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January 6, 2010

20 Tevet, 5770

Temple *Or Olam*



SATURDAY SERVICES

There's something for you on Saturday, January 23rd, no matter who you are.

10:00AM: Tot Shabbat: Please bring children age 1-5 to Tot Shabbat Service, where they will experience 30 minutes filled with song, movement, and play. Older children are welcome to come, but please keep in mind that this service is being designed for ages 1-5.

10:40AM: Saturday morning Shabbat service, including Torah service.

noon: Oneg Shabbat

Location: McGill Baptist Church, 5300 Poplar Tent Road, Concord.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- *Jan. 10 9:45 Religious School*
- *Jan 10 2PM: Torah Study*
- *Jan 17 9:45AM: Religious School*
- *Jan 17 2PM Torah Study*
- *Jan 23 10AM: Tot Shabbat*
- *Jan 23 10:40AM: Shabbat service*
- *Jan 24 9:45: Religious School*
- *Jan 24 2PM: Torah Study*

Save this date:

March 6th, 3PM

Purim Party!

Interested in doing a skit, song, dance, etc.? Let us know!

MiLev HaPardes *From the heart of the orchard by Dr. Barbara Thiede, student rabbi*

Traditionally, Jews recite Mourner's Kaddish after the death of a parent, child, spouse, or sibling in the presence of a congregation. They do so daily for thirty days, eleven months in the case of a parent, and annually, at every anniversary of the death (*yahrzeit*).

Mourner's Kaddish includes places for the congregation can affirm and respond to the mourners. At critical junctures, the congregation is to exclaim "amen" (which, in essence means, "as if we said it") and *b'rich hu!* (blessed is God!). The congregation also joins mourners in chanting *y'hey sh'may raba m'varach l'alam ulalmei almaya* (May God's great name be blessed forever and through an infinity of worlds and eternities). As a group, we respond to the unique and grief-stricken outcry of the one who is most estranged from the community – in part, so that we can help that individual return to the community. We let mourners know they are not alone, that their community surrounds and supports them.

Our own prayerbook puts congregational responses in boldface type. Still, our congregation – and many others – do not entirely follow this tradition.

Instead, all are rising for Mourner's Kaddish and reciting every word, whether or not a beloved father or mother has passed away recently, whether or not a friend or family member's *yahrzeit* falls during the month. Mourners and non-mourners read together.

Like all new traditions, there are drawbacks. When everyone rises and reads, those who are grieving may feel that their grief is going unappreciated rather than acknowledged. Mourners may want to recite the



prayer on their own and hear the congregation call back to them in love and support.

So why aren't we holding to older traditions?

In part, I suspect, our recent history is causing us to stand. Millions died in the Shoah – whole towns were obliterated, left without a soul left to say Kaddish for them. How to say Kaddish for thousands? Tens of thousands? Millions?

Possibly, our congregation's membership feels that standing together and reciting together is a new and heartfelt way to support the mourners among us. In short, our well-considered intentions may well be motivating the change in *minhag*, in custom and tradition.

Mourner's Kaddish is in Aramaic – not in Hebrew. Aramaic was once the *lingua franca* for Jews. According to Rashi, the reason the Kaddish is in Aramaic is because that is a language the angels do not speak. The Kaddish thus belongs exclusively to the Jewish people as its own way of praising the Holy One.

It is our ancient common language, though we no longer understand it. It

is our prayer, because we must remember those we lost even if we never knew them.

We rise for Mourner's Kaddish.
We mingle our voices together.
We mourn – together.

MOURNER'S KADDISH

יִתְגַּדַּל וְיִתְקַדַּשׁ שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא. בְּעֻלְמָא דִּי-בְרָא
כְּרַעוּתָהּ. וְיִמְלִיךְ מַלְכוּתָהּ בְּחַיִּיכוֹן וּבְיוֹמֵיכוֹן
וּבְחַיֵּי דְכָל-בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּעֻלְמָא וּבְזִמְנֵי קָרִיב.
וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן :

יְהֵא שְׁמֵהּ רַבָּא מְבָרַךְ לְעָלְמֵי וְלְעָלְמֵי עָלְמֵינָא :
יִתְבָּרַךְ וְיִשְׁתַּבַּח וְיִתְפָּאֵר וְיִתְרַמֵּם וְיִתְנַשֵּׂא
וְיִתְהַדָּר וְיִתְעַלֶּה וְיִתְהַלָּל שְׁמֵהּ דְקֻדְשָׁא. בְּרִיךְ
הוּא. לְעַלְמָא מִן כָּל-בְּרַכְתָּא וְשִׁירְתָּא תְּשַׁבְּחֵתָא
וְנַחֲמֵתָא דְאִמְיָרָן בְּעֻלְמָא. וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן :

יְהֵא שְׁלָמָא רַבָּא מִן שְׁמַיָּא וְחַיִּים עָלֵינוּ וְעַל
כָּל-יִשְׂרָאֵל. וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן :

עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמְרוֹמָיו הוּא יַעֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ
וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל. וְאִמְרוּ אָמֵן :

KVELL CORNER

A hearty Mazel Tov to **Jillian Smith** and **Deon Clark** for the birth of their son, **Cameron Avery Clark** on December 19th. He measured in at 8 pounds, 2 ounces, and 22 inches. Mazel Tov also to grandparents **Steve and Robbin Smith**, **Aunt Rebecca Smith**, and great grandmother **Janet Sternbach**.



Cameron Avery Clark

At Temple Or Olam, **Sarasota Serulneck's** talent for the stage is a not-so-well-kept secret. We always enjoy her singing at services and performing in religious school plays. We have a chance to see her perform for a wider audience, and we hope some of you will make it out to see her. She is a member of Charlotte's Junior Performance Company, a part of The Children's Theatre of Charlotte. She will be performing in a show called Storyville. It's about 40 minutes long and is aimed at kids under age 8.

Saturday, January 16th, 11AM: ImaginOn

Saturday, January 23rd, 11AM: University City Regional Library

Saturday, January 30th, 11AM: North County Regional Library (Huntersville)

Saturday, February 13th, 10:30 and 11:30: ImaginOn

Saturday, February 27th, 11AM: Davidson Branch Library

Saturday, March 13th, 10:30AM and 11:30AM: ImaginOn

Congratulations to **Charlie Mace** for his performance in his homeschool group's spelling bee. He came in 3rd place, with some very tough competition. His proud mom has conveniently forgotten the word that knocked him out of competition but wants you to know that he spelled the following words correctly: Dangerous Exact Terrible Treasure Brighten Piano Solemn Courage Sculpture Enormous Mildew Chemical Successful Centipede Velocity Pharmacy Exhaust Scruple Agricultural Hysterical Encore Supplement Rutabaga Ineffable Enfranchise Adjudicate Analgesia Analogize Latitudinarian Anticoagulant

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

This particular letter is from the President on the subject of communication. I chose this subject for two reasons.

Thank You Teachers

One is to reiterate Reb Barbara's message to the congregation about thanking our teachers. I agree that we should not wait until the end of the school year to say thank you. And I agree that one of the most appreciated gifts would be the offer of help - what can I do to help? As we've said before, you don't need teaching experience - just a desire to share your knowledge and talents or even organizational expertise. It would even help to have someone sharpening pencils and ensuring that supplies are on hand. Lisa Jewel is teaching our students about Jewish art, and is helping them each create a Chagall-like collage of their own. Thank you to Lisa and thank you to Jody Mace, Theresa Malin, Richard Jacobson, Jill Partridge, Jessica Waldman and Ashley Owens. Also a big thanks to the teenaged assistant teachers Pamela Partridge, Kyla Mace, and Zach Bombardier, who give up one of their only chances to sleep late in order to help out. And of course, thank you to Reb Barbara for teaching song and prayer to the students.

Tower of Babel

On Simchat Torah last year, we rolled out the Torah along a long table and we were instructed to choose a section at which to stand near. Then Reb Barbara explained the Torah portion that each one of us was standing next to and she related it to each one of us personally. My section concerned the story of the Tower of Babel where people could not understand each other because everyone spoke different languages. My "assignment" was to improve the communication of the congregation which by coincidence was one of the goals discussed at the Annual Meeting. I hope we have made progress during the half year since our meeting. If you have an interest in a group or topic that is not currently addressed, please contact a Board member. We have Adult Torah study, Religious School, Youth Group and a newly created Tot Shabbat. If you are interested in other areas such as a Rosh Chodesh or Sisterhood, Men's group or Brotherhood, Singles group or Seniors group, Book Club, Cooking Club, Music Club or ideas for Tikkun Olam (repairing the world) or other ideas, please contact anyone on the Board.

Alex Horowitz suggested a service for blessing pets for this year. What a great idea! What other areas interest you?

THE ALUMINUM SHOW

You are invited to join Temple Or Olam members at The Aluminum Show.

Date: Sunday, January 31st

Time: 2PM (aka: after religious school and lunch)

Place Knight Theater, 430 South Tryon Street

Cost: \$29, but group rates are available if we get enough people

RSVP: Lisa Boguslaw at lbogusla@catawba.edu by January 15th

A sensational hit around the world, this stunning and incredible production offers a theatrical experience that is totally unique, combining amazing special effects, acrobatics, jazz and modern dance, puppetry, dazzling aluminum costumes and lighting. This show is certain to be a delight to audiences of all ages, and a highlight of your season!!

"AN EXTRAORDINARY PERFORMANCE! ...Dancing, Puppets, Frenzy, Joy, Humor, Fantasy, Illusion. Everyone of all ages can see and enjoy!" -*La Tribune, France*

"THE REAL TRIUMPH OF THE **ISRAELI-BORN** SHOW IS THAT THE SUM OF ITS PARTS ADD UP TO SOMETHING UNIQUE... it borrows from various sources, including Mummenshanz (perhaps its closest relative), Blue Man Group, Cirque du Soleil and Stomp." -Chuck Darrow, *Gannett New Jersey Newspapers*

"A CREATIVE, EXCITING, SURPRISING AND STIMULATING SHOW... a magical adrenalin rush, loads of fun" - "*Yediot Aharonot*" *Newspaper, Israel*

Birthdays

- Carole Bombardier, January 1
- Alexander Horowitz, January 2
- Benjamin Roberts, January 6
- Pamela Partridge, January 8
- Jill Partridge, January 11
- Leanna Jensen, January 12
- Evelyn Thiede, January 13
- Stephen Smith, February 1
- Charlie Mace, February 2
- Michael Serulneck, February 7

Yahrzeits

Jack Schwartz, father of Lisa Jewel
27 Tevet, January 13

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