



NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER  
SHABBAT & HIGH HOLY DAYS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Nov 1	6:00 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat
Nov 2	10:30 am	Shabbat Morning Worship Bat Mitzvah of Phoebe Lichtman
Nov 3		Daylight Savings Time turn clocks BACK 1 hour
Nov 8	7:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat
Nov 9	5:00 pm	Shabbat Afternoon Worship Bat Mitzvah of Jordan Rubinfeld
Nov 15	7:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat
Nov 16	10:30 am	Shabbat Morning Worship Bat Mitzvah of Hannah Rosenfeld
Nov 22	7:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat
Nov 23	5:00 pm	Shabbat Afternoon Worship Bar Mitzvah of Eli Bovilsky
Nov 29	7:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat

Dec 6	6:00 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat
Dec 13	7:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat
Dec 20	7:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat
Dec 27	7:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat

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## RS Chanukah Talent Show Sunday, December 15

10:00-11:00 AM

Chanukah means dedication. To what is your child dedicated?

We welcome families to participate in this special program in where our students, parents and teachers can share their talents for this special holiday program!

To register your child's ACT email Leslie *asap or submit the form below*. We will do our best to fit everyone in during the hour-long presentation.

Parents, grandparents, ECC families, congregants and siblings are all welcome to attend on the 15th. Holiday treats will follow the presentation.

### 2019 Chanukah Talent Show Form

Student/Team Name and Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Gr. \_\_\_\_\_

Act: (Please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

*Music recording, if needed, should be provided by student (iPhone, etc.)*

*Please welcome  
our newest congregants...  
Justin & Sonia Cinnamon  
Philip & Jessie Cox  
George & Elise Jonisch  
Peter & Jennifer Katona  
Marcus & Tamar Mathias  
Craig & Niki Spitzer  
Jane Weiller*

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of Westchester and Fairfield Counties

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When the attack on the Jewish community in Pittsburgh happened almost a year ago, I was shaken. The only response that made sense to me, was to come here, to this sacred community, where I knew I could find comfort, and a way to move forward.

Congregation Shir Shalom is a center for people who support Jewish culture and values. We need a place like this in our neighborhood to call home—a place that is a safe haven from hatred, to share our common history and ideals, and to connect with and find meaning in our traditions in a modern, egalitarian setting. For this Jewish community, that place is, and should continue to be, this congregation. However, with the disturbing trend of declining synagogue membership, the future is uncertain. I was recently asked, how would I feel living in this

area without a synagogue, without this safe haven?

This question keeps me up at night and wakes me up in the morning. It is why after putting my career on hold for two decades, I have not returned to work or simply basked in the glory of my empty nest.

The need for connection to our community and our traditions is why I, and many others spend countless hours working to ensure the survival of this sacred community. Maybe you only come to services on the High Holy Days. Maybe you're not sure of your belief in g-d. Or you maybe you don't like organized religion. Regardless of those beliefs, this community is here to support you, your family and your Jewish identity. You may even believe that you don't need us. But, you will need us, and when that day comes, we want to be here for you. For us to be here for you tomorrow, we need your support today.

As a child, I was bullied and called a dirty Jew, for not celebrating Christmas. It was my synagogue community, a synagogue I rarely worshipped at, that came to my rescue. Our congregation stands up for the rights of every Jewish person and continues to respond to incidents of antisemitism in our area. We are committed to the Jewish values of justice and equality for all people.

There are many stories like mine. You have heard some during these past high holy days. What ties all of our stories together is the strong, vibrant Jewish community that was there for us, embraced us, welcomed us and protected us when we needed it.

Our Shir Shalom community is here for sacred milestones on your life journey. For some, it is a hospital or home visit from our wonderful clergy, a place to say kaddish after the death of a loved one, or a sanctuary for the difficult moments in life, a reminder that when you are Jewish, you are never alone.

Congregation Shir Shalom is here today because of the tremendous efforts of our clergy, staff, lay leaders and generations past who made sure Shir Shalom not only survived, but thrived. With your support, we can continue to be a vibrant presence in this community. If every family or individual in our sacred community left after their children become bar or bat mitzvah or went off to college, Shir Shalom would not be here for you.

In the coming months, you will hear more about our Atid "our future" campaign to invest in our future as a robust Jewish community. We are embarking on this effort to strengthen Shir Shalom today and safeguard the health and stability of our congregation tomorrow.

Before we can work to ensure our future, we need to secure our present. Today, your generous investment will help us welcome any who want to enter, any who need our help, inspire our children and instill in them the importance of standing up for their Jewish identity and values.

Many wonderful causes may seek your generous support, which you give because you believe in their values and you want to make sure that they can continue to do their good work and fight the good fight. You ask for nothing in return but the satisfaction of knowing that these organizations continue to exist to help those in need.

## FROM RABBI REINER'S DESK



It was wonderful to see so many people from our sacred community during our communal celebration and observance of the High Holy Days. I hope that our time together was moving and meaningful, with moments of joy and sadness, as we gathered to celebrate a new year, life, family, and community, and engaged in thoughtful reflection on the year that had passed.

I am grateful for positive feedback about the High Holy Days from many in our sacred community, especially in response to the sermons that I shared (which can be read on our website).

During the High Holy Days I tried to create and share timely sermons that focused on contemporary issues through a Jewish lens (refugees/immigration, Israel, and antisemitism), issues that have become increasingly partisan.

For years I have understood the power of the pulpit to echo the shofar that we sound on Rosh Hashanah, which has many functions. Some sermons aspire to leave everyone feeling happy. Some sermons aspire to cause people to engage in reflection or provoke thought. Some sermons aspire to teach, about Jewish tradition or the world. Some sermons aspire to inspire action, to awaken people, to sometimes leave people a little unsettled and stimulate our thoughts and promote thoughtful, engaged conversations. Underlying all these aspirations is a desire to unite and strengthen us as a sacred, proud, Jewish community.

On Erev Yom Kippur/Kol Nidrei I also spoke about the importance of listening when we disagree and seeking out opposing view points. This approach is grounded in our tradition and I want to practice what I preach. I recognize that our sacred community is diverse in background, experience, and worldview, and I celebrate and believe that the diversity of viewpoints ultimately strengthens our community.

I can imagine that some in our sacred community disagreed with what I said or how I said it, and I welcome the opportunity to engage in a meaningful, in-depth, and thoughtful conversation with anyone in our sacred community. Hearing and listening and learning together is a fundamental Jewish value and I look forward to engaging in a meaningful conversation, especially if you disagreed.

I am grateful to so many who helped us in celebrating and observing the High Holy Days this year. There were many lay leaders who were instrumental, especially the members of our Ritual Committee, chaired by Michael Salpeter and Laurie Dubin and including Marty Weisberg, Wendy Wallach-Delucia, Alan Pilch, Bryon Friedman, Scott Trachtenberg, Dawn Roberts, Michelle Blum, Lynn Becker, and many others for their assistance, insight, and support. I am grateful to our lead ushers, Michael Salpeter, Marty Weisberg, and Dawn Roberts for helping to keep our worship running smoothly, as well as Michelle Blum's efforts with our Welcoming Initiatives in sprucing up our sacred space and training and enlisting greeters throughout the High Holy Days, and arranging wonderful seed packets on Yom Kippur and delicious apples and honey on Rosh Hashanah. Thank you to Jeff Gorelick for helping to coordinate the parking team, and Hal Wolkin for his work as chair of our housing committee in overseeing the upkeep of our synagogue. Thank you to Michael Salpeter for coordinating our Torah and Haftarah readers and I am grateful to all of our Torah chanters and other participants in our worship. Thank you to our Board of Trustees for sponsoring a delicious reception following our worship on Erev Rosh Hashanah, and a huge thank you to Michael and Ronni Hammer for their efforts coordinating and leading the Break Fast Team. I am grateful for their many years of leadership as well as their commitment to creating a smooth transition to new Break Fast Leaders. Thank you to those in our sacred community who shared part of their Jewish journeys during our worship: Stan Broder, Michael Hammer, Eric Berman, and Wendy Wallach-Delucia. On a more personal note, I am especially grateful to Terry Henry, who has been volunteering as my

## CANTOR'S CORNER

## CANTOR DEBORAH KATCHKO-GRAY

Thank you Shir Shalom Adult Choir! The following singers made a sacrifice of time, effort and many gave up sitting with their families to enhance the music of our worship. Thank you for attending rehearsals and being so devoted to our music and raising our spirits through beautiful song and prayer.

Laurie Dubin	Terry Henry
Tammy Strom	Robert Strom
Scott Trachtenberg	Eva Trachtenberg
Claire Katz	Wendy Wallach DeLucia
Debra Lavin	Alan Pilch
Scott Gray	Ron Levinsky
Jane LaMotta	Matthew MacGregor

Accompanist- Gina Wilson

Sax,Flute,Clarinet- Mark Fineberg

Kol Nidre Cello- Andrew Woodruff

If you are interested in joining the choir, we will have a few rehearsals during the year for special musical services including the Spirituals Shabbat in Memory of Martin Luther King, Jr. with the Serendipity Chorale on Jan. 17, and the Classic Cantorial Shabbat on March 20.

There is a special weekend of music coming up- please mark your calendars!

Nov. 15 Jazzy Jewish Acapella with the Rehot and Blue Acapella of Yale!

This group will sing Jewish music during the service and offer a short program. College acapella is a big deal, and they are outstanding! Come and bring your older kids to see college kids who sing who are cool!

Nov. 17 at 3pm Celebrate the Music of Stephen Schwarz and Stephen Sondheim

Claire Simard, amazing soprano with a Broadway crystal clear voice and Brian Besterman, great pianist with a Broadway background. No charge, but donations to the Music Fund will be greatly appreciated to cover the costs of the program.



# SPIRITED AND SOULFUL MUSIC SERIES

2019-2020 5779-5780

## FRIDAYS

Nov. 15, 7:30 PM

Jazzy Jewish Acapella  
Redhot and Blue Acapella  
of Yale



Jan 17, 7:00 PM

MLK Spirituals Shabbat  
Rob Silvan  
Serendipity Chorale—  
Gigi Van Dyke



March 20, 7:30 PM

Classic Cantorial Shabbat  
Cantor Deborah Katchko-Gray  
with Gina Wilson



April 24, 7:30 PM

A Suite Shabbat with  
Julian Schwarz, cello  
Marika Bournaki, piano



Beth Styles

Oct 18, May 8



Mark Fineberg

Nov 8,  
Feb 28—Shabbat Across America



An Afternoon of  
Musical Theater  
with Claire Simard  
and Brian Besterman

Sunday Nov 17, 3pm



## *We Appreciate Your Generosity*

### **General Fund**

George & Elise Jonisch	honoring Tot Shabbat 2.0
Roger & Margot Milliken	in honor of Wendy Wallach deLucia
Bruce & Julie Sacks	
Scott & Becky Freedman	honoring Tot Shabbat 2.0
Bob & Terry Henry	in memory of Ruth Lowy
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Milton & Nina Primer	
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Samuel & Linda Bloch	in memory of Edna Fischer
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Ira Hanauer	
Tyler & Hilary Hughes	
Richard & Bobbie Cohlan	
Joel & Eileen Segalman	in memory of Ira G. Segalman

### **Cantor's Discretionary Fund**

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Jim & Marcia Carroll	
Stephen & Robin Heit	in honor of David & Kira Zimmerman's marriage
Jordan & Stacey Neumann	

### **Caring Fund**

Karl & Barbara Brodsky	in memory of Michael Brodsky
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### **Music Fund**

Laurence Furic	in honor of David & Kira Zimmerman's marriage
Milton & Nina Primer	

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Alex & Deborah Perry	in support of the ECC

### **Religious School Education Fund**

Paul & Elizabeth Amerling	in memory of Amy, Gregory & Molly Friedlander
Andrew & Lynne Stark	in memory of Amy, Gregory & Molly Friedlander



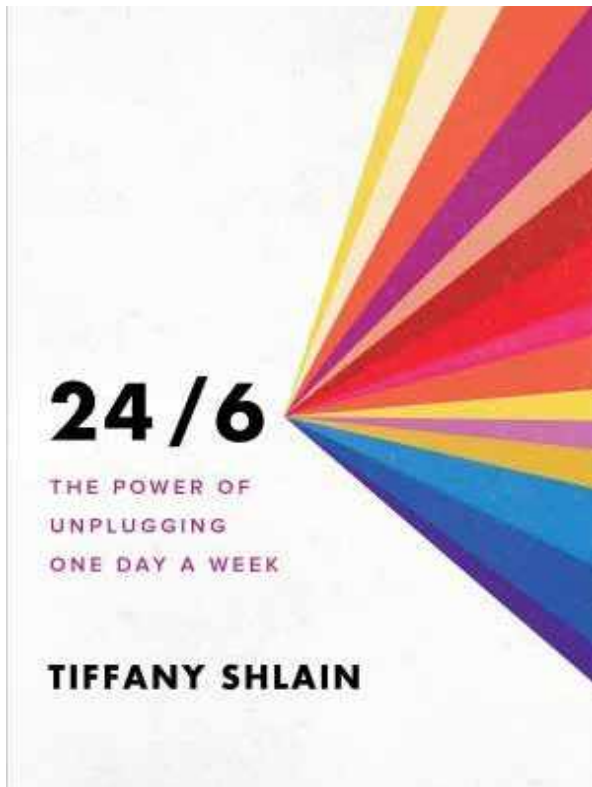
# Our Religious School...



## *Unplugging Once A Week for Shabbat...*

So how did a recent Graham Nash concert help teach me about a new way to embrace Shabbat?

At a concert last month held in Ridgefield, a dear college friend of mine sitting to my left was texting throughout the evening. She took videos of the act, allowed for this event, and proceeded to post these with commentary for the entirety of the show. At one point, I shielded my eyes to block out the light and wondered whether or not I had the right to ask her to put her phone away. It's a touchy thing for us all. Phone etiquette is so personal. Who gets to judge others when we are all guilty of being addicted to our devices? It got me thinking seriously about how problematic our addiction to our phones has become-- and it is worrisome to say the least. Was my friend really experiencing the concert with me -- or delaying the experience for a later date when she would view the videos. She was sitting with me but engaging with the world outside the theater and that felt intrusive and dismissive. What's a friend to do?



On the first Wednesday of RS this year, I offered my annual *gentle* cell phone rule lecture to our 7<sup>th</sup> graders as they assembled in the lobby. Cuddled up on the sofa were three girls who all held their phones in front of them-- hardly realizing that they were *actually using their phones* while I was speaking to them. I waited for their eyes to meet mine, but it was *really* hard for them to detach from their activity. I actually felt sorry for them at that moment. Here were three close friends all distracted from the present moment. I explained that we were all in a trap of sorts and that even having our phones out and visible seems to affect our behavior as research has shown. I explained that they could use their phones in this community space as long as no other human being entered that area... trying to force some human interaction; whether it is a friend who enters the space or a child or adult, they need to *unplug*. Our teachers offer repeated reminders to students for keeping phones tucked away-- and will hold onto a student's phone, if necessary, to help them be more successful in class. In school, we need rules and this is helpful for everyone.

We are hardly a community -- or a family at home-- if we separate ourselves from each other with constant use of our phones. This is true for us all no matter where we are.

When I visit our grandchildren in Brooklyn or Philly and see young parents ignoring their children at the playground as they use their phones, I try hard not to be judgmental. I realize I was lucky not to have this issue when our three children were little because cell phones weren't available then.

The same week of the concert, I heard an interview on public radio with author, Tiffany Shlain whose new book, *24/6, The Power of Unplugging One Day a Week*, focuses on her family's journey to unplug from their devices for Shabbat to embrace the principles of this weekly holiday. Professionally, I unplug for Shabbat -- but not for personal needs. Could I?

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From the publisher we learn that *Technology Shabbat* happens when we turn off *all screens* for 24 hours each week. “This weekly practice which Shlain’s family has done for nearly a decade with their kids (16 & 10) has completely changed their lives giving them more time, productivity, connection, and presence. Exploring and lifting up wisdom from Shabbat, Shlain offers lessons she has learned and provides a blueprint to do it yourself. And along the way, she examines the neuroscience philosophy psychology and history of a day of rest in Judaism, as well as across cultures and makes a strong case for why we need to bring it back for everyone.

A far-reaching examination of the digital revolution, *24/6* is an incisive, intimate, and urgent call to rebalance ourselves and ultimately help rebalance society through rethinking the transformative weekly practice of Shabbat.”

As Jews, we all have our own way of observing Shabbat and other holidays. Shlain’s idea for embracing Shabbat in a meaningful way sounds very appealing-- but it would take an enormous commitment for a family to be successful for even a single month. I am not sure our family could do it, frankly. It is a provocative idea and could be life-changing, though. Could your family be successful? It could be a fun challenge to try it.

This conversation also reminds me that our Religious School community could be even stronger if we all try to commit ourselves to coming together more often-- especially for evening Shabbat services at Shir Shalom. That could surely help everyone feel more connected! As you know, we have grade services each month and that is a nice bonding experience as families meet and come together followed by the oneg Shabbat that they host as a grade group. But attending services one week during the school year will not help us all feel like a family. Coming to services more often to meet up with our children’s friends and their families will help remind them all that this place is important-- and it will remind them that their studies at the RS are important because they can use their acquired skills and knowledge during services to more fully engage and make connections to their studies.



In this new year, let us try to consider how we can all commit to Shabbat in whatever way seems important for our families. Whether it is unplugging, lighting candles at home, coming together for a dinner we choose to label, *Shabbat dinner*, whether at a restaurant or at Grandma’s house—we can renew our commitment to our heritage each week through this evolving personal Jewish journey. I look forward to spending meaningful time with all of you, and want to share how grateful I feel to work with all of our parents, students, teens, teachers and clergy all year long.





### High Holy Day Food Drive 2019/5780

On the night of the delivery we were all hit with a legitimate bombogenesis, in weather terms--- but the rain and wind didn't stop our kids and parents from transporting, sorting, and shelving **1,249 lbs.** of food. Most of the bags were torn due to the heavy rain, but with loving care all of it made it safely inside. After the work was completed, we all had a great time drying off and enjoying pizza next door--- for a job well done. Thanks, Grade 7!!!



## EXCERPTS IN JEWISH HISTORY

**THE THIRD TEMPLE**

By Lewis Siegel

Most of us know that the first Temple built during the reign of Solomon was destroyed by the Babylonians in 586 B.C.E. It was then rebuilt in the fifth century B.C.E. and destroyed again, that time by the Romans in 70 C.E. How many of us are aware of the Third Temple? Probably very few, because there was no Third Temple.... or was there?

Since the destruction of the second Temple, many Jews have hoped and prayed for the rebuilding of the Temple. There has been a wide spectrum of thought with regard to rebuilding of the Temple. Should it be rebuilt at all? If it were to be rebuilt, what would be the structural specifications? The Hebrew Bible contains two specifications for the Temple structure. The structure of Solomon's Temple is described in the book of Kings, (chapter 6). The book of Ezekiel, (chapters 40-48) shows Ezekiel's vision of an enormous new Temple and describes its proposed structure.

Whether or when the Temple should be rebuilt varies among the different branches of Judaism and even within each branch. Many Orthodox rabbis believe that the Temple should not be built until the Messiah comes although some prominent Israeli Orthodox rabbis have said that the Temple should be built now. Reform Judaism looks towards a Messianic age also, but its liturgy, unlike the Orthodox and Conservative branches of Judaism, makes no mention of rebuilding the Temple. Maimonides (1138-1204) in his "Guide for the Perplexed" wrote that the Temple with its sacrifices should not be rebuilt at all, yet in his "Mishnah Torah" he said that the Messiah will rebuild the Temple. A major geographical concern would be that the Dome of the Rock and the Al Aqsa Mosque are believed to be at the site where the Second Temple once stood, so how would that be resolved?

Unbeknownst to many, there were several attempts to build the Third Temple. When Simon Bar Kochba and his army captured Jerusalem from the Romans in the year 132 C.E., they began rebuilding the Temple. This project failed because by 135 C.E. the Romans crushed the rebellion. Bar Kochba was killed along with many of the Jews, while the rest were sold into slavery or escaped into exile. Interestingly, Bar Kochba's final stand supposedly took place around the ninth of Av, the date attributable to the destruction of both the first and second Temples. The holiday, Tisha B'Av, is a remembrance of those events as well as others such as: the expulsion of the Jews from England in 1290, from France in 1306 and from Spain in 1492, all of which supposedly occurred near the ninth of Av.

The next major attempt to rebuild the Temple was in the years 362-363 C.E. under the Roman Emperor, Julian, (also known as Julian the Apostate). Julian was the son of Julius Constantius, the half-brother of the Emperor Constantine. It is believed that he was raised with a Christian upbringing, but according to his own writings, at the age of 20 he renounced Christianity. As the result of political and military upheavals, Julian became emperor in the year 360 CE He was highly educated and cultured. He was also an outstanding military leader, winning major battles against Germanic tribes and also against the Franks. Julian was contemptuous of Christianity but had a fondness for the Jewish people and a respect for Judaism which he considered to be a legitimate religion. This materialized into a massive effort to build the third Temple for the Jews. Unfortunately, as construction progressed, several fires broke out aborting the construction. Some attributed the fires to Christian arsonists (alternatively, the destruction of the partially built Temple may have been caused by an earthquake\*\*). In the year 363 CE, Julian attempted a military invasion of Persia, during which his army was defeat-

*(con't. on next page)*

ed and he was killed. One can only wonder whether Julian would have resumed the construction of the Temple if he had lived.

An additional attempt to build the Temple was begun in the year 610. CE. The Sassanid Empire of Persia defeated the Byzantines, and allowed the Jews to have control of Jerusalem. They began construction of the Temple but unfortunately, the Byzantines regained control and turned the area over to the Christians who immediately destroyed the partially built structure.

Even if any of these attempts to build the third Temple had been successful, we don't know whether it would have withstood major adversities. In 638 C.E., an Arab Muslim invasion conquered the territory, and in 685-690, the Muslims built the Dome of the Rock, and then built the Al Aqsa Mosque a number of years later. If there had been a Temple there, would the Muslims have destroyed it to build their religious shrines? Also, could the Temple have survived the onslaught of the Crusades several centuries later?

The creation of a Third Temple raises a multitude of questions and is a subject that Jewish people have pondered over for almost 2,000 years and will probably continue to do so.

\*\* An earthquake was a possibility because the Al Aksa Mosque, located at the same site, was believed to be destroyed three times by earthquakes in the years 749, 774, and 1033.

*"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.*



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## SOCIAL ACTION NEWS

Our annual Breakfast Run to help the homeless in NYC will be held on Sunday, November 17th with prep day on Saturday, November 16th. Prep day is a great chance for you to gather with friends and help sort the clothing & toiletries and prepare lunches for the Breakfast Run crew to distribute on Sunday. We need all the help we can get, bring friends! For Sunday, we are looking for 16 volunteers to spend their morning in NYC handing out clothing and food to the homeless. It is a truly rewarding experience! Please contact Amy Margulies @ [margulies07@gmail.com](mailto:margulies07@gmail.com) for more information and to sign up.

**Midnight Run:** We will need volunteers to help with this gratifying effort. During the winter months we need people to donate gently used MEN'S clothing and travel size toiletries, including:

Jeans, pants, long-sleeved shirts, sweaters, hoodies, belts, shoes, backpacks, tote bags. Also donations are appreciated of NEW men's socks and underwear. Practical used women's clothing can also be used.

The Run will take place in late winter/early spring – we will need volunteers, including DRIVERS with a car, to go on the nighttime outing to distribute meals and clothing. We encourage adults to experience this venture – and teens – in addition to the B'nai Mitzvah class members with a parent. If we do not have enough volunteers, we will not be able to carry out this Mitzvah. Please help these needy folks.

We have on-going volunteer activities which we encourage new folks to give a try! It is a meaningful experience, and we encourage people to step outside their usual routine and volunteer for a few hours! Thank you to the following people who have volunteered over the last several months:

**Dorothy Day Hospitality Center:** Help prep and serve a meal to needy clients in Danbury on Sunday afternoons. Thanks to Carrie Chanin and son Jeremy Haber for helping in October.

**Daily Bread Food Pantry:** Volunteer on a Monday or Friday morning in Danbury, to help distribute food to needy clients. Recent volunteers have included: Alisa Glick, Leslie Kramer, Bobbie Cohan, Leslie Moss, Debbie and Mark Lavin, Amy Margulies, and Debbie Landzberg.

**Shabbat at Federal Correctional Institute** in Danbury: Periodic Shabbat observances are held by Rabbi Haddon, Jean Haddon, Resa Fremd, Jacquie Goldner and Polly Schnell.

*If you'd like more information or to sign up to volunteer, please email us at*

**Contact** [SocialAction@OurShirShalom.org](mailto:SocialAction@OurShirShalom.org)

**By Debbie Lavin, Amy Margulies, & Debbie Landzberg**

## ADULT PROGRAMMING-

In September Dahlia Zahger, an Israeli graduate student at Columbia University and Israeli military veteran, spoke of her passion: defending Israeli from increasingly hostile attacks on American college campuses. She told us of the worsening treatment suffered by Israel on campus. Even the professors, even on New York campuses are open about their animosity! And of course the BDS Movement has serious consequences for the prosperity of Israel. She believes that this increasingly serious sentiment springs from barely-couched anti-Semitism, impure and not simple. Her quest is to prepare insipient and continuing college students for the situations they might encounter. She recommends that students and others arm themselves with information from her organization, Students Supporting Israel and others, including Camera, Stand with Us and SPACA.

### **AND now for something completely different...**

Our next program will feature Tamar Drucker a talented quilt artist. On November 17<sup>th</sup> at 3 PM the local artist will describe the technique and aesthetic by which she creates her richly-decorated quilts. They largely show the influence of her Israeli heritage and her love of Japanese Art. If you are interested in a prequel to her talk, her work will be on display at the Mt. Kisco Library from Oct. 3 to 30. There will be an opening reception at the library for her work on Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> from 2-3:30. Join us on Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>!



*(President's Message, con't. from page 4)*

This synagogue is no different. Congregation Shir Shalom stands out because we are a sacred community bound together by our shared identity and culture. We need your support even if you can't be here, even if your kids are off to college or out in the real world, even if you don't feel very religious, even if you do not readily "see" how your investment in our future directly benefits you today. Our presence is critical to its community and we need your support to continue as a voice for Jewish values and ideals in the areas we serve.

We are asking that you give generously to support our sacred work and our sacred community. As recent events have illustrated, IT IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER that our Shir Shalom continue to flourish and we can't do that without your support. I know that our community commitment is a lot to ask and I really appreciate every one of you who continues to support us even if we only see you once a year. But annual base community commitment only covers a portion of our operating costs each year. We are committed to welcoming all people regardless of financial capacity and there are many in our sacred community who are not able to meet our base community commitment. Without additional support, and if more people continue to leave this community, it will be difficult to continue to serve everyone here today, everyone in our sacred community, and to continue advocating for you and to inspiring the future of our people.

Please take out the pledge cards that you picked up as you walked through the library today. Place a sticker on the amount you would like to pledge and place your card back into the envelope. Ushers will be walking down the aisles momentarily to collect your the cards. On behalf of our sacred community, our clergy, staff and lay leaders, thank you for your generosity. Please continue to help make our light shine brighter and stronger.

May the coming year 5780 have special meaning to you and your loved ones and may you be sealed in the book of life for a good year. G'mar Chatima Tova! Thank you.

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*(Rabbi's Message, con't. from page 4)*

administrative assistant for her work with the distribution of honors and so many other tasks, as well as Aron Hirt-Manheimer who has volunteered his professional skills as an editor and advised me in the sermon writing process. I want to recognize the tremendous number of extra hours that our professional staff put in, especially in the days and weeks that preceded the High Holy Days, our administrator, Laura Morris, and our Controller, Lori Stalowicz. Thank you to Jane Emmer and Leslie Gottlieb for all of their efforts in leading our youth education programs and encouraging family participation. I am grateful to our maintenance staff, Lorilee Palazzo, Miguel Cardenas, and Edime Martins for their herculean efforts as well. I am grateful to Sara Denyer, our incoming interim ECC Director, for her work with our babysitting program so parents could have meaningful worship experiences, and Patrick (our security guard) for keeping us safe (along with officers from the Ridgefield Police Department). It was wonderful to be joined on the bimah by Rabbi Emily Aronson, who we were blessed to have as a rabbinic intern last year and were delighted to hear from during Erev Rosh Hashanah worship, as well as her efforts creating a new youth service and leading our tot worship on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. And, last but not least, a huge thank you to Cantor Deborah Katchko-Gray for her musical leadership, in arranging fantastic musicians including Mark Fineberg and her new accompanist, Gina Wilson, in leading the Adult Choir that uplifted our worship and prayers. It is an honor and a blessing to work with Cantor Debbie and witness the ruach (spirit) that she infuses into our music, as well as the deep connection to our musical history in singing the melodies of her father and grandfather and many generations past. And while I said that Cantor Debbie was last, I want to also thank my wonderful wife, Ashley Heller, for all of her moral and physical support throughout the High Holy Days. I am looking forward to spending much more time with Ashley, Samson, Asher, and Pancake during my family leave in the weeks and months ahead.



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Joe Altman  
 Rafael Alvarez  
 Barbara Bangser  
 Sandra Barrett  
 Rick Barrett  
 Evan Bender  
 Emily Brand  
 Ryan Brand  
 Jessica Brooks  
 Veronika Bursuker  
 Jeanine Bartley-Cohen  
 Reyna Cohen  
 Bobbie Cohan  
 Murray Darvick  
 Bonnie Dietzek  
 Matthew Emmer  
 Elaine Feldman  
 Peter Fine  
 Jake Frishman  
 Nina Gitlitz  
 Hildi Glicklich  
 Dylan Gottlieb  
 Scott Gray  
 Rachel Greenberg  
 Louis Haber  
 Robin Harris  
 Stephen Heit  
 Allison Hermon  
 Jason Hermon  
 Kenneth Hoffman  
 Kenneth Isman  
 George Jonisch  
 Benjamin Kalish  
 Evan Kaye  
 Lucas Kaye  
 Maxwell Kaye  
 Felice Kempler  
 Colby Kipnes  
 Asher Kipnes

Joseph Lash  
 Harrison Lavin  
 Emily Levi  
 Warren Lustig  
 Jake Margulies  
 Tamar Mathias  
 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  
 Frank Rendon  
 Gabby Rendon  
 David Rich  
 Noah Ripps  
 Harry Rosenhouse  
 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

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Margaret Adasko  
 Arel Meister-Aldama  
 Isabella Alvarez  
 Danielle Bender  
 Brian Bender  
 Garry Berger  
 Karen Blum  
 Neal Blum  
 Rena Bruckman  
 Marcia Carroll  
 Cheryl Chess  
 John Cross  
 Hannah DeLucia  
 Jenna Dubin  
 Sylvia Freidenrich  
 Emanuel Genauer  
 Ira Gerard  
 Elaine Gorden  
 Janine Gordon  
 Jean Haddon  
 Jake Heffler  
 Vivian Hoffman  
 Andrea Jacobs  
 Jonas Kalish  
 Peter Katona  
 Steve Kaye  
 Andrew Knispel  
 Gabrielle Krampf  
 Linda Krulwich  
 Erica Levens  
 Jake Levi  
 Kenneth Levinsohn  
 Ethan Margulies  
 James Marks

Casey Mayer  
 Danielle Mazlish  
 Jake Metzler  
 Nicole Meyer  
 Allison Novak  
 Andrew Pollack  
 Eliana Reiter  
 George Rich  
 Hannah Rosenfeld  
 Jordan Rubinfeld  
 Richard Segalman  
 Vittal Shesh Sheridan  
 Keith Sherling  
 Evan Sherling  
 Suzanne Shерter  
 Tammi Jacobs Shulman  
 Jacob Silva  
 Avri Soloff  
 Greyson Soloff  
 Scott Soloff  
 Peri Stevelman  
 Ellen Strauss  
 Judith Strom  
 Matthew Teich  
 Eva Trachtenberg  
 Margery Wallach  
 Yue Xuan Wang  
 Richard Wetchler  
 Theodore White  
 Lucas Winson  
 Bryan Wolkin  
 Oliver Yuan  
 Tiffany Zezula  
 Nathan Zezula

## November and December Anniversaries

Michael & Betsy Brand  
 Jeff & Heather Butchen  
 Scott Gray & Cantor Katcho-Gray  
 John Grzymala & Linda Lederman  
 Rabbi Jon & Jean Haddon  
 Ian & Robin Harris  
 Barry & Marla Kay  
 Jeff & Linda Krulwich  
 Mark & Debra Lavin  
 David & Leslie Moss  
 David Sachs & Linda Shackelford  
 Lew & Eve Siegel

## NOVEMBER YAHRZEITEN

**Friday, November 1st, 2019**

Gabrielle Berlinger	aunt of Richard Wetchler	Martin Burg	father of Richard Burg
Esther Fenster	sister of Murray Darvick	Denise Fuchs	mother of Hanky Kutscher
Bebee Garcia	sister of David Fiderer	Helene Howard	stepmother of Laurie Dubin
Meyer Joseph	father of Barbara Tendler	Arthur Klein	husband of Elinor Klein
Bernard Stein	husband of Ali Stein		

**Friday, November 8th, 2019**

Joseph Brenner	grandfather of Scott Brenner	Howard Cohlan	father of Rick Cohlan
Jay Davis	husband of Elyse Davis	Helen Garfiel	grandmother of Karen Blum
Harold Heffler	father of Jill Teich & Jay Heffler	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 "Poppy" Mofson	grandfather of Bonnie Pazer	Marvin Schattner	
Charlotte Slotnik	mother of Jacqueline Goldner	Edgar Strauss	Father of Ellen Strauss
Jack D. Weiler	grandfather of Joshua Arnow		

**Friday, November 15th, 2019**

Herbert Abraham	father of Vivian Hoffman	Jack Bergson	father of Phyllis Amerling
Mayer Blum	brother-in-law of Sandra Rosenhouse	Sheila Gitlitz	mother of Michael Gitlitz
Adele Kleinbaum	grandmother of Stacey Rubinfeld	Ruth Rothwax	aunt of Ken Kurzweil
Philip Levine	uncle of Joan Isman	Fannie Levy	mother of Richard Burg
Mordecai Lewittes	relative of the Meister family	Harriet Mazlish	mother of Douglas Mazlish
Yale Ossher	father of Harold Ossher	Anita Sax	mother of Liz Winson
Freda Shuler	mother of Robi Margolis	Mae Wishod	mother of Gene Wishod

**Friday, November 22nd, 2019**

Norman Bard	father of Michael Bard	Morton Birnbaum	
David Hoffman	father of Drew Hoffman	David Kay	father of Barry Kay
Aline Lawrence	sister of Adrienne Orlan	Seth Lawrence	brother-in-law of Adrienne Orlan
Gloria Maron	sister of Resa Fremed	Joseph Meister	relative of Matthew Meister
Sylvia Stein	grandmother of Edwin Haber		

**Friday, November 29th**

Ethel Feinleib	grandmother of Leslie Gottlieb	William Goldman	
Louis Heit	grandfather of Stephen Heit	Jack Himoff	
Herman Hoberman	grandfather of Meridith Sonnett	Frances Kempler	mother of Felice Kempler
Beatrice Krulwich	mother of Jeffrey Krulwich	Lillian Lotstein	mother of Susan Lapine
Seymour Needleman	father of Kenneth Needleman	Arlene Richner	aunt of Ellen Strauss
Matilde Rosenblum	grandmother of Stephanie Yuan	Rachel Rosenhouse	mother of Harry Rosenhouse
Jack Rosenstein	father of Ronni Rosenstein	Norman Silverman	father of Marsha Antkies
Pauline Silverman	grandmother of Marsha Antkies	Bernice Strauss	mother of Ellen Strauss
Peter Vandervelden	father of Steven Vandervelden	Fred Yolen	uncle of David Yolen



## DECEMBER YAHRZEITEN

**Friday, December 6th, 2019**

Marvin Baker	uncle of Carlyn Bergman	Harold Broder	father of Stanford Broder
Leo Fine	grandfather of Peter Fine	Gertrude Frankel	grandmother of Scott Brenner
Evelyn Kurzweil	mother of Ken Kurzweil	Gladice Levenson	aunt of Elaine Gordon
Howard Malloy	father of Betsy Higgins	Murray Milrod	father of Marion Milrod
Marvin Olarsch	father of Judy Vandervelden	Freda Ossher	mother of Harold Ossher
Jacob Puteska		Benjamin Ringler	grandfather of Elyse Arnow
Alfred Strauss	grandfather of Ellen Strauss	Rose Zilber	grandmother of Barry Kay

**Friday, December 13th, 2019**

Robert Arnow	father of Joshua Arnow	Susan Bendor	mother of Jane Bendor
Alexander Davis	father-in-law of Elyse Davis	Martin Davis	grandfather of Suzie Rabinowitz
Mary Jane Denzer	mother of Holly Alexander	Natalia Glicklich	mother of Mark Glicklich
Abraham Gordon	father of Elaine Gordon	Joan Hammer	mother of Michael Hammer
Joan Holson	mother of Robin Heit	Millie Jacobs	mother of Alan Jacobs
Dorothy Karl	mother of Rosalind Kopfstein	Mina Kaye	mother of Steve Kaye
Violet Murad	mother of Menashe Murad	Claus Pappenheimer	father of Julie Held
Frank Policoff	grandfather of Steve Kaye	Ruth Rosenthal	grandmother of Susan Westlake
Lauren Rousseau		26 Sandy Hook School victims	
Pamela Siegel	cousin of Rosalind Kopfstein		

**Friday, December 20th, 2019**

Rita Bergman	mother of Michael Bergman	Esther Eber	grandmother of Lynn Becker
Gussie Ellis	mother of Joseph Ellis	Yvette Epstein	mother of Andrea Jacobs
Bernard Glaser	father of Laura Agisim	Sadie Kaplan	grandmother of Steve Kaye
Joy Koy	great aunt of Jamie Garrett	Belle Krietzberg	great aunt of Joshua Arnow
Jane Langer	grandmother of Karen Gerard	Jeff Lederman	brother of Linda Lederman
Oscar Lowy	grandfather of Terry Henry	Percy Paget	father of Debra Paget
Harry Poushter	father of Bruce Poushter	Toby Rosenstein	mother of Ronni Rosenstein
Elizabeth Wood	mother of Trudy Wood		

**Friday, December 27th, 2019**

Samuel Antkies	father of Michael Antkies	Mildred Block	aunt of Barbara Manners
Evelyn Brenner	grandmother of Scott Brenner	Martha Cohen	grandmother of Tiffany Zezula
Gay Golman	aunt of Jamie Garrett	Anna Heit	grandmother of Stephen Heit
Arthur Karsch	father of Karen Blum	Paul Lowy	father of Terry Henry
Arnold Manus	father of Rhonda Manus	Jodie Teitler	cousin of Laura Leitner
Minnie Wallach	mother-in-law of Margery Wallach		

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**calm** your mind,  
**renew** your spirit...

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Director

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## *Condolences-*

*To the family of Miriam Wetchler, on the death of Miriam's father, John Buob, z"l.  
May his memory be for a blessing.*

NOVEMBER 2019

HESHVAN/KISLEV 5780

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1					1 9:15 am- ECC 11:30 am- Young Community Shabbat 6:00 pm- Kabbalat Shabbat Worship	2 10:30 am- Shabbat Morning Worship- Bat Mitzvah of Phoebe Lichtman
3 DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS- TURN CLOCKS BACK 9am-12pm-Religious School	4 9:15 am- ECC	5 No ECC	6 9:15 am- ECC 4:15-6pm-Religious School 7:30pm- Book Club	7 No ECC 7-9 pm- Mah Jong	8 9:15 am- ECC 11:30 am- Young Community Shabbat 5:30 pm- Tot Shabbat 2.0 7:30 pm- Kabbalat Shabbat Worship with Mark Fineberg	9 5:00 pm- Shabbat Afternoon Worship- Bar Mitzvah of Jordan Rubinfeld
10 No Religious School	11 No ECC Veteran's Day Office closed	12 9:15 am- ECC	13 9:15 am- ECC 4:15-6pm-Religious School	14 No ECC 7-9 pm- Mah Jong	15 9:15 am- ECC 22:30 am- Young Community Shabbat 7:30 pm- Israeli Mu- sic Shabbat "Jazzy Jewish Acapella"	16 10:30 am- Shabbat Morning Worship- Bat Mitzvah of Hannah Rosenfeld
17 Social Action- Break- fast Run 9am-12pm-Religious School 11:15-12noon- RS Sunday Social 1:30pm- Active Adults- Tamar Drucker 3:00pm- Afternoon of Musical Theatre songs	18 9:15 am- ECC	19 9:15 am- ECC	20 9:15 am- ECC 4:15-6pm-Religious School	21 No ECC 12 noon- "Lunch & Learn" w/ Rabbi Haddon 7-9 pm- Mah Jong	22 9:15 am- ECC 11:30 am- Young Community Shab- bat- Thanksgiving celebration 7:30 pm- Kabbalat Shabbat Worship	23 5:00 pm- Shabbat Afternoon Worship- Bar Mitzvah of Eli Bovilsky
24 9am-12pm-Religious School	25	26	27 No ECC No Religious School	28 No ECC No Mah Jong Thanksgiving holiday	29 No ECC 7:30 pm- Kabbalat Shabbat Worship	30

DECEMBER 2019

KISLEV/TEVET 5780

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 NO Religious School	2	3	4 4:15-6pm- Religious School 7:30 pm- Book Club	5 No ECC 7:00 pm- Mah Jong	6 9:15 am- ECC 11:30 am- Young Community Shabbat 6:00 pm- Kabbalat Shabbat Worship	7
8 9:00am-12 noon- Religious School 9:30 am- Annual Meeting (snow date 12/15/19) 11:15-12noon- RS Sunday Social 4-6pm- Cantor's Classical Concert	9	10	11 4:15-6pm- Religious School	12 No ECC 7:00 pm- Mah Jong	13 9:15 am- ECC 11:30 am- Young Community Shabbat 7:30 pm- Kabbalat Shabbat Worship URJ Biennial	14
15 9:00am-12 noon- Religious School- Hanukkah Event (during school hours)	16	17	18 4:15-6pm- Religious School	19 No ECC 7:00 pm- Mah Jong	20 9:15 am- ECC 11:30 am- Young Community Shabbat 5:30 pm- Tot Shabbat 2.0 7:30 pm- Kabbalat Shabbat Worship	21
22 No Religious School Hanukkah- 1st night	23 No ECC	24 No ECC	25 No ECC No Religious School	26 No ECC 7:00 pm- Mah Jong	27 No ECC 7:30 pm- Kabbalat Shabbat Worship	28
29 No Religious School Hanukkah- last night	30 No ECC	31 No ECC				



# Fun at Pizza in the Hut 2019!





# CONGREGATION SHIR SHALOM

of Westchester and Fairfield Counties

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