

December 2015



the bulleTIn

A monthly newsletter of Temple Israel. Also available online at www.templetulsa.com.

Worship Schedule:

All are welcome at Shabbat services.
Childcare is available if needed.

Friday, December 4 | 5:00 p.m.

Welcoming Shabbat
Service followed by Shabbat BaBayit
(Shabbat Dinners in the Home)

Saturday, December 5 | 6:30 p.m.

Centennial Commemoration Evening
at Hyatt Regency

Friday, December 11 | 6:00 p.m.

Pre-Oneg at **5:30 p.m.**
TGIS! Jammin' with Judah Shabbat
& Chanukah Service followed
by catered dinner by Orr.
Music with Cantor Steinsnyder
and Choirs.

Saturday, December 12 | 10:30 a.m.

Shabbat Morning Service
followed by potluck lunch.

Friday, December 18 | 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Evening Service
Music with Cantor Faith Steinsnyder.

Saturday, December 19 | 10:30 a.m.

Shabbat Morning Service
Dylan Wagman becomes
a Bar Mitzvah

Friday, December 25 | 7:30 p.m.

Shabbat Evening Service

This Little Light

Co-Rabbis Karen and Micah Citrin

In the darkest times during the struggle for Civil Rights in this country, leader Fannie Lou Hamer would gather activists around her and sing, "This Little Light of Mine." Like many Civil Rights songs its power resides in the simplicity of its refrain:

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Fannie Lou inspired her freedom fighters and encouraged them not to lose hope, because each of them had the potential to add light and goodness to a broken world.

In this darkest of seasons, the Jewish holiday of Chanukah increases the light in our homes and in our hearts. Please see Jenn's column on page 2 for more information about the specific mitzvot and blessings associated with Chanukah. There is also deep, spiritual meaning associated with light.

The wisdom of Proverbs teaches, "The soul of humans is the light of God" (Proverbs 20:27). Each of us possesses an inner light that connects us to God and our humanity. Yet, we each radiate that light in a unique way. The contributions we make to our families, our communities, and the brokenness in the world are singular gifts that each of us offer.

The 11th century Jewish poet, Moshe ibn Ezra, elaborated:

In my body God has kindled a lamp from His glory;
It tells me of the paths of the wise.
It is the light which shines in the days
of youth, and grows brighter in old age.
Were it not derived from the mystery of His light
It would fail with my strength and my years.
With it I search out the chamber of wisdom,
And I climb with no ladder to the garden of delights.

A beautiful message. The reality, though, according to the Mussar (Jewish ethical tradition) that Jennifer taught us last month, is that sometimes that radiant inner light becomes hidden.

Continued on page 4

Mazel Tov Temple Israel on 100 years – From Strength to Strength!

Youth and Family Education

Jennifer Selco

How Do Reform Jews Do Mitzvot?

As you know by now, this year's educational learning theme is **Middot and Mitzvot: Holy Values, Holy Deeds for You and Me**. Last month I wrote about middot, Jewish values, and this month I would like to share more about mitzvot. Too often we define the term mitzvah as a good deed when in reality a mitzvah is a commandment or sacred obligation. The plural of mitzvah is mitzvot. In more Orthodox settings, Jews follow the mitzvot, sacred obligations because they are commanded to do so by God. Reform Judaism has had a more evolving approach to mitzvot.

The clear division between tradition and reform was marked at the Hebrew Union College's first graduation banquet in July of 1883 when tref (non-kosher food) was served. It was Wise's hope to create an American Judaism that balanced tradition and modernity. What happened at the banquet ended up dividing the American Jewish community. After this experience, Reform rabbis gathered in 1885 in Pittsburgh under the leadership of Rabbi Isaac Mayer Wise to solidify the key tenets of Reform Judaism. In the Pittsburgh Platform document there is no mention of the word mitzvah. According to Reform Judaism at this time, "rabbinical laws that regulate diet, priestly purity, and dress... fail to impress the modern Jew with a spirit of priestly holiness; their observance in our days is apt rather to obstruct than to further modern spiritual elevation." Throughout the next one hundred plus years, the Reform Jewish community continued to debate and struggle with the balance of tradition and adapting to meet the needs as Jewish communities around America changed.

In May of 1999 the Central Conference of American Rabbis amended the Statement of Principles document to reflect significant shifts in Jewish life in America. "Ongoing study of the whole array of (mitzvot) and to the fulfillment of those that address us as individuals and as a community" is essential to how we practice Judaism. Through study of the mitzvot within "the context of our own times" we are able to find meaning in these sacred obligations. As we continue to evolve, our Reform Movement will continue to adapt to the ever-changing needs of our community.

Peter S. Knobel writes in "Re-creating the Narrative Community or It's Hard to Do Mitzvot by Yourself" from *Duties of the Soul - The Role of Commandments in Liberal Judaism* (1999) that "each generation must interpret sacred texts to discover their implications and applicability to the present." We should not simply ignore the fact that mitzvot exist, rather we have an obligation to study and learn about the commandments so that we may determine which ones are relevant and meaningful in our lives. As our students here at 2

Temple Israel explore different mitzvot this year, they are encouraged to question the rationale behind what we do, to try out different Jewish deeds, and to find meaning in the sacred acts of our people. Students are exploring both ritual (between people and God) and ethical (between people and people) mitzvot. As our kids continue learning, all adults are invited on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. to enjoy a bagel and a good cup of coffee, and learn about interesting middot and mitzvot at an adult level with Rabbi Karen, Rabbi Micah, and guest teachers. Our December topics are:

December 6 - Ometz Lev (Courage) and the inner light and meaning of Chanukah

December 13 - Mitzvah of Motzi and Birkat HaMazon (Food Blessings) and Feeding the Hungry

Celebrate Chanukah

Did you know that it is a mitzvah to light Chanukah candles?

The Chanukiyah is a special candelabra that holds a total of nine candles - eight spaces for each night of the holiday and one space for the shamash, the helper candle. On the first night of Chanukah (Sunday, December 6), we place a candle in the far right of the chanukiyah. We place the candles in the chanukiyah from right to left (from first day to last), and we light them from left to right (the newest candle first). In the First Century of the Common Era, Rabbis Hillel and Shammai argued as to the proper order of lighting the candles. Shammai taught that on the first day of Chanukah we should light eight candles; each day after, we diminish the lights by one. Hillel taught that on the first day of Chanukah we light one candle; each day after, we increase the lights by one because we are increasing our joy as the holiday progresses. Clearly, we follow the custom of Rabbi Hillel today.



The purpose of the chanukiyah is to advertise the miracle (pirsum ha'nes). If you are able to, it is customary to place your chanukiyah in the window. When Chanukah falls on a Friday evening, Shabbat, we light and bless the Chanukah candles before the Shabbat candles.

Each night we say or recite two blessings as we light the candles. On the first night we add a third blessing, the Shecheyanu, thanking God for allowing us to reach this time. May you and your family find meaning in the mitzvah of lighting Chanukah candles. Wishing you a warm and joyous holiday.

Blessing 1:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו,
וַיְצַונו לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה.

Barukh atah Adonai, Eloheinu, melekh ha'olam asher kidishanu b'mitz'votav v'tzivanu l'hadlik ner shel Chanukah. Blessed are you, Eternal our God, Sovereign of the universe, who has sanctified us with commandments and commanded us to light the lights of Chanukah.

Blessing 2:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שְׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים
לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּזֶמַן הַזֶּה.

Barukh atah Adonai, Eloheinu, melekh ha'olam she'asah nisim la'avoteinu bayamin haheim baz'man hazeh. Blessed are you, Eternal our God, Sovereign of the universe, who performed miracles for our ancestors in those days at this time.

Shehecheyanu (recited on the first night only):

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שְׁהַחַיֵּנוּ
וְקִיַּמְנוּ וְהַגִּיעָנוּ לְזֶמַן הַזֶּה.

Barukh atah Adonai, Eloheinu, melekh ha'olam shehecheyanu v'kiyimanu v'higi'anu laz'man hazeh. Blessed are you, Eternal our God, Sovereign of the universe, who has kept us alive, sustained us, and enabled us to reach this season.

For more information about all of the mitzvot, customs and food associated with the holiday of Chanukah, you can go to: www.reformjudaism.org/jewish-holidays/hanukkah

Ice Skating

December 13 Lunch & Ice-skating with OKC for 6th through 12th Graders. We will leave Temple Israel at 10:30 a.m. and join teens from Temple B'nai Israel in Oklahoma City in time for a "make your own sandwich bar" lunch. Then we will head out to ice-skate in downtown OKC. We will return by **6:00 p.m.** Transportation to and from OKC and throughout the program is provided. For more information or to RSVP, contact Jenn Selco. Please RSVP by **December 8.**

TGIS! and Jammin' With Judah on Friday, December 11 at 6 p.m.

Pre-Oneg at **5:30 p.m.** All are welcome for a spirited, family-friendly service with the joyous music of adult and kids choirs and band. Join along as we celebrate Shabbat and Chanukah, light the menorah and jam with Judah, followed by a catered Shabbat dinner by Orr featuring delightful Chanukah foods and dreidel spin off. Thank you to the *Goldie Cash Family Shabbat Dinner Fund* for generously supporting our Shabbat dinner and community. Thank you to Sisterhood for sponsoring our sufganyot (jelly-filled donuts)! Please contact the Temple office at 918-747-1309 or reservations@templetulsa.com to RSVP for dinner and payment by 12/9 (\$13/adult, \$7/child, under 5 free.) You can pre-pay on the temple website.

Menu will include:

Mixed Green Salad
Brisket
Roasted broccoli
Potato Latkes
Vegan/Vegetarian - Seven vegetable stack with option of goat cheese on the side
Chicken fingers for the kids
Sufganyot



Learning about the Shema



Learning about sea lions and how the Tulsa Zoo helps to care for these animals.

Continued from front page

Positive traits such as loving-kindness and compassion can help bring one's inner light to the surface. If you don't let your light shine, no one else can replace or replicate what you give to our world.

The same is true for the Jewish people. By measure of our numbers among the families of the world, we are quite insignificant. However, time and again through our history we have shared precious ideals with humanity. We stand for ethical values that mediate our relationship with our Creator. We embrace a Covenant that calls us to bring holiness and goodness to a world in need of healing. We recognize the blessing of human diversity, freedom, and dignity. If we cease to live as Jews and share our unique light, humanity is diminished.

When we gaze at the glow coming from our menorahs this season, let's remember the true meaning of Chanukah. We celebrate our persistence as a people to let our light shine. We need that light and so does the world. May the light of our souls be illuminated. Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

All in the Family

Mazel Tov to Edward Kaplan on being named November 2015 National Association of Home Builders' Remodeler of the Month. "Edward Kaplan selected through a stringent judging process of NAHB Remodelers leadership and staff, exemplifies the best in the remodeling industry."

Mazel Tov to Rabbi Emeritus Charles Sherman upon receiving on October 23 the State Volunteer Mediator of the Year 2015 award "in recognition of outstanding volunteer service to Early Settlement". Rabbi Sherman has been training as a mediator first in Small Claims Courts in Tulsa and Creek Counties, then took additional training to become a Family and Divorce Mediator. He also mediates Neighborhood, Real Estate, and Consumer/Merchant cases.

With sorrow, the congregation notes the deaths of:

Shirley Klar, mother of Bradley, Karen, JoAnne, and Robin. Grandmother of Bracken.

Richard Goldwyn

Helen April, wife of Dr. Paul April.

May their memories be a blessing.

Volunteer Spotlight

Judaica and Java:

This month we want to especially thank all of the volunteers who contribute time, energy, and creativity toward Temple Israel's judaica shop. Thank you to **Jody Weise-Gonzales, Aaron Maisell, Linda Brown, Iris Chandler, Lynn Goldberg, Lesley Bumgarner, Peg Kishner**, and others who help out behind the scenes. Here are a few of the reasons why they volunteer:

"I volunteer in the Gift Shop because I want to help Sisterhood raise the money needed for programs and education. Since I am in a retail business, I am able to use my experience to help stock the gift shop with items that are related to one of Sisterhood's goals, which is to have Judaica in the homes of our community. I got involved in Sisterhood years ago because someone asked me to help!" - Jody

"I open the Gift Shop on Sunday mornings and before Friday evening services. With 50 volunteer hours, I am able to nominate temple for a grant from my employer so all of my volunteer time at temple counts whether it's in the shop or in choir or classes and services. I really love helping out Sisterhood because Peg and Klara have made me feel so valuable and needed and I feel I have the heart of a servant and therefore love doing whatever I can to make Sisterhood and TI a success. I was in sales so I love selling and helping people make decisions when they're wavering. For instance, when I sold Chanukah candles last week and the buyer wasn't sure if they were the "waxless" kind, I showed her the wax remover that we also sell. The Judaica Shop at TI has so many items and it's fun to volunteer and know that I'm making even a small difference." - Linda

"I volunteer in the TI Judaica Shop to support Sisterhood and the TI Religious School, and to make Judaica available to our community where there are so few local sources." - Peg

Thank you to all of our volunteers for all that you do to support Temple Israel!



Book buddies.

Executive Committee

Michael Rosenstein

As mentioned in our October BOT meeting, the search for an Interim Rabbi has begun. The application has been submitted to the CCAR placement office and we have thus far received eight applications for the position.

An Interim Rabbi receives specialized training and has the expertise to guide our congregation through a transitional process so that we are well positioned to engage in a search for a settled Rabbi. An interim Rabbi can facilitate the discovery of a new congregational identity and help us to create a new shared vision for the future of our Temple. As the search committee narrows the field of candidates through further interviews, we will make our recommendation to the board and ask that it be discussed and a motion be made to vote on this recommendation.

On another matter, Teri Aulph is continuing her work with our Board of Trustees and Dr. David Brubaker, senior consultant with the Congregational Consulting Group was in Tulsa **November 13-15**. During this time he met with individuals to get different perspectives regarding the transitional process at our temple. Further details and information will be forthcoming.

Young Kehillah

Chanukah at Inner Circle Vodka Bar, **Thursday, December 10, 7:30 p.m.** Start the 5th Night of Chanukah right with Young Kehillah! We will warm ourselves with special Vodka concoctions crafted by Inner Circle owner and Temple Israel member, Andy Cagle. Andy will be our guide through this tasting. We will light the menorah, play some driedl, and revel in the joy of Chanukah. Babysitting is available for anyone who might need it. RSVP to rabbimicah@templetulsa.com or the YK FaceBook page.



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Ritual Committee

Michael Jacobs

In August, the Ritual Committee designed a survey to solicit input from the congregation on several topics. We focused on inquiring about what time people preferred for Shabbat evening services and how the Shabbat meal influenced that preference. We also asked about rotating evening service times throughout the month. And we provided space as well for people to elaborate on what encourages and/or discourages them from attending Shabbat services (both evening and morning). The other information we sought to collect through the survey was interest in participating on the bimah to offer readings, prayers, participate in the Torah service, or other service honors.

We received 68 individual responses between August 15 and September 12, with some people taking the time to share their thoughts in detail. The committee reviewed and reflected on all the responses and comments.

While there was a slight preference for 7:30 services, 6:00 and 7:00 options received only slightly less interest. 47% said they like to have Shabbat dinner before services and 22% said they prefer dinner after services. 48% of respondents indicated they preferred the same time each week while 28% said they liked the current rotation. Ultimately, we saw that there is clearly no way to please everyone so the committee is committed to considering ways to best address the varied opinions. The committee will look at some possible adjustments to the service schedule for 2016. It is helpful to now have a list of people who are interested in participating on the bimah; the rabbis and committee will reach out to you about volunteering.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the survey. We currently have no specific plans to conduct additional surveys but do have an interest in seeking congregational input through surveys in the future. In the meantime, you are welcome to continue to share your thoughts and feedback with Rabbi Karen and Rabbi Micah and the members of the committee: Patti Elliott (chair), Todd Arlan, Estelle Levetin Avery, Miriam Cook, Aron Cox, Lou Diamond, Sarah Beth Gordon, Mike Jacobs, Peg Kishner, Paula Milsten, Dan Pollak, and Leisa Weintraub. We look forward to continued updates and encourage your participation in Temple Israel's varied and meaningful worship experiences.

Our Library

Susan Woitte

It's Jewish Book Month!

Ways you can celebrate:

- Read a Jewish book yourself ,
- Read a Jewish book with a young person,
- Pick up a bookmark of new Jewish books from this year at the Temple,
- Check out one of the new items from the Temple Library....

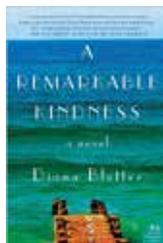
In **Safekeeping** by Jessamyn Hope, a quirky cast of characters arrives for the summer at a kibbutz in Israel, one with a medieval piece of jewelry. Together they attempt to unravel a centuries old mystery and redeem their new friend's past.



If you enjoy historical novels, try **Saint Mazie** by Jami Attenberg. Based on the life of real Depression-era, Mazie Gordon. Once a party girl, she ends up a ticket-taker in a New York City movie theater by day, while at night she helps the homeless.



Four women are drawn to a seaside village in Israel for different reasons in Diana Bletter's novel **A Remarkable Kindness**. The four women find life changing friendship and strength by assisting with a particular traditional ritual.



Other resources to find great Jewish books...

Every year The Association of Jewish Libraries of Southern California compiles a long list of their favorite adult and children's Jewish fiction, non-fiction and DVD's.

www.ajlsc.org/_pdf/JBM-2016-AJLSC-Biblio-Adult.pdf

www.ajlsc.org/_pdf/JBM-2016-AJLSC-Biblio-Children.pdf

The Jewish Book Council has vast resources for the promotion of reading, writing and publishing of Jewish literature. Take a look at their monthly book reviews, book award lists, book club resources, author information and programs: www.jewishbookcouncil.org

Social Justice

December Mitzvah of the Month: Day Center Christmas Dinner. Your Temple Social Justice Committee is again coordinating plans to serve dinner to the clients of the Day Center for the Homeless on Christmas Day, **Friday, December 25**. To make this a success, we need your help with the following:

- Preparing home-baked desserts - preferably "piece goods", i.e. cookies, bars, candies, etc. Bring goods to Temple by **December 23**, marked "Day Center."
- Prepping the food at Temple on **December 25**, contact chair for details.
- Transporting the prepared food from Temple to the Day Center at approximately **5:00 p.m. on December 25**. Two more volunteers are needed; SUVs or vans are appreciated!
- Setting up and serving at the Day Center around **5:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. on December 25**. A dozen volunteers are still needed - teens and adults. The more we have, the more quickly and efficiently we can serve.

Please consider joining in this mitzvah. Contact Barbara Waxman at barbara.woodfin@gmail.com.

Coffee Bunker Update: A big thank you to Melissa VonAschen-Cook, chair of the November Mitzvah project, who reported the Coffee Bunker event for Veterans was a success! We collected over 30 gift cards to give to the Veterans. In addition, the Social Justice committee sponsored beverages for the luncheon, and Temple members delivered tables and chairs, directed parking, served lunch, and cleaned up afterwards. The Veterans were very appreciative, and the Coffee Bunker crew presented Temple with an award to show their gratitude.



Comedian Benji Lovitt at Taste of Temple



Lori Fullbright speaking about scams and cons at a recent lunch and learn.



Exploring the Tulsa Zoo.



At the Tulsa Zoo learning about the mitzvah, sacred obligation of Tza'ar Baaley Chayim (Caring for Animals).



Jenny Labow and Sarah Beth Gordon demonstrating Jewish worship for the OCCJ Youth Tour.



At recent lunch and learn.



John Sieler, talking with Shorashim RS families about how the zoo helps to care for animals.



At Taste of Temple.



Shorashim students learning about the middah (value) of Shmirat HaGuf (Taking Care of Our Bodies) with Dr. Adam Karpman.



At Taste of Temple.



Shorashim RS teachers helping families during the scavenger hunt at the zoo.



Learning about our Jewish uniform.



Hanging out before Hebrew Learning.



At Taste of Temple.

Centennial

Shabbat in the Home Friday, December 4.

As our centennial year comes to a close, we will enjoy Shabbat dinner in congregant's homes as we celebrate our Temple Israel community. Everyone interested in participating will be matched for a memorable Shabbat dinner experience! Please contact Jennifer Selco with any questions. A short Shabbat service including Kaddish will take place at Temple **5:00 p.m.** Let's welcome Shabbat together as we go from strength to strength!

Culmination of Centennial Celebration Saturday, December 5 at 6:30 p.m.

Join your Temple Israel family in commemoration of our 100th anniversary at the Hyatt Regency Tulsa! Enjoy Havdalah and a delightful cocktail buffet. The evening's entertainment features Joshua Nelson, "The Prince of Kosher Gospel." There will be a special candle lighting ceremony led by members of the congregation. Your invitation was mailed; please make sure to RSVP to be a part of this special event in Temple Israel's history, present, and future.



Joshua Nelson was born and raised Jewish, studied Judaism, including two years on a college and kibbutz program in Israel, and clarified his understanding that throughout history, Jews have always integrated Jewish law and religious practices with the cultural context in which they lived. Upon his return from Israel, Nelson began to apply this understanding to music. For Joshua Nelson, kosher gospel is a way to claim both parts of his identity as a Black Jew.

Get to Know Us

Get to know our staff a little bit better. This month we are featuring our Head Custodian, **Timothy Wallace.**

10 things to know about Tim:

1. Recently got married on 9/5/2015
2. Has one daughter - age 28
3. Favorite color is blue
4. Is an 11-year veteran
5. The Dallas Cowboys is his favorite team
6. North Carolina Tarheels is his favorite college basketball and football team
7. The Dodgers are his favorite baseball team
8. Ford man
9. Loves to grill
10. He loves to travel

Brotherhood

Temple Israel Brotherhood is pleased and honored to have Joy Hofmeister, State Superintendent of the Oklahoma Department of Education, as our featured speaker at the upcoming **December 13** breakfast. Ms. Hofmeister was elected last November and has been a strong advocate for Oklahoma public education. The best breakfast in town begins at **9:30 a.m.** Breakfast cost is \$8.00 with an RSVP and \$10.00 at the door. Reservations can be made to Brotherhood President Gary Goldberg, 918-645-5621 or to gg1884@gmail.com or Vice President for Programming Peter Rao at 918-640-6445 or to peteralanrao@sbcglobal.net.

Sisterhood

Food for the Soul & Body

On **Wednesday, December 9**, Sisterhood's Women's Torah Study will meet in the Youth Center from Noon to 1:00 p.m. We will study Genesis 41:1 - 41:57 - Mikeitz. We hope you will join our group which will be led by Jennifer Selco. Bring your lunch and join as we discuss the parasha.

On **Sunday, December 6**, the youth lounge will be turned into a Judaica Gift Shop! Kids and adults may shop in the Youth Lounge from **9:30 a.m. - Noon**. Volunteers will wrap these goodies for gift giving. Many items are under \$10.00. Be sure to send your child with some money for this special day. Everyone is invited to shop! If you would like to leave cash, check or credit card with the gift shop volunteers, we will make sure your child is not left out on this special day. We welcome parents' participation in this special day by volunteering their time. Please call Peg Kishner and let her know you'll be helping!



Hebrew learning.

Ad Mea

Long-Range Planning - New Cantor - Important Anniversaries - The Flood

By Rabbi Emeritus Charles Sherman & Nancy Sherman

In February, 1979, a Temple Israel Long-Range Planning Committee was formed and charged with developing a five-year plan. Barry Davis served as Chair of that Committee and delivered a report to the congregation in May 1980. During the subsequent 3½ years, a large number of the recommendations contained in the 1980 Long-Range Plan were implemented, dealing with all areas of Temple life - governance, education, program, services, facilities, personnel, finance, etc. When Barry became President in May 1982 he presented a formal program of work which charted ten major objectives for the next two years and reorganized the Temple governance system. Board meetings were restructured with written agendas and specific timetables; there were 15 standing committees, each reporting to a different officer, and 140 different Temple members were now involved in Temple committee work. There was a Table of Organization, and the Executive Committee handled day-to-day operational policies at Temple.

Worship patterns were becoming clear - congregational singing and chanting was emphasized and the Friday evening choir was disbanded. Annual Scholar-in-Residence Weekend and Clergy Institute on Judaism began, along with Selichot Service (introduced in 1981); Yom Ha-atzmaut observance; Tu Bishvat Seder (first in 1984). Other special Sabbaths which became standard - New Member, Teacher Appreciation, College Homecoming, Sisterhood, Brotherhood, ARZA, and an Israel Trip Report by Confirmands.

The Klar Pulpit Fund brought distinguished speakers to the Temple. The first four were: Elmer Gertz, 1981, who spoke on "First Amendment: Protection or Curse?"; Dr. Karl Menninger spoke on "The Crime of Punishment"; Vice Admiral John Lee on "Thinking About Nuclear Weapons"; Morris Abram, "Ethics and the New Medicine."

A Jews-by-Choice group was formed, and the Caring Temple Committee came into existence. Rabbi Sherman led the first congregational tour to Egypt and Israel in the Summer of 1981, and then a Scandinavian Jewish Experience in 1984. In 1981 the National Association of Temple Educators (NATE) made Temple one of five accredited Reform Religious Schools in the United States. Congregation B'nai Emunah and Temple Israel joined - for the first time in history - in a joint worship service to honor the five Midrasha graduates. This was the first class of graduates who had completed the entire four-year Midrasha Program. In the 1983-84 school year, Cascia Hall classrooms were being used by Temple 7th and 8th graders on Sunday mornings.

In May 1983 the congregation marked Rabbi Rosenthal's 50th anniversary of ordination. The guest speaker was one of Rabbi Rosenthal's teachers at HUC, Dr. Jacob Rader Marcus, Dean of American Jewish Historians, Founder and Director of the American Jewish Archives.

At the Annual Meeting 1984, Temple's membership was 556. There were 300+ children in the Educational Program; 15 Confirmands - the largest in Temple history - participated in the Israel Study Program.

Three weeks to the day after Malcolm Milsten's installation as President, the skies opened and a record rainfall descended during the 1984 Memorial Day Weekend. Water swept down from neighboring locations into the Temple. There was a foot of water in the sanctuary and social hall. The boiler and all the equipment in the basement were completely flooded, and our not-very-old, state-of-the-art Hebrew Learning Center was utterly destroyed. The response of congregants and community (Jews and non-Jews) was overwhelmingly generous. The pews all needed to be re-glued, refinished, and then reupholstered. It is estimated that Temple lost \$150,000 in the flood.

Keith Stern, Temple's first Assistant Rabbi, began his duties in July of 1984.

The weekend of December 7-9, 1984, the congregation celebrated the Temple's 70th anniversary. Friday evening, Composer-in-Residence Ben Steinberg conducted "The Crown of Torah: A Cantata for Cantors, Chorus, Children's Choir, and Instrumental Ensemble." Saturday evening there was a concert featuring Steinberg's music followed by an evening of nostalgia presenting highlights of featured Temple shows.

This was perhaps the most momentous five-year period in all of the Temple's history. The community was busy too. Tulsa Jewish Community Center opened in the Summer of 1981. Then, two years later, their Board was oriented on plans for building a Federation Senior Citizens' Health Center & Residential Facility.

Great Adventures In Learning

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N'davot - Offerings

*"Whoever is charitable and just fills the entire world with kindness."
- Talmud*

AL TILKIN BROTHERHOOD FUND

In Loving Memory of Danny Zalta
John & Hannah Sieler

B'NAI B'RITH YOUTH EDUCATION FUND

In Honor of Rena Selco
Yvonne & Stuart Lorch

GENERAL FUND

Yvonne & Stuart Lorch

IRMA & LOUIS KLAR MEMORIAL PULPIT FUND

In Loving Memory of Shirley Klar
Ann Weisman, Bob & Nancy Weisman,
Eleanor Weisman & Jay Hanes
Joan Gelfond
William & Marion Elson
Phyllis Levy
Curtis & Joann Green
Carl & Julia Clay
Phil & Janice Wilner
Helene Parker
Martin Sherman
Janice Klar
Lawrence & Janelle Klar
Ron & Barbara Winder
In Honor of Shirley Klar
Mark & Karen Goodson

JAY MYERS MEMORIAL LIBRARY FUND

Refuah Sh'lemah, Brenda Magoon
Malcolm & Paula Milsten

JUDY HALPERN SOCIAL JUSTICE FUND

In Loving Memory of Shirley Klar
Zella Borg

JULIUS AND MILDRED SANDITEN ISRAEL STUDY FUND

Brooke Dubin

LANDSCAPE FUND

In Loving Memory of Morris Sylvan
Dave & Barbara Sylvan

MARCIA JANKOWSKY MEMORIAL CANTORIAL CONCERT FUND

Refuah Sh'lemah, Brenda Magoon
Allen & Judy Smith
Happy Birthday, Rabbi Micah
Ginny Katz

MUSIC FUND

In Loving Memory of Shirley Klar
Malcolm & Paula Milsten
Ginny Katz
In Loving Memory of Richard Goldwyn
Ginny Katz

RABBI CHARLES P. SHERMAN MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS FUND

In Loving Memory of Morris Sylvan
Marilyn Sylvan

RABBIS DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Appreciation of Rabbis Karen & Micah Citrin
Michael Meister & Faryl Kander
In Loving Memory of Lester Pokorne
Allen & Judy Smith
In Loving Memory of Dorothy Wittels
Carol Miller
In Loving Memory of Don & Rita Newman
Carol Miller
In Appreciation of Rabbis Karen & Micah Citrin
Carol Miller
In Appreciation of Rabbi Karen Citrin
Shirley Klar Family

Bar Mitzvah of Dylan Wagman



Dylan Wagman will be celebrating his Bar Mitzvah on **December 19** at Temple Israel. Dylan is the son of Marc Wagman and Tamara Wagman and brother of Benjamin. Dylan is a straight A student at Monte Cassino, and enjoys playing the drums with his band, playing baseball, and riflery. Dylan loves all animals, especially his six cats and four dogs. He plans to donate for his mitzvah project to the Tulsa Boys Home. He's been practicing and studying hard for becoming bar mitzvah and is very excited for this important occasion.

December

2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
		7:30 p.m. Exec Comm Mtg	4:15 - 5:30 p.m. Hebrew Learning 6:45 - 8:30 p.m. Midrasha @ CBE		5:00 p.m. Shabbat Service 5:30 p.m. Shabbat BaBayit (Shabbat In the Home Dinners)	6:30 p.m. 100 th Anniversary Commemoration @ Hyatt
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Shorashim RS 10:0 a.m. Parent/Adult Education 1 st Night of Chanukah	Chanukah	7:30 p.m. Board of Trustees Mtg Chanukah	12:00-1:00 p.m. Women's Torah Study 4:15 - 5:30 p.m. Hebrew Learning 6:45 - 8:30 p.m. Midrasha @ CBE Chanukah	7:30 p.m. Young Kehillah Hanukkah Event @ Inner Circle Vodka Bar Chanukah	5:30 p.m. Pre-Oneg 6:00 p.m. TGIS! Jammin' with Judah Service followed by catered dinner Chanukah	10:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service & Lunch Chanukah
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Shorashim RS 9:45 a.m. B'hood Breakfast Chanukah	Chanukah	7:30 p.m. B'hood Board Meeting	4:15 - 5:30 p.m. Hebrew Learning No Midrasha		7:30 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service	10:30 a.m. Dylan Wagman Bar Mitzvah
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
No Shorashim RS			No Hebrew Learning No Midrasha		5:30 p.m. Serving dinner at Day Center for the Homeless 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service	
27	28	29	30	31	1	
No Shorashim RS			No Hebrew Learning No Midrasha		7:30 p.m. Shabbat Evening Service	

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