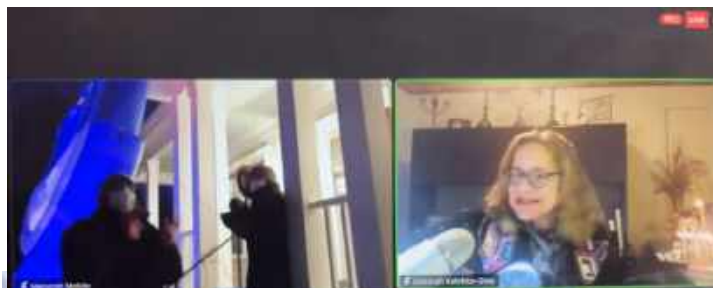




## JANUARY AND FEBRUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Jan 1	6:00 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship	Feb 5	6:00 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship
Jan 2	9:00 am 10:30 am	Torah 101 Shabbat Morning Worship: Bar Mitzvah, Shesh Sheridan	Feb 6	9:00 am	Torah 101
Jan 8	5:30 pm 7:30 pm	Tot Shabbat (online) Kabbalat Shabbat Worship	Feb 7	3:00 pm	Author Talk: Rachel Levy Lesser (online)
Jan 15	6:00 pm 7:30 pm	Shalom Shabbat (online) MLK Spirituals Shabbat with musical greeting by Gigi Van Dyke	Feb 12	5:30 pm 7:30 pm	Tot Shabbat (online) Kabbalat Shabbat Worship
Jan 16	9:00 am	Torah 101	Feb 19	7:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship
Jan 17	3:00 pm	Author Event: Jane Stern (online)	Feb 20	9:00 am	Torah 101
Jan 22	7:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship Adon Olam-a-Thon	Feb 25	Purim	(Purim celebration details will be sent out by email in January)
Jan 29	7:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship	Feb 26	7:30 pm	Kabbalat Shabbat Worship
Jan 30	9:00 am	Torah 101			



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 Website: [OurShirShalom.org](http://OurShirShalom.org)

## FROM RABBI REINER'S DESK



Below is an excerpt from the D'var Torah delivered at our Congregation Shir Shalom Annual Meeting on Sunday, December 6, 2020. Years ago Rabbi Eric Yoffie, then president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, recommended that all synagogue meetings begin with a D'var Torah (literally, “a word of Torah”) to help remind and set the tone that every meeting for our sacred community is sacred work.

“Experience Management” is a trending idea in the corporate world. Successful business want to understand the feelings of people involved, from employees to investors to customers. A recent article by PwC encourages companies to focus on “People-led transformation, restoring healthy balance in your ‘culture bank’...connecting employees to business strategy...”

Congregation Shir Shalom is a sacred community, very different from most (if not all) clients of PwC. Our continued success relies on more than operational data, more than budgets, controlling expenses, managing investments, or generating revenue. This is not to suggest that our operational data should be ignored – Eversource will not accept a beautiful and inspiring blessing sung by Cantor Debbie as payment for our December electricity bill.

Our success as a sacred community depends upon balancing the operational and experiential.

During a recent session of our Torah 101: Shabbat Morning Study, we examined a census of the Israelites recounted in Numbers Chapter 26. Contextually, the Israelites were preparing for battle and needed to know how many men could fight. In addition to preparing for battle, the Israelites were preparing to enter the Promised Land. Each tribe was assigned a portion of land and a census helped with the apportionment of the land based upon the size of each tribe. The last census of the Israelites was in Numbers Chapter 1, shortly after the Israelites had left Mitzrayim/Egypt. More than thirty years passed between each census; there were rebellions and plagues. The verses following the Numbers 26 census point out that only three Israelites who left Egypt are still alive: Moses, Joshua, and Caleb.

We may appreciate the importance of a census. The decennial United States Census is a huge undertaking with significant impact on the administration and allocation of resources in our country. Organizations and corporations perform censuses more frequently to know details of available human resources and needs, to say nothing of taking inventory or auditing finances.

The number of Israelites (or at least the number of men over 20 years) decreased over the more than thirty years in the wilderness, from 603,000 to approximately 601,000. Because Israelites were counted by each donating a half shekel to the community chest, the population decrease would have been accompanied by a loss in revenue. We can appreciate the importance of reviewing operational data, even for a sacred community.

At God's instruction, the census was conducted by Moses and Eleazar the high priest (a son of Moses' brother Aaron, who died). The instruction reminds us of the importance of shared leadership (the census should not have fallen to Moses alone) as well as the functional role that each served in the Israelite community. Eleazar the high priest was responsible for the rituals and worship of the Israelites while they were in the wilderness. Although Moses is referred to as Moshe Rabbeinu – Moses our rabbi – in our tradition, Moses was very much the administrative leader, prophet, and teacher of the Israelites. We see how the leader of the sacred and the administrative leader worked together to complete the census. We also see how the Israelites were following PwC's recommendations, connecting employees to business strategy.

## FROM RABBI REINER'S DESK CONT.

Torah is more than a guide for worship and daily living; it is a blueprint for the ancient Israelites to live in the Promised Land and a guide for us as descendants of the ancient Israelites. Worship and rituals were central to the lives of the Israelites and the Torah AND there is MUCH more in Torah than ritual. Torah finds a balance between the experiential and operational, and we may find inspiration and guidance in that balance as we consider the future of our sacred community.

The Annual Meeting, by definition, is a study on operational data: revenue, expenses, attendance. We may measure success by congregant growth or expense reduction. And these metrics create a partial picture of our sacred community.

As I shared last year, we experience the balance between the operational and experiential in our worship, our expression of Judaism. We seek a balance between keva (our prescribed words and rituals) and kavannah (intention, mindfulness, and spirit). “We can read or sing the words in our prayer books, stand and sit as directed by the rabbi and experience some sense of fulfillment. And, I suspect, that many approach this sacred community seeking more: a deeper spiritual connection. We want to be moved by the Cantor’s voice and musical selections, the insights the rabbi offers into ancient words. We also aspire to pray and gather with Kavannah, intention, the mindfulness and spirit. Similarly, sitting in a room reflecting on the prayers without actually reading any prayers or Hebrew may leave us hungry. Especially in moments of darkness or uncertainty, we eagerly seek refuge and comfort from established traditions and prayers that have brought strength to countless generations of the Jewish people.”

May we continue to find comfort and strength from our established traditions, and may we find inspiration in connecting the operational with the experiential, as we continue to transform our sacred community.

**Congregation Shir Shalom wishes  
our community a happy and  
healthy holiday season and 2021!**

Chanukah and our Shir Shalom Mobile Menorah: Thank you for joining our nightly Menorah community lightings!



## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Larry Hoffman

**Annual Letter from Congregation Shir Shalom President**

As this historic year comes to a close, I find it remarkable that given the incredible challenges that were thrown our way this year, I still find much to be grateful for and believe we should all be proud of the functioning and success stories in many corners of our sacred community this year.

Our Early Childhood Center continues to provide a warm and welcoming place for the children to learn and socialize and form bonds that will hopefully last for many years. I have personally witnessed on more than one occasion the hard work and very personal attention and warmth that Sarah and her staff happily share with the youngest of our community and it is truly heartwarming.

Our Religious School director Leslie Gottlieb, working in conjunction with our educational committee, has worked tirelessly to totally revamp and reimagine how our RS experience can be delivered in a meaningful way in a time when the world is going through a global health crisis. Reinventing and adapting have become the watch words of 2020 and I want to thank the entire teaching staff on behalf of all our religious school families for the effort and the many hours it has taken to create and deliver a meaningful, and in some instances, an even more personal learning experience. Our staff remains passionate about seeing our students learn and gain an appreciation of Judaism and help established a Jewish identity, and we hope, a lifelong love for learning. I also want to acknowledge that we are very appreciative of all our religious school parents for their support and understanding given all the challenges this year has presented. We understand there is always room for improvement, and we continue to evolve and welcome any, and all, feedback that can serve the greater good of our sacred community.

I want to take a few moments to acknowledge our clergy and our Ritual committee for doing what I believe to be an amazing job of continuing to support all our life cycle events and all our holiday services in an extremely spiritual and uplifting way, that frankly during March many among us thought was not possible. Our Bar and Bat Mitzvah families celebrated differently this year, but they celebrated in a way that was deeply meaningful, still very joyful and in a way that will be remembered clearly for many, many years to come.

Rabbi Reiner and Cantor Debbie were able to create extraordinary High Holiday services that were meaningful and spiritual and helped us welcome in 5781 with music and prayer and a real sense of community that defied, or perhaps redefined, what it means to be “present” or together as a community. The majority of our congregation attended this year’s services and we proved that we continue to be a vibrant Jewish presence in this community despite any and all the challenges that this year presented. I also encourage anyone who has not participated in our ongoing weekly Shabbat services to “attend” a service, or to participate in the next musical event hosted by Cantor Debbie. We will continue to stay connected, and now more than ever everyone can use a respite and the renewal of spirit that will come your way.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT CONT.

I would also like to mention that I am delighted to announce that the synagogue has come to terms with Rabbi Reiner for a three-year extension of his current contract beginning July 1, 2021 and would like to thank Adam Rubinfeld for his role in this accomplishment.

Although this has been an extremely challenging year which has vastly limited our programming, I encourage everyone to visit our website often and to make time for the email blast you receive from Shir Shalom as we try to update activities and keep our congregants informed. Our Caring Committee Chair Lisa Kurtz is always in need of volunteers to help do good deeds and help the elderly and less fortunate members of our community. Serafima Dashevskaya heads up our Adult Programming and is always open to new ideas and will be lining up some new programs for the start of the new year. I want to thank our Sisterhood, led by Laurie Wolkin, Christina Gogish, and Marjorie Gorelick, for taking the time and effort to host a virtual Magic Show this fall which was enjoyed by many. The Sisterhood is in the planning stages of an event during the first quarter of 2021 so please stay tuned as they hope for even broader participation in their next event. We are looking forward to celebrating Chanukah in some new ways this year so please stay tuned and “join” us for some holiday fun this year. We look forward to staying connected and interacting as a community as we begin a new year regardless of any and all challenges that come our way, and encourage everyone to find a way to be involved and have some fun along the way.

As my first year as President comes to an end, I want to thank a number of people who have not been mentioned including our office staff, Laura Morris, Lori Stalowicz and Allyson Bellio, who work hard each day behind the scenes to keep Shir Shalom running smoothly. I would also like to thank all the hardworking volunteers-too numerous to mention who keep this place running and give their time for the greater good of Shir Shalom. A special thanks goes out to the current Board of Trustees, to our outgoing Trustees who have given graciously years of service, and a special welcome to our new Trustees who are joining us in January, your service, your time and efforts are greatly valued and appreciated.

This year has not been easy, it has been difficult on many levels and I am not sad to see it ending, but I am proud to say we have as a community gotten through this year with more than our fair share of joy and good memories to balance out the challenges we have all faced. I do look forward to a better year ahead one in which I pray we will gravitate away from “zooming” together and spend more time being together!

Warm Regards,  
Larry Hoffman  
[President@OurShirShalom.org](mailto:President@OurShirShalom.org)

RITUAL COMMITTEE

BY MICHAEL SALPETER AND LAURIE DUBIN

*“...the novel coronavirus has taught us the impossibility of fending for ourselves. A recommitment to communal responsibility is the only way to protect ourselves and each other.”*

-Rabbi Jill Jacobs

Weariness has set in among people all over the world in terms of dealing with the pandemic. We have witnessed instances where individuals have given up the fight and no longer practice the preventive measures that are necessary to protect one another. As Rabbi Jacobs so eloquently stated, we need to abandon any notion of fending for ourselves.

Congregation Shir Shalom provides an important layer to this sense of communal responsibility through the spiritual avenues that our congregation supplies. Over the past few weeks we have celebrated the Fall grouping of B'nai mitzvah. Rabbi Reiner has driven the “Menorah Mobile” to different locations in New York and Connecticut and we celebrated Chanukah in front of various member family homes each evening. Cantor Debbie has presented entertaining and historically significant “Prayer-a-thons.” Shabbat services have continued with our congregants in one sacred space, even if that space is digital rather than in person. Our biblical texts continue to be studied with Torah 101.

What do the weeks and months ahead look like for us? Weekly programming will be presented uninterrupted. The clergy has planned a meaningful tribute to Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King continuing our tradition of celebrating his life. Shabbat Across America will once again be conducted throughout North America including here at Congregation Shir Shalom.

The weekly email blasts are the best means to stay in tune with events as they are planned. Let us use our affiliation with our sacred community to help us move forward as one entity and protect ourselves physically and spiritually.



**Join Rabbi Reiner on select Saturdays at 9AM in 2021 for Torah 101.** Please check our weekly eblast and Shir Shalom Calendar for dates.



## FROM THE OFFICE

## Coming Soon: Congregation Shir Shalom Online Congregant Directory

We are excited to inform you that a Congregation Shir Shalom directory of congregants will soon be available online! You will be able to access this congregant directory when you log into your Shir Shalom Congregant account through ShulCloud. 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. We plan to have this online directory available in February.

**If you DO NOT want to be included in this directory**, please notify us at [Office@ourshirshalom.org](mailto:Office@ourshirshalom.org) to opt-out **by January 30th**. In response, we will omit your information from the directory in full as we are not able to include partial listings.

### Please welcome the new\* Board Trustees!

BOARD	TEAM
<p>Larry Hoffman, President <a href="mailto:President@OurShirShalom.org">President@OurShirShalom.org</a></p> <p>Terry Henry, Executive Vice President <a href="mailto:Execvp@OurShirShalom.org">Execvp@OurShirShalom.org</a></p> <p>Suzanne Sunday, Vice President Adam Rubinfeld, Vice President Karen Taylor, Chief Financial Officer Lynn Broder, Immediate Past President Alan Waldman, Secretary <a href="mailto:Secretary@OurShirShalom.org">Secretary@OurShirShalom.org</a></p>	<p><b>Rabbi</b> David L. Reiner MAHL <a href="mailto:RabbiReiner@OurShirShalom.org">RabbiReiner@OurShirShalom.org</a></p> <p><b>Cantor</b> Deborah Katchko-Gray <a href="mailto:CantorDebbie@OurShirShalom.org">CantorDebbie@OurShirShalom.org</a></p> <p><b>Religious School Director</b> Leslie Gottlieb <a href="mailto:Leslie@OurShirShalom.org">Leslie@OurShirShalom.org</a></p> <p><b>Early Childhood Director</b> Sarah Denyer <a href="mailto:Sarah@OurShirShalom.org">Sarah@OurShirShalom.org</a></p> <p><b>Temple Administrator</b> Laura Morris <a href="mailto:Laura@OurShirShalom.org">Laura@OurShirShalom.org</a></p> <p><b>Controller</b> Lori Stalowicz <a href="mailto:Lori@OurShirShalom.org">Lori@OurShirShalom.org</a></p> <p>Allyson Bellio <a href="mailto:Rabbiassist@OurShirShalom.org">Rabbiassist@OurShirShalom.org</a></p> <p>Alexandra Schroeder <a href="mailto:Communications@OurShirShalom.org">Communications@OurShirShalom.org</a></p> <p>Rabbi Emeritus: Jon Haddon D.D. <a href="mailto:RabbiHaddon@OurShirShalom.org">RabbiHaddon@OurShirShalom.org</a></p> <p>Early Childhood Director Emerita Jane Emmer <a href="mailto:Jweilemmer@gmail.com">Jweilemmer@gmail.com</a></p>
<p>Josh Blum, Trustee Larry Brooks, Trustee* Vlad Gogish, Trustee Steve Landzberg, Trustee Robi Margolis, Trustee Stacey Neumann, Trustee* David Pazer, Trustee Marc Sheridan, Trustee* Michael Zeitz, Trustee Tiffany Zezula, Trustee*</p> <p><a href="mailto:Board@OurShirShalom.org">Board@OurShirShalom.org</a></p>	

## ADULT PROGRAMMING

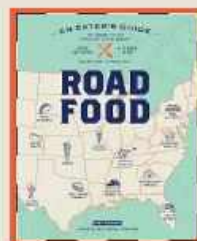
On November 22, Adult Programming at Shir Shalom hosted the author Amy Schwartz in collaboration with the Jewish Book Council and the Federation for Jewish Philanthropy of Upper Fairfield County. Amy E. Schwartz is Moment Magazine's opinion and book editor, as well as editor of the magazine's popular "Ask the Rabbis" section. In her new book "Can Robots be Jewish?" she presented her discussions with rabbis spanning the range of modern Jewish thought, from Humanist and Reform to Orthodox and beyond, consider difficult and provocative questions of our time and many others. Sometimes they agree—but not often. Cantor Debbie moderated this lively discussion and the questions by the attendees.

On **Sunday, January 17** we will have a reading and discussion with our own congregant and renowned author, Jane Stern. Jane has authored 42 books, some New York Times Bestsellers. For 18 years she was a columnist for Gourmet magazine, where she won nine James Beard Awards for her writing as well as being inducted into the Who's Who of American Food. ***See author event details below.***

On **Sunday, February 7**, we will host another author in partnership with the Federation for Jewish Philanthropy: Rachel Levy Lesser will present "Life's Accessories. A Memoir (and fashion guide)." ***See author event details on next page.***

For the time being all Adult Programming events will run online.

**Congregation Shir Shalom presents: Reading &  
Discussion with Jane Stern, renowned author and our  
own congregant  
(via Zoom)**



Jane Stern has authored 42 books, some New York Times Bestsellers. For 18 years she was a columnist for Gourmet where she won nine James Beard Awards for her writing as well as being inducted into the Who's Who of American Food. Jane lives in Ridgefield with her two dogs Cecil and Ivy.

Jane will be reading her essays that she wrote for the Paris Review and from the "Roadfood" website. "Roadfood" is the series of her books about American Regional cuisine. Discussion & questions to follow.

**Sunday, January 17, 2021 at 3 PM**

*Zoom information to follow*

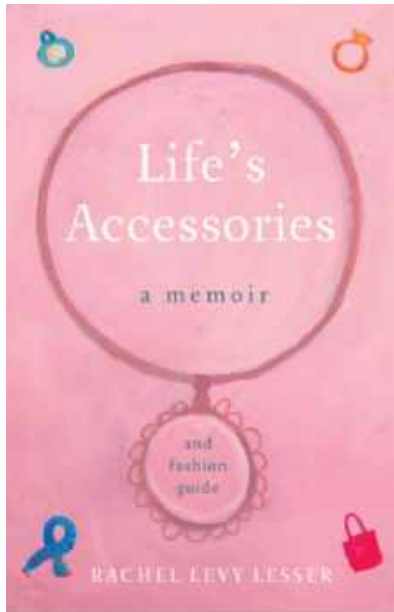
Let us know you are coming by emailing [AdultProgramming@OurShirShalom.org](mailto:AdultProgramming@OurShirShalom.org)



Shir Shalom Adult Programming and Cantor Debbie present an  
Author Talk with **Rachel Levy Lesser**

**Sunday, February 7th at 3PM**

“Life’s Accessories. A Memoir (and fashion guide)”



Rachel Levy Lesser can relive almost every significant life event through an accessory. A scarf, a pair of earrings, a bag, even a fleece pair of socks—each contains the elements that put together the story of a life. *Life’s Accessories* is a funny, sad, touching, relatable, shake-your-head-rightalong- as-you-laugh-and-wipe-away-tears, coming-of-age memoir. In fourteen essays, Lesser tackles sensitive issues like anxiety, illness, and loss in a way that feels a bit like having a chat with a good friend. Out of the stories comes solid life—and fashion—advice. About far more than just a hair tie, a bracelet, or a belt, *Life’s Accessories* is a window into the many ways in which Lesser has come to understand life—in all of its beauty, its joys, its sorrows, its heartaches, its challenges, and its absurdity.

(Presented in collaboration with the Jewish Book Council and the Federation for Jewish Philanthropy of Upper Fairfield County)



## SPIRITED AND SOULFUL WORSHIP

2021 / 5781



***Please join us for our January PRAYER-A-THON!***

**HEAR A FEW VERSIONS AND VOTE ON YOUR FAVORITE ONE!**

**A SERVICE USING THE FAVORITES WILL BE ANNOUNCED**

Cantor Debbie will be singing several versions of Adon Olam on Friday, January 22nd during our Shabbat service and asking you to vote on your favorite version! The winning melodies from this and all of our prayer-a-thons will be enjoyed at a special Shabbat service in the Spring!

**FRIDAY, January 22, 2021**

**Adon Olam-a-Thon**

## *We Appreciate Your Generosity!*

### **General Fund**

Michael Gitlitz and Rita Landman  
 Monnie Newman  
 Karen Taylor & David Kaminer  
 Jacob Goldberg and Trudy Wood  
 Douglas and Audra Emmerich  
 Marion Milrod

in memory of Sheila Gitlitz, z”l  
 in memory of Monnie’s mother, Ruth Goodman, z”l  
 in memory of David Kushner, z”l  
  
 in memory of Murray Milrod, z”l

### **Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund**

Robi Margolis  
 Heather and Jeff Butchen  
 Dr. Ira J. Hanauer  
 Elliot and Laura Agisim  
 Bobbie and Rick Cohan  
 The Brenner Family

in memory of Freda Shuler, z”l  
 in memory of Jerry Butchen, z”l  
  
 with gratitude for the Chanukah celebrations  
 with gratitude for all Rabbi Reiner does for the Community

### **Education Fund**

Julie and Bruce Sacks

### **Additional High Holy Day Donations:**

(Includes General HHD Donation, Tickets, Memorial Book, Prayer Book Borrowing & Prayer Book Dedications  
*(received after October 12th)*)

Joshua & Elyse Arnow  
 Michael & Carlyn Bergman  
 Stanford & Lynn Broder  
 Lawrence & Leslie Gottlieb  
 Terry & Robert Henry  
 Kenneth Kurzweil & Suzanne Sunday  
 Joseph & Kelly Lash  
 Jake & Nancy Metzler  
 Brian & Naomi Sapadin  
 Michael Shalett  
 Liz Winson  
 Nathan & Tiffany Zezula

Edward & Ana Barth  
 Howard & Marcy Blum  
 Joseph Ellis  
 Rabbi Jon & Jean Haddon  
 Cantor Debbie Katchko-Gray & F. Scott Gray  
 Eric Larson  
 Wayne Lopkin & Julie Furo  
 Michael & Rona Salpeter  
 David & Iris Schiff  
 Steven & Judy Vandervelden  
 Wendy Wallach-DeLucia & Michael DeLucia

## *We Appreciate Your Generosity!*

### **Yom Kippur Pledges**

**Thank you to the generous families listed below who have pledged to our Yom Kippur Appeal:**

*Reflecting Donations and Pledges Received by December 20, 2020*

Elliot and Laura Agisim  
 Neil and Holly Alexander  
 David and Phyllis Amerling  
 Paul & Elizabeth Amerling  
 Joshua & Elyse Arnow  
 Rick & Sandra Barrett  
 Jeffrey Berg & Debra Paget  
 Garry Berger & Lindsey Getner  
 Judith Besserman  
 Howard Blum & Marcy Blum  
 Scott & Karen Brenner  
 Stanford & Lynn Broder  
 Jeff & Heather Butchen  
 Adam & Robyn Cohen  
 Murray & Elinor Darvick  
 Serafima Dashevskaya  
 Alan & Bonnie Dietzek  
 Nevin & Laurie Dubin  
 Joseph Ellis  
 Peter Fine & Lauren Leong  
 Scott & Becky Freedman  
 Jamie & Bryan Garrett  
 Robert & Elaine Gell  
 Ira and Karen Gerard  
 Ilya Gogish  
 Gabrielle Guttman

Michael & Ronni Hammer  
 Terry & Robert Henry  
 Larry & Vivian Hoffman  
 Alan & Andrea Jacobs  
 George & Elise Jonisch  
 Cantor Deborah Katchko-Gray  
 & F. Scott Gray  
 Steve Kaye & Linda Arenson  
 Jeffrey & Kimberly Knispel  
 David & Leslie Kramer  
 Jeffrey & Linda Krulwich  
 Kenneth Kurzweil  
 & Suzanne Sunday  
 Steven & Deborah Landzberg  
 Mark & Debra Lavin  
 Arnold & Laura Leitner  
 Jeffrey & Emily Levi  
 Ellen Lipton  
 Richard Lipton  
 Robi Margolis  
 David & Amy Margulies  
 Josh & Wendy Meyer  
 Richard & Catherine Mishkin  
 Larry Morley  
 & Lorraine Lazarus-Morley  
 Adrienne Orlan

Charles & Sheila Perrin  
 Alan Pilch & Elaine Gordon  
 Suzie and Dan Rabinowitz  
 Rabbi David Reiner  
 & Ashley Heller  
 Rabbi Fred N. Reiner  
 & Susan Liss  
 Hal & Dawn Roberts  
 Ronni Rosenstein  
 Michael & Rona Salpeter  
 Joel S. & Eileen Segalman  
 Lester & Loretta Steinman  
 Robert & Judith Strom  
 Karen Taylor & David Kaminer  
 Scott & Alisa Trachtenberg  
 Steven & Judy Vandervelden  
 Kurt Voellmicke  
 & Lisa Ipp-Voellmicke  
 Jane Weiller  
 Michael & Emily Wein  
 Marty Weisberg  
 Susan Westlake  
 Blake & Kiersten Winokur  
 Lora Wishod  
 Hal & Laurie Wolkin  
 David & Victoria Yolen

# Our Religious School...

## *Lucky Still*

by Leslie Gottlieb



**A**s we look ahead to a new year, we can all agree that things in our lives have changed so much due to Covid-19--- and school for our children changed radically in so many ways. None of us could have imagined a world so altered for our children in terms of their daily routines, as well as our own. Wearing masks, learning remotely, not being able to share smiles and hugs in person... well, the list is endless.

For the RS in a typical year, so much of our time together is spent in close discussions, cooking together, preparing meals for local food pantries, working closely on art projects, singing and praying in a shared space... and the list of what we are missing as a school community is, frankly, depressing! And still, we have so much for which to be grateful. Still, at the RS, there has been a lot of serious learning in this year's shared experience—one that we will not soon forget. Relationships have been forged and strengthened, too, even though we are apart. Still, we all look forward to better days ahead!

At the RS, we started the year with a hybrid plan and stuck to it as long as we could before pulling back to a distanced-learning approach forced upon us by so many local school closings and groups of students required to quarantine. It was disappointing but our remote plan worked--- and it is our hope that we will soon be able to switch back to our original hybrid program plan. Working with our teachers in this new way-- suddenly needing to plan and meet for classes virtually-- was an education for us all. Even before all of us signed on for Zoom and other digital education classes that would give us an upper hand, we were thrust into this new platform in March and had to run with it. And it was a success from the start in terms of what our teachers were able to accomplish. They never cease to impress me ---and I know our parents greatly appreciate all the extra effort that is required to teach in this new world.

Many parents are struggling with all that is being asked of them, understandably so. For each of their children, there are many scheduling issues to contend with and other challenges that seem insurmountable according to stories parents have shared with us. Devorah Heitner who wrote, *Screenwise: Helping Kids Thrive (and Survive) in Their Digital World* wrote, "Try to create realistic working blocks. Most kids can only work for 20 minutes before needing a break." She continues, "If your kid struggles with reading, for example, make sure that is the one class you focus on.... For reluctant readers, ask for high-interest reading material that is intrinsically relevant instead of an assigned book." We tried to honor that principle by keeping classes online to a limited time, but have found that our students wanted more! Fascinating! We switched to Pro Zoom accounts so teachers wouldn't get cut off after 40 minutes with their original free accounts. *Our kids—not their parents-- made that happen!*

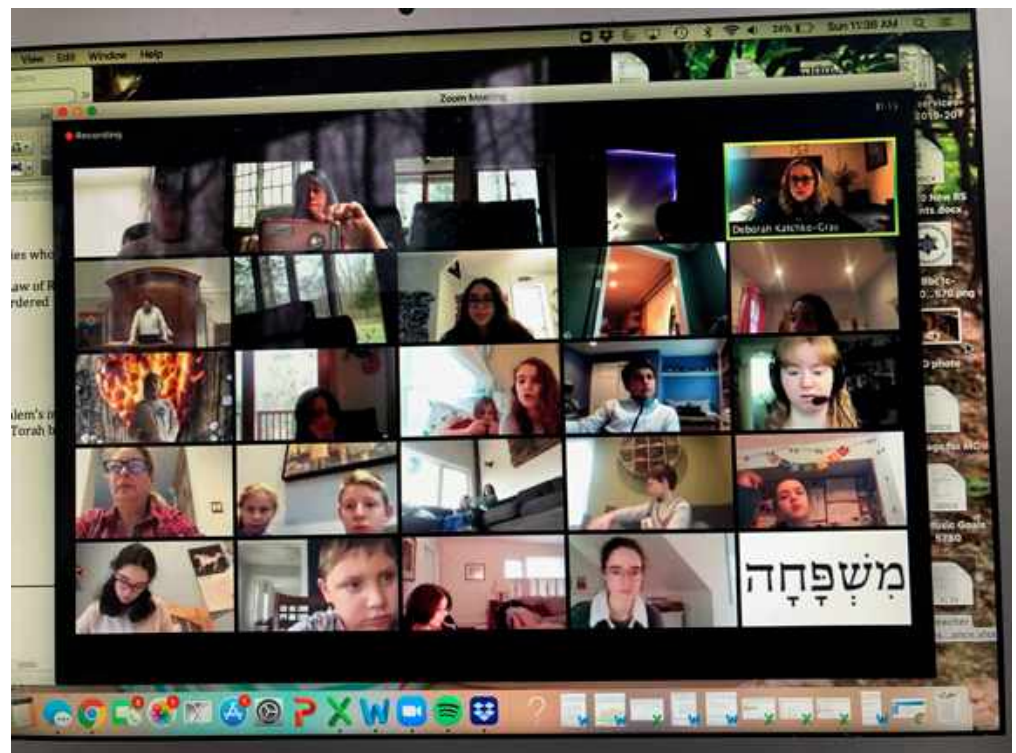
Our Religious School continued on next page...

Some experts advise embracing mindfulness tools when it comes to distanced-learning. Sydnie Dobkin, coordinator of the Adolescent Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) program at Northwestern University's Family Institute discusses how we can all cope with the virtual learning experience. This approach, combines cognitive techniques and aspects of Zen Buddhism, such as mindfulness and radical acceptance. The cornerstone of DBT is the idea of dialectics, which means opposing ideas can both be true at the same time." Trying to find success and acceptance acknowledging that these are troubling times for our kids—and that it's okay to just do okay-- is a first step. Keeping kids focused and rewarding small positive moments can be just enough to get us through each day. Having smaller goals and feeling successful with less is probably the key to managing and staying sane. Then again, we are all so stressed by all of life's new demands... that sometimes even keeping narrower objectives seems like an unreachable dream.

So we get it! At the RS, we understand if your children can't always keep up with their RS studies or forget to watch a certain film before class. We know that some kids will be late to class and others will be distracted during class by a fly on the wall or by a sibling yelling to them from another room in the house. We are all in the same boat. And though the boat we each live in keeps taking on water no matter how many holes you plug... it helps to keep at it. A tacky metaphor, but it is fitting. Each day lived is worthy still! We still have each other, and the promise of a new day.

We want all of you to know how grateful we are to *all of you* for your support-- and in some ways our school community feels strangely stronger. We need each other more now, in a more serious way. Perhaps we appreciate more of what we had... now that it's (temporarily) gone. I am hoping that we will use this time as a valuable lesson and never lose sight of how special people and experiences are that we sometimes take for granted. I am truly grateful to all the parents who have stepped forward to thank our teachers time and again for their collective and individual outstanding performances! I feel lucky to work with them every day.

We are truly so lucky... still!



## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT SHIR SHALOM SISTERHOOD

**S**isterhood wishes everyone a **Happy and Healthy 2021!**

We all tried our best to safely connect via Zoom and share holiday thoughts, traditions and experiences on Facebook as well. Sisterhood looks forward to trying out more virtual experiences as a tool for connection and can't wait for when we will all be safe and well to be together again!

Be well and Stay well!

Laurie Wolkin, Margie Gorelick and Christina Gogish

## FROM THE CONGREGANT COMMITTEE

**Congregation Shir Shalom will once again be participating in  
Shabbat Across America**

“Turn an ordinary Friday night into something extraordinary!”

On **Friday night, March 5, 2021**, hundreds of synagogues across the continent will take part in an historic national Jewish event to celebrate what unifies all Jews — Shabbat! Everyone is invited... singles, couples, families — all ages.

That's the magic of Shabbat Across America and Shabbat Across Canada. By participating in this continent-wide event, you will not only have the opportunity to experience Shabbat, but you will be sharing your experience with tens of thousands of Jews across North America.

Of course, we celebrate and welcome all to our services all year long but this is a special Shabbat we share with anyone and all across America.

In the past years we have had a special dinner as part of our Shabbat Across America program. This year, like all other things, is different. **We will celebrate together via Zoom** with some special surprises and treats. Our community at large is invited to this Shabbat, so please share the information with people and families in our community that may not presently be congregants. *An invite will be shared as we get closer to March.*

This year is the 25th anniversary of Shabbat Across America and Canada. For Congregation Shir Shalom it is the 5th anniversary of our two congregations coming together to be one and we will celebrate that at Shabbat Across America.

Together with the Ritual Committee and hard working volunteers this will be another of our special Shabbats where we join together as a community.

Mark your calendars for **March 5, 2021 at 6 PM.**

## NEWS FROM THE ECC

## Our Early Childhood Center

by Sarah Denyer (ECC Director)

The 2020/21 school year at the ECC has been going remarkably well given the challenges that these times bring. Our parents have been incredible, adjusting to protocol changes and supporting their children and the ECC staff through it all. Thank you so much, ECC Families, we have made it to the December break without having to resort to Zoom learning and we are so grateful!

Building community in a time when our parents cannot join us for Shabbat and other events remains our biggest challenge. We do our best to connect parents to the program through emails and photos, but we long for the day when we are able to safely be together! In an effort to connect home life and school, each ECC student had a special day to share a Chanukah tradition. We enjoyed latkes, jelly donuts, gelt, favorite stories, window menorahs, songs by the Maccabees and talking Chanukah stuffed animals.

It has been a fun holiday season and we look forward to seeing those adorable faces again in January!



## EXCERPTS IN JEWISH HISTORY

### NAPOLEON AND THE JEWS: GOOD OR BAD

By Lewis Siegel

So, was Napoleon good or bad for the Jewish people? Let's see if a historical examination of Napoleon's relationship with the Jewish people provides an answer.

Europe in the eighteenth century was a hotbed of anti-Semitism. In France, while the Revolution helped establish some freedoms for the Jews, Judaism was still not a legitimate religion recognized by the State. Jews were treated as second-class citizens. During the Reign of Terror (1793-1794) synagogues were shut down and Jews had to practice their religion secretly. In other European countries edicts and laws against the Jews were more restrictive such as Italy, where Jews were confined to ghettos.

Napoleon began his march across Europe, and in 1797, during his Italian campaign in Ancona, he ended the practices of forcing Jews to live in ghettos, and requiring them to be identified by yellow armbands. He later closed the Jewish Ghetto in Rome and liberated the Jews of Venice, Verona, and Padua.

Napoleon's next military objective was to conquer parts of North Africa and Asia. On the way to Egypt, the French army took over the island of Malta in 1798. Napoleon learned that the Templar Knights had enslaved many Jews and disallowed the building of a synagogue. Napoleon freed those enslaved Jews and allowed the Jewish community to build their synagogue.

Napoleon and his armed forces then embarked on an invasion of Egypt, with mixed success. After somewhat of a stalemate, he moved some of his forces into Palestine. He engaged the Turkish army and their British allies in a key battle at the city of Acre, but he lost, and soon after, returned to France. While at Acre, Napoleon surprisingly wrote a proclamation, printed on the 14th of April 1799, but never officially issued, that would have created a state for the Jewish people in Palestine. Here is an excerpt: "Hasten! Now is the moment, which may not return for thousands of years, to claim the restoration of civic rights among the population of the universe which had been shamefully withheld from you for thousands of years, your political existence as nation among nations-----". Some have speculated that if Napoleon had been victorious in the battle for Acre in Palestine, a Jewish state might have been created at that time. Why was Napoleon so enthusiastic for a Jewish state? It was certainly not to use the meager Jewish population in Palestine to bolster his military campaign. There may be no other answer other than his sympathy for the Jewish people whom he saw oppressed on many other occasions.

*(con't. on next page)*



Napoleon continued his support for the Jewish people when he returned to France in 1802. He approved of a plan to give Jews complete equality with Catholics. His civil code of 1804 guaranteed religious freedom for Jews, Protestants, and Freemasons.

But afterwards, Napoleon began to turn against the Jews? Why? He may have been influenced by the rising tide of anti-Semitism in France, in some instances calling for the expulsion of the Jews. As an example, the French newspaper, *The Mercure de France* published an anti-Semitic article saying that the Jews could remain in France if they converted to Catholicism. Cardinal Fish, Napoleon's uncle, told Napoleon that the end of the world would come if he gave the Jews equality. At first, Napoleon resisted these and many other arguments against continuing equality for Judaism. But in 1806, presumably under pressure by anti-Semitic forces, he called for a special assembly of Jewish leaders and Rabbis to discuss the charges levied against the Jews. The charges dealt generally with the issues of loyalty to the government and lack of assimilation. This gathering was according to some, a re-convening of the Sanhedrin of 1700 years earlier (the Supreme Court of ancient Israel). The members of this Jewish council answered the charges to Napoleon's satisfaction, and in 1807, he made Judaism one of the three official religions of France, but then turned against them again. He demanded that Jews commit themselves to further assimilation at the expense of their religious practices. This demand was formalized in a decree imposing severe restrictions on the Jews. Over time however, he reversed the restrictions and by 1811, Napoleon removed all of them. His harsh treatment of the Jews from 1807 to 1811 was puzzling, since it contradicted his belief of religious freedom. Either he could not, or chose not to counteract the anti-Semitic atmosphere in France at that time.

So, was Napoleon a friend or foe? Between 1807 and 1811, Napoleon's restrictions on Jewish religious practice clearly made him no friend of the Jews. On the other hand, if we examine Napoleon's overall history with the Jewish people, he was as good a friend as they had. How many others supported the right of the Jews to be a free people in their own homeland and elsewhere?

Thus, Napoleon's relationship with the Jews was a complex one., but I think he was more friend than foe. However, I can see why some might disagree.

#### REFERENCES:

1. Dr. Ben Weider; Napoleon and the Jews; aish.com, August 11, 2007
2. Napoleon Bonaparte and the Jews; Virtual Jewish Library; The Gale Group, 2008
3. Napoleon and the Jews; Wikipedia

"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



Happy New Year! We hope that you and your loved ones are managing well.

Local organizations and programs which serve our neighbors in need would love your help during this incredibly challenging time. A big thank you to our volunteers Andrea de Lange, Leslie and David Moss and Alisa Trachtenberg for volunteering at Daily Bread Food Pantry this fall.

### **Here is a bit of information that you and members of your families might find useful:**

**Daily Bread Food Pantry:** This Danbury-based food pantry has been open throughout the pandemic thanks to the support of the community. DBFP continues to provide more than sixty pounds of fresh, healthy food items to almost two hundred struggling households twice weekly. The pantry is always in need of enthusiastic volunteers and monetary donations to cover the costs of several thousand pounds of food each week. Please call 203-826-8252 if interested in volunteering and go to [www.dailybreadfoodpantry.com](http://www.dailybreadfoodpantry.com) to make a donation.

**Dorothy Day Hospitality House:** Your help is needed purchasing, prepping and/or serving food for hungry guests at this Danbury soup kitchen. Please consider one or both of the following!

1. Go to [www.dorothydaydanbury.org](http://www.dorothydaydanbury.org) to sign up for sandwich-making and drop-off.
2. Team up with volunteers at Temple B'nai Chaim in Wilton as they shop for meal fixings, cook and serve a warm meal to clients each month. Your assistance with any portion of this effort would be hugely appreciated! Please contact Peggy Zamore at [peggyz18@gmail.com](mailto:peggyz18@gmail.com) to volunteer or make a donation to help cover the cost of the food by going to TBC's website: <https://templebnaichaim.wufoo.com/forms/m7x3s5/>, selecting Tzedakah and typing Dorothy Day in the description field.

**Laundry Love:** This important program allows people with limited resources to wash their clothing free-of-charge at White Street Wash in Danbury. Coordinated by local temples and churches, Laundry Love has helped many struggling families in our area. Volunteer staffing of the laundromat is not needed during COVID, however, the program is currently very much in need of funds to pay for laundromat gift cards and laundry detergent for clients. If interested in donating,

1. Checks can be written payable to St. James' Episcopal Church (fiduciary of Laundry Love). Memo line should read "LLGD" or "Laundry Love of Greater Danbury".
2. Donations can be mailed to:  
 St. James Episcopal Church  
 Attention: Denise Holl, LLGD  
 25 West Street  
 Danbury, CT 06810



***Many thanks everyone!***

Wishing you a happy, healthy and fulfilling 2021,

Debbie Lavin, Amy Margulies and Debbie Landzberg, Social Action Committee Co-Chairpersons

## CANTOR'S CORNER

## CANTOR DEBORAH KATCHKO-GRAY



**W**ith Hanukkah behind us and the promise of spring ahead of us, I write this with a hopeful spirit that things are turning around in the right direction. This has been a challenging time for all of us, but one with a few silver linings. I have appreciated seeing people's faces on zoom services in particular, and the interactions we have had through life cycle events during the year. I have a few programs planned, and I hope to see you close up in our zoom format for them!

**Jan. 22. Adon Olam-athon!** This will be really fun- there are dozens, maybe hundreds of versions of Adon Olam, but I will choose 6. I hope you will attend and vote on your favorites! So far, the most traditional have been the winners, but you never know! I love getting feedback about different melodies, so this is a great way for me to hear from you.

**Feb. 7 Author Talk-** Life's Accessories with Rachel Levy Lesser. I am excited to hear from the author who wrote a wonderful book using accessories as a way to tell the story of her life- how each object had a role in a certain time in her life. I'm sure we will all relate to this very personal and moving approach to life's journeys.

I'm delighted to be guest teaching another class (on Hallel) at the Hebrew Union College Debbie Friedman School of Cantorial Music on Jan. 14. It's a great honor to teach my grandfather's music at the cantorial school he helped found, and whose music is taught there to all cantors.

**On Jan. 25,** I'll be a guest presenter for the Colorado Hebrew Chorale teaching the music and lessons of Elie Wiesel.

This is a silver lining of the covid epidemic- we would not have thought it possible to teach remotely to the extent we are doing it and now it is the norm.

For anyone interested in the teachings of Elie Wiesel, I have added my research and writings, as well as photos and memorabilia to my website- a section just on Elie Wiesel. [www.cantordebbie.com](http://www.cantordebbie.com)

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy winter season- looking forward to the day when we are able to sing together in person. In the meantime, I look forward to seeing you on our zoom services and programs.

Shalom,  
Cantor Debbie Katchko-Gray

## JANUARY YAHRZEITEN

### Friday, January 1st, 2021:

Herschell Chanin	father of Carrie Chanin	Ernest Elkin	father of Stephanie Herbstman
Pearl Elkin	grandmother of Stephanie Herbstman	Gay Golman	aunt of Jamie Garrett
Eli Gorelick	father of Jeff Gorelick	Bernard Gorman	father of Martin Gorman
Martin Lipton	father of Dr. Richard Lipton	Paul Lowy	father of Terry Henry
Helen Milrod	mother of Marion Milrod	Naomi Price	aunt of Terry Henry
Helen Chess Rosenblatt	aunt of Cheryl Chess	Jacob Schneider	grandfather of Margie Gorelick
Bernard Shuler	father of Robi Margolis		

### Friday, January 8th, 2021:

Peter Aries	father of Richard Aries	Joan Fields Berg	mother of Jeff Berg
Penny Binn Binstock	relative of Moreton Binn	Rhoda Brand	mother of Michael Brand
Ruth Seigel Sunday Davis	mother of Suzanne Sunday	Helene Fuchs	grandmother of Hanky Kutscher
Theodore Garfiel	grandfather of Karen Blum	Jean Kaplan	grandmother of Susannah Altman
Sanford Kessler	father of Ronni Hammer	Helene Kutscher	mother of Martin Kutscher
Joan Landzberg	grandmother of Hanky Kutscher	Martin Levenson	grandfather of Karen Brenner
Priscilla Levy	mother of Marla Kay	Renee Miller	mother of Linda Hirschfeld

### Friday, January 15th, 2021:

Sharon Eisberg	mother of Tiffany Zezula	Morris Geller	grandfather of Jamie Garrett
Yetta Goldberg	mother of Jacob Goldberg	Aaron Jay Gordon	brother of Elaine Gordon
Roslyn Harris	mother of Ian Harris	Debby Jonisch	wife of George Jonisch
Arthur L. Penzel	father of Lesly Burns	Shirley Schwartz	grandmother of Lisa Kurtz
Herbert Zieselman	father of Judith Stoogenke		

### Friday, January 22nd, 2021:

Allan Blumstein	father of Eve Zibel	Nancy Ellis	wife of Joseph Ellis
Solomon Fremed	father of Charles Fremed	Muriel Fried	aunt of Lonnie Shapiro
Ruth Glaser	mother of Laura Agsim	Julius Hubsher	father of Jeffrey Hubsher
Oliver Hughes	son of Tyler and Hillary Huges, grandson of Rick & Bobbie Cohan	Eugene Kahn	father of Leslie Gottlieb
Joseph Mirkin	father of Judith Strom	Elaine Lynn	mother of Elise Jonisch
Cal Mishkoff	uncle of Joan Isman	Abraham Mirkin	grandfather of Judith Strom
Bernard Schwartz	grandfather of Lisa Kurtz	Susan Pleener	sister-in-law of Liz Winson
		Steven Zeitlin	brother of Ianne Poushter

### Friday, January 29th, 2021:

Stella Baker	grandmother of Carlyn Bergman	Max Banner	father of Barbara Brodsky
Douglas Birdsall	father of Emily Wein	William Drucker	father of Janine Gordon
Arthur Edelman	father of Sally Slater	Judith Eydenberg	mother of Susan Westlake
Joy Ginsberg	mother of Jamie Garrett	Dr. Kenneth Greenberg	husband of Barbara Safran
Fred Greenberg	father of Adrienne Orlan	Saul Jacobs	father of Alan Jacobs
Ruth Kahn	mother of Leslie Gottlieb	Nathan Kaplan	grandfather of Susannah Altman
Jacob Kaplan	grandfather of Steve Kaye	Sarah Katz	mother of Claire Katz
Jesse Kaye	uncle of Arnold Friedlander	Edward Kleinbaum	grandfather of Stacey Rubinfeld
Philip Levens	father of David Levens	Irma Lowy	grandmother of Terry Henry
Benjamin Rothberg	cousin of Judith Strom	Fanny Siegel	mother of Lewis Siegel
Albert Strom	father of Robert Strom	Cary Wellington	father of Brad, Abby and Ben Wellington
Jack Wetchler	father of Richard Wetchler	Norma Zucker	mother of Bobbie Cohan

## FEBRUARY YAHRZEITEN

**Friday, February 5th, 2021:**

Gregory Davis	son of Elyse & Jay Davis	Hannah Hirt	mother of Judy Hirt-Manheimer
Diana Hirt	sister of Judy Hirt-Manheimer	Norman Levitt	father of Bonnie Dietzek
Theodore Mallon	father of Linda Krulwich	Michael Robinson	relative of Moreton Binn
Joseph Rosenhouse	father of Harry Rosenhouse	David Siegel	father of Lewis Siegel
Arthur Stoll	father of Susan Andrade	Anna Weintraub	grandmother of Karen Gerard
Rita Zelin	aunt of Karen Taylor & Lori Stalowicz		

**Friday, February 12th, 2021:**

Carole Alexander	mother of Neil Alexander	Marvin Burg	brother of Judith Besserman
Hannah Drucker	grandmother of Janine Gordon	Sam Farber	father of Hildi Glicklich
William Frankel	grandfather of Scott Brenner	Reveka Gogish	grandmother of Ilya Gogish & Vlad Gogish
Charlene Lavin	mother of Mark Lavin	Stephen Margolis	husband of Robi Margolis
Betty Mirkin	aunt of Judith Strom	Irving Reichenthal	father of Sandra Rosenhouse
Hubert Ryan	father of Eve Siegel	Morris Rymberg	uncle of Judith Strom
Norman Sage	father of Robyn Cohen	William Shoff	grandfather of Jeffrey Hubsher
Millicent Stark	mother of Andrew Stark	Rose Vayda	relative of Moreton Binn
Jeannette Walker	mother of Jay Walker	Brett Winson	husband of Liz Winson
Benjamin Wishod	father-in-law of Lora Wishod		

**Friday, February 19th, 2021:**

Blanche Agisim	mother of Elliot Agisim	Thelma Apel	grandmother of Valerie Rich
Lucille Colville	mother in law of Ronni Rosenstein	Mollie Darvick	mother of Murray Darvick
Cantor Kerry Ben-David	beloved Cantor of JFC	Sandra Elkin	mother of Stephanie Herbstman
Robert Felper	grandfather of Margie Gorelick	John Grzymala	father of John Grzymala
Gerald Levine	father of Joan Isman	Eric Spencer Morley	father of Larry Morley
Sam Munsart	uncle of Joan Isman	Diane Silverman	grandmother of the Margulies family
Burt Yolen	father of David Yolen		

**Friday, February 26th, 2021:**

Bernard Baker	father of Carlyn Bergman	Arthur Brown	father of Michael Brown
Vivienne Bruckman	stepmother of Rena Bruckman	Sam Farber	father of Hildi Glicklich
Alex Gelbart	father of Mindy Hoffman	Marcelle Goldstein	cousin of Wendy Wallach-DeLucia
Gloria Katz	mother of JoAnn Gorman	Norman M. Lash	father of Joseph Lash
Freda Manus	mother of Rhonda Manus	Steven Mechanic	son of Elinor Darvick
Rose Robinson	relative of Moreton Binn	Max Schenk	stepfather of Allan Gottlieb
Rose Schneider	grandmother of Margie Gorelick	Edward Shade	uncle of Arnold Friedlander
Anna Shapiro	grandmother of Laurie Dubin	Nancy Sherter	mother of Craig Sherter
Rose Shoff	grandmother of Jeffrey Hubsher	Rae Weissman	aunt of Diana Friedlander

*Condolences*

To Karen Taylor & David Kaminer on the death of their dear friend, Larry Haith, z"l

To Bob & Terry Henry on the death of their dear friend, Ralph Kravitz, z"l

To Rhonda Lackow on the death of her dear friend, Janet Stevens, z"l

To Patrick Barry on the death of his grandmother.

*May their memory be for a blessing.*

# Ooo Baby, Baby....



Mazel Tov to the Cinnamon Family on the birth of their son, Mason David Cinnamon. He was born November 24th at 12:46pm weighing in at 7lb 10oz and measuring 18.5" long.

Wishing all the best to parents: Sonia and Justin, and big brothers Ethan and Logan!



## We are happy to announce that Congregation Shir Shalom's Office is open for in-person visits at select times:

Congregation Shir Shalom's office has continued operations throughout the ongoing pandemic, without interruption, even when we needed to work remotely. We want to update you about our on-site operations:

**Visiting our building:** If you would like to hand-deliver something or need to pick something up, there are clear plastic bins and a mailbox on our porch. Yahrzeit candles, prayerbooks, and Jewish calendars are available for home use. Our office is generally open for phone calls or visits **from 10AM-2PM**, Monday-Friday, or by appointment. Our staff can be contacted over e-mail, and your patience is appreciated. Our practice is to not to e-mail on Shabbat or other Jewish holy days unless a message is related to that day.

Please contact Rabbi Reiner's assistant, Allyson ([RabbiAssist@ourshirshalom.org](mailto:RabbiAssist@ourshirshalom.org)) to schedule a meeting with the rabbi or for a pastoral emergency.

Donations and payments can now be made online through our congregant portal. Please contact our Controller, Lori, with questions related to your account, by e-mail ([Lori@ourshirshalom.org](mailto:Lori@ourshirshalom.org)).

Our staff wears masks while we are in the public portions of our sacred space and **we expect visitors and vendors to also wear masks.** If you are feeling well, we are eager to welcome you. If you are experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms, not feeling well, are subject to a quarantine, have been with someone who tested positive in the past 14 days, or you or someone in your home has travelled to a place on the Connecticut Travel Quarantine list, please stay home. Thank you!



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