

Temple Emanu-El Bulletin



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

EMANU-EL eNEWS

Get weekly updates about Emanu-El events through our eNews, delivered directly to your e-mail in-box. Subscribe at www.emanuelnyc.org; click "About Us" → "Publications" → "Electronic Mailing Lists." To receive the eNews only instead of the monthly print Bulletin, then call (212) 744-1400, ext. 215 to have your name removed from the print mailing list.

WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAY — THURSDAY

5:30 PM • Marvin & Elisabeth
Cassell Community House
(One East 65th Street)

FRIDAY EVENING

Sanctuary (Fifth Ave. at 65th)
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
(One East 65th Street)
Torah Study—9:15 AM
Sanctuary (Fifth Ave. 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.



Jewish Learning: A Path to the Past, Present and Future

By Rabbi Leon A. Morris

ASKING QUESTIONS, offering interpretations, searching for hidden meanings... Study is truly at the heart of what it means to be a Jew.

The early Rabbis established both the synagogue and the *beit midrash* (study hall) as the principal institutions of Jewish life, referring to each of them as a *mikdash m'at*—a miniature version of the ancient Temple that had been the center of Jewish life until its destruction in the year 70 C.E.

When the Rabbis reshaped ancient Judaism, the locus of the sacred shifted from the Temple to a book. God no longer would speak from the heavens but rather through the text and its interpretations. Jewish study was understood to be the equivalent of all the mitzvot of the Torah: "The study of Torah is equal to everything," said the Rabbis of the Mishnah. Study, as the Rabbis conceived of it, is not just "studying in order to do." Rather, it is a kind of doing in itself, a divine service of the mind and mouth and heart.

While some of us have a difficult time with prayer for one reason or another, Jewish study is an expression of Jewish life that often is more accessible to us and also is compatible instantly with other interests

that occupy an important place in our lives: reading books and articles, analyzing their arguments, exploring new ideas and discussing them with our family and friends. When we study there is no dogma. We don't have to agree with the particular text we are studying. And, most important, we don't need to take our texts literally in order to take them seriously. Jewish study not only teaches us about our shared past, but it also gives us insight into our present. It helps us to understand our world, our families and ourselves in new ways. We engage with these texts, and we acquire a "Jewish language" that unites us with Jews across time and space.

continued on page 11





Saturday, October 3

Torah Portion—*Sukkot*
(Leviticus 23:33-44)
Laws of Sukkot including:
timing, length, living in
booths, *lulav*, *etrog*,
sacrifices, days of rest.

Sermon: Rabbi Ehrlich

Saturday, October 10

Torah Portion—*Simchat
Torah* (Deuteronomy 34
and Genesis 1:1-10)
Moses gazes into Israel
from the top of Mt. Nebo
then dies and is mourned;
Torah starts over again with
first two days of creation.

Sermon: Rabbi Posner

Saturday, October 17

Torah Portion—*B'reishit*
(Genesis 1:1-6:8)
God creates the world in six
days; Adam and Eve are
expelled from the Garden of
Eden; Cain kills Abel; God
regrets creating the world
and vows to destroy it all
except for Noah.

Sermon: Rabbi Goldsmith

Saturday, October 24

Torah Portion—*Noach*
(Genesis 6:9-11:32)
God saves Noah and two of
each animal; Noah builds
ark; God floods the world;
world is repopulated; Tower
of Babel results in people
scattered across the earth
with many languages.

Sermon: Rabbi Ehrlich

Saturday, October 31

Torah Portion—*Lech L'cha*
(Genesis 12:1-17:27)
God calls Abram; promises
him Canaan; Abram goes to
Canaan, but famine drives
him to Egypt; returns to
Canaan; Abram rescues Lot;
Ishmael born; circumcision
commanded as symbol
of covenant.

Sermon: Rabbi Goldsmith

HIGH HOLY DAYS

Services for Sukkot

**Friday, October 2 • 5:15 PM • Sanctuary (Fifth Avenue at 65th)
Saturday, October 3 • 10:30 AM • Sanctuary**

BEGINNING FIVE DAYS
After Yom Kippur, Sukkot is
a festival of thanks for a
bountiful fall harvest. It also
has become a celebration to
commemorate the protection
given to the Israelites
throughout their wanderings
in the wilderness. Temple
Emanu-El brings the spirit of
Sukkot indoors with the
creation of our beautiful
sukkah, which is a site not
to be missed. No tickets are
required for either the evening
or morning service;
all are welcome to attend.
Many thanks to the
Women's Auxiliary for the gift
of our beautiful sukkah.



Sukkot Family Worship Service and Dinner

**Friday, October 2 • 6:30 PM
Sanctuary (Fifth Avenue at
65th Street)**

The Sukkot Family Service
includes a blessing for all children
under the magnificent Emanu-El
sukkah and features singing led by
the Junior Choir. Admission is by
group ticket; only one ticket is
needed per family. Worship is
followed by a family dinner, with
Israeli dancing and the shaking
and blessing of the *lulav* and *etrog*.

Reservations for dinner are
required. The cost is:

- \$35 per family (including two
adults) for reservations made by
Tuesday, September 29.

- \$50 per family for reservations
after September 29.
- \$10 for each additional adult.

Charges will be billed to your
Emanu-El account. Fees will
appear on your next Emanu-El
statement. After September 29,
cancellations cannot be refunded.
RSVP to the Religious School at
(212) 744-1400, ext. 226 or
school@emanuelnyc.org.

**Sukkot Sleepover for
Seventh and Eighth Graders
Friday, October 2 • 7:30 PM
One East 65th Street**

See "Young People's Programs"
on page 4 for full event details.

Services for Sh'mini Atzeret and Simchat Torah

Friday, October 9 • 5:15 PM • Sanctuary (Fifth Avenue at 65th)
Saturday, October 10 • 10:30 AM • Sanctuary

SH'MINI ATZERET is a solemn time for reflecting on the seven previous days of the festival of Sukkot. **SIMCHAT TORAH** is a joyful celebration, often symbolized by dancing. Hebrew for "Rejoicing in the Law," Simchat Torah also celebrates completion of reading the Book of Deuteronomy (the fifth book of the Torah) and starting from the beginning with the Book of Genesis. In Israel and in many liberal communities around the world, Simchat Torah is celebrated on the same day as Sh'mini Atzeret, making them a one-day festival. Please note, Saturday morning's service includes a memorial for the departed.



Sh'mini Atzeret literally means "the assembly of the eighth (day)." Rabbinic literature explains the holiday this way: Our Creator is like a host, who invites us as visitors for a limited time, but when the time comes for us to leave, He has enjoyed himself so much that He asks us to stay another day. Another related explanation: Sukkot is a holiday intended for all of mankind, but when Sukkot is over, the Creator invites the Jewish people to stay for an extra day, for a more intimate celebration. (Source: *Judaism 101*)

Shabbat Kodesh Service

Friday, October 23 • 6:30 PM • Beth-El Chapel (Fifth at 65th)

JOIN MEMBERS OF our clergy and Religious School faculty, including Rabbi David Posner, Rabbi Howard Goldsmith and Lifelong Learning Director Saul Kaiserman, for an inspirational and uplifting prayer service. At Shabbat Kodesh, Hebrew prayers are sung with lively melodies, and the weekly Torah reading is made meaningful through creative storytelling. All are welcome at this service, which builds upon the curriculum and community of the Religious School. After the service, all participants are invited to join us for a festive *Oneg Shabbat*.

For more information, call the Office of Lifelong Learning by phone at (212) 744-1400, ext. 226, or send a message to school@emanuelnyc.org.

TORAH COMMENTARY

Read our weekly Torah commentary, written by our clergy and Temple staff, on the Emanu-El Web site: www.emanuelnyc.org. Follow the link from the Home Page. Previous commentaries can be read through the archive.

TORAH BLOG

Now you can get even more out of the weekly *parashah* through discussion with fellow congregants. Post your thoughts, or read comments by others.

Click "Learning" →
"Adult Education" →
"Weekly Torah
Commentary."

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."

SHABBAT KODESH

Become familiar with the Shabbat Kodesh service through music. Download and listen to songs from our Web site in preparation for the actual event. Click "Worship" → "Ceremonies & Practices" → "Shabbat at Emanu-El" → "Shabbat Kodesh."

Young People's Programs



HIGH SCHOOL CONFIRMATION

Emanu-El's High School Confirmation Program is an opportunity for ninth through 12th graders to strengthen their connection to Judaism, the Jewish people, their Religious School classmates and the Emanu-El community, while also building their unique identities and their sense of self.

Each month, students take another step in the journey toward confirmation. Sessions combine experiential education, community building, text study, personal reflection and character-building activities. Students are expected to attend each step of the journey.

Step 1 meets Sunday, October 4 from 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM. (Dinner will be served.) Students will explore our society's priorities by participating in improvisational exercises. Session and dinner will take place in our outdoor sukkah.

Step 2 meets Sunday, October 25 from 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM. (Dinner will be served.) Students will acknowledge things they have noticed or experienced that makes them so upset or frustrated that they cry out.

Questions? Contact Danny Mishkin, our coordinator of youth and young adult learning, at (212) 744-1400, ext. 329 or confirmation@emanuelnyc.org.

Sukkot Sleepover

Friday, October 2 • 7:30 PM • One East 65th Street

SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE students are invited to gather in celebration of the harvest festival of Sukkot with an overnight slumber party that includes bonding with classmates, gaining a deeper understanding of the holiday, and staying up late with snacks and movies. This event follows the Religious School Family Worship Service for Sukkot. RSVP to Danny Mishkin, our coordinator of youth and young adult learning, at (212) 744-1400, ext. 329 or youthgroups@emanuelnyc.org.



**Young Families:
Sukkot/Simchat Torah
Celebration
Sunday, October 4 • 10 AM
10 East 66th Street**

Celebrate the end of Sukkot with special activities especially for our youngest Temple members and their families. Our celebration will include snacks, story time and an art project. Parents are invited to help us plan and take pictures. RSVP to Young Families at (212) 744-1400, ext. 242.

**Mitzvah Corps:
Unit 2 Learning Component
Wednesday, October 21 • 4 PM
Sunday, October 25 • 9:30 AM
10 East 66th Street**

Unit 2 sessions will focus on *Lhader pnai zaken*, respect for one's elders. Sessions are held during Religious School hours; students must attend the learning component in order to participate in the action component on Sunday, November 8. Questions? Call (212) 744-1400, ext. 329.



The State of Affairs in Albany: Present and Future

Sunday, October 4 • 10 AM • One East 65th Street

THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY, MEN'S CLUB and DEPARTMENT OF LIFELONG LEARNING cordially invite all Temple members to their opening meeting and brunch, featuring **New York State Senator Liz Krueger.**



First elected in a February 2002 special election, Sen. Krueger has dedicated her career to issues relating to poverty, and she is a nationally recognized expert on the problems of hunger, homelessness, and the lack of affordable housing, health care and job training. In her first term, Sen. Krueger was a leader in the successful fight to pass the Women's Health and Wellness Act. Other initiatives include legislation to support recycling and expand the bottle bill; legislation

that would expand access to the Senior Citizen's Rent Increase Exemption; legislation establishing a breastfeeding bill of rights; and legislation expanding access to food stamps and safety-net assistance for needy families and individuals.

The cost for this event is \$30 for Women's Auxiliary and Men's Club members, as well as Religious School parents; \$40 for all others. Questions? (212) 744-1400, ext. 235 or womaux@emanuelnyc.org

The House That Eloise Built: Visiting New York's Plaza Hotel

**Tuesday, October 13 and 20 • 1 PM
Fifth Avenue at Central Park South**

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY members and their guests are invited to guided tours of one of New York City's most luxurious landmarks after its \$400 million renovation, preceded by lunch at the Oak Room.

The cost for this event is \$70 for Women's Auxiliary members, \$80 for all others. Make checks payable to the Women's Auxiliary. Questions? (212) 744-1400, ext. 235 or womaux@emanuelnyc.org



RONALD McDONALD HOUSE NYC

Once a month, under the direction of the Women's Auxiliary, Emanu-El congregants serve dinner and organize art projects for the families residing at New York City's Ronald McDonald House on the Upper East Side.

This month's session will be held Thursday, October 22 at 5 PM.

Those interested in volunteering must register with the Women's Auxiliary at (212) 744-1400, ext. 235. (Please, no walk-ins!)

This project is for adults over 18 only. If you cannot join us, then consider making a donation of desserts or materials for arts and crafts, all of which are appreciated greatly.

TIKKUN OLAM

Share the bounty of the Sukkot holiday with others! From **Friday, October 2 through noon on Sunday, October 4**, we will be collecting fresh autumnal fruits (apples, oranges, pears) and dried fruits to donate to the Yorkville Common Pantry. Donations should be dropped off at One East 65th Street.

STITCH'N TIME

Our next session will be **Sunday, October 11** from 11 AM to 2 PM. Yarn and patterns are provided; knitters must bring their own needles (#8).

MITZVAH DAY 2009

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, November 8**. Questions? Call the Tikkun Olam Committee at (212) 744-1400, ext. 452.

**MOVIE NIGHT:
NEXT YEAR IN MUMBAI**
(Directed by Jonas Pariente)
Tuesday, October 13
7:30 PM • JCC in Manhattan
Cost: \$10 per person

Next Year in Mumbai tells the contemporary story of the Bene Israel of India, a Jewish community that has been residing in the Mumbai region (formerly Bombay) for 2,000 years but now is disappearing. The film follows the few families and individuals left in India who deal with the survival of their unique identity, torn between migration and assimilation.

Sponsored by the Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Temple Emanu-El and the JCC in Manhattan, "Movie Night" is made possible in part by a generous contribution from the Schwarzhaupt-Levite Video Fund of Congregation Emanu-El. The movie will be followed by a discussion with Rabbi Leon A. Morris titled *Renewal and Depletion: Contemporary Jewish Life in India*.

**MEN'S CLUB
READING GROUP**

Sessions meet at 9 AM and are open to all Temple members. Enter at the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65th Street.

Upcoming book selections:

October 14—*Innocent Abroad* by Martin Indyk

November 11—*Laish* by Aharon Appelfeld

Lectures • Classes • Tours



Skirball Fall Semester

FALL SEMESTER COURSES begin **Monday, October 19** and run through **Wednesday, December 16**. Choose from Sunday Seminars, four-week classes, eight-week classes (including a guest lecture by Elie Wiesel), daytime classes and a special Jewish University in a Day with Dr. Avivah Gottlieb Zornberg. Registration can be completed by calling (212) 507-9580 or online through the Skirball Web site (www.adultjewishlearning.org). Emanu-El congregants receive a 15 percent discount off the cost of full-semester courses.

**When the Mitzvah of
Tzedakah Was Young:
Snapshots of Judaism
in Development**
Sunday, October 25 • 10 AM
One East 65th Street

Jews historically and justifiably have been associated with *tzedakah*, usually (and not entirely accurately) rendered as "charity." Examine some lesser-known aspects of the history of *tzedakah*. See how *tzedakah* was

influenced by social problems and how some religious ideas about it ceased to speak to Jews as far back as the Talmudic or medieval periods. Ultimately, our examination of *tzedakah* will yield insight not only into *tzedakah* itself but also into the development of Jewish law and Jewish thought.

**Skirball Sunday Seminars
cost \$60 per person. Coffee
and bagels will be served.**

Book Discussion



Stettenheim Literary Circle

Wednesday, October 21 • 10:30 AM and 6:30 PM
One East 65th Street

NEW THIS YEAR, the Stettenheim Literary Circle invites Temple members and guests to bring their insights, reactions and reflections to discuss works of fiction. Although most of the novels have Jewish or Israeli themes, not all do. Participants are asked to commit to each month's discussion; sessions, facilitated by Temple Librarian Elizabeth Stabler, are held twice each day, but the same book will be discussed at each meeting. Our October selection will be *A Short History of Women* by Kate Walbert. According to *The New York Times*, "Nearly everything about Kate Walbert's new novel is wickedly smart, starting with the title." Questions? Call (212) 744-1400, ext. 360.

**View descriptions of all books for the year on the Emanu-El Web site.
Click "Learning" → "Stettenheim Library."**



JEWISH UNIVERSITY IN A DAY

“From the Other Shore”— Moses and Korach

Sunday, November 1 • 12:30 PM to 5:30 PM
One East 65th Street

IN THIS SPECIAL ONE-DAY PROGRAM sponsored by the Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Temple Emanu-El, noted Bible scholar **Dr. Avivah Gottlieb Zornberg** will lead us in exploring midrashic and Chasidic sources that place the two leaders Moses and Korach in a relationship of radical tension. This special Jewish University in a Day also features a pre-lecture text preparation, a choice of one of three follow-up sessions, and a concluding session titled *Reflections on Home, Exile and Sacred Space* with Dr. Zornberg, writer André Aciman, artist Tobi Kahn and psychoanalyst Dr. Jill Salberg. Cost is \$75 with preregistration, \$100 at the door. (212) 507-9580



View a full schedule of the day at
www.adultjewishlearning.org/zornberg.

Family Mission to Israel

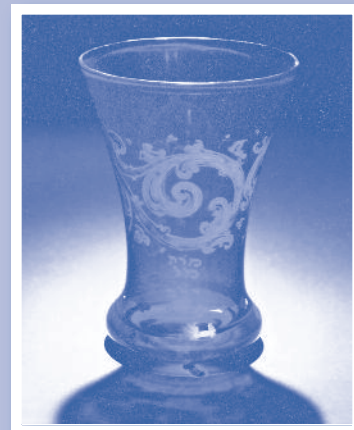
December 23, 2009 – January 3, 2010

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. Returning to lead this tour for a second time are Rabbi Howard Goldsmith and Saul Kaiserman, director of Lifelong Learning. Both have spent years living in Israel, and they bring their first-hand knowledge of the realities of life in Israel, together with their love of the Emanu-El community to lead a mission that is uniquely suited to members of our congregation.

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 including prices and itinerary, call Rabbi Howard Goldsmith at (212) 744-1400, ext. 304.

THE HERBERT & EILEEN BERNARD MUSEUM OF JUDAICA



**OBJECT OF THE MONTH:
WOMAN'S KIDDUSH CUP**
Bohemia?, late 19th century

Inscribed for the mistress of the household, this elegant glass would have been used for the blessing over wine (*Kiddush*) during the Sabbath, Jewish holidays and life-cycle events. It is a rare example of a *Kiddush* cup designated specifically for a woman.

Learn more on the Temple Web site. Click "Museum" → "Collection Highlights."
Or, visit the museum Sunday through Thursday, 10 AM to 4:30 PM.

TORAH STUDY
Temple Emanu-El's Sabbath morning Torah study meets each Saturday, prior to worship service, from 9:15 AM to 10:15 AM in the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65th Street. Rabbinic student Ariana Silverman will lead sessions on October 3, October 17 and October 31.

Life-Cycle Events



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

Saturday, October 3

Sydney Advocate Connolly,
daughter of
Karen Advocate-Connolly
and Thomas Connolly

Jared Alden Newman,
son of Michele and
Bill Newman

Saturday, October 10

Alexandra Caitlin Stein,
daughter of Mrs. Marla and
Dr. Jeffrey S. Stein

Robert Malpass, son of
David and Adele Malpass

Saturday, October 17

Jordan Taylor Singer,
daughter of Scott R. Singer
and Leslie Singer

Elizabeth Haley Speyer,
daughter of
Franklin and Carol Speyer

Saturday, October 24

Peter Samuel Romanello,
son of Dr. Jamie Fortunoff
and Dr. Paul Romanello

Margaret Heftler, daughter of
Jennifer Heller Heftler
and Noah Heftler

Adam Lippman, son of
Marie and Harley Lippman

We are grateful for their sponsorship of each Friday evening's Oneg Shabbat.

B'NEI MITZVAH PREPARATION

NO DOUBT EXISTS about the centrality of the bar or bat mitzvah experience in the lives of our families. Approximately 90 children celebrate becoming a bar or bat mitzvah each year at Temple Emanu-El. The rabbis and the cantor are involved integrally in this program. Temple Emanu-El affords its members the opportunity of participating either at the public worship service on Shabbat morning or at a private family service that may be scheduled on Friday evening, Saturday afternoon or evening, or Sunday. We take pride in the fact that only one bar or bat mitzvah student participates at a given service.

Resources for students and families, including text and recordings of the Hebrew blessings, as well as family prayers and mitzvah opportunities, are available on the Temple Web site. Click "Learning" → "Religious School" → "Bar & Bat Mitzvah Program."



NOTE: Children 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. To register your child for Religious School, call (212) 744-1400, ext. 226. To schedule a ceremony date, call (212) 744-1400, ext. 312.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Sixth Grade Parent Bar/Bat Mitzvah Information Meeting

Wednesday, November 18 • 5 PM
Sunday, November 22 • 11 AM

Sixth Grade Bar/Bat Mitzvah Mini-Retreat

Sunday, January 24 • 2 PM

Fifth Grade Bar/Bat Mitzvah Mini-Retreat

Sunday, January 31 • 2 PM

PULPIT FLOWERS at worship services have been donated by the following congregants:

**Additional dedication
for Yom Kippur**

Nancy B. Rubinger
in loving memory of
*Jessie C. Brilliant and
Susan Ellen Rubinger*

**For the Sabbath of
October 2 and 3**

Ellen J. Weiss
in celebration of life

Yves-Andre Istel
in loving memory of
Andre Istel

Diane and David Koplik
in loving memory of
Kenneth E. Koplik

Richard H. M. and
Gail Lowe Maidman
in loving memory of
Gail's mother,
Jeanette Marmott Lowe

Roberta S. Lazar and
Kathryn S. Pershan
in loving memory of
Gertrude and Leon Schaeffler

Jane G. Rittmaster
in loving memory of
her mother,
Hilda K. Goldstone

John, Laurie, Matthew,
Spencer and Amanda Rudey
and Liz, Kirk and Kate
Rudey Ruebenson
in loving memory of
Thelma Barasch Rudey

Virginia and Benjamin Sadock
in loving memory of
Fred Alcott

Dan K. Wassong
in loving memory of
Maria Czudnowski

**For the Sabbath of
October 9 and 10**

In loving memory of
Hyman Fisch

In memory of *Joel Tirschwell*
from his loving family

**For the Sabbath of
October 16 and 17**

Mr. Sanford P. Brass
in loving memory of his father,
Arthur J. Brass,
and his brother, *David Brass*

Charles Freeman
in loving memory of his parents,
Abraham and Pearl Freeman

Robin M. Laden
in loving memory of
Alice Laden

**For the Sabbath of
October 23 and 24**

Ann and Robert Freedman
in loving memory of
Hilda Fertig

Honey Gold and Family
in memory of my beloved
husband, *Abe Gold*

Eleanor Ressler
in loving memory of
my cherished husband,
Dr. Charles Ressler

NOTE: Because the *Temple
Emanu-El Bulletin* is now a
monthly publication, please be
advised that we need one
month's notice for Pulpit Flower
dedications and *Oneg Shabbat*
sponsorships. For more
information, call Sherry Nehmer
at (212) 744-1400, ext. 312,
or send an e-mail to
sponsorships@emanuelnyc.org.

Charles S. Salomon
The Universal Funeral Chapel
1076 Madison Avenue (212) 753-5300
Our service is available in the Temple,
home, or our Chapel.

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.

At a Glance: Month 2009



October 2
Friday, 5:15 PM
Eve of Sukkot Service
Sanctuary (Fifth Avenue at 65th Street)



October 2
Friday, 6:30 PM
Sukkot Family Worship Service & Dinner
Sanctuary (Fifth at 65th)



October 2
Friday, 7:30 PM
Sukkot Sleepover for 7th & 8th Graders
One East 65th Street



October 3
Saturday, 10:30 AM
Sukkot Service
Sanctuary (Fifth at 65th)



October 4
Sunday, 10 AM
The State of Affairs in Albany: Present and Future
One East 65th Street



October 4
Sunday, 10 AM
Young Families Sukkot/Simchat Torah Celebration
10 East 66th Street



October 4
Sunday, 4:30 PM
High School Confirmation Step 1
One East 65th Street



October 9
Friday, 5:15 PM
Eve of Sh'mini Atzeret Service
Sanctuary (Fifth at 65th)



October 10
Saturday, 10:30 AM
Sh'mini Atzeret/Simchat Torah Service
Sanctuary (Fifth at 65th)



October 11
Sunday, 11 AM
Stitch'n Time
One East 65th Street



October 13 and 20
Tuesday, 1 PM
The House That Eloise Built: Visiting New York's Plaza Hotel
Fifth Ave. at Central Park South



October 13
Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Next Year in Mumbai
JCC in Manhattan (334 Amsterdam at 76th Street)



October 14
Wednesday, 9 AM
Men's Club Book Group
One East 65th Street



October 18
Sunday, 3 PM
Young Artists Concert
One East 65th Street



October 21
Wednesday, 10:30 AM and 6:30 PM
Stettenheim Literary Circle
One East 65th Street



October 21
Wednesday, 4 PM
Mitzvah Corps Unit 2 Learning Component
10 East 66th Street



October 22
Thursday, 5 PM
Ronald McDonald House
405 East 73rd Street



October 23
Friday, 6:30 PM
Shabbat Kodesh Service
Beth-El Chapel (Fifth at 65th)



October 25
Sunday, 9:30 AM
Mitzvah Corps Unit 2 Learning Component
10 East 66th Street



October 25
Sunday, 10 AM
When the Mitzvah of Tzedakah Was Young: Snapshots of Judaism in Development
One East 65th Street



October 25
Sunday, 4:30 PM
High School Confirmation Step 2
One East 65th Street



Book Discussion



Film Screening



Lecture • Class • Tour



Musical Program



Religious School Event



Community • Volunteering



Worship & Spirituality



Young People's Program

Jewish Learning (continued)

Such learning ideally begins when we are children. That is why we at Temple Emanu-El are so invested in our newly revitalized religious school. But many of us begin our journey toward Jewish literacy much later in life. And even for those of us who were privileged to gain a solid Jewish education as children, Jewish learning is a life-long endeavor.

At the conclusion of Sukkot, when we celebrate the festival of Sh'mini Atzeret, we read the final verses of the book of Deuteronomy that conclude the Torah and immediately begin to read again from the Book of Genesis. This custom reflects an

We read the Torah again each year because although the Torah is the same, we are different.

ongoing commitment to study at every stage of our lives. We read the Torah again each year because although the Torah is the same, we are different. Our own life experiences raise new questions for us and enable sacred texts to speak to us in new ways. Adult education is primary, not secondary, to the kind of Jewish community we envision. The mitzvah of Torah study mandated that adults study not only for the sake of their children but also for

their own sakes. Jewish study is for us an integral part of what constitutes “the good life.”

I have been privileged to direct our Temple’s Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning since its inception. Over the past eight years, more than 215 Emanu-El congregants have taken courses with us along with thousands more from the New York Jewish community at large. I know what a source of pride this is for our Temple Emanu-El family, for those who have taken courses as well as for those whose family and friends have been touched by studying with us. The Skirball Center also enables Temple Emanu-El to have an effect on the lives of thousands of other New Yorkers who are being transformed by their own experience of Jewish study.

Our parents and grandparents built a grand and inspiring synagogue testifying to the unprecedented possibilities of being Jewish in America. In recent years, our beautiful temple has been restored lovingly. Let us now fill its walls with a renewed commitment to Jewish learning and an engagement with Jewish texts, history and ideas, thereby ensuring the continuation and vibrancy of a Jewish future.

Rabbi Leon A. Morris is executive director of the Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Temple Emanu-El.

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Young Artists Concert

Sunday, October 18 • 3 PM • One East 65th Street



SPONSORED WITH the Stecher & Horowitz Foundation, this annual series presents the prize winners of the biennial New York Piano Competition. Admission is free and open to the public. Our first performer of the year will be **Natalia Kazaryan**, 22, who was born in Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia. At the age of 6 she enrolled at the Tbilisi Music School for Gifted Children and made her orchestral debut at age 7. She has been hailed by the *New York Sun* as a pianist of “prodigious ability” who “immediately established an atmosphere of strength and confidence.”