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Rabbi Daniel Polish Vol. 14 _vNo. 9 President Dr. Victor Leit
May 2016

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

MAY CALENDAR

Online at www.shir-chadash.org

- 3 Adult B'not Mitzvah Class 6:30pm
- 6 Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm Joint Service with
- 7 Sharing Shabbat9:00am
- 9 Board Meeting 7:00pm
- 10 Adult B'not Mitzvah Class 6:30pm
- 13 Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm
- 15 Mitzvah Day 9:00am
- 15 Klezmatics Concert 5:00 Pok Day School
- 20 Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm
- 21 Sharing Shabbat 9:00am Bat Mitzvah Ashley Kaswer
- 22 Annual Meeting Bowdoin Park 11am
- 25 Adult B'not Mitzvah Class 6:30pm
- 27 Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm Lay-Led
- 31 Adult B'not Mitzvah Class 6:30pm

	Looking Ahead
6/3	Teacher Appreciation
6/11	Tikkun Leil Shavuot
6/12	Rosh Chodesh
6/10	Board Installation
6/24	Final Kabbalat Shabbat
	for the year
8/13	Shabbat in the Park

From the Desk of Rabbi Daniel Polish



A Special Thank You

I don't believe I have ever used this space for a mash note. But there are times that propriety must be set aside. This month marks a changing of the guard. At the congregational meeting we will be electing new officers and board members. Every person who has served deserves our sincere thanks. And everyone who is picking up the reins deserves to be celebrated. But one person's service

demands special recognition.

Victor Feit has served as president of the congregation longer than any of his predecessors. Four years is a substantial period of time. It has required tremendous sacrifice. But it is not the longevity that demands special commendation. Victor has shown remarkable devotion to the congregation. He has given 100% of his effort to everything that the congregation has needed from large, complex tasks to the smallest. I am sure he has called every member of the congregation often during his four years of service. He has cajoled you and thanked you. He has invited you and implored you. He has pursued large plans for the congregation, navigated it through rough waters, and brought it to serene shores. And he has run out during services to buy Oneg food for unexpectedly large crowds, hand-delivered important documents, and moved tables and chairs. He invented an annual auction, solicited all the items auctioned off, personally recruited attendees, and served as auctioneer. He has poured his energies into every facet of the annual concert: selling ads, devising ingenious plans for marketing tickets, and personally selling large blocks of them, arranging a silent auction, arranging intermission receptions. Frankly the list could go on much longer and fill up this entire newsletter. Victor has been a remarkable cheerleader for everything the congregation has undertaken. Indeed, there is no part of the congregation's life he has not been involved in. The congregation is much stronger and enriched for all of Victor's efforts.

Victor will be a hard act to follow. In fact it is hard to imagine the congregation without Victor at the helm. Not that we bid him adieu. L'hitra'ot is more appropriate. Victor has already charted out the roles he will play in his post-presidential time. We know for sure the congregation will never be far from Victor's thoughts or his heart. We look forward to sharing the next chapter with him.

And while we are expressing thanks, let us not neglect Sue Feit. She has been an exemplary first lady of the congregation. Not only has she unselfishly shared Victor with us, she has pitched in in so many ways. Her efforts, too, have been a gift to the congregation. We owe her, too, a heartfelt vote of thanks. How lucky we are to have such devoted members of the Shir Chadash family. Words cannot begin to express the thanks we owe you. We are very much in your debt. And we intend to express those thanks in many settings during the coming month

I hope every member of the congregation takes the opportunity to express their thanks to Victor and Sue personally.

R'Shalom Rabbi Daniel Polish

A Message from President Victor Feit



Sitting here thinking about my newsletter article, I realized that I have served four years as President of Shir Chadash. This means that I have written over forty monthly newsletter articles, presided over forty board meetings, wrote and given eight High Holiday messages, ran four auctions, made over a thousand phone calls, have been to over 150 Friday Shabbat services (and have prepared and presented temple updates each time), and have been to over 150 Oneg Shabbats which, unfortunately, due to the fine culinary skills of Robbie, Andrea, Sandy and all the Shir Chadash bakers, added to my growing girth.

The only regret I have as President, was to not be able to lead Shir Chadash to a new home. A new home is becoming increasingly important—in fact, I believe it is a necessity! Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church is moving along with its building plans and construction, which may mean some inconvenience to our congregation. At our annual meeting on May 22—being held at 11 AM at Bowdoin Park Chapel—we will be discussing this problem and possible solutions. We will also be presenting our new board of trustees and executive officers for the congregation's approval. I sincerely hope that all members will be there.

Please, also, clear your calendars for Sunday, May 15. The day will begin with Mitzvah Day projects. Please contact Steve Herschbein for all information regarding Mitzvah Day. At the end of the day, we will be celebrating with our annual concert featuring the internationally renowned, Grammy award winning Klezmatics. The concert will be held at 5:00PM at the Poughkeepsie Day School's James Earl Jones Theater. This will be my last event as your President. Please help me to make it a major success. There will be scrumptious delicacies provided by our members and door prizes, as well. It will be a joyous evening of fun, food and great music, bring your friends and families and share in making my last event as your President a riproaring success.

It's been a pleasure serving as your President for the past four years and I look forward to passing the torch to the next President.

Shalom, Vic Feir Rebet22ks.com 914-474-0680

May Bat Mitzvah

The Spiritual Life Committee invites members and friends of Shir Chadash to join with us on



Saturday, the 21st of May at 10:30am when

Ashley Kaswer

daughter of
Ilene and Kevin Kaswer,
is called to the Torah
as a Bat Mitzvah

Luncheon to follow at Ipm Please RSVP to Ilene at 914-456-9947 or ikaswer@optonline.net

Join us as we celebrate this joyous milestone in the lives of our Bat Mitzvah, her family and our Shir Chadash family.

Congregation Shir Chadash Presents The Klezmatics



Sunday May 15, at 5pm James Earl Jones Theater, Poughkeepsie Day School 260 Boardman Rd, Poughkeepsie, NY

AD RATES

Inside Front or Back Cover	\$650	8.0" high x 5.0" wide
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Michael Rothman, 6 Tower Road, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533 or email ad copy to mirothman@earthlink.net

JPEGS PREFERRED. ADS DUE BY May 6.

Special Incentive to those purchasing half or full page ads - for an additional \$250 you get *fifty* more ads... we will put a business card sized ad in our monthly newsletter *and* a link to your web page in our weekly emails for a full year!

www.shir-chadash.org

Phone 232-1029 Tax ID# 14-1824163

TOGETHER, WE DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

THANK YOU to everyone who contributed food and cash to our Passover Tzedakah Project--helping to stock the S. F. B. Morse Elementary School Pantry

We were able to deliver over 20 bags of food to help sustain kids in need over weekends & holidays!

Watch for more ways to help!

Want to Food? Bring to any donate? service. Cash?
Supermarket Card?
Yes!

Contact: Sandy Lash silash@optonline.net 845-227-4650





A Message from Sue Marcoe, Education Enrichment Coordinator

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL APRIL NOTES & MAY REMINDERS

Thank you to all who made our special Pathways to Passover Program a success. Once again it was a team effort, which demonstrates the spirit of Shir Chadash. Our Aleph and Bet classes baked matzah outside on a heated stone, much like our ancestors did

in the desert. They also painted and/or designed seder plates and matzah covers. Meanwhile our Gimmel class came up with an interesting presentation of the Four Children and continued working on their year-long project which will be completed the last day of class. Thank you to our teachers: Rochelle Bellach, Steve Moskowitz, Ed Ginsberg, and our assistant teacher, Andrew Scheck.

Thank you also to: Wendy Freedman, Tami Malley, and Ellen Rand who supplied the food and prepared the plates for our mini-Seder; Jane Freeman Moore, Wendy Bill, Jerry and Andrew Scheck, and Sara Rothman for their delicious matzah-brie, and to all those who stepped up to help pour juice, hand out napkins, serve the matzah-brie or just do whatever was needed. Finally thank you to Rabbi Polish for working the Haggadah Jeff Lash for his great impersonation of Moses, Cantor Hirschenfang for leading our Mini-Seder, and our students for their lovely singing of the Four Questions in Hebrew, reading of the questions in English, and providing a thoughtful interpretation of the Four Children. For all those working behind the scenes whom I didn't mention, and those participating in our Mini Seder, thank you for helping to make that day special.

REMINDER: **May 6th** - Joint service with Temple Beth-El at Shir Chadash at 7:30pm. 3rd & 4th Grade Hebrew school students will lead the service.

May 18th - All 7-12th graders and their parents are invited to Gesher at Temple Beth-El . Dinner will be served; 7^{th} graders will join the different classes; and the parents will meet with the Rabbis. Please put this on your calendar.

More information to follow.

B'Shalom, Sue Marcoe <u>suem@quixnet.net</u> (home) 845-723-4045



A Tzedakah in Action Program

TOGETHER, WE DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Do you have some school or office supplies around that you don't expect to use anytime soon?

Bring them to any Shir Chadash service or event and donate them to the at-risk kids at the S. F. B. Morse School.



Help make sure these kids have the tools they need to succeed in school!

Contact: Sandy Lash <u>sjlash@optonline.net</u> 845.227.4650 For Information or to Make a Cash Donation Toward School Supplies



Mitzvah Day 2016 Sunday, May 15th

Join the Jewish Community of the Hudson Valley's effort to make the world a better place! www.jewishdutchess.org

Kickoff breakfast: 9:00 AM @ Temple Beth-El, 118 S. Grand Ave, Poughkeepsie

Help your community by bringing the following to breakfast:

- -- Boxed cereal for hungry neighbors in need Cereal Counts!!
- -- Cake mix, frosting & candles for the Birthday Bags drive.

Attend one of the projects sponsored by Shir Chadash: OF CHARLES COUNTY

Children's Home of Poughkeepsie - yard/garden/paint

10 Children's Way (off Fulton St. – 1/3 mile from Marist College), Town of Pok 20 people needed. Begin @ 9:45 AM rain or shine.

Bring yard & garden hand tools, painting/work clothes, sunscreen

- Clean out, plant & mulch beds and gardens, light repairs
- Indoor painting in the event of rain

Grace Smith House - yard/garden/paint

1 Brookside Ave (off the westbound arterial), Poughkeepsie 20 people needed. Begin @ 9:45 AM rain or shine.

Bring yard & garden hand tools, painting/work clothes, sunscreen

- Clean out, plant & mulch beds and gardens, light repairs
- Indoor painting in the event of rain



New Horizon's Briggs Farm
Gomez Mill House
Appalachian Trail improvement/cleanup
Baking/Crafts for various agencies
Pershing Ave Cemetery cleanup
Elant & The Pines elder home visit
Car Wash fund raiser (near Arlington High School)







The Jewish Federation
OF DUTCHESS COUNTY

Underwritten by a grant from the Bertha Effron Fund of the Community Foundation of the Hudson Valley, and donations. Sponsored by Jewish Family Services of Dutchess County, a division of the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County

Questions? contact Steve Herschbein at steve.herschbein@gmail.com or Kathy Walker at kdshotland@aol.com



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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" 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: Wendy Bill, 5404 Chelsea Cove North, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533.

Jeff and Sandy Lash **in honor** of Ashley Kaswer's Bat Mitzvah Wendy and Stuart Bill **in honor** of Ashley Kaswer's Bat Mitzvah Lois Lang **in memory** of Irving Lang, her father Lois Lang **in memory** of Brendan Halligan, her ex-husband

Oneg and Bagel Break Hosts

Friday, May 6 Kim Buchanan and Jerry Scheck

Saturday, May 7 Gail Jaitin Friday, May 13 Lois Lang

Friday, May 20 Susan and Victor Feit

Saturday, May 21 Ilene Kaswer and Diane Light-Spiro Friday, May 27 Karen Mader and Adam Rubenstein



Oneg Coordinator: Suzanne Neil suzanneneil@mac.com 845-559-3123 Sharing Shabbat Bagel Organizers: Sara Rothman 223-5925 Stacie Wogalter 635-5101

May Yahrzeits*

	Friday, May 06, 2016	Irving Lang	Father	Lois Lang
	Friday, May 13, 2016	Alice Lisa Greenberg	Mother	Jackie Levine
	Friday, May 13, 2016	Seymour Stone	Father	Michelle Brettholtz
	Friday, May 13, 2016	Sophie Francomano	Aunt	Wendy Bill
	Friday, May 13, 2016	Manuel Meltzer	Father	Suzanne Neil
	Friday, May 13, 2016	Lillian Roth	Mother	Sara Rothman
	Friday, May 13, 2016	Brendan Halligan	Ex-Husband	Lois Lang
	Friday, May 20, 2016	Saralyn Schiff Blatt	Mother	Roberta Schiff
	Friday, May 20, 2016	Dr. Norman Grossman	Father	Melinda Pearson
	Friday, May 20, 2016	Sarena Rothman	Cousin	Michael Rothman
	Friday, May 27, 2016	Sarah Weber	Mother	Harold Weber
	Friday, May 27, 2016	Jamie Marder	Sister	Karen Marder
	Friday, May 27, 2016	Elizabeth Flapan	Mother	Jerry Scheck
	Friday, May 27, 2016	Anna Satkowitz	Grandmother	Wendy Bill
	Friday, May 27, 2016	Lawrence Krell	Father	Lisa Kerchman
ı				

*To update your Yahrzeit list, please contact Wendy Bill 227-7236 or bills1989@msn.com

Calling All Readers—Pot Luck Brunch & Discussion Come Celebrate the Spirit of Shavuot! Sunday June 12th 10:30am—12:30pm

At the home of Kathy and Tom Walker 29 Thornwood Drive, Poughkeepsie 845-452-7217 kdshotland@aol.com

The Rosh Chodesh Reading & Discussion Group has



2 options for you: Read one or both—your choice!

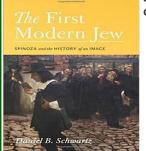
"The Spinoza Problem: A Novel" by Irvin D. Yalom

In *The Spinoza Problem*, Irvin Yalom spins fact and fiction into an unforgettable psycho-philosophical novel. A psychiatrist with a deep interest in philosophical issues, Yalom jointly tells the story of the seventeenth-century thinker Baruch Spinoza, his philosophy and subsequent excommunication from the Jewish community, and his apparent influence on the Nazi ideologue Alfred Rosenberg, whose *einsatzgruppe* was dispatched during the Second World War to investigate a mysterious "Spinoza Problem." Seamlessly alternating between Golden Age Amsterdam and Nazi Germany, Yalom investigates the inner lives of these two enigmatic men in a tale of influence and anxiety, the origins of good and evil, and the philosophy of freedom and the tyranny of terror. *Amazon*

Jay Parini, author of The Last Station and The Passages of H.M.

"Spinoza had no 'real life' outside his reading and writing: he lived in his brilliant mind. So how do you write about a philosopher—a writer beloved of Goethe, Schopenhauer, and so many other thinkers—who spent most of his time in thought? And how do you regard Spinoza—a Jew whose work helped to usher in the Enlightenment—if, indeed, you're a Nazi? Irvin Yalom is just the writer to take on such a problem, and he solves it, with his own novelistic brilliance, in this vibrant book. In my view, Yalom is

one of the most eclectic, wide-ranging, and dazzling writers of our time."



AND/OR

"The first Modern Jew: Spinoza and the History of an Image" by Daniel B. Schwartz

"Pioneering biblical critic, theorist of democracy, and legendary conflater of God and nature, Jewish philosopher Baruch Spinoza (1632-1677) was excommunicated by the Sephardic Jews of Amsterdam in 1656 for his "horrible heresies" and "monstrous deeds." Yet, over the past three centuries, Spinoza's rupture with traditional Jewish beliefs and practices has elevated him to a prominent place in genealogies of Jewish modernity. The First Modern Jew provides a riveting look at how Spinoza went from being one of Judaism's most notorious outcasts to one of its most celebrated, if still highly controversial, cultural icons, and a powerful and protean symbol of the first modern secular Jew.

Ranging from Amsterdam to Palestine and back again to Europe, the book chronicles Spinoza's posthumous odyssey from marginalized heretic to hero, the exemplar of a whole host of Jewish identities, including cosmopolitan, nationalist, reformist, and rejectionist. Daniel Schwartz shows that in fashioning Spinoza into "the first modern Jew," generations of Jewish intellectuals--German liberals, East European maskilim, secular Zionists, and Yiddishists--have projected their own dilemmas of identity onto him, reshaping the Amsterdam thinker in their own image. The many afterlives of Spinoza are a kind of looking glass into the struggles of Jewish writers over where to draw the boundaries of Jewishness and whether a secular Jewish identity is indeed possible. Cumulatively, these afterlives offer a kaleidoscopic view of modern Jewish culture and a vivid history of an obsession with Spinoza that continues to this day." Amazon

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May Torah Readings

May 6 and 7 Acharei Mot Leviticus 16:1-18:30 D'yar Torah Andrew Scheck May 20 and 21 Emor Leviticus 21:1-24:23 Bat Mitzvah Ashley Kaswer

May 13 and 14 Kedoshim Leviticus 19:1-20:27 May 27 and 28 Behar Leviticus 25:1-26:2



Congregation Shir Chadash and Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church are considering a second interfaith journey to Israel in 2016.

Two years ago a group from both congregations experienced a moving and exciting trip together. Many people have asked that we do it again. It was a deeply moving experience, showing Jews parts of Israel that they never would have seen; and showing our Christian friends the Israel that is so dear to us. It was a deeply moving experience. Many of the travelers called it life changing.

Now some of the "pilgrims" who traveled two years ago want to travel to Israel a second time. And some members of both congregations who did not come with us wish they had come the first time. In response to these requests we are exploring a second joint trip. Non-members who are interested in the trip are welcome too. The itinerary will be tailored to the needs of the group that is traveling.





Weather Cancellations Visit WWW.CANCELLATIONS.CO M and WHUD RADIO 100.7.

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





Please join us ~ Donate a box of cereal ~ CEREAL COUNTS!!! 2016 Shir Chadash Joins the Annual Dutchess County-WideBoxed Cereal Drive

Every summer, children lack access to school-based free breakfast programs. Families really need breakfast food. Daily breakfast has potential physical and mental health benefits for everyone!!!

CEREAL COUNTS!!! is a boxed cereal drive that now occurs each spring. The goal: To work together and reduce breakfast hunger. We are running a drive to support CEREAL COUNTS!!!! Please bring new boxes of cereal to A Shir Chadash Shabbat Service May 13 or May 14 Or to Mitzvah Day on May 15.

Once the boxes are collected, they will be brought over to Mitzvah Day on Sunday, May 15th, Mitzvah Day, and added to the community collection for CEREAL COUNTS!!! 2016. The boxes will then be delivered to pantries and area food distribution sites in Dutchess County. This includes: Dutchess Outreach; Zion Baptist Church pantry; the Reach Out Pantry; St. Paul's; Beulah Baptist Church Pantry; Community Action Partnership pantries in Poughkeepsie, Dover, Beacon and Red Hook; Hudson River Housing/Hillcrest Shelter; the Dept of Social Services; and the Interfaith Senior Housing Site. The project is a wonderful way to reduce breakfast hunger in our community.

Hungry summers are coming...

CEREAL COUNTS!!! 2016

From the box to the bowl to the belly—It's a truckload of good morning health
A Living Tzedakah Program of the Shir Chadash Social Action Committee





brings you "a new song"

Calendar 5776 (2015-2016)

Kabbalat Shabbat Services start Friday evening September 11th at 7:30 pm Sharing Shabbat starts Saturday morning, September 12th at 9:00 am

All are welcome!

SATURDAY MORNING SHARING SHABBAT 9:00AM

September 12 and 19 October 3 and 17 November 7 and 21 December 5 and 12 January 9 and 23 February 6 and 20 March 5 and 12 April 2 and 16 May 7 and 21

SPECIAL DATES:

Sunday September 13th Erev Rosh Hashanah 8:00 pm Monday September 14th Rosh Hashanah 10:00 am Family Rosh Hashanah Celebration Service 3:00 pm Tuesday September 22nd Kol Nidre 8:00 pm Wednesday September 23rd Yom Kippur 10:00 am Study and Panel Discussion 12:30 pm

Yom Kippur Family Service 2:00 pm

Yom Kippur Afternoon/Yizkor/Concluding Services from 3:00 pm to BreakFast Friday September 25th Family Sukkot Shabbat 7:30 pm

Friday October 2nd Family Simchat Torah Shabbat 7:30 pm

Saturday October 3rd Bar Mitzvah of Mason Moskowitz at 10:30 am Friday October 23rd Musical Shabbat -Songs of the Brit-Entering into the Covenant Friday December 11th "Light Up the Night" Family Chanukah Service 7:30 pm

Saturday January 23rd Tu B'Shevat Seder

Saturday March 5th Bat Mitzvah of Hannah Wogalter at 10:30 am Friday March 25th Purim Shabbat 7:30 pm

Friday April 15th Joint Service at Temple Beth-El led by Hebrew School Students Friday April 22nd Passover First Seder (no Kabbalat Shabbat service)

Friday May 6th Joint Service with Temple Beth-El led at Shir Chadash by Hebrew School Students
Friday May 13th Yom Haatzma'ut Shabbat 7:30 pm

Saturday May 21st Bat Mitzvah of Ashley Kaswer at 10:30 am Sunday, May 22 Annual Meeting

Saturday June 11th Tikkun Leil Shavuot with Temple Beth-El



Board of Trustees 2015-2016

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Win/Win With Groceries UPDATE!

Join us in an easy fund-raising effort that will fit right into your weekly grocery trip. Just buy grocery GIFT CARDS from Shir Chadash. This is how it works: Buy gift cards in \$25 increments from Shir Chadash. Choose Hannaford, ShopRite, Adams Fairacre Farms or Stop & Shop. When Shir Chadash has accumulated \$1,000 per store, you get your cards A percentage of the money you send comes back to Shir Chadash Use PayPal to place your order - you can use a credit card even if you don't have a PayPal account. Www.shir-chadash.org

Turn around time depends on you...the quicker I have complete orders, the quicker the cards come in. And you do not have to be a member of Shir Chadash to participate. Call or email me with any questions. Please order your cards now.......

Wendy Bill 227-7236

bills1989@msn.com





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat				
1	2	B'not Mitzvah Class 6:30pm FPUPC	4	5	Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm with Temple Beth-El	Sharing Shabbat Tots & Everyone 9:00am				
Happy Mother's Day	Board Meeting 7:00pm FPUPC	B'not Mitzvah Class 6:30pm FPUPC	11	12	Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm	14				
Mitzvah Day 9:00am Begins at Temple Beth-El The Klezmatics Concert Poughkeepsie Day School 5:00pm	16	B'not Mitzvah Class 6:30pm FPUPC	18	19	Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm	Sharing Shabbat Tots & Everyone 9:00am Bat Mitzvah Ashley Kaswer				
Annual Meeting Bowdoin Park Pot Luck Brunch 11:00am	23	24	B'not Mitzvah Class 6:30pm FPUPC	26	Kabbalat Shabbat Lay-Led Service 7:30pm	28				
29	FREEDOM FREEDO	B'not Mitzvah Class 6:30pm FPUPC								