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!

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 Jeremey 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!

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


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?”

Continued on page 6
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 Kesher, 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.”
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.
How Good It Will Be

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

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

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.

Continued on page 8
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.
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
Continued from page 8
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.

Continued on page 13
### AUGUST BIRTHDAYS
Samantha Goldwert  
Irving Shapiro  
Debra Stewart  
Fran Newberg  
Claire Rose Englander  
Mark Steinberger  
Abbe Fletman  
Zack Gearhart-Robboy  
Fay Hughes  
Mayer 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  
Debb Bob Friedman  
Harvey Weiner  
Susan Eizen  
Ted Krauss  
Joseph Freedman  
Terry Graboyes  
Steven Greenspan  
Meyer Rohtbart  
Jonathan Auerbach  
Susan Denbo  
Kiera Schindler  
Elena Hunter  
Zev Pipano  
Nathaniel Popkin  
Rabbi Avi Winokur  
Rachel Cohen  
Phoebe Zaring  
Dan Rosin  
Susanne Kaplan  
Rebecca Makuen  
Dave Femia  
Lucas Gersen  
Bonny Hohenberger  
Jacob Marion  
Barry Bernstein  
Jerome Kranzel  
David Albert  
Hillary Ladow  

### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS
Carol Katcher  
Lynn 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 Hadler  
Justin Lillen  
Bart Kaplan  
Joan Slobsb  
Any Applebaum Licht  
Brooke Salzman  
Betta Kolansky  
Paula Ninerell  
Ann Rosen Spector  
Lynne Rubenfeld  
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 Ladow  
Martha Levine  
Adam Denbo  
Gerald Faich  
Cora Rosin  
Ylanah Sloane  
Alexander Kranzal  
Burton Blender  
Roberta Dranoff  
Jay Wussow  
Janet Cherry  

### 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 simcha 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 Hakkarainen
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
Bunny 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.

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
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<td>Nathan Kamesar’s Ordination &amp; Appointment as Associate Rabbi</td>
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<td>Terry Novick, Gratitude for Role in Raphael Englander’s Bar Mitzvah</td>
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<td>Bruce Hirsch for his dedication to his students</td>
<td>Libby Kaiser, Karen Plamer, and Judy Gelles</td>
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<td>Prayerbook Fund</td>
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<td>Silver Heit Salkin Fund</td>
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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!

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!
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?™ for families with young children.

Continued on next page
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 “Mitzies,” 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

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, September 1</td>
<td>9 AM</td>
<td>Torah Study</td>
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<td>10 AM</td>
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<td>Shabbat Morning Services</td>
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<td>8:30 PM</td>
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<td>Selihot Service at BZBI</td>
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<td>Friday, September 7</td>
<td>6:15 PM</td>
<td>Kabbalat Shabbat Service</td>
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<td>Saturday, September 8</td>
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<td>Sunday, September 9</td>
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<td>Erev Rosh Hashanah</td>
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<td>Monday, September 10</td>
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<td>Main Service in Sanctuary</td>
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<td>9:30 AM</td>
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<td>SS School Service Social Hall</td>
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<td>HS School Service Social Hall</td>
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<td>2 PM</td>
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<td>Honey Tasting following all services</td>
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<td>Tashlikh at Penn’s Landing</td>
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<td>Tuesday, September 11</td>
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<td>Family Service in Sanctuary</td>
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<td>Rosh Hashanah Day 2</td>
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<td>Tuesday, September 18</td>
<td>6 PM</td>
<td>Kol Nidre Service in Sanctuary</td>
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<td>Wednesday, September 19</td>
<td>9:30 AM</td>
<td>Main Service in Sanctuary</td>
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<td>Yom Kippur</td>
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<td>SS School Service Social Hall</td>
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<td>Minhah Service</td>
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<td>Yizkor Service</td>
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<td>Ne’ilah Service</td>
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<td>7:45 PM*</td>
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<td>Sounding of the Shofar</td>
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<td>6:15 PM</td>
<td>Kabbalat Shabbat Service</td>
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<td>Saturday, September 22</td>
<td>9 AM</td>
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<td>Shabbat Morning Services</td>
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<td>Shabbat Study</td>
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<td>Monday, September 24</td>
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<td>Sukkot Day 1</td>
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<td>9:30 AM</td>
<td>Sh’mi Atzeret/Yiskor Service</td>
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<td>Simhat Torah Dinner</td>
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<td>Shabbat Morning Services</td>
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<td>Hatan Torah/Kallat B’reishit</td>
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<td>Luncheon</td>
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<td>Sunday, October 7</td>
<td>9 AM</td>
<td>Sunday School</td>
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<td>9:15 AM</td>
<td>Nuts &amp; Bolts and Beyond</td>
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<td>11 AM</td>
<td>Hebrew School</td>
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<td>Friday, October 12</td>
<td>6:15 PM</td>
<td>Kabbalat Shabbat Service</td>
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<td>5:30 PM</td>
<td>Return of Young Families Group</td>
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<td>Shabbat</td>
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<td>Saturday, October 13</td>
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<td>9:30 AM</td>
<td>Bar Mitzvah of Gabriel Cohen</td>
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<td>10:15 AM</td>
<td>Shabbat Study</td>
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<td>Hebrew School</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11 AM</td>
<td>Arts &amp; Culture Walking Tour of CC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, October 19</td>
<td>6:15 PM</td>
<td>TGIShabbat Service</td>
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<td>Saturday, October 20</td>
<td>9 AM</td>
<td>Torah Study</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:30 AM</td>
<td>Bar Mitzvah of Max Gearhart-Robboy</td>
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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 Engelder
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 Klasco
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

Lulav and Etrigm

Lulavim and Etroggim 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@societyhillsynagogue.org.

2018–2019 B’na Mitzvahs

October 13
Gabriel Cohen
Son of Seth and Rachel Cohen

October 20
Max Gearhart-Robboy
Son of Peter Gearhart and Alex Robboy

October 27
Gavi Gilbert-Trachtman
Son of Ivy Gilbert

Continued on next page
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*:

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<tr>
<th>Parking Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday Parking</td>
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<td>September 19</td>
<td>9 AM – 10 PM</td>
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<td>Monday Parking</td>
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<td>Saturday Parking</td>
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<td>Monday Parking</td>
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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
Arts & Culture Group
Get Ready for an Exciting Year of Activities!
Betta Kolansky, Eleanor Oxman, Ellen Fennick, & Libby Kaiser

'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

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.

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**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.
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.
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.
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 tallitot 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@societyhillsynagogue.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@societyhillsynagogue.org or 215.922.6590, ext. #23.
Photo Gallery

PHILADELPHIA & HARRISBURG RALLIES
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<th>Sun</th>
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<td><strong>Last Day of Regular Camp</strong>&lt;br&gt; <strong>No Service</strong></td>
<td><strong>Eikev</strong>&lt;br&gt; <strong>9 AM Torah Study</strong>&lt;br&gt; <strong>10 AM Services</strong></td>
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| 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | **Building Closed**<br> **7 PM ECM** | **Specialty Camp**<br> **7:15 AM Minyan** | **R'eih**<br> **9 AM Torah Study**<br> **10 AM Services**
|     | 5   | 6   | 7   | **Building Closed**<br> **Specialty Camp**<br> **7:15 AM Minyan** | **Specialty Camp**<br> **No Service** | **Shof'tim**<br> **9 AM Torah Study**<br> **10 AM Services**
|     | 8   | 9   | 10  | **Building Closed**<br> **Specialty Camp**<br> **7:15 AM Minyan** | **Specialty Camp**<br> **No Service** | **Ki Tetzei**<br> **9 AM Torah Study**<br> **10 AM Services**
|     | 11  | 12  | 13  | **Building Closed**<br> **5:30 PM Membership Committee Mtg.**<br> **7 PM BDM** | **7:15 AM Minyan** | **Aufruf of Rabbi Nathan Kamesar & Caroline Fortin**
|     | 14  | 15  | 16  | **Building Closed**<br> **Kehillah Wine Tasting at the National Museum of American Jewish History** | **Building Closed**<br> **No Service** | **Building Closed**<br> **No Service**
|     | 17  | 18  | 19  | **Building Closed**<br> **7 PM Religion Committee Mtg.**<br> **6 PM InterFaith Committee Mtg.** | **7:15 AM Minyan** | **Building Closed**<br> **No Service** |

*August/September/October 2018 Newsletter*
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<td>Community Service at BZBI</td>
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<td>Selihot</td>
<td>Labor Day</td>
<td>Building Closed</td>
<td>7:15 AM Minyan</td>
<td>PS Welcome</td>
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<td>NSizavim</td>
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<td>Building Closed</td>
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<td>8 AM PS Teacher Assembly</td>
<td>7 PM PS Parent Meeting</td>
<td>6:15 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service Resumes</td>
<td>9 AM Torah Study</td>
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<td>Erev RH</td>
<td>RH I</td>
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<td>7 PM</td>
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<td>6:15 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service</td>
<td>Va-yelekhe</td>
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<td>6:30 PM Services</td>
<td>9 AM Main Serv</td>
<td>10 AM Services</td>
<td>Hatan Torah Meeting</td>
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<td>9 AM Torah Study</td>
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<td>9 AM 30 AM SS Serv.</td>
<td>9:45 AM HS Ser. Honey Tasting Oneg followed by Tashlikh at 2 PM</td>
<td>6 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service</td>
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<td>10 AM – 12 PM Open House</td>
<td>6 PM ECM</td>
<td>Kol Nidre</td>
<td>Yom Kippur</td>
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<td>6:15 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service</td>
<td>Ha-azinu</td>
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<td>9 AM 1º Day SS</td>
<td>9 AM</td>
<td>12:30 PM PS Dismissal</td>
<td>9:30 AM Main Service</td>
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<td>Erev Sukkot</td>
<td>Sukkot I</td>
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<td>Sukkot VI</td>
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<td>9 AM SS</td>
<td>Office/PS Closed</td>
<td>No Minyan Building Closed</td>
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<td>6:15 PM</td>
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<td>11 AM HS</td>
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<td>TG Shabbat Service Welcome New Members</td>
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<td>Sukkot VII</td>
<td>10 AM Family Sukkot Service</td>
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August/September/October 2018 Newsletter
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<td><strong>Sukkot VIII</strong>&lt;br&gt;Office/PS Closed&lt;br&gt;9:30 AM Sh'mini&lt;br&gt;Atzeret Service with&lt;br&gt;Yizkor&lt;br&gt;6 PM Simhat Torah&lt;br&gt;Dinner&lt;br&gt;6:30 PM Simhat Torah Service</td>
<td>7:15 AM Minyan&lt;br&gt;4:15 PM HS</td>
<td>6:15 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service</td>
<td>B'reishit&lt;br&gt;9 AM Torah Study&lt;br&gt;10 AM Services&lt;br&gt;Hatan Torah &amp; Kallat B'reishit Luncheon</td>
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<td>9 AM SS&lt;br&gt;9:15 AM Nuts &amp; Bolts with Rabbi&lt;br&gt;11 AM HS</td>
<td>7:15 AM Minyan&lt;br&gt;4:15 PM HS&lt;br&gt;7 PM Adult Education TBA</td>
<td>5:30 PM Young Families Group Shabbat&lt;br&gt;6:15 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service</td>
<td>No-ah&lt;br&gt;9 AM Torah Study&lt;br&gt;9:30 AM Bar Mitzvah of&lt;br&gt;Max Gearhart-Robboy&lt;br&gt;10:15 AM Shabbat Study</td>
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<td>9 AM SS&lt;br&gt;11 AM HS&lt;br&gt;Arts &amp; Culture Walking Tour</td>
<td>7:15 AM Minyan&lt;br&gt;4:15 PM HS&lt;br&gt;7 PM Adult Education TBA</td>
<td>6:15 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service</td>
<td>Lekh L’kha&lt;br&gt;9 AM Torah Study&lt;br&gt;9:30 AM Bar Mitzvah of&lt;br&gt;Max Gearhart-Robboy</td>
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<td><strong>9 AM SS</strong>&lt;br&gt;9:15 AM Nuts &amp; Bolts with Rabbi&lt;br&gt;11 AM HS&lt;br&gt;11:15 AM Nosh &amp; Schmooze&lt;br&gt;2 PM Social Action Program</td>
<td>7:15 AM Minyan&lt;br&gt;4:15 PM HS&lt;br&gt;7 PM Adult Education TBA</td>
<td>6:15 PM Shabbat TGI Service</td>
<td>Va-yera&lt;br&gt;9 AM Torah Study&lt;br&gt;9:30 AM Bar Mitzvah of&lt;br&gt;Gavi Gilbert Trachtman&lt;br&gt;10:15 AM Shabbat Study</td>
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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/.