



## Our Mishpacha

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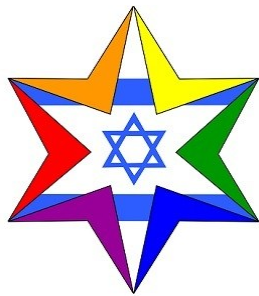
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Everyone is Welcome

### Hazzan's Notes



Dear Friends,

Who knew I'd be addressing yet another catastrophe for the Jewish community, especially our own in the greater LA area! With the conflagration in Altadena, Pasadena, Pacific Palisades, Malibu and beyond and the demise of the historic PJTC (Pasadena Jewish Temple and Center) building, we find how fragile we are in the face of nature and the divine.

We are saddened and touched by all that has happened around us. I am happy that our board of directors has sent a donation quickly to help with the rebuilding of PJTC and will help further as the need arises. I know many have asked about helping as well and the LA Jewish Federation is spear heading this effort in coordination with the San Gabriel Valley Federation for both the San Gabriel and the LA areas and basins.

We have opened our doors to all who need a place to worship in person and who want a safe place to be Jewish. Please join us in person, if you can, to help us support those who are in need and who have experienced loss. They need us as we can support them.

Together as an extended community, we will get through this along with divine help.

*Hazzan Lance H. Tapper, Hon DMus*

## From our President

Hello Everyone,

Here we are, already a month into 2025. I hope this year is treating you all well.

We had a very interesting Lunch & Learn this month. Hazzan Lance talked about Jewish foods and where they came from. We were served samples of several very good dishes. Some were bought from the kosher market and several were cooked by Michelle. They were enjoyed by all. Michelle is a great cook! Among the interesting facts we learned was the difference between German and Polish latkes. Any guesses? It turns out that German latkes are made with mashed potatoes and Polish latkes are made with shredded potatoes!

February's main attraction will be the welcoming into the congregation of Jayson Gallegos as he completes his conversion. That will be at the Shabbat Service on February 21<sup>st</sup>, after the Beit Din held a few days before that. Jayson's family will be there and we will have an expanded Oneg so please come if you can and show him a warm welcome.

I hope that all of you are doing well. Remember that we are here if you need us or want to share your simchas with us. If any of you were affected by the recent fires, please let us know.

Shalom

Lila

### BOOK CLUB NEWS

Our next book club meeting will be Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 1:00pm.

The book will be, "James" by Everett Percival. It is a brilliant, action packed reimagining of the "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" told from the enslaved Jim's point of view.

For more information contact Michelle.

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





Happy  
PASSOVER

## **Beth Shalom of Whittier**

### **Lunch & Learn**

Hazzan Lance will discuss and do a deep dive into the prayers, customs, ceremonies, traditions and fictions about the festival of Pesah (Passover). All are invited to attend.

**Join your Beth Shalom friends for an afternoon  
of informative discussion and a light lunch.**

**Saturday, March 1, 2025 ★ 12:00 – 2:00 PM**

**Please RSVP by February 25th so we will have  
enough food for everyone,**

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

**by phone: 562.941.8744**

## Purim

It is an event in Jewish history, an important lesson. I will review the main parts of the Purim story and contain it to our Jewish history throughout the ages.

The Story After the banishment of queen Vashti, king Ahasuerus, the ruler of Persia and Media ordered a contest to select a new queen. Esther by the king's officers was forced to enter the contest. As instructed by Mordechai, her uncle, she didn't tell anyone that she was Jewish. It was an act of G-d that made the king choose Esther for his queen. It was a choice he never regretted for Esther always served him as a trustworthy and devoted wife. This won much favor in his eyes and he granted her all that she desired.

It was not long before the love and admiration that Esther had earned was tested. Haman second to the king, requested his permission to kill all the Jews in his Kingdom. He was enraged by the Jews who refused to honor him as a god, and particularly by Mordechai, who refused to bow down to him as he passed by every morning through the royal courtyard. Haman's plot reached Mordechai who reported it to queen Esther. Esther then fasted for three days and ordered Mordecai and all the Jews of Persia to do the same. She then went to seek an audience with the king. With this act she took her life into her own hands as it was the law that no one could appear before the king except when summoned by him.

Queen Esther and Mordecai succeeded in defeating wicked Haman, with the result that the Jews were saved and evil Haman and his equally wicked sons were hanged.

The Lesson A tyrant arises to destroy the Jews. The situation seems hopeless, but the Jews are saved. How typical this story is of Jewish history throughout the ages. There is no better proof that "history repeats itself" than the history of our people. From the time the Israelites became a people, many nations have tried to destroy them: Nebuchadnezzar of Babylonia (now Iraq), Antiochus of Syria, and Hitler of Germany all tried to annihilate the Jews. Despite their great power as leaders of powerful nations, they failed. They did not want to learn the lesson thought to their predecessor Pharaoh Rameses of Egypt. G-d is with the Jews and it is his will that they shall never die out in order to fulfil their noble mission. As a result nation after nation and tyrants after tyrants has learned this lesson.

Lessons in history are not for tyrants alone. They should be learned by all of the world, this particular lesson. It is for us Jews that this story should give courage and assure us that no matter how hopeless a situation may be G-d will always remember his Jewish people. He will come to their aid in time of need, if they turn to Him honestly and sincerely. Shalom!

P.S. To be continues nest month

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**.

February 7--7:30 pm Service--Rabbi Ken

February 14--7:25 pm Prelude; 7:30 pm--Service--Hazzan Lance and Ty

February 21-- 7:25 pm Prelude; 7:30 pm--Service--Hazzan Lance and Ty

February 28-- 7:25 pm Prelude; 7:30 pm--Service--Hazzan Lance and Ty



Russ Shane  
David Weiss

February 22  
February 22

## 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)**

## Candle Lighting Times

February 7 - 5:12

February 14 - 5:19

February 21 - 5:25

February 28 - 5:32



## Tribute Cards

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

**Yahrzeit**

<b>Observed By</b>	<b>Dear Departed</b>	<b>Relationship</b>
<i>Sidney Paul</i>	<i>Harry Paul</i>	<i>Father</i>
<i>Klara Wein</i>	<i>Meir Militeanu</i>	<i>Father</i>
<i>Eugene Jaffee</i>	<i>Sol Jaffee</i>	<i>Son</i>
<i>Hazzan Lance H Tapper</i>	<i>Dr. L. E. Tapper</i>	<i>Father</i>
<i>Marietta Shreiber Reed</i>	<i>Norma Shreiber</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Mona Di Natale</i>	<i>Irving Cirulnick</i>	<i>Uncle</i>
<i>Diane Chesler</i>	<i>Ethel Chesler</i>	<i>Mother-in-Law</i>
<i>Jeffrey Kolnick</i>	<i>Mabel Cutler</i>	<i>Grandmother</i>
<i>Alberto Herrera</i>	<i>Carmen Medina</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Bernard Fink</i>	<i>Yetta Fink</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Morton Goldberg</i>	<i>Jennie Goldberg</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Jay Devore</i>	<i>Paul Devore</i>	<i>Brother</i>

**Yahrzeit Observed by Beth Shalom of Whittier**

<b>Dear Departed</b>		
<i>Jordan Pollack</i>	<i>Sylvia Squier</i>	<i>Esther Rosen</i>
<i>Julia Morris</i>	<i>Louis Ossofsky</i>	<i>Bernard Weissman</i>
<i>Janchel Groisman</i>	<i>Max Popkin</i>	<i>Saul Korduner</i>
<i>Harvey Ziskin</i>	<i>Benjamin Winter</i>	<i>William Lyons</i>

**Donations**

Myra Becker - loved ones on the Mi Shebeirach list

**Yahrzeit Donations**

<b><u>Remembered by</u></b>	<b><u>Beloved Departed</u></b>	<b><u>Relationship</u></b>
Mark Hilliard	Glenda Hilliard	Wife
Myra Becker	Ruth Beck	Mother
	Bella Bell	Grandmother
	Pauline Newman	Aunt
	Lou Binke	Uncle
David Weiss	Elliot Weiss	Father
Michelle Hess	Leigh Hess	Father-in-Law
	Julius Schwartz	Uncle
Sidney Paul	Harry Paul	Father
	Bertha Paul	Step-Mother
	Evelyn Resnick	Sister



## Beth Shalom of Whittier

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<http://www.bethshalomofwhittier.net>

### Shevat 5785

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 3 Shevat Parashat Bo
2	3	4	5	6	7 7:30p Shabbat Service	8 10 Shevat Parashat Beshalach
9	10	11	12	13	14 7:30p Shabbat Service	15 17 Shevat Parashat Yitro
16	17	18 1:00p Book Club	19	20 7:00p Board Meeting	21 7:30p Shabbat Service	22 24 Shevat Parashat Mishpatim
23	24	25	26	27	28 7:30p Shabbat Service	