

Why Do the Rabbis Want Us to Say 100 Brachot Every Day?

To make sure thanksgiving is part and parcel with our Jewish practice, we ritualize thankfulness in every *hatima* that ends our liturgical prayers: Blessed are you, Holy One, who brings the evening, who creates the day, who gives wisdom, who...

There are countless things to be thankful for and far more than 100 ways to respond. Take the grand sweet gum tree whose five fingered leaves glow bright green in the morning light. Each leaf is an earthly star turning dark and then light again as the clouds pass overhead. The blessing is spontaneous, heartfelt: "Blessed are you God

who also puts stars on trees." Every day has these moments, these opportunities for us to stop and realize that we have plenty to be thankful for.

What if every time we experienced the surprise of biting into a new kind of apple or of driving down a scenic country road we took a moment to express our thanks? "Blessed are you Adonai, king of the universe who gives me a gift every time I turn a corner."

Of course, Shabbat is a designated twenty-four hour span of intensive thankfulness that occurs every week. At Temple Or Olam, we make a point of trying to

expand our Shabbat-consciousness. The rabbi reminds parents not to forego the pleasure of blessing their children on Friday night. We take a moment in our Kabbalat Shabbat service to ask what revelation, what wonder, what blessing we may have received during the preceding week.

Thankfulness is year-round, every day, 100 times a day. Happy Thanksgiving!

Temple Or Olam serves University City, Harrisburg, and Cabarrus County, and is an independent congregation where Dr. Barbara Thiede, senior rabbinic student with ALEPH (the Alliance

for Jewish Renewal) leads two Shabbat services each month. For information on our services, please visit our website, www.or-olam.org and subscribe to our mailing list. You can also email us at info@or-olam.org, or call 704-720-7577. ☆



Temple Israel Honors Life Presidents: November 13

Temple Israel will honor our Life Presidents at Shabbat services. These are: I.D. Blumenthal z"l, Sol Levine, Hugo Rosenberger z"l, Harry L. Schwartz z"l, Isaac Ashendorf z"l, William Gorelick, Robert Abel, Morris Speizman z"l, Sol Jaffa z"l, Aaron Gleiberman z"l, David Miller, Ben Jaffa, Sr. z"l, Sam Strause, Jerome Levin, Steve Hockfield, Sam Bernstein (z"l-zichronam livrakha-of blessed memory).

Following services, a wonderful Kiddush luncheon will be served. The entire congregation is encouraged to attend services that morning and invited to stay for the luncheon.

As part of the tribute, a keepsake 8 1/2" x 11" soft cover journal containing pictures of the Honorary Life Presidents, together with biographical and service information for each will be produced for distribution to the congregation, free of charge. Nationally known artist and local Charlotte resident, Paul Rousso, is

designing a piece of art especially for the occasion that will be reproduced as the journal's cover.

Temple Israel Adult Education Series

Conversations with Dr. James Howell of Myers Park United Methodist Church and Rabbi Ezring:

Angels and Demons in Jewish and Christian Tradition: Tuesday, November 9 at Myers Park UMC, 7 PM

Did Biblical Miracles Really Happen?: Tuesday, November 16 at Temple Israel, 7 PM

Classes are free and all are welcome.

PALS Hanukkah Event, November 28 at 10:30 AM

For more information contact Rabbi Faith Cantor at 704-362-2796.

Temple Hanukkah Events

We have a full schedule of Hanukkah events for all ages. November 28, we invite young families to join us for the PALS pre-Hanukkah program.



Wednesday night, December 1, we invite the entire congregation to join Rabbi, Ezring, Rabbi Cantor, Cantor Roochvarg, the choir, special guests and Temple Israel's Consolidated Hebrew High School students to light the first candle, sing our favorite Hanukkah songs, and taste the sweetness of Hanukkah treats. The celebration begins at 7 PM.

Friday evening, December 3 we will host a special candle lighting followed by services at 5:45 PM and a wonderful Hanukkah Shabbat Dinner, highlighted by stories and songs.

Sunday, December 5 the Temple Israel Social Club will host its annual Hanukkah lunch.

Tuesday evening, December 7 Temple Israel Religious School will host a special Hanukkah assembly for the families of the school.

The Temple Israel Social Club

We invite active couples and singles, affiliated with Charlotte area synagogues, to join our social group. Meet friendly people and enjoy our interesting programs and trips. Call Janine Rosner at 704-366-5631 for more information. Join us on Sunday, December 5 at 12:30 PM for our Annual Hanukkah Luncheon with entertainment. ☆

Temple Israel Book Club DAY AFTER NIGHT BY ANITA DIAMANT Monday, November 15, 7:30 PM, Temple Israel

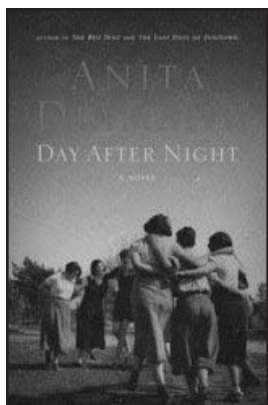
Historical fiction readers tend to be pulled into a story and are often compelled to search for more information about the incidents depicted. Such is the case with Anita Diamant's *Day After Night*. Based on the true story of the October 1945 rescue of more than two hundred prisoners from the Artit internment camp - a prison for "illegal" immigrants run by the British military near the Mediterranean coast south of Haifa, *Day After Night* tells the stories of four young Jewish women, survivors of four different kinds of hell and how they grapple with a new life in a new land.

Described as "an astutely imagined story ... Diamant opens a window into a time of sadness, confusion, and optimism that has resonance for so much that's both triumphant and troubling in modern Jewish history."

Readers may remember Diamant as the author of the compelling *The Red Tent*, a TI book club favorite.

Day After Night is available at the public library, the Levine-Sklut Judaic Library and local book stores for about \$15, making it relatively easy to obtain a copy for discussion at the November 15 book club meeting.

Temple Israel book club meetings are open to all members of the community, including "drop-ins" and those who haven't read the book. For additional information contact Linda Levy at 704/366-6362/levyollie@aol.com. ☆



WADDELL & REED
Financial Advisors™

Providing

PERSONAL FINANCIAL PLANNING

Investing. With a plan.®

For more than 70 years

Waddell & Reed, Inc. Member SIPC

Jennifer Sperry, CFP(R)
Financial Advisor
5950 Fairview Rd.
Suite 200
Charlotte, NC 28210
(704) 553-7220 x 127
jsperry@wradvisors.com

8985 (06/09)

Healthy Alternative to Holiday Stress

Zero Gravity Recliner with leg extension

Lifeform® Ultimate Executive Mid Back Office Chair

Inversion Table

RELAX THE BACK **PARK TOWNE VILLAGE**
4435 PARK ROAD
Between Montford & Woodlawn
Near Starbucks
704-523-3377 relaxtheback.com

feel better, work better, live better