



Our Mishpacha

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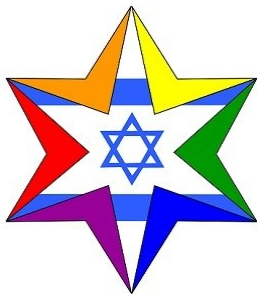
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Everyone is Welcome

Hazzan's Notes



Dear Friends,

At the end of this month, we will celebrate the last of the major festivals of our religious year with the *Regel* (Pilgrimage Festival) of *Shavuot*. It comes after 7 long weeks of counting the *Omer* from the 2nd night of *Pesah* until *Erev Shavuot*. It is also *Hag Heasif* (the "continuance" festival) because it continues our journey as a people out of slavery in Egypt to becoming a real people with codified laws stipulated here at *Shavuot* when we again read the 10 Commandments. We all reenact being at Mt. Sinai when we stand to hear these laws reads to us each year at this festival observance.

Shavuot is also remembrance of our ancestors' harvest of wheat celebration at this time of the year. Whereas *Pesah* was an ancestral celebration of the barley harvest, this celebration acknowledges how important wheat was to our diet as a people. It gave us many abilities to create bread and cake which have nourished our people for millennia.

Shavuot is especially remembered as a festival of eating dairy products which include milk, cheese, yogurt, etc. The study of *Torah* and anything connected to it have been compared in the *Talmud* to milk and its purity qualities. Thus, borscht, schav, blintzes, cheesecake, rugelach, etc. all are traditionally eaten at this festival. Some of these traditions come from northern Europe and Russia and cheesecake, rugelach, and others from the German and central European states.

Yizkor has been attached to our major festivals including *Yom Kippur*, *Sh'mini Atzeret (Sukkot)*, *Pesah*, and *Shavuot* for hundreds of years now and it gives us pause at the end of each of these auspicious times in our calendar to remember those who would have celebrated these festivals with us in years gone by who are no longer here to do so. We miss them and remember them, so they are never far from our reality even though they no longer are here in corporal space.

We hope you will want to join us for both our *Erev Shabbat Shavuot* service on May 26 and our *Shabbat Shavuot* Morning *Yizkor* service on May 27 where we will read the 10 Commandments and recite those *Yizkor* prayers.

B'vrachah,

Hazzan Lance H. Tapper, Hon D'Mus

From our President

Hi Everyone,

April has been a very busy month, both at Beth Shalom and personally.

Passover is always a busy and fun time. Our Beth Shalom seder was well attended and very enjoyable. Hazzan Lance always does an interesting, informative, and fun seder and it was great to be there in person with our congregation. Panache provided their usual delicious dinner and excellent service. Then, I was fortunate enough to have family and friends together for a home seder. There were 25 of us and the house was the usual noisy chaos!

Our second event of the month was our Lunch & Learn where our speaker was the Police Chief of Whittier, Aviv Bar. He provided us with much information, advice and insight regarding antisemitism and hate crimes in general. Jay Weinschenker (Adult Education, VP) has written an article with pictures, elsewhere in this Mishpacha.

Keep watching for our upcoming events in the Weekly News. We have more coming!



On a personal note, my grandson Daniel, who has become a Friday night service regular, had a solo performance at his Pacifica High School's Spring Variety Show. He loves music, loves to hear Hazzan Lance sing and loves coming to services. At his school concert, he sang New York, New York. He was dressed in a tuxedo and Sinatra style hat with a chorus line of girls dancing as backup. He is a pleasure and a blessing and proof of just how much people on the spectrum can teach us. They say what they think and take everything literally!

Wishing you all a happy and healthy month of May.

Shalom,
Lila

Donations

Revekah Martinez - Pesach Donation
Eunice Singer - generous gift

Yahrzeit Donations

Remembered by

Michelle Hess

Kathleen King

Sandra Paul

Beloved Departed

Richard Hess

Martha Steinhauer

Robert Gaal

Ann Lehman

Ted High

Relationship

Husband

Aunt

Brother

Mother

Brother-in-Law

Tribute Cards

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

Shavuot/Weeks



The festival of “Shavuot” occurs on the sixth and seventh days of Sivan. In current English that is the month of May 26th and 27th in the year of 2023/5783. It is the holiday celebrated at the end of seven full weeks of counting the “Omer” from the second day of Passover. It was about six weeks after our people left Egypt in a place called Sinai. After talking with G-d, Moses gathered the Israelites together for this message from G-d: “you have seen what I did to the Egyptians and how I bore you on eagles and brought you to myself. Now, therefore, if you will listen to my voice and keep my covenant then you will be a treasure to me among all peoples: for all the earth is Mine. And you will be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation” (Shmos 19:4-6).

The people heard the message from G-d and accepted the covenant. They promised to obey all the laws without question. At that moment 600,000 Israelites and their families heard a voice from G-d proclaiming the first and second commandments. “I am the Lord your G-d who has brought you out of the land of Egypt from the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before Me” (Shmos 20:1-2).

Since “Shavuot” is a harvest festival, it is customary to decorate both the home and synagogue with tree branches, fruits and flowers.

Dairy Meals Eating dairy products rather than meat for the main meal is a popular custom on this holiday. The reason for this is that in Israel at this time of year dairy products are plentiful

Reviewing the Torah On the first night of “Shavuot” it is customary to review selected parts of the Torah and Oral Law. This is to renew our appreciation of this precious gift from G-d.

Akdomus On the first day of “Shavuot” in all synagogues it is customary to read after morning service, just before reading the Torah, a Hebrew poem called Akdomus. It tells of the following: 1. The greatness of G-d and his creations; 2. The joy of our being G-d’s chosen people; The heroism that our people exhibited and their sacrifices for upholding of the Torah.

Book of Ruth On the second day of Shavuot “the book of Ruth” is read after the (Shacharis) morning service. It is a story of the devotion she had to her mother-in-law, Niomy, and above all to the Jewish religion. She was rewarded in her lifetime with her marriage to the wealthy and loving Boaz, but even more so in later generations, for it was her great-grandson David, who became the second king of Israel. Just as our ancestors stood around Mount Sanai, took it upon themselves to obey the Torah, so many years later, Ruth took it upon herself the same obligation. It is the same for all Jews to this very day. In essence, true happiness and a rewarding life can be achieved by living according to G-d’s law and obeying His commandments.

Vizkor On the second day of “Shavuot” the special menorah prayer “VIZKOR” is recited before the “Musaf” service. This same prayer is recited on each of the three pilgrimage festivals: “Succos”, “Pesach”, and “Shavuot” and also on “Yom Kippur”.

Sam Pearlman

P.S. Thank you all for the phone calls, letters, and notes I received during my two week illness.

Save the Date
Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday, June 25th, 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

*More Information To Come.

PLEASE JOIN
BETH SHALOM OF WHITTIER

In Celebrating
The Festival of SHAVUOT



EREV SHABBAT SHAVUOT

FRIDAY, MAY 26, 2023--LEWANDOWSKI SHAVUOT ORGAN PRELUDE 7:25 PM,

SERVICE 7:30 PM

**HAZZAN LANCE H TAPPER, HON DMUS, OFFICIATING
TY WOODWARD, ORGANIST**

SHABBAT SHAVUOT MORNING SERVICE (INCLUDING YIZKOR)

SATURDAY, MAY 27, 2023--SHAVUOT ORGAN PRELUDE 9:25 AM, SERVICE 9:30 AM

**HAZZAN LANCE H TAPPER, HON DMUS, OFFICIATING
ARYELL COHEN, GUEST ORGANIST**

in person at

FIRST FRIENDS

13205 Philadelphia Street, Whittier

**THE PRELUDES AND SERVICES WILL ALSO BE BROADCAST
ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE: BETH SHALOM OF WHITTIER**

Clergy Schedule

Beth Shalom Services: All services are in hybrid mode. Vaccinated people with proof 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.

May 5--Prelude 7:25 pm; Service 7:30 pm--Hazzan Lance and Ty Woodward

May 12--Prelude 7:25 pm; Service 7:30 pm--Hazzan Lance and Ty Woodward

May 19--Prelude 7:25 pm; Service 7:30 pm--Hazzan Lance and Ty Woodward

May 26--Erev Shabbat Shavuot-- *Lewandowski Shavuot Prelude* 7:25 pm; Service 7:30 pm--
Hazzan Lance and Ty Woodward

May 27--Shabbat Shavuot Yizkor--Prelude--9:25 am; Service (including the 10 Commandments Torah Reading and Yizkor)--Hazzan Lance and Guest Organist, Aryell Cohen

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

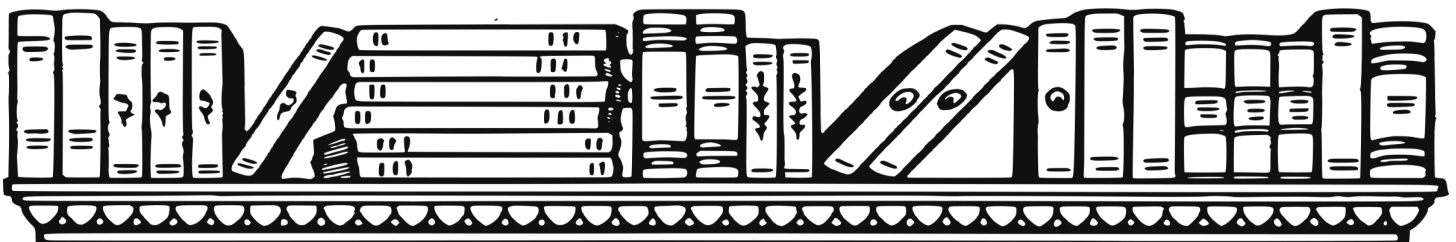
We will be reading "Inheritance: A Memoir of Genealogy, Paternity, and Love" by Dani Shapiro on Tuesday, May 23rd at 12:30 pm.

We will be reading "Radical Then, Radical Now" by Lord Rabbi Jonathan Sacks in June. No date has as yet been determined.

The Zoom link will be sent out a few days prior to our meeting.

Happy Reading Everyone

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



May

Candle Lighting Times

May 5 - 7:22
 May 12 - 7:28
 May 19 - 7:33
 May 26 - 7:38



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**

May Birthdays

Blue Bartikofsky May 5
 Myra Becker May 5
 Alberto Herrera May 8
 Maggie Singer May 10
 Lenore Barembaum May 11
 Steve Baptista May 20
 Irving Bartikofsky May 25
 Susan Rubin May 25

May Anniversaries

Robert & Rita Rubin - May 30 ★55 Years

Beth Shalom of Whittier wishes you
 a happy birthday and happy anniversary!!

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.

Yahrzeit Observed by Beth Shalom of Whittier

Dear Departed

<i>Sol Kain</i>	<i>Evette Pollack</i>	<i>Sally Dim</i>
<i>Rose Roy</i>	<i>Joseph Ross</i>	<i>Rebecca Sandow</i>
<i>Murray Fishelberg</i>	<i>Mildred Slonka</i>	<i>Herbert Litt</i>
<i>Toby Rosen</i>	<i>Isaac Rosenberg</i>	<i>Yetta Cohen</i>
<i>Louis Altshuler</i>	<i>Alfred Goldstein</i>	<i>Richard Gross</i>
<i>Louis Zevin</i>	<i>Rena Schannon</i>	<i>Oscar Yamin</i>
<i>Helen Braidman</i>	<i>Tillie Fishelberg</i>	<i>Samuel Rosen</i>
<i>Ida Koizim</i>	<i>Nathan Leopold</i>	<i>Louis Lieblich</i>
<i>Robert Solomon</i>	<i>Jack Lyons</i>	<i>Seymour Prog</i>

Yahrzeit

Observed By	Dear Departed	Relationship
<i>Susan Lieberman</i>	<i>Jack Lieberman</i>	<i>Father-in-Law</i>
	<i>Mina Lieberman</i>	<i>Mother-in-Law</i>
<i>Myra Becker</i>	<i>Martin Becker</i>	<i>Ex-Husband</i>
<i>Samuel Pearlman</i>	<i>Rachel Pearlman</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Joel Golden</i>	<i>Ida Freedman</i>	<i>Grandmother</i>
<i>Barry Neville</i>	<i>Bonnie Neville</i>	<i>Wife</i>
<i>Lila Held</i>	<i>Julius Bromberg</i>	
	<i>Jenny Kuperstein</i>	<i>Grandmother</i>
<i>Michelle Hess</i>	<i>Martha Steinhauer</i>	<i>Aunt</i>
<i>Evelyn Goldberg Brunelle</i>	<i>Rebecca Goldberg</i>	<i>Grandmother</i>
<i>Samuel Pearlman</i>	<i>Bernice Pearlman</i>	<i>Wife</i>
<i>Jeffrey Kolnick</i>	<i>William Cutler</i>	<i>Grandfather</i>
<i>Ellen Singer</i>	<i>Stanley Feldman</i>	<i>Father</i>
<i>Sherman Esterson</i>	<i>Abe Esterson</i>	<i>Father</i>
<i>Sidney Paul</i>	<i>Edith Gottlieb</i>	<i>Step-Sister</i>
	<i>Sylvia Playberg</i>	<i>Sister</i>
<i>Susan Kramer</i>	<i>Michael Falk</i>	<i>Father</i>
<i>Kathleen King</i>	<i>Dorothy Gaal</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Klara Wein</i>	<i>Rachel Leah Militeanu</i>	<i>Mother</i>
<i>Mark Handler</i>		
<i>Debora Davis</i>	<i>Gertrude</i>	<i>Grandmother</i>
<i>Meryl Briscoe</i>		
<i>Loren Schneiderman</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.

From the Desk of LUNCH AND LEARN.....



Last week we had a very informative meeting. Lila Held reached out to Whittier police chief Aviv Bar asking him to do a presentation on antisemitism. Needless to say we were very happy when he said he'd be happy to do it. Aviv and Beth Shalom go way back as his mother was a Hebrew school teacher here back in the day. The timing of him coming to speak to us about antisemitism couldn't have been better as Israel just observed both Yom HaZikaron (Israel's memorial day) and Yom Ha'Atzmaut (Israel's Independence day). Chief Bar brought a well thought out presentation not only about antisemitism but about crime, safety, and preventive measures. After his presentation he opened it up to a question and answer session. A big thank-you goes out to Chief Bar for all the information he gave us and for his time.

Thank you to Lila Held for putting this meeting together and to Michelle for the lunch. As long as I'm thanking people I also want to thank everyone who came as it was a very well attended Lunch and Learn, and it was good to see so many of you.

If you have any comments or suggestions for a future lunch and learn call Jay Weinschenker at 562-965-8287 or email me at: bronxwest@gmail.com.

Shalom,
Jay



May 2023 ★ Iyar - Sivan 5783

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