Beth Shalom of Whittier

November 2016

Tishrei / Cheshvan 5777



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Everyone is Welcome



A Note from the Rabbi,

Our Mishpacha

This past month, October/(Jewish month of) Tishrei, we celebrated a series of Jewish holidays and get-together events: Selichot night; Rosh Hashanah; Shabbat Shuvah; Yom Kippur; Sukkot; Shmini Atzeret/Simchat Torah and more. Those of you who came to the synagogue on those days were able to hear the choir and Hazzan, listen to the Rabbi's sermons and messages, and engage in the spiritual practices and rituals of the season.

I'd like to share with you a small part of my sermon for Rosh Hashanah Eve. This sermon drew the most comments, all positive and enthusiastic, its message calling for a future of peace and understanding in the world, even as the memory of the late Israeli President and Prime Minister Shimon Peres is still fresh in our collective memory.

"Then Abraham took his last breath and died at a good old age, old and full of years; and he was gathered to his people. His sons Isaac and Ishmael buried him in the cave of Machpelah near Mamre, in the field of Ephron son of Zohar the Hittite." (Gen. 25:8-9)

Recall that Ishmael along with his mother Hagar was thrown out of the house of his father Abraham. What we know of the rest of the story is that Ishmael and Isaac lived separate lives: Isaac grew up with Abraham and Sara, Ishmael with Hagar. There was, as far as we know, no contact between them. We don't know if Ishmael bears a grudge at being sent away; we don't know if he is angry with Isaac getting to stay with Abraham ,their father all his life; we don't even know if they share a resentment toward Abraham or each other. All we know from the biblical text is that Isaac and Ishmael stand together at the funeral of their father. Shoulder to shoulder. And that's a very powerful image; a huge message of peace.

I often wondered about this scene as I try to imagine it. But last Friday there was no need to try and imagine as I got a glimpse of what an Isaac and an Ishmael mourning together looks like. It was at the funeral of Shimon Peres, the last of Israel's founding fathers.

Following the News of his death, Mahmud Abbas, the Palestinian President sent a condolence letter to Peres' family, and then, following an announcement that Abbas also wanted to attend the funeral in person, he did make the short drive from nearby Ramallah to Jerusalem.

Welcoming Abbas, Benjamin Netanyahu said of the Palestinian leader's attendance: "It's something that I appreciate very much on behalf of our people and on behalf of us. "President Obama remarked in his eulogy that Peres understood, in this war-torn region, where too often Arab youth are taught to hate Israel from an early age — he understood just how hard peace would be.

Continued on page 4

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High Holiday Appeal Kol Nidre 2016

For those who missed a recent Torah study, most of it was about Moses knowing he would die soon and would not cross the Jordan into the promised land. He was beside himself with worry that Torah would be forgotten and the Israelites would accept other gods and disappear as a people. Well, here we are, thousands of years later. What we should be asking ourselves is why? With all the hardships that Jews have experienced throughout history, why are we here. Why are we here together tonight? We could easily have stayed home, watched TV or played games on our computers. Or gone out to dinner and taken in a movie or play. Why did we choose to be here?

I believe for each of us Judaism is an essential part of our identity, whether we came to it by birth or by choice. We, in Whittier are not unique. Jews all over the world crave community. Rabbi Beliak has found men and women in Poland, some with Jewish ancestry and some not, who are responding to the craving for a Jewish community in Warsaw, Lublin, Lodz (wudge), Katowice, Poznan, Gdansk, Wroclaw, and Czestochowa. We, as a synagogue have supported Kulanu, which supports Jewish communities in Uganda, Ecuador, Cameroon, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Italy, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Madagascar, Mexico, Nicaragua, Nigeria, and Surinam. Many of these communities struggle just to exist. For those of you who get the Whittier Daily News, you saw a recent article, "Chinese Jews of ancient lineage huddle under growing pressure". Judaism is not a recognized religion in China, but in the past the government turned a blind eye to encourage Jewish tourists. Not so anymore. We here in Whittier are a part of this Jewish community and it is important that we remain so, not just as an act of solidarity with our brethren, but to feed our own needs of community and belonging.

One might ask if it is necessary to have a synagogue in order to feel like a member of the Jewish community. Maybe on the Westside or in Irvine you would see and feel Jewish just going about your daily business – lots of synagogues, kosher restaurants, kosher food in Costco, more than one end of one aisle of Passover goods at Ralphs, but not in Whittier. We must make our own Jewish community and we must have a physical space to gather and to call our own.

Recenytly when we were waiting for Mina, our maestra de Espanol, (Spanish teacher for those not taking the class), one of our group said, "This is the best part of the class." I looked at her, like "What?". She said, all the conversation and fun before class starts. (We do have a lot of fun after class starts too). That is community. It is ten Jewish people gathered together, in this case learning Spanish, enjoying each other's company. Of course we all come for religious services every Shabbat and holidays and are led by two amazing clergy – Rabbi Osnat and Hazzan Lance and that is the most important glue, basis of our community, but more than that, we create community with something as silly as bowling and as intellectually stimulating as the many lectures, classes, and cultural programs we have.

Last year you were exceptionally generous in your HHD pledges and I ask you to open your wallets even wider so we can continue to meet our needs as individuals and as a community.

Thank you.

Rita Rubin on behalf of the Executive Committee

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Hazzan's Notes

On Friday, November 11 at 7:30 pm we will offer a Shabbat evening service in the German/Austrian choral style with music composed by Louis Lewandowski of Berlin's Oranienburgerstrasse Synagogue and Hazzan Salomon Sulzer of Vienna's Seitstettengasse Synagogue in remembrance of these great choral traditions. I will officiate together with our wonderful choir, the Beth Shalom Singers, and our wonderful accompanist and conductor, Mark Peterson at the

🗖 keyboard.

I will speak about these traditions and also the commemoration of *Kristallnacht* during this service. There will also be readings in German by congregants included from German prayer books.

A festive Viennese Sweet Table oneg will follow the service with items of note actually from Vienna and other places to lend a measure of joy to this majestic service.

All are invited to attend this beautiful choral service and oneg free of charge. I hope to see you there.

-- Hazzan Lance H. Tapper

To My Beth Shalom Family,

I want to thank you all for your heartfelt condolences on the loss of my mother this week on Rosh Hashanah. I was so heartened with the physical presence of so many of you at the funeral. I know many more would have liked to be there physically, but were there with me and my family in spirit. It gives me such great solace to know that you all have and continue to support me in this difficult hour.

My mother knew that Beth Shalom was and is very special to me and that your kindnesses have been very numerous over the time I have been with you all. She led a wonderful life and left a treasure of beautiful memories for us to keep in our hearts. May her memory continue to be a blessing.

Hazzan Lance

Continued from page 1

In death as in life, Shimon Peres always turned the conversation to peace, for his county and his people but also for the Palestinians.

Abraham never saw his two sons united in their grief, standing together, as two brothers sharing a father and a story, hugging and maybe even looking at the future together. But last week the world saw the descendants of Abraham, an Ishmael and an Isaac, come together in shared grief, and likely wondered if this will lead to a peaceful future.

It is true that we have yet to witness a Netanyahu/Abbas peace agreement. But it is so remarkable that a picture drawn in short colored strokes in our sacred Torah has our imagination ignited. "Peres" Israeli President Rivlin eulogized, "carried a whole nation on the wings of imagination, on the wings of vision."

Tonight we are celebrating the beginning of a new year, a time filled with hope, expectation, dreams and prayers. Let us be carried on the wings of a vision, the wings of hope; let us say in one voice: we are all children of Abraham and we are all precious human beings created in the image of God; let us imagine a world that is whole, complete and perfect, overflowing with blessings and abundance; let us strengthen our shared commitment to Tikkun Olam/the betterment of the world; let us dream up Shalom - peace.

At the end of this month please join our Beth Shalom members and clergy as we celebrate Thanksgiving in a community-wide interfaith service on Sunday November 20.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Your Rabbí,

Osnat

Jews of Madagascar

Kulanu, the organization supporting emerging Jewish communities throughout the world, is sponsoring a program featuring Elysha Netsarh, Ph.D., November 16 at 12:30 P.M. at Cal State Northridge, in the Matador Bookstore Complex, 18111 Nordhoff St., Northridge. Elysha, a researcher and teacher from Madagascar, will talk about her journey to Judaism and the practice of Judaism in this African island nation. If you would like to carpool either as a driver or passenger contact the office at 562 941-8744.

Call now to place your Hanukkah Greeting and Well Wishes to appear in the next issue.

\$18.00 per greeting. Contact the Office to order your greeting.



Sabbath Work

The concept of Sabbath work is confusing to many people. Many of us think of work as doing physical labor or going about our usual occupations. In the case of the Sabbath, the prohibition is not against

actual labor as against ritual work. Ritual work is defined as any act in which we interfere with nature and show our mastery over it. This is an overall philosophy, whose particulars we will pursue.

The best way to learn the rules of Sabbath is to spend a few weekends with someone who observes them. The Sabbath is more than a set of rules; it is a way of life. The only way one can really learn a way of life is by living it. Put it in writing, and it becomes difficult.

It is for this reason that the detailed laws of Shabbos were not included in the Written Torah. They are learned as a way of life that is essentially Talmudic, the Oral Tradition. The Oral Torah provides us with a most important lesson regarding the Sabbath. All work must stop. The Oral Torah teaches us that there are 39 categories of Sabbath work.

For example, the Tabernacle required all sorts of woodwork and metalwork. Textile-making was required for its hangings; leather was used for its roof. Many plant products were required for dyes, and these required all sorts of agricultural and culinary activities. Material had to be carried outside the camp, and written records had to be kept. All these things constitute ritual work and a total commitment of our Jewish people to G-d. The Torah clearly states that its building included "all manner of skilled work." [Exodus 35:33]

Each of the 39 categories of work that went into the Tabernacle is the counterpart of some aspect of G-d's creation. In refraining from these 39 categories of work, we are also paralleling G-d's rest on the Sabbath of Creation.

The Torah therefore states [Exodus 23:12], "Six days shall you do all your tasks and on the seventh day you shall rest." In conclusion, besides abstaining from active work, one must preserve the general aura of the Sabbath.

The 39 Categories of Sabbath Work

The actual details of conformity to the following 39 are found in the Talmud:

After scanning the above 39, we might come to feel that keeping the Sabbath is impossible. I warned you earlier that Sabbath is more than a set of rules. It is another way of life – a life totally divorced from weekday life. In writing this article, my comprehension of a different lifestyle seems very complex and difficult. When lived, however, it is really very easy. The secret of Shabbos is not complex; it is total belief in G-d and REST!

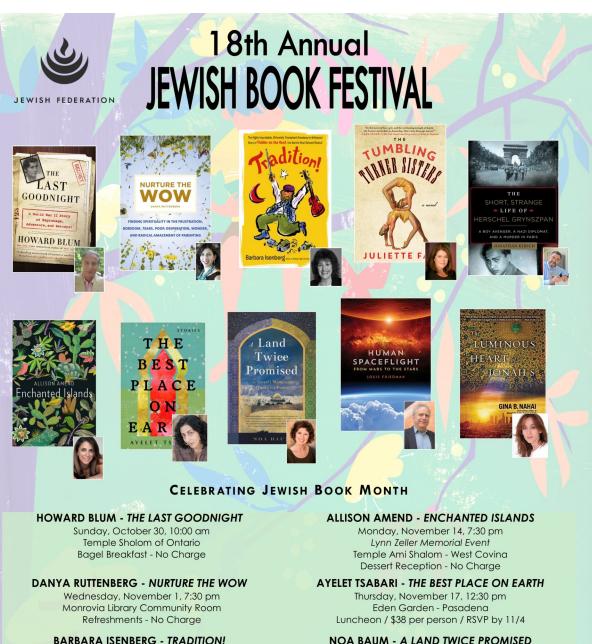
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A Special Thank You to

Lucy Kleinberg

for her efforts in publishing the High Holy Day Morning Prayer Booklet





BARBARA ISENBERG - TRADITION!

Saturday, November 5, 7:30 pm Temple Beth Israel of Pomona **Dessert Reception & Musical Performance** \$18 advance / \$20 door

JULIETTE FAY - THE TUMBLING TURNER SISTERS

Sunday, November 6, 10:00 am Beth Shalom Whittier Morning Brunch - No Charge

JONATHAN KIRSCH THE SHORT, STRANGE LIFE OF HERSCHEL GRYNSZPAN Kristallnacht Commemoration Sunday, November 13, 4:00 pm

University of La Verne No Charge

NOA BAUM - A LAND TWICE PROMISED

Sunday, November 20, 4 pm Temple Sinai of Glendale Reception - No Charge

DR. LOUIS FRIEDMAN - HUMAN SPACEFLIGHT

Wednesday, November 30, 7:30 pm Monrovia Library Community Room Refreshments - No Charge

GINA NAHAI

THE LUMINOUS HEART OF JONAH S. Celebrating 18 years of the Jewish Book Festival Sunday, December 4, 7:30 pm Pasadena Jewish Temple and Center Dessert Reception - No Charge

BOOK SALES & SIGNING AT ALL EVENTS

A program of the Jewish Federation of the Greater San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys For tickets or more information call the Jewish Federation at 626.445.0810 or visit www.jewishsgpv.org

November 2016



In Remembrance of Kristallnacht

Beth Shalom will offer a Shabbat evening service in the German/ Austrian choral style with music composed by Louis Lewandowski of Berlin's Oranienburgerstrasse Synagogue and Hazzan Salomon Sulzer of Vienna's Seitstettengasse Synagogue in remembrance of these great choral traditions.

Die Neue Synagogue in der Oranienburgerstrasse

Friday, November 11, 2016 7:30 p.m.

Beth Shalom of Whittier

Hazzan Lance H. Tapper will speak about these choral traditions and also the commemoration of *Kristallnacht* during this service, with the Beth Shalom Singers and Mark Peterson, Accompanist and Conductor.

A festive Viennese Sweet Table Oneg will follow the service to lend a measure of joy to this majestic service.

All are invited to attend this beautiful choral service free of charge.

Beth Shalom of Whittier Parking – 14545 Mulberry, Whittier 90604 562-941-8744

	40 Years of Jewish Music
	A Cantors Concert
	Saturday, November 19, 2016 7:00 PM Congregation B'nai Tzedek 9669 Talbert Avenue Fountain Valley, CA 92708
incredible talents	ntorial Concert featuring the s of Cantors, Cantorial Interns, loists of the Cantors Assembly!
\$36 Priority	Reservations: y Seating (first five rows) General Admission
	ovember 17, 2016 by returning the form below and to Congregation B'nai Tzedek.
	enna Sagan at <u>jsagan@cbtfv.org</u> e at <u>714-963-4611</u> for further information.
or call the CBT offic	
	Phone
Name	
Name Email Priority Seating>	x \$36 General Admission x \$18
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Global Day of Jewish Learning

Sunday, November 20, 2016, 11:00 am

Beth Shalom of Whittier

joins 500 Jewish communities in 40 countries

The Global Day of Jewish Learning

Under the Same Sky

"The Earth is Full of Your Creations"

November 20, 2016 11:00 am

Desserts Will be Served

Connect! Learn! Belong! Take a Step Ahead!

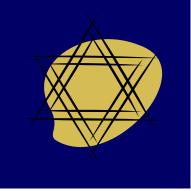
Join thousands whose lives were touched through our sacred texts.

Discussion led by Rabbi Osnat









Beth Shalom of Whittier

14564 Hawes Street Whittier, CA 90604 Phone: 562.941.8744 E-mail: bswoffice@verizon.net www.bethshalomofwhittier.net

BOOK CLUB NEWS

Beth Shalom's Book Group is continuing to meet monthly. We have a wonderful time catching up with everyone's lives, and discussing our current book. Everyone is welcome to join us.

The schedule for the rest of the year is as follows:

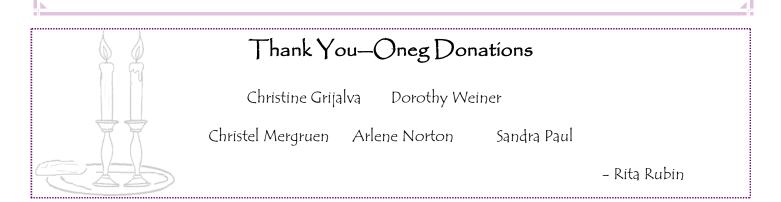
<u>Sunday November 6th, at 10:00 a.m.</u>, the *Federation's Jewish Book Festival* is coming for its annual visit to Whittier. This year's book is "The Tumbling Turner Sisters" by Juliette Fay. The book was inspired by the author's vaudevillian great-grandfather. It is easy for us to forget that the entertainment industry was one of the ways that immigrant Jews could participate in American society. In fact, the beginnings of many of the famous comedians and song-and-dance men that were legends, started in vaudeville. A good friend told me, after she had read the book, that she had learned a lot about vaudeville that she never knew. In this day of electronic media, we forget that vaudeville was an important and interesting era of American history.

The morning **starts at 10:00 am.** with a delicious bagel brunch, and then moves into an interesting author presentation. After the author's presentation and Q and A, everyone will have the opportunity to purchase Juliette Fay's book, as well as all the books from the entire Book Festival. Ms. Fay will be available to personalize and sign your copy of her book. With Chanukah just around the corner, personalized signed books make an interesting and unique gift.

On November 29th, the group is reading Nomi Eve's book *"The Family Orchard"*. Because the ladies enjoyed *"Henna House"* so much, they wanted to read another book by the same author. We will be meeting at Maxine's for that discussion.

December 13th, the ladies have decided to go out to lunch as a group. No book discussion has been planned.

If you have any questions, please call Myra. Happy Reading Everyone.



continued from page 5

The whole household rejoices on the Sabbath, which we celebrate with satisfaction for a day of rest and rejoicing. Our Jewish prayers term the Sabbath "A joy of the soul to all who hallow it us endeavor to keep as much of the Sabbath as we are able. This faith will be acceptable before G-d, and the Jew will be exhorted toward returning to a more fully observance of the Sabbath. These are not abstract words; they are the outcome of pure faith and genuine happiness.

When dire necessity compels a Jew to break the Sabbath, do not think that the Sabbath is lost to the Jew or to Judaism. So long as Jewish conscientiousness is alive within the Jew, let us endeavor to keep as much of the Sabbath as we are able. This faith will be acceptable before G-d, and the Jew will be exhorted toward returning to a more fully observance of the Sabbath.

Sam Pearlman

Thank you to all who helped make our 5777 High Holy Day services truly magnificent!

To Rabbi Osnat for the insightful, and thought provoking messages.

To Hazzan Lance, who with Mark, our accompanist, and the wonderful choir gave us such beautiful and inspiring music.

To Avi, who worked tirelessly to keep things running smoothly.

To the many of you who so graciously accepted Honors.

To Eileen W. for again giving us the Book of Remembrance.

To the women of Sisterhood for the lovely Rosh Hashannah Oneg and refreshments for Tashlich and "Break the Fast".

To Claire for attending to the many details in preparation for this special holiday season.

And to all of you who attended, your presence enhanced the service and is sincerely appreciated.

The Religious Committee



Presents the 2016

Thanksgiving Interfaith Service

First Christian Church 6355 S Greenleaf St. Whittier, CA 90601

Sunday, November 20, at 5:00 pm.



Sukkot 2016

Sukkot Celebration at Beth Shalom of Whittier.

On Sukkot (Tabernacles or the Festival of Booths) we spend time in our beautiful sukkah, gathering the four species and rejoicing.



A Special Thank You

Thank you to the Men's Club for constructing the sukkah.

Thank You for Your Donations

We are thankful for the support of Beth Shalom, from its members and friends

Lucy Kleinberg-Sisterhood

Jeffrey Kolnick & Rosa Tock-In Memory of Jackie Kolnick & the Cold Weather Shelter

November Clergy Schedule / Candle Lighting Times

Date November 4 November 5	Time 7:30 p 9:45 a	Clergy on Bima Hazzan Lance Hazzan Lance	Service Kaballat Shabbat Shabbat	Candles 5:37p
November 11	7:30 p	Hazzan Lance, BSW Singers	German Chorale	4:32p
November 12	9:45 a	Hazzan Lance	Shabbat	
November 18	7:30 p	Rabbi Osnat	Kaballat Shabbat	4:28p
November 19	9:45 a	Rabbi Osnat	Torah Study	
November 25	7:30 p	Rabbi Osnat & Hazzan Lance	Kaballat Shabbat	4:25p
November 26	9:45 a	Hazzan Lance	Shabbat	

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November Yahrzeit Observances

Beloved Departed

Bell, Moses Bell, Solomon Bromberg, Ruth Fuchs, Gabor Bromberg, Ruth Espinoza, Humberto Pinto, Delfina Gnessin, Abraham Gnessin, Yetta Rubin, Doris Starkman, Blanche Tapper, Malvina Cooper, Sophie Rutberg, Jacob Sarkin, Bruce

Observed by

Becker, Myra Becker, Myra Eres, Joann Fuchs, Agnes Held, Charles &Lila Herrera, Alberto & Liz Martinez, Rebecca Rubin, Robert & Rita Rubin, Robert & Rita Rubin, Robert & Rita Starkman, Bernard Tapper, Hazzan Lance H Beth Shalom of Whittier Beth Shalom of Whittier

Relationship Uncle Grandfather Grandmother Husband Mother of Lila Uncle of Liz Grandmother of Rebecca Father of Rita Mother of Rita Mother of Bob Mother Aunt

Yahrzeit Donations

Beloved Departed

Donation by

Relationship

Mona Alarcon	Irving Bartikovsky	Sister
Bartikovsky, David	Irving Bartikovsky	Uncle
Bartikovsky, Diane	Irving Bartikovsky	Sister
Villa, Krystal	Irving Bartikovsky	Niece
Bartikovsky, Jack & Carmen	Irving Bartikovsky	
Hyman Morzinsky	Richard & Michelle Hess	Grandfather of Michelle
Laura Cirulnick	Mona Di Natale	Cousin
Helen Moss Michelin	David & Myra Weiss	Step-mother of Myra
Dorothy Berry	Ann Kanahele	Mother
Pearl Blankstein	Fred Blankstein	Wife
Jack Starkman	Bernard Starkman	Father
Celia Bolasny	Sid & Sandra Paul	Aunt of Sandra

We honor the memory of our loved ones who have departed this earth as we kindle the Yahrzeit candle in remembrance. May their memory endure as an eternal blessing.

CELEBRATIONS

November Birthdays

Bea Fuhrman	11/2/2016
Agnes Fuchs	11/3/2016
Stanley Kramer	11/4/2016
Rita Rubin	3 11/13/2016
Renee Oran	11/22/2016
Samuel Gonz <mark>ales</mark>	11/24/2016
Marcos Salti	11/25/2016
Klara Wein	11/25/2016
Joel I. Kudler	11/27/2016
Silvelie (Belle) Goldman y Birth	nday! 11/28/2016
David Moriel	11/29/2016

Beth Shalom of Whíttíer Wíshes you all a very Happy Bírthday





Cold Weather Shelter 2016

This year we will be preparing meals for the Cold Weather Shelter from dinner December 19 through Breakfast December 26. We will be at East Whittier United Methodist Church on Cole Road as usual; however, in order to standardize the scheduling for the shelter, we will be changing the times of our shifts. Breakfast will be from 5:00 A.M. to 7:00 A.M. as usual, but dinner will be from 5:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. The overnight shift will be from 9:00 P.M. to 5:00 A.M. to following day. If you would like to volunteer for any of these shifts, please contact Rita at 562 943-3335 or <u>rita.rubin943@gmail.com</u>. Of course, we will also be accepting donations.

November 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Erev Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan	2 <u>Rosh Chodesh</u> <u>Cheshvan</u>	3	4 5:37p Candle lighting Kaballat Shabbat w/Hazzan Lance 7:30p	5 <u>Parashat Noach</u> Breakfast 9:00a Torah Service w/ Hazzan Lance 9:45a
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Jewish Book Festival 10:00a Brunch Bingo 6:00p	Daily Minyan 12:30p			Daily Minyan 12:30p	4 :32p Candle lighting KristalInacht— German Chorale Service 7:30p w/ Hazzan Lance	Parashat Lech-Lecha Breakfast 9:00a Torah Service w/ Hazzan Lance 9:45a
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Bingo 6:00p	Daily Minyan 12:30p		Kulanu—Jews of Madagascar CA State Northridge 12:30p Spanish Class 6:00p	Daily Minyan 12:30p Board Meeting 7:00p	4:28p Candle lighting Kaballat Shabbat w/ Rabbi Osnat	Parashat Vayera) Breakfast 9:00a Torah Study w/ Rabbi Osnat 9:45a Cantorial Concert Fountain Valley 7:00p
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Global Day of Jewish Learning w Rabbi Osnat 11:00a Interfaith Thanksgiving Service First Christian Church Whittier 5:00p Bingo 6:00p	Daily Minyan 12:30p			Daily Minyan 12:30p	4:25p Candle lighting Kaballat Shabbat W/ Rabbi Osnat & Hazzan Lance	Parashat Chayei Sara Breakfast 9:00a Torah Service w/ Hazzan Lance 9:45a
27	28	29	30		L orwich	17
Bingo 6:00p	20 Daily Minyan 12:30p	Book Club 12:30p at Maxine's		Tha	nkgit	ving

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David E. Weiss

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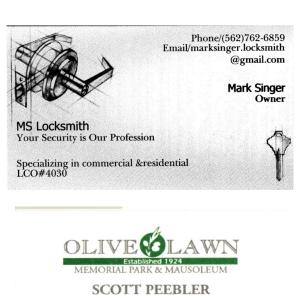
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The Mishpacha is published monthly, on or before the first of the month. If you want an announcement or article to appear in the next issue, the submission deadline is **November 20th**. The Mishpacha is sent on-line to those members and friends of Beth Shalom. If you wish a printed copy mailed to you, please call the office. Printed copies are also available in the lobby of Beth Shalom. The cost is \$18 per year for non-members. The editor welcomes comments, articles, and suggestions. Email Steve at sbap27@aol.com.

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Beth Shalom of Whittier

14564 Hawes Street Whittier, California 90604 November 2016

Our Mishpacha

Beth Shalom of Whittier

Friday Evening Services 7:30 p.m. Saturday Morning Services 9:45 a.m. Daily Minyan, Monday and Thursday 12:30 p.m.

