

Temple Israel  
**9th Grade Kallah Program**  
**2009 - 2010**



**Providing Jewish Answers to Teens' Questions**

**Welcome!** The 9th Grade Kallah program uses informal Jewish education techniques to teach Jewish kids about making choices about life. Using safe spaces (Camp TEKO and Temple Israel) to explore the issues that adolescents confront on a daily basis, instructors are able to "break down" barriers that teens normally construct when in their normal environments. They then can talk about issues in a beneficial way with concerned and caring people utilizing Jewish values as a guide. Programs are FUN, educational, and applicable to adolescent life. The program this year consists of nine required events. There is a combination of day and weekend retreats to help fit everyone's busy schedules. Below you will find a description of each retreat's theme.

We are looking forward to creating a unique sense of Jewish community through study, worship, and service.

L'Shalom,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Bomberg', written in a cursive style.

Tracy Bomberg  
9<sup>th</sup> Grade Kallah Program Director

Rabbi Jared H. Saks  
Rabbinic Dean



## 2009 - 2010 Kallah Dates & Topics



Below is the curriculum for the 2009-2010 academic year. Dates and topics are subject to change. The timing for each event and its location are listed with the program, below.

**Wednesday, September 2, 2009 (6:30-7:30 p.m. at Temple Israel)**

### **Kallah Parent/Guardian Orientation**

**All parents and/or guardians are required to attend.**

Parents are invited to join Tracy Bomberg, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Kallah Program Director and Rabbi Saks, Rabbinic Dean for an introduction to the Kallah program. During this time, we will discuss some of the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Kallah programming and answer your questions.

**September 11-13, 2009 (Fri., 6 p.m.-Sun., 10 a.m. at Camp TEKO)**

### **Kallah 1: Kehillah Kedoshah - Creating a Holy Community**

During this retreat we will examine some of the different aspects of community. We will participate in community building activities and take a close look at the characteristics of Jewish community, the qualities that make a leader and the responsibilities of belonging to a community. We will also discuss the ways in which the Jewish community comes together in times of celebration and sorrow.

**October 3, 2009 (9am-5pm at Camp TEKO)**

### **Kallah 2: B'tzelem Elohim - Created in the Divine Image**

The Torah tells us that we are all created in the Divine Image, yet the messages we receive daily from popular culture tell us a different story about our bodies. In this session we explore the tension that arises when we try to reconcile these often opposing viewpoints, and discuss which ones tend to hold more sway in our daily lives. Through Torah study, discussion and fun activities, we will articulate what it means to "look not at the label, but at what is in the bottle" (*Pirke Avot* 4:27).

**November 7, 2008 (9am-5pm at Camp TEKO)**

### **Kallah 3: Bein Adam l'Atzmo - How We Relate to Ourselves**

Over this Kallah weekend we will delve into the difficult realm of substance abuse and addiction. With the support of peers and Kallah staff we will take a look at the world of drugs and alcohol to which many teenagers are having their first exposure, whether through television, friends or even personal experience. We will ask ourselves what Judaism tells us about how to treat our bodies, and what the consequences of drug and alcohol use are on our life, body and community. We will use group work, staff-led conversations and worship to think about making healthy choices from a Jewish perspective.

**December 12, 2009 (9am-5pm at Camp TEKO)**

Kallah 4: Bein Adam l'Olam – How We Relate to Communities Around Us

Jewish communities have always existed in the midst of populations different from ourselves. Some of these communities have faced conflict, while others learned to coexist peacefully. At this kallah, we will explore our relationship as a Jewish community with other cultures and other faith communities.

**January 9, 2010 (9am-5pm at Temple Israel)**

Kallah 5: Shlichei Tzibbur – Local Jewish Stars

At this kallah, our teens will have the opportunity to spend time with prominent members of the Jewish community in fields such as music, art, athletics, fine dining and other areas of interest. Each teen will pick one of the fields, a list of which will be provided in advance of the kallah, and spend the day in a master class that would not be available elsewhere.

**February 13, 2010 (2pm-6pm at Temple Israel)**

Kallah 6: Family Education Seminar: “Saving a Life is Saving the Whole World”

**This event is required for all 9<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents and/or guardians.**

During this family education seminar we will discuss the issues surrounding teen depression and suicide. Parents, guardians, students and staff will join together along with an expert in the field to study and discuss ways that we can help one another. Dinner will be served.

**March 12-13, 2010 (Fri., 6 p.m.-Sat., 8 p.m. at Camp TEKO)**

Kallah 7, part 1: Bein Adam l'Chavero – How We Relate to Each Other

This weekend we will ask all the hard-to-ask questions about sex and sexuality: Can hooking up be holy? How do we make ethical, informed and responsible choices regarding sex? How can Judaism guide us in making these choices? What are the consequences of poor choices? Where can we turn for help making choices in the Jewish community or elsewhere? We'll learn that we don't need “friends with benefits” if we know that friends *are* benefits! In a safe, supportive environment, we will discuss these questions and more, relying on Jewish values and community to help us discuss some of the trickiest topics of adolescence. *This won't be your high school health class – it's not a kallah to miss!*

**April 10, 2010 (Saturday, 11:30a.m.-3:30pm at Camp TEKO)**

Kallah 7, part 2: Bein Adam l'Chavero – How We Relate to Each Other

**This event is required for all 9<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents and/or guardians.**

During this 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Kallah Family Education Lunch and Learn, Scott Fried will be joining us and teaching the teens about everything the teens have always wanted to know about sex, STIs and growing up, but were never really taught. Meanwhile, parents will work with Rabbi Saks and talk about creating a sexual ethic with which to raise their teens.

**April 16-17 (Fri., 5 p.m.-Sat., 8 a.m. at Plymouth Congregational Church)**

Kallah 8: Night on the Street

*Fundraising is an important part of this event.*

**This event is open to all 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders at Temple Israel.**

“Night on the Street” is a powerful interfaith event where youth of a variety of faiths speak with one voice against homelessness by sleeping out and raising money for affordable housing. We’ll learn from others who have lived on the street and challenge ourselves to put our faith into action. The parking lot of Plymouth Congregational Church will be filled with cardboard boxes – each box housing a teen sleeping out to help end homelessness. School classmates of our students often attend with their churches. *Spend a night on the street so somebody else doesn’t have to!*

**May 8 (9am-5pm at Camp TEKO)**

Kallah 9: Bein Adam l’Makom – How We Relate to God

This last kallah and final event will provide an opportunity for us to examine how we have grown into Jewish adults and how our relationship with Judaism has flourish over the course of the year. At this kallah, we will explore how we relate to God through personal belief, community participation, and ritual observance and culminate the year in celebration.

### **Ninth Grade Kallah Program – Guide for Parents**

- Participants are expected to arrive at all events on time and stay for the full duration of each event.
- Transportation
  - Busing is available for each kallah held at Camp TEKO. We offer drop off and pick up at Temple Israel and the Sinclair Gas Station by Ridgedale Mall. You may also drop your child off and pick him/her up at Camp TEKO. You will receive information regarding pick-up/drop-off times prior to each event.
  - Parents will be expected to provide transportation for A Night on the Street. We are happy to help facilitate carpooling.
- Under extenuating circumstances, details of late arrivals or early departures must be approved by the Kallah Director, Tracy Bomberg, at least 48 hours before each event. Any participant who arrives late or leaves early must check in/out, along with his/her guardian, with Tracy.
- The Kallah staff must have prior written notification if someone other than a participant’s parent/guardian will be picking up the participant.
- Attendance: All participants are required to attend all scheduled programs. In the case of an absence Tracy Bomberg, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Kallah Program Director and Rabbi Saks, Rabbinic Dean will work with the students to make up missed requirements. Make up assignments must be completed by the last Kallah.
- All medication must be submitted to the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Kallah Program Director and be in a prescription bottle or original package, including a note from the participant’s parent/guardian outlining its use.

## **Kallah Staff**

The Kallah staff consists of a group of energetic young adults. They are dedicated members of the Jewish community and experienced in teen programming. They are led by Tracy Bomberg, Director of the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Kallah Program, and Rabbi Jared H. Saks, Rabbinic Dean.

### **Ninth Grade Kallah Program Packing List**

*This packing list is intended for each of the overnight retreats at Camp TEK0.*

- Two pairs of jeans
- Weather-appropriate jacket
- Sturdy, comfortable shoes, suitable for running
- Boots (Winter only)
- Two comfortable shirts
- A warm, long-sleeve shirt (i.e., denim, flannel, sweater, sweatshirt)
- Gloves and a hat (Winter only)
- Pajamas
- Warm socks
- Underwear
- Long underwear (Winter only)
- Toiletries
- Towel
- Medicine
- Sleeping bag or bedding
- Pillow
- Water bottle
- Musical Instruments

**Electronics and other valuables should be left at home for all 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Kallah events.**

## Kallah Overview

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Topic</b>
September 2	6:30-7:30 p.m.	Temple Israel	<u>Kallah Parent/Guardian Orientation</u>
September 11-13, 2009	5pm Friday - 11am Sunday	TEKO	<i>Kehillah Kedoshah - Creating a Holy Community</i>
October 3	9am-5pm	TEKO	<i>B'tzelem Elohim - Created in the Divine Image</i>
November 7	9am-5pm	TEKO	<i>Bein Adam l'Atzmo - How We Relate to Ourselves</i>
December 12	9am-5pm	TEKO	<i>Bein Adam l'Olam - How We Relate to the World</i>
January 9, 2010	9am-5pm	Temple Israel	<i>Shlichei Tzibbur - Local Jewish Stars</i>
February 13	2pm-6pm	Temple Israel	<i>Family Education Seminar: "Saving a Life is Saving the Whole World"</i>
March 12-13	5pm Friday - 8pm Saturday	TEKO	<i>Bein Adam l'Chavero - How We Relate to Each Other, part 1</i>
April 10	11:30am-3:30pm	TEKO	<i>Family Education Seminar: Bein Adam l'Chavero - How We Relate to Each Other, part 2</i>
April 16-17	5pm-8am	Plymouth Congregational Church	A Night on the Street
May 8	9am-5pm	TEKO	<i>Bein Adam l'Makom - How We Relate to God</i>

\*\*\*Please keep this page on your refrigerator for quick reference.\*\*\*



Temple Israel  
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TEMPLE ISRAEL  
2324 Emerson Ave S,  
Minneapolis, MN 55405  
612-377-8680    www.templeisrael.com