

JANUARY/FEBRUARY  
2019

# OUR SHIR SHALOM

TEVET / SHEVAT  
ADAR 1 5779



## JANUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

January 4	6:00 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat
January 5	5:00 pm	Shabbat Afternoon Worship Bat Mitzvah- Danielle Mazlish
January 11	5:30 pm 7:30 pm	Tot Shabbat 2.0 Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat
January 18	7:00 pm	Annual MLK Music Shabbat
January 25	7:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Oneg Shabbat

## FEBRUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

February 1	6:00 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Grade 4 Service Oneg Shabbat
February 2	10:30 am	Shabbat Morning Worship Bat Mitzvah- Iliana Hellinger
February 8	5:30 pm 7:30 pm	Tot Shabbat 2.0 Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat
February 9	10:00 am	Shabbat Morning Yoga
February 15	7:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat
February 22	7:30 pm-	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat

## CONGREGATION SHIR SHALOM

of Westchester and Fairfield Counties

46 Peaceable Street Ridgefield, CT 06877 Phone: (203)438-6589 Fax: (203)438-5488

### Cantor

Deborah Katchko-Gray  
CantorDebbie@OurShirShalom.org

### Religious School Director

Leslie Gottlieb  
Leslie@OurShirShalom.org

### Early Childhood Center Director

Jane Weil Emmer  
JaneEmmer@OurShirShalom.org

### Rabbi

David L. Reiner MAHL  
RabbiReiner@OurShirShalom.org

### Rabbi Emeritus

Jon Haddon D.D.  
RabbiHaddon@OurShirShalom.org

### Administrator

Laura Morris  
Laura@OurShirShalom.org

### Controller

Lori Stalowicz  
Lori@OurShirShalom.org



CONGREGATION  
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of Westchester and Fairfield Counties

46 Peaceable Street • Ridgefield, CT 06877  
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INTEGRATED REFUGEE  
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Join the East Coast's only Run for Refugees!

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**5K WINTER RUN|WALK**

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This scenic 5K journeys amid the glacial cliffs of New Haven's East Rock Park & includes a post-race party with live music & international cuisine.

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**[RunForRefugees.org](http://RunForRefugees.org)**

## FROM RABBI REINER'S DESK



I am pleased to share that during the Board Meeting on Thursday, December 13, our Board of Directors unanimously decided to join the HIAS (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society) "Welcome Campaign" to affirm our commitments to welcoming refugees to the United States

of America. Congregation Shir Shalom joins more than four hundred congregations and Jewish communities across our country (and ten Connecticut synagogues) in supporting the plight of refugees from around the world.

As members of the HIAS Welcome Campaign we are committed to taking action in support of refugees including educational programming, raising money to support refugees, and building partnerships to assist refugees in our area. We also affirmed a statement from HIAS including the following:

"With over 60 million people displaced from their homes worldwide, we see the plight of contemporary refugees as simultaneously an alarming global crisis and an issue that resonates very deeply with Jewish history and values. Throughout history, the Jewish people have been forced to flee persecution and seek safety in other lands. Throughout history, we have been refugees. Today, inspired by the biblical injunction to 'welcome the stranger,' our communities call upon the government of the United States to rise to the leadership that this crisis warrants...Once the Jewish community helped refugees because they were Jewish. Now we help refugees because we are Jewish."

Founded in 1881, HIAS was created "to assist Jews fleeing pogroms in Russia and Eastern Europe." Many families in our congregation arrived in the United States with the support of HIAS, in generations past and in recent years.

At this time of year our Torah readings re-

count the exodus of our ancestors from bondage in Egypt. We are reminded, again and again, of our responsibility to care for the *ger*—what we usually translate as "stranger." Some argue that this word is a reference to resident aliens, as the word "*ger*" can also be translated as "reside," but the context of the command is important to understand. The Torah narrative explains that we were *ger* in the land of *Mitzrayim* (Egypt), as it also explains how we were oppressed. We have known oppression and persecution and we have a sacred responsibility to support the "*ger*."

Joining the HIAS Welcome Campaign was initiated by our congregant, Carrie Chanin, who began meeting with a small group of interested friends to create our new *Welcome the Stranger Committee*. This new Committee is seeking volunteers as they partner with DARA (Danbury Area Refugee Association) to welcome a family of refugees from Columbia. Specifically, drivers, English tutors, babysitters, medical records organizers, even apartment decorators are needed. We are also planning a "Welcome the Stranger" Shabbat for Friday, April 5, 2019, to include participation from Religious School students and families and the Sisterhood. Rabbi Emily will be offering some opportunities for adult learning in the months ahead, focusing on Jewish social justice and refugees, as well as working with Religious School students and families in preparing for the service on April 5<sup>th</sup>.

Please contact Carrie Chanin ([CarolineChanin@gmail.com](mailto:CarolineChanin@gmail.com)) for more information or to join our efforts to Welcome the Stranger.

I am excited to be part of this important initiative in our sacred community as we engage in sacred work together.



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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### Our Shir Shalom Editor

*Laura Morris*  
[Laura@OurShirShalom.org](mailto:Laura@OurShirShalom.org)

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## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Lynn Broder



As we begin new year, I would like to wish a healthy and happy year to you and all your loved ones. I, like many others, begin each year with a renewed optimism for our own lives and the world around us. We set personal goals we wish to achieve in the coming year, and a resurrected spirit and hope that we can affect the change in the

world we want to see. I am not an overly optimistic person by nature, so this task is often difficult for me. But this year seems to be even more difficult than usual to find the hope and positivity I would like as we move forward.

After the murder of fellow Jews in Pittsburgh, I worried that 2018 would come to a close on a particularly dark note. In a year marked with many incidents of hateful graffiti, the tragedy in Pittsburgh seemed to embody all the evil and darkness in the human spirit. But if there was to be a silver lining, it was that we not only have the support of our vibrant Shir Shalom community, but also that we are part of a larger community that is always there for us—whether we have been an active participant all along, or maybe have been away for a while.

We came together with our neighbors of all faiths to support one another and remind our communities that love is always stronger than hate. As we lit the Chanukah candles a few weeks later, it reminded me that even when we feel the darkness, there is always light to shine our way to healing our broken hearts and preserving our humanity. Even though Chanukah is not a major holiday by religious standards, it's timing this year was particularly fortuitous. It helped us to end the year celebrating the possibility of light in dark times, and the importance of even small miracles.

Being part of a community, any community, helps us all not to feel so alone in the world. Research shows that participation in a community is an asset that we can carry with us as we navigate our lives. A friend recently shared with me that her (not particularly religious) son found himself in a town that had a particularly strong Christian identity. The people there were warm and welcoming, but he felt that he wanted to look for some Jewish community in the area to reach out to—not because he wanted to pray, or speak to G-d or celebrate holidays. What he was craving was the connection to people with a shared experience and value system. Without knowing anyone personally, he knew he could walk into any synagogue, or Hillel and share an instant bond with those found therein. When we are starting a new experience, moving to a new area or rebuilding our lives after a difficult transition, this small connection can be the seed that we need to plant a new life—one that we can then grow and nurture and expand beyond that original sprout. But we need to start somewhere.

(con't. page 12).

# HIAS WELCOME THE STRANGER CAMPAIGN

With over 425 Jewish congregations and communities from around the country, we at Shir Shalom have signed onto HIAS' *Welcome the Stranger Campaign* as an affirmative statement in support of welcoming refugees to the United States.

With over 60 million people displaced from their homes worldwide, we see the plight of contemporary refugees as simultaneously an alarming global crisis and an issue that resonates very deeply with Jewish history and values. Throughout history, we have been refugees. Today, inspired by the biblical injunction to "*Welcome the Stranger*," we comprise a powerful Jewish voice in support of refugees worldwide.

Once the Jewish community helped refugees because they were Jewish. Now we help refugees because we are Jewish.

Shir Shalom has formed a *Welcome the Stranger Committee*. We have lots of exciting ways that you and your families can get involved.

1. We are currently looking for volunteers to welcome a new family from Colombia. Even a small amount of time will go a long way! We need English tutors, drivers, apartment decorators, babysitters, medical records organizers, etc. We are partnering with DARA -- the Danbury Area Refugee Association. **Please visit [daract.org](http://daract.org) to sign up.** We will have a meeting of volunteers on Sunday, January 6. Stay tuned for details!

2. We will be taking part in a *Run for Refugees* on Sunday, Feb 3 in New Haven with live music, and international food. Bring the kids! This is a great family event! You can sign up: **[RunForRefugees.org](http://RunForRefugees.org)**

3. Our Sisterhood will be sponsoring a *Welcome the Stranger* Shabbat on Friday, April 5 at 6pm with our Hebrew School students and Sisterhood participating. Please join us for a very special Shabbat.

Thank you so much! Please contact [CarolineChanin@gmail.com](mailto:CarolineChanin@gmail.com) with any questions!

## The Diaspora Diners

(A Shir Shalom Dinner Party)



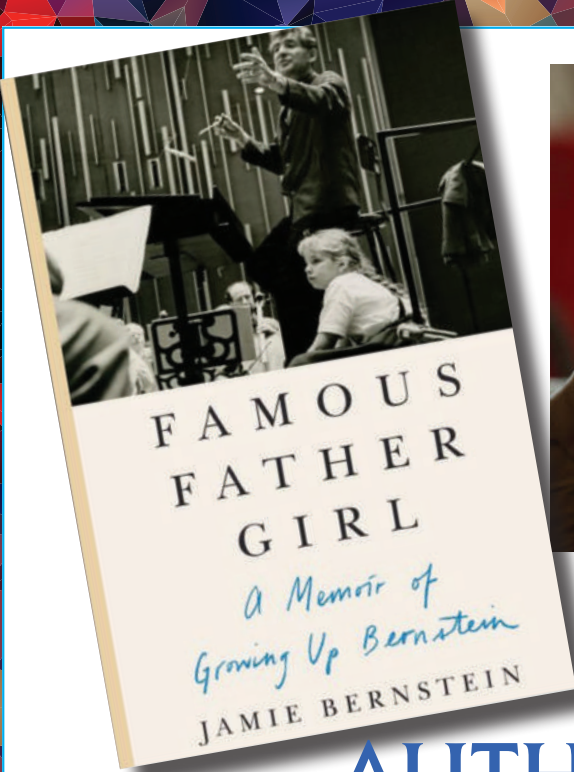
Want to discover some delightful delicacies from around the world while schmoozing with people from our congregation? Then the Shir Shalom dinner party is the answer to your prayers! Each couple/single will bring a dish and a bottle of wine. Not sure what to bring? No problem, we can provide recipes. This month we will be preparing South American & Central American Jewish Food. No major time commitment necessary. Please let me know if you are interested in hosting a future event.

**Saturday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm**

**(Snow date: Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup>)**

For more information, contact Alisa Trachtenberg: e-mail: [alisaglick@gmail.com](mailto:alisaglick@gmail.com); cell: 203-918-0455

# Celebrate Jewish Arts and Culture at Congregation Shir Shalom



Jamie Bernstein, author of  
*Famous Father Girl*

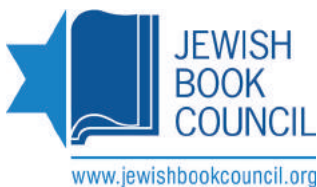
## AUTHOR TALK at Congregation Shir Shalom

Sunday, April 28, 2 pm

Jamie Bernstein, the author of *Famous Father Girl*, will  
speak about herself and her father.

Special musical-themed refreshments will be served.

Co-sponsored by  
Federation for Jewish Philanthropy  
of Upper Fairfield County



[www.jewishbookcouncil.org](http://www.jewishbookcouncil.org)



Federation for Jewish Philanthropy  
OF UPPER FAIRFIELD COUNTY



## CANTOR'S CORNER



## Celebrating the Music of Leonard Bernstein- at Shir Shalom

March 22nd & April 28th

Last year was the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary birthday of the beloved American composer, Leonard Bernstein; a teacher and pianist who infused his work with his Jewish roots.

Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990) was only 26 when he stepped onto the stage and conducted the NY Philharmonic stepping in for an ailing Bruno Walter. The previously unknown assistant became instantly beloved and well known for his artistry, brilliance, passion and excellence. Bernstein is the most well-known of all Jewish composers, conductors and teachers enveloping a wide variety of musical forms.

Leonard Bernstein was inspired by his childhood cantor (gee, don't I love that fact!). In 1926 at Mishkan Tefila in then Roxbury, MA, he said in an 1989 interview "I felt something stir within me, as though I were becoming subconsciously aware of music as my *raison d'être*." He went on to write some twenty works on Jewish themes, including Symphony no. 3 (Kaddish), Chichester Psalms, Jeremiah, and an obscure Yigdal we will sing at Shir Shalom on March 22. He infused Jewish flavor in many of his famous works including musicals, West Side Story, On The Town, Candide, The Age of Anxiety. Come to Shir Shalom to sing, hear and learn more about the fascinating Leonard Bernstein-

### Friday March 22 A Suite Shabbat- A Tribute to Leonard Bernstein

Claire Sinard, Director of Wooster School Theater and Music

Caroline Chanin, beloved mezzo-soprano

Brian Besterman, piano

Sunday April 28 2pm and 4pm

**2pm:** Jamie Bernstein, daughter of Leonard Bernstein discusses her book, *Famous Father Girl, A Memoir of Growing up Bernstein*

Co-sponsored by Federation for Jewish Philanthropy of Upper Fairfield County. After refreshments you are invited to attend a gala Cantors Concert

**4pm:** The Music of Leonard Bernstein with CT Cantors. Cantors from Greenwich to Westport and in between will share their favorite Bernstein songs. Proceeds will benefit the Cantors Assembly, the world's largest organization of cantors.

In his own words, "What are the Jewish roots I long for? Nostalgia for youth? Guilt towards my father? First real cultural exposure? First real music I heard (Braslavsky) Solomon G. Braslavsky, the organist and music director during Bernstein's youth at Temple Mishkan Tefila, and an accomplished synagogue composer (previously active in Vienna). Seeking a larger identity- with a race of creed? - with a supernatural force? Seeking any identity? Common roots with siblings? "

May his memory and name be a blessing. May we sing his music and come closer to know him and all the gifts he bestowed upon us during his lifetime.

Cantor Deborah Katchko-Gray

## Please Welcome Our Newest Members!

### Sally and Doug Slater

Sally and Doug make their home in Bedford, NY and have two adult children and two grandsons. We look forward to getting to know them better.



## FROM THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

by Leslie Gottlieb

Recently, we had a houseguest who hails from Russia, but has lived in the U.S. for twenty years. In the early part of December, she remarked, showing great disappointment in her face, that our home had no festive lights, no tree and no garland displayed. She overlooked the chanukiyah on the dining room table probably thinking it was simply a pretty home decoration. I told her we are Jewish and that we do not celebrate Christmas at our home-- although we do help our friends and family members celebrate their holiday to make it more special. She just couldn't understand me at all. She shook her head and said that the holiday is not religious and that everyone puts up lights and trees. I answered in a different way this time and said that we are not Christian and left it at that. She looked sorry for me.

Although Chanukah was *many* weeks ago, some of the concepts surrounding the holiday --and holiday observance, in general-- are interesting to reflect upon all year long. Writer, Michael David Lukas—a Jew-- wrote a piece in *The Sunday Times Opinion* section recently titled, *The Hypocrisy of Hanukkah*. The subtext reads: It's a holiday that commemorates an ancient battle against assimilation. And it's the one holiday that most assimilated Jews celebrate. I found this idea very provocative.

Responding to a request to celebrate Christmas by his three-year old daughter, Lukas tells his readers, "Like generations of Jewish parents before me, I did my best to sell her on the merits of Hanukkah. True, Christmas might have those sparkly trees, ornaments and fruitcake. But we have latkes, jelly donuts and eight nights of presents." He continues to share his deep feelings about a holiday that celebrates, to him, "religious fundamentalism and violence." So he went on a research journey to learn more....

As he found out from the modern scholars he researched, the Maccabees were a band of isolated Jews who tried (and succeeded) to protect their way of life from a more Hellenized Jewish experience for those who were assimilating into Greek life and culture. Then he internalized the meaning of this-- realizing that he would have been more like one of *those* secular Jews who fit into modern culture more than that of the zealots living in the hills. Also, he married outside his faith-- and struggled with many of the traditions of his own heritage.

As parents, we clearly face a more complicated relationship and responsibility with respect to honoring our religious traditions as we are forging the path for the next generation. We have to be honest with ourselves first because our children need us to support *in actions* what we say we stand for in our lives. At the Religious School, we have to work with parents in a sensitive way to make sure we are espousing the Reform Jewish principles we support as a community.

Ultimately, Lukas decided, this year, to "embrace Hanukkah in all its contradictions. When I light the candles, I'm going to celebrate the light in dark times, the importance of even the smallest of miracles."

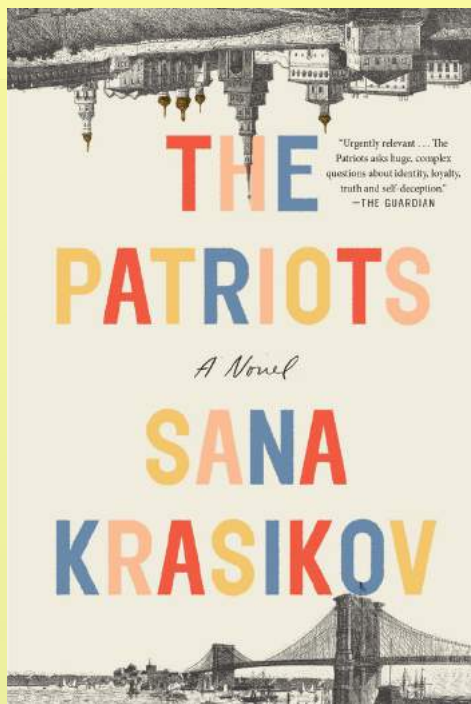
Again, as parents we have to tread carefully as we prepare the next generation—reflecting on our own views and values before feeling comfortable passing them along. Jewish education faces another challenge as many families observe different religious traditions. A lot of thought needs to go into the presentation of information—especially at holiday time. At the school, we need to and do respect the traditions of *all of our* families.

According to Rabbi Sandi Intraub who wrote a piece for the URJ about the difficulty families face for those who celebrate Jewish *and* other holidays, the writer explains, "What you do this year does not have to be what you do every year. Experiment, see how it feels, reflect, and then decide if you want to do it again. When you put pressure on yourselves to decide whether or not to incorporate a tradition in your family for the next generation, it forces you to make decisions that might not really be right for this year and are not really appropriate for future years either. As your family grows and changes, you will have different needs, and can make different kinds of decisions each year, as long as you have a respectful dialogue and can arrive at decisions that meet all your changing needs."

The discussion about religious traditions and observances is especially strong in December, *but we face these kinds of questions all year long*. We need to be good listeners to make sure everyone's ideas and opinions matter. At the school, we are supporting our families by being inclusive-- after sharing Jewish traditions that make our holidays unique. As we move into Purim and Passover in the coming months, we look forward to an ongoing dialogue as we find ourselves assimilated in a world filled with other beautiful cultures, yet holding fast to our own.



## Congregation Shir Shalom presents Author Talk with Sana Krasikov



**Award winning author Sana Krasikov presents the true story behind her  
new novel "The Patriots".**

*THE PATRIOTS: An idealistic young American woman heads for the Soviet Union in 1934, with consequences that reverberate through three generations of one Jewish family. An epic that takes us from Stalin's era to America to the oil-rich world of New Russia.*

**Sunday, January 27 at 3 PM**

***Slavic/Yankee Melange Nosh to be served.***

Donation \$10

***Let us know you are coming by emailing [AdultProgramming@OurShirShalom.org](mailto:AdultProgramming@OurShirShalom.org)***



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## Our Early Childhood Center is always busy...



ENTER CAPTION HERE



**Jane Emmer**  
Director, ECC



## RITUAL COMMITTEE

by Laurie Dubin and Michael Salpeter



The weeks following the festival of Chanukah are quiet ones in the Jewish calendar. **Tu B'Shevat** is on January 21. Tu B'shevat is one of the four "new year" celebrations in the Hebrew calendar along with Rosh Hashanah, Passover and the first day of Elul. Tu B'Shevat is a minor Jewish holiday which may have basis in the biblical text, but is developed and understood through the writings of the Talmud and other rabbinical literature. The fifteenth of the month of Shevat has almost no ritual impact. It has acquired a secular life as a day when trees are planted by individuals, especially school children. It is also the time when the Jewish National Fund and local authorities in Israel ramp up their

campaign for afforestation. During the month of Shevat (January-February) despite the cold in Israel, the fruit trees begin to flower, starting with the almond tree.

**Purim**, a biblical celebration in early spring, occurs on 14 Adar (March 21) commemorating the deliverance of beleaguered Jewry in the Persian Empire as recounted in the Scroll of Esther. This festival compensates for the solemnity of many other Jewish observances by mandating merriment. Children (and adults) don costumes, and a festive reading of the Scroll of Esther is marked by noisemakers sounded whenever the villain Haman's name is recited. Customs include eating Hamantaschen, delivering food parcels, and giving charity are the most common. Details about Shir Shalom's Purim festivities will appear in e-mail blasts closer to the date.

The Ritual Committee welcomes individuals who wish to participate in planning holiday celebrations and Shabbat. We would love to hear your thoughts and benefit from your expertise to create meaningful worship and fellowship moments for our temple family.





## CONGREGANTS COMMITTEE

## ADULT PROGRAMMING

NEW from **THE CONGREGANTS COMMITTEE:**

Have you heard about the newest committee at Shir Shalom? It's the Congregant's Committee. What is the Congregant's Committee? We are a group of congregants who are interested in attracting and welcoming new congregants and recognizing the needs and interests of all of our congregants as well as working towards developing and deepening relationships between congregants and our Shir Shalom. Our committee members include, Bobbie Cohan, chair, Jessica Aframe, Jen Carter, Andrea De Lange, Polly Schnell and Terry Henry, Board liaison. Thank you to these committee members who are taking a role on this new committee. If you are interested in joining us or if you have any suggestions for the strengthening of our community or for attracting prospective congregants please contact Bobbie Cohan at rmcbjc@aol.com. We would love to hear from you.



## Adult Programming

On March 24<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM Menache Khaimov will tell us of the history and culture of the Bukharian Jewish community. One of the oldest ethnic groups along the "Silk Road", some say that the Bukharians are descended from the Tribes of Naphtali and Issachar, of the Lost Tribes of Israel. Now most of the community is gone from Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan and has developed a unique culture in Queens. Journey there with us!

## PRESIDENT'S ARTICLE (con't.)

Harvard psychologists Jacqueline Olds and Richard S. Schwartz, who wrote a book called The Lonely American, noticed that it is increasingly difficult for us to maintain meaningful bonds due to increased career demands and more job insecurity, which leads people to invest less effort in establishing close connections with friends and neighbors. In order to form a community we need to stay in the same location for at least two years and engage in joint projects with people we see on a biweekly basis in order to achieve a mission, concluding that sticking with these efforts will

As I have often said to friends, being part of the Shir Shalom community is like an insurance

policy for the soul and spirit. All homeowners would agree that it is prudent to buy fire insurance for your home, knowing that it is unlikely that your house will burn to the ground, but if the unlikely should happen, you will need the tools to rebuild. For those of you who don't regularly attend services, or participate in social action or programming, or have a child in the religious school, your continued investment in our community is an important safety net for those times, that unfortunately we all experience, when we need the support of a loving and caring community that will lift us up, and help us carry on with no questions asked—that is our Shir Shalom.

## 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](mailto:JaneEmmer@ourshirshalom.org)



**CONGREGATION  
SHIR SHALOM**

at Wadsworth and Fairfield Courtyards

46 Putnamville Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877 • 203-438-6589 • [www.OurShirShalom.org](http://www.OurShirShalom.org)

## EXCERPTS IN JEWISH HISTORY

by Lewis Siegel

## A MAN CALLED MANNY

Manny was just a nickname. His real name wouldn't mean anything to most people today. His appearance was also not terribly impressive—he was short and somewhat stocky. Manny was born in Romania in 1893. His family immigrated to New York City when he was nine years old. He grew up on the Lower East Side of Manhattan, and attended City College of New York. During World War I Manny enlisted in the United States Navy, but was never sent overseas. His initial intention of becoming a lawyer was overshadowed by the appeal of the movie industry, so he made an entire career for himself in film when he moved from New York to California.

Over the years, Manny accumulated quite a fortune in the movie business, much of which he would use very generously. After the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941, Manny, being the patriotic American that he was, tried to enlist in the U.S. Armed Forces, despite the fact that he was almost 50 years old. He was rejected but found other ways to support the war effort. In 1942, Manny offered his services to the Office of War information (OWI). Since he spoke seven languages, he was sent overseas to England where he gave many morale speeches to the British, and broadcasts in six different languages to countries overtaken by the Nazis. In July 1944, he traveled to Normandy, shortly after the Allied invasion, to provide entertainment for the troops overseas. Manny personally gave \$100,000 to the USO.

Manny contributed huge sums of money to many war organizations. In 1942 he had given his entire income for that year to the war effort. His donations went to the China War Relief, Hollywood Canteen, Medical Aid to Russia, and many other funds. Several years ago there were rumors that Manny supported the French Resistance with large sums of money, but there has been no confirmation that this actually took place. Manny did contribute an estimated \$250,000 to war organizations between 1939 and 1949. Later in the war, he returned home and continued his war effort by traveling to defense

plants and shipyards and giving inspirational talks to the workers.

After the war, Manny's continued his involvement in organizations to help people. He gave talks urging rights for all Americans, particularly equality for Black individuals who suffered from discrimination. He endorsed the Fair Employment Practices Commission that called for an end to discrimination in the workplace. Black leaders praised him as one of their great friends.

Manny's generosity backfired on him in the early 1950's when House Un-American Activities summoned him to explain why he had contributed to several Communist Front Organizations in the 1930's and 1940's. Manny sincerely believed that Russia was an ally of the United States particularly in the 1940's, when they were both fighting the Nazis. Eventually, Manny's name was cleared when it was apparent that Manny had been deceived by the Communist organizations.

Manny was married twice, in 1927 and 1958, and divorced both times. He was a great art lover and amassed a fortune in great works of art, but was forced to sell his art collection to help pay for his second divorce. When Manny died in 1973, 1500 people attended his funeral.

So who was Manny? His real name was Emmanuel Goldenberg, a name that would hardly mean anything to just about anyone. However, he is certainly well known to movie audiences all over the world as the famous actor, Edward G. Robinson.



*"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.*



## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Kate Alvarez  
 Jamie Aries  
 Tina August  
 Ike Axler  
 Lisa Baran  
 Sofia Barth  
 Gabriela Barth  
 Talia Bender  
 Rachel Bender  
 Katie Berman  
 Gale Berman  
 Cecelia Bersch  
 Andrew Blum  
 Michelle Blum  
 Noah Broder  
 Lawrence Brooks  
 Robyn Cohen  
 Karen Conti  
 Pamela Corrie  
 Lauren Craw  
 Serafima Dashevskaya  
 Landon Deutsch  
 Rachel Dewar  
 Allison Dietzek  
 Regan Dufner  
 Ryan Edson  
 Beverly Freidenrich  
 Eric Freidenrich  
 Resa Fremed  
 Samson Friedman  
 Christina Gogish  
 Jeffrey Gorelick  
 Jimmy Haber  
 Ian Harris  
 Wes Higgins  
 Betsy Higgins  
 Barbara Hisiger  
 Gregory Hoffman  
 Marla Kay  
 Sara Kay  
 Kimberly Knispel

Rosalind Kopfstein  
 Anne Kupferschmid  
 Kenneth Kurzweil  
 Eric Kutscher  
 Henriette Kutscher  
 Martin Kutscher  
 Charlotte Landzberg  
 Deborah Landzberg  
 Ellen Lipton  
 Jordan Lipton  
 Jennifer Litwin  
 Aron Hirt-Manheimer  
 Gayle Mazlish  
 Douglas Mazlish  
 Richard Mishkin  
 Sam Mishkin  
 Sophie Needleman  
 Bonnie Pazer  
 Matt Polinsky  
 Alexander Rich  
 Lillian Roberts  
 Sandra Rosenhouse  
 Stacey Rubinfeld  
 Bruce Sacks  
 Michael Salpeter  
 Rona Salpeter  
 Brice Scanlon  
 Annabel Schwartz  
 Judith Shapiro  
 Arielle Shaplen  
 Eric Sherr  
 Lew Siegel  
 Traci Silva  
 Brett Stein  
 Jason Stein  
 Suzanne Sunday  
 Riannah Wallach  
 Charlie Yolen  
 Victoria Yolen  
 Joey Zimmerman

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Bruce Aleman  
 Elizabeth Amerling  
 Sadie Baran  
 Karina Barth  
 Blake Berg  
 Lowell Berg  
 Joshua Blum  
 Rebecca Brand  
 Evan Brenner  
 Carrie Broder  
 Pearla Brown  
 Jeffrey Burns  
 Jeff Butchen  
 Jennifer Carter  
 Ellie Carter  
 Daylin Chess  
 Samara Cotumaccio  
 Eliza Craw  
 Ross Davis  
 Julie deLange  
 Danielle Dietzek  
 Alan Dietzek  
 Andrew Dufner  
 Victoria Friedman  
 Leah Friedman  
 Ilya Gogish  
 Margie Gorelick  
 Cantor Katchko-Gray  
 Kylee Harris  
 Skyler Harris  
 Iliana Hellinger  
 Jacob Hellinger  
 Drew Hoffman

Lauren Hubsher  
 Sierra Hubsher  
 Willow Hubsher  
 Asher Hughes  
 Caleb Kaufman  
 Hannah Klotz  
 Hanna Kurtz  
 Jacob Lash  
 Lauren Leong  
 Catherine Lipper  
 Andrew Lipton  
 Robi Margolis  
 David Margulies  
 Jennifer Mayer  
 Oliver Moore  
 Joseph Niola  
 Charlotte Omin  
 Sophie Omin  
 Nora Perry  
 Aviva Salpeter  
 Jason Samuels  
 Joel Segalman  
 Alan Sheptin  
 Zachary Sheptin  
 Jacqueline Sherling  
 Elliot Sherling  
 Spencer Shore  
 Rebecca Stadlen  
 Pia Vandervelden  
 Zachary Waldman  
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## JANUARY AND FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

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Ellen A. Reiss

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David and Victoria Yolen

with thanks

Suzanne Sunday and Ken Kurzweil

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in memory of Evelyn Kurzweil

in memory of Ruth Kurzweil Rothwax

with thanks to Rabbi, Cantor, &amp; Michael Salpeter

Richard and Layla Bersch

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Richard and Jennifer Carter

in honor of Leslie Gottlieb

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Rita Evelyn Landman

with thanks



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## JANUARY YAHRZEITEN

**Friday, January 4th, 2018**

Peter Aries	father of Richard Aries	Penny Binstock	relative of Moreton Binn
Ernest Elkin	father of Stephanie Herbstman	Pearl Elkin	grandmother of Stephanie Herbstman
Aaron Gordon	brother of Elaine Gordon	Eli Gorelick	father of Jeff Gorelick
Bernard Gorman	father of Martin Gorman	Jean Kaplan	grandmother of Susannah Altman
Helene Kutscher	mother of Martin Kutscher	Martin Levenson	grandfather of Karen Brenner
Martin Lipton	father of Richard Lipton	Renee Miller	mother of Linda Hirschfeld
Naomi Price	aunt of Terry Henry	Helen Rosenblatt	aunt of Cheryl Chess
Jacob Schneider	grandfather of Margie Gorelick	Bernard Shuler	father of Robi Margolis
Louis Steinhorn	grandfather of Karen Conti		

**Friday, January 11th, 2018**

Joan Fields Berg	mother of Jeff Berg	Rhoda Brand	mother of Michael Brand
Helene Fuchs	grandmother of Hanky Kutscher	Yetta Goldberg	mother of Jacob Goldberg
Adolph Goldner	father of Leonard Goldner	Roslyn Harris	mother of Ian Harris
Sanford Kessler	father of Ronni Hammer	Joan Landzberg	mother of Steve Landzberg
Arthur Penzel	father of Lesly Burns	Bernard Raider	
Shirley Schwartz	grandmother of Lisa Kurtz	Ruth Davis	mother of Suzanne Sunday

**Friday, January 18th, 2018**

Sol Baer	father of Lawrence Baer	Allan Blumstein	father of Eve Zibel
Oliver Cohan Hughes	grandson of Rick & Bobbie Cohan	Sharon Eisberg	mother of Tiffany Zezula
Solomon Fremed	father of Charles Fremed	Muriel Fried	aunt of Lonnie Shapiro
Morris Geller	grandfather of Jamie Garrett	Julius Hubsher	father of Jeffrey Hubsher
Eugene Kahn	father of Leslie Gottlieb	Cal Mishkoff	uncle of Joan Isman
Bernard Schwartz	grandfather of Lisa Kurtz	Steven Zeitlin	brother of Ianne Poushter
Herbert Zieselman	father of Judi Stoogenke		

**Friday, January 25th, 2018**

Stella Baker	grandmother of Carlyn Bergman	Max Banner	father of Barbara Brodsky
Douglas Birdsall	father of Emily Wein	Gregory Davis	son of Elyse Davis
Arthur Edelman	father of Sally Slater	Nancy Ellis	wife of Joseph Ellis
Ruth Glaser	mother of Laura Agisim	Kenneth Greenberg	husband of Barbara Safran
Fred Greenberg	father of Adrienne Orlan	Abraham Mirkin	grandfather of Judith Strom
Joseph Mirkin	father of Judith Strom	Susan Pleener	sister-in-law of Liz Winson
Lawrence Raynor		Joseph Rosenhouse	father of Harry Rosenhouse
Bernard Wallach	father in law of Margery Wallach	Jack Wetchler	father of Richard Wetchler
Norma Zucker	mother of Bobbie Cohan		



## FEBRUARY YAHRZEITEN

**Friday, February 1st, 2018**

William Drucker	father of Janine Gordon	Judith Eydenberg	mother of Susan Westlake
Joy Ginsberg	mother of Jamie Garrett	Diana Hirt	sister of Judy Hirt-Manheimer
Hannah Hirt	mother of Judy Hirt-Manheimer	Saul Jacobs	father of Alan Jacobs
Ruth Kahn	mother of Leslie Gottlieb	Jacob Kaplan	grandfather of Susannah Altman
Nathan Kaplan	grandfather of Susannah Altman	Sarah Katz	mother of Claire Katz
Jesse Kay	uncle of Diana Friedlander	Edward Kleinbaum	grandfather of Stacey Rubinfeld
Frances Klotz	mother of Jeffrey Klotz	Philip Levens	father of David Levens
Norman Levitt	father of Bonnie Dietzek	Marcy Daniels	
Irma Lowy	grandmother of Terry Henry	Theodore Mallon	father of Linda Krulwich
Benjamin Rothberg	cousin of Judith Strom	David Siegel	father of Lew Siegel
Fanny Siegel	mother of Lewis Siegel	Lauren Finster	friend of Susan Bard
Arthur Stoll	father of Susan Andrade	Albert Strom	father of Robert Strom
Anna Weintraub	grandmother of Karen Gerard	Cary Wellington	father of Brad, Abby & Ben Wellington

**Friday, February 8th, 2018**

Hannah Drucker	grandmother of Janine Gordon	Charlene Lavin	mother of Mark Lavin
Betty Mirkin	aunt of Judith Strom	Michael Robinson	relative of Moreton Binn
Hubert Ryan	father of Eve Siegel	Jeannette Walker	mother of Jay Walker

**Friday, February 15th, 2018**

Carole Alexander	mother of Neil Alexander	Lucille Colville	
Mollie Darvick	mother of Murray Darvick	Sam Farber	father of Hildi Glicklich
William Frankel	grandfather of Scott Brenner	Reveka Gogish	grandmother of Ilya Gogish
John Grzymala	father of John Grzymala	Stephen Margolis	husband of Robi Margolis
Mark Pekersky	father of Luda Samuels	Morris Rymberg	uncle of Judith Strom
William Shoff	grandfather of Jeffrey Hubsher	Diane Silverman	grandmother of the Margulies family
Millicent Stark	mother of Andrew Stark	Rose Vayda	relative of Moreton Binn
Brett Winson	husband of Liz Winson	Benjamin Wishod	father of Gene Wishod

**Friday, February 22nd, 2018**

Thelma Apel	grandmother of Valerie Rich	Cantor Kerry Ben-David	husband of Batyah Ben-David
Arthur Brown	father of Michael Brown	Sandra Elkin	mother of Stephanie Herbstmann
Robert Felper	grandfather of Margie Gorelick	Alex Gelbart	father of Mindy Hoffman
Emelie Howard		Norman Lash	father of Joseph Lash
Eric Morley	father of Larry Morley	Sam Munsart	uncle of Joan Isman
Rose Robinson	relative of Moreton Binn	Rose Schneider	grandmother of Margie Gorelick
Anna Shapiro	grandmother of Laurie Dubin	Nancy Sherter	mother of Craig Sherter
Rose Shoff	grandmother of Jeffrey Hubsher	I. William Simels	father of Toba Stutz
Morton Tucker		Rae Weissman	aunt of Diana Friedlander
Burt Yolen	father of David Yolen		

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JANUARY 2019

TEVET/SHEVAT 5779

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 New Year's Day Office Closed NO ECC	2 9:15 am- ECC 4:15 pm- Religious School 7:15 pm- "People of the Book" book club	3 4:15 pm- Religious School 7-9 pm- Mah Jong	4 9:15 am- ECC 11:30 am- ECC Young Community Shabbat 6:00 pm- Kabbalat Shabbat	5 5:00 pm- Shabbat Afternoon Worship- Bat Mitzvah- Dan- ielle Mazlish
6 9:00 am- Religious School	7 9:15 am- ECC	8 9:15 am- ECC	9 9:15 am- ECC 4:15 pm- Religious School	10 4:15 pm- Religious School 7-9 pm- Mah Jong	11 9:15 am- ECC 11:30 am- ECC Young Community Shabbat 5:30 pm- Tot Shab- bat 2.0 7:30 pm- Kabbalat Shabbat	12 9:00 am- Torah 101
13 9:00 am- Religious School	14 9:15 am- ECC	15 9:15 am- ECC	16 9:15 am- ECC 4:15 pm- Religious School 7-9 pm- Sisterhood knitting class	17 4:15 pm- Religious School 7-9 pm- Mah Jong	18 9:15 am- ECC 11:30 am- ECC Young Community Shabbat 7:00 pm- Annu- al MLK Music Shabbat	19
20 NO Religious School	21 MLK Holiday Office Closed NO ECC	22 9:15 am- ECC	23 9:15 am- ECC 4:15 pm- Religious School	24 4:15 pm- Religious School 7-9 pm- Mah Jong	25 9:15 am- ECC 11:30 am- ECC Young Community Shabbat 7:30 pm- Kabbalat	26 9:00 am- Torah 101
27 9:00 am- Religious School	28 9:15 am- ECC	29 9:15 am- ECC	30 9:15 am- ECC 4:15 pm- Religious School	31 4:15 pm- Religious School		

FEBRUARY 2019

SHEVAT/ADAR 1 5779

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 9:15 am- ECC 11:30 am- ECC Young Community Shabbat 6:00 pm- Ruach Shabbat-Sprited & Soulful w/ grade 4 participating	2 9:00 am- Torah 101 10:30 am- Shabbat Morning Worship- Bat Mitzvah of Ilana Hellinger
3 9:00 am- Religious School	4 9:15 am- ECC	5 9:15 am- ECC	6 9:15 am- ECC 4:15 pm- Religious School	7 4:15 pm- Religious School 7-9 pm- Mah Jong	8 9:15 am- ECC 11:30 am- ECC Young Community Shabbat 5:30 PM- Tot Shabbat 2.0 7:30 pm- Kabbalat Shabbat	9 10-11:30 am- Shabbat Yoga
10 9:00 am- Religious School	11 9:15 am- ECC	12 9:15 am- ECC	13 9:15 am- ECC 4:15 pm- Religious School	14 4:15 pm- Religious School 7-9 pm- Mah Jong	15 9:15 am- ECC 11:30 am- ECC Young Community Shabbat 7:30 pm- Kabbalat Shabbat	16
17 NO Religious School	18 Presidents' Day- Office Closed NO ECC	19 9:15 am- ECC	20 9:15 am- ECC	21 7-9 pm- Mah Jong	22 9:15 am- ECC 11:30 am- ECC Young Community Shabbat 7:30 pm- Kabbalat	23 9:00 am- Torah 101
24 9:00 am- Religious School	25 9:15 am- ECC	26 9:15 am- ECC	27 9:15 am- ECC 4:15 pm- Religious School	28 4:15 pm- Religious School 7-9 pm- Mah Jong		







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