



Mark Your Calendar!

- Sunday, Nov 2, 10:45 a.m.
Adult Ed - Pirke Avot
- Wednesday, Nov. 5-9,
UAHC Nat'l Convention
- Friday, Nov. 7, 7:45 p.m.
Shabbat Kristallnacht
Oneg
- Saturday, Nov. 8, 10:00 a.m.
Bar Mitzvah
- Sunday, Nov 9, 10:45 a.m.
Adult Ed - Pirke Avot
- Friday, Nov. 14, 6:30 p.m.
Lay led Shabbat service
followed by Potluck dinner
- Saturday, Nov. 15, 10:30 a.m.
Torah Study
- Sunday, Nov. 16
Men's Club:
Cleanup of Rt. 57 - 8:00 a.m.
Breakfast - 9:30am
Confirmation Class - 10:30 a.m.
- Friday, Nov. 21, 7:45 p.m.
Shabbat
Oneg
- Saturday, Nov. 22, 10:00 a.m.
Bar Mitzvah
- Sunday, Nov. 30
No Sunday School

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Check out the What's New
section for latest updates!

Rabbi's Message

If you were with us at Neilah at the end of Yom Kippur, you may have heard the sounds of a local soccer game being played outside our open sanctuary windows. Now I confess that there are times when noise bothers me during a service (almost always if I am trying to deliver a sermon at the same time a baby has decided to deliver one of her own), but this was not one of those times. This time, the sounds made me smile because they reminded me of two reasons why we always build a sanctuary with windows to the outside. First, we are never to become so inward in our prayers that we forget about the world outside. Second, we hope that those outside of our sanctuary will hear us praying and will know that we have included them in our prayers.

The noise from the soccer game made me think about the relationship between how we pray inside our sanctuary and how we live outside in our daily lives. When we are outside the synagogue, do we think: What can I bring from my Jewish tradition that will help me to handle this situation? When we are inside the synagogue, do we think: What can I bring in from my outside life that will benefit the members of the congregation? The high holy days just past challenge us to integrate our lives so that the outside and the inside enhance each other in this new year. Just as the spices of havdalah are supposed to remain in our nostrils from one Shabbat to the next, reminding us of last Shabbat and staying with us until next Shabbat, so, too, are the themes of the holy days designed to stay with us as both a reminder of the past and a hope for continued change in this new year.

May the sounds outside our window remind you of your vows for this new year and may we in your synagogue community help you to fulfill them.

Rabbi Ellen J. Lewis

President's Message

Autumn is my favorite time of the year. The hot days of the summer are past, and I love the colors of the foliage. I love living in this part of the country because of the continual changing of the seasons. The weather always reminds us that things are in a constant state of flux. It reminds me to never be complacent with things, and to always look at life with "new eyes." Try to see things the way I would like them to be, and then work to try and achieve these goals. Without goals and ideas, it is easy to get caught up in everyday life, and to just try and get through the day.

As your president, I am trying to see beyond what is happening today, and I am trying to focus on what this congregation will be doing 5 years from now. My vision is that we remain the small and close-knit community that we have always been. I believe our building needs to be improved to allow handicapped access to all of our members.

In the next few months, you may hear about ideas that are being proposed to upgrade the building. If you have any ideas on what you would like to see in an upgraded building, please send your ideas to me. We cannot be everything to everybody, but that is not who we are. What we will do is service the people who like being in a small congregation.

Howie Hirsch

Kristallnacht Program: Friday, Nov 7

“The little girl that grew up in Amsterdam in no way would recognize the rabbi that is standing in front of you today.” These are the words of Rabbi Helga Newmark, our guest speaker for Kristallnacht on Nov. 7.

Rabbi Newmark spent three years in different concentration camps, returned to Holland after the war, and arrived in the U.S. in 1948. She was in total denial that she was a Jew and says that to affiliate with other Jews was out of the question at that time. Her journey was a long one. We are lucky that she is choosing to share it with us.

Adult Education Programs Fall 2003 and Early Winter 2004

Rabbi Lewis teaches Pirke Avot (Sayings of the Elders) Sunday mornings 10:45 sharp till noon: **Nov. 2, 9, 23, Dec. 7.** Come and study. Call Sharon Herson if you plan to be in this class; call Rabbi Lewis if you have questions about it.

In January, three sessions on the Shabbat liturgy are planned (**January 4, 18, and 25**). Same Sunday morning time as above. Learn more about our Friday night and Saturday morning liturgy, why we say what we do and where the prayers come from.

Torah study is led by all the group members together. We meet monthly on Saturday morning, from 10:30 to 12:30 or so. Anyone interested in lively text-based (Torah) discussion (without “homework”) is welcome to attend. Meeting dates through January: **November 15, December 13, January 17.**

Mitzvah Project: We Need Your Help!

Lauren Bauch is collecting toiletries and small gift/goody bags to donate to the teens at the Hunterdon Youth Facility. She will be making up gift bags of toothpaste, toothbrush, shampoo and other toiletries to welcome the children. Dig out those free hotel shampoos and dentist’s toothbrushes — she’ll take them!

Education Committee and PTO News

Attending Friday night services is vital to a child’s Jewish education. Please make it a priority to attend.

Upcoming events: **Friday, Dec. 19** is our Chanukah Shabbat Service. Be sure to bring your Chanukiyot (Chanukah menorahs)! We’re also having the annual Chanukah boutique on **Friday, December 5** (order taking only), and **Sundays, December 7 & 14**. Our next PTO/Education Committee meeting will be **Sunday, November 23**.

Just a reminder that there is Sunday School on Sunday, Nov. 9, during Teacher’s Convention weekend. There will be no classes on Nov. 30, Thanksgiving weekend.

Annual Gift Drive for the Hunterdon Developmental Center

Once again the PTO is sponsoring a Chanukah gift drive for the Jewish residents of the Hunterdon Developmental Center in Clinton. These adults are physically and mentally challenged, and benefit from generosity of our Temple Community. All members are invited to contribute.

Each Sunday School and Confirmation student is asked to purchase a gift for one of the residents from the following list:

- Blanket (small/lap size)
- Perfume or Cologne (plastic bottles please)
- Adult Size Hats/Mittens/Scarf Sets

Please put unwrapped gifts in the collection box in the Temple foyer by December 7.

The Hunterdon Developmental Center welcomes volunteers to join the Chanukah festivities at 1:15pm on Wednesday, December 17. Direct questions to the office. Thank you for the Mitzvah at this holiday season!

Mitzvah Project: Rory Marinich

For my Bar Mitzvah project, I “adopted” Cataract Trail on Rt. 517 in Long Valley. As part of my project I improved the path markings, cleaned the path, and made suggestions for new trail signs. The reason I picked this Bar Mitzvah project is because I believe that in order to improve how we live, we must first respect nature. To begin, I decided to work on a nature trail in my town.

The Cataract Trail is very steep at the beginning, but near the end it flattens out a bit. Near the middle of the trail, there is a fork leading to a mine. At the very end is a stunning view of a waterfall which makes it worth the steep climb!

The beginning of the trail borders on private property, and it is difficult to actually tell where to go. One of the first things I did was move branches to block the borders of the private property. I made a wooden sign to show the correct path. I made a square stencil, and spray painted new trail markings on the trees.

Beginning in September, 2002, I cleaned trash monthly along the trail. During the fall, I cleared leaves from the trail as well. There was always more trash on the side of the road than anywhere else. At the waterfall, there were sometimes broken bottles. Once I even found a tire along the trail! I rolled it back to the side of the trail so the township could pick it up.

This project became one that my entire family was involved in. After my Bar Mitzvah is over, we plan to still hike the trail and pick up trash.

Welcome New Members!

Esther & Roland Bakonyi
Michael & Debbie Fesinstine & Family
Ben & Lee Gibbs & Family
Steve & Jane Kunzman & Family
Shelley Tzorfis & Family
Rory & Doreen Webb & Family

Give My Regards to Broadway

Want to see a Broadway show at a great discount? The Jewish Center of NorthWest Jersey occasionally receives discount coupons for New York City shows intended for use by students, their parents, and fellow JCNWJ colleagues.

See our website for available shows at www.jcnwj.org/shows/show_list.htm or clicking on NYC Show Discounts on our website menu. Seating is generally available in Orchestra and Mezzanine, and show days are shown on the discount coupons.

Updates to the Membership List!

Rabbi Lewis's phone number: 908 766 7586

Shoprite/A&P Vouchers

ShopRite and A&P script can be purchased at Sunday School/Confirmation Class on the following dates:

November 2, 16	March 7, 21
December 7	April 4, 18
January 4, 18	May 2, 16
February 1, 22	

Alternatively, please call Sandy Seidorf at the Temple to make arrangements to purchase.

JEWISH LIFE

Jewish LIFE is pleased to bring **Jewish LIFE** to our community Yossi Klein Halevi on Sunday, November 2 at 7pm Mr. Klein Halevi will present, "Is the Palestinian Problem Solvable?" Mr. Halevi has been active in Mid-East reconciliation efforts and is contributing editor and Israel correspondent of the *New Republic* and columnist for the *Jerusalem Post*. Sponsorship opportunities for this event are available for \$100, which include two tickets to the program and admission to a wine and cheese reception with Mr. Halevi prior to his presentation. Fee for the Yossi Klein Halevi program only is \$18/Jewish LIFE members and \$36/non-members.

Jewish LIFE and the Jewish Historical Society of Central Jersey present David Greene on Thursday, November 20 at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Greene's topic is "Musicians, Jews and Anti-Semitism." Fee: \$7/Jewish LIFE members; \$10/non-members.

December Jewish LIFE programs: Rabbi Murray Levine, "Bibliodrama, the Story of Joseph and His Brothers," Thursday, December 4 at 7:30 p.m.; Steven Schwager, Executive Director of the Joint Distribution Committee, "Update on the Jewish World," Sunday, December 7 at 10 a.m.; and our Family Chanukah program, Wednesday, December 17 at 6 p.m. featuring "Sing Along with Yosi," for children ages 2-8. "The Town That Fought Hate," to be performed by Young Audiences of NJ, is geared toward children grades K-6th.

Programs are at the Shimon and Sara Birnbaum JCC, 775 Talamini Road in Bridgewater unless otherwise noted. To register or for further information, contact Laura Friedman, Assistant Executive Director, at 908-725-6994 x213 or e-mail LFriedman@ssbjcc.org.

Donations

High Holiday greetings

To the congregation from the Simms Family

High Holiday Flower fund donation

The Simms Family

Thank you to all members who made a High Holiday pledge and who have sent their checks. If you haven't done so yet, please mail your checks to the Temple.

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Make check payable to Jewish Center of Northwest Jersey and mail to the Temple.

From Your Newsletter Editor

The deadline for October's issue will be November 18.

Get High Tech! You can help the Temple save postage by receiving the newsletter electronically (PDF format). Just email Lisa to let her know.

Creating Summer Memories



For ages 3½ - 10th grade

Monday-Friday: 4, 6, 8 week sessions • Lunch included

Sports • Swim • Trips • Shabbat Program

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- Youth/Teen Programs
- Jewish LIFE/Cultural Programs
- Vacation Day Programs
- Senior programs
- Camp Talamini-Ruach
(Early Bird Registration ends Dec. 1st.)
- Summer Swim Club
- **NEW!** JCC Dance School



**Shimon and Sara Birnbaum
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