















Rabbi Daniel Molish

Cantor Gail Sirschenfang

President Wendy Bill

Vol. 18 No. 4

December 2019

Services held at the Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church Route 55 and Stringham Road, LaGrange

#### Online at www.shir-chadash.org

- 6 Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm
- 7 Sharing Shabbat 9:00am
- 7 Nicky's Pastalicious Tuscan Dinner by 6:30pm RSVP nlturner2@aol.com
- Board Meeting 9:00am
- 13 Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm
- 14 Sharing Shabbat 9:00am
- 15 Community
  Hanukkah
  Celebration at
  TBE 9:30AM
- 20 Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm
- 22 First Night of Chanukah
- 24 Annual
  December 25
  Eve Dinner at
  Kobe 5:30pm
  RSVP Here
- 27 Light Up the Night Chanukah Celebration 7:30pm

**Looking Ahead** 

1/11 Hockey Game at West Point vs Air Force. <u>Tickets</u>

#### From the Desk of Rabbi Daniel Polish



#### **Chanukah in a Time of Darkness**

To tell the truth, Labor Day does not work for me. Nothing about the way it is celebrated or the season it comes in says anything to me about the dignity of labor. Nor do so many of the holidays that have

been arbitrarily dropped onto our civic calendar. That's not the case with our Jewish holidays. And not because I am a parochial person. Pesach makes perfect sense in the Spring, with its promise of new birth and liberation from the grip of winter. The rabbis went out of their way to structure their essentially lunar calendar to keep our holidays and festivals connected to their appropriate season. And they were ingenious in the way they devised celebrations that evoke the very heart of the holiday they are associated with.

And so, we prepare to celebrate Chanukah. Everything about it – the historical events it commemorates, the rituals we perform during it, the season of the year it falls – all deliver the same message. And it is a message we are sorely in need of hearing right now. Chanukah comes at the time of the year when things are darkest. Days are short and night is long. We celebrate it by lighting candles—progressively more candles each night. More light. And it calls to mind the events of a victory in which brutal might did not prevail. It is a story of the triumph of good over evil, right over might.

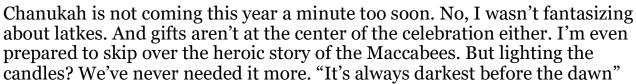
Altogether Chanukah conveys in so many ways the hopeful message that when things get dark, when wrong seems so pervasive that we fear for its complete triumph, light pierces through the darkness, truth is vindicated and righteousness prevails. How fortunate we are to have Chanukah's message at this time. This is a moment we really need it.

I hope you revel in your celebration of Chanukah and are warmed by the promise it brings us.

B'Shalom, Rabbi Daniel Polish

#### A Message from President Wendy Bill

#### It's Not About the Latkes



goes the old saying. Words of hope, I know. And we need all the hope we can get right now. I am up at dawn, and I have not experienced it to be darkest just then.

The way our calendar was structured thousands of years ago, Chanukah begins at the very time of year when, in this part of the world, the nights are longest and the daylight hours the fewest. Our tradition places on us the responsibility of lighting lights: first one and then increasingly more. No waiting for the dawn for us. Rather, the commandment to bring the light ourselves, by our own efforts.

And speaking of bringing light by our own efforts, very shortly you will be receiving a congregational survey put to together by your board. Enlighten us with your ideas of what a synagogue should provide. As we enter 2020, we would like "clear vision" of those needs as you see them.

This year all of us need Chanukah. Please join us at our Annual Light up the Night Service and Chanukah Oneg on Friday, December 27th at 7:30pm. The sanctuary will be lit up by the beautiful burning candles. Bring your family and friends—all are welcome to celebrate and enjoy the glow!

May your Chanukah and New Year be festive and filled with hope and healthy days.

B'Shalom Wendy Bill 845-227-7236; bills1989@msn.com

#### Tis the Season for Tzedakah!

At this time of family gatherings and gift-giving, we are helping the needlest families at the Morse School buy gifts for their children. The staff is requesting gift cards to Walmart or Big Lots, where families like to shop so they can make the most of their money. Please consider helping out. If you would like to contribute but have no time to get to these stores, we'd be happy to shop for you. Any amount will be appreciated.

Happy Chanukah and Happy New Year and Thank You! Sandy Lash silash@optonline.net



## PASTALICIOUS BUFFET DINNER

PENNE PASTA

your choice of 6 different sauces to try one or all!

MARINARA
PESTO
MUSHROOM
RICOTTA AND SPINACH
BUTTER AND SAGE
CREAMY SALMON

6:30 p.m. at F.P.U.P.C. \$18.- per person - Children eat FREE Must reserve by November 30th to Nicky - nlturner2@aol.com or call 845-462-2858

GARLIC BREAD
TOSSED SALAD with a Balsamic Vinegrette

**COOKIES** and GOODIES

Gluten free pasta will be available upon request

**Dairy-Free and Vegan selections also included** 

#### A Message from Sue Marcoe Education Enrichment Coordinator Fun at Religious School? Yes!

In November, our older students explored Jewish identity with Ian Freedman, watching and listening and discussing "Tradition" from "Fiddler on the Roof," and a song from Matisyahu, a great Jewish rapper. In the meantime, Rochelle Bellach helped our youngest

students find meaning in Simchat Torah and Shabbat, making their own kiddish cups.

Continuing with the theme of Jewish identity, Karen Marder helped these young teens determine what a Jewish community should look like on a brand new planet, including a mission statement and laws. Grace Bass will help them complete this project on Dec. 7th. At the same time, Rochelle Bellach will help her students create happy and fun memories of Chanukah through crafts, songs, games, culminating with baking on Dec. 14th.

We are in need of parents and/or Shir Chadash members who can offer one or two Sharing Shabbats to teach our 5th-7th graders, from 9-10:10a.m., as they learn more about their Judaism. If you enjoy working with children/teenagers, I can provide a lesson plan. If you have some talent or knowledge that you would like to share with these youngsters, your help would be greatly appreciated. We need teachers for December 14th, January 4th and 18th, as well as in the months that follow. Please let me know if you are available and willing. Thank you!

As always school begins promptly at 9:00am with bagels and juice in the classroom. So please have your child(ren) go directly upstairs so class can start on time. Plan to stay for Shabbat services and enhance your child's Shabbat experience What is important to you becomes important to your children.

B'Shalom Sue Marcoe <u>sfmarcoe@gmail.com;</u> 845-723-4045

# abby Chanukai

Bring your
Chanukah Menorah
and candles!



Friday,
December 27th, 7:30PM
Choir
Chanukah Oneg
All are WelcomeBring your friends and
family for
a Chanukah to
remember!

At Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church Route 55 and Stringham Road, LaGrange

Congregation Shir Chadash	
Presents	
The West Point Black Nights	
Hockey Team Vs. Air Force Academy Falcons Saturday, January 11, 2020 7:00pm at West Point Bleacher seating Concessions available \$25.00 per ticket	
More information:	
Wendy Bill	
bills1989@msn.com or	
845-702-8645	
Name Telephone	

Please mail to: Congregation Shir Chadash, Wendy Bill, 5404 Chelsea Cove North, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533

Amount Enclosed \$\_\_\_
Check or Cash only

Number of Tickets \_\_\_\_\_



# Havdalah in Jammies

At Congregation Shir Chadash

Saturdays:
September 28
December 14
February 8
celebrating Tu B'Shevat
March 7
Come in costume to
celebrate Purim!

Songs, blessings, crafts, schmooze and nosh in pajamas!!

Let's welcome the new week together

4:00-5:30pm 1168 Route 55, EaGrangeville, NY



May 2

For more information, contact:

Wendy Bill 845-232-1029 or bills1989@msn.com



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2019

### COMMUNITY HANUKKAH CELEBRATION

9:30AM-12:30PM AT TEMPLE BETH-EL 118 SOUTH GRAND AVENUE IN POUGHKEEPSIE







9:30 am Welcome & Check-In

9:30am-10:45am PJ Library stories & activities

Interactive learning stations presented by Temple Beth-El, Vassar Temple & Congregation Shir Chadash

10:45 am Puppet show featuring Len Levitt

& The Levity Puppets

11:45 am Light lunch

12:15 pm Menorah lighting & sing along

RSVP for lunch to the Temple Beth-El Office: adminassist@tbeny.org or 845-454-0570 \$5 per person • \$20 per family • Children under 5 eat free

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS FOR MAKING THIS PROGRAM POSSIBLE







The Harding Club







## Member's Corner

#### **Ginger Cookies with Maple Frosting by Robbie Schiff**

#### FOR THE COOKIES:

2 cups whole wheat pastry flour

1 tsp. baking soda

¼ tsp. sea salt

½ tsp. each cloves and cinnamon

2 ½ tsp. ground ginger or 1 ½ Tbls. grated fresh ginger (peel first)

1/3 cup grapeseed oil

¼ cup molasses

¼ cup non-dairy milk

1 cup organic sugar (for soft version use brown sugar for crisper version use

turbanado)

1 tsp. vanilla extract

#### FOR THE FROSTING:

1 cup powdered sugar, sifted

I Tbls. Vegan margarine

2 Tbls. Maple syrup

1 Tbls. Non-dairy milk

1 tsp. vanilla

Dried pineapple chunks or crystalized ginger



Pre heat oven to 350 – line two cookie sheet with parchment paper

Mix the dry ingredients. Put the oil in a measuring cup followed by molasses, sugar, milk and vanilla — combine. Combine wets and drys — no machines needed — mix until just well combined. The dough will be easier to work with if you refrigerate it for at least half an hour — longer is fine too. Form into small balls (use hands or cookie scoop). Arrange on cookie sheet — flatten them a bit. Bake 12-14 minutes — they will start to crack. While baking, make the maple frosting. Sift one cup powdered sugar. If you don't have a sifter, use a strainer. Add vegan margarine, mix with fork. Then add syrup and n-d milk and vanilla. Mix well. Cookies will be soft, but will harden as they cool. After five minutes, transfer to cooling rack. Frost when cool. Add a small piece of candied pineapple or crystalized ginger in the center. As you can see I don't frost the whole top, looks good to show some of the cookie. These freeze well — good make ahead item. Easy for potlucks or meetings and also work well for holidays. Yes, they go anywhere! These are vegan — you can bake without eggs or even egg substitute. I enjoy showing people that vegan food is delicious. I won't be looking over your shoulder, but appreciate your using non-dairy milk when making these. Questions or comments welcome. About Ovens: I discovered that it was taking longer to bake, so I bought an oven thermometer. Yes, my oven temperature was way off! I know I can have it calibrated, but now I keep the thermometer inside and know that 380 gives me 350, but I check it every time.

## BE A MORTGAGE MENSCH-Help Shir Chadash Secure Our Land And Our Future

**Background:** Many years ago, the congregation purchased property along Freedom Road in Lagrangeville with the intention of building a synagogue. After much money, time, and sweat equity it has been determined that for the foreseeable future we will be unable to utilize this land. We have some money to continue to pay the mortgage, however that money will be depleted soon.

The net liability is \$21,000. Possibly we could actually pay off the mortgage and in doing so, gain some added flexibility as to the disposition of the land.

If each member family pays \$18 (Chai) until November 2021, we could easily pay off the mortgage.

#### So be a mortgage mensch.....

I/We hear by authorize Congregation Shir Chadash to withdraw monthly :
\$18 per month until November 2021
\$36 per month until November 2021. I/We would like to help those who can not.
\$432 one-time withdrawal
Routing Number Account # (Please attached a voided a check)
Enclosed is a one-time payment of \$432
I/We will make monthly payments from my/our financial intuition
Signature  Date For more information, please contact Jim Thrasher, Treasurer at 845-380-7221 or <a href="mailto:jdt845@yahoo.com">jdt845@yahoo.com</a> or send your completed form to Jim Thrasher, Treasurer, 31 Timberline
Drive, Poughkeepsie, New York 12603. <b>Thank you!!</b>

#### IN SUPPORT OF SHIR CHADASH

Donations to Shir Chadash are a wonderful way to honor the memory of a loved one, honor a friend or celebrate a simcha while supporting the Congregation. We have the "General Fund", the "Building Fund", the "Clergy's Discretionary Fund", the Adult B'nai Mitzvah Scholarship Fund, the Morse and Social Action Projects and the Sy Hirschenfang Scholar-in-Residence Fund. We will accept donations to any of our funds. The General Fund always needs your help to fund all our wonderful programs. Please send your donations to our Treasurer: Jim Thrasher, 31 Timberline Drive Poughkeepsie, New York 12603 or on our website; <a href="https://www.shir-chadash.org">www.shir-chadash.org</a>. The donation tab is on the home page and please remember to complete the message box.

Larry Hamburg in appreciation of High Holy Day Services

Anonymous grant in support of Shir Chadash

Bob Roberts in appreciation of High Holy Day Services

Lois Lang in celebration of the marriage of her son Ben Westop to Megan McCahill

Lois Lang in celebration of the marriage of her daughter Shelby Westop to Jason Wally

Lois Lang **in memory** of her mother Rose Lang

Kim Buchanan and Jerry Scheck in honor of Stu Bill's big birthday

Sue Marcoe **in honor** of Stu Bill's big birthday

Sue Marcoe **in honor** of Wendy and Stu Bill's 30th Anniversary

Sue Marcoe **in celebration** of Aviva Perach Rothman, granddaughter of Sara and Michael Rothman

Sue Marcoe in memory of Raymond Hoffman, her father

Sandy and Jeff Lash **in celebration** of the birth of daughter Aviva Perach to Alexandra and Daniel Rothman. Ecstatic grandparents are Sara and Michael Rothman

Thank you for the generous donations to the Be a Mortgage Mensch Campaign:

Norm Mackay Roberta Schiff Rabbi Polish and Cantor Hirschenfang

Rochelle and David Bellach Kezia Gleckman Hayman Roberta Burshtyn

Lori and Ron Dritz Steve Herschbein Sue Marcoe Jeff and Sandy Lash

Would you like to see your name on this list? Contact Jim Thrasher, Treasurer at **jdt845@yahoo.com** or 845-380-7221.

#### Shop with Shir Chadash at no extra cost to you



It's true.

Through programs at each store, Shir Chadash is able to purchase gift cards and gets a percentage back while you get the full face value! It's a true Win-Win!

Think about it, you probably shop every week and therefore would need cards every week, right? In an effort to help stabilize some of the congregation's finances and make it easier for members to get cards as-needed, the board would like to be able to place regular monthly orders and have cards available for everyone as they need them.

So, here's how you can help. Several people have committed to contributing money to fund an initial order of cards so we'll have them for September.

If you can commit each week to purchasing gift cards totaling the amount you spend each week and paying treasurer Jim Thrasher either with cash or check (PayPal takes too much out to make it cost effective) two week's prior, you'll be able to pick up the cards at or before services in two weeks.

Of course, if you'd like to pay ahead for two, three or more weeks at once, that's OK too!

Either way, you'll be able to get your groceries that week and Shir Chadash will get a little bit of revenue on an ongoing basis, and we'll all be happy.

amazonsmile If you have any questions about the program, contact Wendy Bill at 227-7236 or bills1989@msn.com

ALSO: If you use Amazon, you can help generate ongoing revenue for Shir Chadash simply by shopping through Amazon Smile and selecting Shir Chadash. With every purchase you make, Amazon donations a small percentage to the congregation! All these small things add up, so if you haven't signed up yet, please do so today.

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#### **December Torah Readings**

December 6 and 7 Vayetze Gen 28:10-32:3 D'var Torah Lindsey Turner

December 13 and 14 Vayishlach Gen 32:4-36:43 D'yar Torah Richard Bordowitz December 20 and 21 Vayeshev Genesis 37:1-40:23

December 27 and 28 Miketz Genesis 41:1-44:17



#### **December Yahrzeits\***

Friday, December 6, 2019	Janet Kerchman	Sister	Marc Kerchman
Friday, December 6, 2019	Steve Schmidt	Husband	Syliva Buccelli
Friday, December 6, 2019	Melvin Moskowitz	Father	Steve Moskowitz
Friday, December 6, 2019	Rachel Luckin	Grandmother	Steve Hirschbein
Friday, December 13, 2019	Irwin Greenberg	Father	Jackie Levine
Friday, December 13, 2019	Gladys Pine	Aunt	Stuart Bill
Friday, December 20, 2019	Paul Roth	Father	Lisa Roth
Friday, December 20, 2019	Tillie Turkenkopf	Mother	Leonard Turkenkopf
Friday, December 20, 2019	Joseph Baltrush	Cousin	Michael Rothman
Friday, December 20, 2019	Raymond Hoffman	Father	Sue Marcoe

\*To update your Yahrzeit list, please complete the on-line form on our website www.shir-chadash.org

#### **Oneg and Bagel Break Hosts**

Friday, December 6

Saturday, December 7

Friday, December 13

Saturday, December 14

Friday, December 20

Friday, December 27

**Angela and Butch Panzer** 

Liz and Larry Glasser

**Cheryl O'Herron and Ken Pollock** 

**Jane Freeman Moore** 

**Ellen Rand** 

**Lisa Roth and Richard Bordowitz** 

**Chanukah Oneg** 



Oneg Coordinators: Suzanne Neil suzanneneil@mac.com 845-559-3123 Wendy Bill bills1989@msn.com 845-227-7236 Sharing Shabbat Bagel Organizer: Sara Rothman 845-223-5925





#### brings you "a new song"

Calendar 5780 (2019-2020)

Kabbalat Shabbat Services starting Friday evening September 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm Sharing Shabbat starting Saturday morning, September 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am

#### All are welcome!

**SATURDAY MORNING SHARING SHABBAT 9:00 AM** 

September 7 and 21
October 5 and 19
February 1 and 22
November 2 and 16
March 7 and 21
December 7 and 14
April 4 and 18
May 2 and 16

Saturday, September 21st Selichot Joint Celebration at Temple Beth-El 8:00pm
Sunday, September 29th Erev Rosh Hashanah 8:00pm
Monday, September 30th Rosh Hashanah 10:00am
Family Rosh Hashanah Celebration Service 3:00pm
Tuesday, October 8th Kol Nidre 8:00pm
Wednesday, October 9th Yom Kippur 10:00am
Panel Discussion: Hate in the Bible Stories We Love: What If? 12:30pm
Yom Kippur Family Service 2:00pm
Yom Kippur Afternoon/Yizkor/Concluding Services from 3:00pm to BreakFast Sunday, October 13th Sukkah Building and Family BBQ and Service, 3:00pm
Friday, October 18th Sukkot Family Service 7:30pm
Friday, October 25th Family Simchat Torah Shabbat 7:30pm
Sunday, November 24th Interfaith Thanksgiving Service 5:00pm

#### Friday, December 27th "Light Up the Night" Family Chanukah Celebration 7:30pm

Saturday, February 1st Tu B'Shevat Seder 11:30am
Friday, March 13th Purim Celebration 7:30pm
Friday, April 10th No Services — Second Passover Seder
Friday, April 17 Joint Service with Temple Beth-El—at Shir Chadash 7:30pm
Friday, April 24th Yom HaShoah Shabbat 7:30pm
Friday, May 1st Yom Haastmaut Shabbat 7:30pm
Friday, May 8 Joint Service with Temple Beth-El—at TBE 7:30pm
Thursday, May 28th Tikkun Leyl Shavuot—Time TBD
Friday, June 5th Honoring Our Teachers at 7:30pm
Friday, June 12th Board Installation at 7:30pm

#### Board of Trustees 2019-2020

President Vice President Secretary Treasurer Wendy Bill Victor Feit Sue Marcoe Jim Thrasher

Immediate Past President Trustee Lindsey Turner Rochelle Bellach

Trustee Trustee Trustee Trustee

Lori Dritz Roberta Tracy Irwin Goldberg

#### Clergy

Rabbi Daniel Polish Cantor Gail Hirschenfang Rabbi Emeritus Leonard A. Schoolman



hopewell animal hospital Kim Buchanan, DVM, CVA Jerry Scheck, DVM, CVA

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hopewellanimalhospital.com

#### Save on Taxes – Contribute Directly from your Retirement Account

If you are retired and drawing required minimum distributions (RMDs) from a retirement account, you may be able to avoid paying income taxes on your contributions to Shir Chadash up to the RMD limit by directing your financial institution to issue a check made out to Shir Chadash, and sending the check to our Treasurer, Jim Thrasher. Please financial consult your advisor ascertain whether you are eligible to take advantage of this tax avoidance before making your contribution.



371 Hooker Avenue Poughkeepsie, NY 12603 845.485.0241 Fax: 845.452.8601

59 Montgomery Street Poughkeepsie, NY 12601 845.452.1140

www.wmgmillerfuneralhome.com vj.miller1@worldnet.att.net

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Nendy bill bills1989@msn.com 845–227–7236

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**Weather Cancellations Visit** 

WWW.CANCELLATIONS.COM and WHUD RADIO 100.7. Friday evening SERVICES WOULD BE CANCELLED BY



5:00pm Sharing Shabbat WOULD BE CANCELLED BY 7:00am

## December 2019

Sun	Mon	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
I	2	3	4	5	6 KABBALAT SHABBAT 7:30PM	7 SHARING SHABBAT 9:00AM NICKY'S PASTALIOUS TUSCAN DINNER 6:30PM NLTURNER2@AOL. COM
8	9	BOARD MEETING 7:00PM	II	I2	KABBALAT SHABBAT 7:30PM	I4 SHARING SHABBAT 9:00AM HAVDALAH IN JAMMIES 4:00PM
I5 COMMUNITY HANUKKAH CELEBRATION AT TEMPLE BETH-EL 9:30AM	16	17	18	19	ZO  KABBALAT  SHABBAT  7:30PM	hello
	23	ANNUAL DECEMBER 25TH EVE DINNER AT KOBE RSVP HERE	25	26	27 LIGHT UP THE NIGHT CHANUKAH CELEBRATION 7:30PM	28
29	30	***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  **  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  **  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  **  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  **  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  **  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  **  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  **  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  ***  **  ***  ***  **	Welc 20		3 KABBALAT SHABBAT 7:30PM	SHARING SHABBAT 9:00AM