



# the memo

September 2009 | xxiv no. 1



## services

### fridays

September 4 7:30 pm  
 September 11 7:30 pm  
 Social Responsibility Shabbat  
 September 18 see p. 3  
 EREV ROSH HASHANAH  
 September 25 7:30 pm

### saturdays

September 5 10:00 am  
*Ki Tavo*  
 Bat mitzvah of Sarena Krojanker  
 September 5 5:00 pm  
*Nitzavim/Vayeilech*  
 Bar mitzvah of Jason Hodgins  
 September 12 10:00 am  
*Nitzavim/Vayeilech*  
 Bar mitzvah of Trevor Jappa  
 September 19 see p. 3  
 ROSH HASHANAH  
 September 26 10:00 am  
*Ha'azinu*  
 Bar mitzvah of Jake Bensky  
 September 26 5:00 pm  
*Chol HaMo-eid Sukkot*  
 Bat mitzvah of Megan King



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# Showing Up

The days of the month of Elul are all about preparation for the High Holy Days. The shofar blasts and the prayers of penitence all challenge us to be as aware and as mindful as we can be that we do not miss any opportunity to respond with more kindness, with more compassion, with more radical presence. I find myself reflecting on all the missed opportunities to say or do something that might have mattered, might have made a difference. I know that I will have to stand on Yom Kippur and ask forgiveness for missed opportunities.

One missed opportunity that I have thought about this past week was when I was standing a few feet from Ted Kennedy at Governor Carnahan's funeral and I didn't thank him for writing the bill that made it possible for me to stay at CRC and have health insurance. He was standing by himself and he looked very sad. I also remember looking out at the crowd when I got up to speak and seeing him. I wanted to tell him that I felt as though I had been mourning with him my whole life and I wanted to thank him for showing up that day. I could see that his presence meant so much to all who were mourning our Governor. I wish that I had thanked him for that too. As we listened to the tender private stories of friendship as he was remembered this past week, it seemed to me that they were all about how he showed up again and again and made such a difference in people's lives. With all he had suffered and as busy as he must have been, he still had

room in his heart, and he made the time, to show up.

As we prepare for this New Year I ask your forgiveness for the times I missed opportunities to show up and to be as present as I could be. Each year seems to have a unique call. 5770 in Hebrew is *Tav-Shin-Ayin*. *Tihyeh* (May it be) *Shanah* (the year) of the *Ayin* (the sign of the eye). *Ayin* is vision and mindfulness. *Iyun* (same root) is focus and the ability to see before us every opportunity to show up for each other and know that it will make a difference, it will matter.

- May this year of the *Ayin* help each of us to see just how many opportunities to show up there are, at services to welcome and be together, at Shabbat and Hebrew school to model for our children, at adult learning opportunities to deepen and grow, at our many Tikkun projects, and in those private moments when an act of kindness can change the world.
- May this year of the *Ayin*, this year of seeing help us notice just how many people are showing up for us.
- And may this year of the *Ayin*, this year of clearer vision, bring us closer to a time when we see clearly the many opportunities to show up for each other to heal, to network, and to bring us this year, a little closer to a year of peace.

Love,  
 Rabbi Susan

*a Jewish presence in the City of St. Louis*

## mazel tov to...

Erika Schneider on her bat mitzvah  
 Grant Timm on his bar mitzvah  
 Caleb Weisman on his bar mitzvah  
 Becca Polinsky on her bat mitzvah  
 Hadley Alter on her bat mitzvah  
 Ben Collinger on his bar mitzvah

## condolences to...

Don Shifter on the death of his brother,  
 Jerome Shifter  
 Canaan Sonnenschein on the death of  
 his mother, Cynthia Jo Sonnenschein  
 Iver Bernstein on the death of his  
 mother, Harriet Bernstein  
 Joe Weixlmann on the death of his fa-  
 ther, Joseph Weixlmann  
 Leisa Zigman Edlin on the death of her  
 mother, Lynn Zigman Kupfer

## welcome new members...

Bonnie and John Mann  
 and Abigail and Julia  
 Katie Watt  
 Carrie J. Pegg  
 Beth and Jeffrey Shifrin  
 and Robert, Amanda, and Jordan  
 Paula Lupkin and Andrew Walker  
 and Jacob  
 Amanda Harper and Mark Zaydman  
 Yehuda Ben-Shahar and Sarah Hartz  
 and Itai and Noa

## Kvetching &amp; Kvelling

LETTERS AND E-MAILS TO CRC

We're waiting to hear from you!  
 E-mail [connie@centralreform.org](mailto:connie@centralreform.org).

Take our NEW Tikkun  
Olam Survey!

Two years ago, CRC members and friends participated in a Tikkun Olam Survey that led to the formation of many of our current social responsibility programs, including our advocacy for health care reform, our partnership with the St. Louis Juvenile Detention Center, and our upcoming series on poverty. The Tikkun Olam Steering Committee is asking the congregation to participate in a NEW Tikkun Olam Survey this fall. Please tell us which issues and activities most interest you. We'll use the feedback to plan upcoming projects. Click or paste <http://www.centralreform.org/tosurvey.html> into your browser.

Youth Education  
Update

Youth education classes begin on Saturday, September 12. Rainbow Connection and Shabbat School will meet at CRC and Hebrew School classes will meet across the street at First Unitarian Church. All classes begin at 10:00 am.

We're excited about the new schedule for Hebrew School, with classes on Saturday and Wednesday, providing the opportunity for everyone to come together and celebrate together on Shabbat. On Wednesday, students will come together at 4:00 for snack, and class runs from 4:15 to 6:15 with religious services between 5:00 and 5:30 pm.

We do want parents/guardians to know that we are taking steps to reduce the spread of flu in school, but we'll need your help. If your child exhibits the symptoms of flu, please do not send the child to school. Teach your children to wash their hands often, explain to them the importance of not sharing personal items like food and drink, and show them how to cover coughs and sneezes with tissues or

by using their elbow or arm instead of hands if a tissue is not available.

CRC will have touch free hand sanitizer dispensers in all classrooms, and children will be reminded to use the sanitizer each time entering their classroom.

Many parents/guardians have already attended an orientation, but if you have questions contact Essie Mitchell, 361-1564 ext. 118, or [essie@centralreform.org](mailto:essie@centralreform.org).

Rabbi Talve Selected  
as Scholar-in-  
Residence

Rabbi Susan will serve as Scholar-in-Residence for the 57th Annual Alfred Fleishman B'nai B'rith Institute of Judaism, October 30 through November 1 at Rend Lake Resort in Southern Illinois. The weekend getaway entitled, "Nourishing the Jewish Soul...Learning, Laughter and Lyrics," combines learning, spirituality, camaraderie, gourmet meals, delightful entertainment, recreation and relaxation.

Rabbi Talve will present three lectures: "Superstitions in Judaism," "The Chosen People...Why Didn't Our Ancestors Leave Well Enough Alone," and "Judaism in the 21st Century...Survival and Renewal." Evening entertainment will be provided by Rabbi James S. Goodman, Neve Shalom, and Rabbi Talve with "Stories and Song of Sephardic Jews." The cost to attend includes all meals, entertainment and accommodations: \$225/person double occupancy (\$450/couple) and \$300/person single occupancy. Bus transportation to/from the resort is available for an additional \$37/person.

The weekend concludes at noon on Sunday. For more information, contact chairpersons Lee Brandon 872-7379, Marcia Tash 432-6823, Adrienne Jackson 567-1718 or Bonnie Solomon (636) 532-3330 or e-mail Marcia Tash at [Mel-Marcia@sbc-global.net](mailto:Mel-Marcia@sbc-global.net).

## High Holidays Schedule

### Rosh Hashanah 5770

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2009

8:00 pm Rosh Hashanah Service at the Chase  
*oneg follows*

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2009

10:00 am Rosh Hashanah Service at the Chase  
10:00 am Rosh Hanhanah Service at CRC  
2:30 pm Rosh Hashanah Children's Service at CRC  
3:30 pm Tashlich

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2009

10:00 am 2nd Day Rosh Hashanah Service at CRC

### Yom Kippur 5770

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2009

8:00 pm Kol Nidre Service at the Chase

#### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2009

10:00 am Yom Kippur Service at the Chase  
10:00 am Yom Kippur Service at CRC  
1:00 pm Study Sessions at the Chase  
3:30 pm Yom Kippur Children's Service at the Chase  
4:30 pm Yiskor and Concluding Services at the Chase  
*break fast snack follows*  
6:30 pm Break-the-Fast at CRC

## The Year of the Ayin: *TaShA' Tih'yeh sh'nat 'Iyyun* by Rabbi James Stone Goodman, Congregation Neve Shalom

Master of all the words,

We are breaking in on the year 5770 since the Creation of the world as we reckon time in our language of acronym secrets clues and anagrams TaSH-'A\* Tih'ye SH'nat Ayin The year of the ayin may it be this year -- the sign of the eye vision mindfulness.

Remember the intention of last year the sign of the tet also nine, giving birth -- something entirely new siman tov a good sign resolution giving birth to the hidden good this is always our prayer -- these are always good signs.

Let all the signs the stars too siman tov and mazal tov all the angels and energies, totems and intentions conspire to be the year well -- it is supposed to be.

This year we begin with ayin with the eye with 'Iyyun focus the sense of deep investigation seriousness the gaze within a sense of mindfulness and the freedom of interpretation every letter expressed through 70 facets. All our years begin with hope

the possibilities present for the secret good concealed and congealed in language.

Now -- the year of ayin -- the eye, severity, giving birth to vision something entirely new coming multiplicity of understanding \*\*\*\* better than good when good is not enough deeper than surfaces the vision into events when events lose their opacity and surfaces release --for a moment -- to vision thoughtfulness mindfulness --

Amein, ameen, amen.

*\* Above is a poem and an intention based on many sources, but the basic source is the fact that the year we are entering is called in Hebrew TaSH-'A, an acronym that corresponds to 5770.*

*We play a word game with language, here game is something serious but it has an aspect of play. Every year's acronym means something. This year it is tav shin ayin, an acronym for may it be the year of the ayin. Ayin means eye, it also corresponds to the number 70, it also gives us 'Iyyun which means a sense of focus, of deep investigation.*

*\*\* Last year, it was siman tov, the sign of the good, an auspicious beginning for sure.*

*\*\*\* All signs are significant. B.T. Horayot 12a, Keritot 6a*

*\*\*\*\* There are seventy faces to the Torah. Bamidbar Rabbah 13:15*

## S'lichot

**Saturday, September 12**

**9:00 pm: Welcome New Members**

**10:00 pm: S'lichot Service**

In this service, we begin to examine deeds of the past year, seek forgiveness from God, and promise to improve our behavior in the New Year. Some of the prayers and music for the S'lichot service are taken from the services for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. This provides a musical transition between the "old year" and the New Year.

May your prayers on this S'lichot help prepare you emotionally, mentally, and spiritually for the High Holy Days.

## Ways to Give During the High Holy Days

Giving to those less fortunate is an important High Holidays tradition. We encourage you to give from the heart to one of the following organizations during the High Holy Days. Collection bins will be available at all High Holy Day services--the lobby outside the Khorassan room and the oneg area at CRC. Questions? Contact Jen Bersdale at [jennifer@centralreform.org](mailto:jennifer@centralreform.org) or 361-1564 ext. 116.

### ST. LOUIS JEWISH FOOD PANTRY

Bring donations of non-perishable food to go to those in our community struggling with hunger.

### ST. LOUIS JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER

As part of our partnership with the St. Louis Juvenile Detention Center, we will be collecting the items needed for the Center's new BRICKS levels program, which will be used to reward youth who meet expectations and exhibit good behavior. Please bring donations of the following to High Holy Day services:

- *Magazines that are youth centered and don't have inappropriate advertisements or classified sections such as: Sports Illustrated, Boys Life, ESPN, Oprah or magazines about cars, sports, fashion, music. (Can donate individual magazines or a subscription – contact Jen Bersdale for subscription info.)*
- *Books that are youth centered and build self esteem, such as Body Drama by Nancy Amanda Red for girls and The Bluford Books Series (geared to African American youth). Reading levels from grades 6-12*
- *Activity books, coloring books, crossword puzzles, Soduku, Word Search*
- *Notebooks (NO WIRE OR METAL)*
- *Folders with designs*
- *Greeting cards (birthday, holiday, thank you, mother's day, father's day, etc.)*
- *Hygiene products for personal use (small bottles only): fingernail polish and polish remover; cotton balls; good quality soap, shampoo and deodorant for boys and girls; hair wave grease*
- *Individually wrapped candy bars and small bags of chips*
- *Fruit flavored sodas--grape, cherry, cream, fruit punch, etc.*
- *Paper plates and 16 oz cups*

## Sukkot & Simchat Torah

**Friday, October 2, 6:00 pm**

### LGBT SHARED SHABBAT DINNER

Our group continues and grows! Join us for a potluck dinner to celebrate Sukkot. Please join Rabbi Susan for fun and learning. And the food is always great! Please bring: A-G (vegetarian side dish or salad), H-N (dessert and wine), O-Z (vegetarian main dish). RSVP to Maggie at 361-1564 ext. 112 or [maggie@centralreform.org](mailto:maggie@centralreform.org).

**Tuesday, October 6, 6:00 pm**

### MEN'S SUKKAH PROGRAM

Come join us for a festive meal celebrating the season of Sukkot. We will meet

in our wonderful CRC sukkah, learn and study with Rabbi Randy, and share good times and a delicious potluck dinner.

All are welcome to join us. Please bring a vegetarian main dish or dessert to share, and wine or non-alcoholic beverage of your choice. Spread the word! RSVP to: Michael DiPlacido: [mgdivemaster@sbc-global.net](mailto:mgdivemaster@sbc-global.net).

**Wednesday, October 7, 6:00 pm**

### WOMEN'S SUKKOT DINNER

Please join us as we celebrate our wonderful season of Sukkot. We will gather in our Sukkah (or inside if weather does not permit), learn and study with Rabbi Susan, and share a delicious potluck meal. We will study Our Earth as a fragile Sukkah. All are welcome to join us as we explore our relationship with it. Please RSVP to Maggie Duwe at 361-1564 ext. 112 or [maggie@centralreform.org](mailto:maggie@centralreform.org).

Bring to share for 12: A-F (vegetarian main dish), G-M (wine), N-Z (dessert).

**Friday, October 9, 6:00 pm**

### BASIC JUDAISM DINNER

See page 5 for details.

**Saturday, October 10, 10:00 am**

### SIMCHAT TORAH CELEBRATION

Join us for a joyous congregational celebration of Simchat Torah and Shabbat! Save the date and watch the October Memo for details.

## Hoshanah Rabbah

**Saturday October 10 following our Shabbat/Simchat Torah Celebration.**

We leave CRC for the Edward "Ted" and Pat Jones Confluence Point State Park in West Alton. We will perform the rituals at the sacred place where the Missouri and Mississippi rivers converge. Come to sing, dance, connect to humanity (*adam*) and earth (*adamah*), and feel the life-affirming winds of two great rivers.

# tikkun olam & learning

5

## Education Tikkun Olam Team

JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER PARTNERSHIP MEETING

*Tuesday, September 15, 6:00 - 7:30 pm*

It has been a year since we launched the partnership between CRC and the St. Louis Juvenile Detention Center, and what a great year it's been! Thank you to all of the CRC members who worked to identify this project and to everyone who has volunteered. We held five successful programs this summer, with ongoing tutoring by CRC members. Let's meet and evaluate our success so far and plan upcoming programs. All are welcome; past Detention Center volunteers are especially encouraged to attend. Please RSVP to Jen Bersdale: [jennifer@centralreform.org](mailto:jennifer@centralreform.org) or 361-1564 ext. 116.

## Social Responsibility Shabbat: 9/11

*Friday, September 11, 7:30 pm*

On the eighth anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks, we'll talk about tolerance and celebrating the diversity of all our communities. Speakers TBA.

CONTACT MAGGIE DUWE, INTERFAITH/OUTREACH COORDINATOR, AT 361-1564, EXT 112 OR [MAGGIE@CENTRALREFORM.ORG](mailto:MAGGIE@CENTRALREFORM.ORG) FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS:

### Basic Judaism

*Saturday, September 19, after services (1:30ish)*

Please join us for lunch as we learn and share our experiences with the Rosh Hashanah service. Please bring to share for about 12, a salad of some kind.

We will meet in the MultiPurpose room at CRC. Please feel free to leave your salad in the fridge before services.

### Jewish History from Women's Perspectives

Let's join together to study Jewish history, beginning in the rabbinic period--the first century and a little before. We'll study the influences and relationships of the Jews, Christians, and Romans during these times, being sure to include the roles and voices of women in our study. Later in the series, we'll study the rabbinic writings - the Mishnah, Gemorah, Talmud, and Midrash - and how they relate to our history as Jews and as women.

*Friday, September 4, 12:00 pm*

For our class this month we will study the Hasmoneans and how they contributed to the turbulence of the time and continue with our study of the Temples, the Conquests, the Exiles and the Returns.

*Jewish History meets the first Friday of every month at 12:00 noon.*

### Jewish Traditions from Women's Perspectives

Have you ever wondered what our traditions are and how they got started? Have you ever wondered how you fit into those traditions...as a woman and even more as a modern liberal woman? We will look at many traditions and thoughts throughout Judaism - Shabbat, *Niddah* (laws governing women's purity and behavior), *kashrut* (kosher laws), afterlife, wearing kepot and talliot, women as spiritual leaders and teachers, etc. What is the story behind these and how do we as women fit in? How are our voices heard, not just in the room next door, but in the main rooms?

*Wednesday, September 9, 12:00 noon*

In our September meeting we will look at the traditions surrounding the High Holidays.

*Jewish Traditions meets the second Wednesday of every month at 12:00 noon.*

### Interfaith 101

CRC offers a series of informative interfaith workshops, including time for discussion and getting to know each other. We will meet on the third Sunday of every month beginning October 18 from 12:30-2:30 pm.

This series will be conducted by Rabbi Su-

san Talve, Rabbi Randy Fleisher, and Interfaith & Outreach Coordinator Maggie Duwe. Topics Include:

*October 18:* What does my religion mean to me? Why is religion important in my life? Why is religion important in our life as a couple?

*November 15:* Holidays and the December Dilemma: how do we celebrate and respect each other's holidays throughout the year? And specifically for this season, how do we honor both Hanukkah and Christmas?

*December 20:* The "C" word. What about children?

*January 17:* Lifecycle events. How do we commemorate and honor our own wedding, births of our children, coming of age, and death, mourning, and burial?

*February 19:* Shared Shabbat Dinner. We will share a Shabbat Dinner together at CRC and explore the questions: How do we celebrate Shabbat in a way that includes the partner of another faith and wisdom and words from other paths? How do we make Shabbat meaningful for our family?

*March 21:* A panel of interfaith couples who have been living these issues. They will tell their stories and answer questions

*Contact Maggie to register for this workshop series.*



## Board Notes

Updates from Your CRC  
Board of Directors

At its August 13 meeting, the CRC Board received an update from the Development Circle on plans for the October 24th "CRC Night Out", an evening of small fundraising social gatherings (see page 2).

The Board received an update on the "Next Dor" project. Renovations on the house are underway, with estimated completion by November.

The budget for the fiscal year beginning September 1st was approved.

*Next Board Meeting: Thursday, September 10,  
7:30 pm – all CRC members welcome!*

## Part Time Volunteer Site Coordinator

*Succeeding With Reading*, created in 2004 by CRC member Josh Goldman, seeks a dedicated individual to serve as a part time (20 hours a week) volunteer site coordinator for our work at Jefferson Elementary School. The program has a 3:1 student to teacher ratio so that students are always next to a strong teacher. We implement a method that makes the literacy acquisition process joyful. 3000 books will be given away and parents learn to be partners in their child's education. The site coordinator supports teachers, students and parents to ensure that the program runs smoothly. If interested in learning more please contact Josh Goldman at 898-0430.

## 2009 Alberta Slavin Consumer Award

On Sunday, September 13, Lewis Mills, public counsel for the state of Missouri, is to receive the 2009 Alberta Slavin Consumer Award. Alberta (a CRC member) was the founder of the Consumers Council of Missouri, among her many accomplishments.

The event will be at the Tarlton Corporation at 5500 West Park Avenue. It begins at 4:00 pm. For reservations, call Arthur Hoffman at 531-8888.

SAVE THE DATE

## A Night Out for CRC

*Saturday, October 24*

Save the date for an opportunity to spend the evening with CRC members! Several CRC households have generously agreed to host a party to benefit CRC. Options include a concert, several dinner parties, and a game night; donation amounts vary so there is sure to be something for everyone. Watch your mail for an invitation describing all of our fabulous events!

## Meals-on-Wheels Volunteer Shortage

The Meals on Wheels group that serves the area around our temple desperately needs volunteer drivers to deliver meals.

This program delivers a nutritious noon-time meal to elderly and convalescing persons who cannot shop for and prepare their own meals.

The volunteer arrives at Trinity Episcopal Church (600 N. Euclid) around 10:15 am. The pre-packaged meals are loaded and taken to recipients according to a route sheet. It usually takes 60 to 90 minutes.

One day a week would be great, and bring a friend to work with you....it's more fun that way! For more information please call Mary Risberg: 968-4617. If you want to talk more about the experience, call CRC member Kathy Lass at 367-8843.

## Congregational Retreat

*Friday-Saturday, October 2-3  
Camp Wyman, Eureka*

Explore Shabbat with Rabbi Randy at Camp Wyman. We plan hiking, a fire circle and classes for all. Three meals (Friday dinner, breakfast and lunch on Saturday) includes a vegetarian option. Cabins accommodate 10 persons each, indicate on your RSVP form others with whom you would like to share a cabin. RSVP forms are due Friday, September 18. Fees should not be a barrier to attendance. For an RSVP form and more information, contact Sharon Brown at 361-1564 ext. 101 or sharon@centralreform.org. Retreat information is at [www.wymanteens.org](http://www.wymanteens.org).

*Camp Wyman is at 600 Kiwanis Drive, Eureka, MO 63025 - (636) 938-5245. Directions from St. Louis: Take I-44 west to exit 264 (MO-109/MO-W). As you exit, get into the center lane and turn right off the exit onto Highway 109. Take an immediate left at the first stoplight on Fifth Street. Go right at the second stoplight onto Meramec Blvd. follow Meramec Blvd. for about 1.5 miles until you reach the stop sign at Forby Road at the bottom of a long hill. Turn left onto Forby Road and follow it for just over a mile to the entrance of Kiwanis Camp Wyman.*

## Ricardo Souza Melo Concert for CRC

*Sunday, October 18, 3:00 pm at CRC*

CRC member Ricardo Souza Melo returns to his roots after years of composing in varied styles of music. In his early years he was heavily influenced by Gregorian chant and sacred polyphony. His concert, *New Tango*, is music developed from the early 20th century's Tango, a street dance that was born in the port areas of Buenos Aires and Montevideo. Its most typical instrument is the bandoneon. Ricardo's concert will display his talent on solo bandoneon, instrumental ensemble, voice, dance and theater. Other performers include; Rafaela Copetti (violin), Angela Powers Melo (violoncello), Andy Hainz (double bass), Josh Williamson (percussion). Minimum donation: \$18 per person. Proceeds benefit CRC!

## CRC Volunteers Help SLU Medical School's Efforts to Improve Access to Health Care

As the debate on health care policy reform continues, CRC volunteers are helping SLU medical students provide access to health care for children.

This summer, thirty CRC volunteers are helping at the SLU Pediatric Clinic, which operates every Saturday afternoon from July through September at St. Augustine's Catholic Church in North St. Louis.

The clinic is run by second-year SLU medical students who volunteer their time. The clinic's services are free of charge. Most of the children come to the clinic for check-ups and immunizations required by schools in order for children to attend.

CRC volunteers play with and read to the children, which helps keep the clinic waiting room calm so staff can focus on providing the best medical care.

In addition to the weekly summer Clinics, SLU hosts an annual Health Resource Center Back to School Health Fair. Held on August 16, the event provided free school physicals and other health-related activities. CRC volunteers helped children select free books to take home.

### CRC VOLUNTEERS IN THEIR OWN WORDS:

"The children were so open to us strangers, we read, drew and played the drums. It almost felt as if we really bonded in those short few hours." *Marty Miller*

"I simply walked in, announced I had coloring stuff and would love to read to anyone interested, and didn't stop for the next 2 1/2 hrs." *Tracey Elbein*

"It was nice to meet the kids and parents. The kids really seemed excited to get to select a book of their own, and to take it home." *Joel Achtenberg*

"I think it took some of the anxiety away from the parents - it was a good idea - some of the kids wanted to color - and paper and crayons were accessible - I would do it again." *Eileen Mazva*

### AUGUST VOLUNTEERS AT THE SLU PEDIATRIC CLINIC

Many thanks to the following CRC volunteers: Dede Berg, Hannah Cropf, Tracey Elbein, Lily Gage\*, Amy Kanfer, Eileen Mazva, Marty Miller, Connie Mueller, Debbie and Becca Polinsky, Karen Priest, Margaret Rissman, Ron Saks, Gail Wechsler and Sue Yaffee

\*A special thanks to Lily Gage and her friend who responded to a last-minute need for volunteers due to illness of scheduled volunteers.

### VOLUNTEERS AT THE ANNUAL SLU HEALTH RESOURCE FAIR, AUGUST 16

Joel Achtenberg, Deb Hill, Hillary Melachen and Marty Miller.

**NOTE:** Due to a great response to our call for volunteers, the schedule for the remaining clinic dates in September is full.

## Mitzvah Corps Annual Chicken Soup Drive

Please help the Mitzvah Corps collect and store homemade chicken soup which will be used for CRC families in need of something warm, nutritious and delicious. Put your chicken soup in a plastic container (which will not be returned). Label it with your name, address, date and ingredients.

What kind of chicken soup? Make it with chunks of chicken, carrots, noodles, etc., or plain chicken broth is fine too. Vegetarian "chicken soup" is also welcome.

**Saturday, September 26, 10:00 am through 12:00 noon**

Bring your chicken soup to Aly Abrams at CRC's front door. If you cannot deliver the soup on September 26, no problem - we will arrange an alternative rendezvous. For questions, contact Aly at [alystl@aol.com](mailto:alystl@aol.com) or (314) 727-6221. Thank you!

The Mitzvah Corps would like to thank the following individuals who, in the last few months, generously made chicken soup for our CRC members. Hearty thanks and kudos to:

Stacey Smith	Carol Portman
Mel Goldman	Amy Kanfer
Debbie Polinsky	Lois Rubin
Kim Rosenfield	Sue Yaffee
Jessica Pollack	Terri Leyton
Vicki Lander	Sylvia Nissenboim
Susan Spiegel	Vivian Eveloff

If you would like to contribute to our chicken soup supply, please bring it to CRC on Saturday, September 26, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon, or contact Aly Abrams any time during the year at your convenience at [alystl@aol.com](mailto:alystl@aol.com) or 727-6221. Thank you!

## URJ Displays Art of Jeane Vogel



The national offices of the Women of Reform Judaism and the Union for Reform Judaism will display St. Louis artist Jeane Vogel's "Lifted by Hope & Unity," a color photograph of CRC members lifting the Torah aloft during CRC's Simchat Torah celebration.

URJ officials contacted Vogel in June and asked to display the image in a national exhibit of work by selected women Judaic artists. The exhibit will hang in the Manhattan offices from August 2009 through February 2010.

"Hands of Jews of all hues lift the Torah scroll high on Simchat Torah, the day we finish the end and begin the beginning," Vogel writes in her artist's statement. "I see the human hand as a source of creation. When a community joins together to lift a Torah scroll high, their hopes for a repaired world are hoisted high."

## NCJW Launches Missouri Action Network

The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) in Missouri has launched an effective new system through which individuals can contact legislators and voice their concerns. The Missouri Action Network uses a point/click software program that gives users the ability to send timely emails to state legislators on important legislation, making advocacy easier in Missouri. No more "cut and paste" or working to identify your legislator. The Missouri Action Network automatically districts its members and sends your message to the appropriate decision maker.

By signing up for the Missouri Action Network, users will be alerted to current progressive legislation in the state and have an opportunity to advocate directly to their legislators. NCJW's agenda for social change covers a range of issues that include health care reform, separation of religion and state, reproductive rights, funding for programs and services for those in need, immigration and gun control.

To sign up to receive legislative alerts and take action, go to [www.ncjwstl.org](http://www.ncjwstl.org), click on the link to the MO Action Network and submit your contact information. Alerts are sent no more than once a week.

Missouri legislators have told NCJW that just a few emails from constituents cause them to take notice of an issue. They also report that progressive advocates are not always vocal and need to make their opinions heard more often.

Join Missouri Action Network now...and let your voice be heard!



National Council of Jewish Women

## Electronics Recycling

*Sunday, September 13, 1:00 to 5:00 pm at CRC*

Over 20 million televisions and 47 million computers are discarded yearly. Most of these end up in landfills. This e-waste, which also includes phones, printers, DVD players, and much more, contains toxic materials. Lead, mercury and arsenic are just a few of the chemicals that leach from electronic equipment into the water, soil and air. These toxins can harm our health and the environment. The dangers of lead are well known, and 40 percent of the lead in US landfills comes from electronics.

Save your electronic items and bring them to the CRC Electronics Recycling Event. E-waste collected at this event will be fixed and put back into the community for educational use, or disposed of properly. This event is organized by Jake Tarr, who celebrates his bar mitzvah on October 17.



Please bring computers, monitors, printers, cables and peripherals (keyboards, mice, etc.) | Networking equipment, server, home phones, cell phone | Televisions, VCR's, DVD players, stereos, satellite boxes | Typewriters, calculators, cameras, camcorders | Home electronics, blenders, toasters, irons, washers, dryers, dishwashers | Lawn equipment, tools, mowers, tillers, etc. | VHS, DVD, Cassette, CD, and all types of data tapes; computer software | Car and lead-containing batteries and items.

Most other electronic devices are taken. A complete list can be found at [www.witsinc.org](http://www.witsinc.org). No paints, tires, chemicals or furniture. Recycling Fees: Monitors, LCD, and laptops = \$5; TV's = \$10-\$20 depending on size; appliances microwave size and larger or items with freon = \$5. All Donations are tax deductible. Fees cover appropriate recycling of potentially hazardous materials in some items.

## Rabbi Susan Leads Memorial Service at New Mount Sinai Cemetary

*Sunday, September 27, 12:00 noon*

The service is free and open to the public. The names of those who were interred at New Mt. Sinai since last year's service will be published in the service booklet.

## "Poverty: Changing the Paradigm"

"Poverty: Changing the Paradigm" will be a series of Social Responsibility Shabbat services and supporting programs designed to help us gain a deeper understanding of poverty issues in St. Louis and what we can do as a community to help.

Unless otherwise noted, all programs are Social Responsibility Shabbat programs, which take place the second Friday of the month during our 7:30 pm Shabbat service.

*Monday, September 28:* Yom Kippur Afternoon Break-Out Session: Delving Into Poverty Issues (after morning services)

*Friday, October 9:* Housing Challenges

*Friday, November 13:* Hunger

*Friday, December 11:* Social Responsibility Shabbat & First Night of Chanukah: Interactive Family Program

*Sunday, December 13, 10:00 am:* Poverty Simulation at CRC

*Friday, January 8:* Health Issues & How They Contribute to Poverty

*Friday, February 12:* Education Disparities

*Friday, March 12:* Employment Barriers

*Friday, April 9:* Building a Long Spoons Coalition: How Our Tax Structure Affects Missouri Families

*Date TBA:* Culmination: Congregational Discussion