

An Invitation to a Special Aufruf



Rabbi Nathan Kamesar and Caroline Fortin invite all members of the Society Hill Synagogue family to join them in celebrating their Aufruf during Shabbat services on **August 25, 2018 at 10 AM.**

We wish to extend our thanks to Rabbi Nathan and Caroline for sponsoring the Kiddush lunch that will follow services. Please RSVP to the office at 215.922.6590 or office@societyhillsynagogue.org, if you are able to attend.

We wish Rabbi Nathan and Caroline a hearty Mazel Tov on this happy occasion!

The members of the SHS Board of Directors, Rabbi Avi Winokur, Associate Rabbi Nathan Kamesar, Hazzan Jessi Roemer, President Harry Oxman, Executive Director Betty van de Rijn, Education Director Sahar Oz, and the entire staff wish you and your family L'Shanah Tovah!



May the New Year bring all that is sweet to you and your loved ones.

Havdalah Down the Shore



Saturday, August 11, at
6:30 PM

SHS Members (and their invited guests only) are invited to join us on **Saturday, August 11, 6:30 PM**, for "Havdalah Down the Shore!"

We will meet at the home of **Jeremy and Fran Newberg in Ventnor, NJ**. A lite dairy supper will be served before we head to the beach around 8:15 PM for the Havdalah service at 8:40 PM. Following the service, we'll go back to the house for wine, coffee, desserts, and schmoozing.

RSVP to Judy Lalli at judele@aol.com for the Newberg's address and to let her know what you will contribute in the way of entrée, snack, dessert, or beverage.

Looking forward to another meaningful event!

Society Hill Synagogue OPEN HOUSE



Do you know someone who is looking for a warm and vibrant synagogue congregation? Do you know someone who would like to be a part of a diverse, welcoming community? Do you have friends who would like to take Adult Education courses on a variety of interesting and relevant Jewish topics? Do you know a parent who is looking for a top-notch Hebrew School education or a stimulating and nurturing preschool program for their 2- to 5-year-old child?

If you answered "yes" to any of the above questions, please invite those people in your life to join us for an Open House at SHS on **Sunday, September 16, from 10 AM until 12 PM**, to meet Board members, clergy, and staff!



Rabbi's Column

The Assault on Truth and Fact

Avi Winokur

Today we are under attack by an assault on truth and fact that feels unprecedented. However, let us remember the lies we were told about the Vietnam war in the '60s, Watergate in the '70s, the Iran-Contra affair cover-ups in the '80s, and the claim that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction in the aftermath of 9-11.

What is unprecedented, I believe, is the intensity of the assault on truth and fact that this nation has not seen since the McCarthy era of the '50s. For those of us, and I include myself, that focus our outrage on Trump's 2016 presidential campaign and his presidency, we need to recognize that we had plenty of warning.

Ralph Keyes wrote, *The Post-Truth Era: Dishonesty and Deception in Contemporary Life* (St. Martin's Press, 2004), a book whose title has become synonymous with our times.

A year later, in 2005, few of us who are old enough can't forget Steven Colbert's introduction to "truthiness," the American Dialect Society's 2005 word of the year. For those of you who are unfamiliar with truthiness, Colbert defined it for 60 minutes' Morley Safer: "Truthiness is what you want the facts to be as opposed to what the facts are. What feels like the right answer as opposed to what reality will support." In another interview Colbert stated: "Truthiness is tearing our country apart . . . I don't know whether it is a new thing, but certainly it is a current thing in that it doesn't seem to matter what the facts are. It used to be [that] everyone was entitled to their own opinion, but not their own facts. But that's not the case anymore. Facts matter not at all. Perception is everything. What is important—what you want to be true, or what *is* true?"

A year after that, the Merriam-Webster word of the year was "post-truth." In 2016, the Oxford English Dictionary defined "post-truth" as: "relating to, or denoting circumstances in which, objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief"—in essence enshrining the meaning of "truthiness" in public discourse with a more respectable term.

Today's all-out assault on truth has produced a flood of books by respected scholars. A small sampling of those published just this year indicates our alarm: *Truth Decay: An Initial Exploration of the Diminishing Role of Facts and Analysis in American Public Life* (Kavanagh and Michael D. Rich, RAND, 2018), *The Death of Truth: Notes on Falsehood in the Age of Trump* (Michiko Kakutani, Tim Duggan Books, 2018) and *Post-Truth* (Lee McIntyre, The MIT Press, 2018).

Over 20 years ago, the late Rabbi Richard J. Israel wrote:

"In the morning, if I can summon up the courage, I glance at the newspaper. I usually find it a deeply disturbing experience. First, I ask myself a question—Am I ever going to read another morning newspaper before the whole world goes up in smoke? Then, I wonder if there is anything that I can do to help forestall doomsday. But I don't know what makes sense. I suppose I can make gut-level decisions without any greater difficulty than anyone else, but I don't want to speak or act out of private feelings alone; I want some guidance. One of the areas I want some guidance from is my Jewish tradition."

Rabbi Israel concluded his reflections with two questions we all ask at one time or another: "What kind of resources are available to me as, in the words of Maurice Pekarsky, 'a human-being-born-Jew?' In what sense does my being a Jew give me help, direction, or purpose?"

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President's Column

Revisiting Our Participation

Harry J. Oxman

In preparing to write this column, I began to review previous columns which I have written over the last two years and those of others, particularly Rabbi Winokur. In my research I noted that, in the September/October 2016 Keshet, our rabbi wrote a column which he entitled "Let's Do Our Part to Bring About a Sweet New Year." In the same issue I authored my second President's Column, which was entitled "A Plea for Increased Engagement." Each of us advocated that members of the Society Hill community increase their participation in certain activities, thereby potentially achieving a goal which would lead to personal satisfaction. Two years later the same themes are very much present.

Rabbi Winokur argued that as we faced the consequences of the 2016 presidential election, we needed to become involved in the efforts to register local potential voters, the theory being that more voters registered in the Philadelphia area would mean the election of a presidential nominee much more consistent with our collective views and values. Those of us who openly opposed the eventual presidential choice ultimately failed. Rather than having our efforts produce that which would have made for a "Sweet New Year," we failed and have been swallowing a bitter pill ever since. I suggest, however, that two years later we have another opportunity. Once again, we need to do something other than complain. We need to make the effort to travel the road which will enable us "to take back our democracy." Rabbi advocated this in October of 2016, and it is just as important today. Please join with us and our co-chairs of the SHS Power Committee, Gerald Faich and Carl Levitsky. They can be reached at 610.969.8755 and 215.923.3749, respectively. They are prepared to utilize all of your efforts in a productive manner to achieve increased voter registration and getting out the vote in November's state election.

In my column of two years ago, I advanced the theme that as a community we are at our best when we have significant numbers participating in Society Hill Synagogue activities. I believe that we have demonstrated the validity of that theme in many ways over the last two years. We now need to continue to apply this principle as we move forward in our Capital Campaign. Currently, we have raised close to \$900,000. That total constitutes pledges from less than 24% of our membership. We can and need to do more. We need broader membership participation. Think again of your commitment to Society Hill Synagogue and make a "joyful stretch" pledge to help us achieve our Space Improvement goal.

The year 5779 is upon us. There is much to be done, but the two efforts that I have addressed should enable us to make meaningful and substantial contributions to achieving a "Sweet New Year."

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Associate Rabbi's Column

What Does It Mean to Be a Rabbi?

Nathan Kamesar

On June 10, 2018, I was ordained as a rabbi. In some ways, this moment was the culmination of a lifelong dream for me. While, in my mind, it was not always clear to me that I wanted to be a rabbi—I did, after all, spend two years with AmeriCorps, three years in law school, and another couple of years practicing law before finally attending rabbinical school—my heart seemed to always tug me in that direction.

Now that I am a rabbi, it begs the question—what does that even mean?

What does it mean, in 2018, to hold this title? What skills are called upon, what tasks do we perform, what expertise—if any—do we possess? What did we spend half of a decade studying?

When the title of rabbi (literally translated as “my master”) was initially formulated, in late antiquity, the rabbi was considered “a religious judge and kind of divine magician ... seen to possess a special knowledge of Torah that enabled him to perform supernatural acts and effectually effectuate the redemption of Israel” (David B. Ruderman). In the medieval period this role evolved from the mystical to something more prosaic: it was the duty of the rabbi to adjudicate legal disputes and to weigh in on questions of Jewish law.

Today, Jews and their loved ones have different needs. While questions of Jewish law are still relevant from time to time (e.g., How do we make sure our synagogue’s sukkah is kosher? Which special prayers are required in today’s service?), most often, synagogue concerns relate to a broader set of life’s issues.

In rabbinical school, we essentially studied three broad subject matter areas: Jewish text, Jewish history, and what we call “practical rabbinics.” Starting with the latter first, this broad area encompasses a range of topics that have evolved to

become central to the contemporary rabbinate: homiletics—the art of crafting compelling sermons; pastoral counseling—counseling and being a healing presence when congregants are dealing with grief, loss, or hard times; community organizing—identifying the importance of relationships in building community and learning to harness the energy in a congregation to help it flow towards a positive end; ritual development—crafting meaningful lifecycle rituals (namings, B’nai Mitzvah, weddings, funerals) that allow people to feel the holiness of those moments; and organizational management—studying group dynamics and processing, working with boards of directors and committees, and offering input regarding fiscal responsibility; among others.

Of course, all of these areas devoid of significant Jewish content would not lead to the formation of a rabbi. Fortunately, the other two-thirds of the curriculum, as I describe it, are focused on such content.

Let’s continue with the subject matter of history. Whereas once a rabbi may have spent time focused exclusively on our sacred texts and how they instruct us to live our lives—today, we look at our texts through different lenses. What insight does wrestling with our ancestors’ sacred documents provide us as we seek to lead lives of meaning, purpose and holiness? In asking that question, we recognize that the different rituals that flow from these texts have evolved over time—at one point, our primary interaction with the Divine was through the sacrificial cult, while at another it was through prayer and study. At one point, the Jewish community was comprised largely of segregated, partially autonomous communities that governed their own internal matters; integration with broader society wasn’t even permissible, let alone desirable. Today, that dynamic has been flipped on its head. Thus, in seeking to understand where we’re going, we continuously keep our eyes on where we have been as a community. We devote whole semesters to the biblical, rabbinic, medieval, modern, and contemporary periods of Jewish civilization.

Finally, we spend a fair amount of time in rabbinical school studying biblical, rabbinic and modern Hebrew texts and dabbling in Aramaic, a primary language in some formative Jewish texts.



Ann Spak Thal School

How Good It Will Be

Sahar Oz

In his much-loved 1970 song, “Bashanah Haba’ah” (“Next Year”), the renowned Israeli lyricist Ehud Manor wrote, “You will yet see, you will yet see / How good it will be / Next year.” The song quickly became a Hebrew pop classic, and almost half a century later it continues to be enjoyed in communities all over the world (including our congregation) especially, but not only, around Rosh Hashanah.

The start of each year is a time for reflection, refocus, and rejoicing. New connections, new friendships, new excitement, and new memories in the classroom and beyond—all await us. At our school, we aspire to take our students on Jewish journeys through history and Hebrew, roots and reinterpretations, traditions and (literal) tastes of Judaism, music and spirituality, and ethics and their practical applications for daily life.

Our trip through the new year, 5779, begins with our Rosh Hashanah school services on **Monday, September 10, from 9:30–10:30 AM for Sunday School and younger children, and 10:30 AM–12 PM for Hebrew School**. I am delighted to co-lead our school services with our outstanding Sunday School and Hebrew School teacher, Carly Baron, who has led High Holy Day school services at her family’s congregation on Long Island and is pursuing her Master’s degree in Vocal Performance at Temple University.

The first day of classes will be on **Sunday, September 16**, and everyone will get to reconnect with friends and familiar faces and to meet all of our new students, our teachers, and our aides. In addition, we invite all parents to join us at that morning’s annual “Welcome Back to School” programs at **9:30 AM (for Sunday School parents), and 11:15 AM (for Hebrew School and Hebrew High parents)**.

These sessions will provide great opportunities to connect with fellow parents, our Education Committee (Co-Chaired by Sara Schwartz Chrismer and Jacqui Rick), Rabbi Avi, Rabbi Nathan, and Hazzan Jessi. Parents will hear about our primary goals for the year, key calendar dates, and a variety of unique Shabbat services. Light refreshments will be served at each of these “Welcome Back” sessions.

Tuesday classes for Kitot Gimel–Zayin (grades 3–7) will not begin until October 2, in observance of Rosh Hashanah on September 11, Yom Kippur on September 18, and Sukkot on September 25.

Please join us for Yom Kippur services on **Wednesday, September 19, from 9:30–10:30 AM for Sunday School and younger children, and 10:30 AM–12 PM for Hebrew School**.

Our **Sukkot Family Service is scheduled for 10 AM on Sunday, September 30**, so please join us for an especially joyous service with lulavim, etrogim, and friends and food aplenty! RSVP for lunch following the service by Friday, September 28, by calling the office at 215.922.6590 or emailing your families response to office@societyhillsynagogue.org.

The holiday festivities will continue on **Monday, October 1, at 6 PM, with our Simhat Torah celebration**, featuring a delicious dinner, a brief Ma’ariv (evening) service including special honors for students in Kitah Gimel and Kitah Zayin (grades 3 and 7), hakafot (dancing with multiple Torah scrolls), and our unrolling of an entire Torah scroll in a huge standing circle!

We also have three B’nai Mitzvah celebrations in October, so please join us at the Bar Mitzvah services of Gabriel Cohen (**October 13**), Max Gearhart-Robboy (**October 20**), and Gavi Gilbert-Trachtman (**October 27**).

Each Bar Mitzvah service will begin at 9:30 AM and is a very special opportunity to rejoice in our students’ Jewish learning and cantillation achievements. Of course, attendance at these services—as at every Shabbat service on Friday evening or Saturday morning—counts toward the Shabbat service attendance obligations for students in grades 3–7.

Our entire faculty and I look forward to a year of exciting, engaging, and impactful Jewish learning! Shanah tovah um’tukah, m’le’at ahavah ve’shalvah—wishing you a good and sweet year filled with love and serenity.

Rabbi's Column

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An oft-quoted Talmudic aphorism ([Babylonian Talmud] Shabbat 55a) is: "Truth is the seal of the Holy One, blessed be He/She/It." Yes, but what does that actually mean in real life?

In a forthcoming adult education series, we will explore the relationship between our modern understanding of truth, lies, deception, and post-truth—and ancient Jewish analogues. Can we speak of different kinds of truth without slipping into the quicksand of relativism? Think of biblical narratives that many traditional readers understand to be factually true, while many of us consider them to be either inaccurate or patently factually false. Can there be truth value in such narratives? Compare such a biblical narrative to Gregg Mortenson and David Relin's *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace ... One School at a Time* (Penguin Books, 2006), on which this rabbi partially based a sermon—on the assumption that it was true story—only to learn much later that it had been discredited.

We will ask questions about multiple meanings of truth. In the Jewish tradition, the way the *emet*/truth is contextualized will help us understand its meaning. For example, as we take out the Torah on Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Pesah and Shavuot, we add the following words taken from one the most dramatic scenes in the Book of Exodus, "Adonai, Adonai, a God compassionate and gracious, great in lovingkindness and *emet*/truth/trustworthiness/faithfulness." What do we learn about this elastic Hebrew word "*emet*/truth/trustworthiness/faithfulness?"

Truth is complicated. Exploring how we might understand truth is now of critical importance if we are to answer Rabbi Israel's questions—and our own.

Associate Rabbi Column

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This enables us to spend meaningful time working with the primary sources of our tradition. We don't do this in order to have a comprehensive knowledge of everything that's in Jewish text; doing so would overwhelm the ability to spend time on other materials and wouldn't be in-line with what congregants ask of us. Still, we do spend significant time studying primary materials in their original language because (1) we consider these texts sacred and our engagement with them to be a brush with the Divine; (2) these texts are the source material for Jewish living and learning; and (3) reading texts in the original language allows us not to be solely reliant on works of translation. While many contemporary rabbis rely heavily on English translations, it is still important to recognize that all translations involve choices.

Spending time with our sacred texts both in rabbinical school and afterwards signals our humility that we, in our contemporary age, don't have it all figured out—that we have much to learn from our ancestors, that different ways of life are possible and meaningful, and that we've been gifted insights into how to lead such lives.

There is a final topic we study in rabbinical school that is a different sort of gift: ourselves. Rabbinical school affords us the opportunity to take close, hard looks in the mirror—to seek to understand our demons and how they may have holds over us, to scrutinize our theologies to understand how we might view life's most terrible turns, to develop our own authentic, holistic approaches to Judaism so we might help chart accessible pathways forward for those interested in exploring further.

On none of these topics do we graduate fully formed. We're not experts in counseling, we can't recite the Talmud by heart, we may even mess up our Torah leyning from time to time (or, ahem, more often than that). But we try to move the needle on a range of areas. We try to function as organizational leaders, as custodians of our history, as stewards of our tradition, as Yisraelim—wrestlers with our God and ourselves. We try to honor the title of rabbi.

Playschool

New Year and New Journeys

Sahar Oz

Prominent American writer, and one of the founders of contemporary Chicano literature, Rudolfo Anaya once noted that “there is a time in the last few days of summer when the ripeness of autumn fills the air.” As I write this, we still have about a month and a half of summer left to enjoy, but the ripeness of the new Playschool year is already filling the air at SHS as the faculty and I work to finalize our preparations for the first day of school.

We’ve had a fantastic summer, with more than 50 children enjoying our camp programs, on a variety of attendance schedules, that began in early June and will end with two exciting weeks of specialty camps; this year’s specialty themes are “Theatre Thrills” followed by “Fun With Fabrics.” Thanks to our campers, parents, faculty, and building maintenance staff for making this such a wonderful summer!

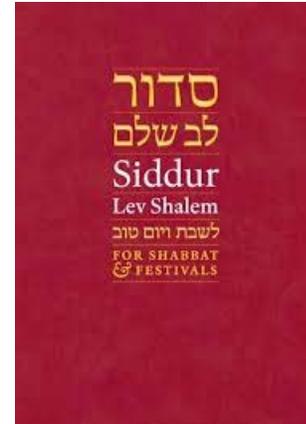
As we look to the new school year, please plan to join us for our “Welcome Parents” meeting on **Tuesday, September 4, at 7 PM**, in the synagogue Sanctuary on the second floor. This will be a great opportunity to connect with fellow Playschool parents and our teachers, and we will review our primary goals for the year and key calendar dates. Parents will also have an opportunity to break into class groups and meet with their children’s teachers. Light refreshments will be served at this meeting.

During the first week of school, Playschool families are invited to attend a “Welcome Party” in each classroom so that children can meet their peers and teachers, and parents can spend some time with their children during the first days of school. The classes for 2-year-old students will have their “Welcome Party” on **Wednesday, September 5, from 8:30–10:30 AM**. All 2-year-old students, regardless of which days of the week they will be attending school, are welcome to stay and play with their parents, teachers, and new classmates!

Our 2-year-old students will be able to further acclimate to their new classrooms on **Thursday and Friday, September 6 and 7, from 8:30–11:30 AM**.

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Dedication opportunities are still available (\$36) for members who wish to purchase copies of the Rabbinical Assembly Shabbat and Festival Siddur Lev Shalem. For further information, contact the office by calling 215.922.6590 or email office@societyhillssynagogue.org.



If you would like to dedicate a book, please send the following information to office@societyhillssynagogue.org:

Your name:

Name for whom the book is dedicated (exactly as you would like it to appear on the bookplate on the inside cover):

In Memory of or In Honor of (indicate which)
Please send a check for \$36 per dedication, made out to Society Hill Synagogue, to 418 Spruce Street, Philadelphia PA 19106, or call the office to charge the fee on your credit card (a 3% processing fee will be applied).



301 Bainbridge St, Philadelphia, PA 19147
PH: 215-925-7330 Fax: 215-925-7331
www.queenvillagefamilydentistry.com

Playschool

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The class for our 3-year-old students will have its “Welcome Party” for children and parents on **Thursday, September 6, from 8:30–10:30 AM**. All 3-year-old students, regardless of which days of the week they will be attending school, are welcome to come and engage with their parents, teachers, and new classmates. The 3-year-olds’ schedule for **Friday, September 7, will be from 8:30 AM–12:30 PM**.

Our Pre-Kindergarten Class “Welcome Party” will be on **Thursday, September 6, from 10 AM–12:30 PM**, with a **Friday schedule from 8:30 AM–12:30 PM**.

The first full day of Playschool for all classes will be on Wednesday, September 12. That will also be the first day of Early Care from 7:45–8:30 AM, After-School Arts (ASA) from 12:30–3 PM, and Late Care from 3–6 PM.

During the Jewish High Holy Days, please note that Playschool will be closed on the following days in September and October: **Monday, September 10** (Rosh Hashanah 1); **Tuesday, September 11** (Rosh Hashanah 2); **Wednesday, September 19** (Yom Kippur); **Monday, September 24** (Sukkot); **Tuesday, September 25** (Sukkot); and **Monday, October 1** (Shemini Atzeret and Sim_hat Torah). On **Tuesday, September 18**, all Playschool programs will end at 12:30 PM, as Yom Kippur begins at sunset.

Our faculty and I look forward to a school year filled with exciting new connections and friendships, exploration and discovery, and engaging learning and development—all while enjoying a wonderful “first school” experience. Shanah tovah um’tukah – wishing you a good and sweet year!

Social Action

Updates on All of Our Initiatives

1. Vare-Washington Elementary School Phyllis Denbo

After three years of innovative and effective instructional leadership, Zachary Duberstein has resigned as principal of Vare-Washington to assume a supervisory position with the Board of Education in Columbus, Ohio, his much-loved home state. Although we regret the departure of yet another V-W principal, the improved academic ranking and increased diversity of the school attracted a strong group of candidates for the vacant position. I was honored to serve on the School-Based Principal Selection Committee of the Board of Education and am pleased to report that the qualifications of the new Vare-Washington principal are exemplary.

Gretchen Stewart began her career in education as a Teach for America corps member. She then spent a number of years teaching students in the first through fourth grades, before joining Partners in School Innovation (PSI), where she coached teams of teachers to integrate research-tested cycles of inquiry into their teaching practice. In 2015, as Director of District Partnerships for PSI, she launched a partnership with the Philadelphia School District. Most recently, she was an elementary school Principal Fellow through the PhillyPLUS program, a much lauded training program for future principals.

Ms. Stewart spent time with Mr. Duberstein before he left Philadelphia and became familiar with the school and the programs and practices he introduced. She is thoughtful, creative, and enthusiastic—excited to meet her teachers and students. And she is very supportive of our volunteer work at the school.

If you are interested in volunteering at Vare-Washington, please contact me at prdenbo@gmail.com or 215.755.2734.

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Philadelphia Interfaith Community (PIC) Interfaith Inclusion Leadership Initiative (IILI)

Debra Stewart

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am thrilled to announce that SHS has been accepted to participate in the 2nd Cohort of the Interfaith Inclusion Leadership Initiative through InterfaithFamily. This is a one-year initiative during which SHS will receive coaching and support to develop a sustainable action plan in order to become more inclusive to interfaith couples and families.

The project kicked off in May with a full-day workshop for the Jewish Organization Leadership Teams. SHS has a strong, motivated team that includes Rabbi Avi Winokur, Education Director Sahar Oz—as well as congregants Gail Massey, Christy Reardon, Jared Susco, and myself. We have embarked upon the needs assessment process which will enable us to review and prioritize our needs in the following areas: Institutional Policies, Language and Optics, Effective and Sensitive Communication with Interfaith Families, Ritual Policies, Ritual Practice, Education, and Staff/Leadership Training.

We have already acquired some interesting insights and perspectives from our first coaching session and dialogue, while identifying our strengths through healthy collaboration. We are excited to have the opportunity to support and enhance the SHS experience for our current interfaith couples/families and to develop strategies to welcome new and prospective interfaith families.

In addition to engaging the Board of Directors and other SHS committees, we look forward to speaking with members of our congregation, including the teens and young adults of our interfaith families, during the needs assessment process. This valuable feedback from multiple perspectives will greatly inform our work and our program prioritization.

Society Hill Synagogue values each individual in our diverse community. We strive to continue to foster inclusion of people of all levels of observance/spirituality, interests, sexual orientation, socioeconomic background, and ability/disability.

Please contact me at beachehtic@gmail.com if you would like to be part of this important conversation.

Social Action

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2. Immigration

Phyllis Denbo

Great News! We have an immigrant family that we will be supporting in collaboration with Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel (BZBI). A representative of HIAS contacted us in late spring to tell us about the Muzunu family and ask if we were interested in working with them. They arrived in Philadelphia from the Congo three years ago. A resettlement agency worked with them for the first three months, but a local organization or individual was not available to support them beyond that time. In addition to the mother, Suzana, and the father, Merthus, there are four children at home—ranging in age from four to fourteen—and one away at college. The 14-year-old is about to enter high school and may need support for this transition. The younger children will likely have other school-related needs.

Neither parent is currently employed. At the beginning of the summer, Merthus was let go from a time-limited job as a gardener. He has a nursing background, but apparently has had no assistance in looking for a position in a health-related field. Suzana worked until very recently for a packing company in New Jersey. The facility was far, the work was physically exhausting, and she needed to be home with her children once the school year ended. Suzana is a high school graduate and a comfortable English speaker.

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AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Samantha Goldwert
 Irving Shapiro
 Debra Stewart
 Fran Newberg
 Claire Rose Englander
 Mark Steinberger
 Abbe Fletman
 Zack Gearhart-Robby
 Fay Hughes
 Myer Magen
 Jerry Roller
 Matthew Salzman
 Jane Nathanson
 Valerie Pipano
 Bjorn Seaberg
 Leo Aaron
 Wendy Rosen
 Julia Dranoff Gutstadt
 Nina Saligman
 Marsha Silver Heit
 Isaak Popkin
 Debby Freedman
 Harvey Weiner
 Susan Eizen
 Edwin Krauss
 Joseph Freedman
 Terry Graboyes
 Steven Greenspan
 Meyer Rohbart
 Jonathan Auerbach
 Susan Denbo
 Kiera Schindler
 Elana Hunter
 Zev Pipano
 Nathaniel Popkin
 Rabbi Avi Winokur
 Rachel Cohen
 Phoebe Zaring
 Dan Rosin
 Susanne Kaplan
 Rebecca Makuen
 Dave Femia
 Lucas Gorsen
 Bonny Hohenberger
 Jacob Marion
 Barry Bernstein
 Jerome Kranzel
 David Albert
 Hillary Ladov

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Carol Katcher
 Lyn Kirshenbaum
 Robby Saligman
 Neil Cohen
 David Gutstadt
 Anya Rosin
 Madeleine Wilson
 Edgar Einhorn
 David Faich

Andrea Ehrlich
 Martin Rosenberg
 Jenna Makuen
 Jay Denbo
 Joy Lander Roe
 Mel Nasielski
 Stephen Stein
 Karen Hafter
 Justin Lillien
 Bart Kaplan
 Joann Slosberg
 Anya Applebaum Licht
 Brooke Salzman
 Betta Kolansky
 Paula Ninerell
 Ann Rosen Spector
 Lynne Rubinfeld
 Jared Susco
 Ezra Raphael
 Aldo Friedman
 Fran Gallun
 Michael Rochester
 Benjamin Cohen
 Dana Feinberg
 Lisa Levin
 David Gould
 Sari Love
 Ben Rosin
 Robert Einhorn
 Caryn Levitsky
 Dawn Mechanic-Hamilton
 Jessica Newberg
 Jamie Schwartz
 Felix Edelman
 Daniel Blacksberg
 Josie Chrismer
 Lisa Eizen
 Anne Ballen Ladenson
 Amy van de Rijn-Graham

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Una Ehrenfeld
 Dan Bogen
 Jeremy Tobacman
 Andrea Appel
 Lily Hayman
 Bernard Cohen
 Ellen Fennick
 Jacob Mono
 Gabriel Gilbert-Trachtman
 Sayde Ladov
 Martha Levine
 Adam Denbo
 Gerald Faich
 Cora Rosin
 Ylanah Sloane
 Alexander Kranzel
 Burton Blender
 Roberta Dranoff
 Jay Wussow
 Janet Cherry

Stephen Leshnoff
 Emma Salzman
 Sarah Tobacman
 Scott Richman
 Daniel Saligman
 Skylar Hunter
 Maxwell Gearhart-Robby
 Abraham Summers
 Betty Kaplan
 Tal Prystowsky
 Amy Danoff
 Elina Picht
 Michael Roe
 Lawrence Goldfinger
 Lila Roomberg
 Lena Popkin
 Rafael Margolis
 Ava Albert
 Abigail Wolf
 Jonathan Weiss
 Jacob Hayman
 Dorathea Applebaum Licht
 Hannah Feinberg
 Avrey Thau
 Sofia Graham
 Clara Gutstadt
 Brian Mono

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What is a Kiddush or Oneg?

Customarily at the end of Shabbat morning and holiday services, the SHS community joins together to bless the wine (make "Kiddush") and the bread (make "Motzi"), and enjoy good food and company! This is what we call "the Kiddush."

Similarly, at the conclusion of Friday evening Kabbalat Shabbat service, we gather for an Oneg or a Shabbat dinner, where we bless the wine & bread and share light refreshments or dinner. Sponsoring this weekly community event is a wonderful way to celebrate a *simha* or joy, mark a special moment in one's life, honor someone, or commemorate a Yahrzeit. Sponsoring a *Kiddush, Oneg, or Shabbat dinner* helps the community to get to know you and share important moments in your life. It is also a way to say thank you to your community.

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Cindy & Alfred Farlino
 Richard Summers & Merrily Williams
 Todd & Leily Schoenhaus
 Raphael Licht & Gabrielle Applebaum
 Mark & Tobey Dichter
 Jesse Abrams-Morley & Meredith Buse
 Peter & Susan Eizen
 Brett & Allison Benton
 Pekka Hakkarainen & Susan Hakkarainan
 Harry & Eleanor Oxman
 Abraham Summers & Xing Xing Zhang
 Bart & Betty Kaplan
 Jerry & Joan Roller
 Stanton & Merle Salkin
 Dan & Anya Rosin
 Fred & Dinah Lovitch
 Myron Bloom & Nancy Moses
 Stephen Klasko & Colleen Wyse
 Martin Rosenberg & Ellen Fennick
 William & Sari Love
 David & Sayde Ladov
 Burton Blender & Libby Harwitz Blender
 Adriel Mesznik & Elizabeth Heller-Mesznik

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Noah & Sara Chrismer
 Joshua & Suzanne Sztul
 Alan & Lynn Gottlieb
 Ron & Libby Kaiser
 James & Linda Rosenstein
 Richard Braemer & Amy Finkel
 Jay Wussow & Emily Zimmerman
 Carl & Caryn Levitsky

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

Daniel & Carol Weil
 Aaron & Renee Edelman
 Joshua Goldwert & Jennifer Schwartz
 Craig Pressman & Sandra Lazovitz
 David & Jessica Rosenbloom
 Murray Dubin & Libby Rosof
 Bonny Hohenberger & Nathan Farbman
 Don & Karen Kaufman
 Nathaniel Popkin & Rona Buchalter
 Sahar & Allison Oz
 Mark Steinberger & Ann Lebowitz Steinberger
 Jonathan Auerbach & Karoline Adler
 Mel Nasielski & Nancy Burd



Community News

Mazel Tov to

Ann Rosen-Spector & Larry Spector on the birth of their granddaughter, Marigold Diane Censer.

Ann Rosen-Spector & Larry Spector on the birth of their granddaughter, Talia Rose Spector Louden.

Condolences to

Carla Krasnick on the death of her husband, Ron.

Andrew Bottaro on the death of his mother, Marcella Bottaro.

Noah Herman on the death of his father, Ron Herman.

Terry Graboyes on the death of her former husband, Ron Herman.

Caryn Levitsky on the death of her mother, Reye Neff.

Judith Axler on the death of her mother, Beryl Axler.

Welcome New Members

David & Jennifer Albert
Ava

Fay Hughes

Alex & Stephanie Kaslowitz
Leo

Justin Lilien & Ami Fisher
Zachary

Yoram Meital & Hilla Jacobson
Yuval

David & Jessica Rosenbloom
Emerson

Todd & Leily Schoenhaus
Max
Jasmin

General Fund

In Honor of

Larry Spector & Ann Rosen Spector, Birth of Granddaughter, Talia Rose Spector Louden
Len Weinberg & Fran Gallun

In Memory of

Raye Neff, Mother of Caryn Levitsky
Walter Ferst

Yahrzeit Remembrance

Al Shreibman, Father-in-Law of Doris Shreibman
Doris Shreibman

Reva B. Goldner, Mother of Linda Joy Goldner
Linda Joy Goldner

Ruth Cohen, Mother of Neil Cohen
Neil Cohen

Bertle Magdule, Aunt of Jerry Roller
Jerry & Joan Roller

Seymour Schwartz, Father of Susanne Kaplan
Susanne Kaplan

Annual Giving Fund

In Honor of

Nathan Kamesar's Ordination & Appointment as Associate Rabbi
Barbara Spector

Terry Novick, Gratitude for Role in Raphael Englander's Bar Mitzvah
Brian & Juliet Englander and Family

Yahrzeit Remembrance

Shirley Spector, Mother of Barbara Spector
Barbara Spector

Restoration Fund

In Honor of

Nathan Kamesar's Ordination
Marc, Staci, & Jamie Schwartz

In Memory of

Estelle Dembert, Mother of Mark Dembert
Stanley & Judith Woloff

Yahrzeit Remembrance

Norman S. Cohn, Brother of Cantor Alan Cohn
Alan Cohn

Mannie Hechler, Father of Iris Levine
Iris Levine

Bonnie Abramsky, Sister of Iris Levine
Iris Levine

Deborah Krauss, Mother of Edwin Krauss
Edwin & Etta Krauss

Social Action Fund

Yahrzeit Remembrance

Jane Bass Simon, Mother of Robert Bass
Robert Bass

Molly Miller, Mother of Paula Ninerell
Paula Ninerell

Robert Weissbach, Brother of Debra Weissbach
Debra Weissbach

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In Appreciation of

Rabbi Winokur's support & assistance
Caryn & Carl Levitsky

In Memory of

Estelle Dembert, Mother of Mark Dembert
Rina Mitchell

Harry & Ida Schneeberg, In-Laws of Gerry Schneeberg
Gerry Schneeberg

Albert Shapiro, Father of Arthur Shapiro
Arthur Shapiro

Yahrzeit Remembrance

Alan L. Jacobs, Father of Nancy Goldenberg
Nancy Goldenberg

Sara Weyland, Aunt of Harris Hayman
Harris & Renee Hayman

Adult Education

Yahrzeit Remembrance

Marion Rosof, Mother of Libby Rosof
Libby Rosof

In Honor of

Bruce Hirsch for his dedication to his students
Libby Kaiser, Karen Plamer, and Judy Gelles

Kiddush Fund

Speedy Recovery

Ann Steinberger
Alan & Ellen Nastir

In Appreciation of

SHS
Ethan Schiff & Laura Finkelstein

In Memory of

Leon Shechtman, Father of Alan Shechtman
Burton Blender & Libby Harwitz Blender

Jerry Robbins, Husband of Dena Robbins
Burton Blender & Libby Harwitz Blender

Prayerbook Fund

In Memory of

Tryna S. Jacobs, Mother of Roberta Jacobs- Meadway
Mary Fish & Mark Dembert

Silver Heit Salkin Fund

Yahrzeit of

Murray Rosof, Father of Libby Rosof
Libby Rosof

Social Action

Continued from page 9

They live just south of Point Breeze in South Philly, but their accommodations are unpleasant and their landlord is unresponsive to their requests. They would like to move to a new home within the neighborhood, as they belong to a local church with many Congolese members, and their children attend the neighborhood school.

Several members of the core support team have met with members of the family and report that they are lovely people with a great many needs. Over the next month or so, we will develop a plan of action for the family. We are expected to meet with them twice a week, two or three volunteers per visit, although not necessarily the same people at each visit. The goal is for the family to achieve self-sufficiency by the end of one year.

We are planning a special event to introduce the Muzunus to the SHS family this fall. Stay tuned for further information. In the meantime, please contact me at prdenbo@gmail.com or 215.755.2734 if you would like to offer assistance.

Continued on page 26

Reminder—Please be sure to return your completed Membership packets to the synagogue as soon as possible so that your High Holy Day Tickets can be mailed on time!



Young Families Group

Friday Nights with Young Families

Joanna Hart

We are a strong, friendly, and diverse group of families who want to support you and your family as you develop your own traditions and sense of community. Our programs are geared to kids from birth to Pre-K, but children of all ages are welcomed with open arms. In addition to our monthly *Friday Nights with Young Families* events (during which we share songs, prayers, and a potluck meal—all at a bedtime-friendly hour), we maintain a children's book collection outside of the Sanctuary for use during services, and we help to spread the word about kid-friendly Jewish events across Philadelphia.

Our first *Friday Nights with Young Families* program will be held on **Friday, October 12**. We will gather in the Social Hall at 5:30 PM and begin the program at 5:45 PM. A Jewish Education professional with years of experience will lead our short, kid-friendly Shabbat services as we celebrate the joys of community and prayer. Participants will also learn to build family traditions in their own homes. No prior Jewish knowledge or experience is necessary. Following the song-based "service" we will share a vegetarian potluck dinner. Please RSVP to me at joanna.lee.hart@gmail.com.

Mark your calendars for these additional *Friday Nights with Young Families* dates: November 11, December 14, January 4, February 8, March 8, April 12, and June 14. Families of all sizes and backgrounds are welcome!

This fall, we will be joining the Social Action Committee to participate in a food packing and distribution project, so we can encourage our kids to help those who are less fortunate. We also to hope to continue our new Sunday morning brunch group!

Parents and prospective members with young children, expectant parents, and any caretakers are invited to join our email list by contacting me at the address above! See photo on page 25.

Continued on page 16

May 2018 SHS Extraordinary Service Award Recipients

At the Annual Congregation Meeting on May 23, four congregants received awards for their extraordinary service to SHS. Here are abbreviated versions of their award narratives:

Steve Greenberg

Steve Greenberg is a person who walks the walk. Both in his service to Society Hill Synagogue, and through his work in the wider community, he has displayed creativity, initiative, a strong work ethic, and a deep commitment to social justice.

As a new member, Steve and his wife, Ruth, regularly attended Friday night services, Nosh and Schmooze, and other SHS events. It wasn't long before he was asked to become a member of the Board of Directors. He quickly took the lead in membership recruitment, bringing together a team of congregants to post flyers throughout the neighborhood announcing upcoming events, especially our special TGIShabbat monthly musical service. He also created and managed an on-line meet-up site to reach out to the broader Jewish community and encourage them to attend SHS programs and events.

SHS has also benefited from Steve's extraordinary talents as an artist; he designed a beautiful wood-framed mirror that he donated to the auction at our 50th anniversary celebration.

After Steve stepped down from the Board of Directors, he turned his woodworking hobby into an amazing, full-time, non-profit initiative called **Furnishing a Future**, where he teaches practical and valuable woodworking skills to disaffected youth, homeless men, and individuals who are re-entering society after incarceration. Serving as a natural mentor, Steve helps to place these individuals in living wage jobs. This past year, during the Yom Kippur afternoon break, Steve gave a powerful presentation on this extraordinary undertaking.

We are indeed fortunate to have Steve as a member of the SHS community, to benefit from his humanity, and to enjoy his warmth, good humor, and friendship.

Joanna Hart

At SHS, if you happen to see a merry Pied Piper, Micah Hart, playing a guitar while leading a marching group of young children singing Hebrew songs—this is just one of the fun activities organized by Micah's wife, Joanna Hart, Chair and creator of the Young Families Group at SHS.

Approximately 3 years ago, Joanna, a pulmonary and critical care physician at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital (with the strong support and encouragement of her husband Micah, a vice principal at Mastery Charter School in Germantown) became the leader of this exciting new group for SHS families with young children. Joanna and Micah grew up in northern Virginia, married in 2005, and were quite active in their synagogue in Charlottesville. They joined SHS in 2011, and now have 2 young children—Toby, 5, and Matilda, 1. When Joanna realized how difficult it was to keep Toby quiet and engaged during Shabbat services in the Sanctuary, she had the idea to create a kid-friendly service where “controlled chaos” is celebrated. With the support of Executive Director Betty van di Rijn, she approached other families with young children to gauge interest and the Young Families Group was born. Now, once a month, 10 to 20 families come together to share songs and prayers during a short, fun service that is conducted at a bedtime-friendly hour (5 PM) and led by a Jewish education professional. A potluck meal in the Social Hall follows the service.

Joanna was also responsible for creating the Little Book Basket in the lobby outside of the Sanctuary. Members and guests are encouraged to share these books to occupy their children during services. New or gently used book donations are always welcome.

For the past three years, Joanna and Micah have also graciously hosted dinners for Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas?TM for families with young children.

Continued on next page

May 2018 SHS Extraordinary Service Award Recipients

Continued from page 14

Carmen Hayman

Carmen and her husband, Ric, joined SHS in 2005, the year after the now tallest person in her family (Jacob) started Kindergarten. Fortunately for us, both Rona Buchalter and Mitchell Bach provided Ric and Carmen with glowing endorsements of SHS and encouraged them to check out SHS for themselves. Shortly thereafter, Carmen, Ric, and their two beautiful children, Jacob and Lily, became regular service attendees and participated in all holiday events and celebrations.

Carmen immediately served on multiple committees at SHS. Over the years, she has helped with numerous Social Action Committee initiatives, including organizing the purchasing, wrapping, and delivery of Christmas presents to the underserved children at the Washington Elementary School. She led this program for 6 years, providing gifts for 24 children the first year; she expanded the program to provide supermarket gift cards, clothing, and toys to help 39 families and 102 children in its final year.

Carmen was an original member of the Java Parent Group who met weekly during Sunday School hours. Eager to help shape the policies, programs, and curricula in the Sunday and Hebrew schools, she also served on the Education Committee for about eleven years, six of which she served as Chair. She was nominated to serve on the SHS Board of Directors in 2011, and has served as Vice President since 2014. She also served on the Education Director search committee and on two Cantor search committees.

In addition to her commitment to ensure that our children received the highest quality education possible, Carmen also furthered her own Hebrew education at SHS through adult education classes and by studying with Rabbi Winokur and Cantor Freedman. She proudly became a Bat Mitzvah, as one of the celebrated "Mitziess," in June of 2013, and now leyns Torah and chants Haftarah during holiday services.

We have all benefited from Carmen's thoughtful leadership and we thank her for so many years of extraordinary service.

Natalie Lesser

Natalie and her husband, Jordan Segall, have been active members of our congregation since 2013. A native of Columbus, Ohio, Natalie works as an attorney in private practice when she's not contributing her valuable time to endeavors at SHS. She has been a driving force and one of the founding members of what has become the Young Friends of Society Hill Synagogue—a group of individuals who meet for potluck dinners, pre-Shabbat drinks, and discussions about spiritual exploration—who bring youthful energy and enthusiasm to our synagogue family. Natalie recently completed her term as a member of our Board of Directors, where she has added calm intellect and guidance to our governing process for the past 2 years and has served as a participant on our Membership Committee.

We offer our sincere thanks to Natalie for her valuable contributions to SHS!!

The SHS Board thanked the Member Recognition Nominating Committee (Staci Schwartz, Phyllis Denbo, Bonny Hohenberger, Betty van de Rijn, Neil Cohen and Debra Stewart) for their thoughtful recommendations.

5779 High Holy Days Schedule of Services and Events

Saturday, September 1	9 AM	Torah Study
	10 AM	Shabbat Morning Services
	8:30 PM	Selihot Service at BZBI
Friday, September 7	6:15 PM	Kabbalat Shabbat Service
Saturday, September 8	9 AM	Torah Study
	10 AM	Shabbat Morning Services
Sunday, September 9	6:30 PM	Service
Erev Rosh Hashanah		
Monday, September 10		
Rosh Hashanah Day 1	9 AM	Main Service in Sanctuary
	9:30 AM	SS School Service Social Hall
	10:30 AM	HS School Service Social Hall
		Honey Tasting following all services
	2 PM	Tashlikh at Penn's Landing
Tuesday, September 11	10 AM	Family Service in Sanctuary
Rosh Hashanah Day 2		
Tuesday, September 18	6 PM	Kol Nidre Service in Sanctuary
Wednesday, September 19	9:30 AM	Main Service in Sanctuary
Yom Kippur	9:30 AM	SS School Service Social Hall
	10:30 AM	HS School Service Social Hall
	3-4 PM	Recess
	4 PM**	Minhah Service
	4:30 PM**	Yizkor Service
	6 PM	Ne'ilah Service
	7:45 PM*	Sounding of the Shofar
	7:55 PM*	Break-the-Fast following Service
	*These times are approximate	
Friday, September 21	6:15 PM	Kabbalat Shabbat Service
Saturday, September 22	9 AM	Torah Study
	10 AM	Shabbat Morning Services
	10:15 AM	Shabbat Study
Monday, September 24	9:30 AM	Service in Sanctuary
Sukkot Day 1		Office/Playschool Closed

Tuesday, September 25	Sukkot Day 2	Office/Playschool Closed
Friday, September 28	6:15 PM	TGIS Shabbat Service
Sukkot Day 5-Hol Hamoed		Welcome New Members
Saturday, September 29	9 AM	Torah Study
	10 AM	Shabbat Morning Services
	10 AM	Meditative Service
		Lunch & Learn TBA
Sunday, September 30	10 AM	Sukkot Family Service
Monday, October 1	Sukkot Day 8	Office/Playschool Closed
	9:30 AM	Sh'mini Atzeret/Yiskor Service
	6 PM	Simhat Torah Dinner
	6:30 PM	Simhat Torah Service
Friday, October 5	6:15 PM	Kabbalat Shabbat Service
Saturday, October 6	9 AM	Torah Study
	10 AM	Shabbat Morning Services
		Hatan Torah/Kallat B'reishit Luncheon
Sunday, October 7	9 AM	Sunday School
	9:15 AM	Nuts & Bolts and Beyond
	11 AM	Hebrew School
Friday, October 12	6:15 PM	Kabbalat Shabbat Service
	5:30 PM	Return of Young Families Group Shabbat
Saturday, October 13	9 AM	Torah Study
	9:30 AM	Bar Mitzvah of Gabriel Cohen
	10:15 AM	Shabbat Study
Sunday, October 14	9 AM	Sunday School
	11 AM	Hebrew School
	11 AM	Arts & Culture Walking Tour of CC
Friday, October 19	6:15 PM	TGIS Shabbat Service
Saturday, October 20	9 AM	Torah Study
	9:30 AM	Bar Mitzvah of Max Gearhart-Robby

Restoration Fund Yahrzeit Remembrance

Ben Zion Meyer, Father of Harold Meyer
Harold Meyer

Annual Giving: Thank You for Your Support!

Jesse Abrams-Morley & Meredith Buse
Mitchell Bach

Anne Ballen Ladenson

Burton Blender & Libby Harwitz Blender

Deborah Block & Doug Smullens

Myron Bloom & Nancy Moses

Alan & Deborah Casnoff

Alan Casper

Theo Danoff & Diane Siegel Danoff

Steven Datlof & Diane Harrison

Michael Davidson & Christine Reardon

Mark & Tobey Dichter

Jessica Downes

Steven & Lisa Eizen

Brian & Juliet Englander

Gerald Faich & Bonni Rubin-Sugarman

Joseph Freedman

Richard & Judy Gelles

Alice Goldenberg

Jack Goldenberg

Marc & Nancy Goldenberg

Lawrence & Jacqueline Goldfinger

Linda Joy Goldner

Joshua Goldwert & Jennifer Schwartz

Steven & Wendy Greenspan

Micah & Joanna Hart

Brent & Leah Jordan

Edward & Susanne Kaplan

Stephen Klasko

Thomas Kline

Roger & Fanny Korman

Judith & Tony Lalli

Elliot & Morgan Landes

Stephen & Susan Leshnoff

Curtis Lizenbaum

Fred & Dinah Lovitch

Myer Magen

Adriel Mesznik & Elizabeth Heller-Mesznik

Paula Ninerll

Aaron & Elina Picht

Lila Roomberg

Paul & Wendy Rosen

Daniel & Barbara Rottenberg

Barbara Spector

David Spiegel & Maryam Maim

Mark Steinberger & Ann Lebowitz Steinberger

Debra Stewart

Alton Sutnick

Joshua & Suzanne Sztul



Annual Giving: - continued

Thank You for Your Support!

Jeremy Tobacman & Jean Galbraith

Len Weinberg & Fran Gallun

Joshua & Stephanie Wolson

David & Jacoba Zaring

Adam Ziegfeld & Michele Margolis

Lulav and Etrog



Lulavim and Etrogim sets will be available for Sukkot at a cost of \$40 per set. If

you are interested in purchasing a set, please contact the office by calling 215.922.6590 or send email to office@societyhillssynagogue.org.

2018-2019 B'nai Mitzvahs

October 13

Gabriel Cohen

Son of Seth and Rachel Cohen

October 20

Max Gearhart-Robby

Son of Peter Gearhart and Alex Robboy

October 27

Gavi Gilbert-Trachtman

Son of Ivy Gilbert

Continued on next page



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Continued

Parking Information

Please note: This is not the Service Schedule.

Because of the anticipated large attendance during High Holy Day services, we have arranged for permission to park on the EAST side of 4th Street, between LOCUST and LOMBARD Streets, and on the NORTH side of SPRUCE Street, between 3rd and 8th Streets, on the following dates*:

Sunday Parking	September 9	5:30 PM – 11 PM	Erev Rosh Hashanah
Monday Parking	September 10	8:30 AM – 4 PM	Rosh Hashanah 1
Tuesday Parking	September 11	9 AM – 3 PM	Rosh Hashanah 2
Saturday Parking	September 15	9 AM – 3 PM	Shabbat Shuvah
Tuesday Parking	September 18	5:30 PM – 10 PM	Kol Nidre
Wednesday Parking	September 19	9 AM – 10 PM	Yom Kippur
Monday Parking	September 24	9 AM – 3 PM	Sukkot 1
Saturday Parking	September 29	9 AM – 3 PM	Sukkot – <u>H</u>ol Hamoed
Sunday Parking	September 30	9:30 AM – 3 PM	Sukkot Day 7 – Family Sukkot Service
Monday Parking	October 1	9 AM – 3 PM	Sukkot Day 8- Sh'mini Atzeret
Monday Parking	October 1	3 PM – 10 PM	Simḥat Torah
Saturday Parking	October 6	9 AM – 3 PM	<u>H</u>atan Torah/Kallat B'reishit Luncheon

THESE PARKING PRIVILEGES ARE GOOD ONLY FOR THE DAYS AND TIMES INDICATED.

*You must place an "Attending Services" placard in the rear window of your car. Placards are available in the Spruce Street Lobby.

Please note: Parking is not permitted at any time in front of neighbors' driveways, too close to street corners (it hinders buses from turning), in Lawrence Court, or in the loading zone in front of the building.

Cars not conforming to these parking regulations will be subject to ticketing by the Philadelphia Parking Authority.

2018 -2019 B'nai Mitzvahs—continued

December 1

Ella Marchant

Daughter of Piers Marchant and Audrey Jaros

March 30

Louis Golding

Son of Randi Glatzer

May 4

Esme Oxman

Daughter of Joseph Oxman and Christi Rosengart

May 11

Ella Gutstadt

Daughter of David and Julia Dranoff Gutstadt

May 18

Eva Femia

Daughter of Dave and Rebecca Femia

May 25

Emma Chrismer

Daughter of Noah and Sara Chrismer

June 22

Sebastian Picht

Son of Aaron and Elina Picht

June 29

Samuel Hamilton

Son of Dawn Mechanic Hamilton



Arts & Culture Group

Get Ready for an Exciting Year of Activities!

Betta Kolansky, Eleanor Oxman, Ellen Fennick, & Libby Kaiser

L'Shanah Tovah greetings from the SHS Arts and Culture Committee! We are looking forward to another exciting year of programs and activities! Our first event, on Sunday, October 14 (rain date—Sunday, October 28), from 1-3 PM, will be a walking tour of historic, iconic, and memorable Jewish sites in Society Hill and South Philadelphia led by tour guide Jerry Silverman. The fee will be \$10 per person, and we will meet in front of SHS promptly at 1 PM. To register, please send a check that will cover the cost of each member of your party to the SHS office by Monday, October 1 (418 Spruce Street). To use a credit card (add 3% processing fee), please contact Betty at bettyv@societyhillsynagogue.org.

On Friday, November 2, join us to attend a special lecture, luncheon, and concert event with the music makers and celebrity guests from the Philadelphia Orchestra! We will meet at the Doubletree Hotel (located at Broad and Locust Streets). A lecture by Hugh Sung, pianist at Curtis Institute, will begin at 11 AM, followed by a presentation at noon by celebrity guest Nizan Haroz, Principal Trombone with the Philadelphia Orchestra, who will discuss and perform excerpts from the Friday afternoon concert. A three-course luncheon will be served from 12:30 to 1:30 PM. The concert, which will begin at 2 PM, will feature pianist Seong-Jin Cho, who will perform Mozart's Piano Concerto No.20, Brahms' Symphony No. 1, and Beethoven's Coriolan Overture. This event, organized by the Rittenhouse Committee for the Philadelphia Orchestra, costs \$36 per person for the lecture, presentation, and luncheon for a group of 10 or more. For smaller groups, the cost is \$40 per person. The Friday afternoon concert costs \$38–\$45 per ticket.

Please contact Eleanor Oxman at 215.574.9645 or esoxman@comcast.net for further information.

On Thursday, November 29, at 8 PM, please join us for 1812 Productions' hilarious show/political satire, "This is the Week That Is," at Plays and Players Theatre (located at 1714 Delancey Place). The cost of the tickets is \$33 per person. Please RSVP to Betty at bettyv@societyhillsynagogue.org by November 13.

Preceding the show, we will meet for dinner at La Fontana Della Citta (1701 Spruce Street—just one block away from the theatre), at 6 PM. We will pay separately for our meals.

Please RSVP to Betta at bkolansky@comcast.net by November 13, so that tables can be reserved.

In March, we will enjoy "Museuming with Marty" (Rosenberg). Marty is a feminist art historian who gives outstanding museum tours. Further details will follow.

Mark your calendars to join us for SHS's Annual Second Night Pesah Seder on April 20, at 6 PM, in the Social Hall. Menu, fees, and details to follow.

We are also planning an architectural walking tour led by Marty Rosenberg on Sunday, May 5 (rain date—May 19).

SHSpirit in Song

Elul Soul Soak!

Jessi Roemer

Join us for a *mikveh* of song! We'll tune up our hearts and spirits for the holidays with special pre-holiday sessions of Spirit in Song, on two Wednesday evenings: August 29, and September 5, 6:30–7:30 PM, led by Hazzan Jessi. In between these sessions, please plan to attend the song-filled joint Selihot observance at BZBI, on Saturday evening, Sept 1, starting at 8:30 PM. If you love the songs and music of the High Holy Days, please come and join us. No musical experience is necessary—all you need is a willingness to sing!



OPEN HOUSE SOCIETY HILL SYNAGOGUE

**PLEASE JOIN US ON SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 16, 10 AM UNTIL 12 PM,
FOR AN OPEN HOUSE**

Invite your family members, friends, colleagues, and neighbors to come and get a taste of our wonderful synagogue community!

Enjoy delicious coffee and bagels, and schmooze with Rabbi Avi Winokur, Rabbi Nathan Kamesar, Hazzan Jessi Roemer, President Harry Oxman, Executive Director Betty van de Rijn, Education Director Sahar Oz, and members of our Board of Directors and congregation.

We are a warm and vibrant synagogue congregation with a diverse and welcoming community. We have engaging and intellectually stimulating Adult Education courses on a variety of interesting and relevant Jewish topics, a top-notch Hebrew School, and a stimulating and nurturing preschool program.

Annual Meeting Board Election Results

If you were unable to attend the Annual Congregation Meeting in May, please note the names of members who are serving on the SHS Board of Directors. Congratulations to Harry Oxman, who was elected to serve as President for a third term; It was announced that Jeremey Newberg will run for election as his successor next year.

Elections were also conducted for the group of Board members who ran for additional terms and the congregation wishes to congratulate Ashleigh Reibach and Micah Hart on their new Board appointments.

2018 SHS Board of Directors (BOD)

Neil Cohen
 Lisa Eizen
 Gerald Faich
 Dana Feinberg
 Holly Gorsen
 Micah Hart
 Betta Kolansky
 David Ladov
 Judy Lalli
 Rafi Licht
 Brian Mono
 Nancy Morgenstern
 Jeremey Newberg
 Ashleigh Reibach
 Jacqui Rick
 Larry Spector
 Mark Steinberger

President: Harry J. Oxman
 Board Solicitor: Michael Davidson

Ex-Officio Members who also play a key role on the BOD:

Rabbi Avi Winokur
 Rabbi Nathan Kamesar
 Executive Director Betty van de Rijn
 Immediate Past President Debra Stewart

One Board vacancy remains. The Board President may appoint a director during the year to be officially nominated for a term of service during the next Annual Meeting. Please contact Debra Stewart if you wish to be considered for this position or wish to nominate a fellow congregant for consideration.

Continued on next page

Annual Meeting Board Election Results

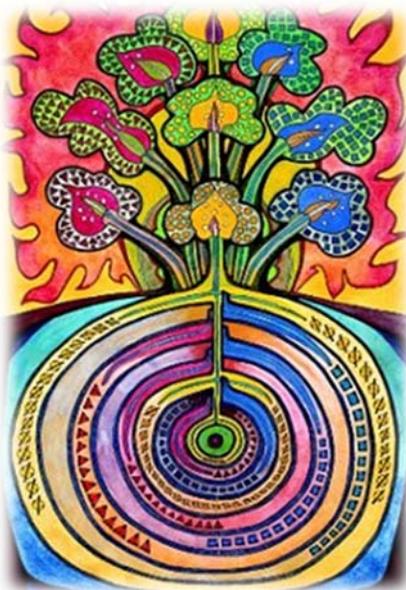
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Special thanks to the following three Board members who have completed terms of service and are stepping down:

Noah Chrismer joined the BOD in 2014 and served on the Finance Committee. He brought wonderful new insights to support responsible fiscal stewardship at SHS. As a parent of three children, Noah was also able to share his and his children's experiences with the Sunday and Hebrew Schools and offered helpful suggestions for the leadership's consideration. Noah's commitment and dedication have been greatly appreciated.

Carmen Hayman joined the BOD in 2011 and was appointed Vice President in 2014. Serving as Chair of the Education Committee for many years, Carmen has been the Board liaison for the Sunday and Hebrew Schools and the Education Leadership Team. Carmen has served on several search committees for staff and clergy positions. She has made significant contributions to the schools' budget process, contract negotiations, performance evaluations, and more. Her leadership has made a positive impact on the overall quality of synagogue life at SHS. Carmen's leadership and dedication have been greatly appreciated.

Natalie Lesser joined the BOD in 2015. She and her husband, Jordan, assumed leadership of the Young Friends of SHS, a group of young professionals who share potluck dinners and pre-Shabbat drinks as they explore spirituality and other aspects of Jewish life. Natalie brought a fresh perspective to the Board discussions and quickly became engaged in supporting the needs of young children in our Sanctuary. She also served on the Cantor Search Committee and has been involved in outreach efforts to recruit new young adult members through the annual Jewish Federation's Wine and Cheese event before the High Holy Days. Natalie's commitment and leadership have been greatly appreciated.



Community Selihot Program

Saturday, September 1, 2018

8:30 to 10 PM

Kahaner Chapel—Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel
300 South 18th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Join us for a musical, spiritual soul-soak: A musical Selihot collaboration between Society Hill Synagogue, Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel, Congregation Leyv Ha-Ir, and Kol Tzedek Synagogue.

This music-filled Selihot service will incorporate Ashkenazic and Sephardic melodies, both contemplative and joyful. There will be space for reflection, words of Torah, communal song, and connection, followed by dessert!

This event is free and open to all. Please feel free to share and bring friends!

Photo Gallery



Sprinkler fun in the sun at Playschool Summer Camp!



Rainy weather can't keep us from enjoying stories and laughter by the "campfire" in our indoor tent at Playschool Summer Camp.



Dinosaur art during "Dinosaurs" week at Playschool Summer Camp.

Photo Gallery



Friday Nights with Young Families Group



Israel Defense Forces paratroopers from the unit of 35 soldiers who received Purim baskets filled with delicious goodies donated by our 5778 B'nai Mitzvah class.

Social Action

Continued from page 9

3. Power: Voter Engagement is a Priority

Jerry Faich

As was reflected at the Tisha B'Av Rally at the Immigration and Customs Enforcement office in Philadelphia, there is an ongoing legal and moral crisis due to separation of children from parents. Moreover, detention without due process is illegal.

Additionally, the Trump administration continues to cause enormous international relations upheavals and social justice violations. These and other issues mean that the November election is critical. As stated in the New York Times, "There is a way to contain the damage ... It's called voting." (Disgusted With Donald Trump? Do This, Frank Bruni, NYT, July 20, 2018).

POWER is making voter engagement its number one priority and is urging all member congregations to actively participate. Join us on Sunday, August 26, 3–5 PM, at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church (located at 1000 W Main St Lansdale PA 19446), for a Voter Engagement Kick Off event! For further information, feel free to contact me at 610.969.8755 or gfaich@gmail.com.

4. Forum on Immigration

Jerry Faich

Join the Social Action Committee on Wednesday, August 1, 5–6:30 PM, at the Philadelphia Ethical Society (located at 1906 S. Rittenhouse Square). Please RSVP to protectelectphilly@gmail.com.

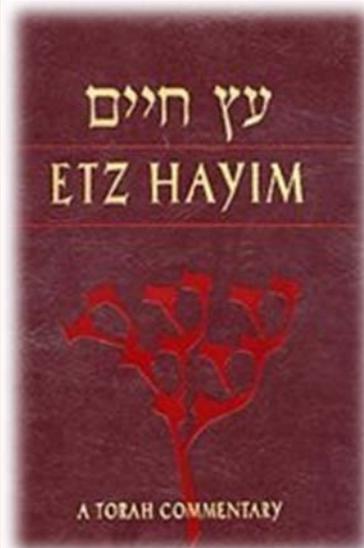
5. Rally in Harrisburg

Jerry Faich

SHS had a very strong contingent at a rally in Harrisburg on the 20th to advocate for full and fair educational funding. As you probably all know, Pennsylvania finally caught up with most the states in devising a formula for equitable educational funding. The legislature then decided that only new monies would be distributed under the new formula. That amounts to about 7%, meaning that 93% will still be distributed under the inequitable formula. POWER and its allies were lobbying for 100% of funds to be distributed equitably, and for full funding. The gathering was very impressive and included affiliates from surrounding counties and even from the middle of the state. Because Philadelphia funding is so dependent on the state, and there is an urban/suburban-rural divide that leaves Philadelphia and other cities at a disadvantage, POWER began expanding its organizing efforts outside of Philadelphia. Those efforts are beginning to bear fruit. In fact, one of the people I saw at the rally was Professor Rabbi Mira Wasserman, Ph.D., from our greater Metro POWER affiliate Beth Am Israel in Penn Valley. Mira is also on the faculty at RRC and will be our Jay R. Baer Scholar-in-Residence this coming January. See photos on page 28

6. Philadelphia Rally for Immigration Reform

Several SHS members gathered at a rally to end separation and detention of families. See photos on page 28



Religion Committee

Would You Like to Dedicate a Humash?

Marc Schwartz & Terry Novick

We hope that the upcoming High Holy Days are meaningful and fulfilling for everyone in our congregation.

As you may have noticed, many copies of our Etz Hayim Humash are showing signs of wear and tear from our devoted use over the years. Some of the covers have become separated from the spines, and some pages have been torn. If you discover a damaged book during the High Holy Day services, please do not return it to bookcase; rather, place it in the box near the tallit rack on the right hand side of the lobby outside of the Sanctuary so that it can be repaired or replaced.

We would like to offer our members the opportunity to purchase and dedicate replacement books in memory/honor of loved ones.

If you would like to dedicate a book, please send the following information to office@societyhillssynagogue.org:

Your name:

Name for whom the book is dedicated (exactly as you would like it to appear on the bookplate on the inside cover):

In Memory of or In Honor of (indicate which)

Please send a check for \$36 per dedication, made out to Society Hill Synagogue, to 418 Spruce Street, Philadelphia PA 19106, or call the office to charge the fee on your credit card (a 3% processing fee will be applied).

If you have questions, please contact Betty at bettyv@societyhillssynagogue.org or 215.922.6590, ext. #23.

Photo Gallery PHILADELPHIA & HARRISBURG RALLIES



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
					Last Day of Regular Camp No Service	Eikev 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Services
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Building Closed	Specialty Camp 7 PM ECM	Specialty Camp 7:15 AM Minyan	Specialty Camp	Specialty Camp	Specialty Camp No Service	R'eih 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Services "Havdalah Down the Shore"
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Building Closed	Specialty Camp	Specialty Camp 7:15 AM Minyan	Specialty Camp	Specialty Camp	Specialty Camp No Service	Shof'tim 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Services
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Building Closed	5:30 PM Membership Committee Mtg. 7 PM BDM	7:15 AM Minyan		Kehillah Wine Tasting at the National Museum of American Jewish History	Building Closed No Service	Ki Tetzei 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Services Aufruf of Rabbi Nathan Kamesar & Caroline Fortin
26	27	28	29	30	31	
Building Closed	7 PM Religion Committee Mtg.	7:15 AM Minyan 6 PM InterFaith Committee Mtg.			Building Closed No Service	

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
						Ki Tavo 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Services 8:30 PM Selihot Community Service at BZBI
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Selihot Building Closed	Labor Day Building Closed	7:15 AM Minyan 8 AM PS Teacher Assembly 7 PM PS Parent Meeting	PS Welcome	PS Welcome	PS Welcome 6:15 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service Resumes	Nitzavim 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Services
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Erev RH 6:30 PM Services	RH I 9 AM Main Serv 9:30 AM SS Serv. 10:45 AM HS Ser. Honey Tasting Oneg followed by Tashlikh at 2 PM	RH II 10 AM Services	7 PM Hatan Torah Meeting		6:15 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service	Va-yeilekh 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Services
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
10 AM – 12 PM Open House 9 AM 1 st Day SS 11 AM 2 nd Day HS	6 PM ECM 7 PM BDM	Kol Nidre 12:30 PM PS Dismissal 6 PM Service	Yom Kippur 9:30 AM Main Service 9:30 AM SS Serv. 10:45 AM HS Ser. 4:30 PM Yizkor Break-the-Fast following services		6:15 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service	Ha-azinu 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Services 10:15 AM Shabbat Study
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Erev Sukkot 9 AM SS 11 AM HS	Sukkot I Office/PS Closed 9:30 AM Service	Sukkot II No Minyan Building Closed	Sukkot III	Sukkot IV	Sukkot V 6:15 PM TGIShabbat Service Welcome New Members	Sukkot VI Hol Hamoed 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Services 10 AM Meditative Service Lunch & Learn
30						
Sukkot VII 10 AM Family Sukkot Service						

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Sukkot VIII Office/PS Closed 9:30 AM Sh'mini Atzeret Service with Yizkor 6 PM Simhat Torah Dinner 6:30 PM Simhat Torah Service	7:15 AM Minyan 4:15 PM HS			6:15 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service	B'reishit 9 AM Torah Study 10 AM Services Hatan Torah & Kallat B'reishit Luncheon
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
9 AM SS 9:15 AM Nuts & Bolts with Rabbi 11 AM HS	7 PM ECM	7:15 AM Minyan 4:15 PM HS 7 PM Adult Education TBA			5:30 PM Young Families Group Shabbat 6:15 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service	No-ah 9 AM Torah Study 9:30 AM Bar Mitzvah of Gabriel Cohen 10:15 AM Shabbat Study
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
9 AM SS 11 AM HS Arts & Culture Walking Tour		7:15 AM Minyan 4:15 PM HS 7 PM Adult Education TBA			6:15 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service	Lekh L'kha 9 AM Torah Study 9:30 AM Bar Mitzvah of Max Gearhart-Robboy
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
9 AM SS 9:15 AM Nuts & Bolts with Rabbi 11 AM HS 11:15 AM Nosh & Schmooze 2 PM Social Action Program	7 PM BDM	7:15 AM Minyan 4:15 PM HS 7 PM Adult Education TBA			6:15 PM TGIShabbat Service	Va-yera 9 AM Torah Study 9:30 AM Bar Mitzvah of Gavi Gilbert Trachtman 10:15 AM Shabbat Study
28	29	30	31			
9 AM SS 11 AM HS		7:15 AM Minyan 4:15 PM HS 7 PM Adult Education TBA				

Kesher

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www.societyhillsynagogue.org

Avi Winokur, **Rabbi**
 Nathan Kamesar, **Associate Rabbi**
 Jessi Roemer, **Hazzan**
 Harry Oxman, **President**
 Betty van de Rijn, **Executive Director & Kesher Publisher**
 Sahar Oz, **Director of Education**
 Staci Schwartz, **Kesher Editor**

TIME- DATED MATERIAL



The Young Friends of SHS

Join Our E-Mail List!

Natalie Lesser & Jordan Segall

The Young Friends of Society Hill Synagogue are a group of individuals who are creating a community that fosters Jewish identity, culture, and friendship. We meet for potluck dinners, pre-Shabbat drinks, and discussions about spiritual exploration. Join our e-mail list to learn about upcoming events.

For further information, please contact us at: (Natalie Lesser) lesser.natalie@gmail.com or (Jordan Segall) segall.jordan@gmail.com.

We invite you to "like" our Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/SHSYoungFriends/.