

Temple Emeth

Bulletin

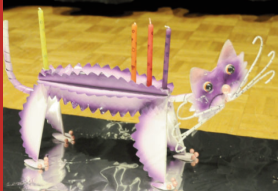
Temple Emeth of Teaneck, New Jersey
An Affiliate of the Union for Reform Judaism
Serving Reform Congregations in North America

Volume 77 Number 3

www.emeth.org

Kislev/Tevet 5784

December 2023



Temple Emeth invites you to the
21st Annual Chanukah Dinner
(The first since 2019!)
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2023
at 6 p.m.

Dinner will be followed by a
Family Service at 7:30 p.m.

New Members attend as our guests
If you are a new member, please call the office
at 201-833-1322, or email Suzannah at
smercado@emeth.org to register.

Members - \$35

Non-Members - \$40

Children 4 - 12 - \$15

Children under 3 - Free

**Bring your Chanukkiyot (Menorahs)
to light with your
Temple Emeth Family**

emeth.org/event/chanukahdinner2023

RSVP by December 4, 2023

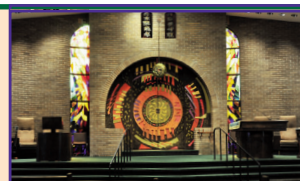


TEMPLE EMETH

1666 Windsor Road Teaneck, New Jersey 07666

www.emeth.org

Main Office # 201 833-1322



SINCE 1947

RABBI Steven Sirbu ssirbu@emeth.org
CANTOR Ellen S. Tilem cantoret@yahoo.com
RABBI EMERITUS Louis J. Sigel z"l



TEMPLE ADMINISTRATOR Suzannah Mercado smercado@emeth.org
BOOKKEEPER Maryanne Tursi mtursi@emeth.org
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT Alison Reiser areiser@emeth.org



PRESIDENT Michael Goldberg president@emeth.org
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT Marc Chelemer firstvp@emeth.org
SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT Lisa Eig secondvp@emeth.org
THIRD VICE-PRESIDENT Stacey Butler thirdvp@emeth.org
SECRETARY Marty Breznick secretary@emeth.org
ASSISTANT SECRETARY Marsha Sobel asstsecretary@emeth.org
FINANCIAL SECRETARY Alan Winters financialsecretary@emeth.org
ASSISTANT FINANCIAL OFFICER Paula Dillon asstfinancialofficer@emeth.org
TREASURER Gary Richards treasurer@emeth.org

EDITOR, PHOTOGRAPHER, LAYOUT, GRAPHIC DESIGNER & ADVERTISING:

Barbara Balkin bulletin@emeth.org

ASSISTANT EDITORS: Marion Wolf and Judy Fox

From the Editor - Flyers are for the weekly or mid-month email and should be sent to Suzannah Mercado at smercado@emeth.org cc: areiser@emeth.org

<i>Bulletin Deadlines</i>			<i>Mid-Month Mailing Deadlines</i>	
<u>Month</u>	<u>Deadline Date</u>	<u>Publication Date</u>	<u>Deadline Date</u>	<u>Publication Date</u>
September	August 18	September 1	September 10	September 16
October	September 18	October 1	October 12	October 17
November	October 18	November 1	November 9	November 14
December	November 18	December 1	December 12	December 18
January	December 18	January 2	January 10	January 16
February	January 18	February 1	February 11	February 19
March	February 17	March 1	March 8	March 13
April	March 17	April 1	April 9	April 16
May	April 18	May 1	May 8	May 15
June	May 18	June 1	June 10	June 17

Material for the Bulletin is welcome and essential for the success of the publication, but it is necessary to honor the deadlines as listed. For the Bulletin, submit all material by 8:00 p.m. on the date of the deadline. Please submit all material by email to Barbara Balkin at bulletin@emeth.org and use Times New Roman font, 12 pt. in a Word document file. For Mid-month mailings, all materials are due by 4:00 p.m. on the date of the deadline.

The Temple Emeth Bulletin is published monthly from September through June.

Advertising Rates for Ad Size 2" x 3 ½"

	Member	Non-Member
1 Month	\$ 55	\$ 75
5 Months	\$250	\$350
10 Months	\$330	\$450

For additional information, call (201) 833-1322

Message From the Rabbi

There is a blessing in our tradition for seeing 600,000 Jews in one place. It is an odd blessing: “*Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheinu Melech Ha-Olam, chacham harazim*—Blessed are You, Eternal our God, Sovereign of the Universe, Knower of secrets.” It is an odd blessing, probably a reference to the fact that, while so much knowledge was given at Sinai, at least some must have been withheld, waiting for revelation to a future generation.

I thought of this blessing on November 14, when I was at the largest gathering of Jews I have ever seen, and indeed which may have taken place in a generation.

The event on the National Mall in Washington was called the “March for Israel.” The agenda had three points: support for Israel, demanding the release of the 240 hostages, and calling for an end to antisemitism. These goals were defined generally to be as unifying as possible. The organizers made no mention of the Israel government, nor of any specific military strategy in Gaza. Rather they wisely chose to articulate the purpose of the march in ways that virtually every American Jew could connect with. The astounding turnout showed that they succeeded.

At an event like this, everyone notices and is inspired by different things. Here’s what inspired me:

Political commentator Van Jones from CNN stood before the crowd and recalled the history of Jewish involvement in the Civil Rights Movement. He decried the increase in antisemitic threats in the United States. He showed compassion for the suffering of all and positioned himself as a true ally of the Jewish community.

Four members of Congress, representing the bipartisan leadership of both the House and the Senate stood shoulder to shoulder in support of Israel. They were Speaker of the House Mike Johnson, House minority leader Hakeem Jeffries, Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer and Senator Joni Ernst, the Chair of the Senate Republican Policy Committee. They disagree on so much that their institutions are

often on the verge of dysfunction. But they put all those disagreements aside to stand for Israel.

Another speaker who inspired me was Dr. Deborah Lipstadt, the special envoy to monitor and combat antisemitism. Appointed by President Biden to this position last year, she was the representative of the Biden Administration at the march. She helped define what antisemitism is and why it is so dangerous.

And by far, the most powerful speaker was Rachel Goldberg, mother of 23-year-old Hersh Goldberg-Polin, who was kidnapped from the music festival on October 7. She challenged the world not to look away from the pain of the hostages and their families. She spoke about how the hostages’ families have “third-degree burns on their souls” while their loved ones are “kept in the dark, buried in the earth’s crust.”

There were no rabbis on the stage on Tuesday, but there were prayers, including the prayer for the soldiers of the Israeli Defense Forces. There were lots of rabbis in the crowd, though, and I saw three I knew. As you can imagine, there were lots of creative signs. My favorite was “Love hummus, not Hamas.”

The words, the music, the slogans all made an impact. But what stood out to me the most was just being there, seeing signs and T-shirts from different cities and states across the country. At 300,000, we were at about half of what is required to recite the blessing for a large crowd of Jews. That didn’t concern me. Instead, I was heartened knowing that Israelis would see pictures of the march on the news that night and knowing that despite our divisions, the Jewish community can come together when it matters. And right now, it matters.



Rabbi Steven Sirbu



Message from the Cantor

After hearing about yet another antisemitic incident on a college campus, I was reminded of a Bulletin article that I wrote in June 2015 as my now 26-year-old daughter, Eve, was graduating high school.

I have submitted an excerpt from that 2015 article, and with it the hope and inspiration that came from the beautiful, peaceful, and inspiring March for Israel in Washington, DC on November 14th. A rally of support rather than a protest, it was filled with singing, positive and peaceful messages, prayer, and hope for the future of Israel and the Jewish people.

Again, this is an excerpt from my Bulletin article of June 2015:

Eve will be going to continue her Jewish studies at a women's college in Israel for the coming year. After that, her plan is to return to the United States to attend Binghamton University. To be sure, this is a time of life that brings with it much excitement and pride, as well as the usual and expected anxieties, both on the part of the graduate and the parents! When asked if I am worried about her going to Israel for the year, my response is that what I am most worried about is her return to an American university. If this fear sounds strange to you, simply type "Antisemitism on College Campuses" into your search engine and you will read the same frightening statistics that I have read. Colleges in this country have been turning a blind eye to a growing number of violent protests and attacks against Jewish students. Disguised as "Anti-Zionist" protests, these are targeted attacks against Jews.

Anti-Zionism is Antisemitism, make no mistake about it. There is no longer any separation between the two, if there ever was. Well-known institutions of higher learning and university administrations tend to ignore the growing problem of antisemitism on campus. Many universities do not stand up against Anti-Zionist protests which spill over into antisemitic acts on many campuses. Jewish students are harassed and even denied a place on the student councils of some of these colleges. This is a widespread issue; it is not happening on one or two campuses.

Indeed, institutions that enforce sensitivity training to be sure that faculty and students are sensitive to other minorities may inadvertently be bringing groups together in common hostility toward Jews as the only campus minority against whom hostility is *condoned*. On almost every campus in the United States the norms of political correctness are rigorously enforced, and the administrations labor so that nothing is said or read that will ever offend the sensibilities of any student—with one licensed exception.

Some groups have used the celebration of multiculturalism as an excuse to create a multicultural coalition of anti-Zionists.

University presidents, deans and administrations allow protests and violent acts to continue based on the idea of free speech and an open exchange of ideas within the institution. Some of those who are teaching these ideas are professors who produce defamatory works of doctored scholarship, organize anti-Israel demonstra-

tions, and disseminate lies and anti-Israel propaganda in their classes and lecture halls. Others stand by in silence or chastise their pro-Israel students and colleagues, essentially making them uncomfortable. However, there is no rule on any campus that a university or college club must invite hate mongers to stand up and speak. These speakers are posing a danger to the Jewish students on campus by indoctrinating the student body with antisemitism.

Enter the BDS movement. Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions is the "polite" name given to a movement which vilifies the Jewish homeland and along with it the Jewish people. To say that these two are separate ideas is simply not true. People cannot support BDS and say that they support Israel. While pushing their agenda for BDS, protestors and speakers also try to persuade the listener to believe that Israel and Jews are trying to control the entire world. If you actually listen to what leaders of the BDS movement are saying on college campuses, you will hear the venom and hatred directed at not only Israel, but at Jews. There are those who

think that supporting BDS is the politically correct thing to do, that this is only a political statement about Israel. It is not. **Anti-Zionism is antisemitism.**

Sadly, and most disturbing, there are even plenty of Jewish students who employ "inclusivity" as a code-word for bashing Jewish and non-Jewish students who are unabashedly pro-Israel. They have failed to realize that **Anti-Zionism is antisemitism** and that antisemites hate them with the same vehemence that they hate those Jews who support Israel.

Thankfully there is hope.

Some universities have denounced the BDS movement as a vehicle for spreading antisemitism, since it advocates for the elimination of the Jewish State and undermines the Jewish people's right to self-determination. Remember, you are not helpless.

Many of us have connections with university administrations and faculty. Many of us financially support universities, especially the colleges we attended and those our children and grandchildren attend. Research the college's history on giving ear to Anti-Zionist speakers and protests. Find out about recent antisemitic acts on campus and how the administration handles them. Your funds do not have to go to universities which allow "BDS Weeks" or allow dozens of Anti-Israel protests, giving voice to hatred and sparking violent antisemitic acts toward Jewish students. Speak to those connected to universities so that they know the truth about this terrible growing problem.

As I send my daughter off to Israel, I look forward to her growth as a Jewish woman. I pray that she will have the strength to speak out against hatred wherever it lives. And as she returns to America next year, I pray that we will be one step closer to finding peace and fighting antisemitism worldwide.

I wish you all a Happy Chanukah!
Am Yisrael Chai!



Cantor Ellen Tilem

Cantor Ellen Tilem

Message from President Michael Goldberg

We Stand With Israel

Rabbi Sirbu has reconstituted our **Israel / ARZA Committee** in light of the war that began on October 7. Thank you to **Elliot Steinberg** for chairing this committee. The committee members include **Sam Gronner, Ilene Anesini, Stefanie Stokes, Judy Eichinger, Emily Steinberg, Larry Fink, Linda and Ron Klempner, and Rabbi Sirbu**. Some of the items that the committee will address in the months ahead are:

Advocacy: Engage our members to reach out to elected leadership in support of Israel.
Speakers: Invite a speaker to provide an update on what is happening.

Benefit/Fundraiser: Host a benefit concert or similar event with proceeds going to a designated Israel organization.

Vetting and communication about local events.

Temple Website: provide timely information

Our first speaker/fundraiser will be on December 1st when Jordan Katz, from the American Friends of Magen David Adom, will speak at our Duets Service. Thank you to those who represented Temple Emeth at the “**March for Israel**” rally at the National Mall in Washington, DC on November 14: **Rabbi Sirbu, Rabbi Rebecca Sirbu, Yaron Prywes, and Michal Towbar**.

Thank You

Thank you to **Susan Breznick** for planning our recent Temple trip. On Sunday, November 5th, over fifty congregants and friends attended the Broadway play, *Harmony*, followed by dinner. A good time was had by all. Thank you to **Stacey Butler** for organizing the Emeth Keshet Havdalah and Game Night on Saturday, November 18th. Thank you **Rabbi Sirbu** for leading Havdalah.

Thank you to **Marcia Orange and Gayle Goldberg**, B'yachad co-chairs, for coordinating the November 19th B'yachad Breakfast, “The Image of Jews in Literature” presented by Janet B. Chertkoff.

Upcoming Events

Hope to see you at our **Chanukah Dinner on Friday evening, December 8th**. We will be honoring our new members who joined since 2019. Thank you to our co-chairs, **Beth Pascarello and Damary Zaken**, and their committee.

Please join us for a **New Years Eve Celebration at Emeth** starting at 9:30 p.m. Bring your friends for champagne and dessert. We will have games, activities, and surprises! Thank you to **Steve Clark and Judy Distler**.

Please note that the **Bazaar** has been postponed to **Sunday, April 14, 2024**. Thank you to our co-chairs **Marc Chelemer and Laaren Hort**.

2024 Spring Gala

Please save the date, **Saturday, June 1, 2024**, for our

Spring Gala. Special Thank You to the one-and-only **Judy Distler** who will be our Gala Chair. Please contact Judy if you are interested in helping to plan this event.

This year's Honorees are:

Honoree – *Nickie Falk*

Devotion Awards - *Cynthia Massarsky and Linda Poskanzer*

Heal the World / Activism Award - *Karyle Goldstein and Hildy Dillon*

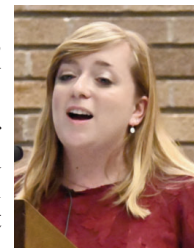
Nickie Falk was our President during the Covid years. She oversaw the livestream technology and updated our kitchen. **Cynthia Massarsky and Linda Poskanzer** are both well-deserving recipients of Devotion Awards for all of their years of service and dedication. This year, per Judy Distler's suggestion, a new category of award, “Heal the World / Activism Award” will be presented to **Karyle Goldstein** for her work with Family Promise and Feeding

the Hungry, and **Hildy Dillon** for her work with Voting Rights and Social Action.

Highlighting Amanda Eastman, Board Member, Cantorial Soloist, and Technology Committee Chair

This month I chose to highlight one of our newer Board members, the multi-talented Amanda Eastman. Amanda grew up at Temple Emeth when she joined with her wonderful parents (using her words) in 2008. Her father, Mike, and her mother, Rachel, are both dedicated and active members. Amanda had her Bat Mitzvah at Temple Emeth in 2010 and was confirmed in 2013.

Amanda developed her passion for singing under the guidance of Cantor Tilem and Marc Klausner, of blessed memory. She shared her beautiful voice at services with us as a member of Etz Chayim, our Junior Choir, Shir Chadash, our Teen Choir, and now Kol Emet, our Adult Choir. Amanda has both joined Cantor Tilem at the Cantor's pulpit and has served as our Cantorial Soloist at services for many years. Amanda joined the Board this past July. She holds many roles and responsibilities including the Chair of the Technology Committee, Religious School Teacher, Assistant Advisor to ETC, and Junior Congregation Coordinator. Amanda led the RAC Trip for the first time with Rabbi Sirbu this past Spring. She is a regular at Torah Study.



Amanda graduated from the University of Hartford with an Elementary and Special Education Degree in 2019 receiving the Education Departmental Award for Academic Excellence. She is currently attending Fairleigh Dickinson University, working towards a Masters of Literacy/Reading Specialist and Certification in Orton Gillingham. She anticipates earning her Master's Degree in May 2025. Amanda is currently employed as a Resource Room teacher with the Westwood School District and has been a Unit Head at the URJ's Eisner Camp for the past four summers and plans to continue as an “adult camper” for years to come! In her spare time, she enjoys Broadway shows, reading, and of course, singing. Thank you, Amanda.

Please reach out to me with your questions and concerns.

All the Best,
Michael Goldberg, President



Michael Goldberg



new Year's eve at emeth!



9:30 p.m. - After your movie or meal,
bring your friends for champagne and
delicious desserts!

Games - Activities - Surprises

★ \$18 per person -

Exciting, inviting, affordable get-together
you can't afford to miss!

Reservations and payment
by December 15

Go to: www.emeth.org/event/newyeareve
or call the office 201-833 1322

UPDATE from the TEMPLE EMETH HEALING COMMITTEE



Our committee is actively engaging with many congregants. We would like to encourage everyone to reach out and share what healing means to you and perhaps what role you may want to play in the process by sending an e-mail to: healingcommittee@emeth.org

To date, we have spoken to 40 individual members, and while many continue to participate in whatever aspects of Temple Emeth they always enjoyed, others remain hurt, angry, and upset.

As a Healing Committee, we are striving to create open lines of communication so that everyone's voice is heard and honored. We believe that the healing process will only begin when people open their hearts and minds to listen to each other.

Here are two foundational findings we all agree on:

The conflict and the divisions that occurred impacted many of us.

What transpired feels profoundly contrary to our Jewish values and the Temple Emeth community we all know and love.

While there are diverse opinions on what the healing process should look like, many have expressed a desire for social events that bring us together, especially across all generations of the congregation. New Year's Eve does approach....

We hope our process will show everyone a path forward, one that we can all embrace to help ensure that Temple Emeth will always be our home.

Again, please join our conversation and send an e-mail to: healingcommittee@emeth.org



Fun and Games Day



The next Fun and Games Day at Temple Emeth will be held on Wednesday, December 13th from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. (and continuing on the second Wednesday of every month).

If you play Canasta, Bridge, Mahjong, Scrabble, Chess or other games we will have tables and chairs set up in the social hall for you to play with your family and friends. It's absolutely free for Temple members (and for non-members who play at their table). Cost is \$5 for non-members.

Come with a full table to play (and if not let us know and we will try to fit you in at a table). Bring your games, cards and sets. Coffee, tea and water will be provided and feel free to bring your own refreshments.

Call the office at (201) 833-1322 to register for December 13th.

Any questions? Contact Caryn at gameday@emeth.org



March in Washington DC on November 14th in support of Israel



Photos provided by Rabbi Sirbu and Yaron Prywes and Michal Towber.



Adult Education Mini University: Starting January 9 on Tuesdays at 8:00 p.m.

"Our New Reality After October 7," with Rabbi Steven Sirbu

Tuesdays, January 9, 16, 30 and February 6 (make-up date February 13) at 8:00 p.m.

The October 7 attack on Israel and the war that followed has upended many of our assumptions about Israel, antisemitism and American Jewish identity. This class will combine history and current events to help understand how we got to this point. We will also discuss the safety of Jews in the current political climate, and how pro-Israel activism has changed. Bring your questions and your opinions, but remember each class lasts only 60 minutes.

Yiddish Class Meets Mondays at 10:30 a.m.

in the library and on Zoom.

Come join our Yiddish class with instructor David Braun

Use this link to join on Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89573268791?pwd=YUtoSThYaENXSvZRVzVxR0hhS0NMZz09>
Meeting ID 895 7326 8791 Passcode 559981 For audio only, dial 929 205 6099

SAVE THE DATE

The **Glazer Concert and Lecture Series** presents its inaugural concert on March 3rd at 2:00 p.m. This is to honor Gilda and Robert Glazer who were accomplished musicians and Temple Emeth members.

New Year's Eve is just around the corner. Do dinner or a movie, on your own or with your usual group. Then come to Temple at 9:30 p.m. for decadent desserts, fun and games, and surprises. Only \$18 per person. Guests are welcome with members. Together, let's ring in the New Year with hopes for better days in 2024.

Cantor Tilem leads "Growing Through Grief," a bereavement support group for those who are struggling with grief after the loss of a loved one. Group members are welcome to bring friends or relatives who are working through loss. Please email or call Cantor Tilem before attending to be sure that group fits your unique needs.

Meetings will be
Thursdays at 5:00 p.m.
December 7, 21, 28
January 18, 25
February 1, 8, 15

Chanukah Duets Service on Friday, December 1st at 8:00 p.m.

Mark your calendar for our first ever Chanukah Duets Service. If you've ever wanted to sing with Cantor Tilem, here's your chance. She will work with you to find a Shabbat or Chanukah song that is perfect to harmonize. Email the Cantor for a song choice and rehearsal date!

Lunch & Learn with Rabbi Sirbu Wednesdays, from 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Lunch and Learn is a weekly conversation on ideas that challenge us to think deeply. This year, we will study the Biblical prophets and their message of justice, and modern texts that continue the legacy of the prophets. Our textbook will be "Prophetic Voices: Renewing and Reimagining Haftarah." This book, published by CCAR Press not only explores the meaning of the Haftarah portions, but the context of the Haftarah itself. Copies of the book are available for purchase in the Temple office; it is also available as an e-book. Every six weeks or so, we set our books aside and discuss a topic from current events. You bring your lunch, and we provide the learning...and the coffee.

Click on link below to join on Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84261140680?pwd=TFZ4VlpsMlhCMlI2bzIzUE9HZlU3Zz09#success>

Meeting ID 842 6114 0680

Password 686599

For audio only, dial 929 205 6099

Rent and Rave!

Have you seen the new cards (brought to you by the Madmen - and women - of the Marketing Committee) that are advertising Emeth as a space to rent? We have a state-of-the-art kitchen, huge ballroom, ample parking, and the youth lounge for smaller events. Consider Emeth if you're planning a party (discounted rates for members), and spread the word! Call the office for details (dates, rates, etc.)



Services and S'machot

19 Kislev 5784
Friday, December 1

Shabbat Vayishlach
Shabbat Evening Service at 8:00 p.m.
Duets Service

Saturday, December 2

Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.
Shabbat Morning Healing Service at 10:30 a.m.

Torah Portion
Genesis 32:4-36:43

Haftarah
Hosea 11:7-12:12

26 Kislev 5784
Friday, December 8

Shabbat Chanukah
Chanukah Dinner at 6:00 p.m.
Family Shabbat Service at 7:30 p.m.
Etz Chayim sings

Saturday, December 9

Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.
Shabbat Morning Learner's Service at 10:30 a.m.

Torah Portion Vayeishev
Genesis 37:1-40:23

Haftarah
Amos 2:6-3:8

4 Tevet 5784

Shabbat Mikeitz

Friday, December 15

Shabbat Evening Service at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 16

Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.
Shabbat Morning Service at 10:30 a.m.

Torah Portion
Genesis 41:1-44:17

Haftarah
Zechariah 4:1-7

11 Tevet 5784

Shabbat Vayigash

Friday, December 22

Shabbat Evening Service at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 23

Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.
Shabbat Morning Service at 10:30 a.m.

Torah Portion
Genesis 44:18-37:27

Haftarah
Ezekiel 37:15-28

18 Tevet 5784

Shabbat Va-y'chi

Friday, December 29

Kabbalat Shabbat Music Service at 6:00 p.m.
(no Torah service)

Saturday, December 30

Torah Study at 9:00 a.m.
Shabbat Morning Service with Traditional Nusach at 10:30 a.m.

Torah Portion
Genesis 47:28-50:26

Haftarah
I Kings 2:1-2:12

December 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 18th of Kislev 5784 8:00pm - 9:00pm Shabbat Evening Service - Duets Service - Guest Speaker Jordan Katz of American Friends of Magen David Adom @ Sanctuary	2 19th of Kislev 5784 9:00am - 10:00am Torah Study (Hybrid Learning in Youth Lounge and on Zoom) 10:30am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Healing Service @ Sanctuary 12:00pm - 2:00pm ETC Mitzvah: Dor L'dor Chanukah Package Delivery
3 20th of Kislev 5784 9:00am - 11:30am Religious School @ Temple Sinai 9:45am - 11:00am Community Conversation Meeting @ ZOOM	4 21st of Kislev 5784 10:30am - 12:30pm Yiddish Class Hybrid in Library and Zoom	5 22nd of Kislev 5784 4:00pm - 5:30pm Religious School @ Temple Sinai 7:30pm - 8:30pm Adult Ed Committee Meeting @ ZOOM	6 23rd of Kislev 5784 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch and Learn @ Library 7:30pm - 9:00pm Officers Meeting @ ZOOM 8:00pm - 9:15pm Kol Emet Rehearsal @ Sanctuary	7 24th of Kislev, Hanukkah Begins 5:00pm - 6:00pm Growing through Grief with Cantor Tilem @ Museum	8 25th of Kislev, Hanukkah 6:00pm - 7:00pm Annual Chanukah Dinner @ Social Hall 7:30pm - 8:30pm Family Shabbat Service @ Sanctuary	9 26th of Kislev, Hanukkah 9:00am - 10:00am Torah Study (Hybrid Learning in Youth Lounge and on Zoom) 10:30am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Learner's Service @ Sanctuary
10 27th of Kislev, Hanukkah 9:00am - 11:30am Religious School @ Temple Sinai 11:30am - 1:00pm RS Faculty Security Training	11 28th of Kislev, Hanukkah 10:30am - 12:30pm Yiddish Class Hybrid in Library and Zoom	12 29th of Kislev, Hanukkah 4:00pm - 5:30pm Religious School @ Temple Sinai	13 1st of Tevet, Hanukkah 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch and Learn @ Library 1:30pm - 4:30pm Fun & Games @ Social Hall 8:00pm - 9:15pm Kol Emet Rehearsal @ Sanctuary	14 2nd of Tevet, Hanukkah 7:00pm - 8:00pm Caring Committee Meeting @ ZOOM 7:30pm - 8:30pm Board of Trustees Meeting @ Youth Lounge	15 3rd of Tevet, Hanukkah 8:00pm - 9:00pm Shabbat Evening Service @ Sanctuary	16 4th of Tevet 5784 9:00am - 10:00am Torah Study (Hybrid Learning in Youth Lounge and on Zoom) 10:30am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Service @ Sanctuary
17 5th of Tevet 5784 9:00am - 11:30am Religious School (Music Workshop with Sheldon Low) @ Temple Sinai	18 6th of Tevet 5784 10:30am - 12:30pm Yiddish Class Hybrid in Library and Zoom	19 7th of Tevet 5784	20 8th of Tevet 5784 12:00pm - 1:00pm Lunch and Learn @ Library 2:30pm - 3:30pm Book Group @ Library 7:30pm - 8:30pm Strategic Planning Implementation Meeting @ ZOOM 8:00pm - 9:15pm Kol Emet Rehearsal @ Sanctuary	21 9th of Tevet 5784 5:00pm - 6:00pm Growing through Grief with Cantor Tilem @ Museum 7:30pm - 8:30pm Israel / ARZA Committee Meeting @ Library 7:30pm - 8:30pm Viewpoints Committee Meeting @ ZOOM	22 10th of Tevet 5784 8:00pm - 9:00pm Shabbat Evening Service @ Sanctuary	23 11th of Tevet 5784 9:00am - 10:00am Torah Study (Hybrid Learning in Youth Lounge and on Zoom) 10:30am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Service @ Sanctuary
24 12th of Tevet 5784	25 13th of Tevet 5784	26 14th of Tevet 5784	27 15th of Tevet 5784	28 16th of Tevet 5784 5:00pm - 6:00pm Growing through Grief with Cantor Tilem @ Museum	29 17th of Tevet 5784 6:00pm - 7:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Music Service @ Sanctuary	30 18th of Tevet 5784 9:00am - 10:00am Torah Study (Hybrid Learning in Youth Lounge and on Zoom) 10:30am - 12:00pm Shabbat Morning Service with Traditional Nusach @ Sanctuary
31 19th of Tevet 5784 9:30pm - 12:00am New Years Eve Party @ Social Hall						

For updated information, visit the website at www.emeth.org

Save the Date
Coming up on Saturday, January 27th
Trivia Night

Good & Welfare

*The congregation mourns the loss of members...
Elaine Lasky and sends condolences to her family.
Janice Lipsitz and sends condolences to her family.*

Mazel Tov to...

*Doug and Nickie Falk on the birth of granddaughter,
Persephone Indigo. Parents are Russell Falk
and Lauren Malinowski-Falk.*

*Nancy and Ken Scher on the engagement of their
daughter, Marjorie, to Matthew Behrman.*

*Abby and Andrew Schlectman on their 65th
wedding anniversary.*

*Max and Gabrielle Sturm on the birth of their
son, and George Sturm on the birth
of his grandson, Archer August
Sturm.*

Welcome new member...

Carol Bratman

Social Action in Action

December Social Action Calendar

Sunday, December 3rd - Social Action

Meeting, 9:45 a.m. Use this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89918461245?pwd=cTNJSFJZQ2VSWHJSOVpMb1dzNGN1UT09>

Donate to Midnight Run/Mitzvah of the
Month

Sunday, December 3rd - Teaneck Township Cleanup at 12:00 p.m.

Join RAC-NJ on **Tuesday, December 5th** from
7:30 - 9:00 p.m. to learn how to facilitate a
Learning Together Community Conversation.

Register here:

<https://urj.tfaforms.net/901?id=701UG000000Ulx>

Saturday December 10th - deliver items to Sinai/16 Midnight Run Event in NYC

December 10th - Mitzvah of the Month - women's hygiene products/baby products for Never Alone Again Shelter, Teaneck

Sunday, December 17th - Dove Lounge 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. at Temple Avodot Shalom



As we did last year, Temple Emeth will be participating in Midnight Run on Saturday, December 16th.

We are currently collecting* the following:

Pants (especially sweatpants and jeans - sizes 32-48),

Hoodies and warm coats (larger sizes preferred),

Hats for winter,

Sweaters, sweatshirts, and long-sleeve shirts (L and

XL), T-shirts (M-XL),

Shoes (especially boots, sneakers, or other soft-soled

shoes - (sizes 9-14),

Belts (sizes 32-46),

NEW packaged socks and underwear (sizes 32-46),

Knapsacks/bookbags,

Soap, Toothbrushes/Toothpaste, Shampoo,

Washcloths, Deodorant,

Razor/Shaving cream,

Deodorant,

Lip balm or moisturizer,

Feminine hygiene products

As Midnight Run states, "Midnight Run sees far more

men than women, and thankfully we rarely see children.

We need ten items for men for every woman."

*We ask that the donated items are not ripped or tattered.

Socks and underwear must be new and packaged.

When donating, please sort them into bags for men's and women's clothing.

Collection bins will be placed inside the main entrance of the Temple.

We will be collecting through Sunday, December 10. For

more information on Midnight Run, go to

<https://midnightrun.org/>

Raising money for IDF and displaced families in Israel

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Allison Adler
Tzippiy Cohen
Aviva Einhorn

Rochelle Einhorn
Emma Galandauer
Ruti Galandauer

Yonina Haber
Sharon Herenstein
Meryl Hoffman

Gayle Katz
Dena Kinderlehrer
Elana Nayowitz

Tamar Rothenberg
Nomi Schwartz
Beth Taksel
Joanne Zayat

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@bakeandbuy4israel

Community Wide CHANUKAH Mini Boutique BAKE & BUY for Israel

12/5/23 • 3:30-9:00pm

Temple Emeth Teaneck, NJ

To volunteer, bake or be a vendor please email
Bakeandbuy4israel@gmail.com

Raising money for IDF and displaced families in Israel

Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library

Monthly News Update: The Books You've Been Looking For
By Marion Wolf

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LIBRARIES ACCREDITATION



Has a newspaper article ever piqued your interest in a book? Has an outstanding speaker ever inspired you to read his or her writing for yourself? Well, if that is the case, please come to the Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library. You'll find those volumes on our shelves!

Back in October The Jewish Standard ran an article about an author from Rockland County, Joanna Rakoff

(<https://jewishstandard.timesofisrael.com/one-for-each-night/>).



In an interview, Rakoff described in detail her contribution to an anthology called One for Each Night: The Greatest Chanukah Stories of All Time. This is a collection intended for adults, containing more than 20 stories, poems, and reminiscences about the holiday. It features some classic authors, such as Sholom Aleichem and Theodor Herzl, as well as contemporary authors like Rakoff. The tales come from all over the world, and their tone varies from humorous to sad. In one essay the history of the holiday is examined. Now is just the right time to have a latke and have a look at this book!

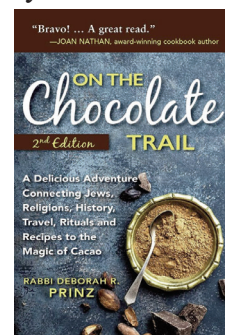
That Jewish Standard article was published in October, and that was also when two authors came to Temple Emeth. We have autographed copies of both of their books!

On Friday October 13th Rabbi Barry L. Schwartz gave the annual Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Lecture on "The Blessing of Doubt—

Jewish Agnosticism," which was based on his provocative new book Open Judaism: A Guide for Believers, Atheists, and Agnostics. In this book Rabbi Schwartz discusses the remarkably wide array of thought within Judaism today. He looks at nine different topics and finds core statements of belief about each topic that will appeal to the believer, the atheist, and the agnostic. Rabbi Schwartz draws from the full spectrum of Jewish teachings about: God, the soul, Torah, halakha, Jewish identity, inclusion, Israel, ethics, and prayer. Rabbi Schwartz gives readers clear summaries of Jewish ideas; readers can then make meaningful choices for themselves.



On Sunday October 15th Rabbi Deborah Prinz spoke at a B'yachad breakfast, telling us about the part Judaism and other religions have played in the trade, manufacture, and sale of chocolate. Her book on this subject is entitled On the Chocolate Trail: A Delicious Adventure Connecting Jews Religions, History, Travel, Rituals, and Recipes to the Magic of Cacao. Brandeis professor Jonathan D. Sarna calls this book "A treat! Part history, part travelogue, part cookbook, [it] ...will tantalize all readers and delight chocoholic ones." Indeed, a look at the preface gets one's mouth watering, there are scrumptious factual tidbits throughout, and the afterword lists museums and factories you can visit to enjoy more chocolate. Our library also owns a children's book by Rabbi Prinz called The Chocolate Tea Party. Like The Chocolate Trail, the children's book connects chocolate, history, and Jews. Yum!



Please come to the Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library and satisfy your curiosity about these books.

If you would like to borrow any of these books or DVDs from the Temple library contact Teri Binder at twbinder@aol.com or Marion Wolf at marionewolf@yahoo.com.

CONTRIBUTIONS

BEAUTIFICATION FUND

Sue Keusch in memory of Janice Lipsitz, beloved member of Temple Emeth

Mark and Stefanie Stokes in memory of Pearl Shansky, beloved mother of Carol Shansky

JANICE PRESCHER SOCIAL ACTION FUND

Mark and Stefanie Stokes in memory of Maryanne Fisher, beloved sister of Idajean Fisher

LIBRARY FUND

Naomi Blumenfeld in memory of Janice Lipsitz, beloved member of Temple Emeth

Phylis Burman and Karen Rappaport in memory of Janice Lipsitz, beloved member of Temple Emeth

Jamie Elkin in memory of Janice Lipsitz, beloved member of Temple Emeth

Mike and Micki Grunstein in memory of Janice Lipsitz, beloved member of Temple Emeth

Herb and Sandy Loft in memory of Janice Lipsitz, beloved member of Temple Emeth

Joan Paul in memory of Janice Lipsitz, beloved member of Temple Emeth

Linda and Jim Rothenberg in memory of Janice Lipsitz, beloved member of Temple Emeth

Claudie and David Rubin in memory of Janice Lipsitz, beloved member of Temple Emeth

Larry and Carla Silver in memory of Janice Lipsitz, beloved member of Temple Emeth

Brenda Weiss in memory of Janice Lipsitz, beloved member of Temple Emeth

MUSEUM FUND

Barbara Balkin and Bill Helfman wish Mazel Tov to Nickie and Doug Falk on the birth of their granddaughter, Persephone Indigo

wish Mazel Tov to Max and Gabrielle Sturm on the birth of their son, and to George Sturm on the birth of his grandson, Archer August Sturm

MUSIC FUND

Richard Buchbinder with gratitude to all the Temple Emeth musicians

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Jesse Adler

Larry Bauer with appreciation

Ellen Schwartz with gratitude

Mark and Stefanie Stokes with gratitude

RABBI LOUIS J. SIGEL ENDOWMENT FUND

Judy and David Fox in honor of the birth of Archer August Sturm, son of Max and Gabrielle Sturm and grandson of George Sturm

STREAMING FUND

Mark and Stefanie Stokes with gratitude to Amanda Eastman

TEMPLE EMETH FUND

Janet and Howard Rosen

YAHREZEIT FUND

Barbara Balkin in memory of her beloved mother, Syd Shana

Lyle Breitkopf in memory of his beloved wife, Muriel

Sharon Friedson in memory of her beloved mother, Blanche Berenson Goldes

Nathan Ritzer in memory of his beloved father, Morris Ritzer, and his beloved father-in-law, Julius Spielman

Deborah and James Veach in memory of Deborah's beloved father, Meyer Lifschitz

B'yachad breakfast on November 19 with speaker Janet Chertkoff lecturing on "The Image of Jews in Literature."



RAINBOW FAMILY CIRCLE

A group for families with LGBTQ+ members

ALL ARE WELCOME

Our mission is to support, celebrate, empower, and advocate for LGBTQ+ families and their friends at every stage of their lives.

Families with loved ones who identify as LGBTQ+ have unique challenges and special opportunities. Rainbow Family Circle offers a welcoming space to explore questions, concerns, and hopes.

Participants will receive support from other families, as well as mental health professionals. Those who identify as LGBTQ+ and their friends are also welcome to attend to strengthen their relationships.

Rainbow Family Circle will provide opportunities to learn, meet new friends, and learn in a safe and inclusive setting. Meetings will be held the 4th Wednesday of every month in the Youth Lounge.

Wednesdays at 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

December 20, January 24, February 28, March 27, April 24, May 22, and June 26

For further information: 201.885.3522



Movies That Mattered

The next movie is "Marathon Man" - (1976)
on **Tuesday, December 19th** at 7:30 p.m.



This American thriller was directed by John Schlesinger and stars Dustin Hoffman, Laurence Olivier, Roy Scheider and William Devane. Dustin Hoffman plays a Columbia grad student and marathon runner who is oblivious to the fact that his older brother Doc is a government agent chasing down a Nazi war criminal, that is, until Doc is murdered.

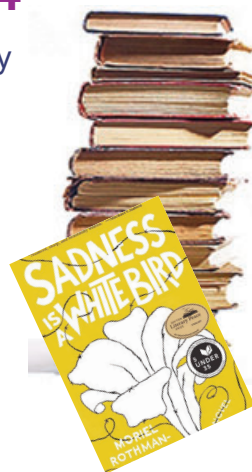
Refreshments will be served.

For information contact Susan or Eley at movies@emeth.org

Temple Emeth Book Group Selections 2023-24

Meetings take place on Wednesdays from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Library

December 20th	<i>Sadness is a White Bird</i> by Moriel Rothman-Zecher
January 17th	<i>Horse</i> by Geraldine Brooks
February 21st	<i>Lessons in Chemistry</i> by Bonnie Garmus
March 20th	<i>More Than I Love My Life</i> by David Grossman
April 17th	<i>Go As A River</i> by Shelley Read
May 15th	<i>The Postcard</i> by Anne Berest
June 15	Planning Meeting



For information contact Brenda at bookgroup@emeth.org

RIDES to TEMPLE SERVICES and EVENTS

Did you know that the Paul S. Lazar Caring Committee has a fund to pay for Uber/Lyft rides to services and Temple events for members?

Please contact caring@emeth.org or call the Temple office at 201-833-1322 at least two days in advance if you would like us to arrange a ride for you.



CELEBRATE A SIMCHA ON SHABBAT

An oneg shabbat is a perfect opportunity to share a birthday, anniversary, or special time with your Temple family. On January 26, join Teri Binder and Jacqueline Guttman after Friday night services in remembrance of the lives of their late husbands, Fred and Howard. If there's someone you want to celebrate or a simcha you want to share, tell us about it, and we'll help you make it special.

Contact Mary Jane Tucker,
or Judy Distler at
oneg@emeth.org



Summary of Minutes of the Board of Trustees Meeting on October 12, 2023

President's Report:

Michael Goldberg reported that he and Gary Richards met with the Superintendent and Business Official of the Bergenfield School District to further discuss the contract to continue to use the Temple for their students. This will go to their board for further discussion.

Next year's Gala is on the calendar for June 1, honoring Nickie Falk. The committee needs to be formed to begin to work on this.

Rabbi's Report:

Rabbi Sirbu discussed how our Temple is handling the situation in Israel. There have been rallies and webinars dedicated to Israel. The Jewish Federation of Northern New Jersey has created an Emergency Fund that will distribute funds as needed and where it is needed. The Federation organized a rally Tuesday, October 10 at the Kaplen JCC in Tenaflly. Several thousand people attended and others watched it on livestream.

Friday evening, October 13, the Temple will hold its annual Rabbi Joshua Trachtenburg Memorial Lecture with Rabbi Barry Schwartz of Congregation Adas Emuno speaking. Their congregation has been invited to join us in prayer.

The B'Yachad breakfast will be held Sunday, October 15. There will be a brief talk about Israel and Kaddish will be recited. The topic for this meeting, "Jews on the Chocolate Trail," will be presented by Rabbi Debra Prinz in the Social Hall.

Our teens will be meeting with Temple Sinai's teens Sunday October 15 at our Temple. Barbara Balkin and Mike Eastman will lead the group in baking rugelach. There will be a First Responder training called "Stop the Bleed" and the Rabbi and Amanda Eastman will lead the group in a security tour of our building.

The Rabbi will work on a vision for a possible future rally for our own Temple. There have been so many others, he would like to create one for us.

A question was raised about the trip to Israel in March. The trip will be discussed during the Oneg on Friday, October 20. So far, there are 11 people signed up, with 20 needed by December 31.

Healing Committee

Greg Janoff, chair of this committee reported that the committee has met three times so far. Rabbi Winick, from the URJ, met with the committee to help them focus on their task. There will be communication with the congregation, with a first email being sent out this week with the message: We are here, if you need to talk. They are trying to be proactive by reaching out. Future events will be planned to bring people together. This is a short-term committee of perhaps a few months.

Administrator's Report:

Michael Goldberg gave the report in the place of Suzannah Mercado. Since the freezer in the kitchen is no longer functioning, they have been working on getting estimates for a new one.

Treasurer's Report:

Gary Richards distributed and presented the Restricted Cash report as well as a Budget report.

Financial Secretary's Report:

Alan Winters presented a voluntary commitment report. Currently there are 270 commitments. Letters will be sent to those who have not yet pledged this year.

Strategic Planning Implementation Committee Report:

Stacey Butler and David Fox presented two components of this report.

Stacey Butler reported on the collaborative Religious School. It was reported that the first day was successful with students and parents seemed excited about the new venture. Temple Sinai has not had a junior choir in the past. Thus far, only Temple Emeth students have been rehearsing for the new collaborative junior choir at Temple Sinai with Tom Mustachio directing. The hope is to recruit some new Temple Sinai students.

The Simchat Torah pot luck dinner was successful. There are plans in the works for a visit to a farm in Mahwah and a Family Friday night on November 3. Plans are also in the works for a Havdalah and Game night on November 18. Information will be sent to the congregation shortly.

David Fox reported on a fundraising brainstorming meeting held on September 26. At the present time \$50,000 has been budgeted to come from fundraisers. Rentals was discussed as an excellent way to increase funds for the Temple. This will bring funds in from the community. It was also discussed to have small events to bring people together, e.g. The Break the Fast event - 95 people attended. The marketing committee is working on ways to get the word out about our events. Some suggestions were postcards, dropping off flyers in high rise buildings, personal contact, targeting groups, and putting ads in church bulletins to advertise our rental spaces. We will also try to secure grants to help bring in more funds to be used where needed. There was also a discussion about the need to thank large donors appropriately.

Technology Report

Amanda Eastman reported that our livestream services are getting many hits on our website, YouTube, and Facebook. The report included views on the High Holidays: the smallest number of views was 113 with Erev Rosh Hashanah getting 200 views.

Respectfully submitted,
Marsha Sobel

CONTRIBUTION FORM

\$ _____ Enclosed (\$10 minimum) Fund Name _____

Contributed by _____

Send Acknowledgment to: _____

Address _____

Message _____

Use this form to send an acknowledgment for life cycle events to your friends and family and at the same time perform the mitzvah of tzedaka.

Contributory Funds - contributions are deposited in the Temple Emeth Funds Account and drawn for use by the designated committee

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| • Adult Education Fund | • Adult Kallah Fund | • Albert & Mildred Otten Institute for Living Arts |
| • Beautification Fund | • Paul S. Lazar Caring Community Fund | • Children's Worship Fund |
| • College Kids Fund | • Emeth Teen Community Fund | • Environment Fund |
| • Abe Golomb Religious School Scholarship Fund | • Ilana Hed Religious School Fund | • Inscribed Prayerbook Fund (\$50 minimum) |
| • Library Fund | • Museum Fund • Music Fund | • Prayerbook Fund |
| • Janice Preschel Social Action Committee Fund | • Ritual Fund • Roof Repair Fund | • Margery Rothschild Memorial Israel Fund |
| • Rabbi Louis J. Sigel Scholar-in-Residence Fund | • Straussman Memorial Youth Award Fund | • Streaming Fund |
| • Temple Emeth Fund | • Torah Repair Fund | • Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Lecture Fund |
| • Viewpoints Fund | • Yahrzeit Fund | • Youth Committee Program Fund |

Endowed Funds - contributions are added to principal held by the Temple Emeth Endowment Foundation with fund income distributed yearly

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| • Adult Kallah Scholarship Fund | • Dru and Ted Greenwood Youth Awards Fund | • Grunstein-Liberman Endowed Fund |
| • Honigberg/Howard Religious School Scholarship Fund | • Lazar Educational Enrichment Fund | • Paul S. Lazar Caring Community Endowed Fund |
| • Alfred and Helen Levin Youth Award Fund | • Rabbi Louis J. Sigel Endowment Fund | • Ned and Doris Siner Music Fund |
| • Temple Emeth Endowment Fund | | |

Other Funds - contributions are used at the discretion of the recipient

• Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

• Cantor's Discretionary Fund



Emeth Kesher Havdalah and Game Night on November 18th - an evening of food, fun, and shared games organized by Stacey Butler.



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David Fox at (201) 836-0260

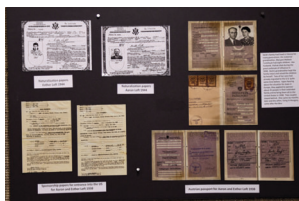
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Visit the Temple website at www.emeth.org

ANCESTRY@EMETH

Every family has a story, a
unique story. What is yours?

Ancestry@emeth is a project
that began in 2019, with
two museum exhibits using
documents, photos, and stories by fourteen participating members. Themes have included immigration and survival, family trees, celebrations of life cycle events, holiday celebrations, ketubot (marriage contracts), and more.



If you are interested in participating
in the next ancestry@emeth exhibit,
please contact Barbara Balkin at
museum@emeth.org.

ARTISTS MEMBER SHOWCASE COMING



Temple Emeth has many talented member artists.
The next Member Showcase is being planned.
If you are an artist who would like to join us for
the upcoming exhibit, please contact
Barbara Balkin at museum@emeth.org.
List your name, media, and approximately how
many pieces you would like to show.
Works can be listed for sale as well, with a price
that includes a twenty percent contribution
to the Temple.



Emeth

The Bulletin of Temple Emeth of Teaneck, New Jersey
A Member of the Union for Reform Judaism
Serving Reform Congregations in North America