

## **TEMPLE ISRAEL 2003-2004 PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- **Ten Friday evening Shabbat services (including summer services), Ten Saturday morning Shabbat services, Ten Ma'ariv and Havdalah services—including 45-minute poetry study/discussion sessions.**
- **High Holy Days Services**
- **Monthly Shabbat morning meditation sessions with Dr. Marion, prior to Shabbat services, as well as many sessions of Abulafial chanting**
- **Rabbi-led sermons and discussions on a variety of subjects including (but not limited to) “Jacob as a Model of the Evening Service,” “Nature: Friend or Foe,” “What Makes Esther a Heroine,” “Seeing Holiness in the Ordinary,” “Mel Gibson’s ‘Passion’ and What It Means to the Jews,” “The Psalms as Prayers of Protest,” “Singing ‘Aleinu’-Our National Anthem,” “What Is the ‘Circumcised Heart’?” “Can an Epiphany Bring about Instant Personal Change?” “Anti-Israel Sentiment,” “Judaism and the Twelve-step Program,” “What Is a Jewish Book?”**
- **Friday evening pot luck dinners and Shabbat luncheons/discussions as an integral part of every monthly Shabbaton**
- **Bar Mitzvah of Nate Davis**
- **Yom HaShoah program, videotaped and soon-to-be-presented by AOTV**
- **Participation in Interfaith Thanksgiving Service**
- **Multicultural Festival Program participation at ARMS**
- **Updating of Temple Israel Contact List and E-mail list (E-mail list now including nearly 50 families); E-mailed advance-copy newsletters and other e-mailed announcements**
- **Eleven formal newsletters--mailed monthly--Regular features including monthly column from Rabbi, detailed Shabbaton schedule, upcoming events; and special features including “Website of the Month” and “A Basic Yiddish Primer” “Photo Gallery Page in Color” (Thanks Mitch and Emily!)**
- **Child-care during Shabbat morning services**

## **TEMPLE ISRAEL 2003-2004 PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- **December-May weekly Hebrew classes involving a dozen participants—conducted by Dr. Maron**
- **Temple Israel news articles and photographs in *Athol Daily News*, *Worcester Telegram*, *Gardner News*, *Greenfield Recorder*, and *Barre Gazette***
- **Continued expansion of membership with many visitors attending Temple Israel for one or more services, and several becoming members**
- **Regular minyans for both evening and morning services. Attendance at services usually varies from a low of 12-18 members to as many as 35-40 members. Average was usually 18-25 on Friday evening and 12-16 on Saturday morning/afternoon. Ma'ariv/Havdalah usually saw 10-15 members**
- **Special Reunion Weekend Shabbat Service**
- **Four special family programs—partially funded by a grant which Rabbi Perlman secured through the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. These programs (Simchat Torah, Chanukah, Passover, Tu B'shvat) were very well-attended by families and children. (Thank you Oren!)**
- **Special Sukkoth Service at the Home of the Marons (Thanks, Myron and Suri!)**
- **Naming ceremonies for Lucy StellaRose Koester and Ada Jewel Perlman**
- **Special programs/services featuring Louis Plotkin, as well as Deb Habib and Ricky Baruc**
- **Board of Directors meetings in November, December, June, and July**
- **Hosting of Residents from Templeton Developmental Colony**

As you can see, when we say in our newsletter that “So much is going on at Temple Israel,” we really mean it! Our Temple continues to be a place of warmth, kindness, and generosity—a place not only to pray together, but also one that provides an intellectually-stimulating discussion forum and a close-knit home where friends and families can gather to socialize. Temple Israel remains and active, vital, growing institution and home where people who care about one another can come to be with one another.

**TEMPLE ISRAEL 2003-2004  
PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS**