



# OUR TEMPLE

Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom

November 2010/Cheshvan-Kislev 5771

## Notes from the president

### Suddenly, it's Food Festival time!

By Rosalind Hyman  
President

The year is already moving too quickly. We have celebrated Rosh Hashanah and started our new year with reflective prayers on Yom Kippur. We have built a Sukkah and surrounded it with pumpkins, and we have started once again from the beginning of the Torah on Simchat Torah.

And here we are...preparing for the Food Festival!! On any given evening one can enter

the Temple and smell the cinnamon that is sprinkled on the apples to be placed in the apple cakes.

I stopped by one evening, and there was Barbara Rosenzweig and her crew, large round pans lined up on the long table, everyone knowing exactly what to do....and at the end the lovely apple cakes appear. Both my grandson and I are hopeful that this year we will once again have apple cake muffins topped

with sweet crumbs. They are the ultimate best.

Our Food Festival this year is being chaired by Eric Shocket, with the aid of his lovely wife, Amanda. What an amazing undertaking this is....and how grateful we all are to them for chairing this adventure and how appreciative we are to all the volunteers. This is the time of year when our Temple truly becomes a family.

*Continued on Page 2*

## From the rabbi's study

### A Jewish home checklist

There is an oft-quoted comment made by a Catholic priest. It says, "Give me a child from birth to 5 years of age and I will have him for life." This priest knows that what children are taught and observe in the early years of life will set the tone for the rest of their lives. Where do many of our children spend the first years of their lives? At home.

Judaism has always taught that faith and practice begins at home. It begins in homes where Jewish words are uttered, where Jewish books are honored, where Jewish time is marked, and where Jewish songs, prayers and blessings are heard. In the world of our ancestors, no one would have gone to shul on Friday night expecting the

candles to be lit. This happened at home. We must work hard to make sure that we do not lose the understanding of what it means to have a Jewish home.

Judaism begins in the home where the child sees and participates in symbols and rites that link her to a people and a culture. It begins in homes where Jewish art and ritual objects are visible and are used. All of these things both planned and unplanned exercise a silent, yet powerful, influence on those that behold them.

I recently noticed a saying posted at our local Starbucks. It says, "Take comfort in rituals." Knowing that certain things will be done or experienced can set us at ease, and there is no better place for these rituals than home. If you were to look around your own home, what Jewish items would

be found? What would indicate to an outside observer that this is a Jewish home? What things would be noticed only by one who has knowledge of Judaism?

Do you have: (to name a few):  
• Bar/Bat Mitzvah certificate or Ketubah displayed  
• Shabbat Candlesticks  
• Challah platter, knife, and cover

- A Chanukiah (menorah)
- Dreidles
- A Jewish calendar (we have plenty to spare at the Temple)
- A Mezuzah
- A prayer book
- A Seder plate
- A tzedakah box

If not, think about adding one or two items on this list to what you do have at home. (I know the Sisterhood gift shop would be happy to help.)

## November Highlights

*Services Fridays at 7:45 unless otherwise noted. Babysitting available for all 7:45 Shabbat services.*

**Friday, Nov. 5:**  
Shabbat service, 6 p.m.,

**Saturday, Nov. 6:**  
Food festival prep starts at 9 a.m. Helping hands welcome.

**Saturday, Nov. 7**  
**FOOD FESTIVAL!**  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Friday, Nov. 12**  
Grade 2 Shabbat and Dinner, 6 p.m.

**Saturday, Nov. 13**  
Tot Shabbat, 10 a.m.

**Thursday, Nov. 25**  
Thanksgiving. Watch for information on this year's interfaith Thanksgiving observance

**IT'S FOOD FESTIVAL TIME.**

**PLEASE HELP US DURING THE FINAL PUSH FOR OUR BIGGEST EVENT OF THE YEAR.**

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**Nancy Knoblauch**, in loving memory  
of her beloved husband, Murry

# PRESIDENT

*Continued from Page 1*

So I will see you all at the Food Festival. I'll be working in the Cultural Room. Please come and visit me.

Oct. 21 was World Food Day. Once again our Temple gathered bags of food at the High Holidays to distribute to those who are in need. This idea belongs to our rabbi...rather than asking for money for our Temple, we are asked to share with our neighbors.

I was asked by Peg Bianco, the director of the Food Bank, to say a few words at the World Food Day Breakfast. The following are the remarks I prepared:

I have been asked to say a few words, perhaps five minutes. Just as I told our rabbi in the past, I will be delighted to speak, although never in my life have I said anything that

took only five minutes!

As it is plain to see, I am an older woman...I was born in the middle of the Great Depression. I spent my young years on a farm in a small town called Frystown, near Lebanon. During this period of hardship, neighbors helped each other. We had to help each other, it really wasn't a choice!! My family had a nanny goat, and we shared the milk with a neighbor who had a child who was ill. They had chickens and shared eggs, and when the chickens became too old...we again shared and we all ate chicken !!

On our small farm we also raised rabbits and sold the fur to make collars and cuffs for little girls' coats. Since rabbits are not kosher, I had a lovely little rabbit fur blanket that my mother made for me, and all our neighbors had delicious rabbit stew!!

As I have grown older, I've noticed that times have changed. We now have e-mail, we now Tweet and Twitter each other...and there are those who say we are not as kind to each other as we were in the past. Well, I think that those who say we are not as kind are wrong !! When I look around this room I notice that we are still all neighbors...and we are still helping each other.

You can be proud of what you all do in these, once again, most difficult times.

And when I looked in the Chapel/Library after Yom Kippur, and saw dozens of brown paper bags filled with food for those less fortunate than we are...I felt pride in my fellow congregants that we, too, know how to share.

\*\*\*

I have never before imparted

the viewing of a film I have seen. At our local GoogleWorks theatre, "As Seen Through These Eyes" was shown in October. The story is a documentary about the artists, who under the most devastating conditions, incarcerated in death camps, continued to tell of the horrors of the concentration camps with works of art — drawn on scraps of paper, drawn with stubs of pencils, with colors of paint smuggled into the camps. The film is unforgettable. And, rarely does it happen that a voice and a sentence from a film haunt you long after the rest is forgotten. Such a scene was in this film. One of the survivors interviewed by the producer of the film, when asked why he continues to paint, responded, "I paint not to remember, I paint because I cannot forget!" ....and now, I also cannot forget!

## Blessing of the non-Jewish spouse

*Each year on Yom Kippur morning, Rabbi Brian Michelson delivers the following blessing for non-Jewish spouses who have chosen to raise Jewish children and live in a Jewish household. A guest of the congregation heard the blessing this year and was so moved by it, he asked that it be reprinted for those who may have missed it.*

You are the moms and dads who drive the Hebrew school carpool. You help explain to your kids why it's important to get up on Sunday morning and to learn to be a Jew. Some of you take classes and read

Jewish books to deepen your own understanding, so you can help to make a Jewish home. You might learn to make kugel and latkes; you even try to like gefilte fish. You join your spouse at the Shabbat table — maybe you even set that Shabbat table and make it beautiful.

You come to services, even when it feels strange and confusing. You hum along to those Hebrew songs, and some of you even learn to read that foreign language. You stand on the bimah on the day of your child's Bar or Bat Mitzvah, and tell them how proud you are and how much you love them, and how glad you are to see them

grow into young Jewish men and women.

We know that some of you have paid a significant price for the generous decision you made to raise Jewish children. You have made a painful sacrifice, giving up the joy of sharing your own spiritual beliefs and passing your own religious traditions down to your kids. I hope your children and your spouse tell you often how wonderful you are, and that their love and gratitude, and our love and gratitude, will be some compensation, and will bring you joy.

*(Based upon a piece written by Rabbi Janet Marder)*

### The Temple Online

[www.ohebsholom.org](http://www.ohebsholom.org)

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***Deadline for December/January issue: Nov. 5***



## Religious School News

# Youngest students off to great start at school

By Judy Synnaron

*Religious School Director*

As part of the Newsletter articles this year, I will be incorporating class news and pictures. This month Pre-school/Kindergarten and Grade 1 will be featured.

The Preschool/Kindergarten Class has eight children this year. It meets two times per month under the direction of David Graff and Sandy Fishman. This class is learning about Jewish traditions and holidays by the use of music, crafts and stories. They will be peer buddies for Sunday Services with the 7th Grade class. The Pre-K/K class is doing lots of fun, hands-on activities. Have you ever seen a Sukkah made from Lincoln logs? As an introduction to the school year,

right now the 1st Grade class is studying about the synagogue. They prepared for their Consecration and have made their own Torah covers in class. Thank you Julie Alweis for coordinating this project. Congratulations to our Consecrants: Elyse Aragon, Eliana Alweis, Jaiden Goldshtain, Nathaniel Jean, William Stein, and Lena Ure.

### Special Events:

**Nov. 7:** Food Festival. No Religious School.

**Nov. 12:** Grade 2 Shabbat. Family Night Dinner, 6 p.m..

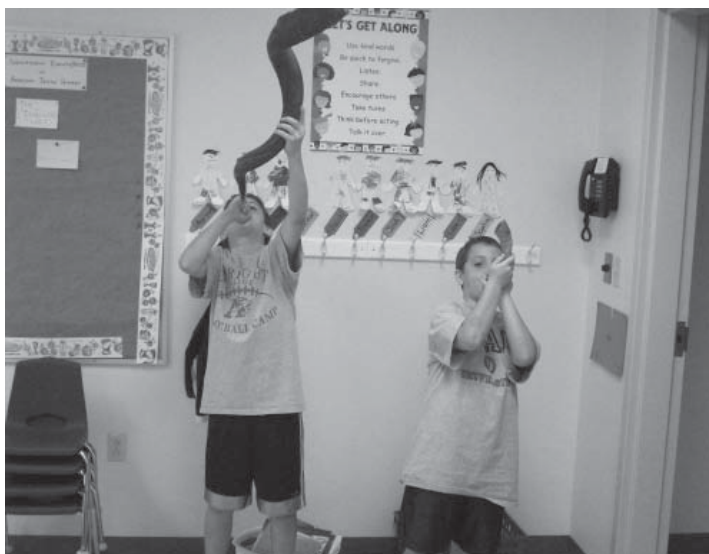
**Nov. 16:** Joint Religious School Program at Keshet Zion for Grades 3 - 7 sponsored by the JCC to honor Jewish Book

month. We will be having Tuesday School at KZ on this date.

**Nov. 28:** No School, Thanksgiving weekend

**Reminders:** Please help your child to remember to sign in the Shabbat attendance book on Friday nights. We hope all the children will attend at least eight Shabbat services which is the minimum requirement to attend the breakfast with the Rabbi in May.

Also, please be vigilant about Religious School attendance. As explained in our handbook, students must attend at least 75 percent of the Sundays and 75 percent of the Tuesdays.



### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In honor of Shirley Friedman's  
Woman of Valor award

Lorri & Yair Oziri  
Harriet Baskin

In memory of Rhoda Small

Harriet Baskin  
Mildred & Ivan Gordon  
Carol & Stu Cohn

In gratitude for helping Derian  
prepare his High Holiday Torah  
Reading

Jill & Michael Haas

In honor of Harriet Baskin's  
new home

Helen Rappoport

### Building Fund

In memory of Mrs. Barry  
Riebman's father, Emanuel  
Gene & Shirley Friedman

### Greater Temple Fund

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Jacob  
Charles Goldsmith by his daughter  
Kaye Ullman

In appreciation for all the good  
wishes & uniongrams sent on

Irv's birthday  
Irv & Lois Cohen

### Religious School Fund

In memory of Gerd Aptekmann,  
grandfather of Susy Caro  
The Driben Family  
Donna Oaks

### General Fund

In memory of Lee & Rhoda Small  
Hilde Gernsheimer

### Soup Kitchen Fund

In memory of Ruth Black,  
grandmother of Amanda Shocket  
Donna Oaks

### Music Fund

In memory of Kenny Arnovitz  
Ron & Sharon Hrabak

### Liefert Fund

Wishing Stu Cohn a speedy recovery  
Donna Oaks

### Greater Berks Food Bank

In honor of and with thanks to  
Rabbi Michelson  
Jarrett Smith

### Jane Henry Memorial Fund

The Jane Henry Memorial  
Fund is not just a camp fund  
for youth. It will help anyone  
in need, particularly young  
people.

In memory of Mrs. Edward Rosner  
Jodi, Kelsi, & Lindsi Stoudt

In memory of Arthur Abramson  
Mr. & Mrs. Irwin Beck

With thanks to Maxine & Dick Henry  
Sylvia Gross

In memory of "Meesie" Cooper  
Carole & Irv Beck

*Have you considered remembering the Temple in your will?*

## Perpetual Memorials

#### Nov. 1-6

Arthur Humberg  
Sig S. Schweriner  
Jacob Weitzenkorn  
Lea Rachel Heiman  
Daniel Epstein  
Eleanor Gould  
Eugen Jaschek  
I.G. Schneeberger  
Tessie Fried

#### Nov. 7-13

Max Baerncopf  
Julia Folkman  
Natalie Barnett  
Ervin Brok  
Emily Epstein  
Regina Hermann  
Helen Lightman  
Anna Miller  
Morris Guggenheim  
Susan Mendelsohn  
Martha M. Marcus

#### Nov. 14-20

Maurice C. Isaacs  
Eva N. Hyman  
Barnett Fein  
Henrietta Goldsmith  
Hattie Jacobs  
Elizabeth S. Sher  
Georgene E. Goldsmith  
Max Stein

#### Nov. 21-27

Betty Hausner  
Joseph F. Brenner  
Jonas Epstein  
Charles Burns  
Paul Jaslow  
Fred Coopersmith  
Rose Shlionsky Sack  
Morris H. Bash  
Samuel R. Liever  
Paulina Bernheimer

#### Nov. 28-30

Albert B. Ball  
Louis Hirsch  
Albert Gilbert

## Florence Frank Offering Fund

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to my special birthday  
Mrs. Deborah Zelnick

To Mrs. Sandra Gelb for a speedy recovery  
Mr. & Mrs. Gene Friedman  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Safir

To Dr. Richard Small in memory of his mother  
Dr. & Mrs. Eric Zelnick

To Shirley Friedman in honor of her being named Woman of Valor  
Dr. & Mrs. Eric Zelnick

*Kindly send Florence Frank Offering Fund contributions to Mrs.  
Marilyn Frank, Phoebe Village, 9 Reading Ave., Wernersville, PA  
19565; or Mrs. Shirley Friedman, 107 Primrose Lane, Wyomissing, PA  
19610.*

## It's time to get ready for Chanukah

Don't be caught by surprise. Chanukah begins  
Dec. 1 this year, so now's the time to visit the

*Sisterhood Gift Shop*  
for your holiday gift-giving and religious needs.  
Check out our new selection of great items that  
will light up your holiday.

## Book Group

**Nov. 14 at 4 p.m..**


We are reading "Day After Night" by Anita Diamant

## NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Sellgren	Nov. 4
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Schonberger	Nov. 5
Dr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Driben	Nov. 6
Mr. & Mrs. Jesse Goldberg	Nov. 6
Mr. & Mrs. Eric Shocket	Nov. 6
Mr. & Mrs. Adam Pross	Nov. 8
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Saidman	Nov. 12
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Pinkard	Nov. 17
Mr. & Mrs. Allen Michelson	Nov. 18
Mr. & Mrs. John Sileski	Nov. 20
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Becker	Nov. 23
Dr. & Mrs. Michael Haas	Nov. 27
Dr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Lupowitz	Nov. 28

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Glenn Brok	Nov. 1	Sue Wachs	Nov. 16
Dr. Jeffrey Nemeroff	Nov. 2	Lisa Nemeroff	Nov. 17
Michael Levy	Nov. 3	Lois Cohen	Nov. 18
Paula Bub	Nov. 5	Dr. S. Ronald Miller	Nov. 22
Amanda G. Shocket	Nov. 5	Todd Gilbert	Nov. 23
Dr. Lee Weyant	Nov. 8	John Sileski	Nov. 26
Samantha Stein	Nov. 10	Patricia Frankel	Nov. 27
Judith Ellsworth	Nov. 11	Scott Davis	Nov. 29
Dr. Michael Haas	Nov. 14	Phyllis Symons	Nov. 29
Cindy Chronister	Nov. 15	Karen Lutz	Nov. 30
Miriam Gavigan	Nov. 15		



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# November 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>November 5-7 - Cantor Josh Weekend.</b> Dates/times are subject to change.</p>	1	2 Hebrew School 4:15 PM 	3	4	5 Shabbat Service 6:00 PM 	6 <b>FOOD FESTIVAL PREP DAY</b> 9:00 AM
7 <b>FOOD FESTIVAL</b> 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM 	8 Exec. Cmte. Mtg. 7:00 PM	9 Hebrew School 4:15 PM	10 <b>Kristallnacht</b> Christ Episc. Church 6:30/7:00 PM	11 	12 Grade 2 Shabbat Service 6:00 PM Grade 2 Dinner 	13 Tot Shabbat 10:00 AM 
14 Religious School 9:00 AM Book Group - 4 PM Gratz Kids w/Rabbi 6:00 PM	15 Torah Study 12:00 Noon	16 Book Fair Event @ KZ 4:15 PM Finance Cmte. Mtg. 7:00 PM	17	18 <b>JCC Book Fair Luncheon</b> 12:00 Noon	19 Shabbat Service 7:45 PM <i>Jane Goodman Sponsoring Oneg</i> 	20
21 Religious School 9:00 AM Men's Club 9:30 AM	22 Torah Study 12:00 Noon Board of Trustees Mtg. 7:00 PM 	23 Hebrew School 4:15 PM	24 <i>Office Closing</i> 2:00 PM	25 	26 Shabbat Service 7:45 PM 	27
28 <b>NO Religious School</b>	29 Torah Study 12:00 Noon	30 Hebrew School 4:15 PM	 <b>November</b>			

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