

◆ Temple Israel - BULLETIN ◆

VOLUME 115

ISSUE 42

DECEMBER, 2001

5762

TEMPLE ISRAEL INVITES YOU
TO JOIN US



FOR A PRE-CHANUKAH FAMILY SERVICE & DINNER

COME ONE! COME ALL!

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2001
6:00PM DINNER—7:30PM SERVICES**



Rabbi Lehman will address parents and children

----- Cut Off ----- Cut Off ----- Cut -----

**Temple Israel
Friday, December 7, 2001
Pre Chanukah Family Service & Dinner**

NAME _____ PHONE _____

NUMBER OF ADULTS @ \$10.00each _____ NUMBER OF CHILDREN @ \$5.00 each _____,

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

Make check payable to Temple Israel and mail to:
140 Central Avenue Lawrence, New York 11559

RESERVATIONS A MUST!!

A Message from Dr. Joel Y. Zion
SELECTED FROM NEAR EAST REPORT,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

When Israel agreed as part of the 1993 Oslo accords to withdraw from West Bank and Gaza territories, the Palestinians, in return, committed to ensure security for Israel and to resolve any disputes through negotiations, not violence. While Israel subsequently withdrew from all the territories stipulated in the agreements, the Palestinians have yet to hold up their end of the deal.

Since the current wave of Palestinian attacks began more than a year ago, PA chairman Yasir Arafat has done everything in his power to promote the violence that has taken nearly 200 Israeli lives. In addition to constant incitement to hatred and violence carried by his official television station and newspaper, Arafat has declared that the PA has “a union” with the main terrorist organizations, Hamas and Islamic Jihad. His own Fatah group has taken responsibility for the killing of scores of Israelis, while his personal bodyguards, known as Force 17, have participated in the violence.

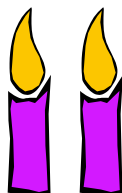
Arafat also has failed to arrest known terrorists who are roaming freely in PA-controlled territory. Such a step could actually lead to a reduction in violence that all the world’s capitals have been yearning for. Sadly, Arafat has not heeded their calls.

After the recent assassination of Israeli Tourism Minister Rehavam Ze’evi, Arafat pledged to jail terrorists of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the group that claimed responsibility for the murder. Again, these were just words.

In truth, Israeli forces operating in Palestinian-controlled areas made the only arrests of actual participants in the assassination. Dozens of additional terrorists, all of whom were supposed to be arrested by the PA, also were captured by the Israelis. In a particularly egregious case, the Israelis killed a terrorist attempting to attack an Israeli force after Arafat personally attested to Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres that the gunman was in a Palestinian jail.

Absent any other viable option to end the violence, Israeli troops have been forced to enter Palestinian areas to capture terrorists that the PA has refused to arrest. Israel has already withdrawn from some of these areas, and has made clear it will withdraw from the rest as soon as the PA arrests known terrorists. Israel also has said that an end to the violence would pave the way for the implementation of the Mitchell report.

Political dialogue, however, might be a remote notion. In an Oct. 27 speech, Arafat dropped all pretenses that he was seeking peace, declaring: “We are fighting, struggling and confronting... This people will win.”



WEEKLY SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday, November 30, 2001- 8:00PM

The Oneg Shabbat will be hosted by Nancy & Robert Israel in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Jarett Israel.

Saturday, December 1- Services 10:45AM
VAYISHLAH

Torah Portion: Gen. 32:4-33:20
Haftarah: Obadiah 1:1-21

Friday, December 7

SHABBAT DINNER - 6:00PM

PRE-CHANUKAH FAMILY SERVICE -7:30PM

Rabbi Robert L. Lehman
will deliver a story sermon

Saturday, December 8 - Services 10:30AM
VAYESHEV

Torah Portion: Gen. 37:1-37:36
Haftarah: Amos 2:6-3:8

Friday, December 14- Services 8:00PM

Sermon: Rabbi Robert L. Lehman

Judah: The Maccabe and President Bush:
Two Leaders.

Saturday, December 15 - Services 10:30AM
MIKKETZ

Torah Portion: Gen. 41:1-41:52
Haftarah: Zech. 2:14-4:7

Friday, December 21- Services 8:00PM

Sermon: Rabbi Robert L. Lehman

A report on Portuguese Jewish Art.

Saturday, December 22 - Services 10:30AM
VAYIGASH

Torah Portion: Gen. 44:18-45:27
Haftarah: Ezek. 37:15-28

Friday, December 28 - Services 8:00PM

Rabbi Joel Y. Zion will deliver the sermon

Saturday, December 29- Services 10:30AM
VAYEHI

Torah Portion: Gen. 47:28-48:22
Haftarah: I Kings 2:1-12

An Assessment

This is being written at the end of October for December distribution. The prophet Amos said: I am not a prophet nor the son of a prophet. It is not possible to comment on the state of the world without foresight and that is a gift I do not possess.

On the other hand, I have been here for two months now and I can react to certain aspects of life at Temple Israel. As your Rabbinic Associate I have participated in Bar/Bat Mitzvah celebrations, adult Torah study, the High Holydays and Shabbat services, public observances relating to the World Trade Center tragedy, Board meetings, and other areas of our concern.

At the same time, I have had the benefit of Rabbi Zion's advice and mentoring and the good companionship of Rabbi Zion and Cantor Zeitlin. And I have come to know you as individuals.

Also, I have been to the South Nassau Hospital ER (where I was treated with genuine concern and professionalism). Further, you have given me the privilege of inviting me into your homes (there are many good cooks in this Temple Israel family!)

With it all, there is a negative! It concerns the sparse attendance at Shabbat Services. I cannot really fathom that a large membership, such as ours, would not want to be in the atmosphere and surroundings of one of the most inspiring Sanctuaries that I have ever seen; plus, the music, the prayers and the fellowship (minyan) which are of the essence to Jewish worship. It hurt me to see and experience the emptiness, especially on a Shabbat evening when our country had just gone to war; the congregants felt no urgent need to come together with their fellow members to pray for the well-being of our armed forces as well as for the life of all of us civilians.

At the end of October the New Year has just begun; in December a New Year is anticipated. Can we not make a resolution in our hearts to be more in attendance at a time which has been designated for our worship of G-d?

At this season of the year, as Chanukah approaches, the lesson is to stand up and speak for what we believe. In times of turmoil we need G-ds comforting presence in our lives. It was true then and it is true today! Happy Chanukah to you and yours but especially to the children.

Shalom,
Rabbi Lehman

MEN'S GROUP-OPEN FOR NEW MEMBERS

- Senior MEN discuss current and personal topics of interest, including challenges of retirement.
- Share your thoughts, feelings & information.
- Make new friends.
- Meetings every Tuesday at 7:45PM at Temple Israel.

For more information call (516)-374-4864



CAMPUS CORNER

By now you are well into the fall semester of college. For many of you, it's your first semester. We hope that you have made the necessary adjustments and are enjoying your campus experience.

Keep in touch! If you haven't sent us your college mailing address and e-mail address, please send it to Campus Corner C/O Temple Israel 140 Central Avenue Lawrence, New York 11559 or send directly to campuscorner@templeisrael-lawrence.org Let us know the name of your school and the year you will be graduating.

DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE



\$45.00 PER PERSON
REDUCE YOUR INSURANCE

CLASS BEING GIVEN WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 27 and MARCH 6
7:00-10:00PM

For information & registration call
Betsy Kass after 6:00PM at
516-791-2788

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Joel Gerstel

Our Temple needs your support. How many times have you heard these words uttered? In these trying times, people of all religious persuasions are re-affiliating themselves with their religious institutions.

By "returning to the fold", congregants are returning to their roots. This is as true at Temple Israel as it is at other locations. There are many ways to support your temple but none are as important as attending services on a regular basis. Your presence gives comfort to other congregants and also indicates to our clergy that what they are saying and doing has an effect on our daily lives. We at Temple Israel are fortunate to have outstanding clergy ministering to our needs. The sermons and words of comfort being delivered by both Rabbi Zion and Rabbi Lehman are timely and inspiring. They are in tune with current events that are touching our lives and give us a sense that we are not alone in these difficult times. The inspirational music that is brought to us by Cantor Zeitlin and our magnificent choir is both soothing and meaningful at this time.

The Temple is and has always been impressive and awe inspiring. It is where we go in times of trouble and in times of joy. It is there for our use and we should take advantage of this opportunity to take part in Temple life. Temple Israel offers many programs and we can offer many more. If you would suggest something we are not providing to the Clergy or our officers, we would be happy to try and see that we can provide it for you. We are open to your suggestions and encourage you to contact us. Leave a message at the Temple Office with Natalie or Liz and they will see that we get it and we will contact you.

The Temple will shortly activate a new telephone system that will enable us to reach out to every member of the congregation via telephone in a matter of a few hours. This system was provided through the generosity of Judy & Ben Segan. It will enable us to reach out to you quickly and efficiently and is certainly an answer enhancing our ability to communicate with the congregation in a timely fashion. Many thanks to Ben & Judy.

Wishing all of you a Happy Chanukah.



If you or someone in your family suffers from...

PARKINSON'S DISEASE

**JOIN US AT TEMPLE ISRAEL
140 Central Avenue Lawrence**

Share your thoughts, feelings and information at the Parkinson Support group meeting every third Tuesday of the month from 1:00-3:00PM (December 18)

Sponsored by:

1. The American Parkinson Disease Association (APDA)
2. The Faye Springer Memorial Parkinson Rockaway Chapter
3. The APDA Information & Referral Center at Peninsula Hospital Center.

For more information call:

Bea Cordero RN, BSN (718) 734-2876



TEMPLE ISRAEL GIFT SHOP

Gifts for all holidays and special occasions:

ENGAGEMENT, WEDDING,
NEW BABY
BAR/BAT MITZVAH
CHANUKAH JUDAICA

Sunday 9:30 -11:30AM or by appointment

Bea Franklin 516-371-1294
Michele Perlzweig 516-569-0676

ADULT EDUCATION

Presents

**SUNDAY MORNING BREAKFAST
& SPEAKER PROGRAM**

**DECEMBER 16
9:30AM BREAKFAST
10:00AM**

RABBI LEHMAN

**will be speaking on
"The structure of Jewish Literature"**

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

Karen Landsman

Despite the stress and pressures of the outside world, the pre-school environment here at Temple Israel is filled with pleasure, learning, and fun.

The “Mommy and Me” class has been visited by the allergy specialist, Dr. Epstein; and the parents were able to ask lots of questions about that subject.

Our two, three, and four year olds rejoiced at the opportunity to meet real firefighters and actually use the fire hose. Of course the fire engine was another exciting part of this visit.

Some of our classes went into the Bookmobile which was sent by the Peninsula Public Library. They will be borrowing books every two weeks. The children were amazed that a van could bring books to them.

James Bobo has started his gymnastics program and our youngsters are learning to tumble on the mats and follow directions. Kayli Joseph has also begun her program of music instruction and we all look forward to her visits. The children have also experimented with many textures as they played in spaghetti and “Cool Whip!”

Recently Cantor Zeitlin conducted a very special Shabbat for our stuffed animals. We really enjoyed that.

With the help of our very generous families, we have collected money for UAHC Victims’ Relief Fund and The Fund for Afghan Children. We are also collecting cans of food for the needy. In this way we are providing many opportunities for children to see how “tzedakah” can become part of everyone’s life.



REED RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

David Woolfe

The weather might be getting cold, but we’re warming up to some great things in December. The material that classes use in the Sherri W. Philipson Computer Centre has expanded, with our classes having access to the full range of Internet and software programs. Students are taking advantage of self-paced Hebrew instruction, research on the Encyclopedia Judaica, enrichment and core study research. In a short few weeks, our SWPCC has proven to be an even more exciting learning tool than we’d anticipated. Once again, *kol hakavod* to everyone who worked so hard to make it a reality.

Thank you to all the parents who took the time to come out to meet their children’s teachers at Parent-Teacher Conferences. I cannot emphasize enough that religious education is *always* a partnership between parents and teachers, home and synagogue. No, you don’t need to know Hebrew but you do need to care and to be involved. Thank you to those parents who consistently demonstrate their caring and involvement, not just on November 14 but throughout the year!

December starts out with a ***Chanukah shopping bonanza!*** **December 2nd, 3rd, 5th & 6th Chanukah Boutique.** Take advantage of this great opportunity to “shop till you drop” for those you love.

The world famous **Latke Bake** takes place on Sunday, December 9. Bring your appetites and good cheer! Mon-Thursday students who attend will be excused from Religious School on Monday.

(First light of Chanukah on Sunday evening.)

Winter break: Sunday, Dec 25-January 2.
School reopens on Wednesday, January 3rd.

And now, for my religious school scholars:

1. What does the Hebrew word “Chanukah” mean?
2. What does Judah’s last name, Maccabe, mean?
3. Why do we eat jelly donuts at Chanukah?

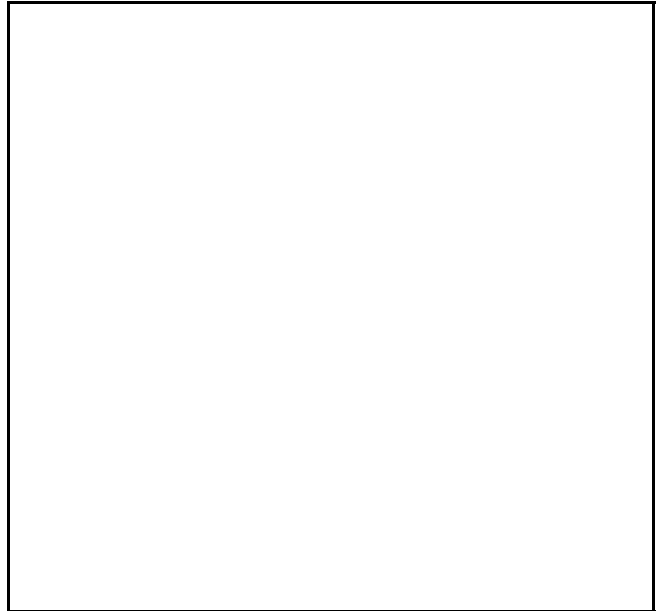
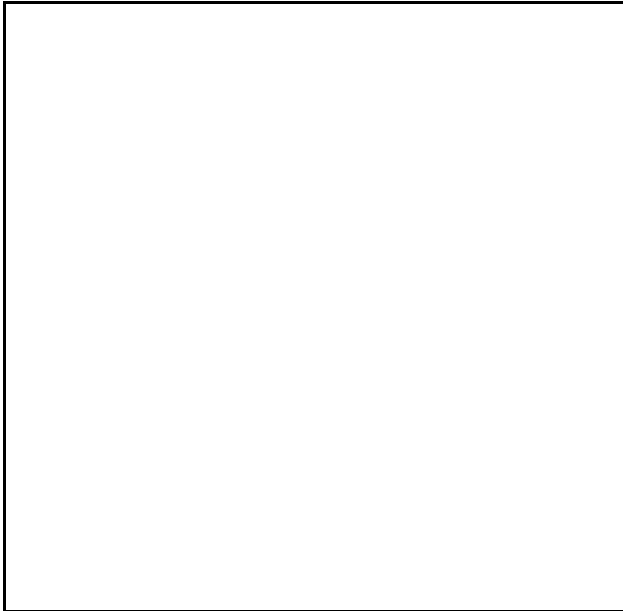
I hope you and your family enjoy a wonderful Chanukah! Eat lots of jelly donuts!



SUKKAH UNDER THE STARS

Which took place
Friday, October 5 at Temple Israel

Astronomer Donald Lubowich invited everyone to view
the stars, Mars, Saturn and the Moon with a telescope



DR. JOEL Y. ZION

WILL SPEAK AT

THE PENINSULA PUBLIC LIBRARY

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12

AT 1:00PM

THE RABBI WILL REVIEW

THE OUTSTANDING BEST SELLER BOOK

“FOUNDING BROTHERS”

BY JOSEPH J. ELLIS

THE COMMUNITY IS INVITED
REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED
PRIOR TO THE LECTURE



CHANUKAH BLESSINGS

THE FIRST CANDLE, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9



The candles are placed in the Chanukiah from right to left, and kindled from left to right.

Baruch atah Adonai elohenu melech ha'olam, asher kid'sha-nu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu le'had'lik ner shel Chanukah..

Blessed is the Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe, by whose Mitzvot we are hallowed, who commands us to kindle the chanukah lights

Baruch atah Atonai elohenu melech ba'olam, she'asah nissim la-av-otenu bayamin hahem baz-man hazeh.

Blessed is the Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe, who performed wondrous deeds for our ancestors in days of old, at this season.

ON THE FIRST NIGHT ONLY:

Baruch atah Adonai elohenu melech ba'olam, she'hecheyanu vekiyemanu vehigiyanu laz'man hazeh.

Blessed is the Lord our God, Ruler of the Universe, for giving us life, for sustaining us, and for enabling us to reach this season.

AFTER KINDLING THE LIGHTS EACH NIGHT

Miracles do not happen! People work to accomplish what seems to be miraculous. For what do we work? The Maccabees fought and died for that in which they believed. In what do we believe? For what would we risk so much? Their faith is a shining beacon to the human spirit. Just as one thought may spark others to act, so one candle may light others, thereby removing darkness, loneliness, and the chill of sadness. May we be among those who help light the world.

FOR THE FIRST NIGHT:

We light the first candle to remind ourselves that in the beginning there was darkness on the face of the earth. With the words, "Let there be light" the world was brought into existence from darkness to light. We kindle our first candle which we hope, like the earth's first light, will grow to enlighten the whole world.

FOR THE SECOND NIGHT:

The second light reminds us of the brightness of our community and the community of our people in ERETZ YISRAEL, the land of Israel. Through the darkness of years in exile our people clung to a beacon of hope, shining forth through our tradition. And now through years of miles and lands, that beacon burns brightly in our hearts, and in the world, again. "If I forget You, Oh Jerusalem, let my tongue cleave to my mouth, left my right hand forget its cunning."

FOR THE THIRD NIGHT:

The third light reminds us that in every generation we need the faith of the Maccabees of old. Long ago in Jerusalem, this brave band led by Judah, drove the Syrian Greeks out of the Temple, and as their first act of faith rekindled the Ner Tamid, the Eternal Light, which, along with the Temple, had been desecrated. In this simple, yet meaningful act of belief, they demonstrated their faith that God, once again had redeemed God's people, for "The Lord is my light and my salvation."

FOR THE FOURTH NIGHT:

The fourth light is the light of courage. It took strength for Mattathias and his sons to ignore the bribes and threats of Antiochus. It took courage to make the decision that not gold and not precious stones, but freedom to worship was the higher goal of the people. Every day we are called upon to make decisions. Some of them are easy and affect only ourselves; others are infinitely more difficult and involve many others; family, friends, community, even nations. Just as the Maccabees lived by the words of Moses to Joshua, may we also, "Be strong and of good courage."

FOR THE FIFTH NIGHT:

The fifth light is the light of Torah, the Five Books of Moses, the source of our values. It was to be faithful to its teachings that Judah and his followers went to battle. Often we must sacrifice for an ideal. How much we are willing to lose is a mark of how much we hope to maintain. Yet we have a guide to help us. "The Mitzvah is a lamp and the Law is a light."

FOR THE SIXTH NIGHT

The sixth light is the light of the Synagogue. Some call it Temple; some shul, it is our symbol, that through worship, through common ideas, and through our devotion to the Jewish people, there can be a force which can ever destroy us. The Sanctuary is the sign that we, as co-workers with God, can help to bring about freedom in our world, "Blessed are all who come in the name of the Lord, we bless you from out of the House of the Lord."

FOR THE SEVENTH NIGHT

The seventh light reminds us that our beginnings are in the home, where we first learned our Judaism. The home is where we learn the warmth of love; the joys, tastes, aromas, sensations of caring families, of Jewish homes. On this Festival, as at all times, may the hearts of children be turned to the parents and parents to children, and may we understand through all their experiences the blessings of love and devotion symbolized by the home. "Let your home be open wide, and let the lost be members of your household."

FOR THE EIGHTH NIGHT

The final light is the light of our responsibility, to be a "Kingdom of priests and holy people," to try to complete the work of creation: bringing love and humanity into the world. Micah said "It has been told to you what is good, and what the Lord required of you: "Only to do justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God."

FUNDS

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Dr. & Mrs. Neal Ezra in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son **ALEX**.

William Henry in honor of the Music Festival.

GENERAL FUND

Harold Leviton in yearzeit memory of **LINA LEVITON**.

Lloyd Taub in yearzeit memory of **RAYMOND WURTZBURGER**.

Muriel Zimberg in yearzeit memory of **STUART ZIMBERG**, son and brother of Rhonda Zimberg.

Julius Bender in yearzeit memory of **FLORA BENDER**.

GET WELL WISHES

Ilene Appelbaum on recent surgery.

CONDOLENCES

Gerald Morganstern on the death of his mother, **MILDRED MORGANSTERN**.

CONGRATULATIONS

Zachary Woolfe on becoming a semi-finalist in the National Merit Scholarship.

Linda & Bernard Singer on the marriage of their son, **SCOTT SINGER to DAWN SHOFNOS**.

Stephen & Linda Sklar on the birth of a baby granddaughter, **REBECCA SKLAR**, daughter of Vivian & Kenneth Sklar and to Isabel May on the birth of a great granddaughter.

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Fran & Kevin Freeman in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of **BENNETT POLEN**.

Kenneth Marks in yearzeit memory of **DOROTHY MARKS**.

EARLY CHILDHOOD

Esta Friedman in yearzeit memory of **MORRIS STEIN**.

TREE FUND

Hope Suttenger Hudja in yearzeit memory of **STANLEY SUTTENBERG**.

Peter & Denise Weinberg in memory of **ROSE SELDIS**, mother of Leah Corwin

MAY MUSEUM

Sophie Kass in yearzeit memory of **HAROLD ZASLER**.

Sophie Kass in memory of **LEONARD SCHACK**.

Milton Ringler in yearzeit memory of **YETTA RINGLER**, mother.

HIGH HOLY DAY PRAYERBOOK

Stephen E. Drazan in yearzeit memory of **NATHAN DRAZAN**.

LIBRARY FUND

Geri & Alan Krim in memory of **SEYMOUR KATZ**, father of Dr. Tina Funt.

SHERRI W. PHILIPSON COMPUTER CENTRE

Gwen & Jeff Scherr in memory of **SEYMOUR KATZ**, father of Dr. Tina Funt.

Lisa & Garrett Gray in memory of **SEYMOUR KATZ**.

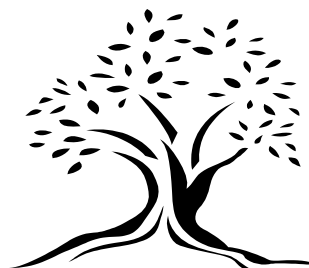
LILLIAN & MURRAY FELDMAN FUND

Donna, Tom, Jessica & Michael Lifland and Beverly Zimmerman in memory of **HERB ROTH**, husband of Marcia and father of Terri, Steven and Susan.

Donna & Tom Lifland & Beverly Zimmerman in memory of **HERMAN LEVINE**, father of Linda Brodsky and family and Fred Levine.

LASTER PULPIT SPEAKERS FUND

Bunny Futter in yearzeit memory of **JERAULD GROSSMAN**, and in yearzeit memory of **LEE SIMON**.



December 2001

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 9:30 AM Torah Study 10:45AM Bar Mitzvah Jarett Israel
2 Chanukah Boutique	3 Chanukah Boutique AA Meeting	4 Men's Group	5 Pulpit Committee Mtg. AA Meeting Chanukah Boutique	6 Chanukah Boutique	7 Pre-Chanukah Family Service & Dinner 6PM Dinner 7:30PM Services	8 9:30AM Torah Study 10:30AM Services
9 First Chanukah Candle LATKE BAKE	10 AA Meeting	11 Officer's Meeting Men's Group	12 AA Meeting	13	14 8PM Services	15 9:30AM Torah Study 10:30AM Services
16 9:30AM Breakfast/ Speaker Rabbi Lehman	17 8PM Board Meeting AA Meeting	18 1PM Parkinson's Support Group Men's Group AA Group	19 AA Meeting	20	21 8PM Services	22 9:30AM Torah Study 10:30AM Services
23 WI	24 NT No AA Session	25 ER No Men's Group	26 No AA Session	27 REC	28 ESS 8PM Services	29 9:30AM Torah Study 10:30AM Services
30 RE	31 CESS No AA Session					

ADS

CHANUKAH CELEBRATION



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9
10:30AM
TITMAN AUDITORIUM**

**Our Traditional Latke Bake
Music and Entertainment**

Monday/Thursday students who attend will be excused from class on Monday.

Temple Israel
140 Central Avenue
Lawrence, New York 11559

U.S. Postage
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Permit No. 5
Lawrence, N.Y 11559

I DREAD

This season of giving . Not that I have anything against this custom and I picture our family happily exchanging Chanukah gifts. Then I think of that huge number of children whose one request for a gift is to have mother/father, brother/sister, grandparent, etc. Come to the holiday celebration, to make an appearance! But it is not possible because they worked at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001 and they are gone. They can not give and cannot receive. How to cope?

I have no answer only the loss of pain. I knew of only one person who died there that infamous day. My family attended his funeral in a church near his house. We noted the respect of his co-workers. But I was afraid to look at his parents and could picture his two little children wrapping gifts for the daddy who would not be there and, personally, could not reciprocate.

I have trouble with our leaders who urge us to continue living our lives, to participate, to smile. I understand their urging and do not think that they are insensitive but I also feel that they are mad! We have seen ourselves and government officials at innumerable funerals and we have witnessed the tears and agony on the faces of adult loved one and the confusion and bewilderment of the children. And, It is now December not September. But I feel that we have not been allowed sufficient time for mourning.

We will never be the same again and for all our smiles we are still in grief. I urge the members and friends of this congregation to give gifts to the needy whether toys, donations or food and in this manner ease a little of the burden of those who are lonely of spirit and bereft. In their heart of hearts they wait for a loved one whose knock on the door will not be forthcoming.