

Buffalo Jewish Community mourns the loss of Cantor Susan Wehle

2/13/09

The Temple Beth Am family expresses its sympathy to the family members of all those who lost their lives in the crash of Continental Airlines flight 3407. Susan Wehle, Cantor at Temple Beth Am, was on board and one of the 50 who lost their lives.



Cantor Susan Wehle has been serving Temple Beth Am of Williamsville, NY since November of 2002. Prior to that she was the Cantorial Soloist at Temple Sinai (Reconstructionist) of Amherst, NY for 9½ years.

In 2004, Susan received Cantorial Smicha from Aleph – the Movement for Jewish Renewal. She has a Bachelors Degree in Judaic Studies from the State University of New York at Buffalo, a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Theatre from the State University of New York at Buffalo, and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Acting from the Goodman School of Drama. She has performed with theatre companies in Buffalo, Chicago and New York City.

Susan has taught musical and spiritual workshops, has conducted youth and adult choirs, and has performed in concerts in the United States, Canada and Israel. She has recently released a CD called “Shirei Refuah v’Tikvah – Songs of Hope and Healing”.

She is the mother of two sons, Jonah and Jake and has two sisters, Eva Friedner and Dana Wehle, and a brother John Wehle.

Temple Beth Am will honor her memory at Erev Shabbat Service tonight, Friday, February 13, 2009 at 7:30 PM. The Service will be led by Rabbi Harry Rosenfeld from Temple Beth Zion, Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein from Temple Sinai, and Cantor Barbara Ostfeld.

Funeral arrangements have not been planned at this moment. Grief counselors from Jewish Family Service will be available for Temple Beth Am members, friends, and the community. Founded in 1955, Temple Beth Am is a mainstream Reform congregation that prides itself on being a “Family of Families.” The Temple offers a wide variety of religious services and spiritual opportunities to its members and anyone interested in exploring Jewish life. These include Erev Shabbat services, Shabbat morning worship and Torah study, High Holy Day and Festival services, youth-led and family Shabbat services, healing services and more.