



# Beth Shalom Weekly Update

Thursday, September 23, 2021 to Wednesday, September 29, 2021

Hazzan Lance H. Tapper Shabbat Hol Hamoed Sukkot

Shabbat Service—Friday, September 24, 7:30 p.m.

## SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday Evening 7:30 pm

## SYNAGOGUE OFFICE HOURS

The Beth Shalom office will now be open on Wednesdays and Fridays. Erica will work from home on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Our office phone and email will continue to be attended to Tuesdays through Fridays.

9:00a-4:00p Tuesday-Friday  
562.941.8744

[bswoffice@verizon.net](mailto:bswoffice@verizon.net)

## YAHREZEIT

Ann Kanahele  
in memory of mother  
Dorothy Berry

Michelle Hess  
in memory of grandfather  
Hyman Morzinsky

Jeffrey Kolnick  
in memory of mother  
Jackie Kolnick

Karen Fritz and  
Mona Di Natale  
in memory of cousin  
Laura Cirulnick

Richard Rothenberg  
in memory of sister  
Beryl Feldman

If you know of someone who is ill, had surgery, or just needs a call now and then, please let us know so we can reach out. Thank you.

## Clergy Schedule

Virtual Services: [www.facebook.com/bethshalomofwhittier](https://www.facebook.com/bethshalomofwhittier)

*\*Services and events are once again open to in person attendance with proof of vaccination and a mask. Services will continue to broadcast on Facebook simultaneously for those who cannot attend in person.*

**September 24-- Shabbat Hol Hamoed Sukkot 7:25 pm Prelude;**

**7:30 pm Service** Hazzan Lance and Ty Woodward

**September 27-- Erev Sh'mini Atzeret/Simchat Torah 6:40 pm Prelude;**

**6:45 pm Service** Hazzan Lance and Ty Woodward

**October 1-- 7:25 pm Prelude; 7:30 pm Service** Hazzan Lance and Ty Woodward

**October 8-- 7:25 pm Prelude; 7:30 pm Service** Rabbi Kenneth Milhander

**October 15-- 7:25 pm Prelude; 7:30 pm Service** Hazzan Lance and Ty Woodward

**October 22-- 7:25 pm Prelude; 7:30 pm Service** Hazzan Lance and Aryell Cohen

**October 29-- 7:25 pm Prelude; 7:30 pm Service** Hazzan Lance and Ty Woodward

## Covid-19 Regulation

As of now, masks are mandatory per the L.A. County Health Dept. for all indoor gatherings regardless of vaccination status.

All services are now in hybrid mode. Those with proof of vaccination and who have a mask may attend in person, all others may watch on our Facebook page.

**The office will be closed Tuesday, September 28,  
in observance of Simchat Torah.**

## Sanctifying God's Name

**Torah Reading: Exodus 33:12 - 34:26**

**Maftir Reading: Numbers 29:17 - 22**

**Haftarah Reading: Ezekiel 38:18 - 39:16**

**Parashat Sukkot**

By: Rabbi Elliot Dorff, PhD, posted on September 25, 2010/5771

"I will make My holy name known among My people Israel, and never again will I let My holy name be profaned. And the nations shall know that I the Lord am holy in Israel." ([Ezekiel 39:7](#))

In this verse from today's *haftarah*, God is announcing that His great war against Gog, symbol of all God's enemies, will make it clear to the nations that God rules the world. This is parallel to the theme we read in the Torah concerning the Exodus, where God brings on the plagues to convince both the Israelites and the Egyptians of His power ([Exodus 7:5](#), 17; 14:4).

Great wars against enemy nations may be the way that God buttresses His reputation among the nations, as both the books of Exodus and Ezekiel attest. Even there, we might wonder whether this is the best way of spreading honor for God. Shouldn't God - whom we just described over and

**Beth Shalom Services:** All services are now in hybrid mode. Vaccinated people with proof and a mask may attend in person, all others may watch on our Facebook page, **Beth Shalom of Whittier**. When there is a livestream taking place, you can click on it and watch. We encourage anyone who is not yet comfortable coming to in-person services to tune in each week and take part in our services virtually and leave messages of greeting to other who are watching. This is one way we can all stay in touch.

**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](https://www.facebook.com) and sign up with a username and password and then you can access our page at that point. Always log in 5 minutes ahead of the video start time.

## 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.

**Book Club:** Our next book is "Letters for Emily" by Camron Wright. We are meeting at Michelle's house on Wednesday, October 13th at 12:30, with a Zoom for those unable to attend in person. As usual we bring our own lunch and our hostess provides drinks and dessert. Everyone is welcome. Come even if you have not read the book. Call either Michelle or Myra for further information.

**Tribute Cards:** To send a Tribute Card, please contact Michelle Hess. Her e-mail is: [michelleh3532@gmail.com](mailto:michelleh3532@gmail.com)

**PayPal Donations:** Paypal donations welcome: [bswoffice@verizon.net](mailto:bswoffice@verizon.net)

**Simcha Sharing:** Let us know about your Simcha's. Let the office know of your good news and we will share it in the next weekly. Weddings ★ Births

## Birthday/Anniversary

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over again on the High Holy Days as good, caring, and merciful - be made known more by divine acts of healing and comfort rather than of war? One understands the need to defend oneself, and one certainly understands, from an historical point of view, that in the ancient world a god, like a human king, made his reputation by military conquests. Still, I, for one, am much more attracted to the biblical doctrines of God's name becoming known for teaching us and the other nations of the world what it means to live by Torah, as the visions of both [Isaiah \(2:1-4\)](#) and [Micah \(4:1-5\)](#) describe.

In any case, even if military conquest is one way that God makes His name known among the nations, that certainly is not the way that we human beings sanctify God's name. The concepts of *kiddush ha-shem* (sanctifying God's Name - or reputation) and its opposite, *hillul ha-shem* (desecrating God's Name - or reputation) are important values built into the Jewish tradition. They call on us to live our lives in an exemplary way so as to reflect well on our God, our tradition, and our people, and also to do our best to avoid embarrassing or destructive behavior that would reflect badly on both Israel's God and our fellow Jews.

I first learned these concepts when I was a counselor at Camp Ramah in Wisconsin. The closest town of any size to that Ramah camp is Eagle River, which has a winter population of about 1,000 people. At the time (1962), there was an ice cream parlor named Zimpleman's, which many of the Ramah staff frequented on their days off. Rabbi Burton Cohen, then Director of the camp, told us during staff week that when we go into Zimpleman's, we need to remember that all the townsfolk know that the only large camp in the area is Ramah and that therefore it is not just we as individuals who are going into Zimpleman's, but we as Ramah staff members. Moreover, because the townsfolk know that Ramah is Jewish, it is not just Ramah staff members who are going into Zimpleman's, but Jews who are going into Zimpleman's. Therefore our behavior there reflects not only on ourselves as individuals, but on Ramah and on the entire Jewish people. How is that for a good dose of guilt! He did not mean to emphasize the negative, though. On the contrary, he taught us then that our visits to Zimpleman's actually provided us with an opportunity to sanctify the reputation of God, Judaism, and the Jewish people if we acted responsibly and even kindly to the staff there, for that would be an act of *kiddush ha-shem*.

We often think of *kiddush ha-shem* in its later meaning of martyrdom. Much more pervasively, though, *kiddush ha-shem* calls on us to act in a way that both we and our fellow Jews - and indeed God Himself - could be proud of and to avoid the opposite kinds of shameful and embarrassing behavior. We all know how powerful that motivation is: we burst with pride in the accomplishments of our fellow Jews in all sorts of fields, and we cringe with embarrassment when a Jew is indicted for a crime. We not only respond to what other Jews do in these terms; we also take the potential for honor or dishonor into account - or we should take that into account - when we decide how we ourselves are going to act.

Everyday Jewish liturgy has us recite the *Kaddish* in its various forms a number of times. It begins "May His great Name be exalted and sanctified." That is a prayer that we dare not just recite by rote and leave it at that. We should not even think of it as just a vague hope. We must instead translate that commitment into the ways we treat other people in our daily interactions with them. It is precisely in that arena that we can know whether we mean what we say when we utter the first line of the *Kaddish*. May our lives be filled with acts of sanctifying God's Name as we treat people in ways that bring honor to God, Judaism, and the Jewish people.

**Memorial Plaques:** we have brought all of the memorial plaques into our office, from the storage unit. If you would like a family member's plaque, please contact the office and let us know the name on the plaque. We will find it and arrange for you to pick it up. If you know of anyone who might have had loved one's plaques on our memorial board, please let them know that they are available to be picked up.





**YOU ARE INVITED TO**

***BETH SHALOM OF WHITTIER***

Meeting House (Sanctuary) at First Friends

13205 Philadelphia St, Whittier, CA 90601

(All are welcome in-person with proof of Vaccination)

ALSO SIMULTANEOUSLY BROADCAST ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE:

**BETH SHALOM OF WHITTIER**

**EREV SUKKOT**

SEPTEMBER 20—Sukkot Prelude at 6:55 pm/Service at 7:00 pm

**SHABBAT HOL HAMOED SUKKOT**

SEPTEMBER 24—Prelude at 7:25 pm/Service at 7:30 pm

**SH'MINI ATZERET/SIMCHAT TORAH/YIZKOR**

SEPTEMBER 27—Festival Prelude at 6:40 pm/Service at 6:45 pm

**OFFICIATING:**

**Hazzan Lance H Tapper, Spiritual Leader  
Ty Woodward, Organist**