Christine C. Quinn—the first woman ever to be elected speaker of the New York City Council, will be this year’s featured guest. Ms. Quinn, who has served on the Council since 1999, has been a voice for comprehensive health care, equal rights for all New Yorkers, rational rezoning, better schools and tenants’ rights. Speaker Quinn has been named one of the 50 most powerful women in New York City by the New York Post and one of the “Forty Under Forty” by Gotham Magazine.

The Annual Meeting, which includes election of officers and board members, is for Women’s Auxiliary members in good standing and their invited guests. The cost is $25 for Women’s Auxiliary members, $35 for their guests. Make checks payable to the Women’s Auxiliary. RSVP by Tuesday, May 2.
Men’s Club: Reading Group

We will discuss Rembrandt’s Jews by Steven Nadler, available in paperback from the University of Chicago Press. American Library Journal describes Nadler’s discourse as “rich in compelling detail and surprising disclosures” and that it “greatly deepens our understanding of the role of art in both Dutch and Jewish history.”

Family Shabbat: Worship and Dinner

Youngsters through early school age will celebrate at a Tot Shabbat with our Young Families group. Youth who can read (through B’nei Mitzvah age) will celebrate with our Junior Congregation, led by Rabbinic Intern David Young. Afterwards, we’ll gather for dinner and an art project. RSVP to (212) 744-1400, ext. 242 for Young Families or ext. 501 for Junior Congregation.

Film Screening and Q&A: Diamonds in the Snow

Temple Emanu-El and the American Society for Jewish Heritage in Poland are pleased to announce a free screening of Diamonds in the Snow, followed by a Q&A with the filmmaker, Mira Reym Binford. This international prize-winning film tells the stories of three young children from Bedzin, Poland—including the filmmaker—who were saved from the Nazis by Polish strangers. Thousands of Jewish children lived in Bedzin before the Nazi invasion, but only about a dozen survived. The survivors’ perspectives, interwoven with rare archival images, create a deeply moving, authentic portrayal of the complexities of history and human nature. This event is free and open to the public. Enter at the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65th Street.

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.

B’nei Mitzvah

The following students of our Religious School will become B’nei Mitzvah this weekend:

Stephanie Belenkov, daughter of Dr. Elliot and Mrs. Alla Belenkov
Joshua Leon Foulquier, son of Fifi and Olivier Foulquier
Jordan Siskind-Weiss, daughter of Marcy Siskind and Jonathan Weiss
Jeremy Matthew Exstein, son of Lida and Michael Exstein

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:

Lida and Michael Exstein in honor of their son Jeremy becoming a Bar Mitzvah
The Siskind-Weiss Family in honor of Jordan Alana becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Ruth Katzman in loving memory of her parents, Lillian and Max Katzman
Bonnie, David, Richard, Nancy and Gail Maidman in loving memory of Ada Maidman
CULTURE & COSTUME: DEPICTIONS OF JEWISH DRESS ACROSS FIVE CENTURIES

CULTURE & COSTUME documents the perceptions and imaginings of travelers and artists who illustrated Jewish modes of dress and ways of life in various parts of the world from the 15th through the 19th centuries. The clothes and customs of Jews living in North Africa, the Ottoman Empire and Europe were recorded in books and prints that purported to describe the manners, laws, religions and dress of people in these places. Over the centuries, many of the prints featured in this exhibition were removed from the original context for which they had been created: travelogues, history and costume books, and albums.

At certain periods in history, Jews were subjected to elaborately detailed regulations regarding their dress. Applied primarily to types of head- and footwear and to the wearing of certain colors, these regulations could take the form of restrictions or mandates. At the Fourth Lateran Council, for example, convened under the auspices of Pope Innocent III in 1215, it was demanded that Jews dress in a manner that easily distinguished them from their fellow Christians. This law, intended to prevent the “mixing of Jew and Christian,” imposed the infamous Jewish badge on the Jews of Europe. Conversely, clothing could serve to accelerate the assimilation process, as was the intention of Czar Nicolas I, who in the mid-19th century prohibited Jews from wearing traditional costumes. The clothing seen in these prints thus reflects a distinctive Jewish identity, whether forged by choice or by decree.

From the collection of Congregation Emanu-El of the City of New York.

OPENING RECEPTION FOR TEMPLE MEMBERS
Wednesday, May 3 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. (Keynote address at 7 p.m.)

Our keynote speaker will be JENNA WEISSMAN JOSELIT. Ms. Joselit teaches American Jewish studies at Princeton University, writes a monthly column on American Jewish culture for The Forward, and is the author of several books, including the critically acclaimed A Perfect Fit: Clothes, Character and the Promise of America. This event is for Temple members only. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP to (212) 744-1400, ext. 259.
Thank you to all Temple members—from our Junior Choir (which led our guests in singing) to the multiple generations of families who packaged, prepared and served meals—for making both our Second Seder for the Elderly and Homebound Delivery events to remember!