



TEMPLE EMANU-EL Bulletin

Volume 78, Number 21

January 27, 2006

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 5 10 a.m.
**NFTB Metropolitan Conference:
Breakfast and Discussion**

The Men's Club of Congregation Emanu-El will co-host the first joint breakfast organized by the New York Metropolitan Conference of the North American Federation of Temple Brotherhoods (NFTB)—led by Temple member Andrew Chait. Guest speaker Dr. Bernard E. Munk will speak on "Oil Prices: How High for How Long?" Cost is \$25 per person in advance, \$30 at the door. On the day of the event, enter at the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65th Street. For additional information, call Andrew Chait at (212) 397-2815.



SABBATH SERVICES

**Friday evening, February 3
Lowenstein Sanctuary**

Organ Recital—5 p.m.
Sabbath Eve Service—5:15 p.m.
WQXR Radio (96.3 FM) and Internet
(www.wqxr.com) broadcasts—5:30 p.m.

**Saturday morning, February 4
Women's Auxiliary Lounge**

Torah Study—9:15 a.m.
Lowenstein Sanctuary
Service—10:30 a.m.
Torah Portion—Bo
Readings—Exodus 10:1-13:16
Jeremiah 46:13-28
Sermon: Rabbi David M. Posner

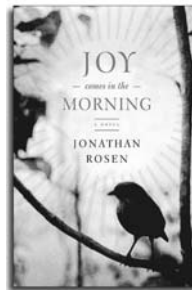
WOMEN'S
AUXILIARY

Tuesday,
February 7
12:30 p.m.

**Book
Discussion
With Rabbi
Leon Morris**



Members of the Women's Auxiliary are invited to our February event featuring Rabbi Leon A. Morris, director of the Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Temple Emanu-El. Rabbi Morris will lead our discussion of *Joy Comes in the Morning*, a novel by Jonathan Rosen. Mr. Rosen is a frequent contributor to *The New Yorker* magazine and the *New York Times*. *Joy Comes in the Morning*—Mr. Rosen's second novel—is the story of Deborah Green, a young, vibrant and deeply committed rabbi who falls in love with a religious skeptic/son of a Holocaust survivor. According to *Publishers Weekly*, *Joy Comes in the Morning* is "a welcoming and intelligent look at Deborah's efforts to weld her many identities—woman, rabbi, Jew—into a cohesive whole."



Attendees are invited to bring their own lunch. Coffee and cookies will be provided. RSVP by Tuesday, January 31 to the Women's Auxiliary at (212) 744-1400, ext. 235 or womaux@emanuelnyc.org.

B'NOS MITZVAH

The following students of our Religious School will become B'nos Mitzvah this weekend:

Arielle Blair Lehman, daughter of Ellen Jacobs Lehman

Suzanne Rosen, daughter of Caroline and Jonathan Rosen

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

PULPIT FLOWERS

Pulpit flowers at Sabbath services this weekend are the generous donation of our congregants:

Barry, Patricia and Elizabeth Berkule in loving memory of *Lloyd Berkule*

Elisabeth Cassell in loving memory of her cherished husband, *Marvin Cassell*

Mrs. A. Coleman Poll in loving memory of her brother, *Jacques G. Coleman Jr.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 5 5 p.m.
Eighth Grade Leadership Academy

Don't miss our next session! Dinner to be served.
Questions? Call (212) 744-1400, ext. 501.

Tuesday, February 7 9:30 a.m.
Young Families: Storytime

Temple librarian Elizabeth Stabler will read stories about *Tu B'Shevat* (the New Year for Trees). RSVP to (212) 744-1400, ext. 362.

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

NEW PROGRAM!
In the Original:
Hebrew Language Program

SKIRBALL
CORNER

As part of its spring semester of classes, the Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Temple Emanu-El is pleased to offer "In the Original," a new Hebrew language program developed for those who want to read the Bible and classic Jewish texts in their original form. Spring semester study will focus on the Haggadah. Classes will be offered at two proficiency levels:

- Level 2—For those who can read letters and vowels and are ready to learn grammar and vocabulary
- Level 3—For those who have some vocabulary and grammar and want to increase their fluency and understanding

Hebrew classes meet Monday evenings starting February 6. To register for this or any other classes offered as part of the Skirball spring semester, call (212) 507-9580.

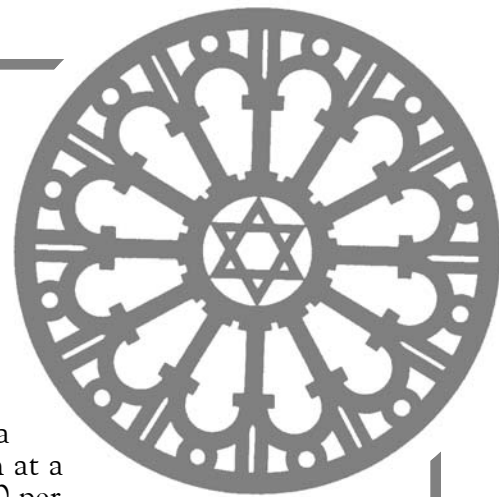
TO BE NOTED

Young Jewish Authors Discussion Group

Interested in what the new generation of Jewish writers is up to? Then join Temple librarian Elizabeth Stabler as she leads the **Young Jewish Authors Discussion Group**, held once a month in the Stettenheim Library. Sessions begin Monday, February 6 at 6 p.m. with "Knitting One" by Suzan Sherman, found in *Lost Tribe: Jewish Fiction From the Edge*. Call (212) 744-1400, ext. 362 for more information.

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.

FROM THE ARCHIVES: EMANU-EL AND BETH-EL MERGE



NEARLY 80 years have passed since Emanu-El Congregation (“God is with us”) merged with Temple Beth-El (“House of the Lord”), becoming the Congregation Emanu-El of the City of New York that we know today. Once set in motion, amalgamation occurred in a relatively short period of time. The idea of merger was introduced at an Emanu-El Congregation board meeting on April 4, 1927. Members of the board of trustees at Temple Beth-El discussed the idea at a special meeting held five days later on April 9, 1927—although documentation shows that Temple Beth-El had been considering the idea of amalgamation as early as 1915.

The merger proposal was presented to Emanu-El Congregation members on April 25, 1927, with more than two-thirds of the membership voting in favor of merger. Temple Beth-El members voted on May 11, 1927, with 184 in favor and 68 against. The merger also required approval by the State Supreme Court for the County of New York, which ultimately was granted by Justice Edward J. Gavegan.

Legal documentation from the merger stipulated adherence to several conditions. Among them, the chapel of the new structure at 65th Street always should bear the name “Beth-El Chapel.” Rabbi Samuel Schulman of Temple Beth-El would deliver one sermon on Saturday and one on Sunday of each month, as well as one during High Holy Days. He also would receive upon retirement a pension of \$12,000 per year.

Mr. Samuel Berliner, clerk of Temple Beth-El, would be retained in a similar position at a salary of \$3,600 per year because of his “general ability and special knowledge concerning matters affecting Temple Beth-El, its property and property rights and interests, such as Beth-El Cemeteries and membership.” And, an amendment to the original agreement required placement of a tablet or tablets “in the vestibule or other suitable place of the new Temple, which will historically commemorate Emanu-El Congregation and Temple Beth-El, setting forth the dates of their incorporation and the names of the Rabbis who have functioned in each during their respective corporate lives.”

With the merger now complete, worship services were conducted at Temple Beth-El (located at Fifth Avenue and 76th Street) until construction of the new temple and community house at 65th Street was concluded and the building dedication

held in 1930. The Temple Beth-El name would remain affiliated with the structure as long as it was in use. Even after the move to 65th Street, the congregation maintained ownership of the Temple Beth-El structure until 1947—using it as a canteen for troops during World War II, as well as a location for extra services.



A brochure from 1929 entitled “Chronicles of Temple Emanu-El and Temple Beth-El” provided histories and images of each, as well as a description of the new facility to be built at Fifth Avenue and 65th Street.

Inset: A brochure from 1929 listing memorials available in the new temple and those to which donors already had subscribed.

AROUND THE TOWN



Members of the Men's Club and their guests gathered in December for a pre-Chanukah Shabbat celebration at a classic New York eatery—Palm Too—with special guests Rabbi Posner and his wife, Sylvia (pictured upper left). In addition to a short “lesson” on the derivations of Chanukah, Rabbi Posner led the group in prayers and festive songs—creating a truly enjoyable evening for all! *For more information about Men's Club membership, social programs and civic activities, call the Men's Club office at (212) 744-1400, ext. 250.*

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Rabbi Leon A. Morris

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