



Hadashot



The Newsletter of Congregation B'nai Shalom

CHESHVAN-TEVET 5781

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bshalom.org



Welcome to Congregation B'nai Shalom, a Conservative synagogue offering a warm, supportive, dynamic community joined together by prayer, learning and celebration!

THE RABBI'S STUDY

by Rabbi Daniel Stein

One of my earliest memories: In October, 1984, my parents drove our family to Perrysburg, Ohio—a suburb of Toledo, where I grew up. The occasion: Ronald Reagan's whistle-stop tour of Ohio during his reelection campaign against Walter Mondale. For the momentous tour of Ohio, the Reagan campaign restored the train Ferdinand Magellan—the Presidential Pullman car commissioned by Franklin D. Roosevelt and used extensively by Harry S Truman in his 1948 reelection campaign. It was, in fact, on the rear of The Magellan that Truman was photographed displaying The Chicago Tribune headlined with the words "Dewey Defeats Truman." Reagan's 160-mile journey from Dayton, Ohio to Perrysburg was far shorter than the near 21,000 miles Truman logged on the Magellan but attracted a large amount of media attention.

In taking me to see President Reagan, my parents were teaching me a lesson in civics—not a lesson in politics. They wanted me to understand how elections work and to understand



that actively taking part in elections is a central responsibility shared by all citizens. My parents, I think, never wanted me to take the right to vote for granted. Because Ohio is considered a bellwether state—and in fact, no Republican has won the presidency without winning Ohio—my parents had many occasions to reinforce that lesson and made sure that I saw every Presidential candidate when they inevitably came through Northwestern Ohio. In fact, I have seen, in person, every President in my lifetime. The same year that I saw President Reagan in Perrysburg, Rabbi Moshe Feinstein—an eminent Orthodox rabbi

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Directory

The Rabbi's Study

Hadashot is published bi-monthly by Congregation B'nai Shalom, 74 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek, CA 94596

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(continued from cover page)

who had fled anti-Semitism in Eastern Europe before rising to great esteem in New York—penned a letter in support not of a candidate, but of voting. I quote the letter in full, below:

On reaching the shores of the United States, Jews found a safe haven. The rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights have allowed us the freedom to practice our religion without interference and to live in this republic in safety.

A fundamental principle of Judaism is hakaras hatov — recognizing benefits afforded us and giving expression to our appreciation. Therefore, it is incumbent on each Jewish citizen to participate in the democratic system which guards the freedoms we enjoy. The most fundamental responsibility incumbent on each individual is to register and to vote. Therefore, I urge all members of the Jewish community to fulfill their obligations by registering as soon as possible, and by voting. By this, we can express our appreciation and contribute to the continued security of our community.

Rabbi Feinstein realized that the right to vote extended American Jews was momentous—a sentiment that the Rabbinical Assembly echoed in its recent statement on voting rights: “Jewish historical experiences throughout the centuries as an often-persecuted minority subjected to the whims of unaccountable leaders also instilled in American Jewry an appreciation for the value of free elections as protected by the United States Constitution’s Fourteenth Amendment.”

By the time you read this, you almost certainly will have voted: American Jews have the highest turnout rate of any ethnic group in America. On election day, though, I hope that you will take a moment to reflect on the unique privilege and responsibility given to many Americans in the Constitution, as well as to the many battles waged to extend the franchise to those the Framers excluded. As my parents taught me, the right to actively participate in our democracy is one we should never take for granted.



President's Pen

by Timothy Plattner

On the Monday between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, we held a very special evening dedicated to honoring and recognizing our amazing volunteers. We saw the executive committee and the board fumble through the initial zoom meetings of this COVID epidemic. We met, via zoom recordings, over 40 of our volunteers on various committees. We thanked as many people as we could, although we probably fell short by about an order of magnitude. And finally, we announced our major service award winners for Mensch of the Year and Bride and Groom of the Torah. As per standard protocol for these awards, we kept the winners secret, and so, at the time, I was unable to provide a detailed biography of our Menschen. Thus, I promised to interview and then write a Hadashot article with full biographical details of our winners. Since our Bride and Groom were honored on Simchat Torah, I was able to collect information to include in a speech, but for those who missed it, I've included their biographical info here as well. So, without further ado, I'd like to announce, again, and honor our Menschen of the Year, Elyse Eisner and Jim Solomon, and our Bride and Groom of the Torah, Sid Landman and Margalit Ir.

Elyse grew up in Poughkeepsie, NY, in a kosher but not necessarily very religious home. She had mixed experiences in Religious School where, at the local Orthodox Shul, her brother was locked in a men's bathroom for misbehaving in kindergarten. After leaving that shul immediately and taking a couple of years hiatus, she completed her religious schooling at the local Conservative Shul, chosen because the kids were nicer than those at the Reform synagogue. She soon joined the junior choir at the synagogue and performed every Friday night but wasn't engaged in much else. Upon turning 18, she, for the most part stopped attending entirely until many years later.

Elyse went to college in Massachusetts where she majored in English and then went to library school in Boston. She graduated in 1976, then 2 days later packed up her Pinto wagon and drove to California, where she has lived in Dublin ever since. She has worked mainly as a librarian in the corporate world, at companies like Bank of America and the Contra Costa Times, and then moved on to work for a vendor of library services, where she supervised

roving librarians who helped law and architectural firms with their libraries.

Elyse got married in 1977, but it was 9 years later that she finally decided it was time to join a shul, when she was pregnant with her daughter. She was concerned that she probably ought to join somewhere just in case she needed to have a bris. Since B'nai Shalom was the only Conservative Shul around, she attended a Friday night service. It happened to be a Family Shabbat, and in her words, "children were swinging from the rafters". There were so many kids, and everyone was so friendly that they joined.

When her daughter was in religious school, and her son was very young, she would hang out for the duration of school because of the round-trip distance to get home to Dublin and back was a challenge. One morning Rabbi Freeman asked her to make a minyan and she was very touched that he didn't mind her son being rambunctious. It was quite a difference from what she had experienced on the East Coast and it enhanced her relationship with the Shul. She continues with CBS because of her friends and because it is the place that she feels she belongs. She finds the association to a synagogue more important than when she was on the East Coast because there are so many fewer Jews in the community and she wants to make sure to be connected.

Over the years, Elyse has been a member of the choir, which she considers the aspect of her B'nai Shalom career of which she is most proud. She really enjoys it and looks forward to having a new Hazzan to start it up again (or perhaps even better, to have Hazzan Dinkin "un-retire" to lead it again!).

Elyse has been involved on the Sisterhood Board, the Education Committee, and more recently, the Hazzan Search Committee. She is a member of the B'Yachad Committee under Tikun Olam, and enjoys working to connect with and acknowledge members during both their happy and more difficult times.

Over the last year and a half, Elyse has served as the coordinator of our daveners and Torah and Haftarah readers. It is an incredibly difficult task that would typically reside with a clergy member. As we currently only have an over-worked Rabbi on staff, Elyse volunteered and has done a remarkable job making sure we always have readers for every Shabbat and festival.

Outside of B'nai Shalom, Elyse enjoys hiking, yoga, the theater and movies, traveling, and participating in a chorus.

Asked about her hope for B'nai Shalom's future, she would like to see a more cross-generational membership with many more younger families like when she first joined. She looks forward to the post-COVID days being able to come back to shul and seeing her friends... her "village".

Jim Solomon grew up in Detroit in a kosher, but otherwise not very observant, home (this experience seems to be prevalent in menschen). He went to religious school, but to services only about 3 times a year. He was educated in Detroit, from elementary all the way through earning his degree in industrial management from Wayne State University. He ran manufacturing plants, until he moved to California where he moved into sales, both as an employee and as an owner.

Over the years, Jim's connection to Judaism has grown. Julie's family was more observant than he was, so when they got married, he became more observant as well. When they moved to Walnut Creek from Los Angeles, B'nai Shalom was the only conservative synagogue in the area, so they chose a house within walking distance (albeit LONG walking distance at 3 miles). Jim increased his presence at services when his parents passed away and he attended shul to say kaddish. Once in the habit, he found he wanted to continue attending. They have raised their family at B'nai Shalom, they know most of their friends through B'nai Shalom, they love Rabbi Stein, and in Jim's words, they "have wrapped their lives around the synagogue."

Of course, as active in Synagogue services as Jim has been, it doesn't begin to convey how active he is in the service of the Synagogue. He started immediately after Marty Fohrman invited Jim and Julie to a new member evening at his house. A few weeks later, Marty called them, wanting to know which committee they wanted to join (it was already a foregone conclusion). Jim and Julie chose to join the social committee. The rest reads like an encyclopedia! Jim has been on the board for 18 years. While on the board, and off of it, he has led or been a participant in just about every committee (even if he can't remember them all... or even most). He has participated in Men's club, and has chaired the religious committee, the membership committee and the buildings and grounds committee. He is currently the secretary in charge of operations, the office and buildings and grounds. And... of course... he was president... twice.

(continued on page 4)

President's Pen (cont'd)

Jim's first stint as president (the very first 2-year presidential term) coincided with the building of our campus which he considers the highlight of his service career. He remembers fondly the hard work, the long hours, and the feelings of excitement and goodwill that flowed through the Congregation at that time. His second term was a single year due to an emergency gap in the progression. This means that he has been president for three years and solidifies the general consensus that he is meshugenah.

In Jim's copious spare time outside of keeping our building standing, he enjoys playing golf, going to the gym (pre-COVID) and spending time with his family.

Jim's hope for B'nai Shalom's future is that we attract a new wave of young families who will have the same love for our Shul as he does. In his mind, you build a synagogue, not for yourself, but for many future generations. As one of the people most responsible for the *actual* building of our Shul, he should know.

Sid Landman is a first-generation immigrant to this country, with his parents surviving the Holocaust to bring him to New York from Poland at age 6. It was there that Sid embarked on the course of financial education, starting with Bronx Science, moving on to City College followed up by 3 years in the army at the Pentagon and finally receiving his MBA from Loyola of Baltimore. He has served in various financial capacities including VP and CFO at many major corporations.

While he has never considered himself religious, he has had a strong cultural connection to Judaism since he was young, and he attended religious school, had his Bar Mitzvah, and went on to become president of his youth group, the Young Zionists. From there he had an opportunity to become a camp counselor for an American group in Israel, and since then has held various management roles in most every synagogue of which he has been a member.

Margalit Ir is also an immigrant to this country and child to Holocaust survivors. She was born in Israel and has continued to have a deeply felt connection to our homeland. She moved to Brooklyn with her parents in 1960. Her first marriage unfortunately ended quickly with the death of her husband. She stayed single for quite

a while, raising her daughter Tracy in New York. During this time, she had a full time job while earning her degree in Business Management and Finance over the course of seven years at night at Brooklyn College. Sid and Margalit were introduced via Sid's father and Margalit's mother, as the two families had known each other in Siberia during World War 2. They were married, and since then Margalit has worked at various firms, even working at a division of Xerox when Sid was the VP there. After moving to California, she was hired at Wells Fargo and then Bank of America helping first time home buyers secure loans, a profession that was very gratifying to her.

While Margalit has an extremely strong cultural connection to Judaism like Sid, she feels more comfortable with the practice and spiritual aspects of Judaism than he. Sid and Margalit chose this shul because it was the only conservative synagogue close to their house in Clayton when they moved to California. While they have considered moving to other synagogues over the years to perhaps compensate for their differences in religious comfort zones, they feel that they have so much time and energy and friendships invested in B'nai Shalom.

Over the years, Sid and Margalit have made substantial contributions to our Shul. Both have been on the board. Sid has been treasurer, participated in the capital campaign, long term strategy and the long term financial committees. Sid was also part of the negotiations on acquiring the day school and while the result was to not bring that institution to B'nai Shalom, his work on that committee is the accomplishment about which he is most proud at CBS. Margalit has been VP overseeing education and membership, and she was the social secretary. She was the chair and member on the Israeli Engagement Committee where the team planned and executed 7-8 programs per year. These included debates from all side of the political spectrum, a very memorable and successful concert by the Ladino singer Rywka Amado, where the singer came late due to a fall and hospital visit but still brought down the house; and an amazing Yitzhak Rabin Anniversary program that targeted multiple events throughout the day for multiple age groups.

Margalit is also currently the co-chair of the Tikun Olam Committee where she has focused on International Disaster Recovery,

food drives, the adoption of Afgani families in coordination with the JFCS, and where she developed the concept behind the B'Yachad arm of the committee.

Margalit has had a hand in some of the *major* recent events at our Shul, helping to coordinate both the Emmet Cohen Concert and the Violins of Hope Concert that were so successful over the last year and a half.

Finally, Margalit has specialized in fundraising, the accomplishment of which she is most proud, having raised over 200 thousand dollars across various efforts for B'nai Shalom.

Outside of B'nai Shalom Sid is an avid competitive duplicate bridge player, and perhaps less competitive poker player, he's a counselor with the SCORE program to mentor small businesses, and he does college-level tutoring in the financial fields. Margalit sews masks for CBS, the Reutlinger Community and the Making Waves Academy, knits hats and scarves for the homeless, is involved with Hadassah, and is particularly accomplished in European Genealogy where she helps people and organizations around the world to find, extract, and compile data. She plays Mah Jong, enjoys baking and the two of them look forward to going back to the theater when this pandemic is over.

Sid and Margalit have wonderful visions for our shul's future. To get there, however, Sid would like us to focus on our volunteer engagement and how we recruit, recognize, treat and retain our volunteers. He believes that if we commit to and enhance this one aspect of our shul, everything else is possible. Margalit would like to see a focus on programming targeting our younger members, seeing them as our future. She would also like to see some focus given to refurbishing the look and feel of our campus as she feels it could use some modernization.

Individually, Jim, Elyse, Sid and Margalit have been extraordinarily generous, hard-working and valuable members and leaders of our Congregation B'nai Shalom family. Taken together, it is hard to imagine a more productive set of honorees. With volunteers like them I have no doubt that together we will take Congregation B'nai Shalom from strength to strength into the future. Congratulations and Thank you, to you all.

Religious School

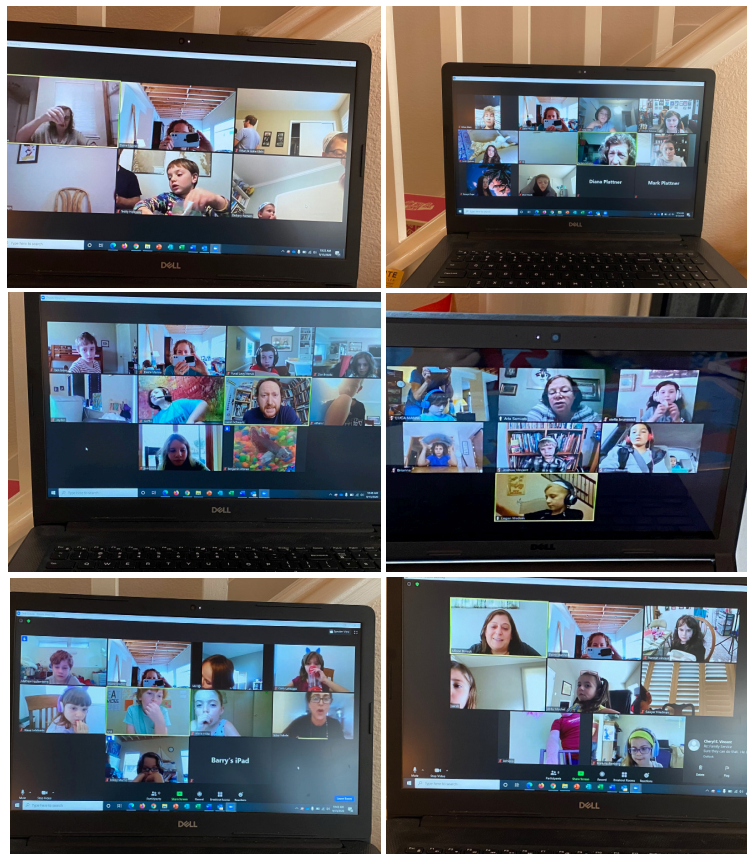
by Elaine Manno

The start to our new school year has gone smoothly. This could not have happened without the kids being so proficient on Zoom, our teachers working so hard to engage the students, and all the support of our dedicated families. Now, we are planning to offer a hybrid model for our students. We are working to offer virtual class time and in person class time on Sundays. Our Education Sub Committee, the Reopening Committee, and the Board continue to work together to make it possible for in-person learning to occur. We can't wait to have students back in the classroom and feel the energy come alive.

During Family Shabbat in October, we honored our Kindergarten students during the Consecration ceremony, acknowledging the start of their Jewish education. It was amazing to have our students and their families sitting with us on the Social Hall patio for this event. It was a little slice of normal and a real treat! Our Class Service program is kicking off this month. Join us on Zoom on Friday, November 13th, when our 6th and 7th graders will help to lead the community. The next Family Shabbat on December 11th will be led by the 4th and 5th graders.

As winter and Hanukkah is fast approaching, I want you to know about a couple of ways you can get involved in the community. Our second annual Hanukkiah set up and lighting in downtown Martinez is in the planning stages. Things look different this year, but we are looking forward to a community lighting (details to come) and hope that your family will take an opportunity during the 8 nights to make it down to Martinez to check it out. Our school is also joining efforts with Tikun Olam to host a winter coat drive. Clean out your closets and help those in need during the cold winter season. A collection bin will be set up outside of the Religious School office for you to bring your coats between November 15th-December 15th. Contact the Religious School office or Tikun Olam with any questions.

Thank you all for your efforts and good humor while we compete during this crazy time!



Gan B'nai Shalom

Ages 2 through Pre-kindergarten
Monday-Friday: 9am-1pm
Extended day options: 7:30am-6pm

- A nurturing, experienced staff
- Play-based, hands-on learning
- A rich Jewish experience
- Small classes
- Family and community programming



Find us at bshalom.org In Lifelong Learning and on Facebook at **GAN B'NAI SHALOM PRESCHOOL**
Contact us at 925-934-9446 ext 104 or psdirector@bshalom.org

Preschool

by Marla Medwin

I am very excited to announce that the preschool is starting the accreditation process through Early Learning Leaders. This process is made possible for our school by the Rodan Family Foundation, whom we received a grant to help us with the accreditation. I was able to attend a virtual conference this past month from the Commission of Early Learners. I was able to connect with directors from across the United States over a three-day period. I took classes on curriculum, keep staff upbeat during these uncertain times, children with special needs and the importance of play for all children. I have begun to share the information with my staff and our work is in progress. The accreditation could take up to two years, but it will pay off for all of us in the end.

Highlights of the past months have been, being able to be together for the Holidays, celebrating Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Simchat Torah, Shabbat and Havdalah each week as a school. Our teachers have brought a sense of normal to the children and families. We look forward to more celebrations together.

Holidays in our classrooms:



Congregation News

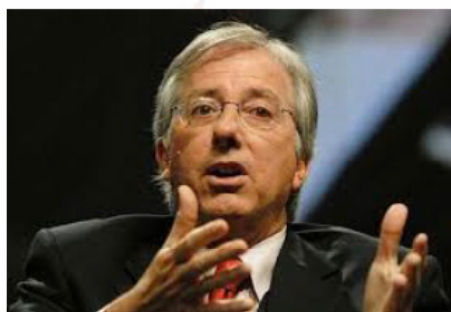
Challah for Hunger



We're so excited to invite you to Challah for Hunger's fall community programming, Challah After School! At Challah After School, young children and their loved ones will have the opportunity to participate in events and activities revolving around the three pillars of Challah for Hunger: advocacy, philanthropy, and community building. You'll receive two activity "bingo cards," to check activities off of throughout the course of the semester. Join us for virtual events to do these activities as a community, bake challah, and connect with one another!

Challah After School will also offer adult-only programming! Our Speaker Series, through Challah for Hunger's Campus Hunger Project, will bring in professionals working to eliminate food insecurity and hunger among college students in our country.

By registering for Challah After School at [our web page here](#), you can join our mailing list to stay up-to-date on events and activities. **Please share Challah After School with a friend, a neighbor, and anyone else you'd like to *bake a difference* with!**



AMBASSADOR DENNIS ROSS **In Focus: Current Trends in the Middle East** **Sunday, November 8, 7:00 PM**

Ambassador Dennis Ross is a Distinguished Fellow at The Washington Institute for Near East Policy. Previously, he served as special assistant to President Obama, and as special advisor to Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton. For more than twelve years, Ambassador Ross played a leading role in shaping U.S. involvement in the Middle East peace process. A highly skilled diplomat, Ambassador Ross was U.S. point man on the peace process in both the George H. W. Bush and Bill Clinton administrations. He was instrumental in assisting Israelis and Palestinians to reach the 1995 Interim Agreement; he also successfully brokered the 1997 Hebron Accord and facilitated the 1994 Israel-Jordan peace treaty.

Admission to the online presentation: \$10.00 per household. To register, go to: www.underonetent.org.



Congregation
B'nai Shalom



Around the World with Fred, Series II **Online December 1 thru December 6**

Our very popular *Around the World with Fred* series is back starting December 1 with the moving Argentinean drama *Anita*. Alejandra Manzo plays a young woman with Down syndrome for whom everything changes in 1994 when the Argentine Israelite Mutual Association is bombed. As Anita wanders through the city in the aftermath of the terrorist attack, she touches the lives of those around her. Also starring Academy Award nominated actress Norma Aleandro, the "Meryl Streep" of Argentina.

Award-winning author/historian Fred Rosenbaum will place the film into its historic and cultural context on Wednesday, December 2 at 7:00 PM.

Admission is free for the lecture. There is a \$2.00 handling fee to stream the movie due to our change to a new streaming platform. To register, go to eastbayjewishfilm.org.



Congregation
B'nai Shalom



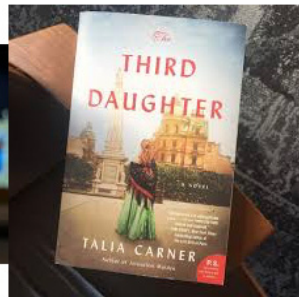
Congregation News

B'YACHAD COMMITTEE

B'Yachad Committee continues to reach out to congregants. B'Yachad sends fruit platters to people who are mourning close relatives and cards to members who have been hospitalized. B'Yachad is another way that B'nai Shalom is staying connected during this difficult time. If you have a need that we can help with, or would like a weekly call, please contact:

Marcia Goodman-Lavey, mgl1414@aol.com, or
Elyse Eisner, elyse.eisner@gmail.com.

"THE THIRD DAUGHTER" An Author Event with Talia Carner



Tuesday, January 19, 2:00 PM

While 19th century European Jews suffered from pogroms and poverty, thousands of girls and young women also experienced another tragedy—sex trafficking. In her powerful novel, Talia Carner takes the true story about women being tricked into prostitution and turns it into a gripping tale of Batya whose father agreed to a mysterious stranger's offer of marriage and a trip to America. Tragically, there was no marriage, and the trip would lead to a brothel in Buenos Aires. *The Third Daughter* brings to light a dark story of Jewish history and gives voice to those whose truth needs to be told. Admission is free as a community service. To register for the Zoom link, go to:

www.underonetent.org.



Presented by
Candance Taylor

January 10, 2021
4:00PM



The Green Book & Legacy of the Overground Railroad

Cost: \$10 per household
Register for online event: at
eastbayjewishfilm.org



Ms. Taylor will trace the history of the actual "green book" that played a major role in the Oscar-winning movie of the same name. The "green book" helped African Americans in the 1950s and 60s identify hotels and restaurant in the country that welcomed people of color.

Brought to you by JCC, Congregation B'nai Tikvah, East Bay Jewish Film Festival, and Congregation B'nai Shalom



Support and Celebrate Jewish Literature with our Online Author Series

- Sunday, November 15, 4:00pm** - Facebook: *The Inside Story* by Steven Levy
- Sunday, December 27, 4:00pm** - *Faster: How a Jewish Driver, an American Heiress, and a Legendary Car Beat Hitler's Best* by Neal Bascomb
- Thursday, January 7, 11:00am** - *The Inevitability of Tragedy* by Barry Gewen
- Sunday, January 17, 4:00pm** - *The Last Train to London* by Meg Waite Clayton
- Tuesday, January 19, 2:00pm** - *The Third Daughter* by Talia Carner
- Thursday, January 21, 2:00pm** - *Law and the Arab-Israeli Conflict* by Steven E. Zipperstein
- Sunday, January 24, 4:00pm** - *Hannah's War* by Jan Eliasberg
- Tuesday, February 23, 2:00pm** - *Night of the Assassins: The Untold Story of Hitler's Plot to Kill FDR, Churchill, and Stalin* by Howard Blum
- Thursday, March 18, 2:00pm** - *Red Sea Spies: The True Story of Mossad's Fake Diving Resort* by Raffi Berg
- Tuesday, March 23, 4:00pm** - *Nobody Will Tell You This But Me - A True (as Told to Me) Story* by Bess Kalb
- Sunday, April 25, 4:00pm** - *Eat Something - A Wise and Sons Cookbook Event* by Rachel Levin



www.jewishbookcouncil.org

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CCJDS is a beneficiary of the Koret Foundation, Jim Joseph Foundation, and the Jewish Federation of the East Bay.


Chanukah in November ?



We look forward to greeting you in the Conference Room, where We will have lots of goodies available.

Dates:

<i>(Before Thanksgiving)</i>	Nov. 22, 23, 24,	9:00-5:00
<i>(Winter Break)</i>	Nov. 29-30,	9:00-5:00
	Dec. 1-2-3,	9:00-5:00
	Dec. 6-7-8-9,	9:00-5:00



Bring your shopping list and our volunteer will help you find the right gift.

Congregation News

TOGETHER, we make B'nai Shalom BETTER



CHAVERIM,

This Fall, the 2020 CBS Nominating Committee again will conclude its solemn task:

- In November, the Committee will conclude its recommendation of congregants for positions on the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors, Committees (Chairs and Members), and other key roles;
- In December, at a General Meeting of the CBS Membership, those present (and proxied) will vote on that slate of recommendations.

... these will be a few good people who want to contribute to our community and help lead B'nai Shalom into the future.

The term of office is two years, beginning January 1, 2021. There are several positions whose occupants have not been "confirmed" yet, including:

- Vice Presidents (2)
- Directors (up to 9),
- Committee chairs and members (up to 15), and Special projects.

These positions are a great way to get to know other members – people who share your interests in Conservative

Judaism plus all the related activities that make this a true *Kehilla* (community). You can pursue your interest in a particular function while having a fun time setting the Synagogue's direction. Concerned about the time required? With ZOOM, the commute time is gone. We are also open to Teaming or Sharing of positions.

The Nominating Committee is looking for new members, whom we expect to bring in fresh ideas and approaches, as well as program leaders – mostly succeeding the folks who are moving on.

Here is a taste of some of the programs & projects that could benefit from your expertise and energy....

Chevra Kadisha

Traditional Jewish burial planning, coordination with Gan Shalom and Oakmont Cemeteries

Clergy Liaison

Facilitate communications between Clergy and lay leadership, help train and acclimate new Clergy members

Communications

Manage the flow of internal and external communications, internal manuals and documents, including brand support, advertising, outreach, social media, website, communications, marketing and advertising

Education

Adult Education, ECE/Preschool, Religious School, Youth activities, guest lecturers, *B'nai Mitzvah*, partnerships (including Lehrhaus Judaica, CCJCC, JCF, Men's Club, Women of B'nai Shalom)

Finance

Near Term Planning, Operations, Budgeting and Reporting, Long Range planning & resource allocation, Endowment, Dues & Fees (including Project Ezra), Fund Raising, and Mentoring and Assistance to Committees and Projects

Information Technology (IT)

Systems strategies, maintenance and repair, network connections, LANs, WANs, and Clouds, safety and security, mobile and desktop operations, tools and devices for students, servers and backup/archive

Infrastructure

Buildings & Grounds, maintenance and repair, HVAC, landscaping, regular painting and polishing, communications technologies, Record keeping, security and safety

Israel Engagement

Events, travel, relationships

Library

Books and materials for research and enjoyment

Membership & Marketing

Information about CBS, New Member program(s), special events

Nominating

Fill and maintain Executive and board positions

Personnel

Staff recommendations, volunteer development, how to structure and run a modest-size Human Resources organization

Ritual

Coordinate rituals, prepare ritual objects, arrange and coordinate all services, including High Holy Days and Biblical Holidays on B'nai Shalom's calendar, work with Clergy to provide operational support for all services, work with Clergy and Congregants to raise and explore changes in the CBS *minhagim* (local practices)

Security and Safety

Physical security, IT security, and training & education for safety, health, and emergency preparedness

Tikun Olam

Outreach to community, community service and support activities

Ways and Means

Fundraising, Annual GALA, fresh ideas to maintain and reinforce our economic solvency

Youth Commission

Contra Costa Midrasha, other youth and teen groups

**Your Nominating Committee is developing recommendations to fill these positions
N O W.**

Nominating Committee (2020)

Name	Role	Email
Michael Bloom	Chair (elected)	cbsmeb@mac.com
Earl Agron	Board member	earl.agron@gmail.com
Steve Goodman	Board member	sagoodman@aol.com
Mike Korenstein	Congregant at-large	Mikekorenstein@gmail.com
Amy Rettberg Romem	Congregant at-large	Amyromem@gmail.com
Sarah Vital	Board member	sarahvital000@gmail.com

Many thanks to you all from the Nominating Committee,

Michael Bloom

Congregation News

ONLINE GALA 2020

Honoring Howard and Susan Geifman

Sunday, December 6th
5:00PM

This ONLINE EVENT will host a
Live Auction, Silent Auction,
Entertainment, Music, and More!

OPTIONAL DINNER SERVICE
with a bottle of wine

Delivered to your door prior to the event

To order your dinner, please contact
Alyssa at afaulkenberg@bshalom.org

Our Gala Sponsors

Diamond

Chavurah Kochavim

Chavurah Ruach

CBS Men's Club

Ruby

Breitbart Family

CCJDS

Geifman Family

Kallen Family

Emerald

Margie & Stuart Goldware

Amethyst

Riva Gambert & Sam Pitluck

Ellen & Jim Liston

Karla & Neil Smith

YOUR SUPPORT IS PARAMOUNT IN BUILDING OUR FUTURE

For sponsorship information please contact Alyssa at afaulkenberg@bshalom.org

Congregation News

Race, B'nai Shalom, and the Jewish People

By David Marshak

Over the last several months, questions of race have emerged as a significant subject of national debate. Sadly—and all too often—conversations around race are complicated by politicization. Judaism teaches, though, that every person is created in God's image. We also believe in thoughtful study and civil debate.

Adult Education is planning a series of programs for the Jewish New Year. They will focus on topics of common interest where we can make a positive difference. Talk about actual differences between races is not about something "real." The physical differences we distinguish races by have nothing to do with who we are as human beings. We are all simply human. But ideas that people have about what they think "race" means are very powerful; they strike at our emotional core, our essence. When we are young, we unconsciously absorb all sorts of ideas about race; these ideas are stored in our brains and influence us even though we are not consciously aware of many of them.

I am planning for us to talk about all of this in a Zoom meeting at 7 PM on November 17. The objective of the meeting is to get a shared sense of what various people in the congregation think about the way race is currently discussed. Questions will be answered, ideas will be shared and we will treat everyone with respect. We will not talk about political battles. Our focus will be on gaining individual understanding and sharing points of view about what roles Congregation B'nai Shalom, and we ourselves, can take and implement.

Depending on interest we may have some follow up Zoom sessions.

I have been trying to understand what life is like for black people since high school when I encountered *Souls of Black Folk* by W.E.B. Dubois. I am still learning about what it is like not to be white. Most of us, without thinking about it, have studied and thought in ways that center on white experience. This is limiting.

My school district in Nassau County, Long Island was all white. I went from there to other centers of whiteness. I have tried to broaden my thinking. It is difficult.

I would very much like to know what you think. Please tell me at marshak.david@att.net, and advise me if your statements are not "for publication."

Thank you.
David Marshak,
Adult Education Chair



The Egyptian Spy Who Saved Israel

Spies in the Promised Land

Mondays at 2:00 PM, December 7 & 14

Spies in the Promised Land is a multi-session course focusing on "intelligence agents" who helped create and secure the State of Israel. The December 2-part sessions will focus on intelligence failures leading up to the 1973 Yom Kippur War and the Egyptian "spy" (or was he a double agent?) who provided Israel's Mossad with details prior to the conflict's start. Future sessions in 2021 will explore the Lavon Affair, Mossad's work in rescuing Ethiopian Jews, and the pre-State group Nili. Our instructor: EBIJFF Director & Under One Tent Program Director, Riva Gambert.

Admission is free. To register, go to underonetent.org. You will receive the Zoom link one hour prior to the start of each session.



Secretary of Board Report

The Secretary of the Board position encompasses many aspects of behind the scenes Synagogue life. This position has responsibility for Building & Grounds, Security, IT and Administration. Over the past 2 years we have accomplished many tasks. Below is a list of some of our accomplishments and I want to thank those who gave their time, energy and financial support to make them possible.

- 1) New fencing, gates and locks for the Preschool
- 2) Mesh barrier around all the preschool playgrounds
- 3) 3 new panic exit gates from the preschool playgrounds to the fire road
- 4) ADA approved locks for the administrative offices
- 5) New security door to the administrative building requiring card access
- 6) Installed bollards on the walkway from the parking lot to the main campus entrance
- 7) New panic alarm system for the entire campus
- 8) Additional outdoor security cameras
- 9) New dusk to dawn pathway lighting from main campus to social hall
- 10) New sound system for the sanctuary
- 11) Offices, bathrooms and hallways in the administrative building have been repainted.
- 12) Tree of Life Garden in memory of those who perished at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, PA and Chabad in San Diego, CA
- 13) Replacement of the outdoor pergolas around the synagogue with new steel structures
- 14) The reroofing of the upper campus is now beginning

There are many members of our congregation that need to be thanked for making all these projects possible; Mike Korenstein and David Rosnow for their work on the exterior security cameras. Earl Agron and Michael Tejada for co-chairing our security and safety committee. Howard Geifman for his help on the panic alarm system and IT projects. Rabbi Stein for his extraordinary help on the sound system. Uri Eliahu for coming up with the design structure for the replacements of the pergolas and finding us the contractor. Tom Manno, Mike Korenstein and Luther who worked on the pathway lighting project.

We also need to thank members of our congregation that have financially assisted us with these projects. Thank you to Susan & Howard Geifman, Bill & Toby Gottfried and Stan & Rita Raider for their donations to the sound system. Thank you to Bernie & Eve Notas and Susan & Howard Geifman



for their donations to the pergola project, to Elliot & Eileen Stein for their donations to our security fund and to Pamela & Michael Ein for their donations to the Tree of Life Garden and security fund.

A special thank you to our administrative and custodial staff who have worked so hard during these difficult times-I know it has not always been easy! I hope I have not forgotten anyone who has made our Synagogue a better place, if I did, I apologize and thank you.

Jim Solomon

Congregation News

Congregation B'nai Shalom &
Main Street Martinez presents a

HANUKKAH

F e s i t v a l o f L i g h t s

Visit our community Menorah during the day or evening during Hanukkah. Stay tuned for a possible community lighting event.



December 10–December 18

700 Main Street, Martinez
Outside of Starbucks



Made with PosterMyWall.com

Tikun Olam

Making a Difference in our Communities

by Margie Goldware and Margalit Ir

Tikun Olam thanks all congregants who helped our congregation reach out to our neighbors in need during 5780. May 5781 bring good health and a measure of contentment to our community. Please continue to contribute what you can.

Food Bank - Thank you all for your generous donations to our Food Bank Drive during the Chagim. We collected more than \$1,100 thanks to your very generous donations, especially with care and concern during the current Covid-19 state. We are now raising funds to ensure that many will have dinners on their tables during the upcoming Thanksgiving and Holiday Seasons. Please continue to share your blessings with our neighbors in need of food.



Winter Coat Drive - Tikun Olam and the CBS Religious School are joining forces for our annual Winter Coat Drive. The drive will take place from November 15 to December 16, 2020 during daytime hours. Clean, new or gently used coats can be left in the bin outside of the Religious School office at CBS. Please contact Elaine Manno, emanno@bshalom.org, or Celia Mencil, Celiamentzel@sbcglobal.net, with questions.



Shalom Bayit - This year Tikun Olam is supporting Shalom Bayit in their effort to help their clients enjoy the Chanukah Holidays. Please donate generously by going into the Tikun Olam website and select Shalom Bayit for your donation.



SHALOM BAYIT
Ending Domestic Violence in Jewish Homes

We Can't Breathe and it's Time to Get to Work!
In California, we inhale smoke and watch helplessly as hot, dry conditions fuel wildfires. It has been 6 months since we saw several unarmed Black people die. If you would like to begin addressing the issues of climate change and systemic racism/social justice with fellow congregants, the Tikun Olam Committee Co-Chairs welcome your participation. The Rabbinical Assembly issued this statement and call to action in May, 2020: <https://www.rabbinicalassembly.org/story/conservative-masorti-rabbis-respond-murder-george-floyd-pattern-racism-police-brutality>. Please contact Margie Goldware to express your interest so that we may set up a Tikun Olam subcommittee meeting and action plan.

Please remember our other programs that are still active. B'Yachad is always at work recognizing those experiencing

health issues or losses; The fires that are destroying our forests and the hurricanes destroying property and life in the Gulf Coast are under our Disaster Recovery program and can use your donations.

The need to help our fellow Americans continues to increase. We need your help in volunteering your time, even as we stay sheltered-in-place. You can contact our members to be sure they are well and maybe in need of assistance and we are still sewing masks or knitting scarves, hats and socks for the homeless. And most urgently, let the office know that someone has a need. Join us in 5781, this new year, as we embrace the Jewish value of tzedakah in our communities! Please go to CBS website, <https://bshalom.org/>, scroll down and select Tikun Olam and you will see many of our programs that will benefit from your donation of your time and funds. Just contact Margalit or Margie to add your name to our dedicated committee. Until we are able to congregate face-to-face, please know we are thinking of all of you. May you go from strength to strength.

Share the Warmth with our
**WINTER COAT
DRIVE**

CBS RELIGIOUS SCHOOL AND TIKUN OLAM ARE
JOINING FORCES ONCE AGAIN TO HELP OUR
COMMUNITY

NOV 15TH - DEC 15TH

DROP OFF YOUR CLEAN, GENTLY USED COATS IN THE BIN
OUTSIDE OF THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL OFFICE DURING
DAYTIME HOURS 8AM-6PM. REACH OUT TO ELAINE AT
EMANNO@BSHALOM.ORG WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

Congregation B'nai Shalom

Women of B'nai Shalom

by Anne Nicolson

During the pandemic, the Women of B'nai Shalom have been working together to create virtual programming to include as wide a range of participants as possible.

Our on-going programming includes:

- Monthly book club, meeting 11am the third Tuesday of every month. Contact Anne Nicolson (anne.e.nicolson@gmail.com) for more details.
 - Tuesday, November 17: *The Rise of David Levinsky*, by Abraham Cahan, Anne Flato, facilitator
 - Tuesday, December 15: *The Last Train to Paris*, by Meg Waite Clayton, Anne Nicolson facilitator
- Rosh Chodesh gathering, meeting at 7pm on the Wednesday or Monday closest to Rosh Chodesh. Contact Channah Katz (channahrkatz@gmail.com) for more details.
 - Wednesday, November 18 - Kislev Thanksgiving
 - Wednesday, December 16 - Tevet Chanukah

In October, we introduced a new opportunity for social connection, so important for maintaining a strong sense of community. Replacing Dames who Dine, we now offer Libations with the Ladies. Join us the second Monday of each month from 3 to 4:30pm on Zoom. Sip your beverage of choice and enjoy conversation and fun. Contact Susan Raider (susanraider18@gmail.com) for more details.

- Monday, November 9, 3:00pm
- Monday, December 14, 3:00pm

Torah Fund of Women's League for Conservative Judaism remains a priority for us, as we continue to support the seminaries of the Conservative Movement as they educate rabbis, cantors, educators, and other Jewish professionals as our future leaders. Please contact Karla Smith (karlassmith@comcast.net) for more details.

Among the businesses hit hard by the covid closures is the Women of B'nai Shalom Judaica Shop. Our sales are the primary fund raising arm for all of our projects in support of the synagogue, the religious school, the pre-school and the community. Please remember that we can supply your needs for Judaica, from Shabbat, Havdalah, yahrzeit candles, to Chanukah gelt, to tallitot. Shop first with us for B'nai Mitzvah gifts, thank you gifts, and other occasions. Our shop will be open by appointment. Contact Eva Vogel (vogeleva@astound.net) or Julie Solomon (juliesolomon05@gmail.com) to make your appointment soon. We appreciate your generous support.

Be well. Be safe. Remember it's a mitzvah to wash your hands.

Rosh Chodesh schedule 2020-2021

DAY	MONTH	DATE	JEWISH MONTH	OBSERVANCES OF THE MONTH
Wed.	November	18 th	Kislev	Simchat Torah / Thanksgiving
Wed.	December	16 th	Tevet	Chanukah
Wed.	January	13 th	Shevat	Tu B'Shevat (New Year of the Trees)
Wed.	February	10 th	Adar	Purim
Mon.	March	15 th	Nisan	Pesach / count Omer
Mon.	April	12 th	Iyar	Observances from Israel: Yom HaShoah Yom HaZikaron Yom HaAtzmaut Yom Yerushshalayim
Wed.	May	12 th	Sivan	Omer: end Count on 49 Shavuot begins Honor your mother
Wed.	June	9 th	Tammuz	Honor Your Father
July - Summer Break				
August - Summer Break			Av & Elul	
September 2021			Elul	No Rosh Chodesh Observance High Holy Days

For more information call Channah Katz: 925-938-3246 or send a message to 925-997-5899





Men's Club

by Jon Medwin

As the holidays have all passed and our fiscal year has already started, I want to welcome everybody (back) to the CBS Men's Club. Although still challenged by COVID-19, we did have a planning meeting in September laying most of the programs for the fiscal year as well as some new initiatives, including a younger men's initiative that would have our younger members (20's-40's) plan and chair events for that specific demographic group. If you are interested in planning one of these events (they can be family related, social, educational, physical - post COVID-19 like a bike or hiking outing or anything else, or have suggestions for these type of events (virtual or in-person), please contact me at cbsmensclub@aol.com

As we begin this new fiscal year, we will once again conduct our membership drive and re-registration for the current fiscal year through the Opt-Out method that was utilized last year. As a reminder, the Opt-Out program includes incorporating CBS Men's Club membership billing through the Synagogue Office, along with Synagogue dues, Preschool and/ or Religious School tuition, and pledges. To avoid having our CBS Men's Club members having to pay the 3.5% credit card fee that is charged to the Synagogue Office for CBS Men's Club membership only, the CBS Men's Club will pay the fee

for membership and any additional donations that you would like to make to support programming and allow us to continue to provide eclectic and creative cost effective events and programs. Annual membership is \$36, and again, any additional donation to support the CBS Men's Club would be appreciated.

A special and big thank you to all of the volunteers who helped build the Sukkah during these challenging times. It is very much appreciated, that because of each of you, we were able to preserve some sense of normalcy on our campus during Sukkot.

We will continue with virtual programming until we are able to return to in-person programming following Contra Cosa County Public Health Guidelines, State of California guidelines, and CDC guidelines. I truly look forward to seeing all of you in person very soon.

If you have any comments or suggestions, please feel free to reach out to me at cbsmensclub@aol.com

Updates

Sunday, October 18 Virtual Men's Club movie post-film discussion with Efi Lubliner

1:30 pm
Zoom meeting (*rsvp for link and passcode*)

"Conviction" (France)
Stream/rent the film from International Film Showcase
<https://distribfilmsusvirtual.vhx.tv/products/conviction-international-film-showcase>
Cost: \$10.00 for 3 day rental.
RSVP participation to Bob Levine, justiceguy@aol.com

Thursday, October 22 Lunch and Learn with Dena Stein

Noon-1:00 pm
Zoom meeting (*rsvp for link and passcode*)
Topic: "The Value of our Values"

Monday, November 9 Men's Club Poker

Zoom room opens at 7:00 pm
Poker at 7:30 pm
Hosted by Jay Mumford
Reservations through Larry Rosenthal, ldr@keyringer.com

Monday, November 16 Poker for Fun

Zoom room opens at 7:00 pm
Poker at 7:30 pm
Hosted by Bob Levine
Reservations through Bob Levine, justiceguy@aol.com

Contra Costa Midrasha

by Devra C. Aarons

Happy Fall! We've had an amazing Opening to Midrasha, even though we remain virtual for the time being. Enrollment is still open and teens continue to roll onto our weekly Wednesday night Zoom. Sign up at: www.ccmidrasha.com. Click on the "ENROLL" button at the top of our website.

So far this Fall, we've:

- Inspired almost 70 enrolled teens in Jewish engagement, learning and experiences during Wednesday night program.
- Hosted virtual High Holiday programming. (Thanks to B'nai Shalom for being the primary support of this endeavor.)
- Started a new Better Together intergenerational project between teens and elders, including members of the B'nai Shalom family.
- Launched a Fall "Celebrity Chef" series (see below for more details).
- Welcomed guests Josh Feinberg of the Oakland A's and actor (and former Midrasha student) Zachary Noah Piser to our Wednesday at 8pm teen community time.
- Begun a new year of Hamsa Fund, our teen-lead philanthropy program and did a virtual aid session with Isra-Aid.

Our **Fall-Tastic Food Series** with celebrity chefs continues in November and December! (In October Menachem Mendel Davis joined us to make egg rolls.) French Chef Helene Jawhara Piner will join us live from the South of France on November 11th at 8pm to teach us how to make Sephardic hand pies. And just in time for Hanukkah, Chef Liz Alpern (check out her book, *The Gefilte Manifesto!*) will visit on December 9th at 6pm to instruct us in making root veggie latkes from scratch. For more details, or to sign up for any of the sessions, visit: ccmidrasha.com/fallfood

In addition to our Wednesday night program, we invite teens to join one of our supplemental programs, both of which make a big impact in our community:

- > **Hamsa Fund empowers teens to make change in the world through advocacy, service and philanthropy.** Teens pick an issue (like climate change, poverty, access to education, etc...) then spend the year learning more deeply about this topic, fundraise for it, then solicit grant applications from nonprofit organizations who work towards change. They end their year with a grant allocation



ceremony. Over the last three years, Hamsa Fund has donated over \$50,000 of funds they've raised to make change in the world and our community. Apply or nominate a teen at: ccmidrasha.com/hamsa-fund.

- > **Better Together connects teens and elders through intergenerational learning and programming.** Right now we are connecting 10 elders with 17 CCM teens to deepen each other's understanding of what it means to be alive today. CCM has received funding to both continue and expand this project In the coming months. Find out more at: ccmidrasha.com/byachad.

Space is still available for both programs!

In short, even in these challenging times, we continue the work to engage our teens in Jewish identity, community, culture, Israel and more! Check out all we have to offer at: ccmidrasha.com

Tzedakah

The Congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

Legacy Gifts

We are deeply grateful to the following congregants who have shown their love for our community and their desire to ensure that it continues to thrive and grow in the future through a legacy gift. We will always remember these special members with love and appreciation.

- Sam Borcover z"l
- Bob Golden z"l
- Jack Kamzan z"l
- Reva and Martin Rothenberg z"l
- Leah Yaffee z"l

Including Congregation B'nai Shalom in your estate planning is a meaningful way to plant a seed and create a lasting legacy that will benefit our synagogue family for years to come. It can also be an effective way to realize tax savings for your estate, while at the same time helping our community and fulfilling the Jewish obligation to give tzedakah.

For information about leaving a lasting legacy to Congregation B'nai Shalom, please contact **Craig Judson at 925-323-5041 or cljnw@aol.com**.

B'nai Shalom Patrons

We are grateful for the generosity and commitment of our Patron Members. Through their financial support we are able to maintain and expand our excellent programming. A heartfelt Todah Rabah, thank you, to all of our Patron Members, listed below:

Life Members

Lynda & Allan Chasnoff
Lea Cohen
Nancy & Jerold Kaplan
Eve & Bernie Notas
Jill Robinson & Jim Kronrod

Patron Members

Rita Goldman	Reuven and Laura Lewis
Alice and Stephen Goodman	Elise & Norman Lustig
Jill & Craig Judson	Anne Nicolson
Tammy & Elliot Kallen	David Marshak
Channah & Lawrence Katz	Gina and Morris (z"l) Rosnow
Anita and Mike Korenstein	Debbie & Leonard Roudman
Anne (z"l) & Sy Lapporte	Andra Strauss

For more information on becoming a Patron Member, please contact the Office.

Donors

Building & Ground's Projects

Shelly Ress Weinstein Remembering our sister and Aunt Arlene.
Nancy Sway & Bruce Locke..... In loving memory of Nancy's mother, Dorothy Sway, on the 10th year of her passing.

Freeman Youth Activities Scholarship Fund

Evan & Jessica Silverberg Donation.

Gan B'nai Shalom Preschool Fund

Bernice Rudley In memory of my husband, Wilfred Rudley.
Bill & Toby Gottfried In memory of Shaina Hertz Grimm.
Pam McClennan In memory of Alan Sternberg.
Lindsay, Josh, Ethan, and Gabe Klein
..... In memory of Shaina Herts Grimm.
Donald & Susan Garland..... In memory of Shaina Herts Grimm.
Carole & David Chicoine..... In memory of Shaina Herts Grimm.
Carol Roach..... In memory of Shaina Herts Grimm.
Patricia Okui In memory of Shaina Herts Grimm.
Shelly Ress Weinstein Sending condolences on the loss of Tammy Kallen's beloved sister, Stephanie Williams.
Gail Isserman..... Donation.

Garrop/Brenner Memorial Fund

Bobbi Garrop..... In loving memory of Norman Garrop
Bobbi Garrop..... In loving memory of Norm's brother, Larry.

General Fund

Steven Rosenberg..... Donation.
Joan & Neil Gordon..... Donation.
Gitty Altman..... In memory of my uncle, Zackria Nazarian.
Naim Yashar Happy New Year!
Elliot & Tammy Kallen..... In memory of Fred Kallen.
Naim Yashar In memory of my brother, Mayer Yashar.
Yardena Brooks..... In memory of my husband, Irv. Rochelle, Shelley, Gideon, Tamar and Merav Leveson
..... Happy Birthday to Susan White, mom and grandma!
Mark & Alyssa Faulkenberg In memory of Stephanie Williams, Tammy Kallen's sister.

Tzedakah

The Congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions:

General Fund (cont'd)

Phyllis & Leo Miller..... Thanking you for your kindness in allowing my husband and I to attend your Zoom services.
Harriet & Sam Lapkin In appreciation of the High Holy Gift Bags.
Amin & Denise Ezial..... Thanking the Herman family for a fantastic service and helping make the holidays.
Amin & Denise Ezial..... Thanking the staff of B'nai Shalom for all their hard work.

Hazzan Marc Dinkin Scholarship Fund

Barbara & Rob Powell In honor of Hazzan Dinkin's support and instruction.
Rick & Sue Gordon..... In loving memory of Abe Gordon.
David Trachtenberg..... In loving memory of Sidney Trachtenberg.
Andra Strauss..... In memory of my stepmother-in-law, Mollie Strauss.
Amin & Denise Ezial..... Thanking Hazzan Marc Dinkin for his help and support.
Shelly Ress Weinstein..... Thinking about Elvin Ress on his yahrzeit.
Andra Strauss..... In loving memory of my father, Herman Lazorow.
Raisa Shimberg-Risman In memory of my mother-in-law, Niihama Risman.

Joseph, Carmen, & Steve Drabkin Fund

Mark Drabkin..... Donation.

Kiddush Program

Muriel Dash In memory of Helen Dash Leone.

Licht Memorial Open Air Worship Center

Beverly Licht In loving memory of my beloved daughter, Sheryl Licht Gomaa.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Karla & Neil Smith..... In memory of our mother, Marjorie Sigel Smith.
Bill & Toby Gottfried In memory of Bill's sister, JoAnn Sternberg.

Linda Semi Donation.
David & Nancy Sternberg..... In celebration of Steve Bort's 80th Birthday.
Linda & Mark Clar Mazel Tov on Steve Bort's special 80th birthday.
Hope Rubin-Egan Blessed memory of my grandfather, Poppy Dave Rubin.
Bob & Judy Wilkenfeld..... In memory of all our parents.
Joe & Lois Piade..... In memory of Joe's parents, Isaac & Marie Piade and Joe's sister, Rachel Mattatia.
Yardena Brooks..... In appreciation to Rabbi Stein for conducting Irv's unveiling. The service was nice and thoughtful.
Bill & Julie Rettberg Donation.
Naim Yashar Thanking Rabbi Stein.
Seymour Lapporte In loving memory of David Nathan Lapporte.
Karla & Neil Smith..... In loving memory of Leo A. Sterenberg.
Sue & Earl Agron In memory of our dear mother, Shirley Mermelstein Gelber. May her memory be a blessing.
Susan & Ron Stoltz..... In memory of Susan's mother, Dorothy Left.
Cindy Fassler..... In memory of Shirley Rose Fassler.
Richard & Renee Slarve Donation.
Karla & Neil Smith..... In memory of Karla's aunt, Molly Zamore.
Mark Drabkin..... Donation.
Ellen & Jim Liston Donation.
Amin & Denise Ezial..... Thanking Rabbi Stein & Tim Plattner for their hard work for the High Holy Days Service.
Earl & Sue Agron Thanking Rabbi Stein for his dedicated work going beyond the call of duty. CBS is lucky to have you & your family.
Craig & Jill Judson In memory of Sol S. Judson, father of Craig & Jill Judson, on his 36th yahrzeit--Still alive in our hearts.
Earl & Sue Agron In appreciation of the Herman Family. They turned what could have been depressing High Holidays into a very uplifting and enjoyable experience. Todah Rabbah!

Andra Strauss Todah Rabbah, Rabbi Stein for an exceptionally meaningful High Holidays Services under these very trying times.

David & Rebecca Robins Donation.

Tikun Olam Fund

Rita & Stan Raider In memory of Aaron Schenk, Clara Schenk, and Lena Rettig.

Anne Flato In memory of my mother, Beatrice Horowitz.

Shelly Ress Weinstein Donation.

Harriet & Sam Lapkin Donation.

Sid Landman & Margalit Ir Donation.

Andra Strauss Donation.

Harriet Lapkin In memory of my dear father, Charles Blank.

Anne Flato In memory of Harry Flato.

Harriet & Sam Lapkin Disaster Recovery Donation/In memory of Sam's mother, Rose Lapkin.

Earl & Sue Agron Mazel Tov! In honor of your special recognition as Bride and Groom (aka Kallah and Katan) of the Torah.

Michael Fischer Donation.

Libbie & Michael Norton Donation.

Torah Endowment Fund

Susan & Howard Geifman To my sister, Ginny Stadwiser, for a safe and fast recovery from her illness.

Susan & Howard Geifman In memory of Susan's father, Harry Yazman.

Susan & Howard Geifman In memory of Alan Richman.

Eva Vogel In memory of Warner Brunell.

Eva Vogel Warner Brunell, Lovingly Remembered.

Tree of Life Memorial Security Fund

Bill & Toby Gottfried In memory of Bill's sister, JoAnn Sternberg.

Sue & Earl Agron In memory of our beloved niece, Vered Gelber Mentch. May her memory be a blessing.

Earl & Sue Agron Mazel Tov! Congratulations on Jim Solomon's special recognition as Mensch of the year. Well deserved!



SINAI

EAST BAY OFFICE
3415 MT. DIABLO BLVD.,
LAFAYETTE 94549 (FD #1523)

GAN SHALOM CEMETERY
1110 BEAR CREEK ROAD
BRIONES, 94553

SHARON BRUSMAN
MANAGING FUNERAL DIRECTOR
(925)962-3636
(FDR #4186)

MEMORIAL CHAPEL
CHEVRA KADISHA

[HTTPS://WWW.SINAICHAPEL.ORG](https://www.sinaichapel.org)



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Virtual Morning Minyan

Please join us for minyan on Monday and Thursday mornings, held at 7:30 am unless there is a holiday or special service indicated below. Please see our online calendar at bshalom.org for dates/times for all religious services.

Virtual Candle Lighting and Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Fridays at 7:00 pm unless otherwise noted below.

Virtual Abridged Shabbat Morning Services

Saturdays at 10:00 am.

Preschool Shabbat

Fridays 9:30 am in sanctuary when Preschool in session.

SPECIAL SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

In-Person and Virtual Candle Lighting and Kabbalat Shabbat Service Fridays at 6:30pm unless otherwise noted below.

Friday, Nov 13	Family Shabbat and 6th/7th Grade Religious School Class Service 6:30pm
Friday, Dec 11	Family Shabbat and 4th/5th Grade Religious School Class Service 6:30pm

Due to the changing dynamics of COVID guidelines, please check your emails and website calendar regularly for service and events details.

For information on all streaming events, please email the office at dstephens@bshalom.org