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is Back!**

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**January
Anniversaries,
Birthdays,
Donations,
& More!**



TEMPLE NER AMI
515 Temple Avenue
Camarillo, CA 93010

TempleNerAmi.org

Office Hours:
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(Closed Mon, Jan. 2 & 16)

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Message from the Executive Leadership Team

by Nadine Frankel

I am inspired by the words of the American Poet, Edwin Markham: *"There is a destiny that makes us one family. None goes through life alone; all that we send into the lives of others comes back into our own."* This is very true of Temple Ner Ami. We are one family sharing our joys and sorrows, triumphs, and disappointments. As we look back on 2011, we remember some of the highlights: a casino night that was a grand success, a sisterhood that has amazed us with wonderful programs, a Torah school that is second to none, a revitalized teen program, a rabbinic staff that continues to bring us great insight into Torah, a refurbished library; the list is endless.

We have had many losses and sorrows, too, losing wonderful members of our temple family, **Sy Blau**, **Gene Foxman**, and **Marvin Krantz**. Yet when we share our sorrows with each other, the pain becomes more bearable. I exhort all

to remember that we are a family to be there for each other, and to lean on when we need support.

We have a **Town Hall Meeting** coming up on **February 9 at 7 PM**. Please come. The board will share with you plans for this coming year and needs your input and insights!

We are planning another Casino Night fundraiser for Spring. Our last one was so much fun (and profitable, too). Also, our **Purim Carnival** is coming up. We'll be doing our Purim Basket fundraiser again this year. It's a nice way to show appreciation for each other.

Members should be receiving their copy of the 2011-2012 Membership Directory in the mail the same day this issue of MEGILLAH arrived. Use it often to keep in touch with each other. **Arla Crane** and **Mark Malloy** worked very hard on it.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I wish you all a very wonderful 2012.

LOX-IN-A-BOX Fundraiser a Hit!

by Nica Bard, NAUTY President

Last weekend's NAUTY youth group event was a complete success! Our sleepover with the 8th grade junior youth group established and celebrated the unity within the youth of Temple Ner Ami. Our fundraiser, making and distributing 42 "Lox Boxes" for members of the congregation, raised a profit of almost \$500!

This money is going directly to scholarships for our members to go to regional Jewish youth events, and to buying supplies for meetings, events, and social action projects to build the foundation of our evolving youth group!

We want to thank you all, the congregation, for your full support, and we hope you enjoyed your Shabbat morning breakfast! – Nica



What is Your Signature Dish?

by Lisa Bock

This may seem like an odd question -- unless you have been participating in the Jewish Foods class that a number of Ner Ami members have been taking. That is the title of our last class session!

We have been discovering how different foods can trace our journey as Jews through time and place, as we Jews have sought ways to express our Judaism through our food, and how our modification of regional recipes reflects kashrut, dietary laws.

On January 25th, we will be holding our last class of **Jewish Food: Journey Into the Heart of Judaism**. My signature dish will not be a surprise. As a matter of fact, I'm going to share it with you, and I invite you to attend this final class, even if you have not participated in the prior classes. There is a catch – you are invited to bring and share your own signature dish. That is, a food that you make which reflects your Judaism, something that you specialize in, you are known for, whether it be a Shabbat dish, or a dish you make for one of the Jewish holidays. (If you make Eggplant Parmesan, did you know that is a Jewish adaptation for Chicken Parmesan?!) So what's my dish? Challah. I have been making challah for a long time, and I am happy to share my recipe, techniques, tricks – everything I know, so you can make challah too. As you might guess, I have a busy schedule, and usually use a bread machine to begin the dough. On January 25th, I will bring my



bread machine and all the ingredients for challah. If you'd like to see how challah is made from scratch, come by around 6 pm, and while the dough is mixing and rising, we'll chat. If you'd like to join us all at the beginning of class, come by at 7 pm at the start of our last class.

Here's my Challah Recipe:

3 eggs plus enough water to equal 1-1/2 cups
2 tsp oil
1 tsp lemon juice
2 tsp salt
3 tbsp sugar
4 cups bread flour (I use King Arthur Bread flour)
1 tbsp yeast

Set the bread machine to dough mode and start.

When the dough is ready, remove to a lightly floured surface and divide into 3 or 6 equal parts. Roll out into long ropes. Braid loosely from the center to each end and tuck under. Place on cookie sheet. Cover with cloth and let rise for 20-25 minutes.

Brush loaf with mixture of 1 egg and tbsp water.

Bake at 400 degrees for 25 minutes until golden.

Remove from cookie sheet and allow to cool under a cloth.

May your secular New Year be filled with goodness, health, community, and blessing,

Lisa



Cheder Chappenings at Temple Ner Ami

by Julia Newman

Shalom Haverim,

November's Family Shabbat service was led by the 7th/8th grade B'nai Mitzvah class and teachers Saul Lessler and Gil Ramot. The students include: Jack Ensey,

December's Family Shabbat service was led by our 6th grade class and teachers Cantor Karen Dworsky and Saul Lessler. The students include: Grayson Baratta, Cooper D'Inca, Ayla Dvoretzky, Sara Erickson, Evan Grossmann, Kianah Highfill, Jackson Kamola, Justin Lieb and Noah Steinberg. In addition to doing an outstand-

ing job leading the service, the students presented a program focused on the area of Jewish history they are studying, the Middle Ages. Thanks to a grant from the Jewish Federation we employ 12 teen Madrichim (classroom assistants). They are an invaluable help to our teachers and to me. Our Madrichim are: Sophie Elliott, Ariel Saleh, Hannah Harris, Nolan Grossmann, Imani Zusman, Kyle Gaynor, Rachael Pritz, Brandon Pritz, Rena Dvoretzky, Shoshi Steinberg, Josh Pritz, and Daniel Siela.

For their unit of study on the Holocaust, the 7th grade class was fortunate to have two guest speakers Celina Biniaz and Annelies Regen who talked to the students and parents about their personal experiences. Additional speakers and a trip to the Museum of Tolerance are planned for the Spring semester.

B'nai Mitzvah students and their parents participated in the annual tallit-making project. A special thanks to Sonia Banon, who sewed all of the tallitot and to Student Rabbi Lisa for helping to lead the session and showing a wonderful video called "The Tribe."



ing job leading the service, the students presented a program focused on the area of Jewish history they are studying, the Middle Ages.

Thanks to a grant from the Jewish Federation we employ 12 teen Madrichim (classroom assistants). They are an invaluable help to our teachers and to me. Our Madrichim are: Sophie Elliott, Ariel Saleh, Hannah Harris, Nolan Grossmann, Imani Zusman, Kyle Gaynor, Rachael Pritz, Brandon Pritz, Rena Dvoretzky, Shoshi Steinberg, Josh Pritz, and Daniel Siela.

Chanukah Chappenings

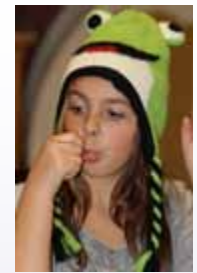
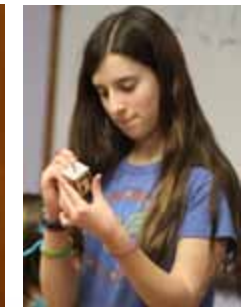
Camp Kadimah Chanukah was led by Sharon Spielman. Students made their own dreidels, played Maccabee games and of course prepared potato latkes. You can still smell the oil in the kitchen!

We wish you all a very Happy Hanukah and a healthy and happy New Year!



Photos courtesy of Allyson Williams

Camp Kadimah Chanukah Action





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NEWS FLASH: Conejo Photobooth will be at the Purim Carnival March 4th



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You Can Help Prevent Birth Defects



Did you know that 1 in 33 babies each year is born with a birth defect?

A birth defect is the cause of 1 in 5 infant deaths. There are ways that you can help prevent birth defects. If you are woman who can become pregnant, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention has the following recommendations. First be sure to get 400 micrograms of folic acid every day. A baby needs folic acid to help the brain and spine develop as early as the first month of pregnancy. This is a time when many women don't even know they are pregnant yet. Don't wait until you know you are pregnant to start taking care of yourself.

Another way to help prevent birth defects is to avoid chemicals and infections that have been linked to birth defects. Cigarettes, alcohol and other drugs, as well as some medicines taken during pregnancy can increase the risk of a birth defect. Some infectious diseases can also be harmful to the fetus. It is important for the mother to get vaccinations as recommended by the physician. Hand washing after using the bathroom; after touching raw meat, uncooked eggs, or raw vegetables; and after playing with pets is the best way to prevent infection.

So if you are pregnant, or may become pregnant be sure to eat a nutritious diet, take care of your body, and get your flu shot. Talk with your doctor about how to have a happy, healthy pregnancy.

Article provided by Deborah Ringen, our Livingston Memorial Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice Community Outreach Liason.

January is Birth Defect Prevention Month!

Tikkun Olam:

תְּקוּן הָעוֹלָם



Happy 2012!

Let's make this the year we put more light into the world and our own lives.

Have you been following my journey into vegetarianism? I thought long and hard

about disclosing the following: I felt deprived after not having turkey for Thanksgiving and ate chicken when I returned home from Chicago. In the spirit of full disclosure, I almost choked to death. The chicken was lodged in my chest. I guess I forgot how to chew meat. I was in pain almost an hour. I could breathe and swallow, so I didn't call Leisure Village's security for help. I leaned over a chair and then the toilet and gave myself the Heimlich Maneuver and was absolutely astounded that it worked and I was again painfree. Many of us live alone, so please make sure you can save your own life in a food-related emergency.

Happy 50th Anniversary to **Amnesty International!** That's 50 years of supporting human rights. This includes supporting fair trade and honoring the rights of indigenous people among other worthwhile projects. You may contact them at: www.AMNESTYUSA.ORG for more information.

Somis Pantry foods of the month: **Canned fruits and vegetables.** Please continue your generosity in this new year.

Thanks for all you do, Harriet Lit 484-9119

Temple Ner Ami
Hanukkah
Friday - Dec. 16

Paul Dwork Brings TNA
"The Magic of Merlin"



Many thanks to our expert photo team: Allyson & AJ Williams.

MOVIE NIGHT - Jan. 28th "Driving Miss Daisy"

"Driving Miss Daisy" won Best Picture in its portrayal of the 20 year friendship between an old Jewish woman (Jessica Tandy) and her African-American chauffeur (Morgan Freeman). The movie received a total of nine academy award nominations.

Anti-Black and anti-Semitic racism and prejudice are the background for this period in American society, particularly in the South (from 1948 to 1973). When her synagogue is bombed, Miss Daisy realizes that she is subject to many of the same prejudices as her Black chauffeur.



The movie shows us that, because she is Jewish and he is Black, both are outsiders. Miss Daisy and her chauffeur are outsiders not only for their religion and race, but also for their age and sensibility. Their relationship slowly becomes a sweet friendship of equals.

The evening will also include introductory comments by Shlomo Kreitzer and a discussion afterwards: "Are the discriminatory and prejudicial actions portrayed in the film ancient history?" "Do we see any of this prejudice now?"

Movie Starts - 6:30 PM
Run time: 99 minutes



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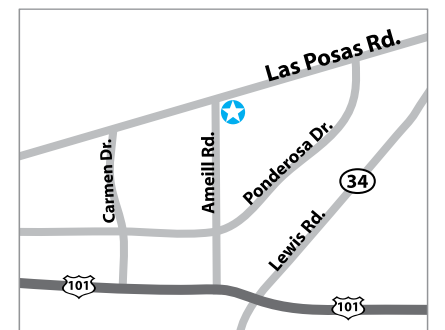
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EAGER READERS BOOK CLUB

Meets Tuesday, January 10th, 10:30 AM

January Selection: "The Good Earth" by Pearl S. Buck

This 1932 Pulitzer Prize winning novel is still a stand-out today. Deceptive in its simplicity, it is a story built around a flawed human being and a teetering socio-economic system, as well as one that is layered with profound themes. The cadence of the author's writing is also of note, as it rhythmically lends itself to the telling of the story, giving it a very distinct voice. No doubt the author's writing style was influenced by her own immersion in Chinese culture, as she grew up and lived in China, the daughter of missionaries.

This is the story of the cyclical nature of life, of the passions and desires that motivate a human being, of good and evil, and of the desire to survive and thrive against great odds. It begins with the story of an illiterate, poor, peasant farmer, Wang Lung, who ventures from the rural countryside and goes to town to the great house of Hwang to obtain a bride from those among the rank of slave. There, he is given the slave O-lan as his bride.

Selfless, hardworking, and a bearer of sons, the plain-faced O-lan supports Wang Lung's veneration of the land and his desire to acquire more land. She stays with him through thick and thin, through famine and very lean times, working alongside him on the land, making great sacrifices, and raising his children. As a family, they weather the tumultuousness of pre-revolutionary China in the 1920s, only to find themselves the recipient of riches beyond their dreams. At the first opportunity, they buy land from the great house of Hwang, whose expenses appear to be exceeding their income.

With the passing of time, Wang Lung buys more and more land from the house of Hwang, until he owns it all, as his veneration of the land is always paramount. With O-lan at this side, his family continues to prosper. His life becomes more complicated, however, the richer he gets. Wang Lung then commits a life-changing act that pierces O-lan's heart in the most profoundly heartbreaking way.

As the years pass, his sons become educated and literate, and the family continues to prosper. With the great house of Hwang on the skids, an opportunity to buy their house, the very same house from where he had fetched O-lan many years ago, becomes available. Pressed upon to buy that house by his sons, who do not share Wang Lung's veneration for the land and rural life, he buys the house. The country mice now have become city mice.

This is a potent story, brimming with irony, yet simply told against a framework of mounting social change. It illustrates the timeless dichotomy between the young and the old, the old and the new, and the rich and the poor. It is no wonder that this beautifully written book won a Pulitzer Prize and is considered a classic masterpiece. Bravo!

(Review from Oprah's Book Club)



TODAH RABBAH - Means Thank You!

Message from Naomi Brill, Oneg Chair

A big THANK YOU to all of you wonderful people who helped make the Onegs at our Temple so successful this past year. It was a pleasure to work with you.

Please consider volunteering again this coming year. It is a very special way to celebrate a happy occasion or to remember someone who is no longer with us. Just call me at the number listed below and we'll set up a convenient time.

The people who so graciously helped me in December of 2011 were:

- **Max and Josephine Freifeld** who remembered Josephine's mother, Louise G.V. Pierantoni.



- **Phyllis Mandel** who sponsored in honor of her daughter, Marcia Mandel.

- **Sylvia Leventhal** and **Sheila Bachelis** who together sponsored in honor of Sylvia's birthday.

- **Lee Edwards** who was a sponsor in honor of her own birthday.

- **Muriel Rosenkranz** in honor of her husband's Yahrzeit.

Please remember to call me if you want to sponsor an Oneg. You can either bring some of the refreshments or give the Temple a donation to cover same. This is a special and meaningful way to either celebrate a "simcha" (happy occasion) or to remember a loved one.

Naomi Brill, Oneg Chair, 388-8511



From the Membership Director

Keith Elliott

One of the things that is vital for holding a community together is involvement. Last month I asked people to volunteer for things like ushering for Friday night services or other Temple events-thank you to all who have responded!-but there are ways to be part of your community other than committing time or resources to the Temple.

Especially during this year where the number of Temple events has been lower than average, it's important to remember that there are ways of being a part of the community that are focused on the relationships members have to one another, rather than their relationship with the Temple itself. One of the best means to this end is the chavurah, where members with similar interests or at similar stages in life can gather to share experiences, offer support, or just socialize.

I have spoken with several members who have wished that they could have found a chavurah that met their needs, but that none were available. The problem is, and this is especially true in a small community, that we can't always wait for programs to be presented to us fully-formed and ready for our consumption; to make things work, we have to

do our own legwork. If you, or another member you know, have ever wanted to look into being part of a group like this, this is the time to get the ball rolling. After all, a chavurah is a group led by its own members, not by the Staff, Clergy, Board, or anyone else at the Temple.

In the past, we have had occasional events for people interesting in joining or forming a chavurah to meet one another, and I am planning another in March 2012. Before then, I would like to hear from everyone-**EVERYONE**-who is interested, or is currently in a chavurah, or everyone who has tried but not found a group that suited them. I need that feedback and contact from members to make sure that this coming event does as much as possible to help coordinate new groups. What sort of group would interest you? How large, how small, what sort of connection between the members-any information at all that will help me plan the event to best meet our members' needs.

And as always, I would welcome any volunteers to help coordinate the event, or even to help connecting people with each other. Please reach me at keithelliott@templerami.org, or by calling me at home at (805) 376-2651.

Thank you and Happy New Year to everyone!



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JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

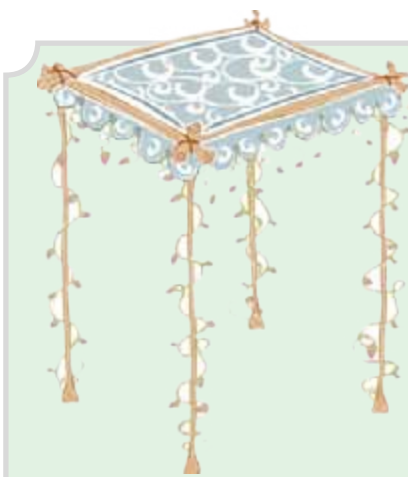
Members & Children

Jeffrey Felder	Monday	January 2, 2012
Kaila Kaden	Monday	January 2, 2012
Marty Simons	Wednesday	January 4, 2012
Brad Cabelli	Thursday	January 5, 2012
Clarice Shapiro	Friday	January 6, 2012
Aaron Dvoretzky	Saturday	January 7, 2012
Betty Fink	Saturday	January 7, 2012
Evan Grossmann	Saturday	January 7, 2012
Bonnie Shubb	Saturday	January 7, 2012
Jodi Spitzer	Monday	January 9, 2012
Dr. Cathy Kim	Tuesday	January 10, 2012
Paula-Jeanne Feinberg	Friday	January 13, 2012
Doris Weinberg	Sunday	January 15, 2012
Zeke Elliott	Tuesday	January 17, 2012
David Gaynor	Wednesday	January 18, 2012
Charlotte Kreitzer	Wednesday	January 18, 2012
Bernard Scherer	Thursday	January 19, 2012
Josephine Freifield	Friday	January 20, 2012
Janice Wise	Friday	January 20, 2012
Jim Keys	Monday	January 23, 2012
Kenneth J. Laskey	Thursday	January 26, 2012
Jack S. Perr	Thursday	January 26, 2012
Paul P. Keys	Friday	January 27, 2012
Sydney Kamola	Monday	January 30, 2012
Leonard Lowenschuss	Monday	January 30, 2012
Leatrice Posner	Tuesday	January 31, 2012
Sarah Schneider	Tuesday	January 31, 2012

* This table is based on Temple records. If your information is missing or in error, please contact the Temple office.

Missing in Action!

All the books that were borrowed the past year and were not returned to the Library. Books are borrowed on the honor system for 30 days. Please return the books to the library cart (do not shelve them).



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Name	Day	Date	Year
Jeffrey & Elinore Felder	Monday	January 2	33rd anniversary
Robert M. & Joyce A. Brown	Wednesday	January 4	65th anniversary
Robert & Kathy Sacks	Friday	January 6	32nd anniversary
Sanford & Bernice Garfield	Thursday	January 26	65th anniversary
Lawrence & Nancy Borelli	Friday	January 27	38th anniversary

* Listings based on Temple records. If your info is missing or in error, please contact the Temple office so we may correct our database.

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Sisterhood Gals Stretch for Health!



The relaxing reprieve that some of us enjoyed at the Temple was well worth our time. Perusha Hickman, our

guest Yoga teacher, guided us through some healthy breathing and body movements. He discussed ways that we can all improve our health through movement, deep breathing and proper food choices to fuel our bodies. We stretched to lengthen and strengthen our spines and we were amazed at how good it felt to stretch our bodies. Perusha stressed the importance of slowly starting any physical activity and how it gradually becomes easier to do a little more each time.

Pictured here are some of the movements and stretches that we did that evening. We think that the participants saw and felt the positive benefits and learned how easy it is to do some basic movements even while sitting on a chair.

We want to acknowledge those people who came out on a very cold night to discover how to feel better: Arla Crane, Elvira Cabelli, Susan

Weinstein, Claire Goldstein, Sonia Lotker, Naomi Brill, Sharon Green, Sharron Parker, Dalya Dektor, Josephine Freifield, Bobbe Jacobs, Jean Shev, Barbara Hoff, Phyllis Slade, Flo Doctrow, and Shari Brody. Your participation and support are greatly appreciated!

The Board of Directors of the Sisterhood wishes all of our members, temple members and guests, a wonderful holiday season and good health in the new year.

To start off the new year, we have planned an afternoon that is back by popular request. On Sunday afternoon, January 8th from 2:30 to 4:00 at the Temple, all ages are welcome to kick up their heels and do some **Israeli Dancing**. This is open to all Temple members, their children and guests. Non Temple members are invited at \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children over 5.



It is a great opportunity to share this tradition of dancing with your family and friends!

Warmest holiday wishes,

Shari Brody & Sonia Banon Lotker

Co-Presidents of Sisterhood



The Temple Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Contributions

Honorariums/Memorials

Max & Josephine Freifield, oneg sponsor, in loving memory of Josephine's mother, Louise G. V. Perantoni
 Ruth Fridberg, in loving memory of Ruth's dear departed husband, Charles Fridberg
 Diane Honick, in loving memory of Diane's dear departed husband, Gus Honick
 Irving & Arlene S. Bergman, in loving memory of Irving's Father, Joseph Bergman
 Seymour & Myrna Zimmerman, in loving memory of their beloved daughter Barbara Zimmerman
 Gerald Goldman, in loving memory of his beloved wife, Ellen Gail Goldman
 Cynthia Urbach, in loving memory of her beloved mother, Josephine Berman
 Gerald & Natalie Rosen, in loving memory of Gerald's Parents, Sol & Theodora Rosen
 Len & Jill Polan, in loving memory of Jill's Father, Sydney Spellman
 Naomi Brill to Isabel Blau - So sorry for your loss
 Max Heller to Isabel Blau - So sorry for your loss
 Naomi Brill to Annelies Regen-loving wishes to get well soon!
 Doris Weinberg, in loving memory of her husband, William Weinberg

Florence & Al Budoff, in loving memory of Florence's Sister, Claire Reisner
 Florence & Al Budoff, in loving memory of Florence's Mother, Gladys Feldman
 Harriet Silvertrust, in loving memory of Harriet's father, Meyer Joseph Karstadt
 Betty Stallman, in loving memory of her brother, Jack Stolman
 Robert & Rita Ziman, in loving memory of Simon Blau
 Stanley & Loretta Reshes, in loving memory of Sy Blau
 Stanley & Loretta Reshes, in loving memory of Stanley's father, Sid Reshes
 Lee Edwards in loving memory of Sy Blau
 Lee Edwards with every good wish to Annelies Regen, with my love
 Rita & Bob Ziman in loving memory of Simon Blau
 Kaila Kaden in loving memory of the Kaden Family matriarch, Miriam "Miki" Kaden
 Isabel Blau, in loving memory of her mother, Betty Miller and her mother-in-law, Bertha Blau
 Isabel Blau, in loving memory of her beloved husband, Sy Blau
 David Kaplan, in loving memory of his mother, Lorraine Kaplan

General Donations

Jack Perr, Bar Mitzvah planning books for our library
 Sylvia Leventhal & Sheila Bachelis, Oneg sponsorship in honor of Sylvia's 80th Birthday

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Gerald Goldman, in loving memory of Ellen Gail Goldman

Newman Scholarship Fund

Israel Feingold in loving memory of Clarice's Mother, Mary Diamond
 Anonymous in celebration of the good health of the Magnificent Julia Newman
 Harry & Judy Knobel wishing a Happy Anniversary to Julia Newman & Saul Lessler

Jaffe Library Fund

Phyllis Mandel in honor of her daughter, Marcia
 Semour & Harriet Heiss in loving memory of Seymour & Harriet's parents

Temple Music Fund

Brad & Elvira Cabelli in honor of Sharon Spielman- You did a great job with the High Holy Days Choir! With much love and gratitude from Elvira Cabelli, Arlene Cohen, Saul Lessler, Sonia Lotker, Kim Honig and Leonard Lowenschuss

Annual Giving Campaign

Gregg & Sharon Hartman

High Holy Day Pledges

Richard & Judy Newberger
 Joseph & Susan Saleh
 Russell & Becky Kamola
 Bonnie Shubb/Moises Mercado
 Jim & Allyson Williams
 Jay & Arla Crane

(Donations shown are those received from November 19th thru December 18th)

✂ **Dear Congregant,**

We want to hear from you!

Temple Ner Ami has formed a Rabbinic Exploration Committee that is working hard to determine what characteristics and criteria should be considered (and to what degree) in determining who will be our next rabbi. It is critical that we have your input. Please take the time to complete this confidential survey, either online (if it was sent to you via eMail), or by completing this written questionnaire and mailing it to the Temple.

Please give this some thought, but don't delay submitting the survey. **The deadline for responses is Monday, January 9.** The survey is designed for your comments to be anonymous, but there is space at the end where you can let us know who you are and add additional comments if you like.

Sincerely,

The Temple Ner Ami Board of Directors

Your feedback is very important to us and we appreciate you taking the time to send this in quickly.

1. Please tell us your affiliation with Temple Ner Ami:

Temple Member Temple staff or clergy Former Congregant Not currently a member, but considering joining

2. Please rate the importance of the following rabbinic characteristics to you and your family:

	Very Important	Important	Neutral	Somewhat important	Not Important
Rabbi is personable, warm and friendly	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Readily available to congregants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Teaches Torah Study & other classes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dynamic speaker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gets involved in the local community	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Holds regular office hours (at the Temple 30+ hrs./week)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regularly spends time visiting local hospitals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Works to increase and retain membership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Helps with fundraising activities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Regularly participates in Torah School Classes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments: _____

Of the qualities noted above, please tell us the three most important above: _____

3. It is our desire to have a full-time rabbi, but if we could only afford a part-time rabbi who conducted High Holiday Services and then provided a few other services each month through the rest of the year, would that be acceptable to you?

YES NO UNSURE

Comments: _____

4. Is it important to you to have a Rabbi you know conduct your life events (Bar & Bat Mitzvahs, weddings, funerals, etc...)? YES NO UNSURE

Comments: _____

5. If Temple Ner Ami increased dues solely to cover the cost of a full-time Rabbi, how much extra (above your current dues) would you willingly pay monthly

Zero Less than \$10/mo. \$20-\$50/mo. Whatever is needed Unsure

Comments: _____

6. Would you be willing to pay separately to have the Rabbi perform services for your life events? (Bar/Bat Mitzvah, weddings, etc.) YES NO UNSURE

7. Please tell us if you have any additional points that you believe the Rabbinic Search Committee should consider during this process.

Comments: _____

8. How long have you been a member of the Temple? 1-5 yrs 6-10 yrs. 11+ Not a member

9. Attendance at Shabbat Services is typically low. What could Temple Ner Ami offer that you think would interest you or others in attending more Shabbat Services? Dinner before service Shorter services

Longer services More family services Include a program or guest speaker at services

Other: _____

10. In the past year (Jan-Dec), which of these activities have you or your family members participated in at Temple Ner Ami? (check all that apply) Rosh Hashanah Yom Kippur 5 or more Shabbat services

Torah Study Torah School Attend Bar/Bat Mitzvah Sisterhood Youth Group

Fund raising event (such as Passover Seder, Purim Carnival) Adult Classes (except torah study)

11. Do you have children in the Torah School? Yes No No, but my kids did attend in the past

12. What were the main reasons you joined Temple Ner Ami? _____

13. What do you like most about Temple Ner Ami? _____

14. What are the two most important things we need to improve? _____

Thank you for participating in our important survey. If you want us to know who filled out this survey, please give us just your name below. If you would like someone to follow up with you, please add your phone and/or email and we will contact you.

If you have any questions, please contact the Membership Committee chairperson, Keith Elliott, at membership@templenerami.org, or leave a message at the Temple for him to call you.



The Brotherhood is Back!

Mark your calendars for Thursday, January 12, 2012 as our kickoff at the Temple. Program will include:

- 6:30 Hors d'oeuvres, beer, wine, coffee, tea - social time
- 7:00 Catered Dinner
- 7:45 Brief Kick Off meeting - program presentation for 2012 and ideas
- 8:00 Game time: Poker, bridge, and "Hand and Foot" card games

DINNER and GOODIES will cost \$15.00 prepaid, or \$20 at the door (with reservation only). Dessert during card game.

Let's get started again. COME TO THE BROTHERHOOD!

R.S.V.P. to Jay Crane at 987-2000...reservations are a must! Your check will confirm your reservation. Mail payment to the Temple.

Questions? Call Jay or Max Freifield, Co-Cordinator.

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MEMBER *VISION SOURCE* NETWORK





Purim Carnival Planning is Underway!

Gary Lieb - Education Committee Chair/Purim Carnival Chair

Plans are well underway for our annual Purim Carnival, scheduled for **Sunday, March 4th from 1-4 PM.**

This is more than just the main fundraising activity for our Torah School. It is also a very important lesson in volunteerism for our children, many of whom actively participate in putting on the carnival. In addition to our game booths, prizes, a Jolly Jump and food, we are also excited to have the Conejo Photo Booth for the first time this year!



Thank you to those who have already signed up to help. We could still use some additional volunteers to assist with set up or take down. We also need volunteers to bake/buy/donate cakes for our famous Purim Carnival Cake Walk. Please mark your calendars and join in the fun to support our Torah School.

Please contact Mark Malloy at the office if you would be willing to volunteer, or sign up in the Temple foyer to donate a cake.

TEMPLE NER AMI Yahrzeits - January 2012

Friday, January 6, 2012 (Tevet 6-12)

Dora Krasnoshtein.....mother of Greg Krastein
Bernice Persky**mother of Marlene Votion
Rose Weinstock**mother of Pam Veselak
Ann Geller.....wife of Paul Geller
Hyman Fink.....husband of Betty Fink
Eloi Sanchez.....father of Catherine Sidransky
Evelyn Motzkin.....sister of Dr. Ed Hawthorne
Sam Castin.....father of Rosalie Sherbrooke
Frank Spiegel**husband of Stefania Spiegel
Esther Zaid.....mother of Sadita Ovadia
Barry Chasen.....father of Kathy Hay
Anne Borovoy.....mother of Verna Merrin
Grigory Krasnoshtein.....grandfather of Greg Krastein

Friday, January 13, 2012 (Tevet 13-19)

Florence Koenig....mother of Sharon Green
Hy Pomonik.....husband of Rose Pomonik
Rose Klein Solomon.....mother of Michael Solomon
Florence Koenig.....mother of Sharon Green
Abraham Lewine**father of Dr. Yale Lewine, z"l
Betty Steiner.....mother of Joan Stone
Mary Gordon.....grandmother of Barbara Groom
Larry Pallitz.....brother of Fayrose Gordon
Chris Allan.....brother of Dr. Jeff Allan
Oscar J. Feinberg.....father of Joan Taubman
Rose Natale.....mother of Linda Schlagel
Jacob Posner.....father of Jules Posner
David Wise.....father of Howard Wise

Friday, January 20, 2012 (Tevet 20-26)

Minnie Lewine**mother of Dr. Yale Lewine, z"l
Bertha Miller.....mother of Tobie Treitman
Stanley Miller.....brother of Tobie Treitman
Leanore Pomonik-Drogin.....daughter of Rose Pomonik
Bernice Silver.....aunt of Dalya Dektor
Seymour Cohen.....father of Roberta Jacobs
Stephen Jon Coshever.....son of Violet Coshever
Beatrice Weininger.....mother of Carole Leboff
Margie Bonderman** wife of Aaron Bonderman z"l
Sigmund Jaffe.....husband of Elaine Jaffe
Jeffrey Necowitzson of Sidney Necowitz
Bertha Geffner.....mother-in-law of Julian Weiss
Scott Goldie.....husband of Stephanie Goldie
Calman Rosenkranz.....husband of Muriel Rosenkranz
Syd Goldberg.....husband of Bernice Goldberg
David Sack.....father of Barbara Finsten

(more) Friday, January 20, 2012 (Tevet 20-26)

Gail Turken Sussman.....mother of Bob Sussman
Gary Bergman.....son of Irving and Arlene Bergman
Lida Goodwin.....mother-in-law of Sandra Goodwin

Friday, January 27, 2012 (Tevet 27- Shevat 4)

Lillian Applebaum.....grandmother of Howard Wise
Frances Levin..... mother of Richard Levin
Debora Brooks.....mother of Gloria Brodie
Selma Grossberg.....mother of Susan Weinstein
Pauline Blonsky.....mother of Madelyn Miller
David Goldstein.....son of Bill and Claire Goldstein
Wendy Hamburg.....sister of Lisa Alberstone
Jack. Rosenberg brother of Sheila Bachelis
David Schectman.....father of Phyllis Mandel
Kara Treitman..granddaughter, Paul & Tobie Treitman
Ida Pallitz.....mother of Fayrose Gordon
Otto Goldberg.....father of Mildred Seidler
Yankel Kirschenbaumgrandfather of Alec Kurman
Leah C. Rubinstein.....mother of Raja Desenberg
Norman Newman** father of Julia Newman

February 3, 2012 (Shevat 5 - 11)

Shelly Richter.....mother of Marla Lindsay
Melville H. Weiss.....brother of Julian L. Weiss
Samuel Zimmerman.....father of Rita Cooperman
Max Fingold.....husband of Florence Fingold
Lou Fratkin.....uncle of Arlene Cohen
Gertrude Weiss.....mother of Julian Weiss
Abe Siegel.....father of Ellie Felder
John Griffith Mauger.....father of Charlotte Kreitzer
Philip Bachelis.....husband of Sheila Bachelis
Sonny Gompers.....mother of Frieda Davenport
Bella Isaacs.....mother of David Isaacs
Al Simons.....father of Marty Simons
Ethel Weinberg..... mother-in-law of Doris Weinberg

** Name on the Yolanda Cramer Memorial Yahrzeit Board

The Temple's Yahrzeit Board has spaces available for remembering loved ones who have passed away. The requested donation for memorial plaques on the Yahrzeit Board is \$350.00 per plaque.

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Calendar of Torah School Sessions, Services & Events
Torah School is Monday & Wednesday, 4:15-6:15

JANUARY 2012

Mon	2	WINTER VACATION
Wed	4	Regular session
Mon	9	Regular session
Wed	11	Regular session
Mon	16	NO TORAH SCHOOL - MLK Holiday
Wed	18	Regular session
Sat	21	B'nai Mitzvah Family Education (9:30-12:30)
Mon	23	Regular session
Wed	25	Regular session, Junior Youth Group 6:15 -7:30
Fri	27	Tot Shabbat & Family Shabbat Service led by the 4th/5th Grade (Dinner)
Mon	30	Regular session

FEBRUARY

Wed	1	Regular session
Mon	6	Regular session + Camp Kadimah Tu B'Shvat
Wed	8	Regular session + Camp Kadimah Tu B'Shvat
Fri	10	Teen Shabbat
Sun	12	JOLT(Jews Out Learning Together) Tu B'shvat Hike
Mon	13	Regular session
Wed	15	Regular session
Mon	20	NO TORAH SCHOOL – President's Day
Wed	22	Regular session
Fri	24	Tot Shabbat Dinner & Family Program (5:45 – 7:15)
Sat	25	B'nai Mitzvah Family Education (9:30 -12:30)
Mon	27	Regular session, Junior Youth Group 6:15 -7:30
Wed	29	Regular session

JANUARY Outside Organization Meetings



CITY OF HOPE

Regular Meeting, Monday January 9, 12:30 PM
 Board Meeting - Monday Jan. 23, 2012 - 9:30 AM
 Donald Seidler - 805-987-0917 - President

ORT MEETINGS

Board - Thursday, January 5, 2012 - 10am
 Regular Mtg. Thursday, January 28, 2012 - Noon
 Annelies Regen - 805-445-9722
 Sharron Parker - 805-443-1998

GIRL SCOUT/BROWNIE TROOP 60817

Meets alternate Thursdays. Next meetings,
 Thursday, Jan. 5 & 19, 5:30 pm

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

Tues Mixed Meeting 7-8:15 pm,
 Wed. Mixed & Ladies Mtgs. 7-8:15 pm
 Sat. Mixed 6:30-7:30 pm,
 Sunday (Men only) 7-8 am

HADASSAH

Regular Meeting. Tues., Jan. 3rd
 Board Meeting, Monday, January 16, 10 AM
 Judy Meisels - Co-President 805-482-9222

TEMPLE NER AMI - January 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Jan 1 New Year's Day	2 TEMPLE Office Closed 4:15p Torah School CANCELLED	3 12p Hadassah Reg. Mtg.	4 12p Torah - Women's Perspective 4:15p Torah School 4:15p Mommy, Daddy & Me 6:30p Teen Connection	5 10 ORT Board Meeting 6:30p Girl Scout Troop 60817 Mtg.	6 7:30p Shabbat Service	7 9:30 Torah Study Class
8 2:30p Israeli Dancing	9 12:30p City of Hope Regular Meeting 4:15p Torah School 6:30p Choices, 8th Graders	10 10:30 Eager Readers Book Club	11 Rabbi's Office Day's 12p Torah - Women's Perspective 4:15p Torah School 4:15p Mommy, Daddy & Me 6:30p Teen Connection 7p Board of Directors Meeting	12 6:30p Temple Brotherhood Dinner	13 7:30p Shabbat Service	14 9:30 Torah Study Class
15 Martin Luther King, Jr's Day TEMPLE Office Closed 10 Hadassah Board Mtg. 4:15p Torah School CANCELLED 6:30p Choices, 8th Graders	16 TEMPLE Office Closed	17 12p Torah - Women's Perspective 4:15p Torah School 4:15p Mommy, Daddy & Me 6:30p Teen Connection 7p Jewish Food: For Cook & Consume	18 12p Torah - Women's Perspective 4:15p Torah School 4:15p Mommy, Daddy & Me 6:30p Teen Connection 7p Jewish Food: For Cook & Consume	19 8:30p Girl Scout Troop 60817 Mtg.	20 7:30p 5th Grade Shabbat Service	21 9:30 B'nai Mitzvah Family Education 9:30 Torah Study Class
22 9:30 City of Hope Board Mtg. 4:15p Torah School 6:15p Junior Youth Group 6:30p Choices, 8th Graders	23 9:30 City of Hope Board Mtg. 4:15p Torah School 6:15p Junior Youth Group 6:30p Choices, 8th Graders	24 Rabbi's Office Day's 12p Torah - Women's Perspective 4:15p Torah School 4:15p Mommy, Daddy & Me 6:30p Teen Connection 7p Jewish Food: For Cook & Consume	25 Rabbi's Office Day's 12p Torah - Women's Perspective 4:15p Torah School 4:15p Mommy, Daddy & Me 6:30p Teen Connection 7p Jewish Food: For Cook & Consume	26 12p ORT General Meeting	27 8:45p Tot Shabbat Service 7:30p 4th-5th Grade Shabbat Service	28 9:30 Torah Study Class 6:30p MOVIE NIGHT
29 4:15p Torah School 6:30p Choices, 8th Graders	30 4:15p Torah School 6:30p Choices, 8th Graders	31 10 ORT Board Meeting 6:30p Girl Scout Troop 60817 Mtg.	1 Rabbi's Office Day's 12p Torah - Women's Perspective 4:15p Torah School 4:15p Mommy, Daddy & Me 6:30p Teen Connection	2 10 ORT Board Meeting 6:30p Girl Scout Troop 60817 Mtg.	3 7:30p Shabbat Service	4 9:30 Torah Study Class

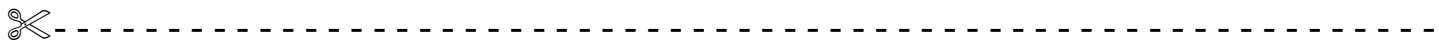
Go to www.TempleNerAmi.org for the latest Calendar Information!



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If you would like to make a contribution, the following funds are available. Donations are graciously accepted. The Temple's appreciation of your donation of \$36 or more will be published in the following month's **MEGILLAH**:

- _____ Temple General Fund
- _____ Temple Building Fund
- _____ Newman Scholarship Fund
- _____ Irv Dubin Teen Scholarship Fund
- _____ Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- _____ Temple Music Fund
- _____ Art Fund
- _____ Sigmund Jaffe Memorial Library Fund
- _____ Temple Prayer Book Fund

The **MEGILLAH** is published monthly for members of TEMPLE NER AMI. Complimentary copies are available by contacting the Temple Office.

Suggested donation for non-members is \$36.00 per year. Make your check payable to Temple Ner Ami.

For information Call 805-388-3824, or eMail your request to:

admin@templenerami.org

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12th of each month

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