



# Beth Shalom Weekly Update

Thursday, January 13, 2021 to Wednesday, January 19, 2022  
Hazzan Lance H. Tapper Shabbat Parashat Beshalach

Shabbat Services January 14, 2022

## SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday Evening 7:30 pm

## SYNAGOGUE OFFICE HOURS

The Beth Shalom office will now be open on Wednesdays and Fridays. Erica will work from home on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Our office phone and email will continue to be attended to Tuesdays through Fridays.

9:00a-4:00p Tuesday-Friday  
562.941.8744  
[bswoffice@verizon.net](mailto:bswoffice@verizon.net)

## Yahrzeit

Hazzan Lance H Tapper  
in memory of father  
Dr. L. E. Tapper

Joel Chesler  
in memory of mother  
Ethel Chesler

Mona Di Natale  
in memory of uncle  
Irving Cirulnick

Jeffrey Kolnick  
in memory of grandmother  
Mabel Cutler

Marietta Shreiber Reed  
in memory of mother  
Norma Shreiber

If you know of someone who is ill, had surgery, or just needs a call now and then, please let us know so we can reach out. Thank you.

## Happy Birthday

Susan Lieberman - January 19

## Clergy Schedule

Virtual Services: [www.facebook.com/bethshalomofwhittier](https://www.facebook.com/bethshalomofwhittier)

*\*Services and events are once again open to in person attendance with proof of vaccination and a mask. Services will continue to broadcast on Facebook simultaneously for those who cannot attend in person.*

January 14-- 7:30 pm Service Rabbi Kenneth Milhander

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

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

February 4-- 7:25 pm Prelude; 7:30 pm Service Hazzan Lance and Ty Woodward

February 11-- 7:25 pm Prelude; 7:30 pm Service Hazzan Lance and Ty Woodward

## Jewish Vocational Service (Tenure Assured)

Torah Reading: Exodus 13:17-17:16

Haftarah Reading: Judges 4:4-5:31

Torah Portion: Beshalach

By: Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson, posted on January 22, 2005

You can imagine the fear of the former slaves as they fled toward the wilderness, toward the desert of Sinai.

Risking what little they had in Egypt, facing a precarious and dangerous future, these brave men, women, and children were driven by desperation, by a faith in God, and by a passionate rejection of human domination. Determined to meet their destiny with dignity, they packed their belongings and proceeded to flee from Egypt.

Of course, the Egyptians pursued after them. The traditional commentators notice that the Torah uses a peculiar verb form to describe the mobilization of the Egyptians--saying that "the Egyptians marched (singular) after them." According to Rashi, the reason the verb is in the singular form is to tell us that they marched "with one heart, like one man."

The Egyptians were united in their purpose--maintaining the power and supremacy of Egyptian might and wealth. That purpose continues to motivate many of the nations of the world to this day, lending unity and purpose to the pursuit of national interest.

What provided unity and purpose to Israel, our hearty ancestors fleeing toward freedom.

**Beth Shalom Services:** We are now open for in person services. Vaccinated people with proof may attend in person. Masks are required in accordance with the current LA County Public Health Dept. guidelines. 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. If you are not yet comfortable coming to services in person, please tune in virtually and feel free to leave a message of greeting to others who are watching.

**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](https://www.facebook.com) and sign up with a username and password and then you can access our page at that point. Always log in 5 minutes ahead of the video start time.

## 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.

**Book Club:** Our next meeting is Tuesday, February 8th at 12:30 pm. The Book is "And After The Fire" by Lauren Belfer. Today, January 10th, we had a great (Zoom) discussion meeting. As of now, the next meeting will also be on Zoom. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Tribute Cards:** To send a Tribute Card, please contact Michelle Hess. Her e-mail is: [michelleh3532@gmail.com](mailto:michelleh3532@gmail.com)

**PayPal Donations:** Paypal donations welcome: [bswoffice@verizon.net](mailto:bswoffice@verizon.net)

**Simcha Sharing:** Let us know about your Simcha's. Let the office know of your good news and we will share it in the next weekly. Weddings ★ Births

The Torah records they faced this Egyptian ruthlessness with an approach quite distinct from the Egyptian reliance on military might: "Greatly frightened, the Israelites cried out to the Lord.

Lest you think this recourse to prayer is merely a panic—a spontaneous surrender to terror, Rashi clarifies that "they seized upon the occupation of their ancestors. Regarding Abraham the Torah records: 'to the place where he stood [in prayer](Genesis 10:27),' of Isaac, it says: 'to pray in the field (Genesis 24:63),' and for Jacob, it says: 'he entreated in that place (Genesis 28:11).'"

Rashi understands the news that the Jews cried out to God not as some blind act of terror, but as a return to our essence, our true calling in the world. He points out that each of the three Patriarchs were exceptional precisely in their attention to matters of spirit, piety, and faith. All three ancestors turned to God as their center and their core.

In the inferno of Egyptian slavery, the Jews had forgotten their own true purpose, thinking instead that they were to be a people like any other. But in the drama of their liberation, they rediscovered what it has always meant to be a Jew: a people who can cry out to God, a people whose emotional orientation is toward heaven.

Throughout the millennia, Jews survived, not by ignoring the reality of life, not by escaping from the often cruel and disappointing events of everyday, but instead, our ancestors were able to endure and to thrive by tapping into wells of supernal strength, linking themselves to God by elevating their own perspective beyond their own limitations.

Jews learned to measure their lives with a divine yardstick, to seek comfort by living in accordance with God's way.

We, too, have forgotten our true vocation; have grown indifferent to the stunning task handed to us in days of old. To be a Jew, says Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, is to be a messenger.

To be a Jew is to cry out to God.

Shabbat Shalom



**EVERY PERSON HAS A NAME**

**25 HOUR  
HOLOCAUST  
REMEMBRANCE PROGRAM**  
Pasadena City Hall & on Zoom

**January 22, 2022 7 pm**  
COMMEMORATION CEREMONY  
**January 22, 2022, 8 pm - January 23, 2022, 8 pm**  
READING OF THE NAMES

If you wish to participate in reading the names  
of those who died during the Holocaust  
please visit [www.jewishsgpv.org](http://www.jewishsgpv.org)  
or call 626.445.0810

 **JEWISH  
FEDERATION**  
OF THE GREATER SAN GABRIEL  
AND POMONA VALLEYS

**Memorial Plaques:** we have brought all of the memorial plaques into our office, from the storage unit. If you would like a family member's plaque, please contact the office and let us know the name on the plaque. We will find it and arrange for you to pick it up. If you know of anyone who might have had loved one's plaques on our memorial board, please let them know that they are available to be picked up.