



Our Mishpacha

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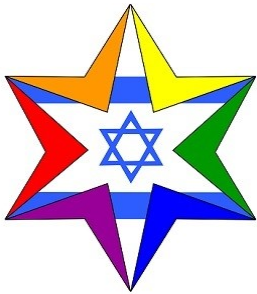
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Everyone is Welcome

HAZZAN'S NOTES



Dear Friends,

We have now reached the season of re-dedication at Hanukkah. This year, in our COVID isolation, we reflect on how we can keep connected to our friends, family, and community in ways we never thought possible just a few months ago. Hanukkah amplifies the light at the darkest and most lonely time of the year for so many. We know that through the light, we can see beyond our own frustrations and anxieties and move to be even more empathetic to

all who try to keep us in their minds and hearts.

This year, more than ever, pick up the phone, send an email, see someone on SKYPE or Zoom, or even send a snail mail letter and reach out to those around you and make them feel they are needed and wanted in your life. A gesture can mean the world to someone who feels lonely and isolated. Among the many issues we are dealing with, this one encompasses so many of the others that people are working through. Help someone find that they are not alone and there are those watching out for them and being concerned about them.

May this season of rededication be one of joy and light. May we all find that we are connected, albeit in different ways, and the fight against this deadly virus unites us rather than divide us.

Hazzan Lance H. Tapper

From our President

Hello Everyone,

November was quite a month. The emotional ups and downs have been unparalleled. COVID is spiking to the point that I just want to hide in my house and that is pretty much what I am doing. At the same time there is good news on vaccines that gives us hope that we are seeing the light at the end of the tunnel. Schools and businesses are open one day and then closed and then open and closed again. We had an election that was more emotionally charged than any I can remember in my lifetime. All I can say is, hang in there, stick together and believe that it will get better. Call any of us for moral support if it gets to be too much.

The congregation in Honduras that will be the recipient of our Torah was hit by two hurricanes. The second one hit them two days before they were due here. Their airport is still closed. They will fly here as soon as possible but we have no firm date. Thanks to the generosity of Klara Wein, we are also able to give them a pair of Tefillin and a Kiddush cup.

I hope you all had a good Thanksgiving. I'm sure it was different, but hopefully good none the less. Let's try to concentrate on the things we do have to be thankful for.

Shalom and keep safe,
Lila

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.

There are only a few plots remaining, so if you are Interested, please let us know.

Let's Get Busy Special Chanukah Edition

Despite stories to the contrary, Chanukah does not celebrate the apocryphal miracle of the oil - one day's supply of consecrated oil burning for a full eight days, just long enough for more to be prepared. That is a story intended to provide a sense of wonder for the kiddies... but like many such stories, it has taken on the strength of urban legend. (Alas that there is no snopes.com to refute religious mythology: If there were, they would have a full-time job.)

No. It's not about the oil. The *real* miracle of Chanukah - the reason we light candles (one for each night, they shed a sweet light to remind us of years long ago, in the words of the song) - is a war fought against seemingly insurmountable odds. It's the war fought by the Jewish zealots, led by Matityahu (Mattathias, in the Greek translation) and his sons, against the Greco-Syrian rulers of Judea who wanted to wipe out the practice of Judaism. It was the kind of underdog-versus-overdog fight that generally results in the underdog getting chewed up... but not this time. This time, the vastly outnumbered forces of the Jews delivered a sound thrashing to the Greeks. For not the first and not the last time, it was the kind of salvation that would inspire the popular Jewish dictum, "They tried to kill us; they failed; let's eat."

The Egyptians tried to break our spirit with institutionalized slavery. The Greco-Syrians tried to break our connection with our faith. Later, the Persians would simply try to murder us, as would the Nazis many hundreds of years later.

They all failed. And so we eat: matzoh and its derivatives (Passover), fried foods (Chanukah), hamantaschen (Purim). Excerpted from "Some Thoughts on Chanukah" by Steve Krodman

In the spirit of Chanukah, the goodies are really important for the reasons in the article above and because, well...yum! If you bake Chanukah cookies, make sufganiyot, of course latkes or any other special dish you make during the 8 days, please take a picture and send to our office by mail (6726 Washington Ave, Whittier 90601) or email (bswoffice@verizon.net) and we will share them in the January issue of the Mishpacha.

These are difficult times. We are not able to spend the holidays with friends and family as we normally would. Your Beth Shalom family is there for you, virtually every Friday night on Facebook (there will be a special Chanukah Service on December 11) at 7:30. Join us in the chat section and connect.

Happy Chanukah! Be well and stay safe!
Alita Sevin

HANUKKAH

Hanukkah is celebrated for two reasons. The first is the victory of the Maccabees (a small Jewish army) over the Antiochus Greeks. The second is the miracle of a cruse of pure olive oil. This cruse of oil burned for eight days when it only had oil for one.

Laws and Customs The Hanukkah festival is observed for eight days. It begins on the 25th day of the Hebrew month of Kislev (10 December 2020). The word Hanukkah is composed of two parts Chanu and Kah. Chanu means they camped referring to the Maccabee victory over the Greeks and Kah which is composed of the letters kaf and hoi which means 25 that is our small army camped in victory on the 25 of Kislev. Hanukkah is also known as the “Feast of Lights” and the “Feast of Dedication”.

The Menorah is a symbol and reminder of the miracle of the oil in G-d’s Temple that the Maccabee brothers cleansed of Greek sinful gods, we light and display a model menorah in each Jewish home. We begin with one candle and add one candle each night of the holiday. This brings to a total of eight candles on the eighth night of Hanukkah. The menorah is lit by a special lighting candle called the “shamash”. It is placed a little higher in the menorah to show that it is not part of the Hanukkah candles. The candles are put in the menorah from right to left, the candles on the extreme right is put on the first night (Erev Hanukkah 24 Kislev). Each night a new is added on that side. In lighting the menorah however, we go from left to right. The newest candle is always lit first, followed by the second newest and so on.

The menorah should be lit in the evening after the Ma’ariv service. The candles should burn at least 30 minutes. When lighting the menorah the entire family should be present to fulfil the “MITZVAH”.

On the first night of Hanukkah three blessings are recited before lighting the candles. They follow the same pattern as the Megillah blessings on Purim: The first blessing indicates the fulfillment of the Mitzvah; The second thanks G-d for the miracle; and the third “Shehecheyonu” thanks G-d for enabling us to reach this holiday season in health and happiness. After the first night only the first two blessings are recited. Each Jewish home must light its own menorah.

On Friday night the Hanukkah menorah is lit before the Sabbath candles. If by accident the Sabbath are lit first the Hanukkah candles are not to be lighted since the Sabbath would be in full effect. On Sabbath night the HAVDOLAH is recited to officially end the Sabbath and then the Hanukkah menorah is lit.

Additional Prayers On Hanukkah a special prayer is added to the “Shemoneh Esrei” thanking G-d for the miracles he performed for our ancestors. It is also included in the “Grace After Meals”. The “Hallee” is recited during the Shacharis service each day of Hanukkah. Each day the Torah is read in the synagogue after the Shacharis service.

Shalom and make the children happy,
Sam Pearlman

CLERGY SCHEDULE

Note: All Beth Shalom services at this time will be held via Beth Shalom of Whittier Facebook page.

December 4-- 7:23 pm --Prelude, Service--7:30 pm -- Hazzan Lance and Mark Peterson

December 11-- *Shabbat Hanukkah*—7:23 pm --Prelude, Service--7:30 pm -- Hazzan Lance and Mark Peterson
Hazzan Lance will be posting a special Shabbat Hanukkah virtual Siddur on the Facebook page the week of December 7th.

December 18-- 7:23 pm --Prelude, Service--7:30 pm -- Hazzan Lance and Mark Peterson

December 25-- 7:23 pm --Prelude, Service--7:30 pm -- Rabbi Kenneth Milhandler

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 and sign up with a username and password and then you can access our page at that point.



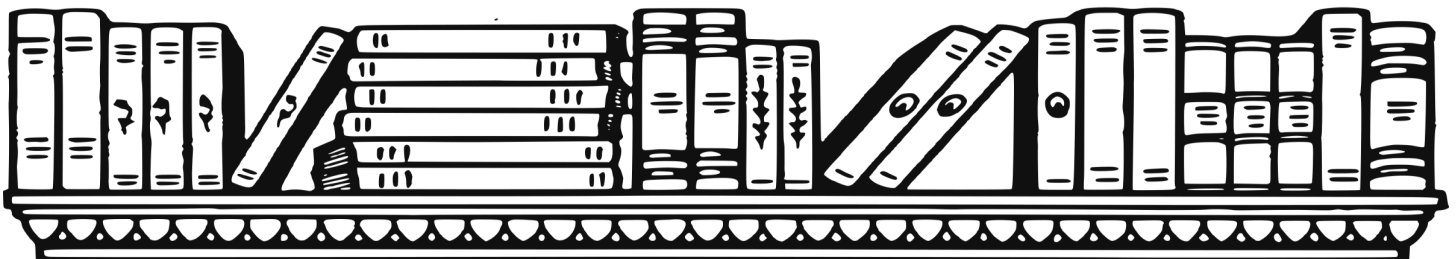
BOOK CLUB NEWS

Our next book is "Florence Adler Swims Forever: A Novel" by Rachel Beanland.

We are meeting on Wednesday, December 9th at 12:30pm.

On January 12, 2021, we are reading 'Paris in the Present" by Mark Helprin.

If you have any questions or for a Zoom invite,
please call either Myra or Michelle.





December Candle Lighting Times

- December 4 —4:25
- December 11—4:26
- December 18—4:28
- December 25—4:32



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

Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| David Starkman | December 11 |
| Alita Sevin | December 14 |
| Jordan Pollack | December 20 |
| Robert Rubin | December 21 |
| Deborah Miranda | December 28 |

Anniversary

Alita & Jim Sevin - December 7
35 years

Beth Shalom of Whittier wishes you all a
Happy Birthday & Happy Anniversary!!



Tribute Cards

To send a Tribute Card in honor or in memory of someone, please contact Michelle Hess with your request @ ddgrlover@aol.com

Temple Donations

**Jay Weinschenker
Network for Good**

Myra Becker—Mi Shebeirach Reading

Sid & Sandy Paul—we are happy to announce the engagement of our eldest Grandson, Isaiah Paul, to the most lovely & bright, Shari Rosenfeld

Cold Weather Shelter Donations

Michelle Hess	Christel Mergruen
Ann Kanahela	Arlene Norton
Steven Kolnick	Claire Rademacher
Evelyn Litwin	Myra Weiss
Revekah Martinez	Hope Greenwood

Yahrzeit Donations

Name	Beloved Departed	Relationship
<i>Lila Held</i>	<i>Ruth Bromberg</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Myra Becker</i>	<i>Moses Bell</i>	<i>Uncle</i>
	<i>Solomon Bell</i>	<i>Grandfather</i>
<i>Rita Rubin</i>	<i>Yetta Gnessin</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Bernard Starkman</i>	<i>Blanche Starkman</i>	<i>Mother</i>
	<i>Doris Rubin</i>	<i>Mother of Bob</i>
<i>Robin Weintraub</i>	<i>Robert Weintraub</i>	<i>Father</i>

Thank you to all who support our Temple.

Yahrzeit Observances

Dear Departed	Observed By	Relationship
<i>Dorothy Baptista</i>	<i>Steve Baptista</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Ruth Beck</i>	<i>Myra Becker</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Bella Bell</i>		<i>Grandmother</i>
<i>Lou Binke</i>		<i>Uncle</i>
<i>Pauline Newman</i>		<i>Aunt</i>
<i>Dorothy Rubin</i>		
<i>Pearl DeMase</i>	<i>Hope Greenwood</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Isaac Leiboff</i>		<i>Father</i>
<i>Edna Devore</i>	<i>Jay Devore</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Willy Fleischmann</i>	<i>Miriam Brookfield</i>	<i>Father</i>
<i>Shirley Gilbert</i>	<i>Ada Kless-Gilbert</i>	<i>Wife of Jesse</i>
<i>Max Goldberg</i>	<i>Morton Goldberg</i>	<i>Father</i>
<i>Rose Goldberg</i>	<i>Millie Hock</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Gail Goodstein</i>	<i>Rita Rubin</i>	<i>Sister</i>
<i>Glenda Hilliard</i>	<i>Mark Hilliard</i>	<i>Wife</i>
<i>Mary Kolnick</i>	<i>Jeffrey Kolnick</i>	<i>Grandmother</i>
<i>Samuel Kuhn</i>	<i>Harris Kuhn</i>	<i>Father</i>
<i>Pheney Margolis</i>	<i>Maxine Berkowitz</i>	<i>Grandfather</i>
<i>Irene Shapiro</i>		<i>Aunt</i>
<i>Emmanuel Morzinsky</i>	<i>Michelle Hess</i>	<i>Uncle</i>
<i>William Pollack</i>	<i>Jordan Pollack</i>	<i>Father</i>
<i>John Singer</i>	<i>Eunice Singer</i>	<i>Husband</i>
	<i>Mark Singer</i>	<i>Father</i>
<i>Jean Vinetsky</i>	<i>Arlene Norton</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Arnold Winett</i>		<i>Brother</i>
<i>Sue Weintraub</i>	<i>Robin Weintraub</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Rose Weiss</i>	<i>David Weiss</i>	<i>Mother</i>

Observing this Yahrzeit

Dear Departed	Observed By	Dear Departed
<i>Joseph Diamondstein</i>	<i>Beth Shalom of Whittier</i>	<i>Manuel Klasky</i>
<i>Sadie Dreyfuss</i>	<i>Beth Shalom of Whittier</i>	<i>Edna Kleinberg</i>
<i>Helen Fleischman</i>	<i>Beth Shalom of Whittier</i>	<i>Joseph Ward</i>
<i>Anna Fruchtman</i>	<i>Beth Shalom of Whittier</i>	<i>Sylvia Zober</i>
<i>William Kerman</i>	<i>Beth Shalom of Whittier</i>	

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.

December 2020

Kislev - Tevet 5781

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 7:30p Shabbat Service	5 19 Kislev Vayishlah
6	7	8	9 12:30 p Virtual Book Club	10 Erev Hanukkah First Candle 	11 7:30p Shabbat Hanukkah	12 26 Kislev Shabbat Hanukkah Vayeshev
13	14	15	16	17 Eighth Candle 7:00p Board of Directors Meeting 	18 7:30p Shabbat Service	19 4 Tevet Miketz
20	21	22	23	24	25 7:30p Shabbat Service *Office Closed	26 11 Tevet Vayigash
27	28	29	30	31		



Hanukkah Word Search

boy mama teacher mama



r	e	d	e	d	i	c	a	t	i	o	n
h	a	r	c	a	n	d	l	e	s	b	w
a	c	e	d	e	a	f	a	g	h	c	o
n	m	i	l	i	r	k	t	j	i	h	d
u	n	d	o	p	o	q	k	l	r	a	n
k	s	e	i	g	h	t	e	e	n	l	u
k	t	l	u	e	i	z	s	m	u	l	s
a	v	w	x	l	a	f	b	i	n	a	a
h	a	y	y	t	b	x	t	g	f	h	n
z	f	a	m	i	l	y	p	s	h	z	b
a	b	c	d	l	a	v	i	t	s	e	f
n	i	h	s	s	h	a	m	a	s	h	x
m	e	n	o	r	a	h	o	z	c	v	z

hanukkah

gelt

festival

rededication



dreidel

candles

eight

latkes

challah

family

hora

sundown

menorah

oil

gifts

shamash

gimel

hay

shin

nun





Beth Shalom of Whittier

6726 Washington Avenue

Whittier, California 90601

(562) 941-8744

Email: bswoffice@verizon.net

Shabbat Hanukkah

December 11

7:23 pm --Prelude, Service--7:30 pm

Hazzan Lance and Mark Peterson

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