



Our Mishpacha

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December 2021



Everyone is Welcome

Hazzan's Notes



Dear Friends,

We are celebrating Hanukkah early this year with a wonderful Brisket and Latke Shabbat dinner followed by service on Friday, December 3 for Shabbat Hanukkah. We know that this festival of light and rededication give us pause to reflect upon all that we have been through in the last 2 years and where we can go from here to keep our traditions alive given all that has transpired.

This year, we want to invite all of you to participate with us in person for the Shabbat dinner at 6:00 pm which will be provided by the synagogue free of charge for all who wish to attend in the Fellowship Hall. There will even be gifts given for all who attend! The Hanukkah prelude in the Meeting House will commence at 7:25 pm and the service will follow at 7:30 pm.

We sincerely hope that as we begin to feel freer to attend functions outside our house that the freedom Hanukkah celebrates will embolden you to make sure you spend time with your fellow Whittier Jews. We love you! We care about you! And, most especially, we miss you in person and want to see you back with us to celebrate our traditions as did our ancestors at this time of rededication. As the poetess Ruth Brin says quoting the Book of Maccabees: "The light of freedom burns bright and hot at the crossroads of decision."

We look forward to celebrating this time of rejoicing with you! Hag Urim Sameach and may this be a bright Hanukkah for us all this year!

Hazzan Lance H. Tapper

From our President

Hello Everyone,

Another month has flown by! The highlight of our services this month was the Berlin Kristallnacht Remembrance Service. It was beautiful and moving and a wonderful tribute to the Jewish Community of Berlin, past and present. I hope you all had a good Thanksgiving. We split our time and appetites between two family households and enjoyed both immensely. This was the first time in years that I haven't done the cooking and I could definitely get used to this! I couldn't quite resist buying a turkey though to cook in the next few weeks. I can't quite give up having leftovers! Speaking of Thanksgiving, let me say that I am very grateful for our Beth Shalom Community and the vaccinations which are allowing us to get together in person again, even if it is with many precautions.

From me and my family, I wish you all a Happy Hanukkah.

Shalom
Lila

Chanukah A Spiritual Victory

24 - 30 Kislev till one Tevet 2021

Hanukkah celebrates the military victory of the Maccabees who were loyal to Jewish law, over the Syrian Greeks and their Jewish allies. Antiochus, the Greek ruler did not want to destroy the Jewish people; he wanted to destroy the Jewish religion. He wanted the Jews to assimilate to the idol worship of the Greek religion and his way of life.

Jason, who at that time was the High Priest of Israel, promised the king money if he was permitted to build a college and a physical gym. Antiochus finally agreed to this as he had been reassured by the priests of Israel that the Jewish people no longer held first place in their hearts to Judaism. The priests told him that the Jews were only waiting for him to place a Greek idol in the Temple.

Rebellion One priestly family that remained loyal to Jewish law and the religion was the Hasmoneans, or Maccabees, as they were later called. Mattathias and his five sons knew that Jews had sinned greatly in adopting the customs of the Greeks which were so contrary to Jewish beliefs.

"Whoever is for G-d follow me", Mattathias shouted and he and his sons fled to the mountains. There he raised a small army. He planned to free the Jews from the Greek influence and the rule of Antiochus. They won a number of great victories led by his son Judah Maccabee who replaced his aged father and his family returned to Jerusalem.

When they saw the Temple desecrated by the Greek idols their hearts bled, but they did not lose courage. They threw the Greek idols out of the Temple, cleaned it, and replaced the old vessels, with new ones. As a final touch, they had to light the "Menorah".

By law the Menorah was to be kept burning in the Temple continuously. When the Maccabees looked for the special oil they found only a small cruse good for only one day. As they put it into the menorah they hoped for the best. The oil lasted for eight days. The rededication of the Temple occurred on the 25th day of Kislev in the year 165 B.C.E.

Not only did the Jews win a victory over Antiochus but they won a victory over themselves. Mattathias taught them that the right way is the way of the Torah. For only the Torah has preserved the Jewish people. It was the example set by one family that influenced all the people. This is the lesson taught by Hanukkah.

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Clergy Schedule

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.

December 3--Shabbat Hanukkah 6:00 pm Dinner; 7:25 pm Prelude; 7:30 pm Service--Hazzan Lance and Ty Woodward

December 10--7:25 pm Prelude; 7:30 pm Service--Hazzan Lance and Ty Woodward

December 17--7:25 pm Prelude; 7:30 pm Service--Hazzan Lance and Ty Woodward

December 24--No service*

December 31--No service*

* please watch a service you might like:

1. Berlin liberal (Conservative) synagogue on Pestalozzi Street (Pestalozzistrasse)--Rabbi Jonah Sievers; Kantor Isidoro Abramowicz;
2. Dr. Jakub Stefek, Organist; and Choir--live service at 9am Friday mornings LA time or watch Friday evenings when you'd like on their facebook page:

Synagogue Pestalozzistraße Live or on their website: <http://www.synagoge-pestalozzistrasse.de/>

2. Park Avenue Synagogue in New York City--Rabbi Elliott Cosgrove; Hazzan Azi Schwartz; David Enlow, Organist--3:15 pm live LA Time or watch when you'd like Friday night at: <https://pasyn.org/>

3. Sinai Temple in Los Angeles--Rabbi David Wolpe, Rabbi Erez Sherman, Hazzan Marcus Feldman--5:45 pm LA Time live on their YouTube Channel--Sinai Temple Los Angeles

Directions for viewing livestream services:

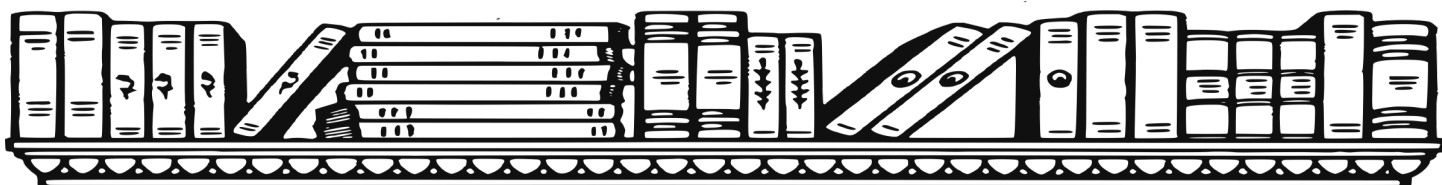
If you are a current Facebook subscriber, you need only to go to our Facebook page, **Beth Shalom of Whittier**, to view these announcements and videos. If you are not a current Facebook subscriber, you need to go to www.facebook.com and sign up with a username and password and then you can access our page at that point.

BOOK CLUB NEWS

We are meeting on Tuesday, December 7th at 1:00 p.m., at Michelle's home. (Note time change). No book selected. Everyone has been asked to suggest 3 or 4 possible future reads. We will then discuss and vote on our preferences. The meeting will be in-person and virtual, with all in-person attendees being vaccinated.

Happy Reading.

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



December

Candle Lighting Times

December 3 - 4:25

December 10 - 4:25

December 17 - 4:28

December 24 - 4:31

December 31 - 4:36



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**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 |
| Robert Rubin      | December 21 |
| Claire Rademacher | December 25 |
| Deborah Miranda   | December 28 |

## Anniversary

Jim & Alita Sevin                      December 7

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



**amazon smile**  
You shop. Amazon gives.

## Shop Amazon Smile to Help Support Beth Shalom

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.

**Donations**

Arlene Norton

**Yahrzeit Donations**

**Remembered by**

Michelle Hess

Robert Rubin

Rita Rubin

Bernard Starkman

**Beloved Departed**

Emmanuel Morzinsky

Gail Goodstein

Yetta Gnessin

Blanche Starkman

**Relationship**

Uncle

Sister

Mother

Mother

**Tribute Cards**

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

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

***Dear Departed***

*Brina Bressler*

*Sophie Carnow*

*Freda Cipes*

*Sadie Dreyfuss*

*Ruth Becker*

*Ida Fink*

*Helen Fleischman*

*Louis Freedman*

*Anna Fruchtman*

*William Kerman*

*Manuel Klasky*

*Naftali Saleweizek*

*Beatrice Snow*

*Joseph Ward*

*Rebecca Wiener*

*Sylvia Zober*

**Chanukah A Spiritual Victory**  
*Continued from page 2.*

**Menorah** As a symbol and a reminder of the miracle of the oil, we light and display a model "menorah" each night of the holiday (24 - 30 Kislev till one Tevet 2021). We begin with one candle and add one candle each night, bringing it to a total of eight candles lit on the eighth night of Hanukkah. The menorah is lit by a special lighting candle shamash. It is placed a little higher in the menorah, separate from the regular Hanukkah candles.

The candles are put into the Menorah from right to left. On the first night (24 Kislev which is 28 November on the USA calendar), the candle on the extreme right is put in on the first night. Each night a new candle is added on that side. In lighting the menorah however, we go from left to right. The newest candle is lit first, and followed by the second newest and so on.

The menorah should be lit in the evening after the "Ma'ariv" service. They should burn for at least half an hour. The entire family should be present during the "mitzvah". Prior to the candle lighting three blessings are read as follows: The first blessing indicates the fulfillment of the "mitzvah", the second 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 by each household using its own model menorah.

Shalom,  
Sam Pearlman

## Yahrzeit

| <b><i>Observed By</i></b>    | <b><i>Dear Departed</i></b> | <b><i>Relationship</i></b> |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>Susan Lieberman</i>       | <i>Etta Arnold</i>          | <i>Mother</i>              |
|                              | <i>Max Moskowitz</i>        | <i>Uncle</i>               |
| <i>Steve Batista</i>         | <i>Dorothy Baptista</i>     | <i>Mother</i>              |
| <i>Myra Becker</i>           | <i>Ruth Beck</i>            | <i>Mother</i>              |
|                              | <i>Lou Binke</i>            | <i>Uncle</i>               |
|                              | <i>Pauline Newman</i>       | <i>Aunt</i>                |
|                              | <i>Dorothy Rubin</i>        |                            |
| <i>Hope Greenwood</i>        | <i>Pearl DeMase</i>         | <i>Mother</i>              |
|                              | <i>Isaac Leiboff</i>        | <i>Father</i>              |
| <i>Miriam Brookfield</i>     | <i>Dora Fleischmann</i>     | <i>Mother</i>              |
|                              | <i>Willy Fleischmann</i>    | <i>Father</i>              |
| <i>Millie Hock</i>           | <i>Rose Goldberg</i>        | <i>Mother</i>              |
|                              | <i>Steven Hock</i>          |                            |
| <i>Rita Rubin</i>            | <i>Gail Goodstein</i>       | <i>Sister</i>              |
| <i>Michelle Hess</i>         | <i>Leigh Hess</i>           | <i>Father-in-Law</i>       |
|                              | <i>Julius Schwartz</i>      | <i>Uncle</i>               |
| <i>Mark Hilliard</i>         | <i>Glenda Hilliard</i>      | <i>Wife</i>                |
| <i>Jeffrey Kolnick</i>       | <i>Mary Kolnick</i>         | <i>Grandmother</i>         |
| <i>Harris Kuhn</i>           | <i>Samuel Kuhn</i>          |                            |
| <i>Hazzan Lance H Tapper</i> | <i>Esther D Tapper</i>      | <i>Grandmother</i>         |
|                              | <i>Harold Louis Tapper</i>  | <i>Grandfather</i>         |
| <i>Mina Cano</i>             | <i>Socorro Torres</i>       | <i>Grandmother</i>         |
| <i>Russell Unger</i>         | <i>Robert Unger</i>         | <i>Son</i>                 |
| <i>Arlene Norton</i>         | <i>Jean Vinetsky</i>        | <i>Mother</i>              |
|                              | <i>Arnold Winett</i>        | <i>Brother</i>             |
| <i>Robin Weintraub</i>       | <i>Sue Weintraub</i>        | <i>Mother</i>              |
| <i>David Weiss</i>           | <i>Elliot Weiss</i>         | <i>Father</i>              |
|                              | <i>Rose Weiss</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.*

*December 2021*  
*Kislev - Tevet 5782*

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday              | Wednesday | Thursday                  | Friday                      | Saturday                           |
|--------|--------|----------------------|-----------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 28     | 29     | 30                   | 1         | 2                         | 3<br>7:30p Hanukkah Service | 4<br>30 Kislev<br>Parashat Miketz  |
| 5      | 6      | 7<br>1:00p Book Club | 8         | 9                         | 10<br>7:30p Shabbat Service | 11<br>7 Tevet<br>Parashat Vayigash |
| 12     | 13     | 14                   | 15        | 16<br>7:00p Board Meeting | 17<br>7:30p Shabbat Service | 18<br>14 Tevet<br>Parashat Vayehi  |
| 19     | 20     | 21                   | 22        | 23                        | 24                          | 25<br>21 Tevet<br>Parashat Shemot  |
| 26     | 27     | 28                   | 29        | 30                        | 31                          | 1                                  |