



Our Mishpacha

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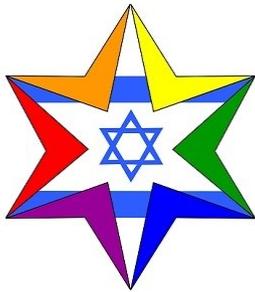
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May 2021



Everyone is Welcome

Hazzan's Notes



Dear Friends,

The final major festival of the religious year takes place this month, *Shavuot*. After 7 weeks of Counting the Omer from the 2nd night of *Pesah*, we celebrate this festival as the 50th day (7x7+1—a numerologically significant number). The festival of Weeks or Pentecost in Greek was originally the festival of the wheat harvest before the summer heat approaches. This *Hag He-asif* (the Festival of the Ingathering at the end of the year) was mentioned as early as the Book of Exodus (*Shemot*) in the Torah as was the early forms of the festivals of *Pesah* and *Sukkot*. Thus, these three festivals are the ones our people have celebrated the longest in our tradition since Exodus is the earliest written book of the Torah where festivals are mentioned at all. (There are no festivals mentioned in the book of Genesis).

In more modern times, *Shavuot* has also become known as *Z'man Matan Torateinu* (the time of the giving of the Torah) to our people. Our sages calculated that after we came out of Egypt, it took us 50 days to become ready to receive the law at Mount Sinai as a newly reborn people of the desert who would soon come to their promised land. As the Torah details in Exodus, this was a monumental experience for all who were there at Mount Sinai, to the point, that even we, in our day, are said to have been spiritually present for this occasion as our souls were there, says our *Midrashic* tradition.

Please join us on May 16 for our service honoring this important festival in our calendar. As we are doing for all the festivals this year during the 200th anniversary of the great Jewish composer, Louis Lewandowski's birth, we will begin the evening at 7:23 pm with the Lewandowski composed *Shavuot* organ prelude followed by the service at 7:30 pm. The *Shavuot Mahzor* will be posted on our Facebook page the week before this service. Yizkor Memorial prayers will be recited as they are on the end of all three of these earliest festivals and Yom Kippur. We know you will want to be on our Facebook page to enjoy with us that night.

Hag Sameah!

Hazzan Lance H. Tapper

From our President

Hello Everyone,

I hope you had a good month. Life seems to be moving along at a faster pace now that things are starting to open up. I hope you are all well and enjoying the nice weather.

Last Sunday we had our first virtual adult education class on Zoom. It really went great and was highly informative and interesting. Thanks to Hazzan Lance for putting on this class. His knowledge and insight about the two different versions of the 10 Commandments in the bible were exceptional and enlightening. We are looking forward to more classes in the future. If anyone has any subjects they would like to learn about, please call the office and tell Erica.

We are hoping to go to our storage unit on June 6th (backup date is June 13th) to sort through our old furniture, boxes, plaques, etc. The furniture is what was left in the old building. We had given everyone time to go through what we had before we left but if you want to look again before we donate or trash any of it, you are welcome to come out and see what we have as we have it pulled out of storage. There are a couple of items from Hazzan’s office that are now available. There is a very nice leather sofa and an end table. If you are interested in them or just looking to see what else we have, please call the office ahead of time and we will keep you updated on the time we will be there so you can see them. As before, we are just asking for what you consider an appropriate donation. Plaques (memorial and wall) will be brought back to our offices where we can sort through them.

Members, please watch your mail for information about our upcoming Annual Meeting. It may be the first time we get together in person (or we may be virtual) depending on the pandemic and CDC recommendations. It will be after the June 15th date when the state is supposed to open up. We will still be cautious and not meet in person unless we feel it is safe. Keep those vaccine cards safe and handy!

Lila



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Here’s a way to support Beth Shalom without costing you a cent. When you shop Amazon use this link:

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/95-1922278>. Amazon will donate a percentage to Beth Shalom every time you shop.

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.



Shavuot

The festival of Shavuot occurs in the year 5781 (2021) on the sixth and seventh days of Sivan. The translation of Shavuot is the word weeks. The holiday is celebrated at the end of seven full weeks of counting the Omer from the second day of Passover.

“Shavuot” is also known by three other names: 1) “Z’man Matan” - The Time of Giving our Torah, 2) “Chag Ha Katzir” - The Holiday of Reaping’ and 3) “Chag Habikurim” - The Holiday of First Fruits. Since “Shavuot” is a harvest festival it is customary to decorate the home and synagogue with tree branches, fruits and flowers. Eating dairy products rather than meat for the main meal is also a popular custom on the holiday. A dairy verse in the Song of Songs by Solomon also linked the Torah to milk and honey.

The second of the three agricultural festivals. The festival of the (Pentecost) Wheat-Harvest is Shavuot, the Feast of weeks. It is celebrated seven weeks after the first day of Passover’ hence the name Pentecost (50th day). In Jewish tradition it is connected with the covenant on Mount Sinai, “the Season of the Giving of our Torah”. This refers to the Proclaim action of the 10 Commandments (Exodus 19 and 20).

The exact date of the Proclamation is not given in the Torah. It is calculated to be on the sixth day of Sivan as a prelude to Sinai (Exodus 8:12), where Israel crowned the freedom obtained on Passover with the vow of self consecration to become a Kingdom of priests and a holy nation.

The reading of the 10 Commandments in the synagogue constitutes the central part of the Shavuot service. No religious document has exercised a greater influence on the moral and social lives of the monotheistic world. These brief commands—only 120 Hebrew words in all—lay down in simple form, the foundation of Religion and Moral Law. Without them the material universe would be meaningless.

Unlike Passover and Sukkot, Shavuot has no distinctive ceremony. It is customary to decorate the synagogue with flowers and plants. A dairy meal is also in order during the sixth and seventh of Sivan, lest we forget the agricultural aspect of the holiday. The special Book of Service for this purpose is known as Tikkun Leil Shavuot. It is also customary to teach the Jewish child about the study of our Jewish religion and the Hebrew language on Shavuot.

The Scriptural Readings for the holiday follows: 1st Day, Exodus 19 and 20; Haftarah Ezekiel I 3rd day, Deuteronomy 15, 19-16. 16; Haftarah Habakkuk 8; and each day Numbers 28: 26-51 from a second Sefer.

The Book of Ruth is read on the Second Day It is the story of one who forsaking idolatry enters the Covenant of Sinai and joins the people of Israel. It portrays a marvelous picture of a woman’s friendship, of Ruth and her mother-in-law, Nalomi. Ruth through her marriage to Boaz became the ancestress of King David

Sam Pearlman

PLEASE JOIN US
BETH SHALOM OF WHITTIER

In Celebrating

The Festival of SHAVUOT



ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE: BETH SHALOM OF WHITTIER

SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2021

LEWANDOWSKI SHAVUOT ORGAN PRELUDE 7:23 PM

SERVICE INCLUDING YIZKOR 7:30 PM

HAZZAN LANCE H TAPPER, OFFICIATING
MARK PETERSON, ORGANIST

**THE SPECIAL SHAVUOT MAHZOR WILL BE UPLOADED
TO OUR FACEBOOK PAGE AHEAD OF THE SERVICE**

Clergy Schedule

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

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

May 14-- 7:23 pm --Prelude, Service--7:30 pm -- Hazzan Lance and Mark Peterson

May 16-- *Erev Shavuot* -- 7:23 pm -- Lewandowski Shavuot Prelude, Service --7:30 pm -- Hazzan Lance and Mark Peterson
Yizkor Memorial prayers recited during this service.

May 21-- 7:23 pm --Prelude, Service--7:30 pm -- Hazzan Lance and Mark Peterson

May 28-- 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 meeting will be on Wednesday, May 12th, at 12:30 pm. We will be having a joint meeting with Millenium (Our other book group). We will be reading "Witness: Lessons from Elie Wiesel's Classroom" by Ariel Burger. A winner of the National Jewish Book Award.

On Tuesday, June 15th, we will be reading "The Seven Good Years" by Edgar Keret. A memoir after the birth of his son.

Happy Reading.

If you have any questions, or want to join us,
please contact either Myra Weiss, or Michelle Hess.



May

Candle Lighting Times

May 7 —7:24

May 14—7:29

May 21—7:34

May 28—7:39



~~~~~ **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

Myra Becker May 5

Alberto Herrera May 8

Maxine Berkowitz May 9

Maggie Singer May 10

Lenore Barembaum May 11

Steve Baptista May 20

Irving Bartikofsky May 25

Susan Rubin May 25

Anniversaries

Mark & Lori Gibson - 25 Years May 26

Robert & Rita Rubin - 53 Years May 30

Beth Shalom of Whittier wishes you a
Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary!!

C E L E B R A T E !

Donations

Alita Sevin - Cantor's Discretionary Fund

Maxine Berkowitz

Claire Rademacher

Yahrzeit Donations

Name	Beloved Departed	Relationship
Abdon Barembaum	Moishe Barembaum	Father
Myra Becker	Jennie Beckelman	Grandmother
	Minnie Becker	Mother-in-Law
	Marty Becker	Ex-Husband
Michelle Hess	Richard Hess	Husband
	Martha Steinhauer	Aunt
Ann Kanahale	J. Wesley Berry	Father
Arlene Norton	Marty Norton	Husband
Sidney & Sandra Paul	Lehman	Mother of Sandra

Tribute Cards

To send a Tribute Card in honor or in memory of someone,
please contact Michelle Hess with your request @ michelleh3532@gmail.com*

*NOTE new email address.

Observing this Yahrzeit

Dear Departed

Louis Altshuler
Helen Braidman
Dorothy Branson
Yetta Cohen
Fanny Eison
Murray Fishelberg
Tillie Fishelberg
Alfred Goldstein
Richard Gross
Ida Koizim
Louis Kraus
Nathan Leopold
Louis Lieblich

Observed By

Beth Shalom of Whittier
Beth Shalom of Whittier

Dear Departed

Herbert Litt
Jack Lyons
Seymour Prog
Samuel Rosen
Toby Rosen
Isaac Rosenberg
Elenor Roth-Herman
Rena Schannon
Mildred Slonka
Robert Solomon
Jerome Weiss
Oscar Yamin
Louis Zevin

<i>Observed By</i>	<i>Dear Departed</i>	<i>Relationship</i>
<i>Jeffrey Kolnick & Rosa Tock</i>	<i>William Cutler</i>	<i>Grandfather of Jeffrey</i>
<i>Sherman & Marilyn Esterson</i>	<i>Abe Esterson</i>	<i>Father of Sherman</i>
<i>Stanley & Susan Kramer</i>	<i>Michael Falk</i>	<i>Father of Susan</i>
<i>Ellen Singer</i>	<i>Stanley Feldman</i>	<i>Father of Ellen</i>
<i>Joel & Jo Ann Golden</i>	<i>Aaron Freedman</i>	<i>Grandfather of Joel</i>
<i>Sidney & Sandra Paul</i>	<i>Edith Gottlieb</i>	<i>Step-Sister of Sidney</i>
	<i>Morris Lehman</i>	<i>Father of Sandra</i>
	<i>Sylvia Playberg</i>	<i>Sister of Sidney</i>
<i>Mark Handler</i>	<i>Gertrude Handler</i>	<i>Grandmother</i>
<i>Ruth Koh</i>	<i>Herbert Koh</i>	<i>Father</i>
<i>Charles & Lila Held</i>	<i>David Kuperstein</i>	<i>Nephew of Lila</i>
	<i>Jenny Kuperstein</i>	<i>Grandmother of Lila</i>
<i>David & Myra Weiss</i>	<i>Helen Michlin</i>	<i>Step-Mother of Myra</i>
<i>Klara Wein</i>	<i>Miriam Militeanu</i>	<i>Grandmother</i>
	<i>Rachel Militeanu</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Samuel Pearlman</i>	<i>Bernice Pearlman</i>	<i>Wife</i>
<i>Michelle Hess</i>	<i>Lillian Sandler</i>	<i>Grandmother</i>
<i>Meryl Briscoe</i>	<i>Lydia Schneiderman</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Loren Schneiderman</i>	<i>Lydia Schneiderman</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Robert Schneiderman</i>	<i>Lydia Schneiderman</i>	<i>Mother</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.

May 2021

Iyar - Sivan 5781

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 19 Iyar Parashat Emor
2	3	4	5	6	7 7:30p Shabbat Service	8 26 Iyar Parashat Behar-Behukotai
9	10	11	12 12:30p Book Club	13	14 7:30p Shabbat Service	15 4 Sivan Parashat Bamidbar
16 7:30p Erev Shavuot Service	17	18	19	20 7:00p Board of Director's Meeting	21 7:30p Shabbat Service	22 11 Sivan Parashat Naso
23	24	25	26	27	28 7:30p Shabbat Service	29 18 Sivan Parashat Beha-Alotekha
30	31					



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