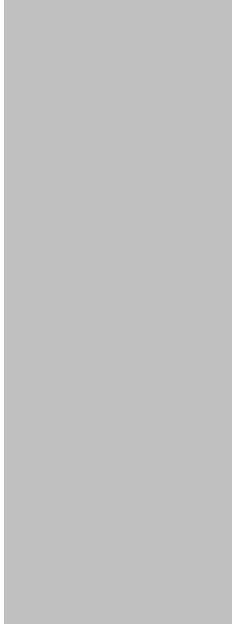


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January 2004

The following excerpts from the **Lamp** are available for your review:

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From the Desk of Rabbi David E. Fass *Youth*

It wasn't only the girls, though that was certainly a part of it. It was also the boys, new friends I didn't go to school with every day. It was the hanging out at Temple without parental hassle when they heard where we were going, the creative services that we wrote and presented to each other and often to the whole congregation. It was the food and the programs and the youth leaders who knew how to relate to youth as well as how to lead. It was the weekend conclaves and institutes, the sleeping in houses in other communities, the huge noise two hundred kids make singing and clapping after meals, the new friends from around the state and then around the country. It was all that and more that kept me Jewish through the adolescent angst of high school and college. It was youth group.

We want it to be that way for your children, too. Our wonderful youth program, so ably led by Amy SaNogueira, provides the kind of Jewish experiences that form such a crucial part of our children's life-long Jewish identity. We are one of the few Temples lucky enough to have our own Youth House where our kids can meet and hang out and program and be Jewish together...

Senior High is not the time to start. We ought to begin the youth group experience, the peer learning, the group dynamics, and all the rest, as early as possible. Fifth grade is not too early. Some temples even begin at a rudimentary level as soon as a child enters the Hebrew School. Our excellent Senior Youth Group program needs to be extended downwards as far as possible. Would you like to be involved, and to get your kids involved? Speak with our Youth Director, Amy SaNogueira (354-0762) and/or the head of our Youth Activities Committee, Mark Schreiber (356-0045).

Join us in adding significantly to an already wonderful program. We want to make it wonderful for even more of our children. Give them a really Jewish gift: get them involved with Youth Group!

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Cantor's Notes

Please, mark your Calendars!!!! On Shabbat evening, February 6, the Klezmers are BACK!!! Last year on Shabbat Shira (Sabbath of Song) we all enjoyed the Klezmer's group from Brooklyn. It was one of our most exciting events with singing, dancing and a lot of joy. Following the requests of those who came to "sing and dance" that night we invited this wonderful group to spend another evening with us!! They will not only entertain us following services, but will participate in the service as well. I am sure that all of you who heard them last year will want to come again. If for some reason you weren't able to come last year, don't miss this opportunity. Those of you who may be planning a Bar/Bat Mitzvah party or wedding in the future would definitely want to see this group. Nothing can enhance a Jewish party better than great Jewish music. Come and enjoy what promises to be a wonderful evening!

On February 3rd and 10th I will be teaching two adult education classes. This time we will be talking about the development of the Cantorate in the United States throughout the 20th Century. Together we will watch excerpts from the performances of the leading Cantors (chazzanim) of our time. We will be joined by my colleague and friend Cantor Michael Shochet as he takes us on a never-before-seen tour of the modern Cantorate. Visiting synagogues from New York to Los Angeles, Baltimore to San Diego, New Orleans to Chicago, you will see, hear and explore the ancient calling of the unique cantorial art.

I would like to use this opportunity to wish you all a happy, healthy and peaceful Calendar Year!

Cantor Schwartz

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