Beth Shalom of Whittier

August 2016

Tamuz-Av 5776



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Everyone is Welcome

A Note From Your Rabbi,

Everyone in the sanctuary waited for her to begin, patiently anticipating the foreign sounds, attentive and focused. She stood up, searching her prayerbook as she found the right page and opened her mouth to utter the precious words. But... no sound came forth, just the heavy breathing of emotions flooding her and a few seconds later, reaching the congregation as tears began flowing.

This emotional moment, shared by our Beth Shalom Friday night crowd, was the culmination of many long months of hard work and search to

fulfill the needs/wishes of a congregant, one of our own.

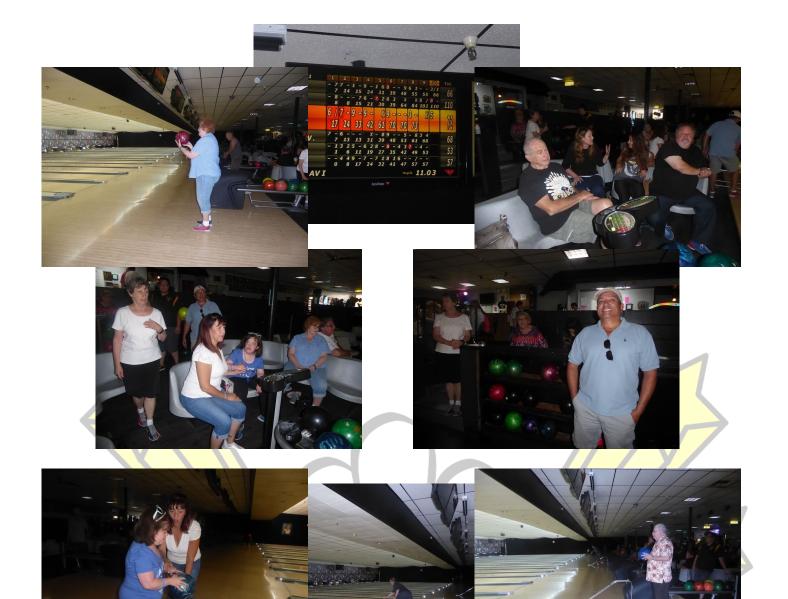
You see, it has long been a tradition of Beth Shalom to recite the Aleinu prayer at the end of services in Spanish rather than the Hebrew or English as we often do with other prayers. At times French was added to the Spanish by our French speaking members. One Friday night during a casual conversation I was having with some congregants after service, the topic turned to that Aleinu prayer. Those around the table who immigrated to the US began talking about the languages of their childhood, nostalgically recalling their synagogue experiences, and remarking how lovely it would be to recite prayers in those other languages. I promised that I will help them get their wish come true and thus began my search for prayerbooks.

I enlisted the help of my husband Avi and my cousin Ofer who often travels to Europe for his work. Few months went by before everyone's efforts paid off and the first of those prayerbooks, in Hungarian, showed up by mail. Our congregant keeps this prayerbook in her bag at the ready whenever she attends services, enjoying rolling the familiar Hungarian sounds off her tongue.

Next came the Romanian prayerbook, the one that caused the emotional outburst as our congregant explained, interrupting her own prayer recitation, that the communist government did not allow the Jews to take their prayerbooks with them when they left Romania. She later shared with us how much she missed the beautifully bound prayerbooks of her childhood, which this one unfortunately did not even come close... Many thanks to Avi for making her request everything she hoped for.

We continue working to bring more such prayerbooks to our congregants, always striving to make the prayer experience meaningful and relevant for all.

Your Rabbi,



Beth Shalom Went Bowling

Fifteen of us went bowling at La Habra 300 Bowl on July 10. Seven non-bowlers cheered us on and enjoyed a pizza lunch with us. Fortunately we are not a competitive group, and were there just to have fun. I don't know if it was because we were bowling at a different location since Friendly Hills Bowling closed, or the stars were aligned right, but we all bowled much better this year than we had in the past. The star of the afternoon was Jordan Eres, Joann's son and Lila Held's grandson, who bowled 225. Barry followed with 152. Impressive scores, although not as good as "Mike". Mike was bowling next to us and bowled a perfect 300, meaning every frame was a strike. We all cheered him on and made a new friend.

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Hazzan's Notes

August brings us the remembrance of Tisha B'Av and the three weeks leading up to it where we sing the mournful tune *Eili Tziyon* to *Lecha Dodi* at Shabbat evening services. After Shabbat on August 13, we will commemorate all that has befallen our people and remember the words of Jeremiah from the book of Lamentations, *Eicha*. We darken the sanctuary and sit on the floor of the bimah

with candles to light our way as we spend moments of reflection on what has happened and what we will do to insure that these terrible atrocities won't happen again.

Once we complete this time of reflection we being the approach toward our High Holyday season. This year, the holydays are the latest they can be in our calendar cycle. We pause to note that the extra month of Adar pushes everything later and the beginning of our New Year will truly signal the Fall.

May your summer be cooler than expected and your help to the Jewish community more than expected.

-- Hazzan Lance H. Tapper

Greetings from Former BSW Rabbi Stephen Berkowitz

Name:

Rabbi Stephen Berkowitz

Phone

33 6 12 85 59 16

Email:

shlomolevberkowitz@gmail.com

Subject:

Message to Beth Shalom Members from former rabbi Berkowitz 1986-1989

Message:

Greetings to the Members of Beth Shalom of Whittier where I started my rabbinical career exactly thirty years ago. After spending close to twenty years in France I will be moving to Barcelona to where I serve Bet Shalom (!) a Progressive community and the Javura Reformista de Madrid. I will continue to be a visiting rabbi with the Liberal congregation of Strasbourg. Come and visit

Meeting Jews from Unusual Places

Many of you will remember Shi Li from Keifung, China and Aaron Kintu Moses from Uganda , speakers who came to BSW through Kulanu, an organization that works around the world to support isolated and emerging Jewish communities who wish to learn more about Judaism and (re-)connect with the wider Jewish community. Because of our synagogue's history with Kulanu, Bob and I were invited to Los Angeles July 18 to meet three young men who were sponsored by Kulanu to spend three weeks at Brandeis Bardin so they might bring back leadership skills and knowledge of Judaism to their communities.

The first to speak was Yahuda Kimani of the Kasuku Jewish Community in Kenya



(pictured on the left). This community actually grew out of a huge Messianic Community, numbering about 10,000. They believed they were Jewish, but when a rabbi from Israel visited to authenticate them as Jews, he had to inform them that in fact, they were not. Almost all of the congregation chose to remain as "Jews for Jesus", but a small group broke away to pursue real Judaism. They did not have access to the internet and had no way of learning about Judaism until they made contact with the Abayudaya Jewish community in Uganda where Aaron Kintu Moses'

brother Gershom was the American-trained rabbi. With the help of Kulanu, conversions followed and the Kasuku Jewish Community in Kenya now numbers about 40 families.



The second young man to speak was Jacob, a member of the Bene Ephraim Jewish community in Andhra Pradish District in south-east India. They are sometimes called Telugu Jews since that is the language they speak. Jacob told us that their community dates from the destruction of the First Temple in 587 BCE. Their authenticity has been questioned although their ancient traditions include Jewish

burial customs, eating kosher meat, marriage under the chuppah, bar mitzvah (now bat also), and Hebrew words and sayings. Rabbis have offered to convert them to Judaism, but they refuse because they believe they have always been Jewish. Jacob did agree to be converted while in New York because he wants to go to Israel, not to live, but to learn Hebrew and better his Jewish knowledge.



The third young man was Siegfried, a very European looking guy. His story revealed why. His grandfather, also Siegfried, was an Hungarian holocaust survivor who settled in Nicaragua, married a local woman, and raised his children Catholic. This Siegfried, to honor his grandfather's memory, chose to return to Judaism and was also converted in New York before his flight to Los Angeles. His community is "re-emerging" having once numbered about 250 members with a synagogue in

Managua. This was burned down during the country's civil war and most of the community emigrated to the United States. It now numbers 50 families, most of them with Ashkenazi roots.

Kulanu has been doing amazing work around the world. Take a look at their website kulanu.org for more information.

Rita Rubin

Psalm Twenty-Three

King David was a former shepherd, and he was not ashamed of this occupation. Psalm 23 was written by David, probably when he was king, while reflecting on his deep faith in G-d and the sum of his life.

The significance of Psalm 23 can be summed up in two words - belief and con-

solation. It has laid more griefs to rest, remanded more felon thoughts and sorrows than shall ever be known. At our funeral and unveiling services, it is said to console living family and friends of the deceased. Dying soldiers have passed more easily as it was read to them. Millions of people have memorized this Psalm and have used it to comfort others who are going through severe personal trials and illness. For some, the words have been the last they have ever uttered or heard in life.

Concerning belief, one who lives with the awareness that G-d is ever present and under His guidance does not fear. They fear not their circumstances, no matter how hostile the circumstances may be. They believe that G-d can provide every need, whether in a verdant meadow or in a parched desert.

In the following paragraphs, a brief analysis of the true meaning of Psalm 23 will be written. It will contain these topics:

The L-rd as a Shepherd Sustainer The L-rd as Shepherd Leader The L-rd as Host

Declaration and Its Result [Psalm 23:1]

<u>"The L-rd is my shepherd"</u>: David thought about G-d, the G-d of Israel, and as he thought about his relationship with G-d, he pictured a shepherd and his sheep. G-d was the shepherd and David was like a sheep to G-d. David could say, "My shepherd," as the L-rd was a real, personal shepherd for David himself. David felt comfort and security in the thought that G-d cared for him like a shepherd cares for his sheep.

<u>"I shall not want"</u>: For David this meant that, "All my needs are supplied by the L-rd, my shepherd." David thus expresses complete contentment that G-d will not deny him any legitimate need.

How the Shepherd Sustains [Psalm 23:2]

"He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters": The L-rd as a shepherd cares for David and all of His chosen people, just as a literal shepherd would care for his sheep. This implies that sheep/ humans do not always know what they need or what is best for them. The help lies in our faith in the L-rd who will care for us, if by our free will we call on Him with sincerity. G-d the Shepherd knows the good places to make His sheep to rest. He faithfully guides us to our green pastures.

The L-rd as Shepherd Leads [Psalm23:3]

"He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake": The tender care of the shepherd described in this verse had its intended effect. David's soul was restored by the figurative green pastures and still waters the Shepherd/G-d brought to him. This may parallel the straying sheep (all of us) brought back [see Isaiah 49:5, Psalm 60:1] to repent our sins and restore our souls to their original purity. The leadership of the shepherd/G-d not only comforts and restores the sheep/us, He also guides David/us into righteousness. G-d's guidance of David/us has its moral aspects. As a result, the shepherd guides the sheep/us with an overarching view to the credit and glory of His own name.

The Gift of the Shepherd's Presence [Psalm 23:4]

"Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me": David recognized that under the shepherd's leading he may walk through the valley of the shadow of death. It isn't his destination or dwelling place. Like the Preacher in Ecclesiastes, David might say that all of life is lived under the shadow of death, and it is the conscious presence of G-d as shepherd that makes it bearable. At these dark times, David and all of G-d's people are to fear no evil, for G-d is with us, just as a frightened child is calmed by the proximity of a parent, even though the source of danger is still present. [Psalm 86:7] It is the presence of the shepherd that eliminates the fear of evil. Significantly, it is at this dangerous moment that "He" of Psalm 23:1-3 changes to "you." The L-rd as shepherd is now in the first person.

<u>"Your rod and your staff"</u>: G-d's rod represents His strict punishment for sin, while His staff is His support for us in times of affliction. Both are equally comforting, for a Jew's greatest consolation is that they are not an insignificant straw blown about by the wind. Rather, G-d is cognizant of this behavior and rewards or punishes accordingly.

The L-rd as Host [Psalm 23:5]

<u>"You prepare a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup runneth over"</u>: Without departing from the picture of the valley of the shadow of death, David envisioned the provision and goodness given by G-d as a host, inviting David to a rich table prepared for him. The table suggests bounty; "prepare" suggests foresight and care; "before me" suggests the personal connection. The goodness and care suggested by the prepared table is set right in the "presence of mine enemies." The host's care and concern doesn't eliminate the "presence of mine enemies" but enable G-d's goodness and bounty, even in their midst. Despite the dangers of the "presence of mine enemies," David enjoyed the richness of his host's goodness. He was refreshed by being anointed with oil; his cup was over-filled.

Blessing For the Future [Psalm 23:6]

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the L-rd forever": Goodness refers to spiritual enrichment, while kindness (mercy) refers to the concern for the spirituality of others. The combination of the two terms expresses that one will experience personal growth, while not neglecting to help others.

Psalm 23 ends with the calmest assurance that David and all of us will enjoy the presence of G-d forever, both in our days on earth and in the afterlife of forever.

Sam Pearlman



Pízza & Drinks Provided

Sunday, August 21, 2016 12:00 p.m. Beth Shalom Youth Room

Discussion led by Rabbi Osnat

For the first time ever, six former heads of the Shin Bet, Israel's secret service agency, agree to share their insights and reflect publicly on their actions and decisions. Intimately interviewed, they shed light on the controversy surrounding the Occupation in the aftermath of the Six Day War.

It is hard to imagine a movie about the Middle East that could be more timely, more painfully urgent, more challenging to conventional wisdom on all sides of the conflict.

"The Gatekeepers" is in part a history of post-'67 Israel, in which familiar events are revisited from an unusual and fascinating perspective. The leaders of Shin Bet, who answer directly to the prime minister, are not part of the country's military command structure. Nor, because of the clandestine nature of the agency, are they visibly part of the Israeli political establishment

pizza and drinks served

The Aleinu Prayer:

With Rabbi Osnat

Sunday, September 11, 2016

10:00-11:00 am

The prayer whose words worried generations of Jews and Gentiles alike.

Join Rabbi Osnat as she explains the history of Aleinu, and answer questions such as: why there are different versions of it and what does spitting (of all things) have to do with its recitation.

(No Hebrew required)







After Bowling on July 10th, the Rubin's and Weiss's celebrated Eid al Fitr, the end of Ramadan with members of the Muslim Community.

Men's Club News

Temple Beth Ohr of La Mirada has extended an invitation to the men of Beth Shalom to join their Men's Club to engage in projects and activities that provide meaningful services to our respective congregations and give our brotherhood the opportunity to explore and enjoy fellowship. Interested parties should contact Harry Jacobs, TBO Brotherhood President, harrymjacobs26@gmail.com.

CELEBRATIONS

August Birthdays

Howard & Miriam Brookfield 8/9/2016 63rd Anniversary

Alberto & Liz Herrera 8/20/2016 28th Anniversary

Joseph & Barbara Lebovitz 8/29/2016 68th Anniversary

August Anniversaries

Jordan Fres 8/19/2016
Liz Herrera 8/20/2016
Jerry Landau 8/21/2016
Samuel Pearlman 8/27/2016

Beth Shalom of Whittier Wishes you all

Happy Birthday And Happy Anniversary

Thanks to Lila Held for her Donation to the Event Fund

August Yahrzeit Observances

Dearly Beloved

Observed By

Fuhrman, Bea

Relationship Father of Susan

Arnold, Nat

Lieberman, Susan Brookfield, Howard

Brother

Friedheim, Anna Grosz, Fred

Brookfield, Werner

Fuchs, Agnes Shreiber, Norma Dobrin, Esther Lynn Mother Father Father Father

Rosen, Louis Rosenbaum, Blanka

Fuchs, Agnes Hess, Richard & Michelle Great Aunt of Gabor

Sandler, Dora

Leibowitz, Irvin

Abutin, Caesar

Aunt of Michelle

Shuman, Ervin

Fuchs, Agnes

Singer, Shirley Tee, Ong Haw

Singer, Mark & Maggie

Step-Father Mother **Father**

Vinetsky, Louis Wiener, Leonard Zuckerman, Murray Norton, Arlene Wiener, Dorothy A. Father Husband

Father

Abrams, Sate E. Diamond, Arthur Beth Shalom of Whittier Beth Shalom of Whittier

Alpert-Herman, Madelon

Fishbein, Arthur Richard

Beth Shalom of Whittier

Fleischman, Max Friedman, Dora Friedman, Freda Fritzie Beth Shalom of Whittier Beth Shalom of Whittier

Friedman, Jacob Fritz, William Goldstein, Edith Harber, John David Beth Shalom of Whittier Beth Shalom of Whittier Beth Shalom of Whittier Beth Shalom of Whittier

Klasky, Nathan Levy, Eve Ann

Beth Shalom of Whittier Beth Shalom of Whittier

Levy, Mary Lovitch, Lillian Markovitz, Ida Sarah Marovitz, Abraham B. Beth Shalom of Whittier Beth Shalom of Whittier

Sarkin, Beatrice Segarnick, Max Slade, Louis

Beth Shalom of Whittier Beth Shalom of Whittier

Weiss, Sadie Winter, Francis Beth Shalom of Whittier Beth Shalom of Whittier

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.

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Name	Beloved Departed	Relationship	
Bernard Starkman	Madelaine Starkman	Wife	
Agnes Fuchs	W. A. Meissner	Cousin	
Norma Shreiber	Dorothy Leibowitz	Mother	
Jordan and Yvette Pollack	Ida Forman Lander	Mother of Yvette	
Jordan and Yvette Pollack	Jean Pollack	Mother of Jordan	
Pauline and Harris Kuhn	Anna Gross	Mother of Pauline	
Richard and Michelle Hess	Leon Morzinsky	Father of Michelle	
Richard and Michelle Hess	Benjamin Steinhauer	Uncle	
Robert and Rita Rubin	Morey Gnessin	Brother of Rita	
David Cienfuegos	Victor Cienfuegos	Brother	

Thank You—Oneg Donations

Norma Shreiber Eunice Singer Joel & Diane Chesler

- Rita Rubin

Need a Ride to Shul?

Can't make it to shul on a Friday night or Saturday Morning for lack of a ride?

Call Lucy Kleinberg at 323-807-0842 to arrange for a ride.

First and third Friday nights and second and fourth Saturday Mornings each month.

24 hour reservation required.

Conversational Spanish Lessons at Beth Shalom of Whittier

Tired of not being able to understand conversations around you? Embarrassed by having lived in Southern California for years and having your knowledge of Spanish limited to ordering in a restaurant? Mina Cano, a member of our congregation, has taught conversational Spanish previously and now is volunteering to teach us. If you are interested, contact Rita Rubin.

Classes will re-start in the Fall

BOOK CLUB NEWS

August 2016

In August, we are reading Andrew Kane's "Rabbi Rabbi". According to Amazon's Publishers Weekly review "This earnest first novel by an ordained rabbi and psychotherapist offers a realistic view of the challenges that confront Orthodox Jewish youth who seek to meld their religious beliefs with a modern American lifestyle." You may think you have read this story in other forms, but Another very good discussion book. No August date and location has been decided yet.

And in September, we are hoping to have a Facetime chat with author Nomi Eve about her book "Henna House". I have already been in contact with Nomi Eve, and we have scheduled September 13th, 12:30 pm. According to Amazon, this is a "Touching, coming-of-age story... about a young woman, her family, their community and the customs that bind them". This book is about the Yemini Jews in the early 20th C. It is always interesting to learn about other Jewish cultures, i.e. non-Ashkenazi Jews.

We meet in members home, brown-bag our lunch, and the hostess provides dessert and drink. We have interesting and lively discussions. If you want, or need, a ride, please call me. It is easily arranged. We welcome all comments, and points of view.

Happy Reading

Myra

August Clergy Schedule / Candles Times

Date	Time	Clergy on Bima	Service	Candles
August 5	7:30p	Rabbi Osnat	Kaballat Chabbat	7:30p
August 6	9:45a	Rabbi Osnat	Torah Study w Rabbi	
August 12	7:30p	Hazzan Lance	Kaballat Shabbat	7:22p
August 13	9:45a	Hazzan Lance, Mark Peterson	Kol Shalom Service	•
August 13	8:00p	Rabbi Osnat/Hazzan Lance	Tisha B'Av Service	7:14p
August 19	7:30p	Rabbi Osnat/Hazzan Lance	Kaballat Shabbat	
August 20	9:45a	Hazzan Lance	Shabbat Service	
August 26	7:30p	Hazzan Lance	Kaballat Shabbat	7:06p
August 27	9:45a	Hazzan Lance	Torah Service	•



Thank You for Your Donations

We have lots of folks to thank for their support of Beth Shalom and its members

Jeffrey Kolnick & Rosa Tock-for the Cold Weather Shelter Program

& Beth Shalom of Whittier

August 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Daily Minyan 12:20p	2	3	4 Daily Minyan 12:20p	5 Rosh Chodesh Av	6 Breakfast 9:00a
	12.23			12.230	Kaballat Shabbat Rabbi Osnat 7:30p	Parashat Matot- Masei
					7:30p Candles	Torah Study Rabbi Osnat 9:45a
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Bingo 6:00p	Daily Minyan 12:20p			Daily Minyan 12:20p	Kaballat Shabbat Hazzan Lance 7:30p	Breakfast 9:00a
					7.50β	<u>Parashat Devarim</u>
					7:22p Candles	Kol Shalom Hazzan Lance 9:45a
						<u>Tish'a B'Av</u> 8:00p Rabbi Osnat & Hazzan Lance
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<u>Tish'a B'Av</u>	Daily Minyan 12:20p			Daily Minyan 12:20p	Kaballat Shabbat Rabbi Osnat & Hazzan Lance	Breakfast 9:00a
Bingo 6:00p				Board Meeting 7:00p	7:30p	Parashat Vaetchan- an
					7:14p Candles	Torah Service Hazzan Lance
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Movie Matinee Rabbi Osnat12:00p	Daily Minyan 12:20p		Sisterhood Board Meeting 1:00p	Daily Minyan 12:20p	Kaballat Shabbat Hazzan Lance	Breakfast 9:00a
					7:30p	<u>Parashat Eikev</u>
Bingo 6:00p					7:06p Candles	Torah Service Hazzan Lance 9:45a
28	29	30	31			
Bingo 6:00p	Daily Minyan 12:20p					

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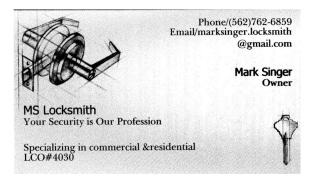
David E. Weiss

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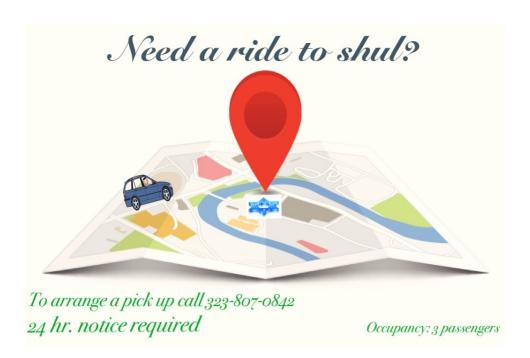
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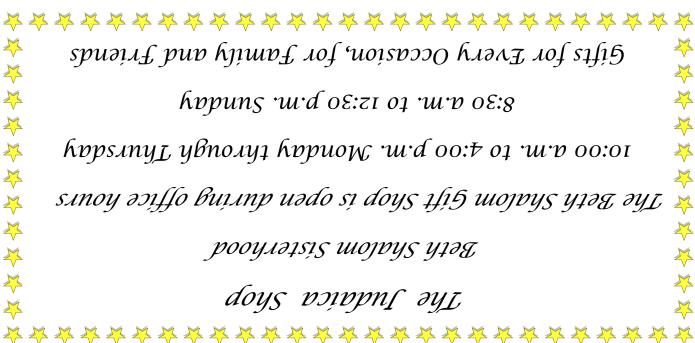
562.907.9800 213.503.8362 teri@terimedinaboutique.com

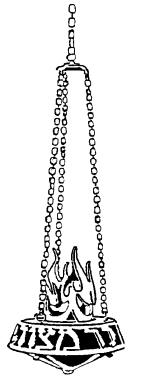






The Mishpacha is published monthly, on or before the first of the month. If you want an announcement or article to appear in the June issue, the submission deadline is **August 20th**. The Mishpacha is sent on-line to those members and friends of Beth Shalom. If you wish a printed copy mailed to you, 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.





Beth Shalom of Whittier

14564 Hawes Street Whittier, California 90604 \checkmark

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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.

The Judaica Shop Beth Shalom Sisterhood

The Beth Shalom Gift Shop is open during office hours
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday
10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Sunday
Gifts for Every Occasion, for Family and Friends



