



Our Mishpacha

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January 2021



Everyone is Welcome

Hazzan's Notes



Dear Friends,

As we begin 2021, the new secular year gives us hope we may be slowly starting to return to some normalcy. As vaccines become available for us to take and we begin the process of trying to slow down and stamp out this virus, we come back to our core values as Jews and push toward all that we can to make sure we value all lives around us and continue our work of *Pekuah nefesh* (the saving of life).

To that end, on the emotional and spiritual side of our lives, on January 29, Shabbat Shirah (Sabbath of Song), synagogues around the world celebrate our people's joyous exodus from Egypt singing as we crossed the Reed Sea. Jewish communities celebrate with all types of musical services in honor of this momentous event in our peoplehood. We, ourselves, will be holding a special virtual choral service on this night on our Facebook page with the organ prelude at 7:23 pm and the service beginning at 7:30 pm. I will be officiating with our Beth Shalom Professional Singers and Mark Peterson as our accompanist and conductor on both the pipe organ and our keyboard.

The music for this service runs the gamut from the 16th to 21st centuries in Jewish liturgical choral music. We will also be hearing two musical commissions of mine that night as well. One of these was commissioned in 1992 in honor of the worldwide celebration of 500 years of Sefarad 1492-1992 and the other was just commissioned a few months ago in preparation for this special Shabbat. The music will come from Italy, Israel, England, Germany, Sefarad, and the USA. The various Cantorial and other composers and arrangers of the music are listed on the flyer for this event included in this Mishpacha edition.

We know you will want to tune into this very special service and have your friends and relatives do so as well. It will be a hallmark evening and Shabbat for our synagogue celebrating this special event in our people's collective national life.

Hazzan Lance H. Tapper

From our President

Our Torah is in the Honduras Synagogue

The Torah that we donated has been picked up by a representative from Comunidad Sefardita De Honduras Hajaim. We started this adventure on August 25th when we donated our 4th Torah to this community through Kulanu. Kulanu is an organization that supports new and emerging synagogues throughout the world.

This Torah had been stored in the Hazzan’s office since we came to this building. It does not fit into our Aron Kodesh and a larger ark would be too large to wheel around the bimah.

We thought that handing the Torah over to them would be the easy part but that turned out to not be at all true. There were personal emergencies (on the part of their first courier), Covid-19 travel restrictions and two hurricanes which each shut down their airport, to contend with before it could happen.

Rivaldo Rivera from the Honduras congregation flew in and picked up the Torah on December 14th. I was there to represent the congregation as your President as was Hazzan Lance, David Starkman and Jordan Eres. We would have loved to have been able to make a larger celebration of this momentous occasion but with the Covid restrictions being even tighter than before we couldn’t do that. We did an outdoors exchange on a table in front of the Social Hall. It was an emotional time for all. Rivaldo spoke some English but also brought along a friend who helped interpret. They presented us with a plaque thanking us for doing this for them. At one point, when Hazzan Lance and I told them how happy we were to be able to do this, Rivaldo said “I cry”.

The Torah was flown to Miami where it was greeted by the Jewish Community and Kulanu representatives. It is now in Honduras where there was a procession that brought it into their synagogue. The President of Kulanu as well as several of their volunteers who worked on this and their clergy along with me and Hazzan Lance, as the President and clergy of Beth Shalom of Whittier spoke on a Zoom linkup. We will have the Facebook links for you to view and see the Torah being welcomed and celebrated in the synagogue.

This Torah, which was in a storage container, will now be used, loved and revered by a community who would never have been able to buy one on their own. This is an indescribable blessing for them. Here is a quote from an email sent to me by Jo Ann Friedman, Kulanu Programming and Development Manager, *“The souls of the entire Beth Shalom Congregation , here and in the past, will vicariously be called up for an Aliyah in the shul in Honduras for many more decades to come.”*

This was a real Mitzvah and we all have reason to be very proud and happy. We will keep touch with this community as we are now connected by the Torah. I thank G-d that we were able to do this for them.

Lila



Beth Shalom of Whittier

PRESENTS

A CHORAL SHABBAT EVENING SERVICE IN HONOR OF SHABBAT SHIRAH

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2021

7:23 pm Organ Prelude

7:30 pm Service

STREAMING ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE: BETH SHALOM OF WHITTIER

*Featuring Jewish choral liturgical music styles from
England, Germany, Israel, Italy, Sefarad, and the United States*

By composers and arrangers:

*Hazzanim Solomon Ancis, Jonathan Angress, David Koussevitsky,
J. L. Mombach, Ralph Schlossberg, Robbie Solomon, Carl Urstein, Giuseppe Vita Clava
and
Samuel Alman, Pedro D'Acquino, Stephen Glass, Joshua Jacobson, Martin Kalmanoff,
Louis Lewandowski, McNeil Robinson II, Sholom Secunda, Shirona, Kurt Weill,
Herman Zalis, and the anonymous composer of the Jewish Community of Rome, Italy*

OFFICIANTS:

HAZZAN LANCE H TAPPER, SPIRITUAL LEADER

THE BETH SHALOM PROFESSIONAL SINGERS

MARK PETERSON, ACCOMPANIST AND CONDUCTOR



Sefer Shemot **Exodus 1:1-6:1**

On the 25th of Tevet (9 January) we hear or see (TV) the first parasha Shemot of the second book of the Torah. Moses from his birth, to being an adult, and hearing G-d's word in the burning bush is the main content of this parasha.

A six part summary of this follows:

1. A new Pharaoh comes to power who orders all the Israelite male children drowned
2. Baby Moses is put into a basket and set afloat in the Nile River
3. Moses is rescued by Pharaoh's daughter
4. Moses kills an Egyptian who was with an Israelite and flees for his life to Midian.
5. G-d speaks to Moses out of a burning bush and tells him that he and his brothers Aaron will liberate the Israelites from Egyptian slavery.
6. Pharaoh imposes hard labor upon the Israelites.

Disobedience - When Pharaoh commands that every male child born to an Israelite woman is to be drowned, Shifra and Puah, two Hebrew midwives, refused to carry out his command. In essence, they feared G-d more than Pharaoh and believed in the sanctity of G-d's higher power. This is history's first recorded case of civil disobedience in defense of a moral cause.

Conceivability of G-d - After G-d reveals himself to Moses at the burning bush, G-d calls himself - "I will be what I will be". Rashi teaches that no tongue can ever express all that G-d will be to those who truly believe in Him (Midrash Shemot Rabbah 3:6). We should understand that every generation conceives of G-d in a different way, and in every age G-d is likely to reveal himself in new ways. Perhaps that is why in the Amidah prayer G-d is called the G-d of Abraham, the G-d of Isaac, and the G-d of Jacob, for each of the patriarchs saw G-d in a different manner.

Humility - In our religion humility is a virtue to be admired. When Moses is called by G-d to return to Egypt to lead the Jewish people to freedom, his response is a question. "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and free the Israelites from Egypt?" All of our leaders have the same words in various ways. (ie. Are you sure you have the right person?) The prophet Micah said it best. What G-d requires of us is to do right, love goodness, and walk HUMBLY with G-d (Micah 6:8)

Hatred - Jewish law denounces hatred. "What is hateful to you, do not do to others," (Talmud Shabbat 31a). Gratuitous hatred, or hatred without real cause, is considered especially vicious. A prime example of this is in the opening of this parashas. Pharaoh expresses his hatred for the Israelites. He condemns them for increasing in numbers (Exodus 1:9). For this crime he has decided to obliterate all of the Israelites.

Sam Pearlman

Clergy Schedule

Note: All Beth Shalom services at this time will be held via Beth Shalom of Whittier Facebook page.

January 1-- Service--7:30 pm -- Rabbi Kenneth Milhander

January 8-- 7:23 pm --Prelude, Service--7:30 pm -- Hazzan Lance and Mark Peterson

January 15-- 7:23 pm --Prelude, Service--7:30 pm -- Hazzan Lance and Mark Peterson

January 22-- 7:23 pm --Prelude, Service--7:30 pm -- Hazzan Lance and Mark Peterson

January 29-- *Shabbat Shirah Choral Shabbat* 7:23 pm --Prelude, Service--7:30 pm -- Hazzan Lance, The Beth Shalom Professional Singers, and Mark Peterson

Directions for viewing livestream services:

If you are a current Facebook subscriber, you need only to go to our Facebook page, **Beth Shalom of Whittier**, to view these announcements and videos. If you are not a current Facebook subscriber, you need to go to www.facebook.com and sign up with a username and password and then you can access our page at that point.



BOOK CLUB NEWS

We are reading "Paris in the Present Tense" by Mark Halperin on Tuesday, January 12th at 12:30 pm.

On Tuesday, February 2nd, we are reading "The Girl They Left Behind" by Roxanne Veletzos.

Happy Reading.

If you have any questions, or want to join us,
please contact either Myra Weiss, or Michelle Hess.





January

Candle Lighting Times

January 1 —4:37

January 8—4:43

January 15—4:49

January 22—4:56

January 29—5:03



This is Our Mishpacha

Our Mishpacha is published monthly, on or near the first of the month.

If you want an article or announcement to appear in the next issue, the submission deadline is the 20th of the month prior. Our Mishpacha is sent on-line to the members of Beth Shalom with computers. If you wish a printed copy mailed to you, please call the office (562) 941-8744.

Printed copies are also available in our lobby.

\$18.00 per year for non-members.

The editor welcomes comments and suggestions.

bswoffice@verizon.com

Birthdays

Robin Weintraub	January 1
Abdon Barembaum	January 2
Susan Lieberman	January 19
Jay Weinschenker	January 31

Beth Shalom of Whittier wishes you all a Happy Birthday!!



Donations

- Jay Weinschenker - General Fund
- Hope Greenwood - General Fund
- Jim Barembaum - General Fund
- Charles & Lila Held - Cold Weather Shelter
- Alita Sevin - Cold Weather Shelter
- Bernard Starkman - Cold Weather Shelter

Yahrzeit Donations

Name	Beloved Departed	Relationship
Michelle Hess	Leigh Hess	Father-in-law
	Julius Schwartz	Uncle
	Emmanuel Morzinsky	Uncle
Mark Hilliard	Glenda Hilliard	Wife
Pauline Kuhn	Bernard Kuhn	Husband
Arlene Norton	Jean Vinetsky	Mother
	Arnold Winett	Brother
Rita Rubin	Gail Goodstein	Sister
Robin Weintraub	Sue Weintraub	Mother

Thank you to all who support our Temple.

Tribute Cards

To send a Tribute Card in honor or in memory of someone, please contact Michelle Hess with your request @ ddgrlover@aol.com

ROSE HILLS CEMETERY PLOTS

If you want to do your family the mitzvah of pre-planning, please call the office.
 They can give you information as to what gravesites are available and what steps to take to secure your plot(s).
 Plots are \$3500 each.
 There are only a few plots remaining, so if you are Interested, please let us know.

Yahrzeit Observances

Dear Departed	Observed By	Relationship
<i>Etta Arnold</i>	<i>Susan Lieberman</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Max Moskowitz</i>		<i>Uncle</i>
<i>Samuel Rubins</i>		<i>Grandfather</i>
<i>Mordechai Blankstein</i>	<i>Maxine Berkowitz</i>	<i>Grandfather</i>
<i>Ethel Chesler</i>	<i>Joel Chesler</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Irving Cirulnick</i>	<i>Mona Di Natale</i>	<i>Uncle</i>
<i>Mabel Cutler</i>	<i>Jeffrey Kolnick</i>	<i>Grandmother</i>
<i>Dora Fleischmann</i>	<i>Miriam Brookfield</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Meyer Forman</i>	<i>Jordan Pollack</i>	<i>Father-in-Law</i>
<i>Leigh Hess</i>	<i>Michelle Hess</i>	<i>Father-in-Law</i>
<i>Julius Schwartz</i>		<i>Uncle</i>
<i>Steven Hock</i>	<i>Millie Hock</i>	
<i>Sol Jaffee</i>	<i>Eugene Jaffee</i>	<i>Son</i>
<i>Siegbert Mergruen</i>	<i>Christel Mergruen</i>	<i>Husband</i>
<i>Meir Militeanu</i>	<i>Klara Wein</i>	<i>Father</i>
<i>Harry Paul</i>	<i>Sidney Paul</i>	<i>Father</i>
<i>Bertha Paul</i>		<i>Step-Mother</i>
<i>Evelyn Resnick</i>		<i>Sister</i>
<i>Esther D Tapper</i>	<i>Hazzan Lance H Tapper</i>	<i>Grandmother</i>
<i>Harold L Tapper</i>		<i>Grandfather</i>
<i>Socorro Torres</i>	<i>Mina Cano</i>	<i>Grandmother</i>
<i>Elliot Weiss</i>	<i>David Weiss</i>	<i>Father</i>
<i>Ida Zuckerman</i>	<i>Madelon Alpert-Herman</i>	<i>Mother</i>

Observing this Yahrzeit

Dear Departed	Observed By	Dear Departed
<i>Ruth Becker</i>	<i>Beth Shalom of Whittier</i>	<i>Louis Ossofsky</i>
<i>Brina Bressler</i>	<i>Beth Shalom of Whittier</i>	<i>Esther Rosen</i>
<i>Sophie Carnow</i>	<i>Beth Shalom of Whittier</i>	<i>Naftali Saleweizek</i>
<i>Freda Cipes</i>	<i>Beth Shalom of Whittier</i>	<i>Beatrice Snow</i>
<i>Ida Fink</i>	<i>Beth Shalom of Whittier</i>	<i>Sylvia Squier</i>
<i>Louis Freedman</i>	<i>Beth Shalom of Whittier</i>	<i>Joseph Unger</i>
<i>Janchel Groisman</i>	<i>Beth Shalom of Whittier</i>	<i>Bernard Weissman</i>
<i>Julia Morris</i>	<i>Beth Shalom of Whittier</i>	<i>Rebecca Wiener</i>

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.

January 2021

Tevet - Shevat 5781

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 *Office Closed 7:30p Shabbat Service	2 18 Tevet Vayehi
3	4	5	6	7	8 7:30p Shabbat Service	9 25 Tevet Shemot
10	11	12 12:30p Book Club	13	14	15 7:30p Shabbat Service	16 3 Shevat Vaera
17	18	19	20	21 7:00p Board of Director's Meeting	22 7:30p Shabbat Service	23 10 Shevat Bo
24	25	26	27	28 Tu B'Shevat	29 7:30p Shabbat Shirah Choral Shabbat	30 17 Shevat Shabbat Shira Beshalah
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