

TEMPLE RODEF SHALOM  
Phone: 532-2217  
Rabbi: Laszlo Berkowits  
President: Burton R. Thorman  
Editor: Renee Goldman

# REFLECTIONS REFLECTIONS

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Edition No. 44

A Monthly Newsletter

MARCH 1966

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## WORSHIP SERVICES

All worship services are held in the First Christian Church, 6165 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, Virginia, at 8:15 p.m., unless otherwise indicated.

Friday, March 4th,  
8:15 p.m.

### WORSHIP SERVICE

Candle Lighting: Belle Zeff  
Haftorah Reading: Joseph Zisman

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Sunday, March 6th,  
10:30 a.m., at  
Religious School

### PURIM SERVICE PROGRAM

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Friday, March 11th,  
8:15 p.m.

### WORSHIP SERVICE

Candle Lighting: Deborah Somers  
Haftorah Reading: Hyman Cohen

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Friday, March 18th,  
8:15 p.m.

### WORSHIP SERVICE

Candle Lighting: Hilda Silverman  
Haftorah Reading: Harold Gelfond

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Friday, March 25th,  
8:15 p.m.

### WORSHIP SERVICE

Candle Lighting: Wanda Boguslaw  
Haftorah Reading: Marvin Lavin

EVENTS

Wednesday, March 2nd  
8:00 p.m.

WOMEN'S GROUP EVENING MEETING  
Ravenwood Towers Clubroom -  
Rabbi Berkowitz will review  
The Source, by James Michener.  
(Previously scheduled for last  
month but cancelled because of  
snow)

Sunday, March 6th  
9:30 a.m. to 12 noon

YOUTH GROUP PURIM BAKE SALE  
Lemon Road Elementary School

7:30 p.m.

SEMINAR STUDY GROUP  
Rabbi's Home (Ravenwood Towers)

Monday, March 7th  
10:30 a.m.

WOMEN'S GROUP BOARD MEETING  
Temple Office

Saturday, March 12th

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Monday, March 14th  
7:30 p.m.

TEMPLE BOARD MEETING  
Temple Office

Wednesday, March 16th  
10:30 a.m.

WOMEN'S GROUP MEMBERSHIP COFFEE  
Home of Nan Rudin

Saturday, March 19th  
9:00 p.m.

PURIM BALL  
Mosby Room of Charcoal Hearth  
Restaurant, Fairfax

Sunday, March 20th  
7:30 p.m.

SEMINAR STUDY GROUP  
Rabbi's Home (Ravenwood Towers)

Sunday, March 27th  
9:30 a.m.

MEN'S BREAKFAST  
Lemon Road Elementary School

Monday, April 4th  
7:30 p.m.

CONGREGATIONAL SEDER  
Holiday Inn Banquet Room  
Arlington

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FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

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PURIM

Purim, the gayest and most festive of all Jewish holidays, will begin for all Jews at sundown Saturday, March 5th, this year. We shall have a Purim Service and program at our Religious School on Sunday, March 6th, at 10:30 a.m.

Though the festival of Purim is actually derived from the Biblical legend, the story of the Jewish Queen Esther, who saved her people from annihilation from the Persian tyrant Haman, has acquired a deeper significance with the Jewish people over the many centuries of its observance.

The pattern of Jewish history has repeatedly been marked by the appearance of figures such as Haman, whose obsession and plan to destroy the Jewish community of Persia has been paralleled unbelievably in modern times. Still, Purim is a happy holiday, for it is a time when we celebrate the victory of goodness over evil. We rejoice in our religious freedom and reaffirm our commitment to religious freedom for all people.

It is this legendary triumph of goodness over evil, of freedom over tyranny, which has traditionally given Purim its quality of gaiety.

Purim is also specially marked by pageants and dramatizations of the Purim legend in Jewish religious schools. Special gifts are usually given to the needy, and the triangular pastry, "hamantashen," baked in a shape said to resemble Haman's hat and stuffed with prune jam or poppy seeds, are eaten.

Though it is a gay celebration, Purim is also tinged, like most Jewish holidays, with sadness. The Talmud declares that Purim will never vanish until the sad events which created it cease to repeat themselves from generation to generation.

Purim Anecdote

A freethinker once said mockingly to Rabbi Pinchas of Koretz, "Would you like to know what the philosopher Spinoza wrote in one of his works? He wrote that man in no way stands higher than an animal and that he has the same nature.

"If that is so," remarked the rabbi, "how do you explain the fact that up until now the animals haven't produced a Spinoza?"

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OUR TEMPLE AT WORK

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Cultural and Adult Education Program

By Ed Kohn

WEEKEND RETREAT PLANS -- ADULTS ONLY! Questionnaire returns point to a preponderant desire for an "adults only" approval to our May 13-15 Retreat. Twenty-six adult members have declared their intention to participate. The "family" approach will be set aside for this year at least.

Additional participants are invited. The door remains open through this month for others who find they are now able to reconsider attending. Call Ed Kohn (532-2048).

The Retreat program will consist of religious observance and discussion groups at our lovely location in the Shenandoah Valley -- Shrine Mont. Departure will be in private autos at 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 13th.

APRIL MUSIC PROGRAM. Let us all mark Wednesday evening, April 6th, on our calendars for Music of the Jews -- An Evening Recital by Rose Thorman. The program will be co-sponsored by the Women's Group.

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Social Action News

Our Social Action Committee, under the chairmanship of Warren Cikins, is developing a plan for study and action. The membership will be kept informed of our part in community action.

The Temple is a member of the Fairfax County Coordinating Committee for the Anti-Poverty Program. Mrs. Gus Johnson has been Chairman of the Committee since its formation a year ago by the Fairfax County Council on Human Relations.

On February 7th of this year various religious and civic groups in Fairfax County were represented at a meeting of the Coordinating Committee. Nan Rudin was our Temple representative. The following points are of particular concern:

1. The Fairfax County Anti-Poverty program will receive \$22,000 next year for both a full-time staff and program development.
2. \$51,000 has been designated for the Winter Head-Start Program. Heretofore, the government has paid 90% of the cost. After this winter, however, the School Board will be urged to pay 50% of the money or whatever amount is needed to keep the program going.

(cont'd)

3. In 1965-66, Fairfax County will receive \$150,000 for Project Head Start, the Saunders Moon Community Center in Gum Springs, and the Higher Horizons Day Care Center.

4. In order to gain county support for the Anti-Poverty Program, the Coordinating Committee will form a speaker's bureau which will communicate with as many organizations as possible; and on Wednesday, April 13th, an important meeting will be held relative to this program.

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Congregational Seder -- April 4th

Our annual Congregational Seder, conducted by Rabbi Berkowits, will be held on April 4th at 7:30 p.m. This year the seder will be in the beautiful Banquet Room of the Holiday Inn located at Glebe Road and Shirley Highway, in Arlington. Leah Katz, former owner of the Roumanian Inn, will do the catering in her usual fine manner.

Members of the Congregation and their friends are invited to attend.

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Purim Ball -- Mosby Room  
Charcoal Hearth Restaurant

Come one -- come all,  
We're having a big Purim Ball.  
March 19th is the date --  
We'll start at nine (p.m.)  
And end quite late.(1:00 a.m.)  
Don a costume if you desire,  
Or dress up in your best attire.  
We'll dance until the clock strikes twelve,  
Then into platters we all will delve.  
Ten dollars per couple is all you grant,  
To Barbara Levin or Hilda Brandt. (JE 4-8190 or JA 8-7289)  
So bring your friends -- Sarah and Max,  
And join the crowd in Olde Fairfax.

BYOL - Set ups will be provided.

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Rodef Shalom Bowling League

Fun came by the dozen Tuesday morning at the Bowl America Lanes in Falls Church when twelve gals launched the Rodef Shalom Bowling League. It was a rewarding beginning with recreation and donor credit too.

The pioneers were Judy Berkowits, Peggy Berman, Zelda Ferris, Renee Goldman, Fran Jordan, Arline Kernus, Janet Kwass, Lorrie Lavin,

(cont'd)

Bowling (cont'd)

-6-

Sybil Lubin, Lois Proctor, Joan Schnyer and Lucille Zinman.

Several substitutes are needed. Call Lorrie Lavin (356-4960) and participate in the fun!

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Men's Breakfast

The Congregation's Men's Group will hold another of its "irregular" brunches on Sunday morning, March 27th, at 9:30 a.m. at the Lemon Road School.

Drive over, drop off the kids, and let the smell of lox wake you up. An interesting program is planned for all. The tariff -- just \$1.50 per man.

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WITH OUR WOMEN

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Women's Group News

We're sorry we had to cancel ---- but our spirits are not dampened because of the recent snowstorm. Once again Nan Rudin will attempt to have the Women's Group Membership Coffee at her home. This time the date will be March 16th, so plan to spend an enjoyable morning with your friends.

Our very special thanks to Blanche Cohen for her donation to the Women's Group in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of her son Michael.

Oneg Shabat Committee

Our Oneg Shabat hostesses who braved the weather during the months of January and February deserve a vote of thanks: Shirley Kenny, Jean Pfeiffer, Ethel Friedman, Ida Silverstein, Lorraine Lavin, Janet Kwass, Ruth Segall, Sybil Lubin, Naomi Bekenstein, Doris Magelof, Mary Jane Merkle, Betty Goldstein, Blanche and Laura Cohen and Harriet Beckler.

Also thanks to the hard-working Oneg Shabat Committee which has been toiling faithfully throughout the snowy winter: Hilda Silverman, Sylvia Leshner, Janet Smith, Fran Jordan, Blanche Cohen, Ida Auerbach, Zelda Ferris and Sybil Lubin.

Naomi Bekenstein has graciously contributed a new coffee maker for our Oneg Shabats. We are grateful to Sybil Lubin for the use of her coffee maker during the month of February while our own urn is undergoing repairs.

We also appreciate the assistance received from Doris and Larry Strauss, Judy Berkowits and Bill Bekenstein.

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Please call Harriet Epstein (560-4137) if you have promised to hostess and cannot attend services.

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NEWS OF OUR YOUTH AND YOUTH GROUP

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Congratulations

Mike Thorman was accepted by Dartmouth on the early acceptance plan.

Rick Brandt will be going to Rutgers, alma mater of his father, Norman Brandt.

Carol Smith (A Youth Group member whose parents belong to Arl. Fairfax JC) is a National Merit Finalist.

Youth Group News

By Rick Brandt

Hamantashen can be as strong as bricks -- even fresh hamantashen. We intend to sell only the freshest, tastiest baked goods this side of the River Jordan at our Purim Bake Sale at the Lemon Road Elementary School on March 6th. However, we want to emphasize the fact that our sales will help to buy bricks for our future temple, because our profits will be added to the building fund. Youth Group members will be on hand from 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon at the Religious School.

In February we began a program of study sessions as part of the National Federation of Temple Youth's NVN (Nun Vov Nun -- We shall Do and We Shall Hear) theme for youth groups around the country. On Sunday afternoons youth groupers come to the office to study the problems of mental health. After several sessions, we'll be ready to take field trips and to relate our studies to positive action.

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THE TEMPLE LIBRARY

Did you know that our Temple Office is harboring many fine books which you are invited to borrow at any time? Just a few of the many books available to the Congregation include:

The Source -- James Michener  
The Prophets -- Abraham Heschel  
The Book of Psalms -- Solomon Freehof  
Herzog -- Saul Bellow  
Isaac M. Wise -- James D. Heller  
Selected Stories of Sholem Aleichem -- Alfred Kazin  
The Deputy -- Rolph Hochhuth  
Justice and Judaism (The Work of Social Action) --  
Vorspan and Lipman  
As a Driven Leaf -- Steinberg  
Her Children Call Her Blessed -- Fran Kabler  
The Rise of Reform Judaism -- W. Gunther Plaut

TEMPLE DONATIONS

(Contributions may be sent to the Temple  
Office, 6166 Leesburg Pike, C-15, Falls  
Church, Va.)

TEMPLE LIBRARY

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Labson.....in honor of their son Victor

PRAYER BOOK FUND

Robert and Caroline Somers.....in honor of the birthday of  
their mother, Deborah Somers

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Weck.....in memory of Goldie's father,  
Julius Winner

GENERAL FUND

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene M. Farkas.....Appeal Pledge

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cohen.....in honor of their son Michael's  
Bar Mitzvah

CHILDREN'S CHOIR FUND

Janice Rosen.....in memory of her grandfather,  
Samuel Rosen

In appreciation of Dr. Philip Rudin's cabinets

Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Kaplan

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Nissel

MUSIC FUND

Mr. and Mrs. Harry S. Somers.....in memory of Deborah Somers's  
beloved brother and sister,  
Dinah Jacobs Blom and Solomon  
Jacobs

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cohen.....in honor of their son Michael's  
Bar Mitzvah

BUILDING FUND

Mrs. Miriam Twynham.....in memory of Emanuel Thorman,  
father of Burt Thorman

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Bloch.....in honor of their granddaughter  
Janet E. Bloch

Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Merkle.....in memory of Samuel Rosen, father  
of Al Rosen



THE  
CONGREGATIONAL  
CORNER

Our very best wishes for an enjoyable trip to RUTH MURAD and her parents, MR. AND MRS. ABE SHAPIRO, who are touring Israel.

Welcome to our newest members -- JACK AND SARAHART LOEB. The LOEBs make their home at 2630 S. Fort Scott Drive in Arlington.

Congratulations to Harriet and Henry Epstein on the birth of their baby daughter.

Happy Anniversary to:

- SUE AND LOUIS OLOM (March 10th)
- JANET AND DAVID KWASS (March 18th)
- JEANE AND JOEL NOVAK " "
- EVA AND DAVID BERLIANT (March 20th)
- ZELDA AND BART FERRIS " "
- SHIRLEY AND RICHARD CLOTH (March 21st)
- DEBORAH AND HARRY SOMERS (March 24th)
- NATALIE AND GERALD ARNOLD (March 26th)
- REVA AND ARTHUR ROSENHOCH (March 27th)
- CAROL AND EUGENE DAVIDSON (March 29th)
- SHEILA AND ALLEN MAURER (March 30th)
- BEATRICE AND LEONARD EMMERGLICK (March 31st)

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 \* The Congregation extends its deepest \*  
 \* sympathy to Alvin Rosen upon the death \*  
 \* of his father, Samuel Rosen. \*  
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THE TEMPLE MAILBAG

To Naomi Bekenstein, President of the Women's Group:

Dear Naomi,

We are indeed grateful to Harriet Epstein (and her hostesses) for their personal interest in making the Oneg Shabat at the Bar Mitzvah of our son Michael a significant part of this memorable occasion in our lives.

The enclosed contribution to the Women's Group is but a small expression of our appreciation.

Sincerely,

/s/ Blanche and Joe Cohen