



Congregation Shir Chadash

Rabbi Daniel Polish

Cantor Gail Hirschenfang

President William Anshen

Vol. 16 No. 3

November 2017

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

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Online at www.shir-chadash.org

**Coat and Sweater
Collection has begun—
Check your closets!!**

3 Kabbalat Shabbat
4 Sharing Shabbat
Torah Study 9:15am

**5 The Jews of
Afghanistan**
2:00pm FPUPC

10 Kabbalat Shabbat
13 Board Meeting
7:00pm
17 Kabbalat Shabbat
18 Sharing Shabbat

**19 Interfaith
Thanksgiving
Service and Pot
Luck Dinner**
5:00pm

24 Kabbalat Shabbat
6:30pm

Looking Ahead—

12/2 Sharing Shabbat
12/9 Sharing Shabbat

**12/10 Pre-Chanukah
Dinner & Party**
Crooked
Rooster 4:00pm

**12/12 First Night of
Chanukah**
12/15 Light Up the Night
Chanukah Family
Service 6:30pm

12/22 Kabbalat Shabbat
6:30pm
12/29 Kabbalat Shabbat
6:30pm

From the Desk of Rabbi Daniel Polish



Dear Friends,

As we enter into November our senses alert us to the change of seasons. The trees are (finally) bedecked in luscious hues. The days are demonstrably shorter. I find myself getting up in pitch dark. And it is beginning to get cold. We venture out with more layers than before (or at least we should). Our lives are enriched by the alterations that these seasonal changes bring for us. How boring life would be if it were continually in just one—even Spring. And how unbearable if all we had was winter. There is a certain delight in the changes that the different seasons impose upon us. I hope you are reveling in it.

All of which is of a piece with the soon-to-be-upon us celebration of Thanksgiving. As Americans, it is our holiday as much as anyone's. As Jews we hear echoes of Sukkot in it. Thanksgiving reminds us that beyond all the stresses we experience and, too often, the difficulties of life, each of us has so much to be grateful for. It is certainly true that gratitude is the first step to real faith. Without gratitude our lives might be stuck in an inattentive greyness. Certainly we would not be attuned to the various joys that are showered on each of us. Without gratitude life would be a pretty somber business, indeed.

And so we are given the chance to reflect on the good, maybe even great, things in our lives. I encourage you to construct some kind of Thanksgiving Seder for yourselves and the people you will be sharing a Thanksgiving table with. Before you feast, find a way to acknowledge and celebrate what it is you are especially thankful for. Move your gratitude from some hidden interior space to the foreground of your consciousness. Your lives will seem brighter to you for it.

As a community, we will be sharing a service of Thanksgiving with our friends from Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church. You will find details elsewhere in this newsletter. I always look forward to this service. It is meaningful and remarkable on so many levels. It is symbolic of some of what I am grateful for. I look forward to sharing the service with you.

B' Shalom

Rabbi Daniel Polish



A Message from President William Anshen

Two Special Events in November

Meet a “36 Under 36” Leader and Celebrate our Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

The month of November offers two truly special opportunities. On Sunday November 5th at 2 pm, we are hosting a talk by Sara Y. Aharon, the author of “From Kabul to Queens: The Jews of Afghanistan and Their Move to the United States.” She will speak about the Jews of Afghanistan: History, Culture and Jewish-Muslim Relations. Ms. Aharon has been selected by The New York Jewish Week as one of The 36 Under 36, an individual who has demonstrated unique initiative, creativity and leadership.

On Sunday November 19th at 5pm, we will once again come together with the Freedom Plains United Presbyterian Church to celebrate Thanksgiving. Please join us for this uplifting Annual Joint Service featuring both choirs and followed by a delicious pot luck dinner.

In keeping with my promise to hold a Congregational Meeting in the early winter, we will be holding a meeting, Sunday, December 3 at FPUPC at 2:00 in the new social hall.

Hilda and I wish everyone a healthy, happy Thanksgiving.

B'Shalom

Bill Anshen, President

bill903@frontiernet.net ; 845-489-6911

Thanks Giving Opportunity!

Shir Chadash is participating in making Thanksgiving baskets for 30 needy families with children at the Morse Elementary School. Please help fill the baskets with the tastes of the holiday so these families can celebrate a Happy Thanksgiving.

Shir Chadash is collecting:

Boxes of cake mixes and frostings

Boxes of cornbread/corn muffin mix

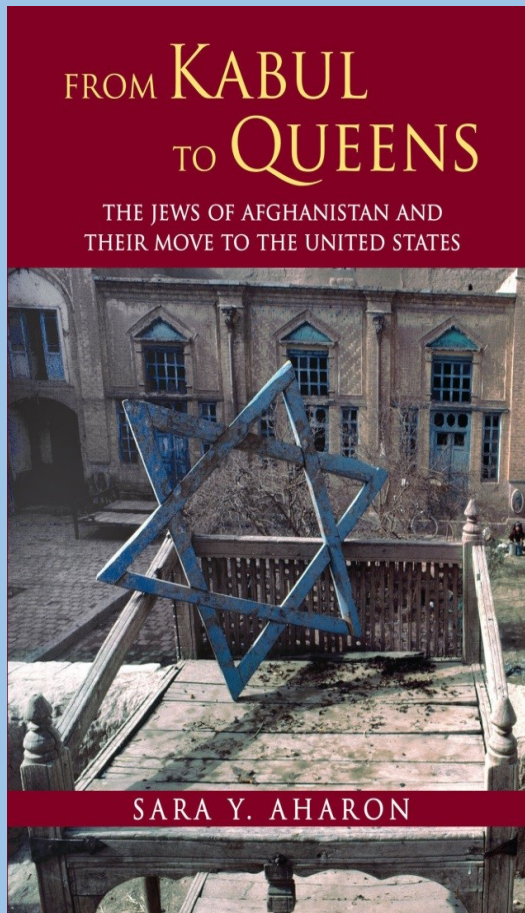
And, we need some larger turkeys.

If you would like to donate, please speak to Sandy Lash splash@optonline.net 845-227-4650. Food can be brought to any Shir Chadash service or event and can be picked up, until Thursday, November 16th.



Thanksgiving
Food Baskets

The Jewish Federation of Dutchess County Invites You to Attend
Hosted by Congregation Shir Chadash



The Jews of Afghanistan: History, Culture and Muslim- Jewish Relations

Sunday, November 5, 2017

2:00pm

**1168 Route 55, LaGrangeville
(Across from Arlington High School)**

With Sara Y. Aharon



***Author of From Kabul to Queens: The Jews of Afghanistan and
Their Move to the United States***

We welcome the Dutchess County community to a special event exploring Afghanistan's Jewish life. Spanning from the Afghan Jewish community's origins to the development of its Jewish institutions, Sara Y. Aharon will take us back to the story of a Jewish community that lived in relative peace with its Sunni Muslim neighbors.

Sara Y. Aharon is the author of *From Kabul to Queens: The Jews of Afghanistan and Their Move to the United States*. She studied Middle Eastern Studies and modern Jewish history at Brandeis University and New York University. She was named to *The Jewish Week's* "36 Under 36" honorees list of young leaders impacting the Jewish community.

Books will be available after the lecture for purchase and signing.

Visit our website www.shir-chadash.org or call 845-232-1029



A Message from Sue Marcoe Education Enrichment Coordinator

EXCITING THINGS HAPPENING IN RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

October was a busy month for Congregation Shir Chadash's Religious School families. On October 15th we took a ferry to see the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, spending most of the time on Ellis Island. Taking a tour through Ellis Island, we were able to imagine what those of our ancestors who came through Ellis Island must have experienced. We stood in the hall where they lined up before going through the medical examinations and interviews. We saw pictures of detainees behind a wired fence; and read about families that were able to stay in a dormitory if one of their children was sick and hospitalized. We learned that most of the name changes were done by inspectors misreading names as they issued papers, or by the immigrants themselves in their country of origin before they even got to Ellis Island.

We then applied what we had learned to our Ellis Island Simulation on October 21st. Students, and their families and even grandparents came dressed up as immigrants. They filled out information sheets and were issued passports by the inspector (aka Robbie Schiff) at the port of embarkation. Heading upstairs represented the boat ride over to the US, landing in Ellis Island. The "immigrants" went into the Medical Room where they had to read an eye chart, in Hebrew, and were checked by the "doctor" (aka Karen Marder). The immigrants were then interviewed by an "inspector" (our very own Lia Malley). Some even had to spend time in the detainee room. Finally, once approved, their passports were stamped and they received very official looking papers created by Dena Varble. Finally, everyone for a discussion led by Grace Bass and Rochelle Bellach about what they experienced and what they felt during this simulation. Thank you to all who participated and to all who helped make this program happen.

This unit on immigration and our ancestors, will culminate in November with the creation of family trees. The next unit will be Bible Stories, using role playing, crafts, storytelling, and other creative ideas—because if it is Sharing Shabbat at Shir Chadash, you know that there will be fun while learning!

Note: Parents please bring your children early for Bagel Time (8:45 before class in the new building). School begins at 9 a.m. upstairs in the old building and no food is allowed in the classrooms. Students can finish their breakfast or get a nosh at Kiddush at 10:30am before services. Class time upstairs will be short, so come early for breakfast and time to socialize, and do join us after class for Sharing Shabbat services. What is important to you becomes important to your children.

B'Shalom

Sue Marcoe

sfmarcoe@gmail.com

(home) 845-723-4045



Congregational Meeting
Sunday, December 3
2:00pm
FPUPC– New Social Hall
Update on Building our Future
A Proposal from the Board
on the Next Steps

Pre-Chanukah Dinner and Party

Crooked Rooster

Sunday, December 10

4:00pm

**Chanukah
Songs and
Games**

**At
The Crooked Rooster
399 Manchester
Road—Route 55
Poughkeepsie,
\$36 pp
\$10 children**





**Winter is coming – help our friends and neighbors
STAY WARM!**



In October and November



please help us collect

SWEATERS—JACKETS—COATS
SWEATSHIRTS

**for Dutchess Outreach Clothes Closet
and Kids in Need at Morse School!**



*new & lightly used welcome –
ages 5-11 kids & adult sizes needed*



Living Tzedakah



Congregation Shir Chadash



(at FPUPC)

Rt. 55 & Stringham Road, Lagrange

→ **please bring items to services by 12/2 or call for pick-up** ←

**questions? Sandy Lash splash@optonline.net 227-4650
or Robbie Schiff veggierob@yahoo.com 876-2626**





TOGETHER, WE DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Do you have some school or office supplies around that you don't expect to use anytime soon? Bring them to any Shir Chadash service or event and donate them to the at-risk kids at the S. F. B. Morse School.

Help make sure these kids have the tools they need to succeed in school!

Contact: Sandy Lash sjlash@optonline.net 845.227.4650 or

Robbie Schiff veggierob@yahoo.com 845-876-2626

For Information or to Make a Cash Donation Toward School Supplies



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!



It's 5778 – Just Say Yes to Tzedakah!

It's 5778/2017 and, sad to say, poverty, hunger and need continue to be factors in the everyday lives of thousands of families in our own community. As we approach and celebrate our High Holidays, we are blessed, yet again, with the opportunity to renew our efforts to do better, to make a difference and improve our world. Please consider how you can help Shir Chadash be a force for Tikkun Olam – repairing the world.

HELP WANTED TO REVIVE THE MORSE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY

DID YOU KNOW....that three years ago, the City of Poughkeepsie eliminated all the librarians in the elementary schools? This means that the nearly 600 kids, grades 1 – 5 at the Morse School, one of the poorest in the district, have had no access to a library, have not been taught how to use a library and haven't been able to take books home to read. Shir Chadash, as a founding member of the Jewish Social Action Coalition, is working with teachers and retired and former City of Poughkeepsie librarians, volunteers from the community and volunteers from our 4 local congregations to revive the Morse School library. This is a huge undertaking that will start modestly, 2 mornings a week, and allow kids, who are only in the school for 5 vital years, to experience a library. Volunteering for this project will warm your heart and provide an incredibly meaningful way to make a real change in the lives of young kids.

VOLUNTEER POSITION AVAILABLE

Morse School Library Clerk

Interact with kids and teachers using the library. Check books in and out; maintain stacks; repair damaged books and labels; other tasks as needed. Training will be provided. We need to staff the library 2 mornings a week – the time commitment will depend on you. Sign up for as many hours as you have available and be part of the team that makes the Morse School Library a reality.

INTERESTED ? Contact Sandy Lash splash@optonline.net 845-227-4650
or Robbie Schiff veggierob@yahoo.com 845-876-2626

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: Stacie Wogalter, 37 Patricia Drive, Pleasant Valley, New York 12569.

Roberta Schiff **in memory** of Suzanne Neil's brother-in-law Larry Blankenbaker

Roberta Schiff **in memory** of Jeanette Hoffman, mother of Sue Marcoe

Roberta Schiff **in memory** of Louis Barr, Father of Nancy Barr

Roberta Schiff **in memory** of Doug Moore, husband of Jane Freeman Moore

Roberta Schiff **in appreciation** of Sue Marcoe for her Ellis Island Experience which was enjoyed by students, parents, teachers, and volunteers and provided a valuable learning experience for all.

Terri Yagoda **in memory** of her mother, Jeanette Hoffman, and in thanks to Rabbi Polish and Cantor Hirschenfang.

Sue Marcoe **in memory** of her mother, Jeanette Hoffman, and in thanks to all who have been so kind, helpful and supportive.

Gloria Gorman **in memory** of Suzanne Neil's brother-in-law Larry Blankenbaker

Martha and Jay Hershey **in memory** of Alex & Lena Hirschenfang and Manny & Mitzi Glass

Amy and Jim Thrasher **in appreciation** of the High Holy Day services and all those who organized and made them possible

Manny Strumpf **in honor** of his daughter and son-in-law Lori and Ron Dritz

Wendy and Stuart Bill **in memory** of Suzanne Neil's brother-in-law Larry Blankenbaker

Wendy and Stuart Bill **in memory** of Jeanette Hoffman, mother of Sue Marcoe

Wendy and Stuart Bill **in memory** of Louis Barr, Father of Nancy Barr

Wendy and Stuart Bill **in memory** of Doug Moore, husband of Jane Freeman Moore

Sandy and Jeff Lash **in memory** of Suzanne Neil's brother-in-law Larry Blankenbaker

Sandy and Jeff Lash **in memory** of Jeanette Hoffman, mother of Sue Marcoe

Sandy and Jeff Lash **in memory** of Louis Barr, Father of Nancy Barr

Sandy and Jeff Lash **in memory** of Doug Moore, husband of Jane Freeman Moore



Member's Corner

PITIGLIANO – THE SMALL JERUSALEM

by Nicky Turner



What a pleasure it was to go back to Pitigliano, a couple of hours ride south of our home in Italy, and see the beautifully restored Synagogue with its brand new museum thanks to the efforts of an organization called “The Friends of the Small Jerusalem” and the help of the local Town Hall Government.

Built on a massive tufa rock up on the Grosseto hills, in the middle of Maremma, crossed by a vast amount of tunnels housing Etruscan tombs, Pitigliano appears as a sculpture where the village houses are directly carved into rock.

Its mysterious origins appear remote, going as far back as pre-history. Its documented history starts with the Etruscan period, followed by the Roman Era and continuing through the Middle Ages. In 1500, when the Medici family, lords of Florence, annexed it to their Granducato di Toscana, Pitigliano became known as it is to this day as The Small Jerusalem because of a large Jewish presence that has been part of its history since four centuries ago.

In the spring of 1787 an illustrious pilgrim arrived at its walls. His name was Peter Leopold, Grand Duke of Tuscany and future Emperor of Austria. In his detailed trip notes he writes: “They are very industrious, hard working and almost all own some land. It counts about 4600 souls. There are all the amenities, butchers, shops and four spice businesses, the majority of which are in Jewish hands”.

After Rome, Florence, Livorno and Venice, in 1598 Pitigliano became the first small Italian city to have its own Synagogue, where the sacred rolls of a manuscript Torah, which is said to have come directly from Jerusalem, are being preserved. The community also had one of the most notable libraries of its time counting about 2000 volumes, over 600 of which were in Hebrew.

Being a small community, totally walled in and closed off from the rest of the world, life between Jews and Catholics had always been one of reciprocal tolerance and affection.

It is to be noted that during the Second World War, the Pitigliano Jews were not arrested or deported by the Nazis who never came close to that citadel. So well fortified and so united was Pitigliano, that its citizens protected their Jews at all costs. Rather the diminishing of the Jewish community there today is due to the urbanization of young people, who want to move to “The City”

Today one can visit the restored mikvah baths, the Kosher butcher shop and the oven used to make matzah for Passover.

(continued)



Going through the Ghetto door which was closed at night, one enters another world, old and yet familiar, peaceful and proud with local shops presenting again traditional foods and kosher wines, where in the summer there are many festivals and Jewish events taking place. Just the afternoon we were there, we observed a small group of children, busy blowing up balloons... they attached small cards to them ... then released them into the sky ... SHALOM to the world!

A recipe from Pitigliano called “BUGLIONE” – BUON APPETITO!

Ingredients:

2 lbs. of lamb in cubes

1 16 oz. can of tomato sauce

Olive oil

Rosemary sprigs

4 garlic cloves

Hot pepper to taste

Salt and Pepper

1 glass of Bianco di Pitigliano (white wine)

Slices of stale Italian bread.

In a large pot quickly brown the lamb in olive oil with the rosemary sprigs and garlic cloves, tossing and turning.

When brown add the white wine and let it evaporate.

Add the tomato sauce and if too thick a small amount of vegetable broth. Add hot pepper to your taste and salt and pepper. Cover and cook over low heat for about one hour checking to see that it stays covered with sauce.

When ready to serve, plate the slices of stale bread brushed with a garlic clove and cover them with sauce. Top with the lamb cubes and a sprinkle of fresh rosemary.

Serve with a good bottle of Rosso di Pitigliano (Pitigliano red wine)

November Torah Readings

November 3 and 4 Vayera
Genesis 18:12-22:24
D'var Torah TBA

November 10 and 11 Chayei Sara
Genesis 23:1-25:18

November 17 and 18 Toldot
Genesis 25:19-28:9
D'var Torah Robbie Schiff

November 24 and 25 Vayetzei
Genesis 28:10-32:3



November Yahrzeits*

Friday, November 3, 2017	Morris Kurtzman	Grandfather	Victor Feit
Friday, November 3, 2017	Denise Helen Roth	Sister	Lisa Roth
Friday, November 10, 2017	Matthew Press	Cousin	Michael Rothman
Friday, November 10, 2017	Ann Levy	Aunt	Sue Marcoe
Friday, November 10, 2017	Marilyn Turner	Aunt	Lindsey Turner
Friday, November 17, 2017	Harold Altman	Father	Roberta Tracy
Friday, November 17, 2017	Saul Feit	Father	Victor Feit
Friday, November 17, 2017	Shirley Spiegel	Mother	Lois Weber
Friday, November 24, 2017	Jacob Belok	Father	Adam Belok
Friday, November 24, 2017	Phyllis Strumpf	Mother	Lori Dritz
Friday, November 24, 2017	Rose Lang	Mother	Lois Lang
Friday, November 24, 2017	Cyril Aronson	Father	Stephen Aronson

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

Oneg and Bagel Break Hosts

Friday, November 3	Lori and Ron Dritz
Saturday, November 4	Sue Marcoe
Friday, November 10	TBA
Friday, November 17	Lisa and Marc Kerchman
Saturday, November 18	Sara and Michael Rothman
Friday, November 24	Bring a Left-Over dessert to share!!



Oneg Coordinators: Gloria Goverman
 gbwnknts@yahoo.com
 845-232-1029
 Suzanne Neil
 suzanneneil@mac.com
 845-559-3123
Sharing Shabbat Bagel Organizers :
 Sara Rothman 223-5925
 Heidi Krueger
 845-677-4711
heidijoykrue@gmail.com



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 5778 (2017-2018)

Kabbalat Shabbat Services start Friday evening September 8th at 7:30pm

Family Services begin at 6:30pm

Sharing Shabbat starts Saturday morning, September 9th at 9:00am

All are welcome!

SATURDAY MORNING SHARING SHABBAT 9:00 AM

September 9 and 23

October 7 and 21

November 4 and 18

December 2 and 9

January 6 and 20

February 3 and 10

March 3 and 17

April 7 and 21

May 5 and 19

Saturday, September 16th Selichot Joint Celebration at Temple Beth-El 8:00pm

Wednesday, September 20th Erev Rosh Hashanah 8:00pm

Thursday, September 21st Rosh Hashanah 10:00am

Family Rosh Hashanah Celebration Service 3:00pm

Friday, September 29th Kol Nidre 8:00pm

Saturday, September 30th Yom Kippur 10:00am

Torah Study and Discussion 12:30pm

Yom Kippur Family Service 2:00pm

Yom Kippur Afternoon/Yizkor/Concluding Services from 3:00pm to BreakFast

Sunday, October 1st Sukkah Building and Family Pot Luck Dinner 3:00pm

Friday, October 6th Sukkot Family Shabbat 6:30pm

Friday, October 13th Simchat Torah Family Shabbat 6:30pm

Sunday, November 19th Interfaith Thanksgiving Service 5:00pm

Friday, December 15th “Light Up the Night” Family Chanukah Service **6:30pm**

Saturday, February 3rd Tu B'Shevat Seder **11:30am**

Friday, March 2nd Purim Celebration **6:30pm**

Friday, March 30th No Services – First Seder

Friday, April 13th Yom HaShoah Shabbat 7:30pm

Friday, April 20th Yom Haastmaut Shabbat 7:30pm

Saturday, May 19 Tikkun Leyl Shavuot—Time TBA

Friday, June 1st Honoring Our Teachers at 7:30pm

Friday, June 15th Board Installation at 7:30pm



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vj.miller1@worldnet.att.net

Vincent J. Miller
Funeral Director

Win/Win With Groceries UPDATE!



Join us in an easy fund-raising effort that will fit right into your weekly grocery trip. Just buy grocery GIFT CARDS from Shir Chadash. This is how it works: Buy gift cards in \$25 increments from Shir Chadash. Choose Tops, Hannafords, ShopRite, Adams Fairacre Farms or Stop & Shop. You can also purchase a gift card to support our programs to feed the hungry. When Shir Chadash has accumulated \$1,000 per store, you get your cards. A percentage of the money you spend comes back to Shir Chadash. Use PayPal to place your order - you can use a credit card even if you don't have a PayPal account. www.shir-chadash.org



Turn around time depends on you...the quicker I have complete orders, the quicker the cards come in. And you do not have to be a member of Shir Chadash to participate. Call or email me with any questions. Please order your cards now.....

Wendy Bill:
227-7236

bills1989@msn.com

November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm	4 Sharing Shabbat 9:00am
5 The Jews of Afghanistan 2:00pm FPUPC	6		8	9	10 Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm	11 
12	13 Board Meeting 7:00pm FPUPC	14	15	16	17 Kabbalat Shabbat 7:30pm	18 Sharing Shabbat 9:00am
19 Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service & Pot Luck Dinner FPUPC 5:00pm	20	21	22		24 Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30pm	25
26	27	28	29	30		