



The Illuminator

Or Emet, Minnesota Congregation for Humanistic Judaism

Harriet Maza to Visit Or Emet

Harriet Maza, Society for Humanistic Judaism, will be visiting Or Emet on September 6-7, 2003. Our Education Committee has been working tirelessly to coordinate this visit and our Program Committee has planned a wonderful dinner and social evening with Harriet, so that the entire congregation can meet her. This will be the fourth SHJ grant visit to Or Emet.

The details are being finalized right now and will be published in our Fall issue.

Program and Education Calendars

The Program and Education Committees are wrapping up the calendars for our 2003-2004 year. Each group will have it's own calendar in the Fall issue of The Illuminator with full details of upcoming programs and classes.

Contact Information: If you want information on any of our programs, or have any questions or want to know more about our Sunday School, here is a list of contacts with their email addresses:

- Program Committee
Janet Mayer, Chair
jmayer@unique-software.com
- High Holiday Committee
Faith Oremland, Chair
outrageouslove@aol.com
- Education Committee
Reuben Lubka, Chair
rlubka@mn.rr.com
- President
Michael Persellin
mperse@spacestar.com
- Vice President
Phil Griffin
philgriffin1st@cs.com
- Newsletter
Susan Herman
dsherman1168@comcast.net
- Administrator
Nancy Holden
d.n.holden@comcast.net

Sponsorship Directory

We are adding a great new feature to The Illuminator this year...a Sponsorship Directory.

Sponsors will be advertising their businesses with us. One business card ad will cost \$100 for the year...that's four issues of The Illuminator.

If you or any of your friends would like to be a sponsor, contact Susan Herman at 651.698.3421 or via email at dsherman1168@comcast.net. The sponsorship revenues will offset the costs of publishing and mailing The Illuminator which

means we will have additional funds for our programs and Sunday School.

President's Message

It is our annual summer breather. Behind the scenes, however, volunteers are working harder than ever to create a schedule of programs for the 2003-2004 season. Our Education Committee is in full gear. Harriet Maza, Education Director for the Society of Humanistic Judaism, will be with us on the weekend of September



6-7 to work with the Committee and our teachers. Incidentally, the visit will be the last of the Community Development Grant visits that began when Harriet was with us last summer. We are taking the big step to two scheduled children's programs a month. In this way, we will be able to provide more curricula as well as cultural and social justice activities.

High Holiday services will be as follows: Rosh Hashanah - September 27th, Erev Yom Kippur - October 5th, Yom Kippur Day Service and Break the Fast - October 6th.

Our High Holidays Committee provides richer holiday programs every year.

We are very proud of our recent b'nei mitzvoth, Julia Wolfe and Elana Dahlager. Others will soon follow in their footsteps.



Our Programming Committee is committed to giving us quality Friday and Sunday programs. We also have an Executive Committee of the highest quality. You will also notice this year an improved and enriched newsletter. We are all volunteers, with the exception of our administrator, Nancy Holden, who somehow holds Or Emet together. Of course, this is not exceptional - all congregations are volunteer-driven. Our growth is real - we will very soon have more than 50 paid memberships. I am acutely aware, even so, that our volunteers are of the highest quality. The devotion of time, energy, and intellect amazes and gratifies all of us and we cannot thank every one of you enough. See you in September.



Mike Persellin



Announcements

Mazoltov

Faith and Steve Oremland have welcomed a new member to their ever growing family...a new grandchild. Faith has already spent time with the new addition, so be sure to ask her to see the pictures.

Get Well Wishes

Muriel Stern underwent knee surgery on July 25th. While she is on the mend she is homebound. Give her a call, send her a card or note to brighten her day.

The Gift that Keeps on Giving

Or Emet has received an anonymous gift of \$100, in honor of Michal Persellin's second year as president of our congregation. The donors want to share their pride in all that Mike has done for Or Emet.



The Illuminator

The Illuminator is published quarterly. All relevant submissions are welcomed and must be in electronic format. Photos are accepted but cannot be returned. For advertising information, please contact Susan Herman 651.698.3421 or dsherman1168@comcast.net

Londer to Speak at Twin Cities Humanists Meeting

Haorid Londer, one of Or Emet's co-founders, will be giving a presentation on humanistic judaism to the at First Unitarian society in November. The Illuminator will provide details on the exact date and location when the information becomes available.

Call for Articles and Submissions

The Illuminator is looking for writers and correspondents to contribute articles. We are particularly looking for submissions from our younger members. The subject should be relevant to the Humanistic Judaism community and not more than four paragraphs in length.

With all the turmoil in the world today, how would you solve the problems of wars, genocide and political unrest? What does our history teaches us about today's events?

Send your articles and submissions to The Illuminator's editor, Susan Herman at dsherman1168@comcast.net.



Did you know...

Our congregation is made up of:

- 35% Family members
- 32.5% Families with children in our Sunday School
- 32.5% Single members

We live all over not just Twin Cities:

- 30% Minneapolis
- 14% Golden Valley
- 14% St. Paul

The rest are from:

- ◆ Bloomington
- ◆ Eagan
- ◆ Eden Prairie
- ◆ Fridley
- ◆ Hampton
- ◆ Hopkins
- ◆ Maple Grove
- ◆ Robbinsdale
- ◆ Roseville
- ◆ St. Louis Park
- ◆ Stillwater

How well do you know Or Emet?

The most common first name is David...we have five adult members. There are two Al[i]ans [but they don't spell it the same way].

Last year Or Emet celebrated it's tin anniversary. Do you know how many years that is? That's a decade. We were founded in 1992.

79% of our members use email...two of them even have two email addresses.

