

DESCRIPTION OF UNIONGRAM PROGRAM AT TEMPLE CONCORD, BINGHAMTON, NY

A mazel tov list is in every bulletin. The items are for happy events, such as weddings, engagements, b'nai mitzvot, Consecration, and etc. The information is obtained by Jean Hecht through various sources. These include donations at temple, the local newspaper, and Jean's contact with congregants. It is not uncommon to get information while at the grocery store.

The deadline for ordering is a week before the end of the month, although Jean always holds the list until the first of the following month before doing the Goldengram or Giant Uniongram, based on how many people have signed up for it.. There are about 20 people who have chosen to automatically be on every mazel tov, so they do not have to call.

A running balance is kept for each person signing up, and bills are sent in July and December each year. All congregants are welcome to participate and are very quick to sign up because the cost is so little.

Below is a sample of a list in each Shelanu (temple bulletin). Usually we have anywhere from 3 to 30 each month. The larger number is usually during graduation season.

DECEMBER 2011 MAZEL TOVS

- 1) Richard Matties on his 70th birthday,
- 2) Emily and Neil Rose on their new home in Estero, FL.
- 3) Barbara Thomas on her election to the National Board for Women of Reform Judaism.

Mazel tovs are 75¢ each. To order, contact Jean Hecht as follows: Call 798-7518, E-Mail to concordgal@aol.com, or send to 2612 Lynnhurst Drive, Vestal, NY 13850. When ordering, please make sure you indicate your name and circle which numbers you want. We will be happy to bill you. The deadline for ordering from this list is December 24, 2011. NAME_____

Following is a sample of what is sent out. The document I use is based on how many people have signed up. There is one other thing to note. I do this at home, and I use an Epson printer. You have to have a printer that will let the heavier stock of the Goldengram slide through. Also, the sentiments I use come from various Sisterhood publications and from things I make up. I change the fonts to get everything to fit.

Goldengram

Dear Dick,

Mazel tov from your friends at Temple Concord on your 70th birthday. We are thankful for your continued god health, and we wish you many more years of well-being and joy. May God grant you everything you desire.

Rabbi Barbara Goldman-Wartell and Cantor Kevin Wartell

Jean and Lewis Hecht

Barbara and Richard Simon

Temple Concord Brotherhood

Temple Concord Board of Trustees

Jane and Michael Zuckerman

Merri Pell-Preus and Tony Preus

Rachel and Eric Coker

Sue and Jerry Rosenstein

Barbara and Glen Thomas

Eileen and Richard Orringer