

Message From Rabbi Goldstein

The most out-of-character mitzvah in Judaism is the one associated with Purim, in which Jews are instructed to get so drunk that we can't tell the difference between Mordechai and Haman. Full disclosure: I never drink alcohol before leading the service! Still, there is something historically instructive about that commandment. It suggests that with all the persecution we have had to endure, Jews needed to compensate with one night when we would let loose: Getting drunk; Telling a story where the anti-semites (Haman) would hang from a noose; Hoping for a hero (Mordecai or Esther) to facilitate Jewish survival; Being irreverent in synagogue. And with all this, still staying true to our tradition's values: Giving gifts (shalach manot); Studying (the Scroll of Esther); Eating (hamantaschen).

As a rabbi, my Purim approach was to organize our teens to run the Purim carnival; to be extra playful with the children and adults; to prepare a funny monologue made up of irreverent puns, jokes and sarcastic humor; And to dress the part (from Mr. Rogers, to a gorilla, to a cowboy, to a hippie, and more.)

At Sha'arey Ha-Yam our calendar calls for a pre-Purim Shabbat service on March 10 (Purim night, itself, is March 11.) I'm a bit old to dress in costume, but I will offer some thoughts on Jewish humor. And if anyone has a favorite Jewish joke, I'll even open it up for a kind of open-mike Shabbat. For now, Chag Sameach! Happy Purim!

FRIDAY NIGHT WORSHIP IN MARCH

MARCH 10	“REFLECTIONS ON THE POWER OF JEWISH JOKES”	7:30PM
MARCH 24	“THE WAR AGAINST PASSOVER”	7:30PM

President's Message

By the time you read our newsletter for the month of March, the busy month of February will be over. Let me fill you in on a major event that took place in our congregation during February.

As we certainly know it takes a village to build a total community of strength in numbers and the ability of the people within the community to be successful in motivating this growth. With these facts in mind, I was involved with several directors of areas in the Union for Reform Judaism, in which we are members. It was decided that we would have a workshop on Sunday, February 19th, with Board Facilitator, Alan Sheinberg from the URJ. The all day workshop was attended by the Board of Trustees and some committee members of Sha'arey Ha-Yam. Areas of activities and discussion encompassed: My Jewish leadership journey; recognizing our strengths, acknowledging weaknesses, seizing opportunities and identifying actual and potential threats; Ten Commandments of successful engagement; visioning goals and action plans; construction of an action guide with achievement dates. It was truly a well spent and valuable learning experience.

Let's now enjoy-- with hope-- an ending to winter and the welcoming of Spring. Come learn and enhance our knowledge at March services on the 10th and 24th.

Dues Reminder

Notices for 2016 – 2017 membership dues have been emailed or mailed to each member. The dues structure has not changed for several years; \$325.00 for singles and \$650.00 for families. If your dues are not paid in full kindly speak to a member of the Finance Committee as to when you can complete payment.

Membership

Let's all pitch in and help to grow our membership....we need everyone's help to grow our congregation..we all are congregants with a mission. Reach out to your unaffiliated friends, neighbors, family members...ask them to join our spiritual community. This is of up-most importance for us to move forward as a Jewish Community and to be known in the community at large. Without our members we do not have a community..let's do this and get new members!!!

Adult Education

As with the Fall classes, the Spring classes are free of charge and are open to the public, so bring a friend! Also, there is no requirement to read the books prior to the class.

Four Books that will challenge our Jewish Identity:
(In Good Ways)

Tuesdays - 1:00 PM-2:00 PM

At the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

333 N. Main Street, Manahawkin

Led by Rabbi Josh Goldstein, Congregation Sha'arey Ha-yam

- March 14 "There Once Was A World" (Yaffa Eliach)
Reflecting on the World of the Pre-Holocaust Shtetl and It's Challenge to our Lives
- March 28 "A Different Night": A Passover Haggadah
Raising the Bar on the Seder Experience
- April 4 "Mishkan Ha'Nefesh"
The New Reform High Holyday Mahzor
Inclusive Judaism and Its Challenge to Jewish Uniqueness

Tributes

This is a fabulous way to support our congregation..and also save yourself time and \$\$... These cards are sent for you...all you have to do is contact Joan Silverman phone; 609-698-0000 or email at Joan 341 @yahoo.com with your information...upon receipt of payment the card will be written, addressed, stamped and mailed for you....what could be easier?!?! Think of sending these cards for a Simcha, Life Cycle Event, Birthday, whatever needs to be celebrated. Your donation will be a tax deduction for you and income for our congregation!! Remember.....time saving for you, assistance for our congregation!!!



April

- | | |
|----------------------|-------|
| Fran & Joe Breese | 04/07 |
| Helen & John Cocuzza | 04/28 |



Birthdays are always something to celebrate

March

Jack Crespy	03/04
Marlene Feldhuhn	03/05
Emily Miller	03/05
Charles Flum	03/06
Joan Silverman	03/10
Danielle Jonas	03/30

April

David Jonas	04/11
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Yahrzeits

יתגדל בראבא

May the memories of our loved ones be a blessing

First Year

05/01/2016	Joseph Flum	Father of Charles Flum
09/20/2016	Maralyn Ricciardi	Companion of Jack Crespy and Founding Member

March

03/01	Ken Schwitz	Cousin of Hope Gardiner
03/12	William Myles	Father of Loretta Wallerstein
03/17	Rose Rosenberg	Grandmother of Philip Miller
03/17	David Freschman	Nephew of Jack Crespy
03/21 (Adar 20)	Irving Topper	Father-In-Law of Deanna Bovasso
03/27 (Adar 29 5758)	Yetta Grossman	Mother of Fran Breese

March 2017

www.shaareyhayam@gmail.com

<http://shaareyhayam.org>

For Information and Membership: 609-698-4459

April		
04/10	Paul Taub	Cousin of Cyndy Friedland
04/12	Jon Brody	Cousin of Justin Friedland
04/22	Nancy Oliva	Friend of Cyndy Friedland
04/26	Sylvia Chasanoff	Mother of Deanna Bovasso
04/27 (Iyyar 16)	Jack Silverman	Father of Terry Silverman

Oneg Sponsorship

Do you or your family have a Simcha to share with our congregation? What better way to celebrate than sponsoring an Oneg! We offer several levels that can be sponsored. \$50, \$75, and \$100. Our Onegs include wine, juice, challah and other desserts. The upper levels include fruit and extras to enhance the Oneg. Kindly contact Madelyn Dunn at 609-660-1614 to reserve your date.

Fundraising News

FEATURED FUNDRAISING EVENTS

CONGREGATION SHA'AREY HA-YAM & BETH AM SHALOM MIRIAM'S SEDER

THE WOMEN OF BOTH CONGREGATIONS WILL CONDUCT THE SEDER

DATE: WEDNESDAY APRIL 5, 2017

TIME: 6 PM

LOCATION: BETH AM SHALOM, 1235 NJ-70, LAKEWOOD, NJ

MEMBERS AND EXTENDED FAMILY (AGE 13 AND ABOVE): \$25.00 EACH

ADULT NON-MEMBERS (AGE 13 AND ABOVE): \$30.00 EACH

CHILDREN AGE 10-12: \$15.00 EACH

CHILDREN UNDER 10: FREE

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS MARCH 31, 2017

**MENU INCLUDES:
KOSHER CHINESE BUFFET
SODA, COFFEE OR TEA**



**CONGREGATION SHA'AREY HA-YAM 2ND NIGHT SEDER!!
RABBI JOSH WILL LEAD OUR SEDER**

DATE: TUESDAY, APRIL 11TH

TIME: 6 PM

LOCATION: THE CAPTAIN'S INN, LACEY ROAD, FORKED RIVER

****DINNER PRICES AND RESERVATION FORM WILL BE AVAILABLE SOON**



SHOPRITE...GIFT CARDS

SO, LET'S DISCUSS WHAT GOES ON WITH THE SHOPRITE GIFT CARDS....OUR CONGREGATION SELLS THESE GIFT CARDS AS A FUNDRAISER....IT'S A VERY PAINLESS PROCESS!! ANYONE CAN PURCHASE THESE CARDS...THEY ARE IN INCREMENTS OF

\$25, \$50, OR \$100.

THE PLUS TO THIS FUNDRAISER IS.....

#1..YOU WRITE YOUR CHECK TO THE CONGREGATION

#2..THIS IS THE SAME AS USING CASH AT SHOPRITE, NOTHING DIFFERENT

#3..YOU ARE ABLE TO RECEIVE YOUR DISCOUNTS, USE COUPONS, QUALIFY FOR SALE PRICES, ETC. IF YOU USE THE GIFT CARD

#4..YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP DONATE TO THE CONGREGATION.....WE EARN 5% ON EVERY \$100 WE SELL...

#5..IT DOES NOT COST YOU ANYTHING OUT OF POCKET...YOUR PURCHASE OF THE SHOPRITE GIFT CARD IS THE TOTAL VALUE YOU GET TO SPEND IN SHOPRITE...

#6..CURRENTLY, APPROXIMATELY 12 MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN THIS FUNDRAISER...IF EVERYONE PARTICIPATES, WOW...SUCCESS!!!

HELEN COCUZZA (609-978-8653), LAURA MILLER (609-713-1771), AND MADELYN DUNN (609-660-1614) ARE THE KEEPERS OF THESE CARDS....REACH OUT TO THEM AND BE A SUPPORTER!! THEY HAVE CARDS AT EVERY SERVICE...



TRIBUTE CARDS

TRIBUTE CARDS ARE AVAILABLE FROM JOAN SILVERMAN 609-698-0000. THIS IS

GREAT WAY TO DONATE TO OUR CONGREGATION WHILE CELEBRATING SIMCHAS, ACKNOWLEDGING BIRTHS, WEDDING, GET WELL WISHES, ETC. NON-JEWISH INDIVIDUALS CAN ALSO RECEIVE THESE CARDS!! TRIBUTE CARDS WILL BE MAILED AS SOON AS RECEIPT OF PAYMENT IS MADE.

March 2017

www.shaareyhayam@gmail.com

<http://shaareyhayam.org>

For Information and Membership: 609-698-4459

Amazon Smile

When shopping at www.SMILE.Amazon.com you can designate REFORM JEWISH COMMUNITY of BARNEGAT (there are no additional fees, the congregation makes a percentage).

Clothing Drive

SAVE THE OLD CLOTHES...LINENS...SHOES...HANDBAGS

We will be hosting another clothing drive targeting a final date in April.....more to follow....

Board of Trustees

There next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held on Thursday, March 30, 2017 at 7 PM at the home of Laura and Phil Miller. If you would like to attend, please contact Syble at (609)978-4240.

2017 (5777) Shabbat & Holiday Services Dates/Times

March 2017

Friday, March 10, 7:30 PM

Friday, March 24, 7:30 PM

April 2017

Wednesday, April 5, 6 PM (**Miriam's Seder**)

Tuesday, April 11, 6 PM (**2nd Night Seder**)

Friday, April 21, 7:30 PM

May 2017

Friday, May 5, 7:30 PM

Friday, May 19, 7:30 PM

Sunday, May 21, 7:00 PM (**Annual Congregation Meeting**)

June 2017

Friday, June 2, 7:30 PM

Friday, June 16, 7:30 PM

Shabbat Candle Lighting Times and Holiday Calendar						
March 2017/5777						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 3 Adar	2 4 Adar	3 5 Adar Shabbat Candle Lighting 5:32 PM	4 6 Adar
5 7 Adar	6 8 Adar	7 9 Adar	8 10 Adar	9 11 Adar Feast of Esther	10 12 Adar Shabbat Candle Lighting 5:39 PM	11 13 Adar
12 14 Adar Purim Daylight Savings Time Begins	13 15 Adar Shushan Purim	14 16 Adar	15 17 Adar	16 18 Adar	17 19 Adar Shabbat Candle Lighting 6:47 PM	18 20 Adar
19 21 Adar	20 22 Adar First Day of Spring	21 23 Adar	22 24 Adar	23 25 Adar	24 26 Adar Shabbat Candle Lighting 6:54 PM	25 27 Adar
26 28 Adar	27 29 Adar	28 1 Nissan	29 2 Nissan	30 3 Nissan	31 4 Nissan Shabbat Candle Lighting 7:02 PM	

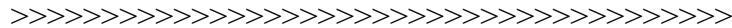
Congregation Sha'arey Ha-Yam Board of Trustees			
The next Board of Trustees meeting will be held on Thursday March 30, 2017 at 7 PM at the home of Laura and Phil Miller. If you are interested in attending, please contact Syble Bleiweis (609-978-4240 or sybern3539@comcast.net).			
President	Syble Bleiweis	609-978-4240	sybern3539@comcast.net
1st Vice President	Allan Levy	609-549-6539	ahlbeach@hotmail.com
2nd Vice President	Laura Miller	609-713-1771	millerlaura303@gmail.com
Secretary	Helen Cocuzza	201-370-8927	heja0615@aol.com
Treasurer	Robert Dunn	609-660-1614	rdunn2960@aol.com
Financial Secretary	Cyndy Friedland	609-698-4459	cfriedland119@comcast.net
Board of Trustees at Large	Sam Lewis	609-978-8446	lewis750@comcast.net
Past President	Philip Miller	609-698-3933	pmmlegal@aol.com

Temple Committees	
Committee	Chair/Membership
Music/Choir	Cyndy Friedland, Madelyn Dunn, Robert Dunn, Syble Bleiweis, Helen Cocuzza
Finance	<u>Treasurer, Robert Dunn</u> Financial Secretary, Cyndy Friedland President, Syble Bleiweis
Fundraising	<u>Cyndy Friedland</u> Syble Bleiweis, Madelyn Dunn, Joan Silverman, Ruth Schlyen, Helen Cocuzza
Greeters	Hope Gardiner, Rhona Levy, Myles Levy
Hospital Visits	Jack Crespy
Membership	<u>Cyndy Friedland</u> Syble Bleiweis, Joan Silverman, Helen Cocuzza
Newsletter	Helen Cocuzza
Oneg & Dinners	<u>Madelyn Dunn</u> Filomina Jonas
Education	Phil Miller, Helen Cocuzza
Ritual	<u>Allan Levy</u> Jack Crespy, Charles Flum, Mike Weiss, Helen Cocuzza
Tributes & Get Well	Joan Silverman
Yahrzeits	Helen Cocuzza

Kibbitz Corner

General Announcements

On Sunday February 19th the Board of Trustees, Rabbi Goldstein, and several congregation Committee Members participated in a Leadership Workshop facilitated by Alan Sheinberg from URJ. It was a very productive day!



Thank You.....

Robert and Madelyn Dunn express their thanks to everyone for the tribute cards and well wishes honoring the birth of their twin grandchildren.