



Annual Meeting of the Congregation

**Tuesday, May 26 • 6 PM • Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell
Community House (One East 6th Street)**

THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL MEETING will be held after the daily sunset service. Congregants should enter at the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65th Street. Refreshments will be served afterward. The meeting agenda has been sent to all Temple members through the mail. Congregants also may view the meeting agenda by logging into the Temple Web site. Click "Membership" → "Annual Meeting."

IMPORTANT REMINDERS/UPCOMING EVENTS

Stitch'n Time

**Sunday, May 24 • 11 AM
One East 65th Street**

Participants must bring their own needles (#8). Yarn and patterns will be provided. Light refreshments will be served. No prior knitting experience is necessary; we have a professional knitting instructor to assist us. (212) 744-1400, ext. 452

Ronald McDonald House

**Thursday, May 28 • 5 PM
405 East 73rd Street**

Those interested in volunteering must preregister with the Women's Auxiliary, which oversees this project. (Please, no walk-ins!) This activity is suitable for adults over 18 years only. (212) 744-1400, ext. 235

Nursery School Applications

Applications for the 2010-2011 school year will be available for request from **Tuesday, September 8** through **Friday, September 25**. Parents should call the Nursery School Office during this period only. Although it is our policy to give priority to members of the congregation and siblings, acceptance is not automatic. (212) 744-1400, ext. 230

Family Mission to Israel

If you're only going to take one trip this year, then make it Temple Emanu-El's Family Mission to Israel (**December 23, 2009, – January 3, 2010**). Read more on Page 6.

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

**SABBATH WORSHIP
FRIDAY EVENING
Sanctuary (Fifth Avenue
at 65th Street)
Organ Recital—5 PM
Service Begins—5:15 PM
WQXR Radio (96.3 FM) and
Internet (www.wqxr.com)
broadcasts—5:30 PM**

**SATURDAY MORNING
Sixth Floor Lounge
Torah Study—9:15 AM
Sanctuary (Fifth at 65th)
Organ Recital—10:15 AM
Service Begins—10:30 AM**

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



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

**For more information about all Emanu-El events,
log on to www.emanuelnyc.org. Click "Calendar."**

WEEKLY PARASHAH

Saturday, May 23

Torah Portion—*B'midbar*
Readings—Numbers 1:1-4:20; Hosea 2:1-22

Sermon: Rabbi Posner

Saturday, May 30

Torah Portion—
Exodus 20:1-18
Readings—Isaiah 42:1-12

Sermon: Rabbi Ehrlich

TORAH COMMENTARY

View our weekly Torah commentary on the Emanu-El Web site: www.emanuelnyc.org. Follow the link from the Home Page. Previous commentaries can be viewed through the archive.

ADDITIONAL WORSHIP

Eve of Shavuot

Thursday, May 28

6:30 PM • Sanctuary

Please note the special start time of this service, which includes confirmation of our high school students.

Shavuot

Friday, May 29

10:30 AM • Sanctuary

Readings—Exodus 19:1-20:23; Numbers 28:26-31; Ezekiel 1:1-28, 3:12

Sermon: Rabbinic Intern Ariana Silverman

Memorial Service

Service of Recognition

Friday, May 29

6:30 PM • Beth-El Chapel

Members of our Adult *B'nei Mitzvah* Program will be honored at this special ceremony.

Religious School End-of-Year Family Assemblies

Sunday, May 17 • 11:15 AM • 10 East 66th Street

Monday, May 18 • 5:30 PM • 10 East 66th Street

Wednesday, May 20 • 5:30 PM • 10 East 66th Street

CLOSING ASSEMBLIES FOR our 2008-2009 school year also will serve as our final worship sessions of the year. Families are encouraged to attend. Each assembly will incorporate original prayers written by our students as well as our annual end-of-the-year slide show. All assemblies will be held in Lowenstein Auditorium. (212) 744-1400, ext. 226

Teen Programs

TEMPLE EMANU-EL's Religious School offers a variety of programs for teens in grades 7 through 12, all created with the intent that Judaism should be something experienced and not just something learned. Programs are divided into those for seventh and eighth graders and those for high school students:

7TH/8TH Grade Programs

- **Mitzvah Corps**
- **7TH Grade Religious School**
- **8TH Grade "Mitzvah Messengers"**

High School Programs

- **Confirmation**
- **A-TEEM**
- **MLK Volunteer Weekend**
- **Senior Youth Group**

Brochures with program details have been sent in the mail. Additional information can be found on the Temple Web site. Click "Learning" → "Religious School" → "Teen Programs." Updates about high school programs are sent only by e-mail; students should complete the online registration form.

The Cemeteries of
Congregation Emanu-El
Salem Fields and Beth-El

A limited number of
above-ground crypts are available
in our community mausoleum.

For information, please call
Dr. Mark W. Weisstuch at the
Temple Office, (212) 744-1400.

Charles S. Salomon
The Universal
Funeral Chapel

1076 Madison Avenue
(212) 753-5300

Our service is available in the
Temple, home or our Chapel.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

2009-2010 Registration Forms have been sent in the mail and may be downloaded from the Temple Web site. (Click "Learning" → "Religious School.") Students must be enrolled in Religious School in order to become a bar or bat mitzvah at Temple Emanu-El. A ceremony date can be scheduled when a child is in fourth grade or is 10 years old.

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

Saturday, May 30

Spencer Jacob Bistricher, son of Shari and Joseph Bistricher

Robert Barasch, son of Candy and Michael Barasch

We are grateful for their sponsorship of the Friday evening *Oneg Shabbat*.

BROADCAST OF SERVICES

Worship services can be downloaded from the Emanu-El Web site or listened to through the Emanu-El Audio Player. Click "Worship" → "Broadcast of Services."

WEEKLY MUSIC

Music programs for Sabbath and holiday services are posted on the Emanu-El Web site. Click "Worship" → "Music at Emanu-El."

ELECTRONIC SUBSCRIPTIONS

Have the latest Temple news, weekly Torah commentary and music program delivered directly to your in-box. Subscribe through the Temple Web site. Click "About Us" → "Publications" → "Electronic Mailing Lists." If you wish to receive the weekly electronic newsletter instead of the biweekly print edition, then call the Temple Office at (212) 744-1400, ext. 215 to have your name removed from the mailing list. Your efforts to help us "go green" are appreciated!

SKIRBALL SPRING SEMINARS

"And I Am a Stranger" Becoming Ruth

Thursday, May 21 • 8 PM • One East 65th Street

CONSIDERED ONE OF TODAY'S most original and compelling interpreters of biblical and Rabbinic traditions, **Dr. Avivah Gottlieb Zornberg** draws extensively on classical commentaries, Midrash, and modern insights from literature and philosophy. Her widely read and studied books, *Genesis: The Beginning of Desire* and *The Particulars of Rapture*, have become classics among readers of all religions. The cost of this lecture is \$20 per person. **NOTE: A pre-lecture hour of text preparation begins at 7 PM.** (212) 507-9580



Intimate Strangers: Medieval Jews Among Christians and Muslims

**Sunday, May 31 • 10 AM TO 2 PM • One East 65th Street
Lecture led by Dr. Alyssa Gray**



DELVE INTO THE fascinating world of medieval Jews who lived as a minority among Christians and (mostly among) Muslims. Learn how they inherited Talmudic law and lore about non-Jews but had to adjust as the realities of life in a world unforeseen by the Talmudic Rabbis created various tensions between law and life. Explore a few of these tensions and the ways in which major Jewish legal decisors grappled with them. Skirball Sunday Seminars cost \$60 each. Coffee and bagels are served. (212) 507-9580

Souls on Fire: The Agony and the Ecstasy of the Great Chasidic Masters

**Sunday, June 7 • 10 AM TO 2 PM • One East 65th Street
Lecture led by Rabbi David Kalb**

SPEND AN EXCITING SUNDAY getting a theological introduction to, as well as a historical overview of, the Chasidic Movement. Engage in a textual analysis of some fascinating and deeply powerful Chasidic writings that are bound to engage anyone willing to embark on a spiritual journey. Learn why liberal Judaism and Chasidism are not exclusive of each other, and gain an entirely new way of looking at Judaism, God and Torah. Cost: \$60 per person. (212) 507-9580



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

For the Sabbath of May 22 and 23

Henry and William Fruhauf in loving memory of Sara Fruhauf Beekman

For Shavuot (May 28 and 29)

Elisabeth Cassell in loving memory of her brothers and sisters, *Emil, Eugene, Alice, Piri, Magda* and *Viola*

For the Sabbath of May 29 and 30

Lynda Maer in honor of the *B'nei Mitzvah Class of 2009* and in loving memory of *Harry Maer*

Dr. Gerald Leinwand in loving memory of *Brenda Rediker Leinwand*

Susan and David Rahm in loving memory of Susan's father, *Allen H. Berkman*

The ONEG SHABBAT after the Service of Recognition on May 29 is sponsored by:

The Adult *B'nei Mitzvah Class* in honor of *Maxine Friedman* and all of our teachers, who inspired us throughout our Jewish journey and brought us closer to God, Torah and Israel

Meet the Presidents...

NOW IS THE TIME OF YEAR when our Men's Club and Women's Auxiliary hold their annual meetings and induct new officers. Following are brief biographies of **Robert Waldman**, incoming president of the Men's Club, and **Frances A. Hess**, who continues her two-year term as Women's Auxiliary president.

BOB WALDMAN's long career in women's apparel retailing included serving as vice president of Loehmann's, where he worked in merchandising and real-estate research and development for 14 years. For more than 35 years Bob has pursued his avocation — tennis — through which he served as an international tennis official and worked at the world's major tournaments. Bob founded and currently serves as president and CEO of the BaseLine Wheelchair Foundation, which promotes professional wheelchair tennis.



FRANCES HESS, a native of Pittsburgh, is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Vassar College and holds a master's in teaching from Radcliffe College. In addition to

having a distinguished teaching career, Frances has been an active community volunteer and liaison in various educational circles, particularly that of Brooklyn College and HUC-JIR. In addition to serving as president of the Women's Auxiliary, she is a captain of the Sunday Lunch Program, a library volunteer and Temple archivist.

Men's Club Annual Meeting and Presentation of the Samuel Sacks Achievement Award

Thursday, May 21 • 6 PM • One East 65th Street

EACH YEAR SINCE 1977, the Men's Club board of directors has established a committee to recommend deserving individuals to receive the **Samuel Sacks Achievement Award**, which recognizes members of the congregation for their service and support of the Temple. The award is presented each year at the Men's Club annual meeting, which includes the installation of officers and board members. This year's recipient is **Miriam Reines**. A full reception will follow the presentation. Cost is \$30 for Men's Club members, \$40 for all others; make checks payable to the Men's Club. All are invited to attend. (212) 744-1400, ext. 250



Bar/Bat Mitzvah...Not Just for Kids!

WE ALL KNOW THAT a bar or bat mitzvah ceremony is a rite of passage. We also think that only 13-year old Jewish adolescents — who see it as the culmination of their Religious School careers — mark this milestone, but the work of 14 committed adult Emanu-El members forces us to reconsider our conception of the meaning and significance of this custom.

At the end of October, these 14 people embarked on a program of study that included more than 40 hours of Hebrew instruction and 26 classes on the central concepts of the Jewish holidays, prayer, ethics and Jewish history. Some never had a bar or bat mitzvah ceremony as a child; some wanted to rededicate their juvenile experience through the prism of an adult understanding; all wanted to learn more about their Jewish heritage and identity. **On May 29, at 6:30 PM, they will celebrate their achievements at a special service in the Beth-El Chapel.**

Let us all extend a hearty *mazal tov* to: Deborah Baber, Marlene Borey, Lynda DeLott, Jeff Dunson, Arlene Feldmeier, Karel Greenberg, Lynda Maer, Scarlett Pildes, Lee Robbins, Adriana Solmson, Elizabeth Haller Walsh, Sheryl Weinstein, Jara Weinstock and Deborah Weiss.

Customs and Traditions of Our People: Confirmation

THE RITE OF confirmation is representative of Reform Judaism's creative genius, as well as its unique and characteristic ability to create new religious forms and ceremonies based on ancient traditions.

The first confirmation exercises in Judaism were held in 1810 at the Jewish Academy in Kassell, Germany, established by the Reform pioneer Israel Jacobson. In these early days of our movement, confirmation was instituted as a supplement to the traditional bar mitzvah ceremony and was held two or three years later, when it was felt that students were better prepared to make an intelligent



commitment to Judaism. However, unlike bar mitzvah, confirmation was, in the authentic Jewish spirit, a group experience rather than an individual celebration. And, from the very beginning, girls as well as boys participated in confirmation.

In America, it became traditional for Reform congregations to hold confirmation on the festival of Shavuot as a renewal of the commitment by our people at Sinai. One of the earliest ceremonies was held on Shavuot 1847 at our own Temple Emanu-El. From that day to this, confirmation has become a major milestone. Please join us on the Eve of Shavuot as we celebrate the confirmation class of 2009.



CLERGY

Dr. David M. Posner

Senior Rabbi

Amy B. Ehrlich

Associate Rabbi

Howard J. Goldsmith

Assistant Rabbi

Lori A. Corrsin

Cantor

Dr. Ronald B. Sobel

Senior Rabbi Emeritus

Ariana Silverman

Rabbinic Intern

Joshua Breitzer

Cantorial Intern

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Bernard Museum of Judaica

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Kathryn M. Roberts

Bulletin Editor/Webmaster

Temple Emanu-El's Family Mission to Israel

FROM DECEMBER 23, 2009, TO JANUARY 3, 2010, we will explore all that Israel has to offer: not only stunning scenery, fascinating history and delicious food but endless possibilities for exploring Jewish identity and connecting with our roots. No other vacation will offer your family the same opportunity to connect with each other as well as to connect with what's really important.

There are many ways to visit Israel, but traveling as a family with Congregation Emanu-El is an incomparable opportunity to deepen a child's connection to Reform Jewish values and community. Our tour mixes visits to archeological and historical sites with time to play and relax. We volunteer and celebrate Shabbat together with Israeli Reform Jewish families. With special pre- and post-trip events exclusively for trip participants, this is an experience that will last longer than the 12 days abroad. After this trip, every experience you have at Emanu-El will bring you back to your time as a family in Israel.

For more information, contact **Rabbi Howard Goldsmith**. He also can refer you to participants from the last trip who can tell you what it's like traveling to Israel with Emanu-El. If you're going to take just one trip this year...join us in Israel!



Learn more on the Temple Web site.
Click "Learning" → "Youth & Young Adults" → "Family Trip to Israel."
Or, call (212) 744-1400, ext. 304.

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***Eve of Shavuot and
Confirmation Service:
Thursday, May 28 • 6:30 PM***

***Shavuot and Memorial Service:
Friday, May 29 • 10:30 AM***

***Adult B'nei Mitzvah
Service of Recognition:
Friday, May 29 • 6:30 PM***

**PERIODICALS POSTAGE
PAID AT NEW YORK, NY**