



## Our Mishpacha

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### A Note From the Rabbi,

January marks the beginning of a new secular year. Here at Beth Shalom we are celebrating with many events and activities. I will highlight some below. Please consider attending and supporting as many as you can.

We begin with a festive New Year Friday night service featuring our own Beth Shalom band.

In the middle of the month, Friday night January 15 we will celebrate Sisterhood Shabbat and the holiday of Tu B'Shvat (birthday of the trees). This will be an event not to be missed, filled with special foods, special ladies and special celebration.

Sunday, January 17 at 10am will be a time for brunch and lecture. Dr Sharon Keller will dazzle us with a fantastic and funny lecture on: Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho and the Walls Came Tumbling Down: the Comic Version. We all know the biblical story of Joshua and Jericho, or so we thought... come and learn with us.

The following week, Saturday night, January 23 we will have a unique and very special opportunity to taste a meal prepared by Moshe Basson, a renowned chef and owner of Eucalyptus restaurant in Jerusalem.

Shabbat morning January 30 is another opportunity to join Cantor Lance in a festive prayer service and brunch.

There are additional celebrations and classes going on this month at Beth Shalom. I hope you are checking the calendar and making your reservations right now. It will be fantastic to share these events and learning opportunities with you.

Happy New 2016!!!

Your Rabbi,  
Osnat



Everyone is Welcome

# Beth Shalom of Whittier

Brings you

## Dr. Sharon Keller

2016 Community Scholar Program  
Lecturer & Brunch

Sunday, January 17, 2016 10:00 AM

### Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho and the Walls Came Tumbling Down: the Comic Version

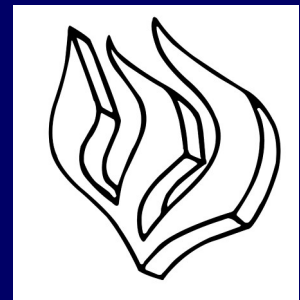
*The conquest of the Land of Israel starts with the city of Jericho where ultimately "the walls come tumbling down." But, first, spies are sent to reconnoiter the land; their unusual antics with Rahab (referred to as a "harlot") are essential to the capture of the town and the conquest of the Land.*

The 2016 CSP One Month Scholar, Dr. Sharon Keller will be our guest speaker. Dr. Keller is currently on the Classics faculty at Hofstra University.

A native New Yorker, Dr. Keller is known for the enthusiasm and humor that she brings to all of her talks that make otherwise esoteric subjects easily accessible.

Brunch at 10:00—Lecture to follow

Please RSVP to the office



Beth Shalom of Whittier

14564 Hawes Street  
Whittier, CA 90604

Parking at  
14545 Mulberry Drive

Phone: 562.941.8744

E-mail: [bswoffice@verizon.net](mailto:bswoffice@verizon.net)  
[www.bethshalomofwhittier.net](http://www.bethshalomofwhittier.net)



## Hazzan's Notes

Dear Friends, you are invited to a most wonderful event in our congregation. On Shabbat Morning, Saturday, January 30 at 9:30 am, we will be presenting a special choral Shabbat Morning ***Siddur Kol Shalom*** Service. I will be officiating and our own Beth Shalom singers will be featured accompanied and conducted by Mark Peterson, our brilliant accompanist and choir master.

The service will include music from different countries in Europe, Israel, and the United States where Jews have flourished and will even include a non-Jewish composer's composition of one of our beloved liturgical hymns. The rich view of composers such as Louis Lewandowski from Berlin; Hazzan Carl Urstein from Israel and Vienna; Salomone Rossi from Mantua, Italy; Hazzan Samuel Naumbourg from Paris and Austria; Hazzanim Aryeh Leib Schlossberg and Baruch Schorr from Poland; Zvi Talmon from Israel; and Rabbi Israel and Samuel E. Goldfarb, Abraham Ellstein, Max Janowski, Cantor Robbie Solomon, Samuel Bugatch, and Ivor Warren from the USA will bring us a well-rounded picture of the beauty and majesty of the liturgy of Shabbat Morning. There will be two West Coast premieres of pieces by Bugatch and Warren that have been recorded by great Cantors in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and will be presented for the first time west of the Poconos here at Beth Shalom.

Following the service, there will be a gala catered champagne lunch in our Social Hall. Please see the flyer provided here in the Mishpacha for its details. There is a nominal charge of \$18 per person for what will be a truly scrumptious repast. Please make your reservations early by **January 21** as no late or reservations at the door will be accepted due to Shabbat.

I look forward to regaling you with the amazing beauty and power of our rich musical tradition for this service. I hope you will make it a "must- do" on your calendar for the month.

- - Hazzan Lance H. Tapper

## Beth Shalom Book Club

**Tues. Jan 19th, 12:30 pm:** "The Faith Club: A Muslim, A Christian, a Jew -- 3 Women Search for Understanding" A non-fiction novel by Ranya Tbari, Priscilla Warner, and Suzanne Oliver

At Maxine's



# Sisterhood Shabbat and Tu B'Shevat Seder

***Friday  
January 15,  
2016***

***Join us for  
Holiday foods and songs***

**CHICKEN DINNER 6:00 P.M.**

**\$10 per person for dinner**

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS—MONDAY, January 11**

**We will not accept reservations or payment at the door.**

**We'll have a list of those who have made timely reservations.**

**Please call the office—562-941-8744.**

**BETH SHALOM  
OF WHITTIER**

**14564 East Hawes Street  
Whittier, CA 90604  
Parking  
14545 Mulberry Avenue**

**Phone: 562-941-8744**

**Tu B'Shevat Seder  
6:45 p.m.  
*Everyone welcome!***

**Sisterhood Shabbat Service  
7:30 p.m.  
Oneg following service**



## OUR RELIGIOUS CONNECTION

### HALAKHAH — JEWISH LAW



During the last three years I have endeavored to familiarize about basic Jewish belief. This month, at the intermediate level, the subject of Halakhah will be introduced.

#### What is Halakhah?

Judaism is not just a set of beliefs about G-d, people, and the universe. It is a way of life that specifies what we can do each day of our lives. This includes: What we can and cannot eat or wear; how to conduct business; how to marry; how to observe Shabbat and our holidays. Of most importance is how we treat G-d and how we treat other people and animals. This set of rules and practices is known as Halakhah. It is translated as “Jewish Law,” appropriately, “The path we walk.” The word Halakhah is derived from Hebrew (root Hev-Lumed-Kaf), meaning to go, to walk, or to travel.

When properly observed, Halakhah increases the spirituality of the way we live into acts of religious significance. At the onset, concisely: observe Halakhah by keeping kosher, lighting Shabbat candles, attending Shabbat services, and praying at least once a day after meals. These remind us of our relationship with the Divine and become an integral part of our existence.

#### Sources of Halakhah

Halakhah comes from three sources: the Torah, laws instituted by rabbis, and long-standing customs. Halakhah from any of these sources is considered a mitzvah (commandment; plural mitzvot). The word “mitzvah” is also used casually, referring to any good deed.

Due to this, discussions are careful to identify mitzvot as being from the Torah, rabbis, or custom (minhag). Mitzvot from any of these are binding among observant Jews.

#### Mitzvot

At the heart of Halakhah are the unchangeable 613 mitzvot commandments that G-d gave our people in the Torah. A separate writing of the 613 Torah (Tav=400 + Yav=6 + Reish=200 + Hei=5), plus 2 for the mitzvot whose existence precedes the Torah: “I am the L-rd your G-d and you shall have no other gods before Me.” [Talmud Makkot 23b]. The discussion of mitzvot will be continued in next month’s *Mishpacha*.

#### To Be a Jew

Jews are a positively incredible people who have survived over 3000 years of tribulation, through G-d’s choice. They are small in number (less than .02 of the world’s population), but have made a most credible account for the entire world. (Over 150 Nobel prizes that would include physics, science, law, and literature.) cont’d on page 6



Cont'd from Page 5

Jews have made a difference through their courage, intelligence, and a stubborn belief in Hashem. We have the responsibility of showing others the way of a good world and destroying evil. This is a tremendous obligation that we do willingly because we are the Chosen People. We introduce the light of our teachings to a cynical, untrusting world.

Judaism is alive in each of us and rests in our capable hands. I have listened to Jews commiserate about declining conservative membership. They make the assumption that we are a dying part of Judaism; that we fail to keep enough of our youths in our religion and are becoming an elderly part of Judaism. I am disheartened by those among us who continue to be part of the problem by judging and criticizing rather than trying to become part of the solution.

The solution lies in our abilities to not feel sorry for ourselves, but to guide the world to a peaceful and positive way of life. To achieve this we can start locally by support of our Hazzan and Rabbi and by attending holiday and Shabbat services; by contributing to our synagogue funds such as Torah repair, membership, and purchasing candles, religious articles, and books at our Beth Shalom Gift Shop. Of most importance, seeing that our children learn our religion and become Bat and Bar Mitzvah. By doing these, we demonstrate our own actions and good deeds for Judaism and the betterment of mankind. We can share with others the spirit of Judaism which resides in our hearts. We are the Jewish faith because we overtly demonstrate our firm belief in G-d, demonstrate our courage and pride in Israel and in all our people.

Amen!

— Sam Pearlman

## 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 be held at BSW on Wednesdays at 6:00pm beginning January 13, 2016.**

## Yahrzeit Donations

Name	Beloved Departed	Relationship
Fred Blankenship & Maxine Berkowitz	Pheney Margolis	Father-in-law
Richard & Michelle Hess	Emmanuel Morzinsky	Uncle of Michelle
David & Myra Weiss	Rose Weiss	Mother of David
Howard Brookfield	Dora Fleischmann	Mother of Miriam
Arlene Norton	Jean Vinetsky	Mother
Arlene Norton	Arnold Winett	Brother
Pauline & Harris Kuhn	Bernard Kuhn	Husband of Pauline
Jerome Hacker	Oscar Hacker	Father
Richard & Michelle Hess	Julius Schwartz	Uncle of Michelle

## January Yahrzeit Observances

Deceased	Observed By	Relationship
Siegbert Mergruen	Christel Mergruen & Max Cutler	Husband
Abe Small	Dorothy Rubin	Brother
Abraham Rubin	Dorothy Rubin	Husband
Mordechai (Max) Blankstein	Fred Blankstein & Maxine Berkowitz	Father of Fred
Harold Louis Tapper	Hazzan Lance H Tapper	Grandfather
Esther D. Tapper	Hazzan Lance H Tapper	Grandmother
Ethel Chesler	Joel & Diane Chesler	Mother of Joel
Meyer Forman	Jordan & Yvette Pollack	Father of Yvette
Meir Militeanu	Klara Wein	Father
Ida Zuckerman	Madelon Alpert-Herman	Mother
Sidney Shreiber	Norma Shreiber	Husband
Leigh Hess	Richard & Michelle Hess	Father of Richard
Bertha Paul	Sidney & Sandra Paul	Step-Mother of Sidney
Evelyn Resnick	Sidney & Sandra Paul	Sister of Sidney
Harry Paul	Sidney & Sandra Paul	Father of Sidney
Max Moskowitz	Susan Lieberman	Uncle of Susan
Etta Arnold	Susan Lieberman	Mother of Susan
Samuel Rubins	Susan Lieberman	Grandfather of Susan
Frances Clair	Toby Pinck	Sister
Beatrice Unger Snow	Beth Shalom of Whittier	Memorial Board
Bernard Weissman	Beth Shalom of Whittier	Memorial Board
Esther Rosen	Beth Shalom of Whittier	Memorial Board
Freda Cipes	Beth Shalom of Whittier	Memorial Board
Janchel Groisman	Beth Shalom of Whittier	Memorial Board
Joseph David Unger	Beth Shalom of Whittier	Memorial Board
Julia Morris	Beth Shalom of Whittier	Memorial Board
Louis Freedman	Beth Shalom of Whittier	Memorial Board
Louis Ossofsky	Beth Shalom of Whittier	Memorial Board
Max Popkin	Beth Shalom of Whittier	Memorial Board
Rebecca Wiener	Beth Shalom of Whittier	Memorial Board
Ruth Becker	Beth Shalom of Whittier	Memorial Board
Saul Korduner	Beth Shalom of Whittier	Memorial Board
Sophie Carnow	Beth Shalom of Whittier	Memorial Board
Sylvia Squier	Beth Shalom of Whittier	Memorial Board

*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 Birthdays

Myra Weiss January 1 – Abdon Barenbaum January 2 – Susan Lieberman January 19

# Great Decisions 2016

Whittier's Annual Great Decisions discussion groups  
8-week series begins on January 19, 2016

The topics this year:

Middle East alliances  
The Rise of ISIS  
The future of Kurdistan  
Immigration  
The Koreas  
The United Nations  
Climate Change  
Cuba and the U.S.

Morning group: Tuesdays, January 19 through March 8 at 10:00  
a.m. First Friends Church, 13205 Philadelphia St., Whittier.

Evening group: Tuesdays, January 19 and 26 at 7:00 p.m.

Hillcrest Congregational Church,  
2000 West Rd., La Habra Heights.

Tuesdays, February 2, through March 8, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.

Beth Shalom of Whittier, 14564 Hawes St., Whittier  
(Parking lot 14545 Mulberry Dr.)

Books with reference material prepared by the Foreign Policy  
Association will be available in early January 2016 for \$20.00.

For more information or to purchase a book, contact:

John Beynon at 562-309-5041 ([beynonjohn@ymail.com](mailto:beynonjohn@ymail.com)) or

Brian Bise at 562-692-8018 ([brianbise@gmail.com](mailto:brianbise@gmail.com))

## CO-SPONSORS

United Nations Association-Whittier  
Hillcrest Congregational Church  
First Friends Church  
Beth Shalom of Whittier





## Thank You

For your contributions to our Oneg Shabbats!!

Alita & Jim Sevin

Alita Sevin

David Starkman

Rita Rubin

- Rita Rubin

## Thank You for Your Donations

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

## Torah Repair

Myra Becker

Fred Blankstein & Maxine Berkowitz

Joel & Diane Chesler

Joel & Jo Ann Golden

Charles & Lila Held

Joel Kudler

Bonnie & Barry Neville

Preston Rosser

Ann Kanahele

Alita Sevin

Eunice Singer

Klara Wein

Sally & Jerry Romotsky

Arlene Norton

Sisterhood of Beth Shalom

## Cold Weather Shelter

Charles & Lila Held

Ann Kanahele

Barry & Bonnie Neville

Preston Rosser

Norma Shreiber

Steve & Eileen Baptista

David & Myra Weiss

Eileen Wiseman

## Sisterhood

Evelyn Litwin

## Clergy Schedule / Candle Lighting Time

**January 1 7:30p**

Kaballat Shabbat

Rabbi Osnat

**4:36p** Candle Lighting

**January 2 9:45a**

Parashat Shemos

Rabbi Osnat

**January 8 7:30a**

Kaballat Shabbat

Hazzan Lance

**4:42p**

**January 9 9:45p**

Parashat Vaera

Hazzan Lance

**January 15 7:30p**

Kaballat Shabbat

Rabbi Osnat

**4:48p**

**January 16 9:45a**

Parashat Bo

Rabbi Osnat

**January 22 7:30p**

Kaballat Shabbat

Hazzan Lance

**4:55p**

**January 23 9:45a**

Parashat Beshalach

Hazzan Lance

**January 29 7:30p**

Kaballat Shabbat

Hazzan Lance

**5:02p**

**January 30 9:45a**

Parashat Yisro

Hazzan Lance

**YOU DID IT!**

*Beth Shalom of Whittier*  
*Maftir Torah*  
*Repair Fundraiser*

**We Need Your Help**



On Rosh Hashanah the entire congregation was holding its breath as one when the Torah was lifted and was clearly in need of repair. The Maftir Torah scroll (our smallest one) was sent to a *Sofer* (Ritual Scribe) for an estimate to have the loose sections re sewn and (2) three column hand scribed sections replaced that are in disrepair. The estimate for repairs came in at \$2,075.

**Our goal is to raise the \$2,075 necessary for the repairs.**

If you can help in any way, it will be greatly appreciated. Please send your donation denoting **Torah Repair**. Watch as the thermometer shows our progress!

Thank you !

**Thanks to your generosity, we exceeded our goal!**



*Beth Shalom of Whittier*

*Join us for an Epic Dinner by*

*Chef Moshe Basson*



*Owner and Head Chef of Eucalyptus Restaurant in Jerusalem*

*Chef Basson is an award-winning internationally recognized chef preparing biblically inspired meals at one of the most popular restaurants in Jerusalem.*



*When:* *Saturday, January 23, 2016 at 6:00 PM*

*Where:* *At the home of Rita and Bob Rubin*  
*8620 Portafino Place, Whittier, CA 90603*

*Cost:* *\$40 per person*

*RSVP by January 15, 2016 to the office:*

*562 941-8744 or [bswoffice@verizon.net](mailto:bswoffice@verizon.net)*

*Chef Moshe Basson will be in Southern California under the auspices of the Orange County Community Scholar Program*



**Space is very limited. We can only accommodate 32 , so sign up early to be sure you'll be included in this memorable evening. Your reservation will be confirmed when we receive your payment.**

Congregation Beth Shalom of Whittier invites you to a

# Special Choral Shabbat Morning

Using our new *Kol Shalom* Shabbat Morning Service Booklet  
adapted by Hazzan Lance H. Tapper



*January 30, 2016*

*9:30 a.m.*

*Beth Shalom of Whittier*

Hazzan Lance H. Tapper will officiate with the *Beth Shalom Singers*  
accompanied and conducted by Mark Peterson.

Compositions by

Lewandowski, Urstein, Rossi, Naumbourg, Goldfarb, Janowski, Schlossberg, Robbie Solomon, Talmon, and Baruch Schorr  
*in addition, two West Coast premieres by Samuel Bugatch and Ivor Warren*

Following the service there will be a Champagne Brunch in our Social Hall, which will  
Include: Salad, pasta with choice of sauces, dessert, and French champagne or sparkling cider

**\$18 per person**

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS JANUARY 21, 2016

**NO LATE/AT THE DOOR RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED DUE TO SHABBAT**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_ \$ Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Please forward payment (cash or check only) to: Beth Shalom of Whittier, 14564 E. Hawes Street, Whittier, CA 90604

## January 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b> <b>Rabbi Osnat</b> <b>7:30p</b> <b>4:36p</b> Candle lighting	<b>2</b> <b>Rabbi Osnat</b> <b>9:45a</b> <u>Parashat She-mot</u>
<b>3</b> Read Hebrew America Make-up Class <b>10:00a</b>	<b>4</b> Daily Minyan <b>12:30p</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Daily Minyan <b>12:30p</b>	<b>8</b> <b>Hazzan Lance</b> <b>7:30p</b> <b>4:42p</b> Candle lighting	<b>9</b> <b>Hazzan Lance</b> <b>9:45a</b> <u>Parashat Vaera</u>
<b>10</b> Grandma Shower for Eileen <b>12:20p</b>	<b>11</b> Daily Minyan <b>12:30p</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> Conversational Spanish Class <b>6:00p</b>	<b>14</b> Daily Minyan <b>12:30p</b>	<b>15</b> <b>Rabbi Osnat</b> <b>7:30p</b> <b>4:48p</b> Candle lighting Sisterhood Shabbat & Chicken Dinner	<b>16</b> <b>Rabbi Osnat</b> <b>9:45a</b> <u>Parashat Bo</u>
<b>17</b> Community Scholar Program & Brunch <b>10:00a</b>	<b>18</b> Daily Minyan <b>12:30p</b>	<b>19</b> Book Club @ Michelle's <b>12:30p</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Daily Minyan <b>12:30p</b> Board Meeting <b>7:00p</b>	<b>22</b> <b>Hazzan Lance</b> <b>7:30p</b> <b>4:55p</b> Candle lighting	<b>23</b> <b>Hazzan Lance</b> <u>Parashat Besha-lach</u> <b>6:00p</b> Chef Bosson Reservations required
<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <u>Tu B' Shevat</u> Daily Minyan <b>12:30p</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Sisterhood Board Meeting <b>1:00p</b>	<b>28</b> Daily Minyan <b>12:30p</b>	<b>29</b> <b>Hazzan Lance</b> <b>7:30p</b> <b>5:02p</b> Candle	<b>30</b> <u>Parashat Yitro</u> Hazzan Lance 9:45a Kol Shalom Service <b>Special Chorale</b>
<b>31</b>						



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The Mishpacha is published monthly, on or before the first of the month. If you want an announcement or article to appear in the December issue, the submission deadline is **November 20th**. The Mishpacha is sent on-line to those members of Beth Shalom with computers. 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.

*Gifts for Every Occasion, for Family and Friends*

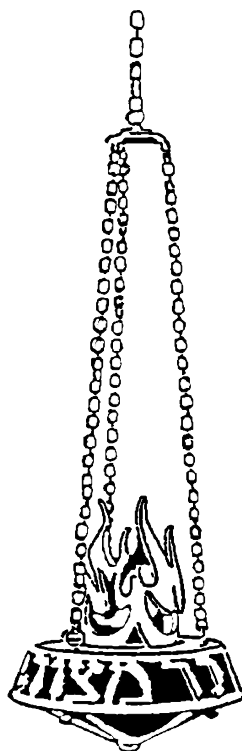
*8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Sunday*

*10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday*

*The Beth Shalom Gift Shop is open during office hours*

*Beth Shalom Sisterhood*

*The Judaica Shop*



**Beth Shalom of  
Whittier**

14564 Hawes Street  
Whittier, California  
90604

# *Beth Shalom of Whittier*

*Friday Evening Services 7:30 p.m.*

*Saturday Morning Services 9:45 a.m.*

*Minyan Monday and Thursday Mornings 10:30 a.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*

*Supplies for All Celebrations of the Year*

