and fun. The groups will also interact with the people they are helping and hear from environmental experts and scholars to better understand the ramifications of the devastation.

### When is it?

There will be two trips that correspond to most schools' spring breaks. The first is March 8–16, 2007 and the second is March 15–22, 2007.

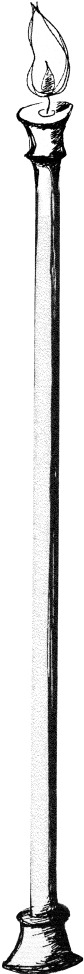
For more information go to:

[www.jnf.org/springbreak](http://www.jnf.org/springbreak)

Save the (Shabbat) Date  
**Friday Night  
and Saturday**

**January 26-27, 2007**

Watch Flyers and Website for  
Details



## Shabbat at Home

Our Fourth Annual  
Friday Night  
Dinner in homes  
with Friends (Old and New)  
*Be a Host or a Guest!*  
Watch for Letter of Invitation  
and Flyers

**Shabbat Morning  
Community Worship Service  
for the Whole Congregation**  
10 AM—Informal Attire

In the mode of our all year round  
Shabbat Worship and Study Service  
Pot Luck Shabbat Lunch and  
Singing following Services and Study

**Havdalah—  
Not for Kids Only:**

Special entertainment:  
5 PM with Snacks

### Talmud Study for Beginners

All Comers Welcome—  
No Experience Necessary

Meets Sunday 9 AM to 10:30 AM  
(when Sunday School is in Session)

We continue our exploration of this fascinating but complex text (from Tractate Sanhedrin) which deals with how the Torah became a living system of justice and how the Rabbis created and developed Judaism after the destruction of the Jerusalem Temple. Issues in this text include capital punishment and the relative merits of arbitration vs. strict justice in a court, but the Talmud digresses regularly into every important religious issue including views of the nature of God.

*Taught by Rabbi Feshbach and Serotta*

TEMPLE SHALOM  
Institute for Life-Long Learning Presents

## ADULT EDUCATION: Wednesday Mornings at Leisure World

November/December:

### Israel at Crossroads

Nov 22: Israel: Who Needs It?

Nov 29: How We Got Here: A History of Zionism

December 6: How the Israeli Political System Works

December 13: Where Are We? The Current "Situation"

December 20: Where Are We Going? Visions of the Future

**Wednesdays, 10:30 AM–12 Noon**

**Taught by Rabbi Michael Feshbach and Rabbi Gerry Serotta**

**For more information contact Bernie Kahn, 301-598-8222.**

January

### As the Torah Turns/Why Read the Bible?

January 3: As it Happened: Biblical History

January 10: The Parting of the Ways: Judaism and Christianity

January 17: You Were There: The Bible As it Has Been Used I (Introduction to Midrash)

January 24: You Were There: The Bible as it Has Been Used II (Introduction to Medieval Biblical Commentary)

January 31: Standing At Sinai: The Torah as a Source of Law and (or: Why I am A Spiritual Jew).

**Wednesdays, 10:30 AM–12 Noon**

**Taught by Rabbi Michael Feshbach and Rabbi Gerry Serotta**

**For more information contact Bernie Kahn, 301-598-8222.**

May

### Visions of the Beyond

May 2: Jewish Messianism (or: How the Most Important Idea in the World Might Have Been an Accident)

May 9: Visions of the End of the World: Development of the Apocalyptic Idea in Early Post-Biblical Judaism, and its influence on Rabbinic Judaism and Christianity

May 16: Jewish Mysticism: Beyond Madonna and Red Strings

May 23: Tales of the Supernatural: Jewish Dybukks and Demons and Folklore from the Beyond

May 30: Here and Hereafter: The Kaddish and the Grateful Dead (Jewish Views on Life After Death)

**Wednesdays, 10:30 AM–12 Noon**

**Taught by Rabbi Michael Feshbach and Rabbi Gerry Serotta**

**For more information contact Bernie Kahn, 301-598-8222.**

**Open to Temple Shalom members who are not residents of  
Leisure World by special arrangement—**

**please call Debbie Kopp in Rabbi Feshbach's office at  
301-587-2273**

**as soon as possible for more information**

Temple Shalom  
Renaissance Group  
Join us for dinner and a movie at  
Temple Shalom

**Shalom Y'all**  
**Sunday, January 21, 2007**  
5 PM

Traveling in a vintage Cadillac, Filmmaker Brian Bain, a third generation Jew from New Orleans, sets out on a 4,200-mile road trip through the American South. Traveling through the Delta flatlands, small towns in Mississippi, Texas ranches, and sprawling Sunbelt metropolises, he uncovers the unique and diverse history of Southern Jews and discovers a vibrant regional culture and hundreds of years of rich history. A Southern-style buffet dinner will be served immediately following the film.

To reserve, send a check no later than January 15th for \$20 per person, payable to Temple Shalom, to:

Francine Simons • 311 Farragut Avenue • Rockville, MD 20851  
301-838-9530 • Email: francine311@comcast.net

**Aloha Tasty Kids!**

*You are cordially invited to our Hana-luau!*



Maccabees meet Macadamias as we celebrate Hanukkah with a Hawaiian flair!  
Come do the Latke Limbo and eat Latkes with Pineapple Sauce!

It'll be a "Hula-ta" fun for everyone!

Who: **4th and 5th Graders**

When: **Saturday, December 9th**  
**11 AM-12:15 PM** (following Shabbat Morning Family Services)

Where: Temple Shalom

Cost: \$10 for those who have paid the "Youth Activities Fee" on their Temple Shalom Dues statement; \$14 for all other 4th and 5th graders

There will be a prize for the best Hawaiian outfit!  
**Questions? Call Joyce at 301-523-2327**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Aloha Tasty Kids – December 9th**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Please make all checks payable to Temple Shalom) Send to: Temple Shalom 8401 Grubb Rd. Chevy Chase, MD 20815 ATTN: Bookkeeper/TASTY Kids (R.S.V.P. by December 6)

**Aloha Tasty Tots!**

*You are cordially invited to our Hana-luau!*



Maccabees meet Macadamias as we celebrate Hanukkah with a Hawaiian flair!  
Come do the Latke Limbo and eat Latkes with Pineapple Sauce!

It'll be a "Hula-ta" fun for everyone!

Who: **K-3rd Graders**

When: **Saturday, December 9th**  
**9:45-11:00 AM** (following Shabbat Morning Family Services)

Where: Temple Shalom

Cost: \$10 for those who have paid the "Youth Activities Fee" on their Temple Shalom Dues statement; \$14 for all other 4th and 5th graders

There will be a prize for the best Hawaiian outfit!  
**Questions? Call Joyce at 301-523-2327**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Aloha Tasty Tots – December 9th**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (Please make all checks payable to Temple Shalom) Send to: Temple Shalom 8401 Grubb Rd. Chevy Chase, MD 20815 ATTN: Bookkeeper/TASTY Tots (R.S.V.P. by December 6)

## Contributions

**Judy and Gerry Kaplan:** In memory of Doris Kaplan

**Judy Patt:** In memory of Louis Goldberg

**Letty and Jerry Nelson & Family:** In memory of Irving Katz  
**Margaret London:** In memory of Allan London

**Meg and Hal Bruno:** In memory of Harold R. Bruno, Sr.

**Mr. and Mrs. Robert Singer:** In memory of Thelma Matican

**Mrs. Sylvia Lipps (daughter):** In memory of Abraham Gold

**Myra and Ben Posin:** In memory of Anne Blumberg Platshon

**Natalie and Arthur Goldberg & Family:** In memory of Herman Joel Nadel

**Pauline and Al Robinson:** In memory of Lillian Robinson

**Peter and Yvonne Wagner:** In memory of Lucie Bertha Kallmann  
In memory of Siegfried Schlawanski

**Richard Weitzner:** In memory of Louis Weitzner

**Rita and Ed Zucker:** In memory of Irving Kamenker

**Scott and Judith Horne:** In memory of Jeffrey Horne

**Sharon and Lawrence Rothman:** In memory of Gertrude Rothman  
**Stuart and Jeannette Gordon & Family:** In memory of Felicita Sierra

**The Braun Family:** In memory of Jack Braun

**Therese, Carolyn, Babette, Joanne and Joseph Salus:** In memory of Doris R. Salus

### Join the

### Israel Mitzvah Corp:

**Feb. 17-March 2, 2007**

*Want to help Israel recover from its recent war? You can help rebuild the country by joining the Israel Mitzvah Corps, which will include hands-on social action work repairing apartments and restoring hope. The trip will include touring to Petra.*

For information, contact  
Rabbi Joel Soffin, Temple Shalom  
in Succasunna, NJ,  
who will be leading the trip, at  
[Soffin@tshalom.org](mailto:Soffin@tshalom.org).

Join the Renaissance Group at  
**Theatre J (DC JCC)**  
16th and Q Streets

## Sleeping Arrangements

By Laura Shayne Cunningham

This new comedy, featuring Halo Wines and Paul Morella, is an imaginative and eloquent coming-of-age saga of family rejuvenation.

**Sunday, February 18, 2007**

**3 PM**

**To order your tickets, send a check, payable to Temple Shalom,  
for \$37 per ticket by January 29th, to:**

**Helen Crystal**

**10813 Bucknell Drive, Wheaton, MD 20902**

**301-649-4048**

**Email: [Hacrystal510@aol.com](mailto:Hacrystal510@aol.com)**

Dinner after the show is being arranged at a nearby restaurant for those who are interested.  
Information, including cost and location, will be available shortly

## RENAISSANCE

Please join the Renaissance Group for its Annual Movie and dinner night on **Sunday, January 21, 2007** at 5 PM. The film being screened this year is *Shalom Y'All*, a documentary that highlights the unique and diverse history of Southern Jews. A buffet dinner will follow. Details about this activity appear elsewhere in this edition of the Shofar.

On February 18, 2007, the Renaissance Group will go to Theatre J at the Jewish Community Center in DC to see *Sleeping Arrangements*, a comedy by Laura Shayne Cunningham and featuring Halo Wines and Paul Morella. Further information regarding this event is also included elsewhere in this edition of the Shofar. In March, we have arranged for tickets to a BSO Pops concert at Strathmore Hall, and in April we will visit the Jewish Chapel at the Naval Academy at Annapolis. Please check your email, the Shofar, and temple flyer mailings for more information about these events. As a further reminder, please remember to send all checks and reservation requests for Renaissance Group events to the person listed as the contact. If you have a question about who to contact, call me at 301-838-9530.

For further information about the Renaissance Group, contact me at [francine311@comcast.net](mailto:francine311@comcast.net), 301-838-9530. Also, please let us 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 Francine.

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



# Temple Shalom

[www.templeshalom.net](http://www.templeshalom.net)

Phone: 301-587-2273 • Fax: 301-588-9368

Temple Shalom 8401 Grubb Road • Chevy Chase, MD 20815

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### Clergy & Staff

- Senior Rabbi Michael L. Feshbach
- Associate Rabbi Gerald Serotta
- Cantor Dr. Ramón Tasat
- Rabbi Emeritus Bruce Kahn
- Cantor Emeritus Saul Rogolsky
- Susan Zemsky, Executive Director
- JoHanna Potts, Director of Education

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- Andrea Mark, President
- Betsy Kingery, Executive Vice President
- Mark Ross, Vice President
- Maurice Axelrad, Vice President
- Kenneth Kramer, Vice President
- Linda Gurevich, Vice President
- Linda Harrison, Secretary
- Scott Schreiber, Treasurer
- Alan Lewis, Financial Secretary
- Marilyn Ripin, Past President

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### Voting Auxiliary Members

- Marilyn Ripin, Past President; Myles Levin, Brotherhood; Micah Harrison, TaSTY President, Andrea Karp, Sisterhood

### Voting Auxiliary Members Ex Officio (Non-Voting)

- Rabbi Michael Feshbach; JoHanna Potts, Director of Education; Susan Zemsky, Executive Director; Sandy Kamisar; URJ Executive Board Member; Stephen Sacks, URJ Counsel; Ed Beeman, Founder's Rep; Ken Pollack, Temple Counsel

Contributions are welcome to all Temple Shalom Special Purpose Funds; indeed, your donations are what make the activities supported by each fund possible. Ten dollars is the minimum contribution for each fund (\$36 for the Prayerbook Fund because that buys a prayerbook with your inscription on a bookplate). Please send your contribution to the Temple Office, with a notation of whom the donation honors or memorializes, and it will appear in the Shofar. The recipient will also receive a letter telling of your donation. This is a terrific way of telling people that you care.

- Rabbi Feshbach's Mitzvah Fund
- Rabbi Serotta's Mitzvah Fund
- Cantor Tasat's Mitzvah Fund
- Rabbi Kahn's Mitzvah Fund
- Rabbi Bruce E. Kahn Endowment Fund
- Oscar Felker Fund
- David Mark Gildenhorn Fund
- Burton Hoffman Memorial Fund
- Levinsohn-Feinberg Camp Fund
- Adele D. Lewis Memorial Teachers Fund
- Library Fund
- Sigmund Mayer, Jr. Prayer Book Fund
- Memorial Plaque
- Mitzvah Corps Fund
- Music Fund
- Stanley Nehmer Special Events Fund
- Eli Newberger Speakers Fund
- David Rifkind Flower Fund
- Herman Rosenfeld Fund
- Sanctuary Fund
- Shalom L'Olam Campaign
- Tanakh Donation
- Tree of Life
- Youth Fund
- Jahrzeits

Occasion \_\_\_\_\_ Please inform: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

From \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_