



Our Mishpacha

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Everyone is Welcome

Hazzan's Notes



Dear Friends,

During the month of March, we begin the happy month of Adar II in which Purim takes place. We are in a leap year cycle this year in the Jewish calendar and so we have two months named Adar. Adar I began in early February and was a normal month with no special festivals in it and then Adar II begins early this month. Purim, in a leap year, therefore, is celebrated in Adar II.

The rules and *halachah* (Jewish laws) of Purim are very interesting and include *Taanit Ester (the Fast of Esther)* the day before Purim and the frivolity that is attached to this festival. We fast down to dusk on *Taanit Ester* (Friday this year) to remind us of what our people could have lost had it not been for the courageous Esther! Like Hanukkah, Purim has a special prayer attached to it's *Amidot (Standing Silent Devotions)* called *Al Hanissim (on these miracles)*. In this prayer with the special liturgy for Purim, we thank God for his and the courageous work of both Esther and Mordechai to assist our people in triumphing over evil. We remember all that has been done for us!

We are commanded in the *halachah* to get into a state on Purim where we do not know the difference between Haman and Mordechai. Where we do not know the difference between good and evil. This allows us the unbounded joy of dressing in costumes and giving *Mishloah Manot (gifts)* to all around us. Many drink or imbibe other substances to enjoy moving to a different "plane" out of the mundane work a day to enjoy this happy time. In fact, the *halachah* suggests that the entire month of Adar II (this year, Adar in other years) should be festive, happy, and laid back. And of course, in all Ashkenazi traditions, we serve the famous cookie called *Hamantaschen* which is three cornered based on the tradition that Haman's hat was three cornered and it is filled with all types of regional delights, including, but not limited to: Poppy seed (*mohn*), Chocolate chips, almond paste, raspberry, apricot, cherry, strawberry, and plum.

May you all have a joyous Adar II and a marvelous Purim. Join us on March 23 for our 7:30 pm service!

Hag Sameach!

Hazzan Lance H. Tapper, Hon DMus

From our President

Hello Everyone,

February zipped by and I know it's the shortest month of the year but 1 day shouldn't make such a difference! I will say one thing about February – It was cold and wet!!

There have been many ups and downs among the congregation. Our continuing prayers go out to Joanne Golden, who suffered an aneurysm and was in a coma for several days. She is now awake, walking, talking and eating (to varying degrees). She and Joel have our continuing love and prayers. David Starkman is recovering from his surgery and nothing new was discovered and we are so grateful for that news.

I'll bet you can't guess where I went in this nasty weather. I went to the beach! Yes, I spent last weekend with my grandson Daniel, my daughter Joann & her fiancé Rudy at the beach cottages at Camp Pendleton! Lest you think I am completely crazy, it is very hard to get reservations there and we take them when we can get them. Then to make it worse, they shut the electricity down on our portion of the base on Sunday. Cold, wet and in the dark! Believe it or not we still enjoyed walking along the beach, watching the waves and sunsets, as well as sitting around a bonfire and enjoying good company. I am actually going back next weekend and hoping for a little sunshine.

We have a busy March scheduled. I hope I will see many of you at our Lunch and Learn on March 2nd (with Deli lunch) and a Shabbat Dinner on March 15th (Lascari's Italian). Please don't forget to RSVP if you are coming. You know that running short of food is one of a Jewish mother's greatest nightmares!

Remember that we are here for you. If you need a call, just to hear a friendly voice and shmooze a little bit, just let the office or me know.

Shalom,
Lila

Donations

Myra Becker Donation made in honor of loved ones on Mi Shebeirach list

Yahrzeit Donations

Remembered by

Myra Becker

Michelle Hess

Mark Hilliard

Jeffrey Kolnick

Beloved Departed

Jennie Beckelman

George Becker

Esther Friedman

Rose Minnie Morzinsky

Pauline Morzinsky

Diane Graham

Ray C. Hilliard

Sean Hilliard

Lea Kolnick

Relationship

Grandmother

Father-in-Law

Aunt

Mother

Grandmother

Cousin

Father

Brother

Sister

Tribute Cards

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

BETH SHALOM OF WHITTIER
INVITES YOU TO
A SHABBAT DINNER AND SERVICE



FRIDAY, MARCH 15, 2024

IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL AT FIRST FRIENDS

AN ITALIAN DAIRY PASTA DINNER WILL BE SERVED BEGINNING AT 6:15PM
FOLLOWED IMMEDIATELY BY THE PRELUDE AND SHABBAT SERVICE AT 7:25 PM
(THE PRELUDE AND SERVICE WILL BE BROADCAST ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE)

HAZZAN LANCE H TAPPER, HON DMUS, OFFICIATING
TY WOODWARD, ACCOMPANIST

RESERVATIONS ARE A MUST FOR THIS SHABBAT DINNER/SERVICE

**MEMBERS PLUS ONE GUEST MAY ATTEND AT NO CHARGE/
OTHER ATTENDEES WILL BE CHARGED \$15 FOR THE DINNER**

**PLEASE EMAIL OR CALL THE TEMPLE OFFICE AT bswoffice@verizon.net or
(562) 941-8744 TO RESERVE**

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS MARCH 8, 2024



BETH SHALOM OF WHITTIER

Celebrates

PURIM



SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 2024

SERVICE AND MEGILLAH READING AT 7:30 PM

RABBI KENNETH MILHANDER, HON DDIV WILL OFFICIATE

**THE SERVICE WILL ALSO BE BROADCAST ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE:
BETH SHALOM OF WHITTIER**

**WE INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SANCTUARY
BY DROWNING OUT THAT EVIL PERSON'S NAME DURING THE MEGILLAH STORY**

HAMANTASCHEN WILL BE SERVED FOLLOWING THE SERVICE!

JOIN US FOR THE FUN AND FRIVOLITY!

Chukim

The laws of SHATNEZ, TATTOOING and SHAVING

These are certain laws in the Torah that are not explained and therefore, we do not know the reasons for them. We are told by G-d through Moses that such laws are to be obeyed. They go under the general classification of Chukim.

SHATNEZ One of the “Chukim” given to us in the Torah by G-d is the law of “Shatnez”. We are commanded not to wear any garment that contains a mixture of wool and linen. This mixture is called “Shatnez”. As these two materials are sometimes used in the manufacture of clothing. It is proper to have them checked in a “non-Shatnez” laboratory and have them remove the “Shatnez”.

TATTOOING Another “Chok” (singular for Chukin) given to us by G-d is the prohibition of any kind of tattooing. By tattoos this means permanent tattoos that are etched into the skin and can't be erased. Many rabbis felt the reason for this can be found in the fact that tattooing was a common practice among idol worshipers. In order to keep the Jewish people pure in their belief in one G-d, they were forbidden to imitate idol worshipers in any way.

Shaving the temples and face The idea of wearing a beard doesn't come to Jewish men direct from the Torah. It is a custom accepted by some pious Jews. There is a law in the Torah, a “Chok”, that prohibits the shaving of the face with a razor. Another prohibition also included the sideburns. Again, we do not know the reason for this.

The theory given by sages is that this custom was also practiced by idol worshipers. If the beard can be removed by another means rather than a razor, it is permissible.

With the invention of the electric shaver, which operates like a scissor, a method was finally found for the removal of the beard without a razor. It has been accepted by religious Jews as a permissible method of shaving and it is used by them to this day. There are some Jews (mostly rabbis and hazzons), who would rather wear a beard to observe an ancient tradition, and so they do not shave in any way.

Shalom,
Sam Pearlman

BOOK CLUB NEWS

Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 12th at 12:30 pm. We are reading “Kantika” by Elizabeth Graver. Kantika – “song” in Ladino – follows the joys and losses of Rebecca Cohen, feisty daughter of the Sephardic elite of early 20th-century Istanbul.

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.



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**.

March 1--7:30 pm Service--Rabbi Ken

March 8--7:25 pm Prelude; 7:30 pm Service--Hazzan Lance and Ty

March 15-- 6:15 pm Italian Dairy Dinner (by reservation only) 7:25 pm Prelude; 7:30 pm Service (Note: dinner and service will be held in the Fellowship Hall) --Hazzan Lance and Ty Woodward

March 22--7:25 pm Prelude; 7:30 pm Service--Hazzan Lance and Ty

March 23--**Erev Purim**--7:30 pm Service--Rabbi Ken

March 29-- 7:25 pm Prelude; 7:30 pm Service--Hazzan Lance and Ty

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.

Candle Lighting Times

March 1 - 5:32

March 8 - 5:38

March 15 - 6:44

March 22 - 6:49

March 29 - 6:55



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

Beth Shalom of Whittier March Birthdays

Sidney Paul March 7

Sarah Held March 14

Susan Kramer March 21

Cathleen Cavanaugh March 23

Anniversary

- 0 -

Yahrzeit

Observed By	Dear Departed	Relationship
<i>Evelyn Goldberg Brunelle</i>	<i>Fay Goldberg</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Eileen Baptista</i>	<i>Ray Galvin</i>	<i>Father</i>
<i>Susan Lieberman</i>	<i>Robert Lieberman</i>	<i>Husband</i>
	<i>David Moskowitz</i>	<i>Uncle</i>
<i>Irving Bartikofsky</i>	<i>Carmen Bartikofsky</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Mark Hilliard</i>	<i>Ray C. Hilliard</i>	<i>Father</i>
<i>Marilyn Esterson</i>	<i>Arnold Rose</i>	<i>Brother</i>
<i>Miriam Held</i>	<i>Joseph Held</i>	<i>Husband</i>
<i>Scott Held</i>	<i>Joseph Held</i>	<i>Father</i>
<i>Sandra Paul</i>	<i>Rhea B. Seagull</i>	<i>Cousin</i>
<i>Lila Held</i>	<i>Charles Held</i>	<i>Husband</i>
<i>Joann Eres</i>	<i>Charles Held</i>	<i>Father</i>
<i>Joseph Grossberg</i>	<i>Rebecca Grossberg</i>	<i>Wife</i>
<i>Michelle Hess</i>	<i>Sarah Schwartz</i>	<i>Aunt</i>
<i>Jay Weinschenker</i>	<i>Gregory Weinschenker</i>	<i>Cousin</i>

Yahrzeit Observed by Beth Shalom of Whittier**Dear Departed**

<i>Israel Kleinberg</i>	<i>Irving Bernard</i>	<i>Dora Abramson</i>
<i>Herman Udkoff</i>	<i>Florence Candioly</i>	<i>Sarah Bernstein</i>
<i>Frank Slonka</i>	<i>Raymond Brantz</i>	<i>Flora Kuhn</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.

Adar I - Adar II 5784

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 7:30p Shabbat Service	2 22 Adar I Parashat Ki Tissa 2:00p Lunch & Learn (by reservation only)
3	4	5	6	7	8 7:30p Shabbat Service	9 29 Adar I Parashat Vayakhel
10	11	12 12:30p Book Club	13	14	15 6:15p Italian Dinner (by reservation only) 7:30p Shabbat Service	16 6 Adar II Parashat Pekudei
17	18	19	20	21 7:00p Board Meeting	22 7:30p Shabbat Service	23 13 Adar II Parashat Vayikra 7:30p Erev Purim Service
24	25	26	27	28	29 7:30p Shabbat Service	30 20 Adar II Parashat Tzav