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Rabbi Daniel Molish

Cantor Gail Sirschenfang

President Lindsey Turner

Vol. 17 No. 3

January 2019

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

JANUARY CALENDAR Online at www.shir-chadash.org

- 4 Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm
- 5 Sharing Shabbat 9:00am
- 11 Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm
- 13 Rosh Chodesh 10:30am-12:30pm
- 14 Board Meeting 7:00pm
- Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm
- Sharing Shabbat 9:00am

Tu B'Shevat Seder Lunch 11:30am



25 Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm

Looking Ahead

- 2/23 Yes!! Line Dancing is coming to Shir Chadash! 7:00pm
- 3/15 Family Purim Celebration 6:30pm
- 4/7 Annual Concert THE MACCABEATS 4:30pm

From the Desk of Rabbi Daniel Polish

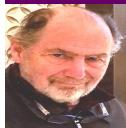
Tu B'Shevat Now More Than Ever

It wasn't all that long ago that Tu B'Shevat was a nice, if quizzical, holiday. Something about trees and eating fruit. Trees were beautiful and fruit was tasty. That was nice. And we bought trees so that Israel could have some trees too. But the message of Tu B'Shevat has changed in our lifetime. Now the celebration of trees serves to remind us about ecological responsibility. The holiday teaches us again how wonderful and complex our natural environment is. Not only beautiful, but life sustaining. And we are stirred to awareness that the delicate balance of nature can be disrupted—by us. Tu B'Shevat becomes a time to rededicate ourselves to protecting our planet, preserving it for the generations that come after us.

Rededicating ourselves to the welfare of the planet becomes especially urgent at a time when many people deny that there is any danger at all. The earth, they tell us, has always had these cycles when things got out of balance. We should not be alarmed. At this moment, all manner of environmental regulations are being rolled back. Clean air and water protection is being gutted. Carbon emission restrictions are being curtailed. We are left to assume that the profits of industry are more compelling than the health of our planet, or our children, or us. At this moment, Tu B'Shevat becomes more than a "nice" holiday. It becomes an urgent call to us to commit ourselves anew to ecological responsibility and ecological activism. So, this Tu B'Shevat, we enjoy our dates and figs. And we roll up our sleeves and get to work.

B'Shalom, Rabbi Daniel Polish





Dearest Friends,

This is my Chanukah card to you, though in fact you are reading this after the secular new year has started.

To all my friends, I am hoping that your season of light has been beautiful and filled with love from you to your family and lots of love returning to you.

The best of wishes **to our clergy** who have led us wonderfully in prayer and song, teaching us Torah on the way.

There is so much warmth that I need to send to **my Board of Directors** who have been working so hard to make things move ahead at our temple and to **all the other people** who have been constantly doing all the things necessary to make our life at Shir Chadash as **"pleasant as the tents of Abraham "** It's that special homey feeling we have when we are together.

I have been your president for just over one year and so much has happened. One of the most striking and emotionally touching things that occurred in the wake of the terrible events in Pittsburgh, was the way Rev. Lent and his congregants, so kind and so caring, came to share with us the sadness of those profoundly disturbing days.

How much stronger, I think, we all feel being together with a community of good and caring people. The Shalom we need so badly in this world, starts here. But in fact, however good, it is just a start. Shir Chadash needs to continue to create bonds with others and within our own Shir Chadash family. There is so much we need to do for the good of our own group and to help create Tikkun Olam: Repairing the World.

B 'Shalom Lindsey Turner

A Smile for Shir Chadash

You can help Shir Chadash when you're shopping on amazon.com? Join the Amazon Smile program - Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice when you shop at smile.amazon.

So start by going to smile.amazon.com and when prompted, type in Shir Chadash as the worthy cause you'd like to support. Then choose the one in LaGrange NY because that's us!





A Message from Sue Marcoe Education Enrichment Coordinator

EXCITING THINGS HAPPENING IN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL:

Our students did a wonderful job of leading our Saturday morning Shabbat Service on Dec. 15, 2018. All classes participated, beginning with the Morning Benedictions, led by Ryan Freedman, Sadie Krueger, and Ashley Kaswer. Shawn Glasser led us in the Sh'ma, and Brielyn Freedman, Matthew Glasser, JoJo Kaswer, and Rebecca Kaswer chanted the first line of the V'ahavtah in Hebrew and then led us all in the English. Ryan Freedman and Alexandra Varble did a beautiful job of chanting the Avot and G'verot. Andrew Scheck carried the Torah as our children marched around the sanctuary. Brielyn,



Matthew, JoJo, Ryan, and Alexandra also wrote their own prayers. Congratulations for a job well done! Also, a big thank you to Lisa Roth for leading us in song, and to Tom McCoy for accompanying us on the piano. Finally, thank you to our teachers, Grass Bass, Rochelle Bellach, and Andrew Scheck, and our student teachers, Sadie Krueger and Ashley Kaswer, for working with our students, teaching them about the prayers and blessings, and helping them prepare for this wonderful service.

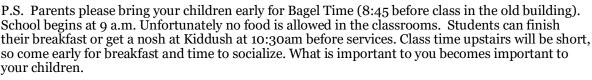


Now, with the beginning of 2019, our students can look forward to something new and exciting, as we move into our next unit, Jewish history. We will study ancient history, how we got from Babylonia to where we are now, the Holocaust (taught appropriately for each grade level - Bet & Gimmel classes), the formation of Israel, and famous Jews in Israel and in America. Our youngest class with learn about Tzedakah,

Tikkun Olam and G'milut Chasadim. Our focus will be on having fun by using hands-on activities, dramatization, discussions, and maybe even some competitive fun. Come to Sharing Shabbat on Saturday, January 5th to see for yourself.



B'Shalom,
Sue Marcoe
Religious School
Coordinator
sfmarcoe@gmail.com
845-723-4045





Let Us Celebrate Tu B'Shevat (the new year of the trees)

The sap is rising in the trees of Israel, the renewal of spring is coming.

Join us Saturday January 19

at Congregation Shir Chadash for a Tu B'Shevat Seder featuring Israel's ancient crops. The Seder will begin at 11:30am following services, please RSVP.

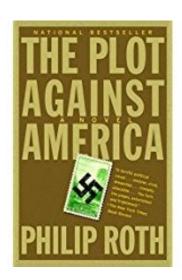
מאסחל לומל מאסחלל במרסט שוחפמד אסרופע במרפע שרמיפל

Family freeholly festivilies, delicious food, a presentation by our students and hot soup too!

RSVP: Roberta Schiff 845.876.2626 or veggierob@yahoo.com not a pot luck, but if you would like to bring something, ask

Calling All Readers— Pot Luck Brunch & Discussion Sunday January 13th 10:30am—12:30pm At the home of Sandy and Jeff Lash

53 Rymph Rd., LaGrangeville sjlash@optonline.net 845.227.4650



In an extraordinary feat of narrative invention, Philip Roth imagines an alternate history where Franklin D. Roosevelt loses the 1940 presidential election to heroic aviator and rabid isolationist Charles A. Lindbergh. Shortly thereafter, Lindbergh negotiates a cordial "understanding" with Adolf Hitler, while the new government embarks on a program of folksy anti-Semitism. For one boy growing up in Newark, Lindbergh's election is the first in a series of ruptures that threaten to destroy his small, safe corner of America—and with it, his mother, his father, and his older brother. Penguin Random House

"A terrific political novel. . . . Sinister, vivid, dreamlike . . . creepily plausible. . . . You turn the pages, astonished and frightened." — The NYT Book Review

"Huge, inflammatory, painfully moving. . . . Far and away the most outward-looking, expansive . . . book Roth has written." —The Washington Post Book World

"Roth's most powerful book to date. Confounding and illuminating, enraging and discomfiting, imaginative and utterly—terrifyingly—believable." -- San Francisco Chronicle

"It's not a prophecy; it's a nightmare, and it becomes more nightmarish—and also funnier and more bizarre—as it goes along. . . . [A] sinuous and brilliant book, with its extreme sweetness, its black pain, and its low, ceaseless cackle."—The New Yorker

Shir Chadash Auction: A Great Miracle Happened There!

As one walks in to the Shir Chadash auction the first thing you see are our outstanding and 'seasoned' auctioneers, Victor Feit and Jeff Lash dressed in all their finery. Yes, their festive clothing and unabashed enthusiasm make it a pleasure and a real experience to watch them sell our items to the highest bidders. They are quick on the draw and don't let any opportunity pass to raise money for our congregation.



There were not only the exquisite wines, adult bicycles, golf outings, restaurants, jewelry, crafts, baby quilts, handmade pottery, a Mickey Mouse menorah, but trips to Puerto Rico and the Turner's Italian villa in Tuscany for not one glorious week, but two!



However, one of the most sought -after items was Rabbi Polish's ice cream. In a nail-biting round of competition, the Rabbi's celebrated ice cream sold for over \$90 for a quart! But, at the last minute, the auction took a miraculous turn- rather than leave one party disappointed, Rabbi Polish agreed to make a SECOND batch for the other family. Just when we thought we had ice cream only for one family, a rabbinical miracle enabled both bidders to indulge.

All in all, it was truly a fun and rewarding night. So many temple members were involved- donating items, bidding on the items and helping organize our annual auction. This auction serves as one of our congregation's largest fund raisers. It enables us to meet our financial obligations. If you were not part of this year's auction event, we urge you to make sure you participate in some



way next year. It is truly a great night and so many of our members work so hard. We would like to offer our special thanks to ALL those who donated and bid on items.

A special thanks to Susan and Victor Feit, Jeff Lash, Deb, Thomas and Rebecca Mullins, Wendy Bill , Liz Glassberg and Lindsey and Nicky Turner, for their heroic efforts on our behalf and we so made this happen.

by Girl Reporter Extraordinaire Special to the Shir Chadash Newsletter









Save the Date

Line Dancing is coming to

Congregation Shir Chadash!! Saturday, February 23rd, 2019
7:00-9:00pm

Watch for more information



Annual Concert

THE MACCABEATS

Sunday, April 7, 2019 4:30pm at **Congregation Shir Chadash**

Member Pre-Sale Coming in February!!



Oneg and Bagel Break Hosts

Friday, January 4 Saturday, January 5 Friday, January 11 Friday, January 18 Saturday, January 19 Friday, January 25

Angela and Butch Panzer Barbara Stapholtz Adam and Nancy Belok Alyssa Barnes Robbie Schiff-Tu B'Shevat Seder **Norm MacKay**



Oneg Coordinators: Suzanne suzanneneil@mac.com 845-227-**Sharing Shabbat Bagel Organizers** Sara Rothman 845-223-592

January Torah Readings

January 4 and 5 <u>Va'era</u> Exodus 6:2-9:35 D'var Torah Richard Bordowitz

January 11 and 12 <u>Bo</u> Exodus 10:1-13:16 January 18 and 19 <u>Beshalach</u> Exodus 13:17-17:16 D'var Torah Ian Freedman

January 25 and 26 <u>Yitro</u> Exodus 18:1-20:23



January Yahrzeits*

Friday, January 4, 2019	Benjamin Gottesman	Grandfather	Lois Lang
Friday, January 4, 2019	Benjamin Yaver	Father	Jinny Goff
Friday, January 4, 2019	Gertrude Sonnenstein	Mother	Diane Light-Spiro
Friday, January 4, 2019	Martin Roth	Father	Rochelle Bellach
Friday, January 11, 2019	Ruby Sonnenstein	Step dad	Diane Light-Spiro
Friday, January 11, 2019	Marcia Been	Sister	Ed Ginsberg
Friday, January 11, 2019	Clara Jaitin	Grandmother	Gail Jaitin
Friday, January 11, 2019	James Thrasher	Father	Jim Thrasher
Friday, January 11, 2019	Elaine Mae Rosenberg	Mother	Wendy Bill
Friday, January 11, 2019	Betty Gottesman	Aunt	Lois Lang
Friday, January 11, 2019	Myron Wassell	Father	Emily Kuriloff
Friday, January 18, 2019	Aaron Goldberg	Father	Irwin Golderg
Friday, January 18, 2019	Bernard Hoffman	Uncle	Sue Marcoe
Friday, January 18, 2019	Doris Marchaese	Special Friend	Wendy and Stuart Bill
Friday, January 18, 2019	Wendy Rada	Sister	Susan Feit
Friday, January 25, 2019	Richard M. Freeman	Father	Jane Moore Freeman
Friday, January 25, 2019	Jean Weiss Jaitin	Mother	Gail Jaitin
Friday, January 25, 2019	Selma Feit	Mother	Victor Feit

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

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.

Jinny and Robert Goff, in honor of Jane Freeman Moore

Jinny and Robert Goff, in memory of the Yahrzeit of Jinny's father, Benjamin Yaver.

Lisa and Marc Kerchman, **in honor** of Jane Moore's hospitality

Evan and Betsy Rauch in honor of Grace Bass' Birthday

Sandy and Jeff Lash **in memory** of Gladys Pine, aunt of Stu and Wendy Bill, great aunt of Erica and Jeremy Wendy and Stu Bill **in memory** of Gladys Pine, their aunt





brings you "a new song"

Calendar 5779 (2018-2019)

Kabbalat Shabbat Services start Friday evening September 7th at 7:30pm Sharing Shabbat starts Saturday morning, September 8th at 9:00am

All are welcome!

SATURDAY MORNING SHARING SHABBAT 9:00 AM

September 8 and 22 October 6 and 20 November 3 and 17 December 1 and 15 January 5 and 19 February 2 and 9 March 2 and 23 April 6 and 27 May 4 and 18

Saturday, September 1st Selichot Joint Celebration at Shir Chadash 8:00pm Sunday, September 9th Erev Rosh Hashanah 8:00pm Monday, September 10th Rosh Hashanah 10:00am Family Rosh Hashanah Celebration Service 3:00pm Tuesday, September 18th Kol Nidre 8:00pm Wednesday, September 19th Yom Kippur 10:00am

What Brings us Together: A Discussion with Rev. Paul Lent; Moderated by Rabbi Polish 12:30pm
Yom Kippur Family Service 2:00pm

Yom Kippur Afternoon/Yizkor/Concluding Services from 3:00pm to BreakFast Sunday, September 23rd A Booth-Day Party for Sukkot- PJ Library Event 2:00pm Sunday, September 23rd Sukkah Building and Family BBQ and Service, 3:00pm Friday, September 28th Family Simchat Torah Shabbat 6:30pm Saturday, October 6th Bat Mitzvah Sadie Krueger 10:30am Saturday, October 20th Bar Mitzvah Zachary Wogalter 10:30am Sunday, November 18th Interfaith Thanksgiving Service 5:30pm Friday, December 7th "Light Up the Night" Family Chanukah Service 6:30pm

Saturday, January 19th Tu B'Shevat Seder 11:30am

Friday, March 15th Purim Celebration 6:30pm
Saturday, March 23rd Bar Mitzvah Ryan Freedman 10:30am
Friday, April 20th No Services — First Passover Seder
Friday, May 3rd Yom HaShoah Shabbat 7:30pm
Saturday, May 4th Bat Mitzvah Lia Malley 10:30am
Friday, May 10th Yom Haastmaut Shabbat 7:30pm
Saturday, May 18th Bat Mitzvah Samantha Rubinstein 10:30am
Saturday, June 8th Tikkun Leyl Shavuot — Time TBD
Friday, May 31st Honoring Our Teachers at 7:30pm
Friday, June 14th Board Installation at 7:30pm

Board of Trustees 2018-2019

President Vice President Secretary Treasurer

Victor Feit Wendy Bill

Immediate Past President

Trustee Trustee Trustee Trustee Jim Thrasher Jane Freeman Moore Steve Moskowitz

Lindsey Turner

Lori Dritz Roberta Tracy Sue Marcoe

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participate. Call or email me with any questions. Please order your cards

> Wendy Bill; 227-7236 bills1989@msn.com



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



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm	Sharing Shabbat 9:00am
6	7	8	9	10	Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm	12
Rosh Chodesh 10:30-12:30 at the home of Jeff & Sandy Lash sjlash@optonline. net 845.227.4650	Board Meeting 7:00pm	15	16	17	Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm	Sharing Shabbat 9:00am Tu B'Shevat Seder Lunch 11:30am
20	BSH C	22	23	24	Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm	26
27	28	29	30	31	Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm	Sharing Shabbat 9:00am