



Dear Members and Friends,

Words cannot express the feelings we all have at the sudden loss of our beloved president and friend, Wendy Bill, on Feb. 12, 2020.

Wendy was Shir Chadash – in more ways than one. It wasn't just in her service to the congregation and its members in various leadership roles, but in her heart – she embodied what we are all about – family, helping others and growth. Wendy knew everyone and touched everyone – not just at Shir Chadash, but wherever she went and with whatever she did.

We believe she'd be proud of how the congregation responded to word of her passing. Congregants were called personally where possible before an email went out, because that was the right thing to do.

And they responded. Never have we seen such an outpouring of support not only for the Bill family but for each other. The Bill household always had members there throughout this difficult time and, people were calling each other, holding each other, crying with each other and consoling one another.

In a fitting tribute to Wendy, more than enough food was brought to the Bill household and to the three shiva minyans to feed our congregation several times over and then some. Thank you to all who contributed.

Thank you, too, to everyone who came early to set up and those who stayed late to clean up.

There weren't many dry eyes in our congregation this week. And yet, this tragedy seemed to bring an even stronger sense of togetherness and family than ever before – something Wendy strived for in her personal, professional and congregational life.

Yes, this is a sad time. And, there's a lot of work to be done. Wendy's shoes are impossible for one person to fill. We all marveled at her ability to get things done or get others to help get things done.

So, please, volunteer to do something and help us. If you're asked if you can lend a hand, consider responding as Wendy would, with a, "Sure" or "Of course" and chip in. If we all do just a little, it adds up to a lot.

As your board, we pledge to continue the hard work needed to keep Congregation Shir Chadash a vibrant place where people can pray, work for good and justice and help each other and our community.

As Sister Sledge sang in their hit song, "We Are Family," and that's the way we (and Wendy) want it to be.

The Congregation Shir Chadash Board of Trustees

February 21, 2020

Wendy

There is a meditation in the siddur just prior to the Kaddish which has always resonated with me. I read it silently, over and over, week after week. And I truly believe it. It turns out to be a quote by George Eliot from “Middlemarch”:

“But the effect of her being on those around her was incalculably diffusive: for the growing good of the world is partly dependent on unhistoric acts; and that things are not so ill with you and me as they might have been, is half owing to the number who lived faithfully a hidden life, and rest in unvisited tombs.”

I believe acts of kindness, however unnoticed, have an effect. They have ripples.

And so now Wendy.

She doesn't quite fit this description, for her acts were not only small but large. And she had not only ripples but huge concentric waves radiating out from her heart. She affected so many people. Not only those here, but through those she touched, a symphony of kindness, little wavelets, changing the world... in – her – own – quiet – Wendy – way.

Ever since she saw that welcoming yellow Shir Chadash flyer in the Hopewell post office, Wendy knew she had found her spiritual home. And then she transformed it. She Wendy-ized it. She baked and cooked and nurtured and taught little kids and edited the newsletter for a million years (with Sandy) and for some reason became treasurer and cooked some more, and made it feel like a home to many people. She made friends. And she argued and was hurt and reconciled. Those kinds of things are part of what being a family means. And then she became president of Shir Chadash, with all the extra hours and the headaches and some joy. She was responsible. She was our rock. She was always lending a hand. She gave me a ride on Saturday mornings for Sharing Shabbat and I'd carry her green bag... she was always bringing something, although I don't really know what she had in that bag... I'd carry the bag from the car to the temple. And sometimes I'd take her arm as she navigated the parking lot. That was really an act of kindness to me more than to her.

Whenever I speak at Shir Chadash, I like to bring in a note of science. We think of ourselves as a collection of particles, of electrons and protons and neutrons. But there is a duality of matter. We are also waves. I like to think that the Wendy wave is still with us.

Wendy changed the world in a profound way. She Wendy-ized it. And it's a better place for her being here. On behalf of Shir Chadash we mourn with the family.

May her name be for a blessing.

Eulogy by Michael Rothman

February 13, 2020 Shabbat Service

From the Desk of Rabbi Daniel Polish



Remembering Wendy Bill

Dear Friends,

February has been a hard month for Shir Chadash. Speaking personally, I am still in shock at the death of our president, Wendy Bill, and profoundly sad.

Some of us have known Wendy for twenty years, others, who are newer to the congregation, a shorter period of time. But to all of us she was very much the embodiment of what is best about our congregation. Whenever we came to any congregational event, Wendy was literally the first person to greet us with a warm and heartfelt greeting.

Wendy was not among the founding families of the congregation. But she came in close to the beginning. No sooner had she walked into Shir Chadash than she rolled up her sleeves and got to work. I think it was here that Wendy really came into her own. She blossomed. She radiated. Wendy loved Jewish tradition.

She took Jewish practice seriously. She had an instinctive sense of what was the “Jewish way” of doing things. And she developed a love of Jewish learning. Every Sharing Shabbat for all these years she could be found at Torah study. And two years ago, she became an adult Bat Mitzvah. Wendy did not bring years of Jewish scholarship. But she embodied Jewish values in all her deeds and her loving concern for everyone around her.

Wendy was devoted to the congregation. She gave of herself ceaselessly to make it work. Whatever needed to be done, Wendy did it. The truth is there is literally no role at Shir Chadash that Wendy has not filled. She began as a teacher in Sharing Shabbat. Soon she became the co-editor of the newsletter. She represented the congregation in community activities and mobilized her friends to become involved. She filled every official position: board member; secretary; treasurer. And last June the congregation chose Wendy to be its President. She was good at the job because she was beloved. When they I told my colleagues of Wendy’s death one of them wrote me, “how lucky you were. She was a great president”.

Remembering Wendy Continued...



Wendy brought a rare quality to her work. Remarkably, despite everything that she did,-- and Wendy did everything - - she never sought recognition or credit. She was quiet and unassuming -- and effective. And through it all, in all these years I never heard Wendy raise her voice or lash out in anger. She brought calm reason to every situation. But all her official titles really only tell part of the story. For as long as anyone can remember if anything at all needed to be done It was Wendy who did it, because doing it was the right thing to do. Over the several nights of Shiva we shared stories about Wendy: her warmth, her generosity, her sincere caring. For so many people Wendy was the congregation. They say nobody is indispensable. They are wrong. Wendy truly is an irreplaceable person

Wendy embodied everything that we as a congregation aspire to. May her example serve as an inspiration to us. May we carry on the work she devoted herself to. May her example inspire us to be more caring to one another and to take on the tasks of our community that enrich on another's life. May her memory live on in our deeds. And may her memory be a blessing

*B' Shalom,
Rabbi Daniel Polish*



פזמונים וסיפורים ליל פורים!



Help us tell the
story of
Purim with
Comedy and
Song!
Friday, March
13th

**Casting and Rehearsals will start soon
Actors and Helpers Needed –All Ages!!**

Email here for more info

Adam Belok aabelok@gmail.com

Bring Pasta to Shake and Donate!!

ANNUAL AUCTION

Annual Goods and Services Auction

Saturday, March 21

*Save
the
Date*

*6:00pm
at FPUPC*

*PERFECT FOR
UNIQUE GIFTS!*



*Your auctioneers: Vic Feit & Jeff Lash
Silent Auction too for even more fun!
Something for everyone, lots of surprises!
Much, much more!*

*To donate items or be on the
committee contact Victor Feit at
914-474-0680*

Filling Esther's Basket

Jewish Family Services

Emergency Fund
Starts Anew for



Purim Campaign
2020

Last year, Congregation Shir Chadash raised close to a stunning \$1273 in gifts to the JFS's Emergency Fund for Jewish Families. All of the Poughkeepsie area's five synagogues raised close to \$3000 in total. This special emergency fund has been used to supply local Jewish families with needed help for rent, food, heat, transportation and other essentials on a short term basis. In fact, one of the recipients donated back over \$400 when he got "back on his feet" and was able to obtain work.

We cannot stress too much the importance of replenishing this fund to help other needy Jewish families through some difficult times. For the month of February prior to Purim til Saturday, March 16, we will be putting out our Esther's Basket and asking that you bring a check for \$18 or more when you come to temple. Checks should be made out to **JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE EMERGENCY FUND**. Checks can also be mailed to Treasurer: Jim Thrasher, 31 Timberline Drive Poughkeepsie, New York 12603 . All donations will be acknowledged by JFS unless otherwise requested.

Rabbi Polish and Cantor Hirschenfang thank you, in advance, for your kindness and generous support of our local Jewish community as we enter this season of Purim!



Purim is days away (yes!). Think about picking up some pasta to shake, you know when, and maybe throw in a few cans of tomato sauce too (no glass jars, please). All pasta and sauce will be donated to the Morse School Food Pantry to feed kids in need.



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; www.shir-chadash.org. The donation tab is on the home page and please remember to complete the message box.

Congregation Shir Chadash gratefully acknowledges the following memorial donations:

Debra Fitzpatrick, **in memory** of Wendy Bill

Jinny and Robert Goff, **in memory** of Myrtle Herschbein

Marion and Irwin Goldberg, **in memory** of Aaron Goldberg

Steve Herschbein, **in honor** of Sara and Michael Rothman

Lois Lang, **in memory** of her sister Dorris Lang, whose Yahrzeit was February 15th.

Lois Lang, **in memory** of Wendy Bill

Sue Marcoe, **in memory** of Robbie Schiff's friend

Sandy and Jeff Lash **in memory** of our dear friend Wendy Bill

Jinny Goff, **in memory** of her father, Benjamin Yaver

Congregation Shir Chadash would like to acknowledge the donation by Jinny Goff in memory of her father's Yahrzeit, which was inadvertently left off the acknowledgements. We regret the error.

Congregation Shir Chadash would like to thank the following for their generous response to our fundraiser:

Rochelle and David Bellach

Fran and Steve Berman

Wendy and Stuart Bill

Kim Buchanan and Jerry Scheck

Lori and Ron Dritz

Michael Feinman

Marion and Irwin Goldberg

Mara and Richard Goldstone

Gail and Alan Gamble

Jinny and Robert Goff

Miriam Gold

Steve Herschbein

Lisa and Marc Kerchman

Emily and David Kuriloff

Lois Lang

Sandy and Jeff Lash

Sue Marcoe

Lorette Spiegel

Roberta Tracy

Iris and Len Turkenkopf

Amy and Jim Thrasher

Nicky and Lindsey Turner

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.

The Legacy of Elie Wiesel with Ariel Burger

March 27 - March 29



Community Shabbaton with author Ariel Burger

Congregation Shir Chadash, Temple Beth-El, and Vassar Temple warmly invite you to the Community Shabbaton held on March 27, 28 & 29, 2020. Ariel Burger's memoir, *Witness: Lessons from Elie Wiesel's Classroom*, offers intimate moments and teachings from Elie Wiesel's life and teachings. Rabbi Burger shared a personal relationship with Wiesel, as both teaching assistant and friend. Wiesel, the universally revered Nobel Laureate, author, human rights activist, and Holocaust survivor saw himself first and foremost as a teacher. This recollection includes Wiesel's lessons regarding acting against indifference, the urgency of memory, individual responsibility, humility, and turning the experience of suffering into a commitment to humanitarianism. At a time when antisemitism has reached unprecedented levels and the language of hate and division dominate, the principles of Elie Wiesel can uplift and inspire. Through his writings and speaking engagements, Burger is keeping Wiesel's messages alive and relevant to the challenges we face today. ***The Legacy of Eli Wiesel*** 3/27 at Vassar Temple 7:30pm Friday Night Services and Talk ***Eli Wiesel's Challenge for Today*** 3/28 at Temple Beth-El 9:30am Saturday Morning Services and 12:15pm Lunch Discussion

Activist as Educator: Personal Glimpses of Eli Wiesel 3/29 at Congregation Shir Chadash 1:00pm Brunch Program

This community program is sponsored through the *Irving and Gloria Schlossberg Family Fund of the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley*, *The Jewish Federation of Dutchess County*, *The Harding Club*, *DCIC*, and generous private donors. The community is invited to learn, worship, and socialize at any of the events. Please [Click to RSVP](#).

Coming to Shir Chadash—Save-the-Date!

Jazz Divas

Saturday April 25 2020 7pm

***Jazz Divas** brings together three fabulously talented vocalists from diverse backgrounds with a versatile band in a unique harmony of jazz, gospel, Broadway, Pop and opera.*

Under the musical direction of **Maestro Tom McCoy**, this unique concert will feature songs from Hammerstein to Bernstein, Berlin to the Gershwins, Sondheim to Schwartz, Da Ponte to Styne. (Who was Lorenzo Da Ponte, you ask? Come find out, be astonished and delighted!)

FEATURING

Gospel/Jazz singer Rene Bailey, sang with Louis Armstrong

Jazz/Classical Singer Goldee Greene, Congressional Honor recipient for contributions to culture

Broadway/Cabaret singer Lisa Sabin, appears regularly in the award winning “Sondheim, Unplugged” at Feinstein’s/54 Below

Pianist extraordinaire, conductor/arranger Tom McCoy with his jazz quartet. McCoy performed with James Taylor and Ray Charles.

Jazz Divas features world-famous Jewish composers, lyricists and librettists and is hosted by **Congregation Shir Chadash**. The concert will be followed by a **meet-the-artists reception**.



Watch for special early bird ticket pricing for Members of Shir Chadash

Member's Cooking Corner

Transylvanian Goulash

This is an authentic Hungarian recipe. I received it from a family friend back in the 60's. Her name was Emma Kende and she was from Budapest. This is a somewhat updated version.



As some of you asked for it at our January Shabbat dinner at Shir Chadash – here it is. This recipe fills a six-quart pot, so you may want to make less. It does keep well.

What You Need

3 medium onions (2 yellow – 1 red)
3 cloves of garlic
1 32 ounce jar of good quality sauerkraut (I used Eden)
1 head of cabbage (look for one with the most green outer leaves)
1 28 oz. can of crushed tomatoes
2 Tablespoons good quality Hungarian Paprika (Szeged brand available in grocery stores, Penzeys is also good)
2 Tablespoons caraway seeds
1 teaspoon oregano
1 Tablespoon olive oil
16 ounce package of Beyond Beef, plant based ground (available at Tops)

What To Do

Slice onions fairly thin – place in a large heated skillet, add a bit of water, it should sizzle, stir – do this a few times to brown the onions
(best to not do them all at once, add diced garlic towards the end.)

Add the onions to the stock pot, then the sauerkraut, paprika, caraway seeds and oregano, stir to combine and let it simmer.

In the same skillet, add the olive oil and the beyond beef, break into bite sized pieces, brown and add to the stock pot, simmer until the cabbage is done. You may want to add some water, it should be saucy, not too thick or thin.

Taste, add a bit more paprika or caraway if you think it needs it.

Probably salty enough from the sauerkraut, but add a bit of sea salt if you think it needs it.

Serve with noodles or rice.

Good for family dinners or for a potluck. This, as all my recipes are, is vegan. Even though I will not be looking over your shoulder, please keep it that way. Better for our health, for the animals and our planet.

Thanks to those of you who asked for the recipe. Enjoy preparing and serving it. And consuming it also!

Questions or comments,

845.380.2200 or veggierob@yahoo.com

Robbie Schiff



March Torah Readings

<u>TETZAVEH</u>	March 7 2020	Exodus 27:20-30:10
<u>KITISA</u>	March 14 2020	Exodus 30:11-34:35
<u>VAYAK'HEL/PEKUDE</u>	Mar 21 2020	Exodus 35:1-40:38
<u>VAYIKRA</u>	Mar 28 2020	Leviticus 1:1-5:26

March Yahrzeits*

Friday, March 6, 2020, Seymour Ginsberg, Father of Ed Ginsberg

Friday, March 6, 2020, Miriam Kerchman, Mother of Marc Kerchman

Friday, March 6, 2020, Raymond Kerchman, Father of Marc Kerchman

Friday, March 13, 2020, Ruth Reich, Aunt of Diane Light-Spiro

Friday, March 20, 2020, Max Bill, Father of Stuart Bill

Friday, March 20, 2020, Betty Mead, Grandmother of Ryan Mee

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

Oneg and Sharing Shabbat Hosts for March

Friday March 6, Norm MacKay

Saturday March 7, Steve Moskowitz

Friday March 13, Purim Oneg Susan and Victor Feit and Shir bakers

Friday March 20, Tami Malley

Saturday March 21, Deb Mullins

Friday March 27, Andrea Ostwald



Oneg Coordinators: Suzanne Neil
suzanneneil@mac.com

845-559-3123
Sharing Shabbat Bagel Organizer:
Sara Rothman 845-223-5925

Shop with Shir Chadash at no extra cost to you!

Did you know that every dollar you spend at Adams Fairacre Farms, Hannfaord, Shop Rite, Stop & Shop or Tops could be helping Shir Chadash ... and it won't cost you anything extra?

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.

If you have any questions about the program, contact Sue Marcoe at (845) 723-4045 or sfmarcoe@gmail.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 donates a small percentage to the congregation! All these small things add up, so if you haven't signed up yet, please do so today.



Be A Mortgage Mensch-

Help Shir Chaddash 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 jdt845@yahoo.com or send your completed form to Jim Thrasher, Treasurer, 31 Timberline Drive, Poughkeepsie, New York 12603. **Thank you!!**

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for your
cooperation.



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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 consult your financial advisor to ascertain whether you are eligible to take advantage of this tax avoidance before making your contribution.

*Weather
Cancellations*

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





Congregation Shir Chadash

brings you “a new song”

Calendar 5780 (2019-2020)

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

All are welcome!

SATURDAY MORNING SHARING SHABBAT 9:00 AM

September 7 and 21
October 5 and 19
November 2 and 16
December 7 and 14

January 4 and 18
February 1 and 22
March 7 and 21
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 10:30am

Friday, March 13th Purim Spiel and Celebration

Friday, March 27-Sunday, March 29 Shabbaton Weekend

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