



AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER* (TENTATIVE) WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Aug 7	6:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship
Aug 14	6:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship
Aug 15	9:00 am	Torah 101-Shabbat Morning Study
Aug 21	6:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Rosh Chodesh Elul
Aug 28	6:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship

Sept 4	6:00 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship
Sept 5	5:00 pm	Shabbat Afternoon Worship Bat Mitzvah of Sophie Zezula
Sept 11	7:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship
Sept 18		Erev Rosh Hashanah
Sept 19		Rosh Hashanah - Day 1
Sept 20		Rosh Hashanah - Day 2
Sept 27		Kol Nidre/Erev Yom Kippur
Sept 28		Yom Kippur

*Plans for the High Holy Days including worship times are still being finalized. The High Holy Days will look different this year and we hope to have some in-person activities and worship during the High Holy Days and preserve much of what makes Congregation Shir Shalom an important spiritual center for our lives, and recognize that many will only be able to participate and celebrate online. Stay tuned for details including a drive-thru shofar sounding and our High Holy Day Food Drive.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Larry Hoffman

Summer Rain/Fantastic Fall

I have a very important and often asked question; Where does the time go? How can it be mid-July already?

The thunderstorms, the heat and humidity, the size of the tomato plants in my garden, the first bloom of Summer roses, which have now all disappeared, confirm that Summer is in full swing, and so yes time marches on no matter what unusual events are happening around the globe, our country or right here in our own community. So pay attention, enjoy each day of Summer because when you blink Fantastic Fall will be upon us.

I, along with others in leadership roles here at Shir Shalom, have spent a good portion of the Spring and early Summer reaching out to congregants in various ways to confirm their health and support their spiritual well being. Now the leadership team has turned their attention to developing detailed plans that will allow for the reopening of Shir Shalom in a manner which has in mind the safety and health of all members of our sacred community. We will be adopting many changes in accordance with guidelines provided by State and local officials and with the help and recommendations of the Doctors on our reopening Task Force.

The silver lining of a very rough Spring for CT, NY, and NJ is that the measures put in place by local leaders has had tremendous benefits for our local communities and we plan to adhere strictly to these proven measures as we reopen our Sacred Community. Our vision for late Summer and Fall is to provide ample and safe opportunities to attend in-person worship and programming for those who are willing to comply with our new guidelines. At the same time we fully realize that some members of our community will not be comfortable returning to in-person worship events or programs and we will be providing ample opportunities for remote/virtual worship and programming.

Hybrid cars have taken a number of years to develop and catch on and certainly offer some advantages to conventional automobiles. We will be adopting a hybrid approach at Shir Shalom in the near term to stay connected, to bind our community and best serve our entire congregation. That said make no mistake I am rooting for a Fantastic Fall in the future complete with remote parking, lots of welcoming hugs and traditional hand shakes, babies squealing and a few admonitions from the Rabbi trying to hush our large unruly crowd in order to begin the service.

Warm Regards,
Larry Hoffman President
President@OurShirShalom.org

FROM RABBI REINER'S DESK



Many of my fondest memories of the High Holy Days from childhood did not involve services in the Sanctuary: Al's repurposed briefcase, used to carry and protect his shofar; the head usher, and his lovely white boutonniere, hushing noisy adolescents and keeping people from entering the sanctuary during standing prayers. The delicious punch Mr. Tomas would create for the conclusion of Yom Kippur and Break Fast at the Berg's house. The head of the comically large wooden mallet would fall off every year as we used it to hammer a stake into the ground at the conclusion of Yom Kippur, symbolically starting to build the congregation's sukkah. Of course the Cantor's voice was beautiful and uplifting as was the choir and musical accompaniment. I found inspiration from the readings in our prayer book, though my mind sometimes drifted during the rabbi's excellently crafted sermons (don't tell my dad!). Prayers and music in the sanctuary were important for celebrating AND there was much more.

As we prepare for the High Holy Days, I recognize that our observances and celebrations will, inevitably, be VERY different this year. We hope to have some in-person worship and recognize that we are not able to gather safely as we have in years past. Even if state and local health officials, or our team of medical advisors were okay with a large indoor gathering, even if we had instant testing or everyone wore masks perfectly and was doused in sanitizer, there are many in our sacred community who will not be comfortable with attending worship in person for good reason.

The Jewish value of pikuach nefesh elevates the preservation of life above all other mitzvot/ commandments. For example, on Yom Kippur we are required to NOT fast if fasting endangers our life. In the context of the novel coronavirus and COVID-19, ensuring the health and safety of everyone in our sacred community is prioritized over attending services or hearing the Torah read.

With the realization that our celebrations will be different I am experiencing some sadness and grief. Stepping past sadness about the important and immediate personal impacts of the novel coronavirus and COVID-19 – so many people experiencing illness, death, and economic insecurity – I am grieving that the special celebrations of our sacred season will not be the same this year. I am experiencing sadness and a sense of loss at that prospect and would imagine that many in our sacred community are experiencing similar feelings and emotions.

We often conclude funerals by sharing the words "Now go forth to life," an acknowledgement that it is important to grieve AND it is important to continue living. Beyond my grief I am excited about possibilities for celebrating the High Holy Days differently this year – rethinking and adapting our ancient traditions and the customs that we find most meaningful for the reality we are experiencing.

FROM RABBI REINER'S DESK CONT.

Following pikuach nefesh does not suggest that we should cancel or skip our celebration of the High Holy Days. The Judaism that we practice today has evolved over millennia in the face of many challenges and existential threats. There are many constants and many adaptations. As Reform Jews, especially, we are committed to a progressive (with a small “p”) approach to Judaism, adapting our rituals and practices in consultation with modernity. If we adhered rigidly to the Judaism of even a century ago, we would not have a woman cantor, women rabbis, nor would young women become Bat Mitzvah. Some change is gradual and some changes are prompted by external events. It can be difficult to contemplate what our future will look like, especially while we are still grieving the sudden loss of what we knew as “normal,” and we have an opportunity to experiment and redefine what it means to celebrate the High Holy Days.

As we begin planning for the High Holy Days I have been asking a simple and important question: What experiences/memories of the High Holy Days have been most meaningful to you? I am eager to hear your thoughts and hope you will respond to me directly (RabbiReiner@ourshirshalom.org) or post on our Shir Shalom Friends Facebook group.

We are pursuing many creative ideas already, preserving or adapting some of the most meaningful aspects of past celebrations for the world that we know now.

May we all find health and comfort, wisdom and strength as we begin to prepare for our sacred celebrations.

Rabbi David Reiner

CANTOR'S CORNER

CANTOR DEBORAH KATCHKO-GRAY

Hope — something so essential, we really can't live without it. I have been a devoted student of Prof Elie Wiesel of blessed memory since his very first class in the fall of 1976 at Boston University. I have taken copious notes from that first class, and continued until his final lectures at the 92nd St Y. It is my hope that I will write a book on his early classes, using my notes as a way to remember his voice and his teachings. I have over 50 essays written and about 30 more to complete from lectures and classes I attended of his. In reviewing some notes and trying to organize this enormous and sometimes overwhelming project, I came across my notes from a class in 1977 Holocaust: Memory and Conscience. His words jump off the page and leap into my heart. It is as if he is speaking to all of us today. I must share his words and my notes from 42 years ago- it is as if it was yesterday!

"When you meet a survivor, think and feel. A Survivor is the most tragic minority of all- try to understand him or her." "I hope you will remember our studies."

Elie Wiesel hopes it opened up a certain thirst for humanity-

If you see suffering- YOU WILL DO SOMETHING

Not to be indifferent. If there was such inhumanity- now can one not be human?

WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?

- When you face evil don't let it grow: Fight it right away. Had Hitler been fought right away, there would have been no Holocaust. If France and England developed their forces in 1936 there would have been no Holocaust

Watch for origin

- Don't give the enemy a chance to become stronger
- Words are pale to describe certain experiences
- What else is there? Not faces, only words.
- The importance of small gestures- a smile can justify humanity
- In the ghetto if a person is hungry and they share bread- what is bread?
- What American throws out a day, poor nations could live on.
- The mystery of good is as deep as the mystery of evil
- There was a wall between victim and killer
- The victim did not become a killer
- There is one and one thing alone that we must all be obsessed with – MEMORY
- We cannot forget
- His words at the last class of the semester were powerful as well.



What have I learned?

- Never stand by when injustice is done
- Not to keep silent

I decided as long as I have strength I'm going to remind the world that regardless of religion, or color, all here have an obligation to listen.

Reading his words 42 years later, I am reminded of his dedication his entire life following the war, to remind us to remember, care, act, and have faith. May his words continue to resonate and teach us, to inspire us with hope, and uplift us as we remember.

ADULT PROGRAMMING

On June 28, Congregation Shir Shalom's Adult Programming committee presented their first talk via Zoom. The guest speaker was Dr. Aliza Erber. She shared the "Story of a Hidden Child of Holocaust."

Dr. Aliza Erber is a person of many talents. She talked about her family history, showing photographs and documents.

Dr. Aliza Erber was born to Jewish parents during WWII in Holland when it was occupied by Nazis. Her family went into hiding, as did Dr. Erber. An infant towards the end of the war, she survived being kept for almost two years in a bunker, underground, in

the Dutch woods. In 1945, only half of Holland was liberated and Dr. Erber, still in hiding in the occupied section of Holland, had to be smuggled to freedom. Mother and child were reunited after the war. Her father, Richard Levy, was murdered at Auschwitz. Aliza grew up in Israel until her family immigrated to the United States in 1959.

This virtual event attracted many attendees including congregants who live far away – this was one of advantages of offering this event online.



Happy Anniversary!

On June 12, Rabbi Reiner surprised Bobbie and Rick Cohan by joining them outside (socially distanced and wearing masks) to give them an Anniversary Blessing in celebration of their **48th** Wedding anniversary, which was June 11th. Bobbie was dropping off rainbow challah for our pride service at the synagogue. The Cohlans grandchildren were in the back seat and videoed it.

We also congratulate Michael & Carlyn Bergman on their **50th** wedding anniversary, which they celebrated on June 6th!

Ooo Baby, Baby....



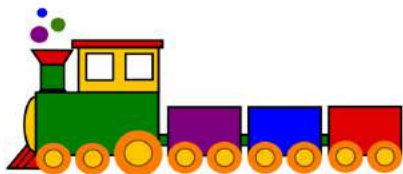
Margie and Jeff Gorelick welcomed their 4th grandchild on March 6th, 2020. Mia Wyatt Gorelick, daughter of Jacob and Jessica Gorelick. Mia has a big sister Emma who is two years old. Jacob and Jess reside in New Jersey.



Debbie and Mark Lavin welcomed their first grandchild, Mars, on May 22, 2020 to daughter Hillary and her husband Dylan. The happy



grandparents drove to Florida to be with them and help out.



Marion Milrod welcomed her new grandson, William Alexander Tyler Born on April 1, 2020 at 9:25 am



6.9 pounds

19 inches

Mom and dad are Julie and David Tyler. Big sister is Maeve Tyler. They live in Ridgefield.



MAZEL TOV!

We Appreciate Your Generosity!

General Fund

Holly, Neil, Tyler & Logan Alexander	in honor and appreciation of Michael Salpeter
Phyllis & David Amerling	in memory of Helen Bergson, <i>z"l</i>
Phyllis & David Amerling	Shavuot Yizkor
Frances Budd & family	in memory of Bernice Stein, <i>z"l</i> , mother of Gordon Schnell
Serafima Dashevskaya	
Joseph Ellis	in support of Fly the Colors
Joseph Ellis	
Laurence Furic	in memory of Francis Horvilleur, <i>z"l</i>
Alan Pilch & Elaine Gordon	
Hilary & Tyler Hughes	in honor of Tara Axler's birthday
Renny & Mike Nachwalter	in memory of Bonnie Pazer's mother, Carol Stone, <i>z"l</i>
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Sherrick	in honor of Emma Sherter becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Karen Taylor	in memory of Lynn Becker's father, Aaron Becker, <i>z"l</i>

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Holly, Neil, Tyler & Logan Alexander	in honor of Logan becoming Bar Mitzvah
Robert & Barbara Bangser	in appreciation
Michael & Gale Berman	
Richard & Debra Bush	in memory of Richard's father, Martin Bush, <i>z"l</i>
Richard & Debra Bush	in memory of Richard's mother, Rita Bush, <i>z"l</i>
Robin & Jeanine Bartley-Cohen	in honor of Jaime becoming Bat Mitzvah
Murray & Elinor Darvick	in memory of Steven A. Mechanic, <i>z"l</i>
Allan & Alice Gottlieb	in honor of the Rabbi's activities during this COVID season.
Alan Pilch & Elaine Gordon	in memory of Helen Pilch, <i>z"l</i> and Anne Gordon, <i>z"l</i>
Eric Larson	in honor of Rabbi Reiner's efforts to support the Congregation especially during this challenging time.
Leslie & David Moss & family	in memory of Leslie's father, Norman Remler, <i>z"l</i> and in appreciation of zoom worship
Gladys Remler	in memory of her husband and Leslie's father, Norman Remler, <i>z"l</i>
Mr. & Mrs. Edward Sherrick	in honor of Emma Sherter becoming a Bat Mitzvah
Allan & Alice Gottlieb	in memory of Eva Schenk, <i>z"l</i>

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

Holly, Neil, Tyler & Logan Alexander	in honor of Logan becoming Bar Mitzvah
Robin & Jeanine Bartley-Cohen	in honor of Jaime becoming Bat Mitzvah
Murray & Elinor Darvick	in memory of Steven A. Mechanic, <i>z"l</i>
Jeff & Linda Krulwich	in appreciation

We Appreciate Your Generosity!

Music Fund

Richard & Debra Bush	in memory of Richard’s mother, Rita Bush, z”l
Richard & Debra Bush	in memory of Richard’s father, Martin Bush, z”l
Alice & Alan Gottlieb, & Helen Bendix	in memory of Eva Schenk, z”l
Allan & Alice Gottlieb	in honor of Ella Zimmerman, granddaughter of Cantor Debbie

Rabbi Emeritus Fund

Robert & Barbara Bangser	in appreciation
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Mitzvah Project

Sophia Haber Gives Back!

Sophia started a project called Challah for Justice. If you donate \$18+ to one of her chosen CT-based organizations in the link on Shir Shalom Friends Facebook page, she will drop off a fresh-baked challah right on your doorstep. Every week there is a new flavor such as Cookie Butter, Salted Nutella Swirl, and Chocolate-filled Cinnamon Sugar Crunch! Thanks to your generosity, Challah for Justice raised \$2,000 as of July 8th for racial justice in CT.



Challah for Justice is:

- ⦿ Made with unbleached flour
- ⦿ Packaged in 100% recyclable materials
- ⦿ Delivered contact-free to your doorstep

IT'S TIME TO REGISTER!

Religious School 2020-2021

IT'S TIME TO REGISTER FOR RELIGIOUS SCHOOL 2020-2021
 FORMS CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE AT
[HTTPS://OURSHIRSHALOM.ORG/RS-REGISTRATION-PACKETS/](https://ourshirshalom.org/rs-registration-packets/)

Our Religious School...



Meeting Hate and the Pandemic with Humanity

by Leslie Gottlieb



This spring and summer has taught us a lot-- no matter who we are and no matter where we live. We are all one people so typically divided by the differences we choose to illuminate-- and defend. We all live in one neighborhood, plant Earth. If this pandemic has taught us anything, it is how alike we are, all flesh, bone and feelings. We all have families, friends, a past, a future to hold onto, and so much more that makes us more similar than not. And yet there is a sense of separation, division, blame... outrage. We are not the first ones alive to experience trauma by any means, and we will not be the last. We are in a unique place in history; that is true. Our humanity is a shared reality, at these times more than others.

As histrionic as these remarks appear... they seem dull in comparison to what can be said about other groups of people who have come before us facing even more dire times. Specifically, when we remember the Shoah, there are so many luxuries in life we are still now granted—even while living in the uncertain times of a global pandemic. I am grateful for this reminder.

The Museum of Jewish Heritage in NYC held an online course this summer in which I participated: Meeting Hate with Humanity. The title of the program is intensely beautiful to me. We can substitute Hate with Disease or the Pandemic and... the picture becomes more vivid. What are the lessons here for ourselves and our children? How do we meet this moment with humanity? How do we become good examples to each other in times like these? Questions abound. The eighty participants in the program—most secular school middle and high school teachers required to teach a certain number of hours about the Holocaust mandated by certain states—and I were in our comfortable climate controlled homes without the threat of bombs, soldiers coming to forcefully remove us—or worse. I am not my mother in law who hails from Poland-- and is still alive to tell the story of the hate she witnessed during WWII that turned murderous in front of her young eyes. I am grateful for the reminder.

The museum course featured professors, survivors of the Holocaust and the Rwandan genocide, and a trauma PhD who specializes in treating survivors and their children. It was a wonderful experience and the fact that it was held over Zoom did not detract from it at all. It may have even enhanced the experience as there was a sense of privacy for all the participants as the material became quite emotional at many points. It put a lot of what we are living through in perspective.

We are facing challenging times—all of us, every day. For those of us who can-- we are trying to work from home, take care of young children and take care of our families and friends so that we do not fall ill. We are trying to stay focused and calm, proactive and not so reactive. We are trying to exercise, eat right and visit with those in our close circle of relatives and friends in a responsible way. We are trying not to judge others and this is very hard to do at times. We are trying to instill lifelong lessons about human behavior to others who are listening. We are being kind to others as much as possible. We are sleeping in our own beds but not in all cases as those less lucky are being forced to leave their homes. I am grateful for this reminder.

NEWS FROM THE ECC

Our Early Childhood Center

by Sarah Denyer (ECC Director)

The last few months of our school year happened remotely via Zoom, but we certainly made the best of it! Our many Zoom lessons included visits to various Community Helpers, tracking the growth of some live tadpoles, weekly yoga classes, science experiments, Tell and Show sessions, Mystery Readers, salt-water fish tank tours, guessing games, and art projects. Though we would much rather have been together in person, it warmed our hearts to see our students each morning on the screen and we are very grateful to each family for playing an active role in keeping our school community connected.

One of our annual traditions is the ECC Art Show. Though we weren't able to enjoy it in person this year, we have uploaded a video to the ECC section of the Shir Shalom website. If you would like to view our young artists' creations, visit www.ourshirshalom.org, click on education, then ECC, then the ECC Photo Album at the bottom of the page.

On June 5th, the 2019/20 school year ended with a final Young Community Shabbat via Zoom followed by a festive drive-by end-of-year celebration at Shir Shalom. Our families were greeted with smiles, waves and blown kisses from their teachers, directors and even Mr. Pat, our beloved security guard! There were bubble machines blowing and upbeat songs playing as we loaded the students' cars with their artwork, belongings and a few gifts including a yearbook, bubbles, balloons, and a loaf of Shabbat Challah. It was so wonderful to be together in person again!

We would like to thank our class parents, Colleen Scott and Lara Edson, for supporting us through these unprecedented times with grace and openness. In addition to many other things, Colleen put together one incredible yearbook and Lara tirelessly shopped for the perfect thank you gift for each staff member. A nod of thanks as well to Jessica Medoff and her sons for the adorable ECC video that they created (also available on the Shir Shalom website)!

Though our regular summer programming was not in the cards this year, we look forward to inviting our families back to our beautiful Shir Shalom grounds later in the summer for a Family Summer Fun program. In the meantime, our families are enjoying taking turns watering the ECC garden and getting in some playground time during their visits.



EXCERPTS IN JEWISH HISTORY

A MAN FOR THE WRONG SEASON?

By Lewis Siegel

Vladimir Ze'ev Jabotinsky was born in Odessa, Russia in 1880. Although he came from a non-religious Jewish family, he did learn Hebrew as a child. By the age of 21, he had become a popular journalist, mastered several languages, and was writing plays, novels and poetry under the pen name of "Altalena".

The Kishenev Pogrom in 1903 spurred Jabotinsky to establish Jewish defense organizations in Russia in order to safeguard Jewish communities against further attacks. It also helped him develop an interest in Zionism. After attending the 6th international Zionist Congress in 1903 as a Russian delegate, and listening to Theodore Herzl speak, he became a fierce proponent of the Zionist cause. He also showed a concern for all oppressed peoples, exemplified by his speeches at the Russian Zionist Helsingfors Conference in Helsinki in 1906.

In 1915, Jabotinsky, together with Joseph Trumpeldor, (a one-armed veteran of the Russo-Japanese war) formed the Zion Mule Corps. The Corps consisted of several hundred Jewish men who fought for a brief time with the British against the Turks in the Battle of Gallipoli. In 1917, both Jabotinsky and Trumpeldor fought in Gallipoli with another Jewish battalion. Jabotinsky was decorated for bravery. He also fought with General Allenby's 38th Royal Fusiliers and was among the first to cross the Jordan River into Palestine. In 1920, two years after the war ended, the British showed their ingratitude by arresting Jabotinsky after he led a Jewish resistance group countering Arab attacks against Jewish villages. He was sentenced to 15 years in prison. However, public outcry forced the British to rescind the sentence and grant him amnesty.

Soon after release from prison, Jabotinsky rejoined the Zionist movement. But his involvement in the organization was short-lived due to major philosophical differences with Chaim Weizmann and other moderates in the organization. Jabotinsky severed ties with the Zionist party in 1923 and formed his own Revisionist Party. During the same period, while attending a conference in Latvia, he organized a youth self defense organization called Betar, the name being a Hebrew acronym of the "League of Joseph Trumpeldor". Trumpeldor had been killed several years earlier in a battle with the Arabs.

In 1923, Jabotinsky published the following political thoughts that included his well-known "Iron Wall Doctrine":

1. "They (the Arabs) look upon Palestine with the same instinctive love and true fervor that the Aztec looked upon his Mexico or any Sioux looked upon his prairie. To think that the Arabs will voluntarily consent to the realization of Zionism in return for the cultural and economic benefits we can bestow on them is infantile".
2. "The expulsion of the Arabs from Palestine is absolutely impossible in any form. There will always be two nations in Palestine—which is good enough for me provided the Jews become the majority...I am prepared to swear, for us and our descendants that we will never destroy this equality and we will never attempt to expel or oppress the Arabs."
3. "...Settlement can thus develop with a figurative iron wall that a local Arab population cannot break down. A voluntary agreement is just not possible. As long as the Arabs preserve a glimmer of hope that they can get rid of us, nothing in the world can cause them to relinquish this hope..."

Jabotinsky differed markedly from Weizmann and Ben Gurion, who both believed that negotiations with the Arabs were still possible. As of the year 2020, it appears that Jabotinsky was correct. Jabotinsky was visiting South Africa in 1930, when he was informed by the British that he was banned from Palestine permanently. During the last 10 years of his life, despite the fact that he

(con't. on next page)

never saw the Jewish homeland again, he managed to still influence activities in Palestine. In 1931, some members of the main Jewish defense group, Haganah, who felt the need for a more proactive military, joined with Revisionist Party members to form the Irgun Zvai Leumi, a paramilitary force whose operations were based on Jabotinsky's teachings. In 1934, Jabotinsky, an admirer of Mussolini, arranged to have a Jewish defense group trained in Mussolini's Italy. Mussolini had an equal admiration for Jabotinsky. He told Rabbi David Prato, who was to become chief rabbi of Rome in 1936, "For Zionism to succeed, you need to have a Jewish state with a Jewish flag and a Jewish language. The person who really understands that is your fascist, Jabotinsky".

Jabotinsky was called a fascist by many. David Ben Gurion referred to him as "Vladimir Hitler". Realistically, Jabotinsky was probably not a fascist, but was thought to be one because of his stern dictatorial manner, and his relationship with Mussolini and Revisionists such as Abba Achimeier and Wolfgang von Weisl. Of course, Jabotinsky's "Iron Wall" philosophy did nothing to change that belief. However, he did plan to establish a democratic Jewish state in which Jews would be in the majority, but Arabs would have all of the civil rights accorded the Jews. Interestingly, today, Israel is a Jewish democratic nation governed by Jewish law, with Arabs and Christians having total freedom and full citizenship, not dissimilar with Jabotinsky's vision. Jabotinsky did argue that the Jewish geographic boundaries should encompass a section of Jordan, as it did at the time of the Balfour Declaration in 1917 when the British proposed a Jewish state.

By 1935, the Revisionist Party completely dissociated from the Zionist movement--although Jabotinsky and Ben Gurion did meet several times to try to settle their differences. Jabotinsky spent his final years traveling through Europe pleading the Zionist cause, and trying to help European Jews escape the Nazis. In 1937, although in exile, he became the supreme commander of the Irgun. That same year, he argued vigorously against the Peel Commission recommendation for the partition of Palestine-- which would have given the Jews only about 18% of the land.

Jabotinsky died of a heart attack at a Betar camp in Hunter, New York in 1940.

So, was Jabotinsky a man for the wrong season? In his day he was thought of as a radical, an extremist, a Fascist, and was despised by main Zionist figures like Ben Gurion, Weizmann and others. Weizmann said of Jabotinsky, "The inner life of Judaism had left no trace on him".

Jabotinsky were living today, his views might not be judged as radical, or fascistic. He might be a very conservative Israeli politician, possibly similar to Menachem Begin or Benjamin Netanyahu.

References:

Ze'ev Jabotinsk; Wikipedia

Ze'ev Jabotinsky; "The Iron Wall"- Nov. 23, From the Jewish Virtual Library

"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

Please email us at SocialAction@OurShirShalom.org

Although Social Action is not leading any in-person activities during these difficult times, it is important for all of us to remember that the social service agencies still need our help, especially in these times. The Daily Bread Food Pantry and the Community Center of Northern Westchester are still providing much needed food and groceries to their clientele, which has more than doubled and tripled in their numbers. If you are able, please consider sending a monetary donation to one of these organizations, using your credit card on these websites:

Daily Bread Food Pantry in Danbury:

<https://www.dailybreadfoodpantry.com/donate>

Community Center of Northern Westchester in Katonah:

<https://communitycenternw.org/donate-funds>

In mid November, we typically host our annual Breakfast Run into New York City to feed and clothe the homeless. This is always a very rewarding experience for those who participate in the preparation and delivery. At this point we would like to hold off on scheduling a date until we know it will be safe for all the participants involved. There are always spots available and we can reschedule for the spring if necessary.

Even though plans are not yet set for the High Holy Day observations, we will still consider doing some kind of food drive for the Holidays for the local food pantries, but our arrangements depend of what the temple plans. Nevertheless, we will collect food for the pantries in some way, so please keep an eye on the weekly e-blasts for further announcements.

Last but not least, Debbie Lavin has been spending her stay-at-home time sewing masks to donate to the hospitals, and more recently to other organizations in need, such as upstate migrant farm workers. Sewing masks only requires a sewing machine and very little sewing skills! If you would like to help out, please email SAC and we would love to have you get involved. We can provide fabric and that always elusive elastic!! Please email us at SocialAction@OurShirShalom.org

RITUAL COMMITTEE

BY MICHAEL SALPETER AND LAURIE DUBIN

Each Fall when reading the Book of Genesis we are reminded of the difficulties that our forebears faced in the wonderfully rich stories we study. We are reminded that Adam and Eve are forced to leave the Garden of Eden for disobeying Adonai by eating from the Tree of Knowledge. Noah and his family are tasked with the arduous building of the ark to be able to survive the great flood which was about to destroy all life on earth. Joseph is sold into slavery by his jealous brothers who in turn torture their father with the lie that his favorite son was killed by wild beasts.

Also last Fall as we read these stories from the Torah, the population of the world had no idea of the havoc that the Covid-19 virus would wreak upon us. Illness, economic hardship and death would become so common some of us would become inured to it. Others of us would be saddled with anxiety and depression. The future is truly unknown. When we look back at the hardships that our ancestors endured we also can see how they handled adversity. Adam and Eve learned how to raise agricultural products to provide food for themselves and for generations for thousands of years to come. Noah saved his family and was able to repopulate the earth with the animals he amassed on the ark, while his wife Na'amah replanted trees with seeds she had painstakingly collected prior to the flood. Joseph would become the second most powerful person in Egypt and would reunite with his family and save the Egyptian population from famine by warehousing food in advance.

Just like our ancestors, our religious community at Congregation Shir Shalom has provided a haven for us. Services have been conducted each week, meaningful b'nai mitzvah ceremonies have continued and plans have been formulated to begin outdoor summer Shabbat evenings. Religious school and ECC families had a means of connecting each Friday night even though their childrens' classes were conducted on line.

Where do we go from here you may ask? Contingencies are being drawn up presently for the High Holy Days including possibilities for online or hybrid live-online services. The ritual committee and the clergy are working with our medical advisory team to insure the greatest possible safety to accompany our spiritual mission.

We would ask that you stay tuned to future communications as we foresee the necessity for RSVP's to live events to stay within state, local and community guidelines for attendance. Regardless we look forward to seeing you at our services and for your continued support of our activities.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SHIR SHALOM SISTERHOOD

Over the past several months, as in many aspects of temple life, Sisterhood has been "on pause". Some activities have been tried via the on-line experience and many members have stayed connected with one another. It is our sincere hope that at some point in the not too distant future, Sisterhood will again be planning meaningful activities and events. In the meantime, we wish everyone a happy and healthy rest of the summer and that all continue to stay safe.

Laurie Wolkin, Margie Gorelick & Christina Gogish

JULY YAHRZEITEN

Friday, July 3rd, 2020:

Toby Berman	mother of Michael Berman	Milton Kempler	father of Felice Kempler
Harold Margolis	father of Elise Aries	Allan Medoff	father of Jessica Medoff
Harold Pecker	father of Sunnie Colen	Oscar Ratner	uncle of Judith Strom
Albert Ross	grandfather of Karen Brenner	Alan Rubinfeld	father of Adam Rubinfeld
Mona L. Rymberg	aunt of Judith Strom		

Friday, July 10th, 2020:

Lena Bank	grandmother of Arnold Leitner	Lawrence Besserman	husband of Judith Besserman
Jack Eber	grandfather of Lynn Becker	Joseph Goldberg	father of Jacob Goldberg
Rose Kaplan Davis	mother-in-law of Elyse Davis	Lillian Kutscher	stepmother of Martin Kutscher
Abe Lederman	father of Linda Lederman	Ben Levy	grandfather of Marla Kay
Herbert Markham	uncle of Richard Mishkin	Anita Mishkin	mother of Richard Mishkin
Joseph Orlan	father-in-law of Adrienne Orlan	Bessie Ross	grandmother of Karen Brenner
Marvin Grody	father of Erica Levens		

Friday, July 17th, 2020:

Stanley Bergman	father of Michael Bergman	Helen Eydenberg	father of Edward Barth
Minnie Fremed	mother of Charles Fremed	Sam Ginsberg	grandfather of Jamie Garrett
Margaret Graham	mother of Brian Graham	Carol Held	mother of Lindsay Held
Jean Jonisch	mother of George Jonisch	Diane Kalish	mother of Jonas Kalish
Sheldon Kempler	brother of Felice Kempler	Katharine Reynolds	mother of Jean Haddon
Ira Segalman	father of Joel Segalman	Minnie Sherr	grandmother of Elyse Davis
Sheila Solomon Rose	mother of Lisa Baran	Carl Sonnett	father of Meridith Sonnett

Friday, July 24th, 2020:

Al Arenson	father of Linda Arenson	Seymour Barth	grandmother of Susan Westlake
Kenneth Bookspan	father of Dawn Roberts	Paul E. Busch	friend of Barbara Mannerst
Laura Fiderer	wife of David Fiderer	Lenore Gorman	mother of Martin Gorman
Harold Hagen	father of Ellen Lipton	Norman Hirt	father of Judy Hirt-Manheimer
Shirley Lazarus	mother of Lorraine Lazarus-Morley	Fannie Rotenberg	grandmother of Elise Aries
Hannah Vandervelden	daughter of Steven and Judy Vandervelden	Herbert Waldman	father of Alan Waldman

Friday, July 31st, 2020:

Beatrice Alper	mother of Lonnie Shapiro	Rheba Alpert	grandmother of Karen Blum
Jerry Blum	father of Joshua Blum	Milton Feldman	father of Stuart Feldman
Warren Isman	father of Ken Isman	Sarah Sally Kalem	grandmother of Beth Waldman
Charles Karsch	grandfather of Karen Blum	Lillian Kayser	grandmother of Laura Leitner
Henry Langer	grandfather of Karen Gerard	Jennie Mirsky	grandmother of Carlyn Bergman
Ronald Rose	father of Lisa Baran	Minnie Teitler	grandmother of Laura Leitner

AUGUST YAHRZEITEN

Friday, August 7th, 2020:

George Brody	great uncle of Joan Isman	Sam Feinleib	grandfather of Leslie Gottlieb
Pearl Feldman	mother of Stuart Feldman	Richard Glass	brother of Michelle Blum
Harry A. Goodman	grandfather of Marla Kay	Kathy Goodman	mother of Victoria Friedman
Edward Gray	father of Scott Gray	Philip Manners	father of Barbara Manners
Joseph Salpeter	father of Michael Salpeter	Hugo Sternberger	grandfather of Alice Gottlieb
Matthew Weber	brother in-law of Barbara Manners		

Friday, August 14th, 2020:

Helga Allen	mother of Rona Salpeter	Belle Baier	mother of Shelby White
Pauline Binstock	relative of Moreton Binn	Michael Brodsky	father of Karl Brodsky
Jack Darvick	father of Murray Darvick	Helen Orlan	mother-in-law of Adrienne Orlan
Seymour "Bud" Sapadin	father of Brian Sapadin	Robert Wallach	brother of Wendy Wallach-DeLucia

Friday, August 21st, 2020:

Beverly Baer	mother of Lawrence Baer	Charlotte Broder	mother of Stan Broder
Reuben Ginsberg	great uncle of Jamie Garrett	Donald Gordon	husband of Janine Gordon
Robert Hammer	father of Michael Hammer	Joseph Hodas	father of Elinor Darvick
Colette Horvilleur	mother of Laurence Furic	Claire Markham	aunt of Richard Mishkin
Goldie Mitzelman	grandmother of Karen Taylor	Mitchell Perrin	father of Charles Perrin
Betty Rettberg	mother of Valerie Rich	Ruth Schichman	grandmother of Joe Altman
Fred Schwartz	father of Vicki Yolen		

Friday, August 28th, 2020:

Rose-Mary Binstock	relative of Moreton Binn	Esther Gerard	grandmother of Ira Gerard
Lev Gogish	husband of Serafima Dashevskaya & father of Ilya and Vlad Gogish	Jacob Levine	grandfather of Stephanie Herbstman
Rochelle Simson	sister of Andrea Jacobs	Perry Reynolds	father of Jean Haddon
		Roy Wallach	father of Wendy Wallach DeLucia

Condolences-

To the family of Richard and Debra Bush, on the death of Richard's father, Martin Bush, *z"l*

To the family of Bonnie and Dr. David Pazer, on the death of Bonnie's mother, Carol Stone, *z"l*

To the family of Ron and Julie Tiktin on the death of Ron's father, Gideon Tiktin, *z"l*

To the family of Lynn Becker on the death of Lynn's father, Aaron Becker, *z"l*

To the family of Steven and Debbie Landzberg on the death of Steve's father, Al Landzberg, *z"l*

To the family of Elaine Gordon and Alan Pilch on the death of Elaine's cousin, Rosie Steinberg, *z"l*

To the family of Rabbi Jon & Jean Haddon on the death of Rabbi Haddon's beloved, lifelong friend,
Joel Revzen, *z"l*

May their memory be for a blessing.

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

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Rhonda has a diverse private practice, providing a nurturing, healing experience to clients of all ages. She has been practicing therapeutic massage since 2005 and helps clients manage stress, loss, illness, and life transitions. She is trained and experienced in Swedish, Deep Tissue, Reflexology, trauma treatment, Oncology massage, pregnancy and post-natal massage, Myofascial Release, Reiki, and Hospice massage and energy work.

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