

November 2015

Heshvan - Kislev 5776

Freda Berger Scholar in Residence Weekend at Congregation Shir Shalom

November 13th, 14th and 15th

Scholar-in-Residence Weekend
with Rabbi Jonathan Kligler

CSS welcomes Rabbi Jonathan Kligler, Senior Scholar and Founder of the Lev Shalem Institute of the Woodstock Jewish Congregation.

FRIDAY NIGHT, 7:30pm
Progressive Judaism in the 21st Century

SATURDAY LUNCH AND LEARN - 12:00pm
Ancient Jewish Spiritual Masters

SATURDAY Evening - 8:00pm
Havdallah and Sing-a-long Concert
at Fiero Restaurant, 408 Evans St., Williamsville.

See page 8 for more information.

The Freda Berger Scholar in Residence Weekend is underwritten by the Wolk Foundation in memory of Freda Berger.

Thanksgiving Baskets We Need Your Help

Congregation Shir Shalom, Temple Beth Zion, and North Presbyterian Church will be assembling Thanksgiving Baskets for needy families in Buffalo in just a few weeks. **This year, assembly of Thanksgiving Baskets will be done at North Presbyterian Church on N. Forest Road in Amherst, on Saturday, November 21st at 9:00am, with distribution on Sunday, November 22nd (time yet to be determined.)**

With your help, we prepare over 500 baskets of food, annually, for agencies that feed local families. We hope to do the same this year. The increase in the price of food and other items makes it difficult for all of us, especially for those around us who are less fortunate. Please consider donating non-perishable foods, including stuffing mix, canned vegetables or fruit, cranberry sauce, raw potatoes, brownie mix, a frozen turkey, a boxed dinner of these items for a family of four, or a monetary donation. Wegmans and Tops heavily discount turkey prices in November, so please consider buying an extra one to donate, which will decrease the number of turkeys we must buy at near-full price. To run this program it typically costs us about \$5,000 in food. A donation of even one food item makes a difference.

All food will be delivered to agencies on Sunday morning, November 22nd. Non-perishable foods can be dropped off at the Temple office anytime earlier. Frozen turkeys may be stored at Temple, if freezer space is available. Please notify me if you intend to drop off a dinner or turkey. If you need additional information, or if you would like to volunteer to help, please contact me. Share the joy of Thanksgiving with those in our community who are hungry and need our help.

Thank you!
Chris Cohan
ccohan@buffalo.edu
688-6890



Sisterhood Judaica Gift Shop



HANUKKAH SALE



Do your gift shopping with us!
Sunday, November 22nd

During Religious School hours
9:00 - 11:15am
In the Religious School Lobby

Get Hannukah gifts, merchandise, toys dreidels,
books and much more.
Help support our Temple with your purchases.



Congregation Shir Shalom Sisterhood Fall Rummage Sale

Sunday, November 15, 2015
9:00am - 1:00pm
\$1.00 Admission

12:00 - 1:30pm ~ \$10 Bag Sale

**Upcoming Services
November 2015**

Parashat Chayei Sara
Genesis 23:1 - 25:18

Friday, November 6, 2015

7:00 PM Erev Shabbat Family Service

Saturday, November 7, 2015

9:00 AM Torah Study

11:00 AM Shabbat Service at
Canterbury Woods

Parashat Toldot

Genesis 25:19 - 28:9

Friday, November 13, 2015

7:00 PM Healing Service

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

Saturday, November 14, 2015

9:00 AM Torah Study

10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service

11:30 AM Beit Midrash

8:00 PM Havdallah Service

Parashat Vayetzei

Genesis 28:10 - 32:3

Friday, November 20, 2015

6:30 PM Tot Shabbat Service

7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

Saturday, November 21, 2015

9:00 AM Torah Study

10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service

11:30 AM Beit Midrash

Parashat Vayishlach

Genesis 32:4 - 36:43

Friday, November 27, 2015

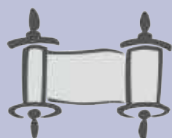
7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service

Saturday, November 28, 2015

9:00 AM Torah Study

10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service

11:30 AM Beit Midrash



From the Desk of Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein



I love the sound of the Hebrew word Shalom. There is comfort in just saying it out loud. What stands out is that final syllable the “om,” a syllable that connects in my mind to the English word home. To be at peace is to be at home. We feel safe, comfortable, able to be ourselves.

If war is about conflict, peace is about cooperation, working with “the other” making things right, even when things are difficult. It is a long-term project, requiring hard work and lots of perseverance. And, it begins with the relationships we have with one another, which must be strong enough to withstand disagreement and dissension.

Several years ago, I was approached by a local clergy member about a particularly thorny situation that impacted his congregation as well as our own. We had never met, and when we sat down in my former office in the music room it was summer and it was very hot. We both knew from the beginning that this would not be an easy conversation. And, indeed it was not and we did not leave in agreement with one another’s position. Still, what emerged was a friendship not only between the two of us, but between our two communities.

The pastor in question is William Hennessy, and the community, North Presbyterian Church on North Forest Road. He is now a good friend of mine and we have coordinated on many projects these past three years, most recently in conjunction with Temple Beth Zion and Westminster Presbyterian to combat the friction between the Presbyterian USA and the American Jewish community over the Israel/Palestine issue.

This year, we will have our third pulpit exchange always on the weekend immediately preceding Thanksgiving (November 20-22), this year’s topic being “what makes your religious tradition special.” He will join us that Friday night, and I will head over to North Presbyterian on Sunday morning at 10:30am. We also will work together that weekend in collecting food for Thanksgiving baskets to be brought around to those in need. I hope you will join us as we continue to strengthen the bonds of friendship and peace between our two congregations.

B'Shalom,

Meet with the Rabbi

If you need guidance, advice, or if you just want to schmooze, Rabbi Alex is available every Thursday, from 1:30 to 3:00pm. Call Rabbi Alex at 308-4558 to make an appointment, or just stop by the office, and he will see you on a first come, first served basis.



Reminder:
*Daylight Saving Time ends
at 2:00am on
Saturday, October 31st.*

From Cantor Sharon Eve Colbert, M.J.S.M.



Oh dear me. It's happened again. On Simchat Torah, the last day of High Holidays, when the trees are just starting to bring out their Autumn leaves, the contract letter from my snow plow service arrived in the mail. A bitter reminder that the evenings of sitting on my front porch, having a nice semi-sweet white wine (never dry, thank you) enjoying the incredibly beautiful Western New York moonlit nights are winding down. To that end, I hope that the High Holidays were meaningful and fulfilling for you. I pray that you feel emotionally and spiritually reinforced to face the chilly months ahead

with determination and a positive outlook.

I celebrated my 6th anniversary of arriving at Temple Beth Am on September 29th and have now entered my 7th year as I continue on the cycle of the Jewish year with you at CSS. During this year I will reflect on our time together as I gather all the "stuff" I have accumulated over the years. Please do not be mistaken – my decision to finally retire on June 30, 2016 was one of the hardest I've ever had to make. Ya'll want me to stay, and I want to continue until "death do us part", but I simply cannot.

To make the transition easier for all of us, call it a weaning process, during part of November I will be on vacation with Paul, my daughter Joy and my granddaughters to somewhere warm, tropical and volcanic. In late December our son Nathan will graduate from the University of Houston but we will be back just in time for the Christmas Day Chinese dinner – wouldn't miss it! Finally, as a result of Paul's continuing role in Texas politics, he and I have been invited to participate in a fact gathering and leadership development trip to Cambodia. I always wanted to travel by elephant, so in January we will be exploring strange exotic places.

In the warm days of Spring I will be unabashedly engaging in "selfie" activities as I try to capture images of as many of you in my cell phone as I possibly can, so be prepared to smile! Together, let's all look forward to new beginnings and happy, healthy and productive lives.

Blessings, 



Jewish Learning Together The 6th Annual Global Day of Jewish Learning for all ages

November 15th from 1:00 – 4:00pm

will take place at The JCC Benderson Building
FREE and open to the community

Jews from more than 400 communities across six continents will join together for the Sixth annual Global Day of Jewish Learning on November 15th. This year Professor Sergey Dolgopolski, accomplished author and Professor at UB in The Institute of Jewish Thought and Heritage, will provide the keynote address, "A Taste of Talmud - A Taste of Love." Afterwards, enjoy your choice of workshops.



Questions? Contact Melissa Schreiber at 204-5380 or melissa@bjebuffalo.org.

Sponsored by the Bureau of Jewish Education, Congregation Shir Shalom, and Temple Beth Zion, in cooperation with local synagogues and Jewish organizations.

Congregation Shir Shalom

Rabbi

Alex Lazarus-Klein

Cantor

Sharon Eve Colbert, M.J.S.M.

Religious School Director

Hope Bongiorno

Executive Director

Joanne Marquisee

Rabbi Emeritus

Irwin A. Tanenbaum, D.D.

Youth Group Advisor

Shiri Kester

President

Todd Sugarman

V.P. Administration

Robin Raphael

V.P. Membership

Bruce Corris

V.P. Worship

Mindy Weinman

V.P. Education

Shari Jo Reich

V.P. Finance

Joseph Glickman

Secretary

Michael Frisch

Treasurer

Larry Posses

Immediate Past President

Jill Hamilton

Sisterhood Co-Presidents

Marina Finkelstein

Jean Messinger

Men's Group President

Daniel Kester

Newsletter Editor

Laura Yellen

Temple Office Telephone

633-8877

Temple Office Fax

633-8952

January 2016 Chai Notes Deadline

The deadline for articles to be submitted for inclusion in the **January 2016** issue of Chai Notes is **November 21, 2015**.

Please submit articles
to the editor at

laura.yellen@shirshalombuffalo.org

Chai Notes

Issue 35

Published Monthly

Congregation Shir Shalom

4660 Sheridan Drive

Williamsville, NY 14221

6th & 7th Grades Tzedek Corp

For the 2015-16 school year, Congregation Shir Shalom's *Tzedek Corp* will once again include all 6th and 7th graders and Rachel DiDomizio will continue leading this initiative. Rachel is also the Community Engagement Coordinator at the University at Buffalo, a mother and a lifetime member of the Buffalo Jewish community.

November Project

In November Congregation Shir Shalom in collaboration with North Presbyterian Church will be assembling Thanksgiving Baskets for local families. This project will take place at North Presbyterian Church on North Forest Road, and will begin at 10am on Saturday, November 21st. We hope you will join members of the *Tzedek Corp* and North Presbyterian Church for this fun opportunity!

Please contact Rachel DiDomizio at racheldidomizio@gmail.com or 491-7676 with questions.

Please join us on November 6th
at 7:00pm for
**Erev Shabbat
Family Service**

Religious School Weather Closings



As weather situations arise, please watch local television stations and check your email for information. On Tuesdays, we will close when Williamsville Schools are closed.

Thanksgiving Basket Items

Please donate the following items for our Thanksgiving Baskets:

- Grades K & 1 Canned Fruit
- Grades 2 & 5 Cranberry Sauce
- Grades 3 & 6 Canned Vegetable
- Grades 4 & 7 Stuffing Mix
- Grades 8 - 12 Cake/Brownie Mix



Please bring in items by November 15th
Collection boxes will be located outside of the Religious School office.

Congregation Shir Shalom's
Religious School

PARENT COUNCIL Meeting

Sunday, November 8th at 9:15am

Take an active role in your child's Jewish Education by participating in the Religious School Parent Council. Learn where and how you can help! All that is required is a child attending our Religious School. Any level of Judaic knowledge is welcome. We can learn and grow together and make friends.

SAVE THE DATE:

Please join us for a PJ Library sponsored

TOT SHABBAT

**Tot Shabbat Service
Friday, November 20th
at 6:30pm**

A complimentary pizza dinner will be provided prior to the service at 6:00pm.

- Mini Service with lots of joyful singing
- Make new friends and catch the Shabbat spirit!

Don't miss this chance to share Shabbat with the little people in your life!



Consecration 2015

Kindergartners and new students celebrate the beginning of their religious studies at Shir Shalom.

**NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL
Tuesday, November 24th
Sunday, November 29th**

From the Religious School Director

"I am grateful for what I am and have. My thanksgiving is perpetual. It is surprising how contented one can be with nothing definite - only a sense of existence." Henry David Thoreau

November always conjures up images of turkeys, delicious spreads of food, football, fall colors, and people saying they are thankful.

Developing an attitude of gratitude is one of the easiest ways to improve mental and physical health. Gratitude enhances empathy and reduces aggression. Numerous studies have linked gratefulness with health benefits. It has been proven that grateful people are more likely to have stronger immune systems, have improved mental alertness, take better care of themselves and feel more optimistic. Most of us are grateful for the major things in life - health, food, shelter. So why aren't we all more grateful in our everyday lives with friends, family and colleagues?

Here are a few suggestions for teaching children (and reminding ourselves) to be grateful. Remember to use good manners. At the very beginning children may not attach the full significance to "please and thank you", but as time goes on they will learn the meaning behind the words. Model grateful behavior. Set a good example for your children by thanking them and demonstrating your gratefulness for things around you. Teach your children the joy of giving, not just receiving. Make volunteering a family activity. Teach children about Tzedekah - as a family donate



time, food, clothes, money - whatever seems most appropriate for you. Count your blessings together. Instead of talking about what isn't going well, list all the things that are going right. Teach your children to write thank you letters when

they receive a special gift. And one of my favorites - spend a whole day (longer if you can) not complaining about anything or anyone.

B'Shalom,
Hope Bongiorno

NEW THIS YEAR!

8th - 12th Grade Mussar Class
with Rabbi Alex
next session **Sunday, November 22nd**
from 9:00 - 11:00am

This monthly Sunday program is offered to our older/post B'nai Mitzvah students. Our focus this year will be on Mussar, a Jewish spiritual tradition that has evolved over the past thousand years and was popularized by Rabbi Israel Salantar in the 19th Century.

While sometimes translated as Jewish ethics, Mussar is really about looking deeply into ourselves to actively improve and understand ourselves as human beings. This year, we will be focusing on the following eight character traits:

Humility, Joy, Patience, Generosity, Order, Strength,
Courage & Gratitude

Through a combination of text study, journaling, discussion, and project-based learning, we will examine the way each trait impacts our lives and the lives of those around us. We will be using Alan Morinis' "Every Day, Holy Day" as a guide and conversation starter.

A light breakfast will be served during class.

Class meets from 9:00 - 11:00am on the following Sundays:

11/22, 12/20, 1/10, 2/28, 3/13, 4/24

For information and/or to register, please call the Religious School office at 633-8877.

Ganainu Class

for 3 & 4 year olds with a loving adult
next session **November 15th from 9:00 - 10:45am**

Activities, stories, crafts, songs and snack will make this morning most special.

Open to the Community.

Registration required. There is a fee.

Call Laura at 633-8877 for information or to register.

Classes meet once monthly from 9:00 - 10:45am
on the following Sundays:

11/15, 12/20, 1/10, 2/7, 3/13, 4/10

Friday, November 6th ~ Don't miss our popular
Shabbat Happy Half-Hour

First Friday of each month at 6:30pm prior to Family Services.

Come and join in the fun!

We will have wine for the adults, punch for the children, along with gourmet pizza hors d'oeuvres and snacks.

If you would like to sponsor a Happy Half-Hour, please contact Joanne Marquisee, Executive Director, at 633-8877 for the details.



Coming to Men's Group: Rob Lederman



At the Men's Group November meeting, our guest will be Rob Ledermann, comedian, local radio personality, and owner of Rob's Comedy Playhouse. Rob has been co-host of the 97 Rock morning show since 1991. His Comedy Playhouse is Western New York's longest running comedy club. Rob was formerly a writer for David Letterman's World Wide Pants, and has been the opening act for Jay Leno and David Brenner. If you've ever heard his act, you know how funny he is. Rob will speak about comedy in general and about "whatever those in attendance find interesting."

Both men and women are welcome to come hear Rob on Sunday morning, November 22nd at 9:15am. Bagels and lox will be served.

If you haven't yet sent in your Men's Group dues now would be a good time to do so! The dues allow Men's Group activities to be free of charge, and allow us to fund needed Temple improvements. Please send in your donation today. If you lost the reply envelope, simply make out a check to "CSS Men's Group" for \$36 (or more!) and mail it to the Temple.

Dan Kester ~ President
mensgroup@shirshalombuffalo.org

Greetings From Sisterhood

Thank you to everyone who has paid their Sisterhood dues for the year, and we hope you enjoyed the "Paid-up Dinner" last month. If you haven't yet become a member of Sisterhood, it's not too late! We sponsor fun events all year long to bring people together. We also help raise money to support temple.

One of our biggest fundraisers, the rummage sale, takes place this month. Please drop off your gently used clothing or household goods at temple during business hours. Also, please consider volunteering at the sale. We always need lots of help the day of the sale and the day before. Set-up will be Saturday afternoon, November 14th, starting at 2:30pm. The sale itself is Sunday, November 15th, from 9:00am to 1:30pm. We need helpers for setup, during the sale itself, and clean-up at the end of the sale. Please consider coming for a little while either day to help out. It's fun, and you never know what treasures you might find! If you're not able to volunteer, come and shop the sale anyway – or tell your friends to come shop! Contact Jennelle Whitcomb or watch your email for more information.

Last but not least, come visit our table at the Hadassah Hanukkah Happening on November 8th at Temple Beth Tzedek. This is a new community-wide event and there will be vendors and events for everyone.

See you at temple!

Marina Finkelstein
mfinkl@aol.com

Jean Messinger
jcmessinger@gmail.com

Please share your pictures with us



Do you have a picture of an event that you attended at temple; a picture of a family Shabbat you had at home; an interesting picture from a meeting; or other photos that you'd like to share with us?

If so, please send them to: shirshalomphotos@gmail.com along with a **very brief** explanation of the particulars for each photo (who, what, when, where, why).

We will use the best of these pictures on our website, in Chai Notes, in articles we submit to the Jewish Review, in emails, etc. Thanks for your help!!!

Sisterhood Judaica Gift Shop

Shop at Shir Shalom

The Gift Shop is open on Sundays
(when Religious School is in session)
from 9:00 - 11:15am,
and other times by appointment.
For an appointment, call Jean at 634-3504
or the Temple at 633-8877.





Between the Covers

Friday, November 13th at 11:30am

My Promised Land by Ari Shalit

We will enjoy our brown bag lunches at 11:30am, and begin our discussion of the book at 12:00pm.

An authoritative and deeply personal narrative history of the State of Israel, by one of the most influential journalists writing about the Middle East today.

Not since Thomas L. Friedman's groundbreaking *From Beirut to Jerusalem* has a book captured the essence and the beating heart of the Middle East as keenly and dynamically as *My Promised Land*. Facing unprecedented internal and external pressures, Israel today is at a moment of existential crisis. Ari Shavit draws on interviews, historical documents, private diaries, and letters, as well as his own family's story, illuminating the pivotal moments of the Zionist century to tell a riveting narrative that is larger than the sum of its parts: both personal and national, both deeply human and of profound historical dimension.

Join us before Erev Shabbat Services for a Congregational Potluck Dinner November 20th at 6:30pm

Please bring a main or side dish to share - enough to feed about ten people. You can demonstrate your cooking prowess, or pick something up at the store. This month we will be having a "dairy" potluck, please bring a dairy/parve/vegetarian (no meat) main dish or side dish to share. Some ideas are pasta, salads, fruit, soups, casseroles, veggies and dip, cheese pizza, etc.

Dessert foods are not needed as an Oneg will be provided after services.

Congregation Shir Shalom Sisterhood Fall Rummage Sale



Sunday,
November 15, 2015
9:00am –12:00pm
\$1.00 Admission

12:00 - 1:30pm
\$10 Bag Sale

Saturday,
November 14, 2015
2:30 - 7:00pm
Set Up

Volunteers are needed both Saturday and Sunday!
Please call Jenelle at 834-2549,
for details or to volunteer.

Please continue to bring in your rummage items.
If you need help unloading merchandise from your car, please
call the Temple at 633-8877 to arrange a convenient time.

Sisterhood's Wednesday Bible Study Class

You think you know Torah. Torah is the same yet different each time you read it. It depends upon where you are, when you are, who you are, and who is with you to shed new light on every facet of something you thought you knew so well. Become a part of our group of women who have enjoyed learning, sharing and discovering not only Torah, but new friendships.

So join us on Wednesdays at 11:30am. You don't have to know Hebrew. You can bring a brown bag lunch (we provide coffee and tea... and often desserts), or just sit and shmooze.

At noon the fun begins as we open our Tanachs with Rabbi Alex and start Torah once again.

Caring Committee

The Chesed Caring Committee of Congregation Shir Shalom wants you to know that we take care of our members in a very special way; namely, by providing meals for families who: have a loved one just returning home from the hospital; are experiencing the birth of a new baby; or are observing Shiva. All we need is a call from someone in the family to let us know that one of the above situations exists, and we will spring into action to provide a delicious meal for the immediate family. Just contact Gilda Laufer at 834-5870, or email her at bubbe618@gmail.com.

We also are looking for volunteers who would be able to pick up the meals and deliver them to the recipient's home. This does not have to be a long-term commitment. The more volunteers we have, the fewer times you will be called to help.

To volunteer, please call Adrienne Crandall at 875-7061, or email her at adrienne.crandall@gmail.com

The Chai Club is back!

18 weekly drawings will be held. Three prizes are awarded each week; first prize is \$18, second prize is \$36 and third prize is \$54. Each ticket purchased gives you several chances to win, since the winning tickets "go back in the hat." That's right, you have a chance to win every week and CSS is also a winner, as all profits from the ticket sales goes to the temple. Join in the weekly fun!

The first drawing will be November 25th. And this year we have sweetened the pot. As an incentive to buying your tickets early, the first week's prizes will be doubled and in December, during Hanukkah, the prizes will again be doubled. The grand prizes will be drawn on March 23rd, they are: \$180, \$360 and \$540. The top ticket sellers will also win prizes of \$18, \$36 and \$54.

Tickets are \$18 each and can be purchased at the Temple office.

LIBRARY CORNER Many people are aware of poets Sylvia Plath and Anne Sexton, but a slightly older contemporary of theirs was Maxine Kumin, who had a happier story and died in 2014 at the age of 88. *The Pawnbroker's Daughter*, published posthumously this year, gives some personal insights into the life and career of this pioneering feminist poet, who won the Pulitzer Prize in 1973 and was also the Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress (a position that later became that of Poet Laureate) in the early 1980s.

Although subtitled "A Memoir," this slim volume is actually a collection of five personal essays written by Kumin over the past few years, ranging from her Reform upbringing in Philadelphia, complete with Catholic school and Christmas trees; through her and her husband's long-distance courtship during WWII, while, unbeknownst to her, he was part of the Manhattan Project in Los Alamos; and ending up with stories of their New Hampshire farm. In between, she also describes how she moved from writing light verse in the 1950s (when her husband had to provide a letter certifying to her work's originality!) to more serious "witness" poetry and also the rural-themed work that caused her fellow poets to nickname her "Roberta Frost." Throughout the essays are interspersed fragments of her work that will inspire the interested reader to check it out further.

The Pawnbroker's Daughter can be obtained through the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library system.

Leslie Jaszczak
Ljaszczak1@verizon.net



Join us for Israeli Folk Dancing with Dorothy Lewis

Saturday, November 21st 7:00 - 9:00pm

Cost: \$10.00 per Adult / \$8.00 per Youth

For more information,
please call Linda Bergman at 741-4721.

(No partner or experience needed.)

Freda Berger Scholar in Residence Weekend November 13th - 15th

CSS welcomes Rabbi Jonathan Kligler, Senior Scholar and Founder of the Lev Shalem Institute of the Woodstock Jewish Congregation.

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE:
Progressive Judaism in the 21st Century
7:30pm

It is time for liberal Jewish communities to open their doors wide, and welcome all who are interested in exploring the great gifts of Jewish living, teaching and values. We will explore ways to embrace this approach, and some of the challenges we will face along the way.

SHABBAT AFTERNOON LUNCH & LEARN:
Ancient Jewish Spiritual Masters
12:00- 2:00pm

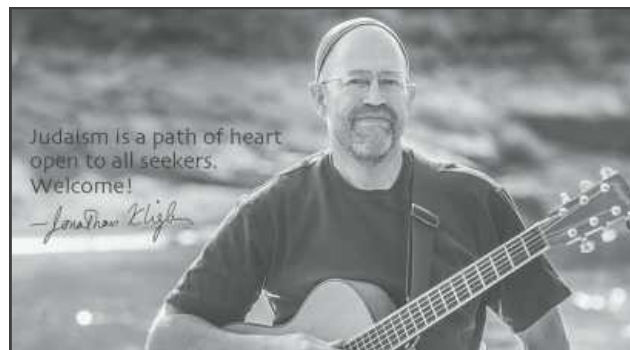
Rabbi means both "teacher" and "master." In this workshop, we will immerse ourselves in the timeless teachings of the two greatest luminaries of Rabbinic Judaism-Rabbi Hillel and Rabbi Akiva.

Lunch provided, please RSVP to our office by November 6th.

SATURDAY EVENING:
Havdallah & Sing-a-Long Concert @ 8:00pm

at Fiero Restaurant, 408 Evans St., Williamsville.
Dessert provided, please RSVP to the Temple office by Nov.6th.

The Freda Berger Scholar in Residence Weekend is underwritten by the Wolk Foundation in memory of Freda Berger.



FRIDAY NIGHT SPEAKER SERIES

On the third Friday of the month we invite a speaker from the community to address the congregation at the end of an abbreviated 7:30pm Erev Shabbat Service.

NOVEMBER 20th – PULPIT EXCHANGE WITH NORTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH – Every year we invite **PASTOR BILL HENNESSY** to join us on Friday night at CSS. Rabbi Alex will be speaking at North Presbyterian on Sunday, November 22nd at 10:30am. We will also be participating in the Thanksgiving drive that weekend to supply Thanksgiving meals to those in need. Collection will take place on Saturday morning at North Presbyterian Church.

DECEMBER 18th – ROB GOLDBERG – The new CEO/Executive Director of the Jewish Federation will join with us to give his thoughts on the weekly Torah portion, as well as introducing himself to our congregation.

MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS PROGRAM

Congregation Shir Shalom is beginning a new Member Announcement Program in our monthly newsletter, Chai Notes. If you have a special event or message you would like to share with our congregational family, this is your opportunity.

The program guidelines are as follows:

- The piece will be accepted based on space availability in the issue.
- It must be submitted in camera ready form. Please send your piece in a jpeg or pdf file to laura.yellen@shirshalombuffalo.org
- There is a time lag of approximately 6 weeks from submission to publication. So, if the piece is time sensitive, please keep this in mind.
- We reserve the right to not publish a piece as Editor.

The Rate Card is as follows:

- Full Page \$180
- Quarter Page \$ 45
- Half Page \$ 90
- Business Card \$ 36

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Joanne in the Temple office at 633-8877.

SINGLE PARENTS SUPPORT GROUP

Sunday, November 1st at 9:30am

Congregation Shir Shalom is offering a free, monthly support group for single parents. Parents can attend any session and are not obligated to attend more than one. Each session will have a general topic to guide conversation (e.g., talking with your ex, dating, finding time for yourself, balancing work and family), but participants are welcome to bring up their own topics of concern. The group will be facilitated by Darci Cramer Ph.D., a licensed marriage and family therapist who has expertise in working with divorced families.

If you have any questions please contact Joanne Marquisee, Executive Director.

Future dates as follows: 12/6, 1/10, 2/7, 3/6 & 4/10

The Jewish Repertory Theatre Presents

My Name is Asher Lev

**Continues through
November 15, 2015**

Written by: Aaron Posner | Directed by: Saul Elkin
Starring: Josie DiVincenzo, Adam Yellen and Tom Zindle

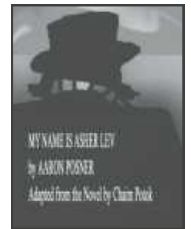
Shows:

Thursday @ 7:30pm: Oct. 22, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, Nov. 12

Saturday @ 4pm & 8pm: Oct. 24, Oct. 31, Nov. 7, Nov. 14

Sunday @ 2pm: Oct. 25, Nov. 1, Nov. 8, Nov. 15

Visit www.jewishrepertorytheatre.com for tickets and information.



Parkinson's Support Group Meeting Thursday, November 12, 2015

The Parkinson's Support Group will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, November 12th, at 6:30pm at Congregation Shir Shalom.

For additional information, please call Joyce Gafer at 689-1559, or email her at joyceelg@aol.com.



Hebrew Reading Crash Course

with Inbal Fischer

Sundays 10:00 –11:30am
Class continues on November 1st & 8th

Participants in the free Hebrew Reading Crash Course will learn to read Hebrew in five, 1 1/2 hour weekly sessions. Designed for Jews with little or no background in Hebrew, it concentrates on teaching the Hebrew alphabet and reading skills. Each participant will receive a free copy of National Jewish Outreach Program's *Reishith Binah* Hebrew Primer.

Call the Temple office at 633-8877 if you would like to register or have questions.

Video Streaming of Friday Night Services

Live video streaming of Friday night services at Congregation Shir Shalom is now available. The video streaming of services is available to anyone with a computer and an internet connection. To access it, simply go to the Temple's website, www.shirshalombuffalo.org and click on the "Live Video Streaming" link. It's easy!

The video streaming is a joint project of the Shir Shalom Sisterhood, Men's Group, and Communications Committee, with the goal of making services available for those unable to get to Temple, especially our ill and/or immobile congregation members.



Religious School Students celebrate Simchat Torah and unroll the Torah.



Kindergartener, Jonah Nisengard, takes a turn blowing the shofar.



Kindergarteners and 1st graders sing along with Music teacher Zack Steinberg, Cantor Sharon and K/1 teacher, Linda Bergman.

Who would YOU nominate to receive the Daniel E. Kerman Award?

Do you know of an individual or an organization who has lived by the ideals that made Rabbi Kerman such a beloved leader? Who do you know that should be recognized for outstanding contributions to the Jewish community, the community at large, or both, in the promotion of Jewish education, religious activities, culture, or youth activities? This award carries not only prestige, but also a monetary award.

The Daniel E. Kerman Award trustees will be meeting soon. Please submit your suggestions, in writing, including a brief description as to why this individual or organization is deserving of this award to:

Kerman Award Trustees • Congregation Shir Shalom
4660 Sheridan Drive • Williamsville, NY 14221

Please note that nominees may NOT be paid members of any organization. Also, they do NOT need to be a CSS member.



Attention Temple Members!

Don't forget to save and drop off your "pop tabs" from beverage and other cans in the box in the Temple office to benefit the Ronald McDonald House.

Thank You to Bagel Jays...



for the lovely challahs you donate to Congregation Shir Shalom each and every Shabbat.

Save Money on Taxes by Donating Stock to Shir Shalom!

By donating appreciated stock to the temple you can avoid paying capital gains taxes and increase both the value of your gift and your tax deduction.

Here is an example:

A congregant has a stock that they bought for \$1,000 that is now worth \$5,000 that they want to donate. If they sold it for \$5,000, they would need to pay about \$1,000 capital gains tax on it (at a rate of 25%. It can be as high as 31.5% in New York State). That leaves them \$4,000 to donate to the temple and they get a \$4,000 tax deduction.

Or they can do this:

If the congregant donates the unsold stock. The donor pays no capital gains tax. The temple sells the stock and gets the full \$5,000; the donor gets a tax deduction of \$5,000. A good deal for both!

Donations can be made to the temple through our account at the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies. For more information on this and other ways to donate to our temple, please call Joanne Marquisee at the Temple office (633-8877) or Peter Fleischmann at the Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies (204-1133).



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Just add @shirshalombflo to your follow list.



Like us on facebook!

Congregation Shir Shalom - Buffalo, NY



Get connected at CSS! Wireless Internet available at Shir Shalom. No password necessary.

The Second Friday of Every Month at 7:00 PM

"Healing Service"

A quiet time for healing prayers for loved ones in need.

Attention Congregants

Shir Shalom will no longer be collecting cell phones, ink cartridges or eye glasses for recycling. Thank you to everyone who has supported these projects over the years. We hope that you will continue to recycle elsewhere.

Congregation Shir Shalom STARRY News

(Shalom Reform - Reconstructionist Youth)



The Youth Group has started up again with another exciting year! With an enthusiastic new board, we have been active with fun activities and volunteer work in support of our temple and community. All members are encouraged to attend NFTY events that occur throughout the year with tons of other youth groups in the region. With changes to the leadership this year, we are really welcoming new members grades 8-12! We will be continuing to have monthly meetings. If interested in learning more about the youth group, please contact Shiri Kester, Youth Group Advisor, at shirikester@gmail.com.

November Donations (those received by September 21, 2015)

The Congregation Shir Shalom Endowment Fund

In Memory of:

Mania Dudek, by *Samuel Dudek*
Leo Kahn, by *Suzanne Kahn*
Evelyn Sellers, by
Dr. Shep Goldberg
David and Christina Stocking
Marie Suchman, by *Marjorie and Seymour Suchman*
Frank Tripi, by *Samuel Dudek*
David Wakoff, by
Mildred Saks
Jill Hamilton

In Honor of:

Amy (Miller) O'Donnell, by *Elena M. Kamel, M.D.*

In Appreciation of:

Congregation Shir Shalom, by *Melina Saran*

The Rabbi Lazarus-Klein Discretionary Fund

In Memory of:

Stanley Bardach, by *Louisa and Robert Bardach*
David Wakoff, by *Jan Sandberg*

In Honor of:

Jennifer Flick, on becoming a Bat Mitzvah, by *The Flick Family*

In Appreciation of:

Congregation Shir Shalom, by *John and Rachel Levitt*
Rabbi Lazarus-Klein, on the Bar Mitzvah of our son Matthew Benjamin Small, by *Karen and Craig Small*
Rabbi Alex, for services provided and solace given at the time of Diane Becker's passing, by
Wynne Elizebeth Trinca and Mark Trinca

The Cantor's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of:

David Arbitman, by *Joyce Seitz*
Sara C. Carr, by *Larry & Laurie Carr*
Sol Sloan, by *The Sloan & Cunningham Families*

In Honor of:

Cantor Sharon Eve Colbert, by
Lawrence Laufer
Geraldine Lederman
Cantor Sharon and Paul Colbert, for complete recovery, by
Melania Puius
Carol Schmeidler and Paul Baginski
Jennifer Flick, on becoming a Bat Mitzvah, by *The Flick Family*

In Appreciation of:

Cantor Sharon Colbert, on the Bar Mitzvah of our son Matthew Benjamin Small, by *Karen and Craig Small*

The Executive Director's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of:

Estelle Borowitz, by *Drs. Philip Glick and Drucy Borowitz*
Tillie Glick, by *Drs. Philip Glick and Drucy Borowitz*

The Educator's Discretionary Fund

In Appreciation of:

Harvey Horowitz, for preparing Jennifer Flick for Becoming a Bat Mitzvah, by *The Flick Family*

The Edith and Joel L. Cohen Prayer Book Fund

In Memory of:

Gloria (Snitzer) Atlas, by *The Atlas Family*

In Honor of:

Gail and Larry Cohen, on their 30th anniversary, by *Barbara and Saul Henechowicz and Rhonda and Michael Wise*

The Cantor Susan Wehle Caring Committee Memorial Fund

In Memory of:

Joseph and Sarah Carr, by *Marsha and David Carr*
Faiga and Boruch Lipsitz, by *Marsha and David Carr*
James Zachary Pugash, by *Melissa Pugash*
Mary Shevat, by *Max and Liz Sloan & Family*

The Cantor Susan Wehle Memorial Garden Fund

In Honor of:

Rabbi Alex, in gratitude for a beautiful and meaningful unveiling service, by *Ruth Lansing*

The Rabbi Daniel E. Kerman Memorial Fund

In Honor of:

Harry Meyers, on his birthday, by
Judith & Grace Bluestone and Barbara Spinder

The Building Fund

In Memory of:

Isabella Cohan, by *Larry and Tobi Horowitz*

The Chesed/Caring Fund

In Memory of:

Joselyn Berg, by *Joyce Berg*
Robert Bernstein, by *Cynthia Cohen & Renee Klein*
Isabella Cohan, by *Murray and Pepy Ettinger*
Peter Covey, by *Joyce Berg*
Nathan Gordon, by *Richard and Kathryn Gordon*
Belle Nosenchuck, by *Gayle Nosenchuck*
David Wakoff, by *Melania Puius*

In Appreciation of:

Our Shir Shalom Family, after the death of uncle Bob Bernst, by
Carol Schmeidler

The General Education Fund

In Memory of:

David Wakoff, by *Nancy and Martin Robinson*

In Honor of:

Judith Bardach, for a speedy recovery and well wishes by
Nancy and Martin Robinson

In Appreciation of:

Hope Bongiorno, on the Bar Mitzvah of our son Matthew Benjamin Small, by *Karen and Craig Small*
Harvey Horowitz, on the Bar Mitzvah of our son Matthew Benjamin Small, by *Karen and Craig Small*

The Fight Hunger Fund

In Honor of:

Ralph and Gail Kushner, on their 50th Anniversary, by
John and Toni Gartner

The Landscaping Fund

In Memory of:

Isabella Cohan, by *Sonia Sugarman*
Julia Kaufman Sugarman, by *Sonia Sugarman*

The Library Fund

In Memory of:

Sam Subotnick, by *Diane & Gerald Symons*

In Honor of:

Harry Meyers, on his birthday, by *Ferne & Gordon Mittleman*

In Appreciation of:

Congregation Shir Shalom, by *Laura Majewski*

November Donations (those received by September 21, 2015)

The Music Fund

In Memory of:

Jack Gumbiner, by *Ruth Axlerod*
Louis Topper, by *Jon, Jessica, and Millie Topper*

The Social Action Fund

In Memory of:

Daniel Goldenberg, by *Phoebe and Harry Meyers*
Faye Ladis, by *Barbara Markel*

The Yahrzeit Fund

In Memory of:

Thaddeus J. Gardon, by *Barbara Gardon*
Kenneth Karch, by *Stephan and Tara Cross*
Lisa Khazin, by *Izidor and Anna Muchnik*
Margaret Dorothy Moscato, by *Tom and Carolyn Moscato*
Samuel Moscato, by *Tom and Carolyn Moscato*
Benjamin Muchnik, by *Izidor and Anna Muchnik*
Moiya Muchnik, by *Izidor and Anna Muchnik*
Tsizya Muchnik, by *Izidor and Anna Muchnik*
Morris Reeder, by *Mildred Saks*
Marjorie Schlisserman, by *Albert and Helen Schlisserman*
Norman Schulman, by *Tom and Carolyn Moscato*
Miriam Schulman, by *Tom and Carolyn Moscato*
Mark Suchman, by *Marjorie and Seymour Suchman*

The Anne Bernstein Memorial Education Fund

In Memory of:

Seymour Fogel, by *Alan and Ellen Bernstein*

The Marshall L. Glickman Memorial Fund

In Memory of:

Marshall Glickman, by *Steven, Andy, and Joe Glickman*

Bella and Bert Kramer Education Fund

In Memory of:

Dora Brody, by *Harold and Deah Brody*
Bert Kramer, by *Harold and Deah Brody*

The Abe and Shirley Marquisee Memorial Fund

In Honor of:

Ruth Spivack, for complete healing, by *Joanne Marquisee*

Dr. Barnett A. Slepian Memorial Fund

In Memory of:

Hyman Guttman, by *Sonya and Bert Breitbart*

NOTE: *Writing a separate check for each donation allows us to credit the full amount of your contribution to the fund you specify for your gift.*



Headed South or West for the Winter?

Please let the Temple office know when you are leaving, so we can update our data base to ensure that you receive your CSS mail at your winter address in a timely fashion.

COLLEGE CONNECTION 2015-2016

The Sisterhood of Congregation Shir Shalom will be sending out two holiday packages to our college students away from home. The first one will be sent at Hanukkah time, and the second will be sent out at Passover. These packages will include food items, holiday candy, study items, etc. If you would like your child included in this wonderful Sisterhood project, please **mail the following information to Renee Klein by November 20th, at the address listed below.**

STUDENT'S NAME _____

STUDENT'S MAILING ADDRESS _____

NAME OF SCHOOL _____

YEAR IN SCHOOL (Freshman, graduate student, etc.) _____

LIVING ON OR OFF CAMPUS _____

PARENT NAME(S) _____

PARENT(S) PHONE NUMBER _____

This is a wonderful way for our Temple family to keep in touch with our students away from home. Renee's contact information is as follows:

Renee Klein: 420 Willow Green Drive, Amherst, NY 14228, or call 691-7467
You can also email the information to Renee at: rmklein@roadrunner.com

**Congregation Shir Shalom
Bingo
Join in the Action!**



November Dates:

Monday, November 2nd
Monday, November 9th
Monday, November 16th
Monday, November 23rd
Monday, November 30th

Doors open at 6:30 PM

Games start at 7:30 PM

**All money raised helps out your
congregation...join in the fun!**

**Check out our ad in *Bingo Bugle* at
bingobuglebuffalo.com**

Bingo Volunteers Needed

We **URGENTLY** need your help. Bingo is held every Monday night at 7:30pm; the doors open at 6:30pm.

We need you to volunteer in order to operate properly and efficiently. Our annual budget includes \$50,000 in bingo revenue. Please help us raise money to meet the budget in order to cover operating expenses.

It is a fun and social way to help Shir Shalom.

Please contact Phil Herzbrun at phil.herzbrun@shirshalombuffalo.org if you would like to volunteer. If you have any questions, please call the Temple office at 633-8877. We appreciate your help!

In Memoriam

Our Congregation extends its sympathy to the families of:

Harvey Getsler,
cousin of Ilene Scheib

Jack Gumbiner,
brother-in-law of Rabbi Donald Heskins

Sadie Miller

**November 2015
Memorial Anniversaries**

November 6, 2015

Joseph Ableson, Diane Arywitz, Phyllis Barish, Herbert I. Bellow, Walter Bluestone, Aaron Cheiffetz, Yvette Robinson Chutkow, Norman Cohen, May Corris, Bertha N. Siegel Costantino, Daniel Engel, Lee J. Etelson, Yefim Gelfer, Lillian Giller, Jacob Goldenberg, Edith Goldstein, Tillie Goodman, Marlene Klein, Paul Klein, Meyer Korris, Louis Kweller, Olga Liebgards, Robert Mesch, Elsie Mitofsky, Harry Moss, Caroline Nash, Minna Nelhaus, Irene Pearson, Edward Pikkell, Miriam Radlin, Esther Reingold, Joyce Rosen, Dr. Jack Saroff, Pearl Schieff, Sydney Schoner, Sydney Schoner, Carole Lesses Schwartz, Esther Shik, Allan Sirkin, Sarah Slutsky, Yetta Strauss, Sandford Sugarman, Nathan Unher, Sy Yaloff, Gertrude Feige Zucker.

November 13, 2015

Faye Pierce Albert, Albert Barback, Mildred E. Boslov, Bertha Broder, Joseph Bushberg, Louis Cantor, Lawrence Capone, Bessie Cohn, Kathryn Faxstein, Beatrice Frank, Mildred Frank, Charles Franke, Jacob Frey, Abraham Gamler, Natalie Glickman, Isadore Greenfeld, Herbert Gross, Cantor Harry Hart Kaufman, Morris Kershner, Max Krupnick, Harry Lane, Herbert Levenberg, Libby Linder, Beatrice T. Lipsitz, Esther Rosenfeld Lipsitz, Ruth Malek, Shirley Marquisee, Sarah Martin, Solomon Pohl, Alice Pollock, Steven Reider, Robert Reisman, Jeanette Rosenbaum, George Rosenfeld, Rose L. Rosengarden, Henrietta Cohen Schechter, Betty Schuster, Harold Siegel, Lynne Slater, Ethel Tanski, Ila Vroman, Louise Wasserman.

November 20, 2015

Elsa Abeles, Henry J. Amram, Phyllis Barish, Harry Bernhardt, William Brogadir, Tessie Cohen, Lee Cowen, Keith Crandall, Trudy Feld Barsky, Jay Frey, Isadore Friedman, Anne Gellin, Ethel Grant, Judy Greenman Schierlitz, Emma Harrison, Joan Jablon, Rebecca Jacobs, Robert Lesses, Percy Macks, John Mercurio, Robin Lee Metz, Gertrude Mittleman, Sura-Genya Modik, Carl Myers, Norman Perlstein, Susan Rafferty, Dr. Alexander Richman, Sanford Satuloff, Sally Scheib, Marion Schieff, Judy Schierlitz, Helen Sherman, Milton Slutsky, Arthur Stern, Florence Summer, Herman Weinstein, Arnold Weiss, Murray Wolfe.

November 27, 2015

Anne Barney, Louis Brogadir, Harry Brown, Joe Brown, Sadie Bunis, Gladys Burwick, Abraham Isaac Cassover, Gertrude Altman Covett, Nancy Cushman, William Estry, Louis Fagin, Essie Feinberg, Morris J. Foreman, Morris Forman, Herman Gabel, Benjamin Gafter, Boris Y. Gelfer, Alice Gordon, Martha Heskins, Lester Horwitz, Raphael Jacoby, Albert Klein, Morris Ladis, Ted Lane, Bella Lesser, Samuel Levit, Morris Markel, Benjamin Neiman, Millie Niss, Philip Okun, Mary Peisachow, Samuel Portin, Seymour Rauch, Rita B. Ray, Jeannette Rivo, Harry Rosen, Lewis Rosen, Max J. Safir, Bernard Sellers, Florence Serotte, Arthur Slonim, Lewis Alvin Starsky, Samuel Vyner, Irving Weinstein, Lillian Weiss.

Grave Sites Available

Grave sites are available in the Congregation Shir Shalom section at White Chapel Memorial Park. Joanne Marquisee, Executive Director, would be pleased to discuss cemetery pre-planning arrangements with you. Purchasing in advance brings the comfort of not having to manage this obligation in the face of loss. Please call Joanne at 633-8877 for information or to schedule an appointment.

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November 2015		For the most current information, visit our web site www.ShirShalomBuffalo.org/calendar.html		Heshvan - Kislev 5776		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 AM Religious School 9:30 AM Single Parent Support Group 10:00 AM Hebrew Reading Crash Course	2 OFFICE CLOSED Our calendar is prepared more than one month in advance of publication and is subject to change. 7:30 PM BINGO	3 4:30 PM Religious School 7:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting	4 11:30 AM Sisterhood Bible Study	5 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM Meet with Rabbi Alex 7:00 PM Sisterhood Meeting	6 6:30 PM Happy Half-Hour 7:00 PM Erev Shabbat Family Service	7 9:00 AM Torah Study 11:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service at Canterbury Woods
8 9:00 AM Religious School 9:15 AM Parent Council Meeting 10:00 AM Hebrew Reading Crash Course	9 OFFICE CLOSED The Judaica Shop is open on Sundays during Religious School from 9 -11:15am and by appointment. Please call Jean at 634-3507. 7:30 PM BINGO	10 4:30 PM Religious School	11 OFFICE CLOSED	12 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM Meet with Rabbi Alex 6:30 PM Parkinson's Support Group Meeting	13 11:30 AM Between the Covers Book Group 7:00 PM Healing Service 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service and Berger Scholar in Residence speaker Rabbi Kligler	14 9:00 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service 11:30 AM Beit Midrash 12:00 PM Berger Scholar in Residence Lunch & Learn w/ Rabbi Kligler 2:30 PM Rummage Sale set-up 8:00 PM Havdallah Sing-a-Long at Fiero Restaurant
15 9:00 AM Religious School 9:00 AM Ganainu 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM Sisterhood Rummage Sale 1:00 PM Global Day of Jewish Learning @ JCC	16 OFFICE CLOSED 7:30 PM BINGO	17 4:30 PM Religious School 7:00 PM Board of Trustees Meeting	18 11:30 AM Sisterhood Bible Study	19 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM Meet with Rabbi Alex	20 6:00 PM Tot Pizza Dinner 6:30 PM Tot Shabbat Service w/ PJ Library 6:30 PM Potluck Dinner 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service followed by Shabbat Speaker Series Pastor Bill Hennessy	21 <i>Submissions for January Chai Notes due</i> 9:00 AM Thanksgiving Basket assembly - offsite 9:00 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service 11:30 AM Beit Midrash 7:00 PM Israeli Dance
22 9:00 AM Religious School 9:00 AM Teen Mussar Class Thanksgiving Basket Project - offsite (Time to be determined) 9:00 AM Judaica Shop Hanukkah Sale 9:15 AM Men's Group Meeting	23 OFFICE CLOSED 7:30 PM BINGO	24 NO Religious School	25 <i>Chai Club Drawing</i> 11:30 AM Sisterhood Bible Study	26 OFFICE CLOSED <i>Happy Thanksgiving!</i>	27 OFFICE CLOSED 7:30 PM Erev Shabbat Service	28 9:00 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service 11:30 AM Beit Midrash
29 NO Religious School	30 OFFICE CLOSED 7:30 PM BINGO	December 1 4:30 PM Religious School 7:00 PM Executive Committee Meeting	2 <i>Chai Club Drawing</i> 11:30 AM Sisterhood Bible Study	3 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM Meet with Rabbi Alex	4 7:00 PM Erev Shabbat Service 8:00 PM Cookie Cookoff	5 9:00 AM Torah Study 11:00 AM Shabbat Morning Service at Canterbury Woods