

For Immediate Release

TEMPLE JUDEA TO HOLD 13th ANNUAL SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA/CANADA PROGRAM

Participants Join Over 70,000 North American Jews in Major Effort To Revitalize Sabbath Observance

On Friday night, March 20th, 2009 members of Temple Judea of Manhasset will gather in an unparalleled display of Jewish revitalization and Jewish unity. Conceived and organized by the National Jewish Outreach Program (NJOP) in 1997, Shabbat Across America/Canada represents a united effort by the entire Jewish community to renew interest in the fourth of the Ten Commandments – observing a weekly day of rest (Shabbat in Hebrew).

Scheduled to start at 6:00pm, Temple Judea is one of approximately 700 synagogues across the continent that will simultaneously open its doors to practicing and non-practicing Jews alike so they could join together to experience and rejoice in a traditional Shabbat service and festive meal. Over 600,000 people have participated in Shabbat Across America/Canada in the past.

Led by Rabbi Todd Chizner and Cantor Melissa Adleman, attendees will experience an interactive Friday night Explanatory Service and a traditional Shabbat dinner. The dinner will cost \$20 per adult and \$15 for children 12 and under.

“Shabbat Across America/Canada is an exciting and modern way of reintroducing friends and family members to a practice that has been with and **Shabbat Across America/Page 2**

unified our people for over 3,300 years,” says Arlene Ruderman, co-chair of the event. “We’re proud that Temple Judea can open this event to the community.”

Designed to teach a generation of Jews about the beauty and significance of the Jewish Sabbath, Shabbat Across America/Canada is the first nationally orchestrated program to appeal to members of all major Jewish denominations. It is also the first and only program aimed at uniting Jews across the United States and Canada through one single event. Shabbat Across America/Canada will take place in every city where there is a Jewish presence – from major Jewish geographical centers, such as New York, Los Angeles, and Toronto, to cities with smaller Jewish populations such as Lexington, KY, Portsmouth, NH, and Tacoma, WA.

The National Jewish Outreach Program was established in 1987 by Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald, and has become one of the world’s largest and most successful Jewish outreach organizations. NJOP offers free programs at more than 3,665 locations across North America and in 36 countries worldwide.

Temple Judea of Manhasset was established in 1955 and has over 500 member families. One of the few temples on Long Island that is completely handicapped accessible, Temple Judea is affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism. It is located at 333 Seasingtown Road, Manhasset. Please call (516)621-8049 for further information and visit its website at **temple-judea.com**.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Helen Weinstein
516-621-1882
salzhauer@aol.com