



## MARCH AND APRIL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Mar 6	6:00 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat
Mar 7	10:30 am	Shabbat Morning Worship Bar Mitzvah of Max Wasserman
Mar 9	5:00 pm 5:45 pm	Purim celebration/dinner Megillah reading
Mar 13	7:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat
Mar 14	9:00 am 10:30 am	Torah 101-Shabbat Morning Study Shabbat Morning Worship Bat Mitzvah of Eliza Craw
Mar 20	7:30 pm	Classic Cantorial Shabbat Oneg Shabbat
Mar 21	5:00 pm	Shabbat Afternoon Worship Bat Mitzvah of Talia Bender
Mar 27	7:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat
Mar 28	10:30 am 5:00 pm	Shabbat Morning Worship Bar Mitzvah of Austin Omin Shabbat Afternoon Worship Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Voellmicke

Apr 3	6:00 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat
Apr 4	9:00 am 10:30 am	Torah 101- Shabbat Morning Study Shabbat Morning Worship Bat Mitzvah of Julia Knispel
Apr 8	8:00 am	Feast/Fast of the First Born
Apr 9	10:00 am 5:30 pm	Passover Morning Worship 2nd Night Seder
Apr 10	7:30 pm	Shabbat Chol Moed Worship
Apr 15	5:00 pm	End of Pesach with Yizkor Worship
Apr 17	7:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Oneg Shabbat
Apr 18	9:00 am 10:30 am	Torah 101- Shabbat Morning Study Shabbat Morning Worship Bar Mitzvah of Jason Samuels
Apr 24	7:30 pm	A Suite Shabbat Oneg Shabbat
Apr 25	10:30 am	Shabbat Morning Worship Bat Mitzvah of Alexis Barrett

CONGREGATION SHIR SHALOM  
INVITES YOU TO THE

# ***BROTHERHOOD KICK-OFF PARTY***

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MARCH MADNESS  
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**CONGREGATION SHIR SHALOM**  
of Westchester and Fairfield Counties

Presented by Congregation Shir Shalom Religious School

# PURIM CARNIVAL

**Free Popcorn & Cotton Candy**

**Sunday, March 8,**  
**Congregation Shir Shalom of**  
**Westchester and Fairfield Counties**  
46 Peaceable Street, Ridgefield, CT

**CONTACT 203-438-6589 FOR MORE INFO**

**ADMISSION \$10 A CHILD**  
Adult admission FREE

**11:00 am-12:00pm**  
Religious school students only

**12:00 pm-2:00 pm**  
Open to the Public

**Food & Drinks for Sale**

**Carnival Games**  
**Inflatable Twister**

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**Danny Diamond**  
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## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Larry Hoffman

As this is my first article as President, I thought I would take this opportunity to introduce myself. My wife Vivian and I fell in love with South Salem twenty-three years ago, and decided this was the town we wanted to raise our two children Greg and Sophie. We were living in New York City and were ready for a change and loved the peace and quiet the town offered, we had heard good things about the school system and felt this was a great place to put down roots. Although neither of us came from overly religious families it was important to us to find a synagogue to join that we hoped would provide us with a sense of community, a place for our children to receive a foundation in Jewish learning and a place to make new friends. From the very first service we attended we were struck by the unique ability that Shir Shalom had to combine elements of music, worship, spirituality and a focus on secular matters that we identified with. Like many I suppose it took me a long time to get involved in any leadership role, but when I was asked to join the Board two years ago I knew in my heart it was time for me to serve a community that had supported and served my family so well for over twenty years. I am very fortunate to be joined in my new role as President by Terry Henry who as my Executive Vice President brings an amazing skill set to her leadership role and shares my passion and drive to assure that Shir Shalom remains a vibrant and inclusive community inspired by Jewish values and traditions. I also want to thank Lynn Broder our immediate past President for all her hard work and her continuing effort to support me and our entire sacred community.

I have come to truly appreciate these last few years that all our lay leaders and all our volunteers have one primary goal: to see Shir Shalom prosper and grow and for its members to have an enriching, meaningful and enjoyable experience each and every time they interact within our sacred community. What I did not fully realize or appreciate until I decided to get more involved with a leadership role is just how many people, both professional staff and volunteers are needed to make the synagogue everything we want it to be. It may surprise some members to hear that beyond our professional staff that does so much for our community there are fifteen different committees here at Shir Shalom staffed by volunteers who work very hard throughout the year to make our collective experience and personal connections more meaningful, for this I am and we should all be very grateful.

As I embark on my new role as President our staff and committees are busy planning numerous events and activities for members of all ages, I encourage everyone to try to make the time and participate. I promise you will have fun, maybe make a new friend and perhaps even come away enriched by your experience.

I would be remiss in my new role if I did not mention that our Atid-campaign for the future will begin in earnest by the time of this publication. Our campaign committee is fully staffed and we are very excited and our goal is to have one hundred percent participation. We will be sharing details of our vision for the future with all of our members and sincerely hope you will make an investment to strengthen our sacred community.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your President. If you have any questions or concerns please reach out to me. I can be reached at [president@OurShirShalom.org](mailto:president@OurShirShalom.org)

Warm Regards,

Larry Hoffman

## FROM RABBI REINER'S DESK



We prepare for Passover both in practical ways (cleaning our home and organizing for Seder meals) as well as spiritually. In the weeks leading up to Passover we read through a series of special additional Torah portions that helped focus our attention on the sacred tasks of preparation. We are encouraged to think about how we create and experience sacred time and sacred space. With this in mind, I want to encourage all of us to consider what makes Congregation Shir Shalom and this season *kodesh* (sacred), holy, wholly separate.

I often think about the classic, essential question from our seder: *Mah Nishtanah?*--What makes this different? This question inspires my work and the sacred work of our leadership and can inspire our involvement with Congregation Shir Shalom on a daily basis. What makes our involvement with Congregation Shir Shalom different from other tasks and activities? How is time with Congregation Shir Shalom different from time with other groups you may support (RVNA, the Women's Center, Rotary Club, country club, Daily Bread Food Pantry)? At work? With family? On vacation? When we speak about "holiness" in Judaism, this IS what we mean: "holy" means separate, special, set aside. At *Haodallah* we recite a special blessing for "*bein kodesh l'chol*" expressing gratitude for separating between that which is holy and that which is not. The essential question then which we must consider is: "what makes our work here different and holy?" as well as: "How may we infuse our involvement with Congregation Shir Shalom with holiness?"

The past months have been busy at Congregation Shir Shalom; there have been many opportunities for many people to participate in our special community. More than fifty attended our recent program focused on the music of Bob Dylan (organized by Serafima Dashevskaya and the Adult Programming Committee). Nearly forty attended our inaugural Shabbat Morning Music and Meditation service. Tot Shabbat continues to grow and interest new families and our Sunday Religious School Parent brunches are well attended. I am writing this before Shabbat Across America and anticipate another wonderful evening organized by Jessica Aframe and the Congregants Committee. We have socialized, learned, and prayed together, grown as individuals and grown as a congregational community. There will be many more opportunities for engagement in March and April, beginning with our celebrations of Purim and Passover, continuing through our communal *Seder* and many other programs and events.

Our Jewish "identity" as Congregation Shir Shalom continues to evolve. As much as we celebrate the past as a sacred community – both the history of our people and our own family histories – we also seek to enrich present moments by helping people add meaning to their lives and deepen their relationships with family, friends, and neighbors. And we use the knowledge of our history and current experiences to inspire our collective and individual future.

Together we can make this a holy month and a holy time in our lives, in our families, and in this community. May we find meaning in ancient rituals, and appreciate the holy nature of our Jewish observances and connections to our sacred community.

Chag Purim Sameach and Chag Sameach V'kasher – a Happy and Kosher Purim and Passover!

Rabbi David Reiner

## A Very Musical and Meaningful March and April

There are so many wonderful events and special services coming up in the months of March and April. I hope you will try to attend as many as possible. I am also going to experience a few community events and a national one as well. Let me explain!

**March 1-3 AIPAC:** This is my second year attending AIPAC, the bi-partisan diverse gathering of supporters of Israel that brings thousands of pro-Israel activists together. Last year was incredible, and I am sure this year will be even better. Israel needs our support and I am so proud to attend and learn from the world leaders and speakers at this annual event.

**Friday March 20 7:30 PM Classic Cantorial Shabbat:** While I grew up on folk rock, it is the music of my father and grandfather that touched my soul growing up, continuing to this day. This service will feature the music of my esteemed grandfather, Cantor Adolph Katchko, who composed the Thesaurus of Cantorial Liturgy used to this day as curriculum at Hebrew Union College's cantorial program. Gina Wilson will accompany on the piano. Shir Shalom Adult Choir will participate.

**Sunday March 22 4pm Kol Ishah Concert** Temple Sinai Cranston, RI: If you know anyone in the area, I will be participating in this concert of women cantors honoring Cantor Deborah Johnson, of Temple Sinai.

**Thursday March 26 Miriam's Table 6:00 PM:** A festive, Modern, Mediterranean Women's Seder. "An empowering, soulful, Musical Passover journey, celebrating our mothers, daughters and sisters and our rise to freedom through the generations"

Produced by Beth Styles and Chasing Light Women Speakers

Hosted by Temple Beth El 350 Roxbury Rd. Stamford, CT

Featuring: Beth Styles, Ellen Allard, Cantor Deborah Jacobson, Cantor Deborah Katchko-Gray,

Tricia Small, Efrat Shapira, Elizabeth Peress-Swan and Sasha Mogilevich.

Registration, table sponsorship and journal ads will be posted soon.

I would love to see a table or two from Shir Shalom there! I think it will be an incredible evening!

**Thursday April 9 Shir Shalom's Second Seder!** Thank you in advance to the ritual comm and many others who will make this a wonderful congregational experience.

**Friday April 24 A Suite Shabbat** with Julian Schwarz, cello and Marika Bournaki, piano 7:30PM

I am so fortunate to know these world class touring and teaching musicians. [www.julianschwarz.com](http://www.julianschwarz.com) and [www.marikabournaki.com](http://www.marikabournaki.com)

Please look at their websites and listen to them in person in our sanctuary. This is the third year I have invited them back, because they are so extraordinary. They will play during the service and perform a short program by Jewish classical composers.

I am looking forward to sharing a beautiful spring full of music and prayer with you.

Shalom,

Cantor Deborah Katchko-Gray





*Cantor Deborah Katchko-Gray*

*and*

*Dr. F. Scott Gray*

*joyously invite the congregation to the naming of their granddaughter,  
Ella Jean Zimmerman,*

*daughter of Aaron and Franki Zimmerman.*

*Ella was born Dec. 21, 2019 in Stamford, C.T.*

*The naming will take place on*

*Sunday April 5 11:00 a.m.*

*at Congregation Shir Shalom.*

*A festive luncheon will follow the naming.*

*Kindly RSVP via email to [cantordebbie@gmail.com](mailto:cantordebbie@gmail.com)*



*We Appreciate Your Generosity*

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in memory of Jon Stockel's parents

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Shabbat Across America

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in honor of Rabbi for Zachary Higgins Bar Mitzvah

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in honor of Zachary's Bar Mitzvah

**Early Childhood Center**

Alex & Deborah Perry

with thanks

Jeff & Emily Levi

with thanks





# Our Religious School...

B'zelem Elohim



Rabbi Marcus Burstein, of blessed memory, and I often discussed the concept of B'zelem Elohim. What does it really mean to be created in God's image? How can we teach our students to make sense of this central Jewish teaching that also has moorings in many other traditions? These discussions would often lead to ones about inclusion and acceptance. I always walked away from these meetings a little happier but couldn't say why. Maybe acceptance of others gives us a sense of wholeness and peace... knowing that the world is a safe place for all of us. With so many different kinds of people in it, do we at least all share something... a likeness to God?

At the Religious School, we try very hard to treat all of our students and teachers as individuals-- and although one group represents a school, and the other-- a staff of educators, all the many faces matter. Knowing each other in a deeper more personal way makes ours a sacred community. The parents of the children are clearly a part of the fabric, too, as well as our clergy. We are a team made up of a thousand bits of light. As we study other communities and cultures, present and long gone, we try to look at these groups as people who deserve our respect even if we don't always agree with choices made and roads taken.

One related curriculum I found directed at teachers states, "The underpinning of the Jewish value system is the notion that humans were created 'B'Tzelem Elohim,' in God's image. This unit explores how we can honor the image of God in ourselves and in others and how that affects the way we behave in the world. The goal is to keep our consciousness of B'tzelem Elohim always available to help influence our behavior even as it enhances our self-image and dignity. Rabbi Akiva put it this way (Avot 3:14) 'Beloved [of God] are humans, for they are created in God's image; but greater still was the love shown to humans in that it was made known to them that they were created in the image of God...' As Kravitz and Olitzky comment on this passage (in their book, *Pirke Avot: A Modern Commentary on Jewish Ethics*): '...if our bond to God is one of love, it is incumbent upon us to relate lovingly to one another, as human beings, as fellow images of God.' "

In a recent URJ newsletter that talks about inclusivity, we read, "People with disabilities and mental health conditions, and those who love them, just want what everyone else wants – to belong. We are reminded in B'reishit 1:26 that all of us are created in God's image. It doesn't say "only some people are created in God's image"; it says that each one of us has a place to belong, just by being human. When you meet someone who lives with a disability or mental health condition and you look into their eyes and see yourself reflected there, you will know that you both share something precious and holy."

I think that last sentence grabs hold of what Marcus (Rabbi Burstein) wanted to convey... that holiness is something in us and attainable if we just choose to see it in ourselves and others. Living life this way takes a commitment.

This past fall, a mother approached me, nearly in tears. She and her family were looking very hard for a long time to find a Jewish community in where they could feel comfortable as their two children have special medical histories/needs that would require special effort on behalf of the religious school they might attend. They searched other synagogues without much luck... and after we shared how deeply we care for all those who choose to come into our tent at Shir Shalom, they gave us a try. I'd like to say this is a success story for this family who really cared to be loved for who they are. Any and all accommodations we make to give their children a safe place to learn makes us richer for it. We hope they feel as welcome as they are here. Everybody counts!

When the rest of the world seems cold and indifferent to our needs, Shir Shalom and the Religious School should feel like a place that celebrates all of us, one congregant and student at a time.

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As Early School Registration (discounted tuition) begins in April, please tell anyone you know interested in a meaningful and fun Jewish education that values individual needs-- to come on board. March and April are Open House months and we would love to show your friends around while school is in session.

Please join us!

\*\*\*\*\*



February 2020 marked the eleventh time Jewish communities around the world joined together to recognize Jewish Disability Awareness, Acceptance, and Inclusion Month (JDAIM). (from URJ Inside Leadership)



Amazing, simply amazing! Have you ever seen a challah bread in the shape of a menorah?? The picture may be a bit late, but we just had to share it with you.





**It's Time to Register!**  
**Congregation Shir Shalom**  
**Religious School 2020-21**

**EARLY REGISTRATION**

**Discounted Tuition from**  
**April 1- June 15**

*Registration forms are available*  
*in the office and online*

<http://ourshirshalom.org/education/rs>



**New to our Shir Shalom Religious School?**

**March and April are**  
**Open House Months!**

Join us any weekend in March or April  
 when school is in session:

Sundays 9:00 am-12:00 pm

For info or to RSVP,  
 email [Leslie@OurShirShalom.org](mailto:Leslie@OurShirShalom.org)



46 Peaceable Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877  
 Phone: (203) 438-6589 • [ourshirshalom.org](http://ourshirshalom.org)



# Ooo Baby, Baby....

*On November 28, 2019, Sophia, Jeremy, and James Haber happily announced the birth of their nephew, Oze Baldwin Marder. This new addition is the son of Rabbi Hilly Haber and Rabbi Rachel Marder..*



*On December 16th, 2019 Richard Lipton and Ellen Lipton enjoyed announcing the arrival of their grandson, Jacob David Lipton.*



*Cantor Debbie, soaking in some “grandma time” with her newborn granddaughter, Ella Jean Zimmerman. Like the Lipton baby, Ella was also born in December, just in time to celebrate her first Hanukkah! No doubt that Cantor and Dr. Gray are enjoying spoiling little Ella.*

*Aron and Judy Hirt-Manheimer welcomed a new baby granddaughter. Born on January 14th, 2020, she has affectionately been named Eleanor Klenam Manheimer*



## EXCERPTS IN JEWISH HISTORY

## THE UNSUNG HERO; HIRAM BINGHAM IV

By Lewis Siegel

Who was Hiram Bingham IV? He was, of course, the son of Hiram Bingham III. So, who was Hiram Bingham III? Hiram Bingham III an American academic and later a politician, was born in Hawaii in 1875, educated in the United States, and received a B.A. from Yale and a Ph.D. from Harvard. He taught history briefly at both Harvard and Yale. In 1908, he was part of a delegation to the first Pan American Congress at Santiago, Chile. During his travels through South America, Bingham became curious about the unexplored regions of Peru, particularly the Inca cities. In 1911, he returned with the Yale Peruvian Expedition, and along with some local farmers, discovered the ancient city of Machu Picchu. Whether he was actually the first to accomplish that is questionable, but he did publish a book called "The Lost City of the Incas". It was said that Bingham was probably the inspiration for the character "Indiana Jones". Hiram Bingham III eventually became governor of Connecticut and later on was elected senator from Connecticut. He died in 1956.

This brings us to Hiram Bingham IV. He was born in 1903, and died in 1988. Hiram Bingham IV grew up in Connecticut, had 10 siblings, and was educated at Yale and then Harvard Law School. Surprisingly, the last 43 years of his life were quite uneventful. He had no occupation or profession. He had four children, and when he died, they had almost no idea of his past, and knew little more about him than one who would spend his time sitting around the house, painting and playing the cello. However, his biography reveals another whole part of his life.

### **The Hiram Bingham IV that few people knew-**

In 1996, after Hiram Bingham IV's wife died, his youngest son William was cleaning out an old dusty closet and discovered a box of documents from which an extraordinary story unfolded.

After law school, Hiram Bingham IV worked for the State Department with assignments in Japan, London and Warsaw in the 1930's. He received his first glimpse of Nazism on a routine visit to Berlin after Hitler came to power in 1933. He saw Jewish stores damaged and signs saying, "No Jews or dogs allowed". In 1937, Bingham was assigned to a low-level diplomatic post in Marseille, France. He had ambitions of becoming a U.S. ambassador. That hope changed dramatically one July day in 1940. The Germans had invaded France and Paris was under Nazi control, as was much of southern France. Bingham sent his wife and children back to safety in America. The Nazis-sympathetic Vichy government was now in charge.

Lion Feuchtwanger, one of the harshest critics of the Nazis, who was forced out of Germany, was then living in southern France and was on the verge of being captured by the Gestapo. Bingham offered to shelter him in his home, thereby violating French law and U.S. policy. Bingham, along with journalist Varian Fry (another Holocaust hero), prepared the proper documents in order to safely transport Feuchtwanger to the United States. Bingham had the authority to issue exit visas, but received orders from his superiors to cease that operation. Breckinridge Long, an assistant secretary of state, and the mostly anti-Semitic U.S. State Department, had no desire to bring Jewish refugees into the United States. He was one of the major obstructionists. He chose the pretext that if thousands of refugees were allowed

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into the United States, the group would be permeated with spies and enemy agents. Thus, orders were issued to stop or delay indefinitely the granting of visas. Just about every consul followed these orders faithfully, but not Hiram Bingham IV. Meanwhile, thousands of Jewish refugees had filtered into France, but were now desperate to leave for safer places as the Nazis were closing in. In direct defiance of his superiors, Bingham issued at least 2500 travel documents that helped usher the refugees to safety. Those 2500 visas were issued over a period of 10 months. In many instances, he had to help coordinate the process that allowed people to be smuggled out of the country. Among those he saved from the Nazis were many who were to become famous. They included the artists Marc Chagall and Max Ernst, the philosopher and writer Hannah Arendt, and the Nobel Prize winning biochemist Otto Meyerhoff, to mention a few. Hiram Bingham IV secretly sheltered Heinrich Mann and his son Golo, the nephew of Thomas Mann, in his own home.

Bingham visited refugee detention camps in France where the inmates were living under extreme sub-par conditions. Thousands were starving and many were dying. He campaigned vigorously for major improvements in the living conditions. At the same time, circumventing State Department regulations regarding immigration, Bingham relentlessly and secretly arranged for many of those detainees to make their way to the United States.

After Bingham's incredible accomplishment during those 10 months in Marseille, the State Department became aware of his activity and transferred him to a position in Argentina, where he spent the remainder of the war. Bingham was no hero to them and his career was effectively over. In 1945 he resigned from the government and retired to his farmhouse in Salem, Connecticut. He died in 1988.

In 1998, the Yad Vashem Memorial honored Hiram Bingham IV and 10 other diplomats for their extraordinary efforts to save many thousands of lives. Bingham's children planted a tree honoring their father in the Sugihara forest overlooking Jerusalem.

In 2006, The United States Postal Service issued a stamp honoring Hiram Bingham IV for his exceptional contribution to mankind. Bingham received additional honors posthumously including the "Courage to Care" award from the Anti-Defamation League.

Hiram Bingham was one of those unsung heroes who sacrificed his career, and at times may have risked his life so that others could live. Sadly, his children grew up not knowing what an incredible man their father was.

*"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.*







## SOCIAL ACTION NEWS

by *Debbie Lavin, Amy Margulies & Debbie Landzberg*

On November 19th, 2019 Congregation Shir Shalom had another very successful **BREAKFAST RUN** event in NYC. We would like to thank our Saturday helpers who prepared the food and clothing for the run; Jennifer & Casey Mayer, Julie & Lexi Held, Debbie & Mark Lavin and Emily Wein. We can't thank enough the Sunday kitchen crew who arrive at 6AM to make the hot breakfast for the homeless; Serafima Dashevskaya, Laurie Dubin, Julie Held, Jen Carter, Stacey & Hannah Sussman and Emily & Miranda Wein. Lastly, our wonderful Breakfast Run crew who donated their time to deliver hot food and warm clothing to the homeless in NYC; Adam, Stacey, Hannah & Milo Sussman, Paul, Elizabeth, Zachary & Daniella Amerling, Kurt & Ben Voellmicke, Miranda Wein, Andrew Carter and David, Amy & Jake Margulies.

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers who have helped to staff the **Daily Bread Food Pantry** as families in need shop free-of-charge: Alisa Glick, Leslie & David Moss, Stephanie Herbstman, Debbie & Mark Lavin, Wendy Meyer, Emily Wein, Karen Brenner and Debbie Landzberg. We would love to include more of you. Client numbers increase every time the pantry opens its doors to serve the community. Daily Bread has seen record numbers of visitors in recent months and the pantry needs more volunteers than ever before. Please consider helping on the occasional Monday or Friday morning from 9:30 AM – 12:00 pm. No long-term commitment is necessary!

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

We would like to introduce a new volunteer opportunity: **Laundry Love** of Greater Danbury provides no-cost laundry services for struggling households. Program leaders state: "We see the laundromat as a place where strangers become friends, people are known by name, and the worth of every human being is acknowledged and celebrated" Guests will wash their own clothing and linens free-of-charge and volunteers will help the clients use washers and driers, dispense detergent and manage the flow of guests and use of machines. Sign-ups are done on-line for 2-hour shifts. Let us know of your interest and we'll send you the link.

**Details:** White Street Wash, 30 White Street, Danbury; Second Wednesday of each month; 1PM- 7PM

**MIDNIGHT RUN:** We have not had enough volunteers this year to do a night-time Run. Although it is a very meaningful experience, there were scheduling conflicts that have made it difficult to sign up enough folks. So the March Run is not happening this year. If this is a disappointment to people, please express your interest to us, and we can consider doing a night-time run in 2021. This is an activity that adults can sign up for, without teens, that can be very gratifying. We will still be having our **Breakfast Run in November 2020**

**MITZVAH DAY:** We will have our community-wide day of service on **Sunday, May 3, 2020**. This is an exciting day where we have had over 120 volunteers work on service projects for over a dozen organizations. Plus a pizza lunch and ice-cream sundae wrap up party! We need volunteers to help plan this day and people to lead the activities on the day. Please contact us to help on this fun project.

Please email us at [SocialAction@OurShirShalom.org](mailto:SocialAction@OurShirShalom.org)

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

## RITUAL COMMITTEE

BY MICHAEL SALPETER AND LAURIE DUBIN

When the military forces of Nazi Germany invaded Czechoslovakia in 1939, the Jewish communities in Bohemia and Moravia were subjected to the atrocities that were to define the Second World War. Residents were deported to various concentration camps, cemeteries were desecrated, synagogues and many sacred texts were destroyed. German troops began to collect Torah scrolls rather than destroy them possibly to display them in a "Museum of an Extinct Race". Many of us know the story of how these *sifrei Torah* were rescued by a group in England and eventually restored and distributed to congregations around the world.

Congregation Shir Shalom is fortunate to have 2 of these scrolls on permanent loan to us from The Memorial Scrolls Trust, representing the communities of Brno and Kromeriz. We have been celebrating these communities through the regular use of these scrolls as well as events during the year to remember the victims. The ritual committee is planning some additional ways we can honor both communities and the *sifrei Torah* and hope that our entire congregation will be involved. In addition, we should remember the righteous Christians who saved many Jews at great peril to themselves and their families. Stay tuned!

In about one month's time we will be celebrating Passover with our Annual Community Second Night Seder. What makes this gathering special is the combination of ritual, food, music, camaraderie for people of all ages, from small children to young adults, not so young adults, or any other cohort you can think of. We provide a catered festive meal, beverages, ritual foods and an enjoyable Seder service. Information flyers are available and you may call the office if you have any questions. So save the date – Thursday evening April 9, 2020. Hope to see you there.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SHIR SHALOM SISTERHOOD

By Margie Gorelick, Laurie Wolkin & Christina Gogish

With much gratitude to Bonnie Pazer and Wendy Meyers for their commitment and hard work with our Sisterhood, Margie Gorelick, Laurie Wolkin and Christina Gogish will now work as Sisterhood Coordinators to bring together women of Shir Shalom in community and activity. We are delighted (and relieved) to know that Lynn Broder has graciously agreed to AGAIN continue as Treasurer of Sisterhood.

Our first effort will be "Dinner Out!" on Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at Eddie's in Ridgefield (a friendly and relaxed atmosphere) from 6:45-8:30 p.m. Come join us to enjoy the company of old friends and new. The cost for dinner and one glass of wine or beer is \$35 payable in advance by noon Monday, March 2, 2020. Please send or drop off your payment to the Temple Office Att: Sisterhood.

We have some ideas for future activities and would love to hear about any suggestions as well. Popular activities of Tuesday's Knitting, Book Club (scheduled Wednesday's) and Mah Jongg (Thursday's 7-9) will continue and take place at the Temple. If your interested in learning to play Mah Jongg let us know and we will make a plan! We hope to plan an activity with Brotherhood! And, we plan to join together with other Committees for activities and events!

Please note that it's not too late to join Sisterhood for this year. If you wish to join Sisterhood now (Months of February through June) the rate will be \$36. Non-Temple members may join Sisterhood for up to two years at a rate of \$95 per year.

Joining Sisterhood strengthens our Jewish Community! Hope to see you soon!

Margie Gorelick, Laurie Wolkin & Christina Gogish

## ADULT PROGRAMMING

On January 26th Rabbi Stephen Karol was the guest speaker at Shir Shalom. He talked about Bob Dylan's connection to Judaism in a very engaging and fun way. We had more than 50 people in attendance and many of them were not our congregants. Our snacks included food mentioned in Dylan's songs.

In March, Arthur Kurzweil will come and present a lecture on "Searching for God in a Magic Shop".





## MARCH YAHRZEITEN

**Friday, March 6th, 2020**

Monte Baier	brother of Shelby White	Pauline Berkowitz	grandmother of Stephen Heit
Leonard Brodnick		Amy Cohen	sister of Adam Cohen
Ada Dolin	grandmother of Rachel Bender	Albert Elkin	grandfather of Stephanie Herbstman
Sam Farber	father of Hildi Glicklich	Moses Ferguson	uncle of Michael Bergman

**Friday, March 13th, 2020**

Steven Abraham	brother of Vivian Hoffman	Harvey Alterman	husband of Rhonda Manus
Elliot Bernstein	father of Meredith Rudin	Seymour Drucker	grandfather of Janine Gordon
Florence Fine	grandmother of Peter Fine	Ronald Graham	father of Brian Graham
Betty Ravitch	grandmother of Michael Gitlitz	Douglas Schwartz	son of Annabel Schwartz and
Charles Warton	brother of Gale Berman		brother of Vicki Yolen

**Friday, March 20th, 2020**

Laura Bank	aunt of Arnold Leitner	Edgar Bendor	father of Jane Bendor
Lyubov Dashevskaya	grandmother of Vladimir Gogish	Morris Heller	father of Paul Heller
Jerome Howard	father of Laurie Dubin	Anna Jacobson	grandmother of Karen Conti
George Levenson	uncle of Karen Brenner	Feyga Levin-Goldberg	
Gloria Margolis	mother of Elise Aries	Esther Mirkin	mother of Judith Strom
Fred Murad	brother of Menashe Murad	Jeanne Perrin	mother of Charles Perrin
Elsie Rudy		Sam Schmeltzer	
Tillie Schmeltzer	mother of Resa Fremed	Richard Wood	father of Trudy Wood

**Friday, March 27th, 2020**

Daniel Berlin	brother of Ruth Ossher	Harry Cohen	grandfather of Steve Kaye
Michael Davis	brother-in-law- of Elyse Davis	Eva Engel	grandmother of Robin Heit
Morton Eydenberg	father of Susan Westlake	David Hagen	son of Renee Hagen and
			brother of Ellen Lipton
Kenneth Henry	father of Robert Henry	Francis Horvilleur	father of Laurence Furic
Milton Kamler	grandfather of Adam Rubinfeld	Marvin Kipnes	father of Todd Kipnes
Leon Levy	husband of Shelby White	Helen Pilch	mother of Alan Pilch
Richard Ruo	father of Eileen Segalman	Robert Sigman	friend of the Berman family
Herman Zeitlin	father of Ianne Poushter		

## Coming Soon: Shir Shalom Congregant Directory

We are working on compiling a Congregant Directory for hard copy distribution to all congregants. The directory will support communications with you by staff, Board officers and committees and facilitate connections between congregants. As is the case for prior directories, the information is for personal use by congregants and is not to be shared outside our synagogue community or used for any business solicitations.

If you DO NOT want to be included in the directory, please notify us at [Office@ourshirshalom.org](mailto:Office@ourshirshalom.org) to opt out. In response, we will omit you from the directory in full. Sorry, but we do not have the capability to include partial listings.

Questions? Please email [Office@ourshirshalom.org](mailto:Office@ourshirshalom.org).

## APRIL YAHRZEITEN

**Friday, April 3rd, 2020**

Bernard Benjamin  
Marilyn Cohen  
Barbara Gray  
Eva Greenberg  
Wallace Kalter  
Rosalie Kupferschmid  
Anne Raynor  
Louis Rubinfeld  
Barbara Stoll

mother of Susannah Altman  
aunt of Scott Gray  
mother of Adrienne Orlan  
stepfather of Marcia Needleman  
mother of Geoff Kupferschmid

grandfather of Adam Rubinfeld  
mother of Susan Andrade

Ellen Cohen  
Bernie Gerard  
Louis Grayson  
Leonard Haber  
Mary Keleher  
Arthur Margolis  
Thelma Reichenthal  
Emmy Sternberger

mother of Rich Cohen  
father of Ira Gerard  
friend of Janine Gordon  
father of Edwin Haber  
mother of Catherine Mishkin  
father-in-law of Robi Margolis  
mother of Sandra Rosenhouse  
grandmother of Alice Gottlieb

**Friday, April 10th, 2020**

Alan Bangser  
Mary Benjamin  
Sarah Buchman  
Leah Fergenson  
Meyer Katz  
Cyril Lesser  
Isaac Weintraub

brother of Robert Bangser

aunt of Janine Gordon  
grandmother of Michael Bergman  
father of Claire Katz  
father of Diana Friedlander  
grandfather of Karen Gerard

Irwin Bassett  
Jack Berkowitz  
Arnold Eydenberg  
Warren Glittlen  
Ted Krulwich  
Ben Stern  
Fay Weisberg

brother of Annabel Schwartz  
grandfather of Stephen Heit  
grandfather of Susan Westlake  
grandfather of Franki Zimmerman  
brother of Jeffrey Krulwich  
brother of Barbara Manners  
mother of Marty Weisberg

**Friday, April 17th, 2020**

Millie Bernstein  
Rita Katchko  
Esther Oks-Ponczyk  
Adolph Ratner  
Mary Salpeter

aunt of Alan Pilch  
mother of Cantor Debbie  
grandmother of Jack Goldberg  
grandfather of Judith Strom  
mother of Michael Salpeter

Lillian Gordon  
Jo Ellen Kipnes  
Joshua Ponczyk  
Monroe Sachs

mother of Todd Kipnes  
grandfather of Jack Goldberg  
father of David Sachs

**Friday, April 24th, 2020**

Edward Carroll  
Nathalie Alexander  
Harvey Haddon  
Annette Holson  
Ruth Muchnick  
Rebecca Shimkin  
Hilda Vendig

father of Jim Carroll

brother of Rabbi Jon Haddon  
grandmother of Robin Heit  
grandmother of Jason Muchnick  
grandmother of Janine Gordon  
mother of Richard Vendig

Murray Fischberg  
Phyllis Goldfield  
Murray Haddon  
Joseph Hubsher  
Sol Saleem  
Lisa Stoll  
Louis Warton

mother of Laurie Wolkin  
father of Rabbi Jon Haddon  
grandfather of Jeffrey Hubsher  
grandfather of Kate Alvarez  
sister of Susan Andrade  
father of Gale Berman

*Condolences-*

To the family of Mark Lavin, on the death of Mark's father, Marshall Lavin, z"l.

To the family of David Moss, on the death of David's mother, Rhoda Moss, z"l.

To the family of Karen Taylor and Lori Stalowicz, on the death of their aunt,  
Rita Zelin, z"l.

To the family of Lora Wishod & Karen Sulzinsky, on the death of Lora's husband  
and Karen's father, Eugene Wishod, z"l.

*May their memory be for a blessing.*

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

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MARCH 2020

ADAR/NISAN 5780

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2 9:15 am- ECC	3 9:15 am- ECC 9:30 am- Sisterhood Knitting Group	4 9:15 am- ECC 4:15-6pm-Religious School 7:30pm- Book Club	5 9:15 am- ECC 7-9 pm- Mah Jong	6 9:15 am- ECC 11:30 am- Young Community Shabbat ECC Purim Celebra- tion 6:00 pm- Kabbalat Shabbat Worship	7 10:30 am- Shabbat Morning Worship- Bar Mitzvah- Max Wasserman <b>AT BEDTIME- TURN CLOCKS AHEAD</b>
8 9am-12pm-Religious School PURIM Carnival  <b>DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS</b>	9 9:15 am- ECC 5:00 pm- Purim Pizza & Microbrew tasting 5:45 pm- Megillah reading	10 9:15 am- ECC  PURIM	11 9:15 am- ECC 4:15-6pm-Religious School	12 9:15 am- ECC 7-9 pm- Mah Jong	13 9:15 am- ECC Parent Coffee 11:30 am- Young Community Shabbat 5:30 Tot Shabbat 2.0 7:30 pm- Kabbalat Shabbat Worship	14 9:00 am- Torah 101- Shabbat Morning Study 10:30 am- Shabbat Morning Worship- Bat Mitzvah- Eliza Crow
15 9am-12pm-Religious School	16 9:15 am- ECC	17 9:15 am- ECC 9:30 am- Sisterhood Knitting Group	18 9:15 am- ECC 4:15-6pm-Religious School	19 9:15 am- ECC 7-9 pm- Mah Jong	20 9:15 am- ECC 11:30 am- Young Community Shabbat 7:30 pm-Classic Cantorial Shabbat	21 5:00 pm- Shabbat Afternoon Worship- Bat Mitzvah- Talia Bender
22 9am-12pm-Religious School	23 9:15 am- ECC	24 9:15 am- ECC	25 9:15 am- ECC 4:15-6pm-Religious School	26 9:15 am- ECC 7-9 pm- Mah Jong 7:00 pm- Broth- erhood "March Madness" event (off site)	27 9:15 am- ECC 11:30 am- Young Community Shabbat 7:30 pm- Kabbalat Shabbat Worship	28 10:30 am- Shabbat Morning Worship Bar Mitzvah- Austin Omin 5:00 pm- Shabbat Afternoon Worship- Bar Mitzvah- Benjamin Voellmicke
29 9am-12pm-Religious School 3:00 pm- Adult Programming- Au- thor, Arthur Kurzweil "Searching for God in a Magic Shop"	30 9:15 am- ECC	31 9:15 am- ECC 9:30 am- Sisterhood Knitting Group				

APRIL 2020

NISAN/IYAR 5780

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 9:15 am- ECC 4:15-6pm- Religious School 7:30 pm- Book Club	2 9:15 am- ECC 7:00 pm- Mah Jong	3 9:15 am- ECC 11:30 am- Young Community Shabbat 6:00 pm- Kabbalat Shabbat Worship	4 9:00 am- Torah 101-Shabbat Morning Study 10:30 am- Shabbat Morning Worship- Bat Mitzvah- Julia Knispel
5 NO Religious School 11:00 am- Baby Naming- Ella Zimmerman	6 No ECC	7 No ECC	8 No ECC NO Religious School Erev Pesach 8:00 am- Feast/Fast of the Firstborn	9 Office Closed No ECC 10:00 am- Passover Morning Worship 5:30 pm- 2nd Night Seder No Mah Jong	10 No ECC 7:30 pm- Shabbat Chol Moed Worship	11
12 NO Religious School	13 9:15 am- ECC	14 9:15 am- ECC 9:30 am- Sisterhood Knitting	15 Office Closed-last day of Pesach No ECC NO Religious School 5:00 pm- end of Pesach with Yizkor worship	16 No ECC 7:00 pm- Mah Jong (to be held @ alternate location)	17 9:15 am- ECC 11:30 am- Young Community Shabbat 5:30 pm- Tot Shabbat 2.0 7:30 pm- Kabbalat Shabbat Worship	18 9:00 am- Torah 101-Shabbat Morning Study 10:30 am- Shabbat Morning Worship- Bar Mitzvah- Jason Samuels
19 9:00am-12 noon- Religious School- I	20 No ECC Building closed for Presidents' Day	21 No ECC	22 9:15 am- ECC 4:15-6pm- Religious School	23 9:15 am- ECC 7:00 pm- Mah Jong	24 9:15 am- ECC 11:30 am- Young Community Shabbat 7:30 pm- A Suite Shabbat Worship	25 10:30 am- Shabbat Morning Worship- Bat Mitzvah- Alexis Barrett
26 9:00am-12 noon- Religious School- 11:15-12noon RS Sunday Social	27 9:15 am- ECC	28 9:15 am- ECC 9:30 am- Sisterhood Knitting	29 9:15 am- ECC	30 9:15 am- ECC 7:00 pm- Mah Jong		

**Congregation Shir Shalom presents: "Searching for God  
in a Magic Shop" with renown Jewish author Arthur  
Kurzweil**



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