

With September just around the corner, Burlington's Temple Shalom Emeth is gearing up for another busy year beginning on Sunday, August 30 when the temple hosts two major events.

In the afternoon, Rabbi Susan Abramson is hosting the new **Chai Baby Meet-up**. The program is designed for parents of infants, toddlers, and pre-schoolers to meet regularly, share ideas and concerns, and make new friendships. *Chai Baby begins at 3:30 p.m*

Abramson said last week that as many as 13 families have contacted the temple about the new program. These young families are "good news for the future of the temple," said Abramson, the longest serving female rabbi in Massachusetts. She is beginning her 32nd year as the temple's rabbi, and is currently chair of the Burlington Clergy Association.

Abramson added, with a smile, that she officiated at the bar mitzvahs of two of the Chai Baby parents. The sense of family and community continues at our temple, she said.

Later on Aug. 30, the temple will host its annual **Open House**, where interested families can meet temple members, staff, board members and the rabbi, and discuss membership options. *The open house runs from 5 to 7 p.m.*

Membership co-chairs Shelly Lipman of Billerica and Caryn Eichenbaum of Woburn will be at the open house to answer questions.

There will be a complimentary pot luck dinner, an ice cream sundae bar, entertainment by a magician, an opportunity to make Jewish New Year's cards, and a shofar-blowing demonstration by Temple President Steve DiOrio of Billerica.

About Temple Shalom Emeth

Temple Shalom Emeth, which is beginning its 41st year in Burlington, offers a wide range of religious, social, and community services. Besides weekly religious services, it hosts special Chanukah services and events, an Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, a Purim Carnival, a Passover seder, an Israel Independence Day service, and monthly Shabbat services at Carleton-Willard Village in Bedford. The temple is located at 16 Lexington St.

Ongoing programs include Tot Shabbat, religious school, post confirmation classes, youth groups, adult education, FAAB (Free As A Bird) for empty-nesters, and sisterhood and brotherhood.

Temple members have been co-sponsoring a Christmas dinner for the Billerica Council on Aging for several years, and are planning their first trip to Israel in February.

Throughout the years, Abramson and the temple established the Stars of David, a support group for adoptive parents, and participated in bringing Soviet families to America. More recently, Abramson worked with town and community officials to respond to acts of anti-Semitism in Bedford.

Besides Burlington, temple members live in approximately 20 communities, including Bedford, Billerica, Woburn, Wilmington, and Reading.

For more information, contact the temple, 781-272-2351, or at tse11@verizon.net. The temple is on Facebook, or contact Abramson at rabbi.abramson@verizon.net.