FAMILY OBLIGATIONS

FINANCIAL

In addition to the normal yearly fees of dues, religious school, capital assessment and, where applicable, Building Fund, you should anticipate the following expenses:

a) A Bar/Bat Mitzvah fee, which is set annually by the congregation. This one-time fee is inclusive; there are no further fees for regular Bar/Bat Mitzvah instruction, custodial services or other Temple support. This fee is billed the fiscal year following the one in which you receive your date assignment. Fees for an extended Kiddush, or building rental are additional and are billed during the fiscal year in which your *simcha* occurs. **You must be current in all financial obligations at least six weeks prior to your Bar/Bat Mitzvah date.**

Additional expenses you may incur:

a) Extended Kiddush (a simple Kiddush of wine and challah is provided by the congregation.)
b) Oneg Shabbat - when Bar/Bat Mitzvah takes place on Erev Shabbat, or if you wish to participate in the sponsorship of the Oneg Shabbat on the Erev Shabbat prior to the Shabbat service
c) Kippot (if being personalized)
d) Fee for use of Social Hall and kitchen for private reception
e) Contributions to a Temple fund in honor of the occasion

USHERING

To assure that your family and friends feel welcome and to give each family the opportunity to help another family, each Bar/Bat Mitzvah family is expected to serve as ushers at two or three Bar/Bat Mitzvah services, at least one to be completed prior to your child's becoming a Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Ushers are expected to greet worshipers, seat latecomers and maintain decorum during the service. Following the service, they collect books; pass out wine, white grape juice and challah. The Bar/Bat Mitzvah Kiddush Committee contacts you several months before your *simcha* to attend a meeting at which your responsibilities are explained in detail and dates for helping will be selected.

KIDDUSH AND REFRESHMENTS

A simple Kiddush consisting of wine (white grape juice for children) and challah for all those attending the service is provided by the congregation for both Shabbat morning and Shabbat afternoon services. Pastries, coffee, tea, punch or a simple buffet luncheon (extended Kiddush) are optional. The family of an Erev Shabbat Bar/Bat Mitzvah is expected to provide the traditional Friday evening Oneg Shabbat for the congregation; wine, challah, punch, coffee and pastries are the minimum requirements.

All private functions, including extended Kiddushim, luncheons, or dinners, must be scheduled in advance through the Temple office. Bar/Bat Mitzvah families who are sharing a date must confer with each other to insure equitable use of Temple facilities. If both families elect to have a simple Kiddush following the service, it must be held jointly. If both families desire an extended Kiddush, it can be shared or held separately. All questions concerning scheduling of Temple facilities should be directed to the Temple Administrator.

MAZON

Temple Beth Ami is committed to the work of MAZON, a Jewish response to hunger worldwide. It is suggested that 3% of everything spent on food for your *simcha* be donated to MAZON. Table cards, donation envelopes and additional information are available in the office.