



## Our Mishpacha

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Everyone is Welcome

## Hazzan's Notes



Dear Friends,

In May this year we will be counting the days of the Omer from Pesah to Shavuot in June and remembering what our ancestors went through in moving from a newly liberated people to becoming a well-known force in the Levant region. We also remember the sheaves of grain that were brought in First Temple times to the great altar at the Temple to be accounted for by the divine. Closer to Pesah, barley was brought to the temple and closer to Shavuot wheat was brought. This account reminds us of how agrarian a people we are and how we still tie ourselves to our roots in this manner.

On Shabbat, to remind us of the Omer, we do 2 things. First, we chant a special melody for Lecha Dodi during this time period which is an ancient melody for the Sefirat Haomer period that Mozart later used in his opera, *Le Nozze di Figaro*. And second, we literally count the days of the Omer in very specific fashion with either a melody created by the British Jewish choir Master, Samuel Alman, in a traditional manner or a more modern version composed by the British/Israeli Hazzan Meir Finkelstein. Thus, on 2 accounts each week, we remember the Omer's counting as important for us in preparation for Shavuot that will occur in June this year.

We look forward to seeing you each week at services during this period!

*Hazzan Lance H. Tapper, Hon DMus*

# From our President

Hello Everyone,

April has been a very busy month. I hope you are all enjoying the start of Spring. Passover and preparations for it have kept me busy and I am sure that many of you can say the same thing. Our BSW Seder and Passover service was excellent. The food was good and the service and Seder were very enjoyable. It was well attended and I really loved spending time and visiting with all the people that were there. I am pleased to say that our attendance continues to go up, particularly at events. There were 30 of us at the Seder.

We have had several visitors to our services and are happy to welcome Delaine and Russ Shane as new members. They seem to be a very interesting couple and I look forward to getting to know them better.

The Lunch & Learn was enjoyable as well as educational, as always. Hazzan is already planning the next one so keep a lookout for details.

My daughter Joann and I spent a morning shopping at the Kosher markets in the Pico/Robertson area. It was packed with everyone getting their Pesach supplies and walking through the stores was like fighting your way through a traffic jam. I was successful in getting the fish that my mother taught me to use to make my own gefilte fish, so it was worth it. I made the gefilte fish but haven't tasted it yet. I just don't like the ready made kind. My extended family is coming up for an end of Passover Seder. There will be 30 of us so it should be lots of fun. It's a good thing I have strong grandsons to move furniture around to accommodate the folding tables and chairs!

For everyone who has been so concerned about Joann Golden, she and Joel were at the Seder and she is looking and doing very, very, well. Baruch Hashem

Shalom,  
Lila

## Yahrzeit Donations

### Remembered by

Michelle Hess

Sidney Paul

### Beloved Departed

Jacob Sandler

Edward Sandler

Mary Torren Paul

### Relationship

Grandfather

Uncle

Mother

## **BOOK CLUB NEWS**

On May 28th, we are reading "Marriage of Opposites" by Alice Hoffman.  
The story of Pissarro's mother (she was Jewish).

We are continuing to meet on Zoom.  
Everyone is welcome to join in our discussion.

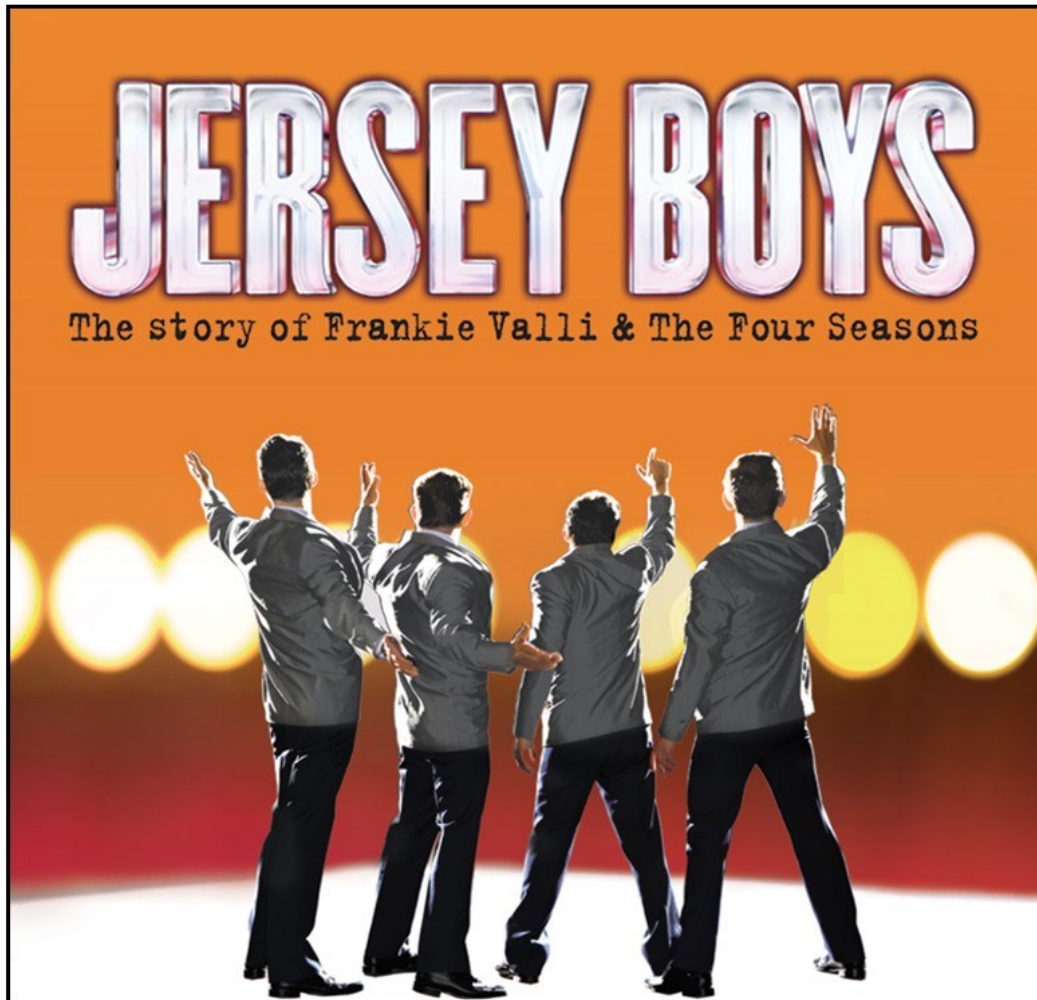
If you have any questions,  
please call either Michelle or Myra.

Happy Reading Everyone.





**BETH SHALOM OF WHITTIER PRESENTS**



**Join your Beth Shalom friends and family for  
an afternoon at the theatre!**

**Saturday, May 4, 2024 ★ 2:00 p.m.**

La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts  
14900 La Mirada Boulevard, La Mirada 90638

There are a limited number of tickets, reserve yours today by  
calling or emailing the Temple office.

Tickets are free for MEMBERS ONLY plus one guest.

We do not have any extra tickets for sale.

Tickets can be picked up at the office during regular office hours.

Let the office know if you need transportation.

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





**Beth Shalom of Whittier**

**Lunch & Learn**

# **Cantors in the Movies**

Join Hazzan Lance as we screen a very special film about the portrayal of Cantors in the movies. Hazzan Lance will provide some background information on this film and conduct a question and answer period following the film.

Join your Beth Shalom friends for light and fun discussion while enjoying a delicious nosh.

**Saturday, May 18, 2024 ★ 12:00 – 2:00 PM**

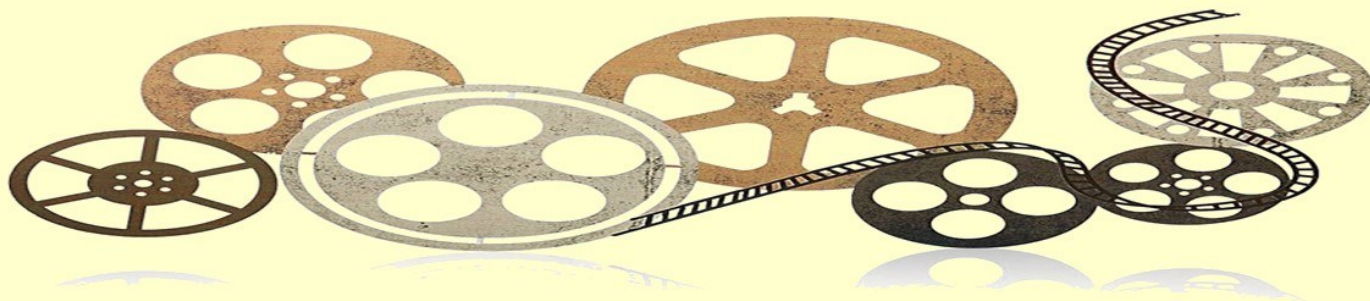
**Lunch will be provided.**

**RSVP to the Temple office, by May 10,**

**by email: [bswoffice@verizon.net](mailto:bswoffice@verizon.net) or**

**by phone: 562.941.8744**

Please note: during these troubled times, in person services and events will only be open to members, former members, and anyone who is known to our Board of Directors.



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## Omer

As recorded in our Torah, when the Jews reached Canaan they were to make it a holy land. In the spring when the first sheaves of grain were to be harvested, thanks were given to G-d. Before any of the new grain could be eaten, a special "Omer" (measure of grain) offering was to be brought to the Temple. This "Omer" offering was to be brought on the second day of Passover. From that day seven weeks were to be counted. On the 50th day another offering was to be brought to the Temple; this was the offering of the first fruits, the "Bikurim".

The day of the "Omer" were days of great joy. Unfortunately, these days of happiness were changed to days of sadness years later in the time of Rabbi Akiva. It was during the days of the "Omer" that a plague attacked his 24,000 students of which many of them died. From that time on the days of the "Omer" are observed as days of mourning in consideration of the great tragedy.

Laws of the "Omer" The Omer is counted for seven full weeks beginning with the second night of Passover. It is counted in the evening after the "Ma'ariv" service. The blessing praising G-d's name is recited. This is followed by counting the number of weeks and days that have passed in the Omer if one has forgotten to count the "Omer" at night he/she must count it on the following day, without the blessing. The following night however, they must count again normally. If they accidentally skipped an entire day, they shall still count, but they should no longer recite the blessing. At the conclusion of the Sabbath or Passover the "Omer" is counted before the "Havdalah" service is recited.

Lag Ba Omer In contrast to other days of the "Omer" the 33 day is a day for rejoicing. History tells us that none of Rabbi Akiva's students died on that day of the plague. It was also on this day General Bar Kochba following Rabbi Akiva's direction won a great victory in the revolution of the Jews against a Roman legion. Concisely, on this day none of the laws of mourning apply. This festival is called in Hebrew Lag Ba'omer. Lag being the Hebrew letters for 33 Ba'omer meaning, "in the Omer".

Shalom,

Sam Pearlman

## Clergy Schedule

**Current policy for Beth Shalom Services:** We are open as usual to members, former members and anyone who is known to our Board of Directors. Any major events will require pre-registration and/or tickets. We will continue to have security guards on the premises and reserve the right to inspect any bags or purses. All others may watch on our Facebook page, **Beth Shalom of Whittier**.

**May 3--7:30 pm Service--Rabbi Ken**

**May 10--7:25 pm Prelude; 7:30 pm Service--Hazzan Lance and Ty Woodward**

**May 17--7:25 pm Prelude; 7:30 pm Service--Hazzan Lance and Ty Woodward**

**May 24--7:25 pm Prelude; 7:30 pm Service--Hazzan Lance and Ty Woodward**

**May 31--7:30 pm Service--Rabbi Ken**

### 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](http://www.facebook.com) and sign up with a username and password and then you can access our page at that point.

## Candle Lighting Times

May 3 - 7:22

May 10 - 7:27

May 17 - 7:32

May 24 - 7:37

May 31 - 7:42



## 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](mailto:bswoffice@verizon.com)**

## Beth Shalom of Whittier May Birthdays

Blue Bartikofsky	May 5
Myra Becker	May 5
Alberto Herrera	May 8
Maggie Singer	May 10
Lenore Barembaum	May 11
Steve Baptista	May 20
Irving Bartikofsky	May 25
Susan Rubin	May 25

## Anniversaries

Hope & John Greenwood - May 8 - 47 Years  
Robert & Rita Rubin - May 30 - 56 Years



**Russ & Delaine Shane**

## Tribute Cards

To send a Tribute Card in honor or in memory of someone, please contact Michelle Hess with your request @ [michelleh3532@gmail.com](mailto:michelleh3532@gmail.com).

**Yahrzeit**

<b>Observed By</b>	<b>Dear Departed</b>	<b>Relationship</b>
David Rosen	Lena Nuckowitz	Mother-in-Law
Millie Hock	Abe Goldberg	Father
	Betty Goldberg	Step-Mother
Mona Di Natale	Lena Shinder	Mother
Ann Kanahele	Berry J. Wesley	Father
Arlene Norton	Marty Norton	Husband
Lila Held & Joann Eres	Sally Held	Sister/Aunt
Paul Jaffe	Miriam Jaffe	Mother
Marilyn Esterson	Benjamin Rose	Father
Michelle Hess	Richard Hess	Husband
	Martha Steinhauer	Aunt
Susan Lieberman	Jack Lieberman	Father-in-Law
	Mina Lieberman	Mother-in-Law
Myra Becker	Martin Becker	Ex-Husband
Samuel Pearlman	Rachel Pearlman	Mother
	Bernice Pearlman	Wife
Joel Golden	Ida Freedman	Grandmother
Barry Neville	Bonnie Neville	Wife
Lila Held	Julius Bromberg	
Evelyn Goldberg Brunelle	Rebecca Goldberg	Grandmother
Jeffrey Kolnick	William Cutler	Grandfather
Ellen Singer	Stanley Feldman	Father
Sherman Esterson	Abe Esterson	Father

**Yahrzeit Observed by Beth Shalom of Whittier**

<b>Dear Departed</b>		
Abraham Sarkin	Mary Pinck	Bessie Prog
Mike Bromberg	Aaron Marovitz	Maurice Storm
William Lieberman	Anna Lieberman	Jeanette Slater
Miriam Schneiderman	Isaac Sherman	Alice Unger
Morton Kramer	Sol Kain	Evette Pollack
Sally Dim	Rose Roy	Joseph Ross
Rebecca Sandow	Murray Fishelberg	Mildred Slonka
Herbert Litt	Toby Rosen	Isaac Rosenberg

*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.*

## *Nissan - Iyar 5784*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 7:30p Shabbat Service	4 26 Nissan Parashat Aharei Mot
5	6	7	8	9	10 7:30p Shabbat Service	11 3 Iyar Parashat Kedoshim
12	13	14	15	16 7:00p Board Meeting	17 7:30p Shabbat Service	18 10 Iyar Parashat Emor  12:00p Lunch & Learn (by reservation only)
19	20	21	22	23	24 7:30p Shabbat Service	25 17 Iyar Parashat Behar
26	27	28 12:30p Book Club	29	30	31 7:30p Shabbat Service	