

NOVEMBER
2018

OUR SHIR SHALOM

HESHVAN/KISLEV
5779



NOVEMBER SHABBAT WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Nov. 2	6:00 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship 6th Grade Service Oneg Shabbat
Nov. 3	10:30 am	Shabbat Morning Worship Bar Mitzvah- Adam Andrade
Nov. 9	5:30 pm 7:30 pm	Tot Shabbat / PJ Shabbat Kabbalat Shabbat Worship
Nov. 10	10:30 am	Shabbat Morning Worship Bat Mitzvah- Miranda Wein
Nov. 16	7:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat
Nov. 23	7:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat
Nov. 30	7:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat



CONGREGATION SHIR SHALOM

of Westchester and Fairfield Counties

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Lynn Broder & Hal Wolkin



In the past few months, the rabbi's and president's columns have been exploring the meaning and impact of community. We have discussed how to remain engaged and committed to the Shir Shalom community of which we are all a part, as well as the role of our congregation within the larger area in which we live. But what exactly is our role to be in the community at large?



One of the roles that we can and should play is to engage in respectful and productive civic discourse and to be meaningful contributors to the betterment of our world. This is one way to fulfill the important mitzvot of Tikkun Olam on a Tikkun daily basis, and one of the many

important themes Rabbi Reiner emphasized at the High Holidays. Civic engagement means promoting the quality of life in a community, through both political and non-political processes. But achieving this in a synagogue setting can be tricky.

As a general proposition, synagogues and clergy must remain non-partisan. But that doesn't mean that they can't take on issues that arise in the political sphere. As you may have noticed, we have been participating in a Get Out The Vote initiative that we began at the High Holidays to encourage us all to participate in the political process. As I so often hear, democracy is not a spectator sport - it is up to all of us to engage in the important work of keeping our democracy strong and healthy. One could even argue that it is a mitzvah to promote civic engagement and involvement within our Shir Shalom community, and to make sure that our collective voice is heard in our surrounding area.

The Torah served as the constitution for our ancient people. Ever since then, Jews have been important and active participants in all aspects of public life. Jewish citizens and leaders continue to function in their communities and in the political arena, in no small measure, on the basis of their political tradition, sometimes not knowing that we are functioning within a living tradition of our own or any tradition at all. In fact, there are many similarities in how Jewish institutions in Israel and the diaspora, present and past, participate in civic life.

It is not always easy to find new and exciting ways to promote civic engagement among our congregation. Lay leaders can and should work with clergy to find new ways to recharge our synagogues, strengthen our congregants Jewish identity, and engage meaningfully in democracy because, like the

(con't. page 13)

FROM RABBI REINER'S DESK



The annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Observance organized by the Ridgefield Clergy Association is one of the highlights of my year; it is wonderful to gather with my colleagues and the faith communities in our area

to celebrate a special holiday together. This year's celebration will be on Tuesday, November 20th at 7:30PM, hosted this year by Jesse Lee Church (207 Main Street, Ridgefield, CT). Although I would classify Thanksgiving as a civic holiday, the idea of expressing appreciation is deeply rooted in Torah. We are told many times to give thanks on festivals and even a daily basis – prayers for thanksgiving are included in the Amidah and recited regularly (traditionally three times a day!). Our first thanksgiving followed the exodus from Egypt: we are instructed in Deuteronomy 26, upon entering the Promised Land, to take the first fruits of the soil and offer them to God as a way of saying "thank you" for all the blessings we enjoy. A specific ritual follows, preserved in our Passover Seder, including the recitation of the text "My father was a fugitive Aramean. He went down to Egypt with meager numbers..."

Judaism offers us rituals to show our appreciation for the blessings we enjoy. The standard blessing before a meal with bread (hamotzi) gives thanks to God for "bringing forth bread from the earth." Whether or not we believe that God is responsible for the food on our plates, surely we can appreciate the effort required for our nourishment. Our tradition encourages us to take time to give thanks, not only for the food we consume, but for all the efforts that led to our meal. Our ancestors relied upon the rains to fall in

their seasons to nourish their crops, in ways that I am not sure we can every fully appreciate. Thanksgiving is an opportunity for us to remember all the blessings we enjoy and all that it takes for us to be nourished.

Years ago, my Hebrew professor, Tamar Fix, in college taught our class a "midrash" about Thanksgiving, turkey, and Christopher Columbus. This "fact" is far less researched than any historical narrative written by our own Lew Siegel, though it may be nice to share around your Thanksgiving table.

In 1492, Christopher Columbus sailed to explore the New World. The Jewish community was expelled from Spain that same year, and it is rumored that Columbus had some Jewish sailors on his ships. There are even theories by historians and scholars that Columbus was Jewish! Naturally, the Jewish sailors spoke Hebrew (setting aside that modern Hebrew was not revived as a spoken language until the late 19th Century!). When the ships arrived in the Americas they saw a fascinating new bird that looked a bit like a rooster. The sailors called this new bird a "tarnegol hodu," meaning "Indian rooster" because they thought they were in India. Over time, the name was shortened to "hodu" which is the common name for turkey meat in Israel today. Interestingly enough, the word "hodu" also means "praise" in Hebrew, the same root as the word "modim" or "hoda'ah" which we translate as "thanksgiving." And so, on Thanksgiving, we enjoy eating hodu (turkey) and giving hodu (thanks).

However you celebrate Thanksgiving, I hope that you enjoy a special celebration as we give thanks for so many blessings in our lives.

With warm wishes,
Rabbi David Reiner

The Early Childhood Center at Congregation Shir Shalom announces

Session 1: 10/2–12/18/2018

Session 2: 1/8–3/20/2019

Session 3: 3/26–6/5/2019

Practically Preschool

A program for Toddlers and a “Grown Up”

Wednesdays ONLY Session 1

from 9:15 to 10:30 A.M.

Drop Off Tuesdays sessions 2 and 3

9:15 to 11:15

Children participate alongside their grown-up partners—taking the lead once they feel comfortable and have an understanding of the routine of the class. Singing, art projects, a sensory table, a read-a-loud, and even more are packed into this first class experience



PRACTICALLY PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION

Child's Full Name _____ DOB _____

Parent's Name _____

Home Address _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Session 1: 10/2–12/18/2018 _____

Session 2: 1/8–3/20/2019 _____

Session 3: 3/26–6/5/2019 _____

Cost: Session 1—\$360 Cost Session 2—\$540 (2 days) Session 3—\$540 (2 days)

For more information, please contact Jane Emmer at JaneEmmer@ourshirshalom.org



46 Paconokla Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877 • 203-438-6589 • www.OurShirShalom.org

CANTOR'S CORNER



SPIRIT AND SOUL AT SHIR SHALOM

2018-19 (5779) FRIDAYS

December 7 — **CHANUKAH SONGS OF LIGHT
AND HOPE**

Mattan Klein, Israeli Jazz Flutist • 6 PM

January 18 — **IN HONOR OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
16TH ANNUAL SPIRITUALS SHABBAT**

Serendipity Chorale, Gigi Van Dyke, conductor
Keys Chorus, Rob Silvan, Director • 7 PM

March 22 — **A SUITE SHABBAT —A TRIBUTE
TO LEONARD BERNSTEIN**

Claire Simand, Dir of Wooster School Theater and Music
Caroline Chanin, mezzo soprano
Brian Besterman, piano
Bruce Sachs, vocals and piano • 7:30 PM

May 17 — **ISRAELI CELEBRATION**

Shlomo Shai, accordion • 7:30 PM

**RUACH SHABBAT—SPIRITED AND SOULFUL
WITH BETH STYLES AND MARK FINEBERG**



Oct. 12
March 1 Shabbat Across America
May 31



Nov. 2
Feb. 1
March 1 Shabbat Across America
May 3

Rabbi David Reiner
Cantor Deborah Katchko-Gray
Rabbi Jon Haddon, Emeritus
Shir Shalom Adult and Talented Teen Choirs



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FROM THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

by Leslie Gottlieb

According to a recent URJ newsletter bio: Mattan Berner-Kadish is a rising senior at the University of Maryland studying government and politics. This summer, he was on staff for URJ Camp Harlam's NFTY in Israel trip. Previously, he interned at the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism and worked as a staff assistant for the RAC's L'Taken Social Justice Seminars. In his free time, he learns languages, roots for Oakland sports teams and Arsenal, and argues about politics and rap music. Having noted all of this, one should consider that despite all of his involvement in Jewish life, Mattan is conflicted-- like many young Jews and millennials.

He writes, "My feelings for Israel are rooted in the history of my people, my family and my life, and spring from a deep well of affection. However, I can't ignore the reality that the government of this country does not feel the same way about me. I am a Reform Jew, a dual citizen of the US and Israel, a child of two mothers.... Yet, in the country that tells me it is my home, I watch as my Judaism is treated as lesser and fake, families like mine are de-legitimized and denied equality, and my political views are deemed as traitorous. The Jewish state is deciding which Jews it is for and who it represents, and apparently none of the groups I am part of made the cut. This is not a eulogy. I have not changed my belief in and love for Israel, nor have I given up hope for its future. I hope that this piece will serve as a wake up call. Israel will be what we make it and will belong to those who fight for it."

As a parent, I have watched my three grown children-- all of whom experienced religious education through their high school years-- wrestle with the idea of Israel. Two of our three adult children have spent time there. Growing up in Brooklyn, our Orthodox shul-- and others-- helped organize early efforts to raise much-needed funds for the new State-- and we went door to door with collection tins to help a growing nation move into a more stable future. When my beloved grandfather, Sam, finally made a trip to Israel-- after arriving in America decades earlier racing ever westward as a child far away from the pogroms of Russia... he knelt on old shabby knees, on the then-dirt airstrip at Ben Gurion Airport, to kiss the earth. He arrived home with that story along with

a pair of ruby and gold earrings for me. Not long after that, we took a long hot subway ride to NYC so that he could buy me a brushed gold chai necklace that I would treasure for life. Israel was and is a part of me-- the same way Judaism is.

So how do we reconcile teaching our youth about such a place as Israel? All of our grades study Israel in some way starting with our kindergartners who use maps, live-streaming videos, texts, storybooks-- and so much more. We set up Face Time calls with Israeli kids and teens-- and prepare questions in advance for our students to maximize their peer interaction.

Our older students use the Socratic method for discussions that include their points of view once a foundation of information and understanding has been established that respects all views -- especially starting in grade six. It is then students learn about the early history of the Jewish people in great detail... leading up to the creation of the State of Israel moving past the Holocaust with serious study of this sad piece of history. Speakers and films help to give students a new exposure to their lessons.

In September, in their Judaic culture class, our grade 7 students examined a two-part lesson introduced by Jerusalem U entitled "From Here to There: The Jewish Journey from Eastern Europe." They saw a short film and discussed the anti-Semitism European Jews experienced in the 1800's. Discussion points centered on how they would have dealt with discrimination in those times and they talked about whether or not they saw these themes being played out today in their lives. At their next meeting they discussed concepts that included: freedom, religion, assimilation, socialism and Zionism.

Also as the school year unfolded, our grade 6 students discussed early religions and times that included the life of Jesus and early Christianity, as it relates to Judaism. They defined the concept of the Diaspora. Important vocabulary terms were shared so that students could foster an intelligent conversation that included history, as we know it, and how it affected Jews who lived throughout the ages. In their prior lesson, the class talked about Abraham as the father of monotheism and about the three Abrahamic religions. They discussed Herod and the building and destruction of the Second Temple. They spoke of the many architectural projects Herod initiated. They talked about the

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL , CONT.

Zealots and the uprising of 67 CE, the Jewish martyrs of Masada-- and contributions of the first-century Roman-Jewish scholar, Flavius Josephus.

There is a lot going on at the Religious School and we hope your children return home delighted with all of the special activities-- and enlightened by creative and thoughtful lessons. Our teachers spend countless hours off the scene working on these plans for all of the grade levels. Whether it's a marble-art painting project for sukkah decorations made by our RS monthly preschool program students in Practically Religious School—or a lesson in Maimonides' eight levels of tzedakah as it relates to our first unit on poverty in our new SAJE program for teens in grades 8-12 (Social Action as Jewish Education)-- we are all doing our part to make this experience as meaningful as possible for your children at all stages. Whether we are reading a storybook in grades K-3 called, A Moon for Moe and Mo about two friends... one Jewish and one Muslim child... by Jane Breskin Zalben and illustrated by Mehurdokht Amini-- or using a beautiful calendar produced by Acme supermarkets to celebrate Israel's 70th birthday, we are always looking for new materials to help us teach valuable lessons.

We hope our students will, like Mattan Berner-Kadish, one day feel empowered with knowledge to explore and register their own feelings about their Jewish connection to rituals, history and Israel, too.

We so greatly appreciate your support throughout the years they learn with us.



Community Shabbat Hop!

Join PJ Library as we hop through our diverse & vibrant local Jewish community. Enjoy Shabbat with your family.

Synagogue affiliation not required.
All are welcome.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9 | 5:30 PM

PJs for Everyone on Shabbat!

Congregation Shir Shalom
46 Peaceable Street, Ridgefield

**Come to services in your PJs &
donate a new pair of PJs for children ages 5-18**

Fun service, story, pizza and cookies!

Free and open to the public.

Contact monique@jewishphilanthropyct.org for more information.



Federation for Jewish Philanthropy
OF UPPER FAIRFIELD COUNTY



Join Us for our Monthly

Tot Shabbat

Joyful Service and Dinner

The fun begins at 5:30 pm.

November 9, 2018

December 7, 2018*

January 11, 2019

February 8, 2019

March 8, 2019

April 12, 2019

May 10, 2019

June 14, 2019

Please visit our website for additional events for families with young children.

*special Hanukkah intergenerational celebration

Ourshirshalom.org

RITUAL COMMITTEE

by Laurie Dubin and Michael Salpeter



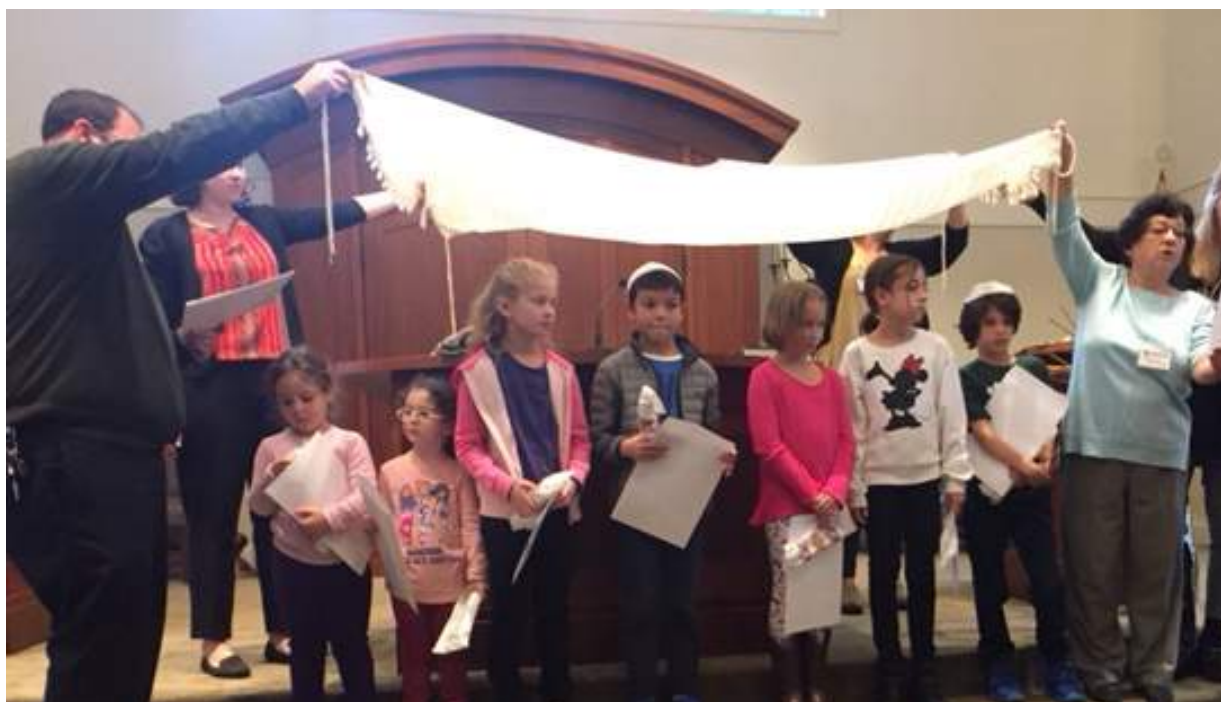
If you attended one of our High Holy Days services perhaps you noticed 2 of our *sifrei Torah* (Torah scrolls) that looked a bit atypical. In addition to the full-sized scrolls in our ark there is one which looks very small - some people have asked if this is a "real Torah"? The answer to this question is simply yes. The origin of this scroll is from the Soviet Union and arrived at Jewish Family Congregation in an interesting fashion. To the best of our knowledge this *sefer Torah* was written in czarist Russia during a time when Jews were being persecuted. The scroll was written on a small scale so as to be able to

hide it from week to week. Every word is completely accurate and although the calligraphy is very small it is written in a fashion that makes it legible, albeit with reading glasses or magnifiers for many of us. During the 1980's a Soviet Jew left to emigrate to Israel and brought this scroll with him. After living in Israel for a short period of time this person

placed an ad in a newspaper in Jerusalem, looking to sell this *sefer Torah* to raise needed money. The Mendell family who were congregational members were visiting Israel at that time, noticed the ad and arranged to purchase the scroll. They then brought the scroll back to the United States and donated it to the congregation.

As part of our *Neilah* service on Yom Kippur we instituted the custom of congregants being able to stand in front of an open ark to pray, contemplate or meditate. Rather than distract activities on the *bimah* we utilized the glass case in the back of the sanctuary that contains our Sephardic *sefer Torah*. There is something distinctly different about a Sephardic scroll, which is it is enclosed in a hard case. During the reading of the Torah it is stood up on the reader's table with the opening facing the congregation and the style of lettering looks somewhat Moorish in design. This particular scroll was written by a *sofer* (scribe) for Jewish Family Congregation, funds raised for its commission were donated by the *sofer* to finance the relocation of Jewish families from Iraq in the 1980s.

If you have some interest in examining these special scrolls please let our clergy or members of the ritual committee know and arrangements may be made to view them.





Please help us...
SHARE THE WARMTH
this Holiday Season
at the Community Center!

WE ARE CURRENTLY COLLECTING:

- ❖ NEW warm sleepwear
- ❖ NEW socks and slippers
- ❖ NEW hats, scarves and gloves

**FOR INFANTS, CHILDREN & YOUNG
ADULTS THROUGH 18 YEARS**



UNWRAPPED donations can be brought to:
COMMUNITY CENTER OF NORTHERN WESTCHESTER
84 Bedford Road, Katonah, NY
(914) 232-6572

TUESDAY thru FRIDAY 10 AM - 4 PM and SATURDAY 10 AM - 1 PM

- ❖ **Would you like to help with distribution**
- ❖ **here at the Center?**

Share the Warmth items will be distributed to our families in need during the month of December.

Call us at 914-232-6572 or email us at info@communitycenternw.org.

Thank you for helping to SHARE THE WARMTH this holiday season!

FROM THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

JANE EMMER



Programs for Families with Young Children

We have a wonderful Early Childhood Program that includes a rich curriculum to inspire learning and creativity. We offer extended day programs and try to meet the needs of many families. We celebrate Shabbat each Friday morning by welcoming all to our Young Community Shabbat festivities (11:30 am). Our goal is to open our doors as many times as we can to families with young children.

At Congregation Shir Shalom, we want to make sure that your whole family can celebrate Shabbat and more. That's why we have Jewish family and children's services and programs that can accommodate your growing family. At Tot Shabbat, we tailor our services to your little ones. We make Shabbat so enjoyable that your kids will ask to come back!

Please join us for PJ Library Tot Shabbat, Friday November 9th at 5:30, Pizza, Story-time, Cookies and Milk... ALL are encouraged to come in pajamas AND to bring new pajamas for children in foster care. We will be making "sweet dream" cards to go with our donations. RSVP to the office please.

What to Expect From Tot Shabbat Services

Our Tot Shabbat services take place on the second Friday of most months. Tot Shabbat is a bit more lively than the typical day of worship. You can expect singing and music that will keep your little ones engaged. We begin at 5:30 with a short musical service, a story and lots of singing. After our service we move to the pavilion to enjoy dinner and an activity led by our Shabbat Club. We teach about making the world a better place through a story and craft project.

And when your child "outgrows" Tot Shabbat we have something for them too... Shabbat Club (grades 2-5)

Shabbat Club "leaders" meet ½ hour before our Tot Shabbat service. They help set up and lead our Mitzvah themed activity. This is a great opportunity for young children to guide our very youngest. Each year it is a privilege to have a Bar or Bat Mitzvah student working with our director to plan and inspire this program. What a mitzvah!!

EXCERPTS IN JEWISH HISTORY

by Lewis Siegel

MUHAMMAD, THE KORAN, AND THE JEWS IN THE 7th CENTURY

The relationship between the Jewish people and Islam has been a complex one, with intermittent good and bad periods right up to the present time. It all began with Muhammad, the founder of Islam.

Muhammad was born in Mecca in 570 C.E., was orphaned as a young boy, and was raised by his grandfather, and then went to live with his uncle. When he was 25, Muhammad went to work for a 40 year old widow, who was a successful business woman, and he married her shortly afterwards. They had a successful marriage. But in the year 619 both his wife and uncle died. In the year 622 C.E., while meditating in a cave outside of Mecca, he had a vision in which the Angel Gabriel revealed to him that he would be a prophet of God. According to Islamic belief, this was when he made a night ride from Mecca to a distant place where he ascended to Heaven, received the word of God, and returned to Earth (Koran, Sura 17.1). The distant place described in the Koran was believed to be Jerusalem. Muhammad had developed a monotheistic belief that was at odds with the idol worshippers of Mecca. When he tried to build a following there for his teachings, his beliefs were vehemently rejected, and he and the followers that he had were forced to flee Mecca for safer grounds.

Muhammad traveled to Medina (formerly Yathrib), about 250 miles north of Mecca, where he found the atmosphere much more receptive to his prophecizing. He built an armed force, and probably in an act of revenge, returned temporarily to Mecca, and defeated the Meccan army in a battle at Badr. Muhammad and his forces then returned triumphantly to Medina.

There were three Jewish tribes in Medina at that time. Muhammad became entranced with Judaism and adapted some Jewish customs for himself and his followers, called Muslims (those who accept). They included fasting on Yom Kipper, observing the Sabbath, facing Jerusalem to pray, and observing dietary laws. Muhammad attempted to convince the Jews that he was their new prophet, but was rejected. According to the Arab historian of that time, Ibn Ishad, the Rabbis ridiculed him for his lack of knowledge. As a result, Muhammad changed some Muslim practices to: fasting in the month of Ramadan instead of Yom Kippur, and facing Mecca during

prayer. Some argue that Muhammad's vitriolic attitude towards the Jews was his suspicion that they were colluding with his enemies. However, a more compelling reason was that he was angry because they rejected him as their prophet.

The first Jewish tribe Muhammad turned his wrath on was the Bani Qaynuqa. He fought and defeated that tribe and exiled them from Medina. Then turned his attention to the Bani Nadir and had their leader, Ka'b ibn as-Ashraf assassinated. Muhammad's army attacked their fortress, and also forced them into exile.

Muhammad's action against the last Jewish tribe in Medina, the Quraiza, was not without some controversy. After the Meccans' bitter defeat at Badr, they re-organized their forces and attempted to lay siege to Medina. Muhammad, anticipating this, dug trenches around the city so that the Meccan cavalry forces were stymied when they tried to enter, and the Meccans were again defeated. Muhammad accused the Quraiza in particular of collusion with Meccans, which (according to some writers) may have been the case. However, Muhammad, having already disposed of two Jewish tribes, needed no excuse to eliminate the third. This time, instead of exiling the tribe, his army slaughtered all of the Jewish men and kept the women and children for themselves, although some were sold into slavery.

To illustrate Muslim hatred for the Jews at that time, the following hadith (a saying attributed to Muhammad but not found in the Koran) was written: "The last hour would not come unless the Muslims will fight against the Jews and the Muslims will kill them until the Jews would hide themselves behind a stone or a tree and a stone or a tree would say: 'Muslim, or the servant of Allah, there is a Jew behind me; come and kill him'." This hadith was incorporated into the Hamas Covenant of 1988.

THE KORAN The Koran (Quaran; meaning recitation), is the Islamic bible. It contains 114 sections called Suras. It was not written until some time after Muhammad's death, and according to Muslim tradition, contains the teachings of the Prophet received from God, which he had passed on orally. All 114 Suras except for one, begins with the words; In the name of Allah the merciful and the beneficent.

The Koran refers to the Jews throughout. It contains stories of Joseph, Jonah, and others generally in some convoluted form. Much of what it says about the Jews is derived from the Torah, and much of it is descriptive and not judgmental. Strangely, some sections contain complimentary statements about the Jews, yet many are extremely antagonistic. Perhaps the strongest of the antagonistic ones can be found in Sura 5.33 which reads: The punishment of those who wage war against Allah and His apostle and strive to make mischief in the land is only this, that they should be murdered or crucified or their hands and their feet should be cut off on opposite sides or they should be imprisoned". This most likely refers to the Jews who rejected Muhammad as their Prophet.

THE KORAN AND THE JEWISH CLAIM TO THE LAND OF ISRAEL

Here are two of the most intriguing passages in the Koran, Sura 5.20 and 5.21. They contain the following:

"And when Moses said unto his people: O my people! Remember Allah's favor unto you, how He placed among you Prophets, and he made you kings, and gave you that which He gave not to any other of His creatures. O my people! Go into the holy land that Allah hath ordained for you. Turn not in flight, for surely you turn back as losers".

It appears that the Koran clearly supports the Jewish claim to the land of Israel. There are Muslim scholars who also support this view **

References:

1. **Simon Rocker, What the Koran Says about the Land of Israel; The Jewish Chronicle, March 19, 2009
 2. Mitchell Bard, Muhammad, from The Jewish Virtual Library
 3. Wikipedia
- ** Sheikh Abdul Hadi Pallazzi and Sheikh Ahmad Adwan; "Does the Koran say that the Land of Israel is for the Jews?"; Nov. 10, 2016



"Excerpts in Jewish History" is a regular feature in our Shir Shalom newsletter, written by Lewis Siegel, who wrote a similar series for Focus, the newspaper of the Jewish Federation of Greater Danbury. He is also the author of A Brief History of Modern Israel and The Evolution of Zionism.

PRESIDENTS' ARTICLE, con't.

study of Torah, successful civic engagement requires continual learning and studying. According to the Torah, there is no such thing as an innocent bystander - when Jews engage in the public discourse as Jews, we should bring Jewish law and principles into the conversation in such a way as to enrich, rather than shut down, the discourse.

In this ever increasing world of partisan rhetoric and division along the political spectrum, we should all remember that our Shir Shalom community consists of many individuals with differing political positions and perspectives. But if we encourage and support meaningful discussion where we genuinely listen to one another, we can continue the Talmudic tradition of dialogue, in which various viewpoints are represented. Heated debates and messy conversations can eventually lead to a fuller understanding of the situation at hand.

Encouraging our congregants to engage in civic and social justice can help recharge our synagogue. As Rabbi Judith Schindler, the author of "Recharging Judaism-how civic engagement is good for synagogues Jews and America" wrote, "Actualizing our prayers by working for justice creates a Judaism of meaning and relevance for my congregants — and for me. My father and grandfather lived their Judaism fighting for the marginalized and oppressed. With their words and work, they saved lives and created greater justice, equity, equality, and peace." As we face the important upcoming elections, our hope is that we will continue the proud traditions of participation in civic society, and remind ourselves and the world that we are here to help, we have a voice, and we will make our voices heard.

We Appreciate Your Generosity

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General Fund

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Milton & Nina Primer	in honor of Rabbi Haddon
Leonard & Jackie Goldner	in honor of Jackie's birthday
Leonard & Jackie Goldner	in honor of Gale Berman, Lynn Broder & Hal Wolkin
Elyse Davis	in honor of Michael & Ronni Hammer
Leeam Lowin	
Arlene Burstein	with thanks and in memory of Rabbi Marcus Burstein

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Brian & Lisa Pollack	in honor of Jessica & Gregory Brushett's wedding
Jim & Marcia Carroll	
Wes & Betsy Higgins	in honor of Tessa becoming Bat Mitzvah

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

Jim & Marcia Carroll	
Wes & Betsy Higgins	in honor of Tessa becoming Bat Mitzvah

Education Fund

Wes & Betsy Higgins	in honor of Ruth Ossher
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Rabbi Emeritus Fund

Jeff & Leslie Colen	in honor of their wedding day
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Endowment Fund

Jeffrey Berg & Debra Paget	in honor of Jeff Klotz & Drew Hoffman
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Music Fund

Milton & Nina Primer	in honor of Cantor Katchko Gray
Allan & Alice Gottlieb	

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Joe Altman
Rafael Alvarez
Barbara Bangser
Sandra Barrett
Rick Barrett
Lori Bean
Evan Bender
Emily Brand
Ryan Brand
Jessica Brooks
Jeanine Bartley-Cohen
Reyna Cohen
Bobbie Cohan
Murray Darvick
Bonnie Dietzek
Matthew Emmer
Elaine Feldman
Peter Fine
Kiley Finke
Jake Frishman

Nina Gitlitz
Hildi Glicklich
Dylan Gottlieb
F. Scott Gray
Rachel Greenberg
Louis Haber
Robin Harris
Stephen Heit
Allison Hermon
Jason Hermon
Kenneth Hoffman
Kenneth Isman
Benjamin Kalish
Aaron Kaplan
Joel Kaplan
Evan Kaye
Lucas Kaye
Maxwell Kaye
Felice Kempler
Colby Kipnes

Asher Kipnes
Joseph Lash
Harrison Lavin
Emily Levi
Warren Lustig
Jake Margulies
Steven Meyers
Curt Murad
Wendy Murad
Jordan Neumann
Avery Omin
Harold Ossher
Joel Ossher
Daryl Pazer
Taylor Pazer
Alex Perry
Bruce Poushter
Suzie Rabinowitz
Noah Rappaport

Andrea Reiter
Gabby Rendon
Noah Ripps
Harry Rosenhouse
Callie Sacks
Rayn Schnell
Jessica Strom
David Strom
Adam Sussman
Barbara Tandler
Judy Vandervelden
Jay Walker
Sebastian Wallach
Sloan Wasserman
George Wasserman
Miranda Wein
Calvin Wein
Penelope Wein
Trudy Wood

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Brian & Sari Benson
Michael & Betsy Brand
Jeff & Heather Butchen

John Grzymala & Linda Lederman
Rabbi Jon & Jean Haddon
Barry & Marla Kay

Jeff & Linda Krulwich
David Sachs & Linda Shackelford
Eric Sherr & Michele Auerbach-Sherr



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NOVEMBER YAHRZEITEN

Friday, November 2nd, 2018

Gabrielle Berlinger	aunt of Richard Wetchler	Esther Fenster	sister of Murray Darvick
Denise Fuchs	mother of Hanky Kutscher	Bebe Garcia	sister of David Fiderer
Ruth Glick	aunt of Maggie Seligman	Helene Howard	stepmother of Laurie Dubin
Meyer Joseph	father of Barbara Tendler		

Friday, November 9th, 2018

Howard Cohlan	father of Rick Cohlan	Jay Davis	husband of Elyse Davis
Sheila Gitlitz	mother of Michael Gitlitz	Harold Heffler	father of Jay Heffler and Jill Teich
William Keleher	father of Catherine Mishkin	Sidney Klein	father of Karen Taylor
Irwin Krulwich	father of Jeffrey Krulwich	G. Leonard Lazarus	father of Lorraine Lazarus-Morley
Horst Leffkowitz		Samuel Mofson	grandfather of Bonnie Pazer
Rachel Rosenhouse	mother of Harry Rosenhouse	Marvin Schattner	
Hannah Schochet	mother of Sari Benson	Freda Shuler	mother of Robi Margolis
Edgar Strauss	father of Ellen Strauss	Jack Weiler	grandfather of Joshua Arnow

Friday, November 16th, 2018

Herbert Abraham	father of Vivian Hoffman	Gertrude Frankel	grandmother of Scott Brenner
David Hoffman	father of Drew Hoffman	Adele Kleinbaum	grandmother of Stacey Rubinfeld
Ruth Rothwax	aunt of Ken Kurzweil	Aline Lawrence	sister of Adrienne Orlan
Gladice Levenson	aunt of Elaine Gordon	Philip Levine	uncle of Joan Isman
Fannie Levy	mother of Richard Burg	Mordecai Lewittes	relative of Matthew Meister and Dafne Sanchez-Aldama
Gloria Maron	sister of Resa Fremed	Freda Ossher	mother of Harold Ossher
Anita Sax	mother of Liz Winson	Mae Wishod	mother of Gene Wishod

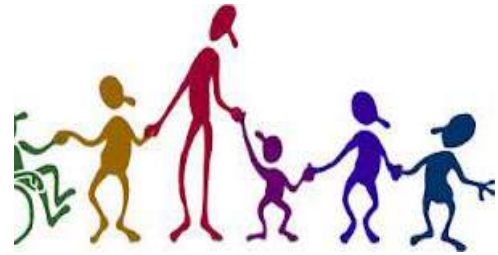
Friday, November 23rd, 2018

Morton Birnbaum		Ruth Fine	mother-in-law of Karen Fine-Shalett
Abraham Gordon	father of Elaine Gordon	David Kay	father of Barry Kay
Seth Lawrence	brother-in-law of Adrienne Orlan	Joseph Meister	relative of Matthew Meister and Dafne Sanchez-Aldama
Bernice Strauss	mother of Ellen Strauss		

Friday, November 30th

Esther Eber	grandmother of Lynn Becker	Ethel Feinleib	grandmother of Leslie Gottlieb
William Goldman		Louis Heit	grandfather of Stephen Heit
Jack Himoff		Herman Hoberman	grandfather of Meredith Sonnett
Frances Kempler	mother of Felice Kempler	Beatrice Krulwich	mother of Jeffrey Krulwich
Evelyn Kurzweil	mother of Ken Kurzweil	Lillian Lotstein	mother of Susan Lapine
Howard Malloy	father of Betsy Higgins	Seymour Needleman	father of Ken Needleman
Arlene Richner	aunt of Ellen Strauss	Jack Rosenstein	father of Ronni Colville
Norman Silverman	father of Marsha Antkies	Pauline Silverman	grandmother of Marsha Antkies
Peter Vandervelden	father of Steve Vandervelden	Fred Yolen	uncle of David Yolen

SOCIAL ACTION



SOCIAL ACTION NEWS

Debbie Lavin Amy Margulies Debbie Landzberg

Thank you to the congregation for your generous donations of non-perishable foods to our High Holiday Food Drive. We delivered 2,000 pounds of food to the Community Center of Northern Westchester (Katonah), the Daily Bread Food Pantry (Danbury) and the Ridgefield Food Pantry. Thanks to the 7th grade B'nai Mitzvah class and their parents who helped drive them to the Community Center where the kids stocked the shelves with over 1000 pounds of food. We had many kids and their parents help to distribute bags and receive them filled up at the High Holy Day services: Alisa and Eva Trachtenberg, Ethan and Jake Margulies, Nate, Micah and Aaron Cohen, Ben and Jacob Voellmicke, Michelle Blum & Family, Debbie and Lucy Landzberg, Haley Fiderer, Jordan Fiderer, Amanda Roberts. And some others jumped in to help at the last minute – sorry if we didn't include your names!

Volunteers are needed this month at the Daily Bread Food Pantry to help register clients for the Holiday food baskets, please email us if you can help. Thank you to the many volunteers who have helped in August and September: Jenn Castelhana, Bobbie Cohan, Alisa Glick, Christina Gogish, Julie Held, Cantor Debbie Katchko-Gray, Leslie Kramer, Debbie Landzberg, Debbie Lavin, Amy Margulies, Lynne Stark and Judy Vanderveldon.

Thanks to the volunteers who helped prepare a meal and serve it at the Dorothy Day Hospitality Center: Carrie Chanin, Eileen Segalman and Linda Hirschfeld. Volunteers are needed each month for this Sunday afternoon mitzvah.

And finally thanks to the team that has provided shabbat worship and study to the women at the Danbury Federal Corrections Institute: Rabbi Jon and Jean Haddon, Jackie Goldner and Resa Fremed.

We will be organizing a Breakfast Run to feed and clothe the homeless on Sunday, November 18. Volunteers are needed to prepare and pack up our supplies on a previous day, and to make egg sandwiches early on Nov 18 and then go on the Run early Sunday morning. Drivers are needed and 7th graders and up for participants. Email us at SocialAction@ourshirshalom.org to volunteer.

Coming soon in November!! Please participate in this meaningful
Social Action Committee event!

It's getting cold....help the homeless stay warm!

Support Shir Shalom's **Breakfast Run**

On November 18th, a group of volunteers will head to NYC to hand out food, clothing and toiletries to almost 100 individuals in need.

We ask that each family donate these new items:

- K – 2nd graders:** new warm socks (2 packages/each)
- 3rd - 5th graders:** new warm socks (3 pairs; dark or light)
- 6th graders:** new boxers (2-3 pairs, size S/M)
- 7th graders:** new boxers (2- 3 pairs; size L/XL)

Also, please consider donating the following GENTLY USED items:

- Men's hoodies/sweatshirts (S-XXL)
- Scarves
- Trial-sized toiletries (Shampoo & Conditioner needed)

**Please leave items in the marked boxes in the entryway
or send in a check!**

Payable to Shir Shalom and labeled "Breakfast Run"

We'll do the shopping!

For planning purposes, we would appreciate all donations by

Sunday, November 4th

If you have any questions or are interested in helping with our Run to NYC

contact SocialAction@OurShirShalom.org or margulies07@gmail.com

Thank you!



Holiday Food Drive 2018

START DATE: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2nd

The Community Center collects food and monetary donations so that hundreds of our neighbors in need can enjoy special holiday meals in November and December. Families begin receiving these items on the first of November.

Most needed are:

- **Frozen Turkeys (up to 12 lbs.)**
- **Frozen Turkey Breasts**
- **Frozen Roaster Chickens (6-7 lbs.)**
- **Flour (1 or 2 lb. bags)**
- **Sugar (1 or 2 lb. bags)**
- **Vegetable Oil (small bottle)**
- **Coffee (instant or ground)**
- **Tea Bags (small boxes)**
- **Hot Chocolate**
- **Butter Cookies or Shortbread**

Please bring donations beginning Tuesday, October 2nd to:

Community Center of Northern Westchester

84 Bedford Road, Katonah, NY 10536

Phone: (914) 232-6572

Hours: Tuesday - Friday 10 am - 4 pm, Saturday 10 am - 1 pm



For more information about us visit communitycenternw.org

Thank you for sharing with your neighbors in need this holiday season!

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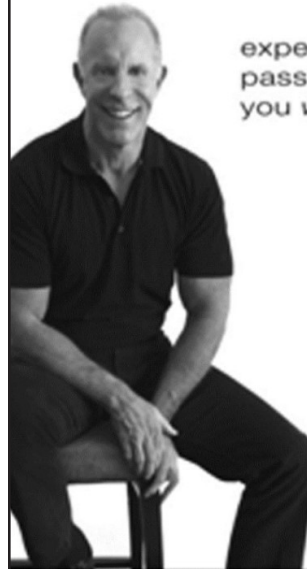
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trauma treatment, Oncology massage, pregnancy and post-natal massage, Myofascial Release, Reiki, and Hospice massage and energy work.

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NOVEMBER 2018

HESHVAN/KISLEV 5779

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 Religious School 7-9 pm- Mah Jong	2 11:30 am Young Community Shabbat 6:00 pm- Kabba- lat Shabbat with grade 6 service	3 9:00 am- Torah 101 10:30 am Shab- bat Morning Worship- Bar Mitzvah of Adam Andrade
4 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS- TURN CLOCKS BACK 1 hr. Religious School 9:15 am- Jewish Learning with Rabbi Emily 3:00 pm- Guest speaker, Arthur Kurzweil	5 9:15 am- ECC	6 9:15 am- ECC	7 9:15 am- ECC Religious School	8 Religious School 7-9 pm- Mah Jong	9 11:30 am Young Community Shabbat 5:30 pm Tot Shab- bat 2.0 7:30 pm- Kabbalat Shabbat-	10 10:30 am Shab- bat Morning Worship- Bat Mitzvah of Miranda Wein
11 NO Religious School	12 Office Closed- Veterans' Day NO ECC	13 9:15 am- ECC	14 9:15 am- ECC Religious School	15 Religious School Consecration 7-9 pm- Mah Jong	16 11:30 am Young Community Shabbat 7:30 pm- Kabbalat Shabbat	17 9:00 am- Torah 101
18 Religious School 12:15 pm- Jewish Learning with Rabbi Emily	19 9:15 am- ECC	20 9:15 am- ECC Interfaith Thanks- giving service- held off site; location & time to be announced	21 NO ECC NO Religious School	22 Thanksgiving- Building closed NO ECC NO Religious School	23 Office Closed NO ECC 7:30 pm- Kabbalat Shabbat	24

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