



Beth Am COMMENTATOR



The Committee Of 100

The following member families have joined the Committee of 100. Inadvertently, their names were left off the list printed last week. We now number 72 members of the Committee.

Norman and Irma Braman	Sheldon and Rosalie Weiss
Marvin and Mimi Hollub	Dr. Mark and Barbara Yaffey
Roger and Gerrie Soman	

Religious School Opens Saturday And Sunday, September 20 And 21

BRING FRUIT TO DECORATE SUKKAH

The Religious School will hold its opening sessions on Saturday, September 20, and Sunday, September 21. (The first Monday night classes for ninth and tenth graders will be held on September 29). Students have been placed in classes and families will receive class cards notifying them of time, room, and teacher.

Since the opening weekend is also the holiday of Sukkot, all children will have the opportunity to visit the Temple Sukkah and participate in decorating it in the traditional manner. Therefore, all students are urged to bring with them a piece of fruit to which a string has been attached for hanging. BAFTY, the Temple youth group, will be actively involved in preparing the Sukkah for use by the entire congregation.

All Religious School teachers recently participated in a two day orientation workshop. We have assembled one of the best faculties we have ever had and the year promises to be filled with many exciting programs and learning experiences.

Calendar For September

(Continued)

NEW SCHOOL	Thurs., Sept. 25, 7-8:30 p.m.
SERVICES	Fri., Sept. 26, 8:30 p.m., Sanctuary
BAFTY DANCE	Sat., Sept. 27, 8:00, Social Hall
SIMCHAT TORAH	Sun., Sept. 28
BROTHERHOOD BREAKFAST	Sun., Sept. 28
	9:30 a.m., Youth Lounge
MONDAY NIGHT SCHOOL	Mon., Sept. 29, 7:15 p.m.

Sukkot Begins Friday, Sept. 19 Services At 8:30 P.-M.

Friday evening, September 19, the week-long festival of Sukkot begins. Sukkot commemorates the journey of the children of Israel through the wilderness, where they dwelt not in permanent homes, but only in temporary "booths" (Hebrew: sukkot). We celebrate the festival today by building sukkot, or at least designating and decorating a special area in our homes as a sukkah where we eat our meals and remember the journeys of our ancestors. The holiday, celebrated in this fashion, becomes a wonderful week-long experience for the entire family, especially for the children.

The Sukkot holiday occurs in the harvest season, a time of plenty, but it is a modest festival. According to Maimonides, one should remember difficult times even in days of prosperity, and thus be inclined toward a balanced existence.

Our celebration of Sukkot begins this Friday at sundown with the lighting of the candles in honor of both the sabbath and the festival, and then continues at the Temple during the 8:30 p.m. service. Hopefully, the holiday will be brought home after the service and thrive throughout the week.

SIMCHAT TORAH

The week of celebration concludes with the delightful parade of the Torahs, Simchat Torah, which will take place Friday evening and Saturday morning, September 26 and 27. There will be a processional during the Friday evening family service at 7:30, and again during the Saturday morning Religious School service at 9:30.

Yizkor, the traditional memorial service recited during each of the festivals, will be read during the regular 11:15 sabbath morning service.

Adult Education Starts September 23

Our high impact twin Mini-Mesters begin Tuesday evening, September 23, at 8:00. If you haven't registered yet, do so now! Enrollment in some courses will be limited. The same four courses will be offered each Mini-Mester, so register for two!

Course 1: Toward an Understanding of the Holocaust: A positive and meaningful approach to the most challenging questions raised in modern times.

(Continued on Page 3)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19
8:30 p.m.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Henry LeClair
Cantorial Soloist

RABBI CHEFITZ

'A Maimonides Diet'

How to lose 20 pounds
in 10 weeks



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
11:15 a.m.

TORAH SERVICE

Register now for Camp Coleman for next summer



I Feel Like Job

A man was in to see me recently. He told me of problems he was having in his family. His wife wanted a divorce. His son wasn't interested in an education or in a job. His daughter was living with someone out of wedlock. "Sometimes I feel like Job," he said. "What have I done to deserve all of this trouble? Everything I hold dear is collapsing all around me."

As he sat before me, the man (an out-of-towner) was the picture of despair. He was truly alone. His family training, under-girded by pre-modern ideas, was not sufficient to enable him to handle all of this churning. His father and mother didn't have a perfect marriage, but they put up with each other, and achieved a fairly stable equilibrium. They wouldn't think of leaving each other, and they were a help to each other in their old age. He believed in that kind of mores which taught that people shouldn't live together until they were married, so he couldn't understand his daughter at all. She seemed to him to be someone from another planet. She didn't understand him at all. He seemed to her to be old-fashioned and rigid. He had been taught that a man works hard and saves his money and takes care of his family with it. His son preferred to have a good time without thought of the future. The two had difficulty talking together. His wife had taken a course in sensitivity training and decided he wasn't sensitive enough. She was looking for a broader life, and that didn't include him. "How wrong can one person be, Rabbi?", he asked me. "I have lived as I was taught to live, and it has brought me nothing but heartache."

This man is, indeed, a modern Job, and the sad thing is that most of us share, at least, a part of his fate. Such is the experience in every age when the old mores are severely challenged. Those who follow the old rules suddenly find themselves bypassed, out in the cold, bewildered. Even those who manage to hold their families together fairly well are stunned and fearful.

This man is Job, but he is Everyman. He is all of us. What can Job do for himself? How can he weather the storm? First of all, he can talk to the other "Jobs," the other fathers and mothers who share his experience, at least in part. From them, he will learn that he is not alone. No house in our community has been totally spared by the Angel of Change. He has visited all of us. One gathers strength when one learns that his experience is shared by others, that, in truth, he is not a total fool, that he isn't guilty of irrational behavior, that he is a victim of a time of drastic revolution.

Secondly, we Jobs can take another look at human history. There, we will find that, while there have always been revolutions in social mores, the wheel comes around to where it formerly was. Open sex is as old as the Canaanites, and it was the cause of the weakening of their society. Rome began to corrode when its ethical religions were attacked and when its intellectuals turned to the oriental mystical religions (see Will Durant and Gibbons). Those who rush to get on the band wagon of change have not always been proven right. More often than not, they have been wrong, tragically wrong. Witness the growing misery in our world which is the result of the new freedom. Freedom, history confirms, is not the only god in the pantheon. There is also responsibility. The present is not the only truth to be reckoned with; there is also the truth of human experience (the past), and the needs of the future.

We "Jobs" may have contributed to the problems of our
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Sisterhood Bruncheon Sept. 24



Sisterhood President Lori Miller discusses plans for the elegant opening bruncheon with co-chairpersons Rosita Levy, Vivian Rosen, and Arlene Minor. There is still time to phone in for this reservations only affair to be held in the Social Hall. It starts at 9:30 a.m. and will end approximately at noon. Call Jackie Edelson, 235-4090, Myrna Cohen, 233-7444, Rosita Levy, 271-9665, or the Temple office, 667-5587. Free for paid-up members; \$4 for guests. See you there.

Among the attractions at the bruncheon are fabulous door prizes including five days of Master Host dinners for two, an original oil painting by Anita Breslow, three tropical house plants, a full J. Baldi program treatment, cosmetic bags, candy dishes, and the like.

Sisterhood Evening Chapter Holds Values Clarification Workshop

At its first meeting of the new season on Wednesday, September 24, at 8:00 p.m., Sisterhood's new evening chapter will have as its theme, "Where I've Been, Where I Am Now, Where I Am Going To Be." Guest speaker for the value clarification workshop will be Ruth Siegel. The group will meet in Room 21, and refreshments will be served. Women who cannot attend daytime meetings, or who prefer to attend evening meetings, are encouraged to come and bring friends. This group will be shaped by what you want it to be, so your input and ideas are eagerly solicited.

time, but chances are the problems would have come, even if we had acted differently. We can't go around berating ourselves and wondering what would have happened "if" we had done as the others wanted us to do. Maybe they were wrong also, and maybe they were more wrong than we.

In the end, it is the Jobs who are the bearers of civilization. It is those who wish to maintain the family structure, who know the value of children, who know the importance of tradition, who refuse to twist "good" and "evil" into meaninglessness. It is these who provide the basis for the rebuilding of society when it has been torn apart by "new" ideas, discarded in previous generations as being destructive.

Be comforted my brother-sister-Job, for there are many like you! Let us join hands and confirm what we understand to be valuable and worth holding on to. We may yet be the heroes of our age, even as past ages have acclaimed us.