



TREE OF LIFE CONGREGATION

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA

**"KOL T.O.L." — THE "VOICE OF THE TREE OF LIFE"
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER**

NOVEMBER 2011 / CHESHVAN – KISLEV, 5772

NOVEMBER WORSHIP SERVICES

Friday, Nov. 4

7:30 p.m. Shabbat Eve Service with Rabbi Marcus
Torah Reading:
Lech Lecha, Gen. 12:1 – 17:27

Friday, Nov. 11

6:45 p.m. KIDZ Shabbat
7:30 p.m. Shabbat Eve Service
Torah Reading:
Vayeira, Gen. 18:1 – 22:24

Saturday, Nov. 12

10:00 a.m. Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study

Friday, Nov. 18 – Special Music Shabbat

7:30 p.m. Shabbat Eve Service featuring
Cantor Rosalie Boxt & the TOL Choir
Torah Reading:
Chayei Sarah, Gen. 23:1 – 25:18

Friday, Nov. 25

7:30 p.m. Shabbat Eve Service
Torah Reading:
Toledot, Gen. 25:19 – 28:9

Friday, Dec. 2

6:30 p.m. Potluck Shabbat Dinner
7:30 p.m. Shabbat Eve Service led by
Kitah Hey (5th level Hebrew class)
Torah Reading:
Vayeitsei, Gen. 28:10 – 32:3

SPECIAL WEEKEND OF JEWISH MUSIC with CANTOR ROSALIE BOXT

Friday, Nov. 18 – Sunday, Nov. 20

Please plan on joining us for this fantastic opportunity to worship with, listen to, learn from, and sing along with one of the Reform Movement's leading cantors. There will be something for all ages throughout the weekend. *See inside for more details.*

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Sunday, November 20, 2011 6:00 p.m.

Tree of Life Congregation

TOL will host the annual interfaith Forest Acres Community Thanksgiving Service to be held on the Sunday evening before Thanksgiving. *Details on page 2.*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<i>Special Events</i>	2
<i>From the Rabbi</i>	3
<i>Religious School</i>	4-5
<i>Youth News</i>	6
<i>Sisterhood</i>	7
<i>Brotherhood</i>	8
<i>TOL in Pictures</i>	9
<i>Temple News</i>	10
<i>Member News</i>	11
<i>Community News</i>	12
<i>Yahrzeits</i>	13
<i>Contributions</i>	14
<i>Calendar</i>	15



WEEKEND OF JEWISH MUSIC AT TREE OF LIFE

**Featuring Cantor Rosalie Boxt
from Temple Emmanuel – Kensington, MD
Friday, November 18 – Sunday, November 20, 2011**

We are so excited to have the fabulous Cantor Rosalie Boxt visit TOL next month. Many people have met and know Cantor Boxt – she is married to Jason Boxt, who grew up at TOL, and she joined with Josh Nelson at our concert this past February. The very talented Cantor Boxt was invested as a Cantor from the School of Sacred Music of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York in 2001 and serves as the Cantor of Temple Emmanuel in Kensington, MD (outside of DC). She is at the forefront of modern Jewish music in the national Reform Movement and is a much sought-after spiritual leader, songleader, teacher, and performer.

The schedule for the weekend includes:

Thursday, Nov. 17: Dinner and Rehearsal with the TOL Choir – All are invited to join with Cantor Boxt and Sharon Witherell in singing with our wonderful choir. Dinner and getting to know Cantor Boxt will begin at 6pm, followed by rehearsal at 7pm. There will also be a rehearsal on Tuesday, Nov. 15 at 7pm. Whether you are a High Holy Day choir veteran or have never sung before at Temple, we would love to have you take part in this special opportunity.

Friday, Nov. 18 at 7:30pm: Shabbat Evening Service – Cantor Boxt will lead us in worship and present a sermon in song. It will be an uplifting and moving service with both new music and music that we love at TOL. The choir will join Cantor Boxt for this special service.

Saturday, Nov. 19: **TOL Beit Café / Coffeehouse**
 6:30pm Kids' Program
 7:00pm Havdalah and Music Program

Join us for a social evening of music and discussion with Cantor Boxt. Cantor Boxt will perform a wide variety of Jewish and non-Jewish music, as well as lead us in Havdalah with our Temple Youth Group. She will be joined by Sharon Witherell as well as the Four Fathers Band. It will be a fun and entertaining evening for all ages. Appetizers and desserts will be served; there will also be a “wine bar.” Childcare will be provided.

Sunday, Nov. 20: Religious School – Cantor Boxt will meet with our Religious School students throughout the morning.

Special thanks to Heather Weiss, who is the chairperson for this special weekend. Contact the TOL office and check the website for more information and details.

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE

**** Sunday, November 20, 2011 6:00 p.m. ****

Tree of Life Congregation

This year TOL will host the annual interfaith Forest Acres Community Thanksgiving Service to be held on the Sunday evening before Thanksgiving.

Participating congregations include: Beth Shalom Synagogue, Bethel United Methodist Church, Forest Lake Presbyterian Church, Petersen Presbyterian Church, Rehoboth United Methodist Church, St. James United Methodist Church, St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, and Tree of Life Congregation.

The Tree of Life Choir, along with choir members from the other participating congregations, will take part in this hour-long service.

There will be a food drive and money collection for Harvest Hope Food Bank. Please bring non-perishable food or frozen turkeys for Thanksgiving; we will also accept cash and checks payable to Harvest Hope Food Bank.

It is an honor for our congregation to host this important service and to welcome our neighbors into our Temple – and we will need your help. We need ushers and greeters. We will also need help with the reception in the Social Hall following the service. If you are interested in baking, helping to set up, clean up, or greeting, please contact the TOL office. Thank you so much for your help as we look forward to a wonderful evening of giving thanks and fellowship.

FROM THE RABBI



LOTS OF THANKS TO GIVE

By Rabbi Daniel M. Sherman

HOLY DAY THANKS

With the arrival of the months of November and *Cheshvan*, it's official – we have made it through the Fall Holy Days on the Jewish calendar. First, I want you to know how much I enjoyed seeing so many of our congregants at services this year. It is wonderful to welcome the New Year all together at Temple.

Second, I want to offer my thanks to all those who helped to make our High Holy Day experiences so meaningful and special. I want to thank our President, Steve Savitz, for all of his behind-the-scenes help and coordination, as well as his participation in services from both the bimah and choir corner. Thank you to Richard Cohen and our Ritual Committee for all of their hard work in helping to plan services and the congregational break-the-fast. I want to thank David Greenhouse for coordinating our many High Holy Day honors, and Keven and Laney Cohen for coordinating our ushers again this year. Thank you to Todd Weiss for all of his help with security and building issues. A special thank you goes to Laura Becker and to our TOL Sisterhood for a beautiful *Oneg Yom Tov* following our Rosh HaShanah Evening service. I want to express our congregation's sincere appreciation to Sharon Witherell, our talented Music Director, for all of her hard work at this time of year. *Todah Rabbah* to English Morris and the TOL Choir for adding your talents and music to the beauty of our worship services. I want to thank Risa Strauss for planning and coordinating our children and family services, as well as the childcare programs. And finally a huge thank you to our staff – Linda Frederico and Demitris Gilmore – for all of their hard work and long hours in preparing for and getting us through the High Holy Days.

I have received a number of questions and comments about my High Holy Day sermons. I will post the sermons on the TOL website. The book on which I based my messages, *The Seven Questions You're Asked in Heaven – Reviewing & Renewing Your Life on Earth*, written by Dr. Ron Wolfson, is published by Jewish Lights Publishing and is available at their website (www.jewishlights.com). I am a big fan of Jewish Lights Publishing – they have a wonderful collection of books and resources – and I recommend you check out their many offerings.

We followed Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur with a truly festive celebration of Sukkot this year. I want to thank the TOL Brotherhood for all of their hard work on the Temple Sukkah, which was in great shape. I loved that

we had so much happening at TOL this year for Sukkot and that our sukkah was well used. Our Simchat Torah service was made even more fun and exciting this year by our fabulous Four Fathers Band. *Todah Rabbah* to Bill Strauss, Fred Davidson, Gregg Helman, and David Reddy for your participation – we look forward to hearing from you more throughout the year!

B'NEI MITZVAH SERVICES

It was wonderful celebrating last month as Jared Kerner and Oliver Chartock both became B'nei Mitzvah. We want to wish them and their families a *Mazal Tov!* I look forward to our Bar & Bat Mitzvah services. It had been too long since our last Bar/Bat Service (9 months). I want to encourage our congregation to be present and to participate in these very special services – whether Friday evening or Saturday morning. Please know that you are invited. Our B'nei Mitzvah families look forward to sharing their *simchas* with their TOL family. It is a wonderful statement when the congregation is there to welcome and congratulate our students and their families. Even if you may not know well the students or families, you will be glad that you were there and shared in these special services.

NOVEMBER CHAI-LITES

October was a very busy month at TOL; there's lots going on in November, too. I want to call your attention to three new **Adult Education classes** that begin this month. Details are provided in the newsletter and on the TOL website.

I am especially looking forward to our special **Weekend of Jewish Music, November 18-20** at TOL. I have really enjoyed getting to know Cantor Rosalie Boxt – and I know you will, too. We are very fortunate that Cantor Boxt and her family will be able to join us this month. It is a fantastic opportunity for our congregation to hear from and worship with one of our Movement's leading voices and leaders from the cantorate. Please plan on joining us for services Friday evening and for the *Beit Café* on Saturday evening. It should be a marvelous weekend. I want to thank the weekend chairperson, Heather Weiss, for all of her hard work.

I hope you will also plan on attending our **Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Service**. This special service has become an annual tradition for our “neighborhood churches and synagogues.” I have enjoyed getting to know my colleagues along Trenholm Road and seeing the houses of worship. Last year we moved the service from the Wednesday to the Sunday evening preceding Thanksgiving to encourage the participation of even more people. The move was well received last year. This year it is our turn to host the gathering, which is an honor for our congregation. Please help me welcome all of our guests and neighbors as we prepare for Thanksgiving this year.

FROM THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DIRECTOR



APPRECIATING THE SIMPLE THINGS

By Risa Strauss

As this issue of the Tree of Life Newsletter goes to print, word has just been received that Israeli soldier and Prisoner of War, *Gilad Shalit*, has been released from a Palestinian prison in Gaza after five years in captivity. Tears rolled down my cheeks thinking of the relief and joy and thanks his parents must feel from finally getting him back home after so much time. This whole situation can be discussed from so many different standpoints: historically, politically, religiously, and culturally. But from whatever angle you look at it, this boy's freedom was taken away. And I really feel that we can never take for granted or give enough thanks for the freedoms that we enjoy here in the United States.

Since 1981, I have "made" Thanksgiving yearly in an assortment of 10 different homes, two countries, four states, and seven cities. In Israel, our turkeys would be found at the "*shuk*" (outdoor market), where we would have them slaughtered and koshered. In Ann Arbor, we would purchase our turkey at outrageous prices from a kosher butcher in Detroit. Here in Columbia, giant frozen "Empire Kosher" turkeys are hauled in via minivan by our relatives from a NY supermarket (you get them for free if you buy about \$500 worth of groceries). As part of our family observes *kashrut* laws, traditional Thanksgiving recipes become kosher with the help of an amazing array of kosher-*pareve* products. Over the years we have become great recipe adapters and have taken advantage of the many uses of *pareve* "milk" and "cheese."

It is understood in our home that Thanksgiving is an important holiday to observe. Not only is it the day of my birth, but a feast that has an enormous amount of meaning for us as American Jews. It is not a Jewish *Yom Tov* (holiday), so no candles are lit. However, with the sounds of football floating in the air, we begin our traditional American celebration as Jews with the *HaMotzi* blessing over the jalapeño-fake-cheese biscuits. We go around the room and, like a youth group activity, each person from each generation shares what he or she is thankful for this year and what we hope for in the future. Dinner conversation flows with the food. We argue, talk, and listen: Judaism, freedom, immigration, liberty, politics, Israel, sports, healthcare, and where we are going shopping on Friday. The meal winds down, and sometime after the coffee with the fake cream, the men head into the family room to watch football and the women to the kitchen. In the kitchen we clean up, decide what we are salvaging for Shabbat dinner, and continue to discuss where we are going shopping on Friday.

As Jews it would be almost impossible for us to experience the world with anything but "Jewish eyes." Religiously there is quite a divergence of opinion on the *Halachic* (Jewish law) appropriateness of celebrating Thanksgiving (see www.myjewishlearning.com). These discussions, mainly in Orthodox circles, revolve around the question of whether Thanksgiving is a secular or Christian holiday. Rabbi Michael Brody of the Young Israel Congregation in Atlanta believes that Thanksgiving is a secular holiday that can be enthusiastically celebrated by Jews because of reasons of "citizenship and the gratitude we feel towards the United States and its history."

I wholeheartedly agree with Rabbi Brody and feel very strongly that we can observe Thanksgiving by incorporating quite naturally and quite appropriately who we are, without forgetting that this is not specifically a *Yom Tov*, but an American holiday. Celebrating Thanksgiving with a Jewish heart can only deepen our understanding of the freedoms we are so lucky to enjoy in the United States.

Thanksgiving is not the only special event occurring on the calendar in November. Our Confirmation Class will be traveling to New York City with Rabbi Sherman, myself, and three parent chaperones. I am thrilled to accompany these students and Rabbi on this trip and to be able to share my experiences of growing up as a young Jewish person in New York. I know that our 10th graders will get a real glimpse of and an opportunity to understand how so many of our immigrant relatives came to this country and thrived as New Americans and Jews because of the liberties that we have in this country.

I have much to say *Todah* for this Thanksgiving. I am thankful for my family and for my Temple family and friends. I wish y'all a very happy, healthy, and fattening Thanksgiving!

THE BIG NOSH 2011 SPONSORS

Platinum

Baker and Baker Foundation
Cohn Construction Services, LLC
Columbia Jewish Federation
Dunbar Funeral Home
Edens and Avant Investments LP
The Moses Family
Joni and Shep Cutler

Gold

Jim Hudson Lexus
Park Poe Adams and Bernstein, LLP
Walton and Jeff H. Selig
Zoe's Kitchen
Anne and Alan Reyner, Jr.

Silver

Abacus Planning Group, Inc.
BlueCross BlueShield of South Carolina
Deans and Peter Fawcett
in memory of Marvin Selig
First Community Bank
Granger Owings Clothing
Hood Construction
Nexsen Pruitt
Palmetto Health
The Pilates Studio
Revera Wayburn
Rite Temp Heating & Air, LLC
The Toy Box
Howard Weiss
Wachovia, A Wells Fargo Company

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NEWS

In general, the months of November and December bring a flurry of programming to Tree of Life. Many events are in the works including a joint elementary and middle school parent's night out with Beth Shalom Synagogue, as well as a special Jewish Music Weekend with Cantor Rosalie Boxt on November 18-20. We will enjoy our first "Kidz Shabbat" of the year on Friday eve, November 11 at 6:45pm (note date change). Our 7th, 9th and 10th grade classes will be visiting the Big Apple (formerly TOL downtown) on Sunday morning, Nov. 13 in a special tour arranged by congregant Ann Posner.

At TOL in our Religious School we wish a *Mazal Tov* to our Consecration Class of 5772 and their families: Jordan and Haley Sayewitz, Wyatt Tucker, David Brandin, Jacob Cohen, Lizzie Fields, Kacy Kraemer, Elizabeth Fields, Claire Sobel, Sam Weiss, and Gavin Williams. We say "*Bruchim Habaim – Welcome*" to TOL Religious School. *Mazal Tov* as well to our recent *B'nai Mitzvah* and their families: Jared Kerner and Oliver Chartock, as well as to our upcoming *B'nai Mitzvah* and their families: Stephanie Carr and Gabe Contino.

Todah Rabah to everyone who has made the new year of Religious School go so smoothly. Thank you for donations of items, time, and effort! And, to the Brotherhood – we appreciate all of your logistical and gastronomic support.

The Jewish month of *Cheshvan* (around November) is generally thought of as Jewish Social Action month, and we are once again looking forward to partnering with the Family Shelter of Columbia to bring a happy winter holiday season to all of their residents. We are also beginning to work in earnest on the Columbia Jewish Community's *Yachad Mitzvah* Day to be held on Sunday, February 12, 2012.

There is much to anticipate at the beginning of this winter season. Enjoy! Also, if anyone is interested in helping to plan the Chanukah Happening don't hesitate to contact me at Temple. We need your ideas and creativity!

Important Religious School Dates in November

11/04-06: Confirmation Class trip to NYC with Rabbi Sherman & Risa Strauss

11/06: RS, 9am; Music with Marvelous Marvin; *Binah* Book Club

11/11: "Kidz Shabbat" at 6:45pm with Childcare at 7:15pm, followed by our regular Shabbat services at 7:30pm

11/13: RS, 9am; Big Apple trip for Grades 7-10; Tree Tumblers, Shabbat in a Box at 10:30am

11/20: RS, 9am; Cantor Boxt will be our guest

11/23: Happy Birthday, Risa Strauss! *Yom Huledet Sameach!*

11/27: No School – Happy Thanksgiving!

Please note: *Kitah Hey* Class Shabbat and Potluck Supper has been postponed until December 2. Also the next "Kidz Shabbat" will be December 9, with the Chanukah Happening on December 11!

Meet Tree of Life's *Kitah Alef* (First level Hebrew) Class.



Morah Leah (Lora Stein) and Class

This year we have 11 students in our beginner Hebrew class. They have been working hard learning the letters of the *aleph bet* (the Hebrew alphabet). In our five weeks together, the students have learned seven letters and three vowels! We've been putting these letters and vowel sounds together to practice beginning reading strategies. I am very proud of their hard work.

YOUTH NEWS

Back to the Jewish Future

Save the Date: Saturday evening, December 3 from 6-9pm

Who: Grades 4 through 7/8

What: Back to the Jewish Future Event with kids from Beth Shalom Synagogue

When: Saturday, Dec. 3 from 6-9pm

Where: Beth Shalom Synagogue

Why: To get together for great informal programming **and** give parents a NIGHT OUT!

Cost: Nothing!

The evening will include: *Havdalah*, dinner, hands-on learning opportunities with a great staff, movies, music, and much more!

RSVP to Risa at risatol@bellsouth.net or call 803 787 2182



WHAT ARE YOU DOING THIS SUMMER?

Believe it or not, it is not too early to begin thinking about a Jewish summer sleep away camp for your child. There are three wonderful Union for Reform Judaism camps – **Camp Coleman** and **6-Points Sports Academy** for elementary and middle school students and **Kutz Camp** for high school students – that offer an invaluable Jewish living experience for youth. Our congregation is committed to helping provide our children with this type of summer opportunity. Last year 14 children enjoyed a URJ Jewish summer sleep-away camp. For more information, please speak with Rabbi Sherman or Risa Strauss. Financial aid is available!



50th Anniversary Celebration of the founding of SEFTY Camp Institute & Camp Coleman!

Get excited and come join us at URJ Camp Coleman over the weekend of **August 24-26, 2012** as Campers, Staff and SEFTYites from the 60's, 70's, 80's and 90's and their families reunite for a family-style Camp Coleman weekend.

The weekend will be a fantastic time to reconnect and reminisce with your old camp friends. The first 100 alumni have already signed up! Cabin space is limited and we anticipate selling out. If you have any questions or know of alumni we should add to our list, please contact us at colemanalumni@urj.org. We look forward to celebrating with everyone next August!



As of October, our Regional Union for Reform Judaism camp, Camp Coleman, has opened registration for the summer of 2012. Camp Coleman, which opened in 1962, serves approximately 800 campers, entering 3rd-10th grades each summer from Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and beyond. Entering 11th graders participate in the Coleman/NFTY in Israel trip while entering 12th graders can apply for the Coleman Staff-in-Training program.

Coleman is filled with a wide variety of fun and challenging activities including sports/sports instruction, creative and performing arts, overnights, white water rafting and other fun trips.

Please stop by the TOL office to obtain a camp brochure and to learn more about Camp Coleman, its programs and financial aid from either Rabbi Sherman or Risa Strauss. **This year all applications must be filed on-line!** Go to: www.campcoleman.com and click on register for summer 2012. Potential campers may be able to use their consecration certificates, "first time Jewish camp" awards, and Federation subsidies to help with tuition costs.

Many of the age groups at Coleman are typically filled to capacity by the end of December and sometimes even earlier. Also, please note that first-time Coleman families may be eligible for a first-time camper discount. For additional information, please visit the Camp Coleman website at www.campcoleman.com.

WRJ / SISTERHOOD NEWS

BE A SUGAR ARTIST!

Thursday, November 10th at 7:30PM

TOL Social Hall

Cover Charge: \$5.00 for members and
\$7.00 for non-members

You will have fun making beautiful flower cupcake decorations on your very own cupcake! Marcia Geers (our instructor) has taught this class to 5 year-olds as well as senior citizens with success! You can do it too!

Not only is Marcia a great teacher, but she has had two entries in two categories in the State Fair this past month: A t-shirt cake won 2nd place for the sculptured, multi-tiered category, and her single-tiered Thanksgiving Cake was awarded 1st place in the special occasion cake category. Additionally, she was awarded the SC Sweepstakes Award for best Amateur.

If you have any of these tools, please bring them: a small rolling pin, a flat plastic placemat for rolling out fondant, cookie cutters in flower shapes (such as a daisy) and/or small circle cutters (from 1 1/2" to 1/2"), a ball tool or a metal melon baler, small kitchen scissors, a baking spatula (@ 1" wide), a container to take your cupcake home!

PLEASE JOIN US!!! RSVP BY November 4th

Contact Marcia at Marcia.geers@att.net or call 865-2168

Save the Date! - For Saturday Evening, **March 24, 2012** we are planning a fun evening that should appeal to all adults. Look for details soon.

TOL Book Club Schedule

The TOL Book Club, sponsored by TOL WRJ, meets *every other* second Tuesday of the month at 7PM in the TOL Library. The following is the current schedule:

November 8, 2011 *The Garden of Ruth*
by Eva Etzioni-Halevy

January 10, 2012 *The Tattoo Artist*
by Jill Ciment

The club focuses on books with a Jewish or Israeli theme. New members are encouraged. All are welcome. Please come! Questions or comments? Please talk to Book Club Chair Amanda Hamilton or to Ilene King. Happy Reading!

TOL WRJ Fashion Show

On October 23, the Sisterhood enjoyed a fashion show in which the lovely Joy Parks, Peggy Miller, Carol Hansen, and Roberta Friedland modeled the latest styles from Coldwater Creek. Thank you to our sponsors – The Bumble Shop, Sweet Dream Wingzzz, and Travelites – and to all who helped make this event a success.



URJ

RJ.org: News and Views of Reform Jews

If you've never ventured into the world of blogging, now's the chance to get your feet wet. Check out the Reform Movement blog at RJ.org, which is a place to read facts, opposing opinions, calls to action and interesting tidbits from the greater Jewish world. New information is posted daily on the site, which is a platform for Reform Jews to come together to chat, opine, kibbitz and learn in an online community. Log on and chime in today – RJ.org.

Jewish Parenting Podcast

Parenting is a demanding job, and finding time to learn and enrich your role as a parent can be challenging. Here you can listen to short segments about Jewish parenting from noted experts.



To listen now, go to urj.org/parentingpodcasts

There is still time to register for the UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM BIENNIAL CONVENTION

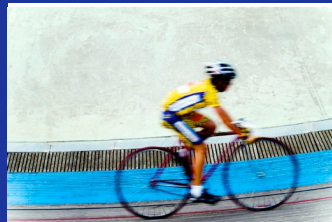
DECEMBER 14-18, 2011

Washington, DC

www.urj.org/biennial



BROTHERHOOD NEWS



Bicycle Ride

Sunday, November 13th is the next Brotherhood bicycle ride, leaving from the Temple at **9:30am**. The course will be from the Temple to Fort Jackson and

back. We will ride approximately 25 to 30 miles at a 15MPH pace. All riders are welcome. It is recommended you contact **David Carr** at TreeofLifeBH@gmail.com if you are interested in riding so he can communicate any changes or updates.

Brotherhood Membership

The Brotherhood membership drive is underway. The Brotherhood is a support organization for the Temple, and 100% of dues are used in supporting Temple activities. As always, we need your financial contributions so we can continue to provide the Temple with valuable support. We can also use your time to aid in the various events the Brotherhood hosts. Please watch the Brotherhood website and e-mails for volunteer opportunities.

We would like to thank the following individuals who joined the Brotherhood this month for 2011/2012: Rabbi Marcus, Marvyn Milman, and Steve Terner.

Religious School Lunches

The Brotherhood will be providing lunches for the Religious School on the following Sundays: December 4, January 29, and March 11. Watch for reminder e-mails and don't forget to sign-up on our website at www.tolsc.org.

Blood Drive

Tree of Life will be holding our annual Red Cross blood drive on **Sunday, January 22, 2012** from 9:00 am to 1 pm. To be eligible to give on that day, your last donation will have to be before November 22, 2011. Please watch the temple website www.tolsc.org for information on scheduling your donation time.

Thank You

The Brotherhood would like to thank the following individuals for their work to perform maintenance on the Sukkah and to prepare the Sukkah for this year's festival: David Carr, Steven Cohen, Jerry Emanuel, Harvey Helman, Ed Hertz, Alan Jolles, Peter Kline, Roger Kuperman, Sidney Sasiene, Brad Smith, and Todd Weiss.

Latke Hut

The Latke Hut pad has been poured and the Brotherhood continues with plans for the beginning of construction of the "Hut." You can help the self-proclaimed "Latke Kings of Columbia" have a safe place to cook our Latkes by making a donation to the Latke Hut. For as little as \$18 you can buy a board for the hut and make our dream a reality while at the same time improving the Temple. Please consider making a donation so the Brotherhood can build this hut and have a great place to cook our famous Latkes. Donations may be made by check payable to Tree of Life (write "Latke Hut" in the memo line) or online by visiting our Donation page on the Temple website.

TOL FUND DIRECTORY

General Funds

(\$5 minimum donation unless otherwise noted)

- **Building Fund** (\$10 minimum)
- **Choir Fund**
- **Foyer Tree Fund** (\$72/leaf) – to purchase & inscribe a leaf
- **General Fund**
- **High Holy Day / Passover Fund** – to help cover holiday operating expenses
- **Library Fund** – to help provide books & resources for TOL library.
- **Memorial Board & Plaque Fund** (\$540/plaque) – to purchase a yearzeit plaque for the sanctuary memorial boards.
- **Prayer Book Fund** (\$20 minimum) – to purchase a Shabbat prayer book
- **Rabbi's Discretionary fund** – to render emergency assistance to individuals, promote Jewish causes, and to open opportunities for Jewish learning and spiritual development.
- **Religious School Fund** – to help cover regular operating expenses & educational resources of the religious school.
- **Religious School Neil Cartiff Memorial Fund** – to support teacher and leadership training

- **Youth Activities Fund** – to provide financial aid for helping our students participate in Israel programs, URJ summer camps, and NFTY regional events.

Sisterhood Funds (\$5 minimum donation)

- **Reyner Convention Fund** – to send Sisterhood members to conventions.
- **Courtesy Fund** – to help beautify the Temple.
- **Evelyn & Dan Daniel Leadership Development Fund** – to send youth to leadership camp (formerly known as the TYG Fund)

Endowment Funds (\$25 minimum donation)

- **General Endowment Fund**
- **Jeanette Birch Endowment Fund** – for grounds beautification.
- **Diane Brown Sobel Endowment Fund** – helps purchase items for the Religious School.
- **Marian D. Fleischman Endowment Fund** – helps fund TOL programming.
- **Ralph & Sarah Levine Endowment Fund** – for capital improvements to our building.
- **Sylvia & Sam Savitz Music Enrichment Endowment Fund**
- **Jonathan Train Youth Group Endowment Fund**



Consecration Class of 5772



Consecration, Sukkot, and the Pumpkin Patch

TEMPLE NEWS

TOL's Bucks Back Program

Our next Bucks Back order deadline is Sunday, November 13. The easiest way to order is online. All checks need to be in the Temple office by 1:00 p.m. Order forms are outside the Temple office or on the TOL website. Orders should be available for pick-up by Friday, November 18.

If you are new to the Temple or to this program, go to <http://www.shopwithscrip.com/> and click on the "Shop" tab to see the hundreds of retailers participating in this program. Our congregation receives a percentage of each dollar spent on all gift cards. Our enrollment code is ELLL34F52L571 (letters are capitalized).

Don't forget – you can order "**ScripNow!**" any time during the month for participating retailers and print the coupons at home right before you walk out the door to shop.

To check out special deals go to <http://www.shopwithscrip.com/> and click on the "What's New" tab to see the current specials.

Remember to mark your calendars for the 2011 Bucks Back Program. The deadline to order is the **second Sunday of each month**. The next order deadline will be December 11 – just in time for Chanukah (scrip cards make great gifts). Thank you for your support!

TOL BEIT MIDRASH FOR LIFELONG JEWISH LEARNING

ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES – Fall 5772/2011

Wednesday evenings: November 2, 16, & 30

6:00 – 6:55 p.m. CONTINUING HEBREW with Risa Strauss

Using a conversational Hebrew text as well as *Aleph Isn't Enough*, we will continue to improve our conversation and prayer skills, grow our vocabulary and develop a better understanding of the language. 10 sessions: November 2, 16, 30; December 7; January 11, 18, 25; February 1, 8, 15.

7:00 – 7:55 p.m. WHAT JEWS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CHRISTIANITY

Rabbi Daniel Sherman

In this class, we will take a closer look at Christianity through Jewish eyes. Who was Jesus? What's in the New Testament? How do Christians view the Old Testament? What is the meaning behind Christian holidays? What are Christian core values? We will try to answer these and other questions over the course of 3 sessions.

8:05 – 9:00 p.m. INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM, Part I with Rabbi Sherman

Introduction to Judaism provides an opportunity to learn about the Jewish religion, traditions and practices, holidays and life-cycle ceremonies, culture and history, as well as basic values and beliefs. This course is open to everyone: for those who feel they have forgotten much of what they studied in religious school years ago, for those who grew up Jewish but have never had the opportunity to study their religion as adults, and for those who are interested in becoming Jewish or simply want to know what Judaism is all about. This course will be continued in the Winter and Spring.

COMING UP NEXT MONTH:

Friday, Dec. 9	KIDZ Shabbat
Saturday, Dec. 10	Stephanie Carr Bat Mitzvah Service
Sunday, Dec. 11	Religious School's annual Chanukah Happening
Dec. 14 – 18	URJ Biennial in Washington, DC
Saturday, Dec. 17	COFTY Lock-In at TOL
Tuesday, Dec. 20	First Night of Chanukah
Friday, Dec. 23	Shabbat of Chanukah Dinner & Service
Wednesday, Dec. 28	Last Day of Chanukah
Saturday, Dec. 31	Gabe Contino Bar Mitzvah Service

MEMBER NEWS

Mazal Tov to:

- **Oliver Chartock** and his parents & family, on his becoming a Bar Mitzvah in October.
- **Brian Glavey & Eleanor Stein-Glavey**, on the birth of their daughter Sylvia Leigh Glavey on September 23.
- **Jared Kerner** and his parents & family, on his becoming a Bar Mitzvah in October.

Refuah Shleima

Get well wishes to TOL members recently hospitalized or at home recovering: **Phillip Bernath, Hal Birch, Charles Geffen, Gene Green, Eleanor Hack, Arline Polinsky, and Elsie Wolff.**

Condolences to

- **Jill & David Carr** and family, on the loss of her father Israel Nezvesky
- **Debra & Jon Stombler** and family, on the loss of her father Israel Nezvesky

Honor Roll

We salute and thank our wonderful volunteers!

- **Office** – Sandy Hertz
- **Religious School Office** – Joan Tucker
- **Hospital Calls** – Sandy Hertz

Welcome to Our New TOL Members

Timothy Maryanov

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Agnes Barroll	Nov. 1	Irwin Zucker	Nov. 9	Ethel Brody	Nov. 23
Sherry Blenner	Nov. 1	Marlayna Ash	Nov. 12	Joshua Brown	Nov. 23
Rebecca Jacobson	Nov. 1	Nicole Kuperman	Nov. 12	Jacob Gindman	Nov. 23
Joseph Russ	Nov. 1	Sandy Mendel	Nov. 13	Jason Mohn	Nov. 23
Kim Brody	Nov. 2	Ben Lipton	Nov. 13	Rebekah Sorenson	Nov. 23
Billy Strauss	Nov. 2	Donna Magaro	Nov. 13	Risa Strauss	Nov. 23
Ellen Humphries	Nov. 3	Sarah Feuerstein	Nov. 14	Stephanie Carr	Nov. 25
Gregory Katz	Nov. 4	Phil Kornblut	Nov. 14	Marlene Korash	Nov. 26
Michael Reisman	Nov. 4	Jessica Volin	Nov. 14	Andrew Sobel	Nov. 26
Keven Cohen	Nov. 7	Jared Kerner	Nov. 15	Gordon Cantor	Nov. 27
Miles Artz	Nov. 8	Harriet Posner	Nov. 16	Faye Kuperman	Nov. 27
Mark Goldenfield	Nov. 8	Beth Troy Maris	Nov. 18	Booty Bedinger	Nov. 28
Paul Cherney	Nov. 9	Steven Sorenson	Nov. 18	Rimma Brandin	Nov. 29
Pam Cohen	Nov. 9	Lea Weiner	Nov. 19	Billy Mustard	Nov. 29
Debbie Greenhouse	Nov. 9	Sara Crawford	Nov. 20	David Reynolds	Nov. 29
Carol Hansen	Nov. 9	Gary Mitchell	Nov. 21	Dylan Marcus	Nov. 30
Naomi Nudelman	Nov. 9	Teri Berez Youngstedt	Nov. 22	Meadow Wessinger	Nov. 30

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Faye & Roger Kuperman	Nov. 1	Elisa & Paul Westfall	Nov. 20
Debra & Jon Stombler	Nov. 6	Renee & Eric Bland	Nov. 26
Myrna & Richard Cohen	Nov. 8	Karyn & Howard Sheftman	Nov. 27
Barri & Lance Thompson	Nov. 8	Heather & Todd Weiss	Nov. 27
Linda & Allan Ackerman	Nov. 19	Marla & David May	Nov. 28
		Rebecca & Michael Coffman	Nov. 29

UNVEILING CEREMONIES

Unveiling for Henrietta Schleider Farber

wife of Manny Farber and mother of Ruth Marcus
Sunday November 13 at 2:00 p.m.
Hebrew Benevolent Society Cemetery

Unveiling for Leon Ritter

father of Debbie Ritter
Sunday, November 6 at 1:00pm
Whaley Street Cemetery

COMMUNITY NEWS

USC HILLEL NEWS

Shana Tova to everyone! Hillel at USC has been off to a great start this fall. We had over 30 students at our back-to-school ice cream social and our first Shabbat dinner of the semester. Over 70 students and parents came to our Hillel and AEPi Parent's Weekend Shabbat dinner at Tree of Life Congregation. Hillel is grateful to the Tree of Life Brotherhood, who cooked an amazing dinner, and to Donna Magaro for the beautiful decorations. We've had apples and honey for Rosh Hashanah, a trivia night, participated in the USC Interfaith 9/11 Memorial Service, hosted a table at the annual USC activities fair, enjoyed High Holy Day hospitality with the community, and our Hillel President, Scott Shinbaum was the official Shofar Blower at Beth Shalom on the 2nd day of Rosh Hashanah. For Sukkot: a Sukkah at USC and Shabbat dinner at Emily and Howie Sher's home!

Hillel is excited to welcome Rabbi Leah Doberne-Schor, who is working as the part-time Director of Jewish student life. Together with Dr. David Reisman, Rabbi Leah has been working with the students on leadership development and programming, hosting regular coffees with the rabbi, counseling students, and helping to build Hillel at USC. We are grateful to the Community Advisory Board, Columbia Jewish Federation and community, and Hillel at USC parents and alums for making this position possible. You can find out about our many events on Facebook – Hillel at USC – or our website: www.hillelatusc.weebly.com.

Hillel at USC's funding is entirely donation based, and students are not required to pay dues of any kind to participate in Hillel at USC. Help us to continue to build Hillel at USC by:

- Letting us know about any Jewish students at USC! You can email rabbileah@gmail.com or reisman@biol.sc.edu
- Volunteering to help with our community advisory board (contact Michelle Peterson if you are interested).
- Making a contribution to Hillel at USC. Checks can be sent to the Columbia Jewish Federation c/o Michelle Peterson/Hillel.

Thanks and *Shana Tova!*

BUBBIE'S BRISKET & BAKERY A Jewish Food Extravaganza

Sunday, November 13, 2011
11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Beth Shalom Synagogue
5827 North Trenholm Road
803-782-2500

FEATURING TRADITIONAL JEWISH FOODS & BAKED GOODS

Brisket...Corned Beef Sandwiches...Tzimmes...
Matzah Ball Soup...Falafel...
Stuffed Cabbage...Kugel...Latkes...Israeli Salad...
Baba Ganoush ...Challah ...Rugalach ...
Mandel Bread... cakes ... and more!

TEA AND TUNES PRESENTS: THE FRONT PAGE NEWS! QUARTET COME HEAR THE QUARTET SING A COMBINATION OF BARBERSHOP, DOO WOP, AND SOME PATRIOTIC GOODIES!

**SENIORS, PLEASE JOIN US AT THE GERRY SUE AND
NORMAN ARNOLD JEWISH COMMUNITY CAMPUS
306 FLORA DRIVE, COLUMBIA
NOVEMBER 15, 2:30-4:00
FREE EVENT!
COME FOR MUSIC, FUN, DESSERTS AND
FRIENDSHIP!**



**BROUGHT TO YOU BY TUESDAYS WITH FRIENDS, JEWISH FAMILY
SERVICE, COLUMBIA JEWISH FEDERATION AND THE
KATIE AND IRWIN KAHN JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER**

RSVP TO LANEY BY NOVEMBER 8th AT 787-2023 EXT 220

Save the Date!

See the You Tube Jewish Singing Sensation, The Maccabeats, at a community-wide Chanukah Concert Sunday, December 11 at Temple Israel in Charlotte (bus transportation provided). Stay tuned for more details!

Yahrzeits

November 4 – Bernard H. Havens, Diana B. Sobel*, Louis M. Wolff*, Esther Lifchez Garber*, Sophie Levkoff*, Michael Rothberg*, Barnard J. Livingston*, Arthur Park, Bessie Fine Ginsberg, Jean Helman*, Edward Magrill, Louis Cherney, Shirley Lynch*, Bert Lynch*, Arlene Simons

November 11 – Sam Benowitz, Evelyn Shugar Brauer, Nathan Helman*, Charles Edwin Hymson*, Ethel Kosovske*, David Politis, Hadassah Wandersman*, Nettie Weiss*, Pearl Atran, Donald B. Lipsey, James McCall, Sam Weingarten*, Simon Belasco, Alan Jay Reyner*, Jeffrey Love Reyner*, Tobae Love Reyner*, Volf Volfson, Rabbi Sidney Ballon, Hilya Luchina, Marion Miller, Maurice Silber*, Barnet Weisberg*

November 18 – Mary C. Hagenbuch, Hermine Salomon*, Lena Goldblatt*, Lillian Serbin, Richard Wayburn*, Dinah Babcock, Leon Ritter, Lafayette Strasburger*, Min Swartz, Jack Haislet, Hannah Feinberg*, Sam Friedman*, Herbert Meltzer*, Frederick J. Ravdin*, Samuel R. Reyner*

November 25 – Bessie Cohen, Iosif Iskhakov, Abraham B. Schayer*, Alma Knowles Quick Shadley, Rae Goldenfield, Morris Leader, Sara P. Pearlstine*, Felix Goldberg, Norma Nudelman, Mildred "Midge" Silverfield*, Helen Teskey*, William Babcock, Erwin Prinz, Rudolph Jacob Benenson, Stanley H. Kohn*, Herbert Stern, Annette Artz, Morris Blank*, David Chimes, Mollie Greenberg*, Ida B. Hymson*, Richard Lapidus*, Selma Lapine*, Pearl Sulser

*name memorialized by a plaque in the sanctuary

Bimah Flowers

Yom Kippur

Richard & Debbie Cohn, in memory of
Henry Bogatin, Jr., Henry Bogatin, Sr., Gerry
Bogatin, Harry Halpern, Honey Halpern, Myron &
Geraldine Cohn, & John R. Jordan
Walton, Jeff, Aleka, Kiber, & Sam Selig, in memory of
Marvin Selig & Eleanor Berg Selig

October 7

Nancy Cartiff & family, in memory of Albert Cartiff
Ron & Terry Garber, in memory of Gladys Garber
Terry Ross & Stan Gomberg, in memory of Julie Harvey
Carolyn, Marc, Gene, Lois & Josh Green, in memory of
Julius M. Green
Joanne Hafter, in memory of Lizzie Hafter
Fred & Marci Medway, in memory of Maurice Finkel
Marc & Ann Posner, in memory of Rose Posner

October 14

Bob & Sherry Blenner, in memory of Harry Blenner
Jewel Rotholz, in memory of Samuel Chimes and Frances
Chimes

October 21

Harriet Weinberg Bedinger, in memory of Rose Berry
Mark & Karen Goldenfield, in memory of
Irving Goldenfield
Rich & Diane Mellitz, in memory of Sylvia Rose Mellitz
The Reyner family, in memory of Charles Reyner, Jr.
Jeannie & Hyman Rubin, Jr., in memory of Jane Rubin

October 28

Susan & Charles Altman, in memory of Evelyn Daniel
Sandy Daniel, in memory of Evelyn Daniel
Gail Bienstock, in memory of Bernie & Mariam Havens
Sherry & Bob Blenner, in memory of Irving Strogatz
Ruth Cohen, in memory of Harold Cohen
Bessie Garber, in memory of Julius E. Garber
Ron & Terry Garber, in memory of Boyd Garber
Jennifer & Hans Mykytyn and Matthew Train, in memory
of Lewis Ira Glaser

CONTRIBUTIONS

We gratefully acknowledge the following thoughtful donations:

General Fund

Ceil Oberlander
Sandra Stanley
Iris & Ben Stein, in honor of the birth of Sylvia Leigh Glavey

High Holy Days Fund

Nancy Cartiff, in appreciation of a High Holiday Honor
Garry Goldfarb, thank you for a beautiful Rosh Hashanah service
Julie & Ned Strauss, in appreciation of a High Holiday Honor

Memorial Plaque

Jeannie & Hyman Rubin, Jr., in memory of
Hyman Rubin, Sr.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Gene & Lois Green, in memory of Helen Slone
Lea Weiner, in loving memory of David Weiner and
in appreciation of Rabbi Sherman

Religious School

Helen Silver, in memory of David Weiner

Sisterhood Courtesy Fund

Barbara & Bruce Becker, Mazel Tov on the birth of
the grandson of Ruth & Rabbi Sandy Marcus.
Barbara & Bruce Becker, Mazel Tov on the birth of
the grandson of Bob & Sherry Blenner.
Barry & Eleanor Bornstein, Mazel Tov on the birth of
the grandson of Bob & Sherry Blenner.
Cheri Alexander, in loving memory of David Weiner

ONEG SHABBAT HOSTS

November 4 – Chair: Julie Strauss, Karen & Paul Beattie, Barbara & Bruce Becker, Cindy & Joel Becker, Laura Becker, Lory & Dan Bellino, Lindsey & Matt Bennett

November 11 – Chair: Ilene King, Susan & Larry Bergmann, Eva Bernath, Charlene & Barry Bernstein, Gail & Marvin Bienstock, Rachelle & David Blackmon, Sherri & Bob Blenner

November 18 – Chair: Kim Moses, Peter Blue, Barry Bor, Eleanor & Barry Bornstein, Michelle & Donald Bowen, Irwin Boxt, Rimma Brandin

November 25 – Chair: Deb Tedeschi, Debbie & Allan Brett, Susan & Alan Brill, Kim Brody, Elizabeth & James Brown, Jocelyn & Bob Burg, Becky & Gordon Cantor

*Note: If you are unable to bake or purchase Oneg Shabbat refreshments, you may donate \$20.00. Homemade goods are always preferable. Checks need to be sent to the temple office **two weeks prior to your Oneg Shabbat date**. Thank you for your support.*

WRJ SHABBAT SERVICE REPS

Nov. 4 – Cheri Alexander
Nov. 11 – Beverly Kaplan
Nov. 18 – Melanie Baker
Nov. 25 – Amanda Hamilton



November 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 6:00-9:00pm Adult Classes	3	4 7:30pm Shabbat Service (Rabbi Marcus) Confirmation Trip to NYC	5 Confirmation Trip to NYC
6 Confirmation Trip to NYC	7	8 7:00pm Sisterhood Book Club	9	10 7:30pm Sisterhood's "Be a Sugar Artist" Program with Marcia Geers	11 Newsletter Deadline 6:45pm KIDZ Shabbat 7:30pm Shabbat Service	12 10:00am Shabbat Morning Service & Torah Study
13 9:30am Brotherhood Bicycle Ride 10:00am Tree Tumblers	14	15 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	16 6:00-9:00pm Adult Classes	17 6:45pm Sisterhood Board Meeting 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	18 7:30pm Special Music Shabbat Service w/Cantor Rosalie Boxt	19 6:30pm TOL Beit Café/Coffeehouse
20 6:00pm Community Thanksgiving Service	21	22	23	24 Temple Closed 	25 7:30pm Shabbat Service	26
27 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	28	29	30 6:00-9:00pm Adult Classes			



Tree of Life Congregation
6719 North Trenholm Road
Columbia, SC 29206

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
COLUMBIA, SC
PERMIT #121

DIRECTORY

TREE OF LIFE CONGREGATION

Established 1896

6719 North Trenholm Road Columbia, SC 29206

Office: (803) 787-2182 Fax: (803) 787-0309

Website: www.tolsc.org Email: tolcong@bellsouth.net

Office Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Friday 8:30 am - 4 p.m.

Closed daily 12 noon - 1 p.m.

RABBI Daniel M. Sherman
rabbisherman@bellsouth.net

RABBI EMERITUS Sanford T. Marcus, D.D.

Risa Strauss, RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DIRECTOR
risatol@bellsouth.net

OFFICERS

President	Stephen Savitz
First Vice President	Rick Cohn
Second Vice President	Lisa Helfer
Secretary	Bill Strauss
Treasurer	Paul Westfall
Finance Chair	Debra Tedeschi
Immediate Past President	Jeff Selig

BOARD MEMBERS

David Carr	Kim Moses
Laney Cohen	Arline Polinsky
Richard Cohen	Marc Posner
Annette Goldstein	Marc Rapport
Bruce Greenberg	Amy Scully
Deborah Greenhouse	Brad Smith
Donna Magaro	Julie Strauss
	G. Todd Weiss

LIFETIME BOARD MEMBERS

Bernard Fleischman, Jr.
Stephen Savitz
Howard Weiss



COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Endowment	Ned Strauss
Finance	Debra Tedeschi
Fundraising	G. Todd Weiss
House & Grounds	Brad Smith
Membership	Laney Cohen
Outreach	Debra Tedeschi
Religious School Board	Kim Moses
Ritual	Richard Cohen
Social Action	Ilene King

AFFILIATES

Brotherhood President	David Carr
WRJ/Sisterhood President	Cheri Alexander
COFTY President	Naomi Nudelman

TOL NEWSLETTER

Design/Editor	Cheryl Nail
Proofreader	Marc Rapport

TEMPLE STAFF

Office Manager	Linda Frederico
Custodian	Demitris Gilmore

TEMPLE MUSICIANS

Music Director	Sharon Witherell
Director Emeritus	Jackie McNeil