

Our Temple



THE MONTHLY BULLETIN FOR TEMPLE EMANU-EL

www.ourtemple.org

Celebrating 125 years of Reform Judaism!

205/933-8037

Birmingham, Alabama

April 2008, Adar II/Nisan 5768

Temple Emanu-El Second Night Passover Seder



Sunday, April 20

6:00-9:00p.m.

*Abroms Hall in the
Collat Congregational Center*

*Led by Rabbi
Jonathan Miller*

*\$20 per person
children 12 and under: \$10
(childcare provided for a
portion of the seder)*

*Please bring a bottle
of wine or grape juice
and a vegetable or
other side dish.*

RSVP deadline is Monday, April 14.

*Please RSVP to Dina Glass at 933-8037, ext. 244
or dglass@ourtemple.org.*

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OUR SERVICES

APRIL SHABBAT SERVICES

FRIDAY, 4/4

5:45p.m. - Sanctuary

Contemporary Shabbat Service

(children welcome, no childcare provided)

SATURDAY, 4/5

10:30a.m. - Hess Chapel

Shabbat Service

(children welcome, no childcare provided)

Torah Portion:

Tazria / Hachodesh

FRIDAY, 4/11

5:45p.m. - Hess Chapel

"Channah Montana"

Family Shabbat Service

(children welcome, no childcare provided)

5:45p.m. - Sanctuary

UPB Shabbat Service

Following Services

Dinner sponsored by Sisterhood

SATURDAY, 4/12

9:30a.m. - Hess Chapel / Weil Hall

Tot Shabbat - Jews Clues

10:30a.m. - Sanctuary

Shabbat Service

(children welcome, no childcare provided)

Torah Portion:

M'tzarah

Please note: Beginning **April 5**, our Saturday morning Shabbat services will begin at **10:30a.m.**

FRIDAY, 4/18

5:45p.m. - Sanctuary

Shabbat Service

(childcare provided)

SATURDAY, 4/19

10:30a.m. - Hess Chapel

Shabbat Service

(children welcome, no childcare provided)

Torah Portion:

Acharei Mot/Hagadol

SUNDAY, 4/20

10:30a.m. - Sanctuary

Passover Day Service

(children welcome, no childcare provided)

6:00p.m. - Abroms Hall

Second Night Passover Seder

(childcare provided for a portion of the Seder)

FRIDAY, 4/25

5:45p.m. - Sanctuary

Shabbat Service --

High School Senior Shabbat

(Chorale Performs)

(childcare provided)

SATURDAY, 4/26

10:30a.m. - Hess Chapel

Shabbat & Passover

Yizkor Service

(children welcome, no childcare provided)

Torah Portion:

Pesach, Day 7

Social Action Committee Shabbat was inspirational; thanks to all who helped

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world."

--Anne Frank

On February 8, we held our second annual Social Action Shabbat. It was very inspirational to meet and talk with so many people for whom Tikkun Olam is indeed a way of life. **Dr. Stefan Kertesz** delivered a moving sermon about our responsibilities as Jews to become angry on behalf of people in need and to use our anger as an impetus to help others. Our dinner speaker, **Rabbi Howard Gorin**, shared with us his work with fledgling African Jewish communities. Fifteen community organizations participated in the fair, and a number of our

congregants commented on their desire to participate in the work of these groups. Please call and volunteer your time to local organizations, and please include your children in these activities. For information about volunteer opportunities, email Linda Cohn at lindacohn@bellsouth.net.

Our Shabbat dinner, coordinated by **Julie Levinson-Gabis**, was delicious, and the wine tasting was enjoyed by everyone. We also recognize and appreciate all the work of our Temple staff. Thank you to the following people who made kugel, baked desserts and helped organize our Social Action Shabbat: *Julie Marcus, April Robertson-Thompson, Olivia Kalin, Wendy Martin, Mandy Solomon, Sharon Bromberg, Linda Cohn, Julie Levinson-Gabis, Susan Swartz, Liz Slive, Barbara Evans, Ginger Held, Kaydee Erdreich-Bremen, Sissy Toronto, Ann Goldstein, Neil Roth, Kim Roth and George Thompson.*

Thanks to the following Tzedakah organizations that participated in the Social Action Fair:

Birmingham Hospitality Network

Collat Jewish Family Services

The Community Kitchens

Greater Birmingham Ministries

Mental Health Association of Central AL

Peace Birmingham

Ronald McDonald House Charities

RUSH and First Teachers @ Home

Bridge Ministries

Caring Committee of TEE

Crisis Center

Magic City Harvest

Pathways

The Table

World of Opportunity

Join us
for...



"Channah Montana" Family Shabbat
Friday, April 11, 5:45p.m.
Hess Chapel



Message from Rabbi Miller:

My Friends,

Over the past months, I have written about the importance of connection in these bulletin articles. We have wonderful ways to bring our Jewish life into connection with our friends, family and people during April.

Temple Emanu-El's Food Fair on April 6-7 will give us a fantastic opportunity to bring some Jewish culture to our friends and neighbors. We will be welcoming hundreds of people to Temple Emanu-El to experience our hospitality and good cooking, and to tour our building. I cannot offer enough thanks to Alison Berman and Marilyn Tanner, the dynamic duo who has shepherded this project along to its wonderful conclusion. Besides the needed funds that we anticipate will assist our budget, we will provide an opportunity for hundreds of Temple members to engage with each other in this delightful project. People will cook with each other, direct traffic, prepare foods and clean up after our guests. What will be most enduring are the friendships that will be made in service to our Temple community!

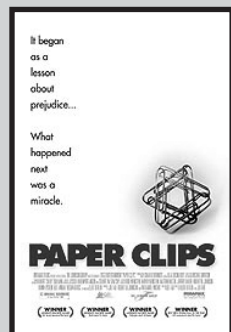
And then, a few weeks later, we will sit down at our Pesach Seder to connect with family and friends. Sitting down at the Seder table, we celebrate not only our present connections with those we love, but connections to past generations of Seder-goers and planners and cooks who told the story of our liberating exodus from Egypt and our arrival at the foot of the land of Israel. We feel connected to all the generations that have come before us, and we prepare the way for the generations to come after us. During this week of Pesach (Passover begins on Saturday night, April 19 and ends the following Sunday evening, April 27!), we should expect from ourselves to keep Passover to offer our thanks to God for our freedom and to the generations who have come before us for providing us with such a beautiful and holy day. (Please join us for our second-night Seder, Sunday, April 20). Keep connected, and keep coming to Temple.

L'Shalom,

Rabbi Jonathan Miller

2007-08 FIRST SUNDAYS FILM SERIES CONCLUDES IN MAY

Film will begin at 9:45a.m. in Abroms Hall in the Collat Congregational Center and will be followed by a discussion led by Rabbi Scott Hausman-Weiss. This Film Series is made possible by the generosity through the Shofar Initiative Gift of Michael and Amy Saag.



May 4: Paper Clips. When the students of Tennessee's Whitwell Middle School began studying the Holocaust to learn about intolerance and diversity, nobody could have predicted the results. In 2001, the Paper Clip Project culminated in a unique memorial that changed the lives of those who created it and touched Holocaust survivors and countless communities.

Walking down a street in New York the most wonderful smells are wafting your way.

Fresh corned beef. Scrumptious noodle pudding. Delicious beef brisket.

A real kosher dog. And what's that? . . . matzoh ball soup!

But it's not New York - it's right here in Birmingham!

It's here! **Let's Eat!**

**Temple Emanu-El
2008 Food Fair**

**Sunday
April 6th
10:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.
Temple Emanu-El**

- o Corned Beef
- o Matzoh Ball Soup
- o Beef Brisket
- o Fresh-Baked Desserts and much more!

Introducing our new Early Childhood Director; many thanks to Stephanie for her service!!

We are very pleased to announce that Temple Emanu-El has hired **Cathy Moore** as our new Director of Early Childhood Programs to replace Stephanie Sklar. Stephanie has done a terrific job, and we are grateful to her for her three years of service to our children and their families.

Cathy will direct our Temple Tots program and oversee all other programs and activities that serve our families with young children. Cathy comes to us with a tremendous amount of professional teaching experience, having taught primary school for 25 years in the Leeds and Birmingham city school systems. She has a degree in early childhood education and has received glowing recommendations from her peers and

employers. Cathy and her entire family, (her husband Joseph, and daughters Sarah and Allison as well as her beloved parents and grandparents), have been active members of our synagogue for years.

We are looking forward to Cathy's expertise and direction. Cathy, we are so happy to have you join our Temple Emanu-El staff family!

Thank you, Stephanie!

S is for super, because even dressing up as Superwoman isn't too much for her to take.
T is for terrific, because her sharing and caring for others just takes the cake.
E is for energetic, because there is no end to her steam.
P is for possible, because there is no end to what she will dream.
H is for humorous, because of her willingness to laugh at herself with grace.
A is for admired, because our teachers and parents see her kindness all over her face.
N is for near and dear, for that is how all of us here feel about you.
I is for incredible, for that is how much we will miss you too.
E is for exit, but as graceful as it may be,

Stephanie you have been a gift to Temple Tots
and to our hearts you will always have a key.

Temple Emanu-El's Tot Shabbat presents "Jew's Clues"

Saturday, April 12

9:30a.m. - 12:00p.m. in Weil Hall & Hess Chapel

We invite our regulars as well as all grandparents and grandparent wanna-bes to join us!!

Includes:

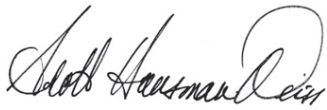
- ☆ Bagel Nosh
- ☆ Tot Shabbat Service
- ☆ Jew's Clues Scavenger Hunt

*RSVP by Tuesday, April 8 to Dina Glass at
dglass@ourtemple.org or 933-8037, ext. 244.*

From the Desk of Rabbi Scott

- P** is for parents, without whom our children don't learn.
- A** is for apples, the key to charoset, for which we all yearn.
- S** is for the sweetness that Passover brings.
- S** is for songs of God's delivery from slavery on eagle's wings.
- O** is for old recipes, old rituals, old songs and old traditions that still speak to us today with ever new renditions.
- V** is for very meaningful, which is this upcoming holiday.
- E** is for educational -- your kids' lessons, art projects and crafts are on their way, and
- R** is for Redemption, which is what the Israelites and we must feel.

...as Passover comes 'round again – the memories, the songs, the family and the meal!



Rabbi Scott Hausman-Weiss



P.E.A.C.E. Birmingham Open House

P.E.A.C.E. = People Engaged in A Cultural Exchange

Sponsored by Temple Emanu-El and the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute

Sunday, April 13, 3:00–5:00p.m.
FOOD – FUN – ENTERTAINMENT

Join this year's young people to experience "a taste" of the religions and cultures of PEACE Birmingham.

Group members above this year include: **Christians, Buddhists, Muslims, Jews, Hindus, Agnostics and Atheists.**

Family cultures include: **Chinese, Mexican, Indian, Pakistani, Lebanese and Vietnamese.**

We extend a **special invitation** to parents and young people who will be in the 10th or 11th grades in 2008-09. For more info, contact Lois Cohen at mslois@aol.com or Linda Verin at lindav0327@charter.net.

PEACE Birmingham is a group of teens from different cultures and faiths that meet once a month. Its goal is to create doors through which we can enter each other's communities to nurture and sustain a Birmingham that values and welcomes people of different races, religions and cultural backgrounds. Lois Cohen is the director.

Mark your calendars!

<p>April 2</p> <p>Hebrew School 3:30-5:30p.m.</p> <p>TEENS 5:45-7:30p.m. (Sacred Choices)</p>	<p>April 6</p> <p>Religious School 9:30a.m.-12:00p.m.</p> <p>1st Grade Art Projects</p>	<p>April 9</p> <p>Hebrew School 3:30-5:30p.m.</p> <p>TEENS 5:45-7:30p.m. (Hands On)</p>	<p>April 11</p> <p>amily Shabbat "Channah Montana" 5:45p.m.</p>	<p>April 13</p> <p>Religious School Chocolate Seder 9:30a.m.-12:00p.m.</p> <p>PEACE B'ham 3:00p.m.</p>
<p>April 16</p> <p>Hebrew School 3:30-5:30p.m.</p> <p>TEENS Chocolate Seder 5:45-7:30p.m.</p>	<p>April 18</p> <p>Tot Shabbat 5:45p.m.</p> <hr/> <p>April 20</p> <p>NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL</p>	<p>April 23</p> <p>NO HEBREW SCHOOL NO TEENS</p>	<p>April 27</p> <p>6th Grade Bnei Mitzvah Class</p>	<p>April 30</p> <p>Hebrew School 3:30-5:30p.m.</p> <p>TEENS 5:45-7:30p.m. (Hands On)</p>

OUR MEMBERS

“Proud to be Jewish”: Confirmation class visits Czech Republic

Rabbi Miller and Judi Schulman-Miller led a trip to Prague, Czech Republic for 21 members of the 2007 and 2008 Confirmation classes from February 13 to February 18, 2008. Participating students included Chase Bloomston, David Ekstra, David Elmets, Harry Frank, Anya Glandon, Molly Glandon, Jay Humphries, Alexis Marcus, Lauren Marks, Benjamin Miller, Michael Nathan, David Pizitz, Elizabeth Roseman, Jenny Saag, Jacob Siegel, Tori Siegel, Sophia Sonich, Alexander Thompson, Alec Weil, Lindsey Weiner and Kevin Wiatrak. Many thanks to Judy Borisky of Brownell Travel, who meticulously planned the trip and kept up with a large group of 15- to 17- year olds, despite recent knee surgery! Thanks also to chaperones Irene Ekstra, Roberta Shapiro and Gerry Glandon, Brad Siegel and Debbie Wiatrak.



Despite subfreezing temperatures, everyone enjoyed the trip and returned with a deepened appreciation of the rich historical and Judaic roots of the Czech Republic. Rabbi Miller's Shabbat sermon on the Ner Tamid, the eternal light, illustrated the strength and resilience of the Jewish and Czech people. One student remarked, "Before this experience, I

was happy to be Jewish. This trip has made me proud to be Jewish." Temple Emanu-El is proud of its young people who put forth the time and energy to go abroad to explore their Jewish heritage. *Special thanks to the Figtree Tree Fund for helping to make this Confirmation trip possible.*

Highlights of the trip included the Prague Castle, the Jewish Quarter with its many beautiful synagogues and the Jewish cemetery from the 15th Century, the Old Town of Prague, the Charles Bridge and an emotional visit to the Thereisenstadt concentration camp. Participants also attended the Prague Opera and the Image Blacklight Theater.



A fascinating perspective of recent history was provided by Jiri Pehe, a dissident under the Communist regime and later a member of Vaclav Havel's cabinet after the 1989 Czech

Revolution. The group attended Shabbat services at Beit Simcha, the Reform congregation in Prague, where Rabbi Miller delivered a sermon that was translated line-by-line by a congregant. They were fortunate to learn about Thereisenstadt from Elishka, a guide who was imprisoned in the concentration camp as a child. The group held a memorial service in the Hidden Synagogue of the Thereisenstadt concentration camp.

Each month, Temple Emanu-El chooses a specific cause for our Tzedakah Box. Our April charity is THE TABLE

The Table is a grassroots effort to provide food — and hope — to hungry and homeless people in the Birmingham area. Every Saturday and Sunday volunteers prepare food in their homes and bring it to a homeless shelter where it is served with love to men and women who are in need. The volunteers bring the food to the table and serve the guests as they would in their own home.



The motto of The Table is "always room for one more." We want each meal to feel like a family dinner where everyone is welcome.

The Table is not an organization in the traditional sense. There are no officers, no by-laws and no meetings. It is a movement, a spirit that provides love and hope to those in our community who need it the most.

Everyone is encouraged to participate. We especially hope younger people will be a part of The Table. It is a great opportunity for youth groups to be part of something special.

If you need more information, please contact Chris Retan at Chris_Retan@yahoo.com.

Our Sisterhood makes plans for a busy spring!

*Lots of exciting activities are planned for the spring!
Join us for fun and friendship!!*

SISTERHOOD DINNER

Sisterhood is sponsoring a special dinner on **Friday, April 11**, immediately following services. Please join us for a delicious meal and the wonderful companionship of our Temple members. It's the perfect way to start Shabbat, noshing and kibitzing in a relaxed social atmosphere with friends both old and new! We will have a slide show of gardens/flowers that are in our own members' homes and gardens around the world.

We'd love to have your photos included! Please contact Kim Roth at 733-1723 or kimroth@charter.net to have your blooms in our show!

Children will be served separately and will enjoy their own supervised activities. The cost is \$13.00 for adults, \$6.00 for children. Please RSVP to Dina Glass at 933-8037, ext. 244 or dglass@ourtemple.org by Tuesday, April 8.

SISTERHOOD BOARD MEETING...LET'S DO LUNCH!

Our April Board Meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, April 24**, at 11:30a.m. at Temple. Pack your favorite lunch and join us as we make plans for Sisterhood. Bring your ideas, talents and smiling faces, and let your voices be heard! We can't wait to see you!

PLANNING NEXT YEAR'S ACTIVITIES!

Come and join women from the congregation to brainstorm ideas and put together a calendar of fun, interesting, educational, motivating and inspirational activities to make the coming year a very special one.

On **Sunday, June 22** at 9:30a.m in the Jasper Room of the Collat Congregational Center, we will begin by noshing (surprise!) and getting reacquainted. Next, it will be on to brainstorming ideas and picking dates for activities. Lunch will be served.

Please contact Kim Roth at 733-1723 or kimroth@charter.net for more information or to RSVP.

SCRAPBOOKING!!

Have you ever tried it? Ever wanted to? Do you have pictures you'd like to display?

Now is your chance! Sisterhood is sponsoring a "Crop" where you can join Temple members of all ages to learn how to begin or just continue with your existing projects.

We will have people there who can help you get started, give you ideas or just give you a space to work and schmooze with others while you create your beautiful books.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Dina Glass at 933-8037 ext. 244 or dglass@temple.org.



Bulb Packets are on the way!

Order your bulbs now...and share with your friends...they can order too!!

As you look at all those beautiful blooms around the neighborhood, remember that you can also have them.

Just choose from our large selection of gorgeous, spring-flowering bulbs and send in your order to the Sisterhood Bulb Shop.

Everyone knows we have the biggest, best and most beautiful bulbs ordered directly from Holland, shipped in the fall and guaranteed to bloom in the spring.



It is not too late to join the Bulb Shop Team! We are looking for women (or men) to sell our bulbs to friends, co-workers, neighbors and family. Our supplier sends gifts of free bulbs to our top 10 salespeople! Contact Loretta Newfield at 933-8037 for more info about becoming a salesperson or with questions about ordering. May all your blooms be beautiful!

Wine Tasting...

Does this sound like something you'd enjoy?



Brotherhood & Sisterhood are planning a joint event in May. Watch for more information!!

Attention: Parents of College Undergraduates:

PRECIOUS LEGACY PACKAGES

If your student isn't on our list, sign them up now!

Sisterhood will be sending undergraduate students who reside outside the Birmingham area a special Passover gift through our PRECIOUS LEGACY program. If you did not register your student for the Chanukah 2007 package, we can still send a Passover gift. Simply e-mail Kim Roth at kimroth@charter.net your student's name, address, school and grade by APRIL 10. If your student DID receive a Chanukah gift from Sisterhood in December, 2007, they are still on the PRECIOUS LEGACY mailing list and will receive a Passover gift. You do not have to re-register them, unless their address has changed.

There are many ways you can help with this rewarding project: you can contribute items to be sent to students, you can help us stuff the gift bags or you can assist with the mailing process. Please contact Wendy Martin at 592-9531 or wmartin343@netscape.com to volunteer. Thank you!!

OUR MEMBERS

Mazel Tov to...

Evelyn Allen, who has become a great-grandmother for the second time. Ellie Tracy Halpern was born on January 23rd. Parents are Maurine and Jacob Halpern, and big sister is 5-year-old Hannah.

Jon Solomon for receiving *The Birmingham News* Editor's Award for deadline reporting.

The new Mesch AZA Board Member Installation. Honorees are **Alec Weil** (President), **Kevin Wiatrak** (Vice President), **Jay Humphries** and **David Pizitz** (AIT Dads), **Daniel Barstein** (Treasurer), Ellis Berstein (Secretary of Correspondence), Philip Siegel (Secretary of Recording) and Ben Flax (Judaic Chairman and Community Service/Social Action Chairman).

Seth and Tracy Diamond on the birth of their son Zachary Leo Diamond on January 31. Big sisters are **Hannah** and **Ilyse Weiner**.

Igor and Mila Kishinevsky on their daughter, Elina Kishinevsky, graduating from George Washington University and receiving a Master's of Science in Health Sciences degree. Her major was Clinical Research Administration. She also received a promotion and title of Director of Clinical Trial Operations.

Janice and Sandy Weinstein on the birth of their granddaughter Rachel Elizabeth Weinstein on January 18. Parents are Jeffrey & Marie Weinstein, and big sister is Hannah Weinstein. Great grandparents are **Harriett Broda** and **Dot Dubowsky**.

Edward and Sharon Bromberg on the engagement of their son **Ben** to Christen Ponder of Auburn. The wedding will be in Auburn on October 3.

Sherron and Allan Goldstein on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Evan Mulling, in Los Angeles, CA on March 8. Parents are Stefanie & Scott Hirsch.

Judy and Hal Abroms on the marriage of their granddaughter Alyza L. Berman to Justin J. Milrad on February 16 at Temple Sinai in Atlanta. Alyza's parents are Candy and Stephen Berman.

Jeff and Elissa Mazer on the birth of their son Mitchell Henry Mazer on Thursday, February 21. Grandparents are Dr. Richard and Susan Baum and Terry and Marla Mazer.

Fran Godchaux on receiving 2008 Women of Distinction Award from the Girl Scouts.

Honorable Menschens...

Loretta Newfield, Lori Weil, Bob Marcus, Lynne Cohen, Fred Kanter, Carlotta Dorn, Joan Becker, Milton Datnoff, Ilene Rosenfeld-Johnson, Ina Russakoff, Carol Gross, Sherron Goldstein, Marilyn Tanner, Sharon Cutter, Faye Levin, Kim Roth, Mackie Horowitz, Lynne Cohen, Barbara Capper, Stuart Capper, Alison Berman, David Reese, April Robertson-Thompson, Sherron Goldstein, Irvin Siegal, Jon Solomon, Howard Schultz and all the Food Fair volunteers.

Birmingham Hospitality Network would like to thank the following volunteers for their help in February: George Thompson, Barry and Julie Altmark, Marilyn Haver, Ann and Richard Goldstein, Julie Levinson-Gabis, Allan Tuck, Robert Russell, Amy Trammell, Esther and Nathan Glick, Howard and Linda Wiener, Denise Lewis, Gloria Solomon, Kim and Neil Roth, Deanna Leader, Pat Weil, Linda Cohn, Lisa Bebenek, Sherri Grunfeld and Hadassah Social Action Committee, Susan Swartz, Judi and Benjamin Miller, Julie Welden and April Robertson-Thompson

ברוך ה' בא

We would like to welcome the following new members to our Temple family:

Allan Morris and Joan Lewitz Morris
886 Caledonian Way, 35242
970-3503

Allan and Joan are not new to our area. They recently moved from Gadsden and are still members of Temple Beth Israel. Their daughter and son-in-law are Temple members Amy and Ron Strickland.

Robert and Melissa Jaffee
2039 Eagle Point Court, 35242
980-0477



Robert and Melissa were former members of Temple Beth-El in Anniston. Robert is a lending manger for Americas 1st Credit Union, and Melissa is a pharmacist at Wal-Mart. Their daughter, Sydney Nicole, is 5 and will soon be attending Religious School.

Kathie Carnes
16 Oakchase, Tuscaloosa, 35406
(205) 366-0522

Grandparents are Aubrey and Barbara Buchalter. Daughter Katie will soon be attending Religious School.

Our Employee Spotlight: “The Life and Times of Dina Glass”

My name is Dina Perry Glass, and I have been employed by the Temple for 5 years. I was first hired as the Assistant to the Clergy, which I gladly served for 3 years. I still remember perusing the *Birmingham News* employment section and looking with excitement at the ad for the position at Temple Emanu-El. I immediately faxed my resume and got called for an interview shortly thereafter. When I met Rabbi Miller and Rabbi Haussman-Weiss, I knew this was where I was supposed to be. I was offered the job at Temple and was offered a job with another company at the same time. I stayed true to my heart and accepted the clergy assistant position.

My responsibilities grew through the years, and I was offered the position of Program and Event Coordinator 2 years ago. It has been a wonderful change, and I feel that I can use all of my gifts and talents in hospitality and service. I love serving here and being a part of the Temple family.



I would like to give you some maybe unknown personal info about the original Dina. I am married to Danny Glass and have three children. My oldest children, Matthew and Brittany, are from a previous marriage, and they are respectively 26 and 24 years old. Matthew is married to a lovely woman, Noey, and has two young boys, Sam & Will. Yes, I am a GranDee! He is currently at the University of Alabama majoring in history. Brittany has graduated with her master’s degree in social work and

is working with the Alliance Project, a part of Glenwood. I started again when I married Danny and had a feisty little girl named Anna. She is 9 years old and is FULL of energy and drama. There is never a dull moment when all the family gets together, but it is a joy!

We added more fun to our lives through the starting of our own pest control company, DanDee Pest Control about a year ago. Danny knows bugs, so it seemed the next step to take. In my spare time (ha, ha), I do love to scrapbook and sing at church or anywhere. I began my singing career as a young child using a chicken leg as a microphone. I actually had a small show, called Songs of Praise, on a cable channel for a short while where I sang and interviewed other local performers. A few may remember that I sang for our Temple volunteers a couple of years ago during our volunteer Shabbat service.

As I stated above, I am proud to be a part of the Temple family, and in sharing some of my life and family, I hope we can only get to know each other even more.

Book Review by Stuart Capper:

Einstein – His Life and Universe, by Walter Isaacson

In 2006, a large number of Albert Einstein’s personal papers and letters became available to researchers for the first time. This spawned a number of new books about the most famous scientist of the 20th century. I read one of them – Walter Isaacson’s biography of Einstein. It is one of the best biographies I have ever read.

Isaacson has written a substantial work about Albert Einstein (it is over 500 pages and very well documented) that is both entertaining and educational. Einstein led a fascinating life of 76 years, and he was active and engaging the entire time. Isaacson manages to tell us about this life in all of its complex dimensions while teaching us some of Einstein’s science and immersing us in the stories of Einstein’s personal relationships. We also learn about Einstein’s changing politics and the evolution of his views on being a Jew and his lack of any personal relationship with God.

It was not that Einstein did not believe in God, rather he could not conceive of a God who was personally involved in the lives of individuals. He was certain there was a supreme force that had created the Universe with specific laws that governed all



Engel Library

physical interactions. His entire life’s quest that was in many ways spectacularly successful was to discover and document the relationships that God had created to govern the Universe. Einstein stated simply, “I want to understand what God thinks; everything else is mere detail.”

Perhaps Isaacson’s most significant contribution in this new biography is his exploration and analysis of Einstein’s process of creation. Einstein did not trust dogma. He rebelled against received truth and saw conventional thinking only as inspiration for his curiosity. It was this deep penetrating curiosity that led Einstein to use his most prodigious gift for exploration. That gift was his capacity for imagination. There are many famous stories of Einstein’s “thought experiments.” These were experiments that were impossible to actually conduct, but which Einstein could conduct with his imagination. His imaginary results became the basis for fundamental new insights into physical realities which then, and only then, Einstein would seek to express as mathematical equations. One of the most interesting insights from Isaacson’s work is how Einstein’s creativity faltered when he began to rely more on the explorative powers of mathematics and less on his own ability to imagine.

*Read Walter Isaacson’s **Einstein – His Life and Universe**. See if this book doesn’t stoke your curiosity. Then, come back to the Engel Library and look for more ways to explore through books and your imagination.*

OUR YAHRZEITS

April Yahrzeits

May the beauty of their lives shine forever, and may we always bring honor to their memory.

April 4-5

Arnold Abelson
Bernard Abrams
Emanuel Aland
Emily Berchuck
Hannah K. Blach
Charles Bloom
Freda Bluestein
Lawrence Clawson
George Clay
Emanuel Copeland
Bernard Crown
Fannie Engel
Aaron Green
Abe Green
Jacob Greenberg
Ethelle N. Gunter
Freda Herman
Vera Hopp
Leonard Jacobs
Albert Kern
Karen Kernan
Sol Koretzky
Rebecca W. Lehrman
Kate H. Lewis
Abner Lichtenstein
Bernard Lipman
Morton M. Mitnick
Esther Pevow
Elizabeth Roobin
Jeanette Rubenstein
Thomas Andrew Sandson
Meyer Irving Shiland
Jacob Max Solomon
Alan Sowry

Rae Stein
Sara M. Wilson

April 11-12

Ben Aarons
Dawn Adler
Joseph Apolinsky
Emily Arnold
Charles Aronson
Isidor Barasch
May Sachs Berke
Colman Blach
Leah Blach
Alice Rose Brownstein
Marvin Cohn
Mary Louise Diamond
Herschel Feibelman
Louis Franklin
Stephen Edward Furst
Earlene Giedinghagen
Shirley Gold
Arline Lipson Goldberg
Carolyn Goldberg
Bennie Goldstein
William Phillips Goodman
Ike Gotlieb
Colin Hartman
Nettie Schwartz Hess
Sidney E. Hiller
Joe Landau
Rosa Leibovici
Max P. Levitt
Alice R. Maulitz
Rose Leah Mazer
Abraham Solomon Miller

Hyman Miller
Lenora Moog
Melvin Niden
Loretta B. Norris
Anne Perley
Alex Rittenbaum
Earl Roman
Herman Saks
Chana Schniper
Louis Schulhafer, Jr.
Clara Siegel
Enid Silverstein
Benjamin Singer
Joe Slaughter
Harry Sokol
Dorah Heyman Sterne
Bryna Talpers
Ella Leyens Weil
Isadore Weinstein

April 18-19

Morris Arnovitz
Edith Coolik Besser
Sarah M. Blach
Anne Rosenberg Brody
Miriam Bromberg
Steve Browdy
Artresse Dion Cook
Ida G. Cotton
Anna Witten Datnoff
Baba Elbert
Neddie Mae Elkus
David Finkelstein
Sophie Fox
Leo Frankel

Stanley Friedman
Max Joseph Gerson
Alvin Goldberg
Ida Goldberg
Solomon Goldberg
Seaburt Goodman
Joseph Hagedorn
Meyer Heiman
Adolph Hirsch
Sarah Marlow Izen
Simon Kessler
Isaac Ben Krentzman
Hugo Kuhn
Lillian Kurtz
Israel Landau
Frieda Leitman
Gerard J. Lewis
Victor Hugo Marx
Paul P. Mitnick
Bertha Lehman Newfield
Sonia K. Newmark
Louis Oppenheim
Herman Pinkerson
Jerry Printz
Herold Schwab
Alyce Shapiro
Velma Sohn
Harold Stern
Sam Tenenbaum
Irwin D. Wolf
Irwin Wolf, Jr.

April 25-26

Isaac Abelson
Benjamin Bennett

Sidney Morris Bernheim
Henry W. Bluttman
Sophie Caplan
Frances Copeland
Ruth Oppenheim Dorman
Moysey Eidelzon
Louis A. Estrach
Alan M. Goldblatt
Betty Cohen Goldstein
Ben Green
Mary Grob
Marie Rose Handler
Mamie Horowitz
Nissan Imas
Celia Mount Johnson
Mae Layton
Benjamin Leader
Milton K. Lewis
Max Lorch Mayer
Lil Mendel
Hyman Otberg
Archie Rosenthal
Benjamin A. Roth
Gertrude Schulhafer
Roslyn Blitz Schulwolf
Deborah Seitel
Donald Silberman
Isadore Sperling
Arthur S. Steiner
Herley Curry Thompson
Israel Wald
Ida Schultz Webster
Irving H. Wolfson
Lillian Ash Wortsman

Condolences to...

Terry (Patti) Hirsberg and the entire family on the death of Terry's mother, Anita Hirsberg of Clarksdale, MS on Tuesday, January 29. Grandson is **Samuel Hirsberg**.

Donna Leaf and the entire family on the death Donna's life partner, **Patricia C. Bailey** on Friday, February 1. Surviving family includes **Leah and Ronnie Leaf, Steven and Kim Leaf** and **Ben and Dani Leaf**.

Sandra and David Landau and the entire family on the death of David's sister Myrna Landau Levine of Ft. Lauderdale, FL on Wednesday, February 13. Myrna's husband is Leonard Levine, her daughter is Michelle Levine Garth and her nephew is **William Landau**.

Keith (Adrienne) Zinder and the entire family on the death of his mother, Goldie Rosen Zinder, of Spanish Fort, Alabama on Wednesday, February 20. Mrs. Zinder is also survived by her husband, Ben Zinder, her other three children, Glenn (Connie) Zinder, Stephanie Woolsey of Spanish Fort, and Mark Zinder of Nashville, and nine grandchildren.

Dian Diamond and the entire family on the death of her father, Herbert Richard Biernstein of Sun City, Florida on Saturday, February 23.

OUR CONTRIBUTIONS

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support Temple Emanu-El, including our Campaign and Endowment Fund, by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions. Thank you for the following gifts received through February 19, 2008.

ENDOWMENT FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

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In Memory Of:

Martha Arstein

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Ricki Kline

by Cissy & Leonard Held

Loretta Newfield

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by Regina Capilouto

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In Honor Of:

Bat Mitzvah of Sara Ladden

by Nancy & Glenn Goedecke

Birth of Patricia Rose & Hannah

Carolyn, granddaughters of Carolyn &

Henry Frohsin, Sr.

by Judy & Gerson May

by Candy & Ed Meyerson

Gladys & Karl Friedman receiving

N.E. Miles Lifetime Achievement

Award;

Randi Landy receiving Joanie Bayer

Young Leadership Award

by Karen & Leslie Allen

Special birthday of Rachel Rosenthal

by Anne Silberman & David Meddin

Special birthday of Anne Silberman

by Sandra & Larry Shulman

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In Memory Of:

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by Judy & Hal Abroms

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In Memory Of:

Chuck Ravitz

by Gail & Harry Bayer

BECKER FAMILY FUND

Wishing Good Health To:

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by Joan & Jack Becker

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Chuck Ravitz

by Linda & Richard Cohn

SHERRON & ALLAN GOLDSTEIN FUND

Wishing Good Health To:

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Newfield, Bunny Rotenstreich and

Carol Solomon

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In Honor Of:

Anniversary of Carol & Bob Gross;

Award received by Michael Pitt;

Special birthdays of Loretta Newfield,

Larry Shulman and Sandra Shulman

by Sherron & Allan Goldstein

BETTY ALLENBERG GOLDSTEIN FUND

Wishing Good Health To:

Jack Dorsky and Allen Koslin

by Betty Allenberg Goldstein

HANNAH & HYMAN GOLDSTEIN VOLUNTEER FUND

In Memory Of:

Myrna Landau Levine

by Debra & Joel Goldstein

In Honor Of:

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Birth of Patricia Rose & Hannah
Carolyn, granddaughters of Carolyn &
Henry Frohsin, Sr.;

Marriage of Brian Cohn, son of Linda
& Richard Cohn;

Marriage of Judy Ladden and Randal
McDonald;

Marriage of daughter of Rhonda &
Harry Weinberg, Allysa, to Brad Blair;
Special birthday of Betty Allenberg
Goldstein

by Faye & Robert Levin

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In Honor Of:

Special birthday of Letty Marcus

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by Carlotta Dorn

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ROSE & NATHAN ROTENSTREICH LEGACY FUND

In Honor Of:

Special birthday of Anne Silberman

by Ferne Seigel

WEINMAN/FIERMAN FUND

In Memory Of:

Pat Bailey

by Chu-Chi & Bobby Fierman

OUR SPECIAL THANKS

The Rabbi Grafman Endowment Fund is pleased to share with you that within the last six months the following eleven members let us know that they have included Temple Emanu-El in their estate plans. Now, more than eighty of our current members have arranged for a planned gift to benefit our congregation, and our hope is over time every member will do so. We welcome gifts both large and small – any amount is welcome.

*We gratefully acknowledge the foresight and generosity of the following individuals and families, all who will be added to our **Grafman Legacy Society**:*

Kaydee Erdreich-Breman

Lois & David Cohen

Wanda & Ross Cohen

Tom Cowen

Janis & Paul Friedman, Sr.

Mackie & Sherman Horowitz

Gayle & Eddie Leitman

Karen & Joel Piassick

Betsy & Peter Printz

Amy & Michael Saag

Ferne Seigel

A LASTING LEGACY

Last fall, Leah Marks, only a junior in high school, was tragically taken from our midst. One of the ways her family has chosen to create a lasting legacy for Leah is to establish two new funds bearing her name.

Leah's Teen Trips Fund

This fund was created by her father, Barry Marks, to financially assist the Confirmation class with a trip or any other excursion designed for teenagers or young adults. It is his hope that the fund will make it possible for all our young people to be able to attend and to have the safest and most meaningful experience possible. Our 10th and 11th graders just returned from a magnificent trip to Prague with Rabbi Miller over President's Day weekend, a trip in which Leah was to have participated. Plans are underway to continue this special experience every two years.

The Leah Marks Young Adult Library Fund

Established by her grandfather, Asher Marks, this fund creates a special section in the Engel Library at the Temple to contain spiritual books and audio-visual materials specifically selected to engage our young Jewish adults. The Temple Library committee is currently working with Dr. Marks to purchase selections for this purpose.

Our sincere condolences once again to the Marks family for their loss, and a heart-felt thank you for their generosity and vision that through their loss they are creating something meaningful for others that will last well into the future.

TEMPLE CONTRIBUTIONS

TEMPLE GENERAL FUND

In Memory Of:

Lillian Van Baalen Blach

by Ida Van Baalen

Gennadiy Bronshteyn, Isaak

Kishinevsky, and Freida Kishinevsky

by Mila & Igor Kishinevsky

Gladys Epstein

by Judy Borisky

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Richard Goldman

by Donna Flowers & Rose Goldman

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by Blanche Fredericks

Myrna Landau Levine

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In Honor Of:

Special Birthday of Lucien Hagedorn

by Joyce & Joe Lichtenstein

Wishing Good Health To:

Jack Dorsky

Sherron Goldstein

by Joyce & Joe Lichtenstein

Donation:

For New Membership Shabbat

by Mackie & Sherm Horowitz

**RABBI JONATHAN MILLER
DISCRETIONARY FUND**

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Leah Marks

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by Rebecca May

by Audrey Todd

Arnold Siegal

by Jack & Ellen Dorsky

Al Small and Ted Small

by Joan Loretta Munn

Betty Jane Winnik

by Lincoln & Nancy Berland

In Honor Of:

Bat Mitzvah of Emily Pearlstein

by Howard & Deborah Pearlstein

Donation:

by Julie Welden

**CANTOR JESSICA ROSKIN
DISCRETIONARY FUND**

In Honor of:

Recovery of Loretta Newfield

by Jack & Ellen Dorsky

LIBRARY FUND

In Memory Of:

Sandra Sokol

by Nancy & Morton Dimenstien

**RABBI SCOTT HAUSMAN-
WEISS DISCRETIONARY
FUND**

In Honor Of:

Bris of Zachary Leo Diamond

by Seth & Tracy Diamond

CHORALE FUND

In Memory Of:

Dottie Lynch

by Paula Silberberg

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

In Memory Of:

David Loveman

by Gertrude Goldstein

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To access our wireless network, please use the following information:



Network name: GUEST

Password: 11111111



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Thursday 10:00a.m. - 2:00p.m.

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That being said, we are having difficulty finding people to work in the gift shop. If anyone is interested in helping out during any of these hours, please call Loretta at 933-8037, ext. 214.

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This issue of OurTemple bulletin is made possible through the generous support of the Rabbi Grafman Endowment Fund.

Sunday, April 27 @ Regions Park
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OurTemple

The Monthly Bulletin for Temple Emanu-El

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www.ourtemple.org

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after hours, please contact us:**

Rabbi Jonathan Miller, 223-0916

Cantor Jessica Roskin, 266-6549

Rabbi Scott Hausman-Weiss, 612-7824

Our mission: Temple Emanu-El is a welcoming Reform Jewish congregation, engaging members in prayer, study, fellowship, and acts of loving kindness to our congregational family and the community at-large.