

























CONGREGATION SHIR AMI

October, 2009

Oct 2 6:30 PM	Sukkot Potluck Dinner and Services under the Sukkah led by Suzy Stone	Oct 25	School
			
Oct 3 3:30 PM	Adult Education Led by Suzy Stone	Nov 1	School
			
Oct 4	School	Nov 6 6PM	Kids Shabbat Services
			6:45PM Potluck/Oneg
Oct 8 7:00PM	Rosh Chodesh		8:00PM Regular Shabbat Services - Led by Matt Dreffin
		Nov 7 7PM	Havdalah & Movie Night
Oct 9 7PM	Simchat Torah Service led by Matt Dreffin		
		Nov 8	School
Oct 10 7PM	Havdalah & Movie Night		
		Nov 17 7:30PM	Rosh Chodesh
Oct 11	School		
		Nov 19 7PM	Board Meeting
Oct 15 7PM	Board Meeting		
		Nov 20 8PM	Shabbat Services led by Suzy Stone
Oct 17 1PM	Adult Education - Intro to Judaism Led by Diana Zankowsky		
		Nov 21 3:30PM	Adult Education led by Suzy Stone
Oct 23 8PM	Shabbat Services led by Suzy Stone		
		Nov 22	School
Oct 24 6:30PM	Texas Hold 'Em		



President's Message

Ruth Hartman

Dear Shir Ami members and friends,

This month, a special Guest columnist!

Among the secrets of Congregation Shir Ami, here at last I reveal one. I am, and have been for nearly four years, your First Guy. I know I don't come to services often, and don't cook as good a burger as Bruce, but these are not the qualifications that led to my lofty status. I am married to the President, and my fantastic First Guy powers are part of her Presidential benefit package.

Now you may wonder what the First Guy does, and I reply that it is none of your business in general. But with respect to my official duties, you have every right to know. First, I am a maker of light. Not just flashlights for when the Big Quake comes (all guys do that), but fluorescent lights and street lights and driveway lights (if I ever find a weekend long enough for that job). I replace tubes and bulbs and fried ballasts, and support the (environmentally friendly) LED lighting industry as often as possible.

Second, I listen to your helpful suggestions about our humble Congregation, its eternal membership drive, and its lovely facilities. I do not need to be present to hear these things. I know the toilets need replacing, and the green waste and recycling services are confusing and inadequate. I know the Hebrew school is wondrous fine, and that teenagers make great teachers. I even know the names of our rabbis, although I will rarely admit that publicly.

Third, at least once a year, I grill meat for you to eat. Never pork. But sometimes the meat is fish, and sometimes it is vegetarian, and all of it is good if you are hungry enough. And although they've never acknowledged that I am the First Guy, I expect all the other cooking guys will do so now that I'm out of the closet. After all, they're nice guys, and only one person can be married to the President (in this day and age), so it's not like this a competitive thing.

Finally, every now and again, and almost certainly no more than once, I write a guest column for the President. She does too much already, and it is my duty to help her sleep at night. She couldn't come up with anything Profound and Presidential to say this month, but as a guy (First or last, it doesn't matter), I know that being profound is not essential all the time. Women have a hard time understanding this, but that is part of what makes them so great. In any case, I hope you enjoy this column, and will find some time in your life for frivolity. It is part of God's creation, too, you know. Happy New Year.

Gary Wolff
Rabbis' Corner

Matt Dreffin
Suzy Stone

With Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur behind us, I hope that we all can take a deep sigh of relief. After countless hours at shul praying, reflecting, and asking ourselves and others for forgiveness, we hope for a year of renewed vigor, hope and perspective.

However, just because Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur have passed, does that mean that the high holidays are really over? According to the ancient rabbis, the answer is an astounding “no!” In fact, they believe that the Yamim Noraim (the Days of Awe) actually continue through the last day of Sukkot.

The seventh day of Sukkot, which is known as Hoshanah Rabbah, is also called Yom Kippur Katan (a minor Yom Kippur). Hoshanah Rabbah, which literally means the “great supplication” was a time in which the priests at the ancient temple used to circle the altar seven times while beating willow branches.

This act symbolized the casting away of sins, which is similar to what we do today during the Tashlich service on Rosh HaShanah. To this day, in many traditional synagogues, congregants will take their lulav on Hoshanah Rabbah and beat it against the ground until all of the leaves have fallen off while reciting supplications.

So while we will be having an informal service under the sukkah this year, I would like to encourage us to create a feeling that parallels this idea.

So this year, in addition to bringing a delicious pot-luck dish to share with everyone at the meal, I hope you will bring with you a list of three things you would like to “protest” this year. As many of you may recall, this idea of creating a “protest” list came out of a new, and somewhat controversial theory that I presented about the story of the Binding of Isaac on Rosh HaShanah morning. For those of you who would like to discuss the specifics of this theory in more detail, I will be holding a brief text study on Friday night after the meal under the Sukkah.

In terms of your New Year’s protest list, please remember that it can be an internal protest—such as an imbalance between your work and family life; or, it can be an external or communal protest against poverty, hunger, etc. Whatever your top three commitments may be, I hope you will bring them with you to Sukkot so we can share our goals and our protests for the coming year. May this year be a year filled with renewed meaning and hope!

G'mar Chatimah Tovah,
Rabbi Suzy

We'd like to hear from you

Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) in Los Angeles is the graduate school that our student rabbis attend. The school, in the interests of helping our students learn and grow while at their student pulpits, has asked us to provide regular, written feedback to the students and their advisors. That means that they want to hear from us after EVERY visit by each of the student rabbis. Diana Zankowsky has taken on the job of Lay Advisor and she will collect and convey that feedback. Please communicate both positive and corrective feedback to Diana, (at dzankowsky@aol.com) no later than Tuesday after a rabbi’s visit. Thank you in advance for contributing to our student rabbis’ educations.



**October 3 Hebrew and Religious School (Sukkot) October 11
Hebrew and Religious School (Simchat Torah)
October 18 No School
October 25 Hebrew and Religious School**

Welcome back Shir Ami families to another year rich with fun and learning about both ancient and modern practices of being Jewish. I am happy to report that our entire teaching staff is returning along with both Rabbinic Interns Matt and Suzy. I am also happy to officially report that Barb Haber has joined me as religious school co-administrator. It is really true when they say that two heads are better than one! Judy Brackin has graciously agreed to coordinate our Religious School Oneg schedule this year so please sign up joyfully when she asks you.

The major change to the school schedule for this year is that the Pre-K –Kindergarten class will be combined this year will meet every time the school is in session. Here is the schedule for the 2009-2010 school year:

SHIR AMI 2009-2010 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Hebrew 9:15 ** Song Time 10:30 ** Close 12:45

September 13, 20	October 4, 11, 25
November 1, 8, 22	December 6, 13, 20
January 10, 17, 31	February 14, 28
March 7, 14, 28	April 4, 18, 25
May 2, 16, 23	

Simchat Torah @ 7pm 10/9 ** Children's Services @ 6pm 11/6 & 2/12 **
B'Nai Mitzvah Student Service @ 8 pm 11/20** Purim Spiel K-5 @ 7pm 2/26

Join us at 7 pm on Friday, October 9 for our joyful Simchat Torah service. Dance with the Torahs, collect sweets, and consecrate our new Hebrew learners! And mark your calendars for our special early Shabbat service for young children, 6 pm on Friday, November 6.

Looking forward to seeing you,

Jodi

Adult Education

Diana Zankowsky

In 5770, Congregation Shir Ami will have several different adult education offerings.

Introduction to Judaism: We will be expanding our on-going monthly class for adults interested in conversion. We are now welcoming any member of our community interested in learning more about Judaism. We will continue to meet on Saturdays. Our next meeting will be on October 17th from 1pm to 3pm. At this class, we will look at the Sukkot festival, just passed and continue to look at our liturgy. Contact Diana Zankowsky, dzankowsky@aol.com for more information.

“What does *GOD* have to do with it? Jewish Perspectives on Life, Death and the Afterlife” The first class of this 5-part series will begin with a look at different theories about God in order to create one’s own personal theology. The first class will meet at Shir Ami from 3:30 to 5:00 pm on Saturday, October 3rd.

The second meeting of this class will then look at different views of the afterlife found in the Torah, the rabbinic writings, and the Kabbalah. This class will meet on October 24th, also from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm.

The series is geared for an introductory level conversation, but all knowledge levels are welcome!



Adult Hebrew: Judy Ganz continues to teach the weekly “Learning Hebrew through Prayer” class, for those who already have basic literacy skills. Please contact Judy at jbganz@aol.com if you are interested in joining.

Movies: Shir Ami is very pleased to welcome back our monthly "Havdallah and Movie" night. Rabbi Matt plans to bring another diverse selection of films that will provide windows into the complexities of Israeli society. On October 10th at 7:00 pm, please join us for:

Sweet Mud (2006)

A boy edging into his teens has to deal with his unstable mother and a commune full of eccentrics along with the typical dilemmas of growing up in this satirical comedy drama from Israel set in 1974.

“Sweet Mud” won best picture award at the 2006 Ophir Awards.

Sisterhood/Rosh Chodesh Group

Jan Dombrower



Sisterhood:

We will have our first Sisterhood meeting on Thursday, October 8 at 7:00 under the Sukkah at the home of Diana Zankowsky.

Please bring your favorite harvest dish to share for our pot luck.

We will begin our planning for the year at 7:30 with sign ups for Rosh Chodesh hosting. We will brainstorm ideas for programs for the year.

Next, we will have a little Sukkot program including making a garland of Hamsas with blessings for the Sukkah. These blessing Hamsas can be put up each year on the Sukkah as a decorative contribution from Sisterhood.

Hope to see you all there. Look for the email for a reminder and with the address and directions to the Sukkah.

The Community Page

October, 2009

Yahrzheits:

October 2, 2009 – Sukkot Service

Rabbi Joseph Glaser, HUC area Rabbi when Shir Ami began, and a great help to Shir Ami
Beatrice Goldman, grandmother of Nancy Storch
Helen Knopf, mother of Lori Knopf Santora
Sylvia Wolf, mother of Ann Blank

October 9, 2009 Sinchat Torah Service

Jeanette Brody, grandmother of Noah Markus
Karl Meininger, father of Ingrid Weinberg

October 23, 2009

Anne Aronowitz, mother of Rose Levine
Ruth Bergel, mother of Marci Loss
Beatrice Morrison-Golembo, mother of Sharon Golembo
Gustav Kurz, father of Fran Johnson

Kaddish List: (to be read at all services in October)

Jack Farbstein, uncle of Ruth Rosenthal
Sarah Leona Markus, grandmother of Noah Markus
David Sapper, father of Danielle Keil
Alyce Nasatir, mother of Cary Nasatir
Jacob Ross, father of David Ross
Doris Greenfield, mother of Julie Greenfield
Jack Skelly, father of Bruce Skelly
Jean Skelly, mother of Bruce Skelly
Bridget Laky, past president and longtime former member of Shir Ami
Zac Cohen, longtime member of Shir Ami
Sheila Arthur, longtime former member of Shir Ami
Lazarus Lewis, father of Peter Lewis

May their memory be a blessing...

Ever wonder how the names read out loud for yartzheit and kaddish at Friday night services get on that list? If you are a member of Shir Ami, and want a personal reminder for the yartzheit of a loved one, just send Toni Schulberg the following information: the name of the deceased; the relationship of that person to the member of Shir Ami; the full date (month, day, year) that person died; and whether you want to use the Hebrew or English calendar for their yartzheit (Toni will look up the Hebrew date for you). Questions? Call Toni at 278-1695 or e-mail her at Yarzheit@congshirami.org.

TODAH RABAH FOR THESE GENEROUS DONATIONS:

- From Florence Finkle: in Memory of her husband, Maury Finkle at his Yahrzeit
- From Ingrid Weinberg: In Honor of David Schulberg, for all the help he has given her
- From Audrey and Karl Hand: In Appreciation of Shir Ami sending them the Bulletin
- From Julie Greenfield: a very generous donation for a plaque in Memory of her mother, Doris Greenfield
- From Bruce Carter: in Memory of Fred Rosener, Moshe Vanous and Zac Cohen

A contribution to Shir Ami is a great way to honor, remember, or show appreciation for someone special. It's easy, send a check and note to: Florrie Finkle (her address is included on the Temple roster). Florrie will send a card to the person you are honoring and your dedication will appear on this page.

TODAH RABAH TO OUR ONEG HOST

For September 18th: Jan Dombrower

TODAH RABAH TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Labor Day BBQ, Silent Auction and Raffle:

- Planning – Barbara Heimowitz, Bonnie Frey, Lilly Erickson, Julie Greenfield, Harriet Skelly
- Donating and shopping for the food – David and Toni Schulberg and Bruce and Harriet Skelly
- Setup – Bonnie Frey, Barbara Heimowitz, Lena Teferi, Lilly Erickson, Harriet Skelly, Matt Beckman
- Chefs – Bruce Skelly, David Schulberg, Fred Zankowsky, Gary Wolff, Alena Liskewicz

Break the Fast – thanks to the following for supplying the food, setup and cleanup (in no particular order):

Marcie Loss, Judy Ganz, Barbara Heimowitz, Rose Firestone, Danielle Keil, Helen Markus, Ruth Hartman, Barbara Haber, Diana Zankowsky, Angie Ross, Lilly Erickson, Toni Schulberg, Sharon Golembo, Sara Lamnin, Jan Dombrower, Pat Palmer, Bonnie Frey, Matt Beckman, Harriet Skelly

What's Nu?

- Tonia Schulberg received a note in the mail from Edetha Speceal, a former member of Shir Ami who lives now in Oregon: "To all of Shir Ami Congregation: May the year be sweet and all of us inscribed in the Book of Life. L'Shana Tovah, Edetha Speceal. My Rosh Hashana prayer, "I look the Chasm between Israelis and Palestinians dissolves without a shot and is a light to the world. Amen"

By request, here is a reprint of the Noodle Kugel recipe that Marcie Loss made for the Break the Fast.

Upside Down Kugel

by Shellie Cohen
(Serves 12)

Ingredients:

1 lb medium or wide noodles
1 cup sour cream
1 cup creamed cottage cheese, small curd
1/2 cup granulated sugar
2 pinches salt
1 tsp. vanilla
cinnamon to taste
4 eggs beaten
1/2 cup golden raisins

Glaze for bottom of pan:

1/2 cup butter or margarine melted
1 cup firmly packed brown sugar

Cooking Instructions:

Cook noodles and rinse well with cold water, drain
Add all other ingredients and mix well
Melt butter in 13 x 9 x 2 pan
Sprinkle brown sugar evenly over the pan
Bake 350 degree for 1 hour
Cool in pan 10 minutes
Separate from edge with knife
Invert pan onto plate (turn upside down)

The Tzedakah Box
A Social Action Column
Daryl Berman, Julie Greenfield, Sara Lamnin

CONTINUE THE HARVEST

Thank you to the many families who helped other families this holiday season by donating bags full of food. If you haven't already participated in a food drive this fall, there is still time. Already this fiscal year, the Alameda County food bank has seen a 37% increase in families in need and the shelves are emptying rapidly. 35% of emergency food recipients are children under the age of 18. In addition to visiting the food bank, individuals of any age can receive food at 50 different agencies in Castro Valley, Hayward, Fremont, and more. These sites are also at risk as the food bank has less to offer. The time to act is now.

Please consider making a monetary donation. For every one dollar donated, the Food Bank distributes seven dollars worth of food.

If you would like to donate nutritious, non-perishable foods, Proteins are most needed, such as: Canned Meats and Fish, Dry and Canned Beans, Peanut Butter, Dry Milk or Fortified Soy Milk. Items can be brought to Shir Ami.

Checks can be made payable to "ACCFB" and mailed to:
7900 Edgewater Drive
Oakland, CA 94621

OR VISIT the VIRTUAL FOOD DRIVE at www.vfd-accfb.org

SHIR AMI BULLETIN BOARD



Texas Holdem!

Save the date, **Saturday, October 24, 2009, 6:30pm-10:30pm** at Congregation Shir Ami. Doors open at 6:30pm and play begins at 7:00pm sharp. Cost is \$40 before 10/10/09, and \$50 at the door. Please RSVP to Noah, at 510-774-1438

Come join us -- everyone has a lot of fun at this event! Beginners are welcome and we'll teach you how to play. Of course it is not gambling -- it is a tournament of skill and luck, with the opportunity to win donated prizes based on your success in the tournament.

In other words, the more you win at the games, the more raffle tickets you'll have to compete for the prizes! You can also purchase raffle tickets! It is a very fun, and very exciting evening! Tickets include \$1000 in chips, a drink coupon, plus great food & Raffle Prizes. The event is one you don't want to miss

Shir Ami's Store on CafePress.com

Our latest and greatest fundraiser is our very own store on [CafePress.com](http://www.cafepress.com/CongShirAmi).

Thanks to the talents of Jeff Blum who designed the stained glass panel in our front door, and David Holsey who developed Jeff's design into our new logo, we have items for sale that have the official Congregation Shir Ami logo.

You may have seen a small sample of them at the year-end picnic where the teachers were given their very own Shir Ami mugs. But wait, there's more. If you go online to our store at <http://www.cafepress.com/CongShirAmi> you will find a wide variety of products, including t-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, not to mention cool gift ideas like mugs, travel mugs, note cards, journals, tote bags, and more.

When you purchase an item from our store, 25% of the purchase price goes directly to Shir Ami. Do yourself a favor, and do Shir Ami a favor, by taking a few minutes to go to our online store and start shopping.

Used Cell Phones Wanted

Barbara Heimowitz is still collecting used/old cell phones that you leave at Shir Ami to be sent in for cash. You can bring in your cell phones to Shir Ami anytime -- just leave them in the box in the kitchen. Any questions? Please call Barbara.

Shir Ami Labor Day BBQ Raffle and Fundraiser

Thank you to the following donors for their contributions. Please support these donors by shopping at their businesses, when possible!

T- Kanes Karate
Encore (indoor climbing-Rocktopia)
Byington Vineyards and Winery, Los Gatos
Riviera
Iceland
I Fly SF Bay
Happy Hollow Park and Zoo- San Jose
ACT
Sweet Tomatoes
Cal Shakes
Cal Performances
Children's Fairyland
Wax Museum
SF Zoo
Pier 39
Castro Village Bowl
Bette's Ocean View Diner
Berkeley Rep
Blackhawk Museum
Winchester Mystery House
Contemporary Jewish Museum
Oakland Zoo
Ripley's Believe it or Not
Book by Rick Steves: Europe 101 through
the Back Door
LaMediterranee
Hana Japan
Amici's East Coast Pizzeria
Iron Works climbing and Fitness

Theater Works- Palo Alto
Tri-Valley Repertory Theater(formerly
Pleasanton Playhouse)
Wente Vineyards
Cards and Knitting Lessons by Harriet
Skelly
Shir Ami Logo items donated by Bruce and
Harriet Skelly
Barbara Heimowitz: Party Planning Gift
certificate
Berkeley Rep Tickets donated by Rahel
Ruiz
Carmel Country Inn gift certificate donated
by Rahel Ruiz
Babysitting donated by Bonnie Frey
Tibetan necklace donated by Bonnie Frey
Infineon Raceways- Sonoma
In-N-Out Burgers
Asian Art Museum- SF
Sail around the Bay- donated by Gus
Schwarz
Comedy Sportz
Charles Schulz Museum
Oakland A's
Rosecrucian Museum
USS Hornet Museum
Douglas Morrison Theater
American Swim Academy
Malibu Grand Prix- mini-golf
Frankie, Johnnie and Luigi's, Too- pizza

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Julie Greenfield
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Yahrzeit Listings:

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yahrzeits@congshirami.org

Donations:

General Funds, Special Funds,
Wall Plaques
Florrie Finkle
donations@congshirami.org

Have you been hesitant at signing up to host an Oneg or a Rabbinic intern for a weekend because you didn't know what it entailed? Do you think you know what these activities entail but want a refresher? Then read on....

In anticipation of the new year starting we have reviewed and documented the responsibilities of hosting an oneg, hosting an oneg when there is a potluck and hosting the Rabbinic interns. This documentation is included here for you to review now so you know what each activity entails. David Schulberg and Sharon Golemba will be asking for you to sign up for specific dates for these activities. These instructions will also be emailed to you about a week before the date you signed up to host an oneg or a Rabbinic intern.

Instructions for Hosting an Oneg

This is a regular Shabbat service starting at 8 pm. Please plan to arrive by 7:45 for setup.

You will need to bring:

Challah, grape juice, sweet wine, and an assortment of dessert items (fruit, baked goods, cheese and crackers, etc.). For a regular Friday night service, expect 15 to 25 people. For a special event or holiday service, expect as many as 40-60 people.

The temple provides paper goods, small cups for Kiddush, coffee, tea, sugar, creamer, etc. If paper supplies in the cabinet are low, check the bathtub for additional supplies. If you notice supplies getting very low, write what is missing or needed on the list located in the cabinet where the oneg supplies are kept so that we can replenish it on our next shopping trip.

In an effort to *Go Green*, we are trying to use less plastic and more of our silverware. This makes cleanup a little more time consuming but helps Mother Earth! The silverware is located in the drawers under the counter. Reusable plates and cups are also available. They are located in the tall narrow cupboard on the right in the very back of the sanctuary/library. If you choose to use these, please wash, dry, and replace them at the end of the evening, or load them in the dishwasher and turn it on before you leave.

Place a Kiddush cup with wine (for the Rabbi) on the buffet table with the covered Challah. Prepare trays of grape juice and wine in the small cups to distribute for Kiddush.

If necessary, set up chairs for services. Put Shabbat candles in candlesticks and smaller candles in the menorah. (The candles are stored in the low cupboard to the right as you face the bimah.)

At the end of the evening, sweep the kitchen floors. We now have recycling service at Shir Ami! So collect recyclables separately during the evening. Take out all trash and recycling (cans are to your right as you go out the front door) and place fresh liners in the waste baskets (these are in the tall utility closet next to the dishwasher). Place the lit Shabbat candlesticks in the sink for fire safety. Check to be sure that the stove and oven are off. Turn off all lights in the building and double-check that all doors are locked.

Feel free to ask others to help you with both setup and cleanup. Most congregants are happy to lend a hand, and the job can be quite enjoyable when done with friends!

Your generosity and participation add spirit to our community and are greatly appreciated!
Sharon Golemba

Instructions for Hosting an Oneg with a Potluck

This is a Pot Luck Shabbat dinner starting at 6:30, followed by services at 8 pm. Please plan to arrive by 6:15 for setup.

You will need to bring:

Challah, grape juice, sweet wine, and an assortment of dessert items (fruit is great). For a regular Friday night service, expect 15 to 25 people. For a special event or holiday service, expect as many as 40-60 people.

The temple provides paper goods, small cups for Kiddush, coffee, tea, sugar, creamer, etc. If paper supplies in the cabinet are low, check the bathtub for additional supplies. If you notice supplies getting very low, write what is missing or needed on the list located in the cabinet where the oneg supplies are kept so that we can replenish it on our next shopping trip.

In an effort to *Go Green*, we are trying to use less plastic and more of our silverware. This makes cleanup a little more time consuming but helps Mother Earth! The silverware is located in the drawers under the counter. Reusable plates and cups are also available. They are located in the tall narrow cupboard on the right in the very back of the sanctuary/library. If you choose to use these, please wash, dry, and replace them at the end of the evening, or load them in the dishwasher and turn it on before you leave.

Set up tables and chairs in the sanctuary for the expected number of attendees. Tablecloths are in a marked drawer under the kitchen counter. Place a Kiddush cup with wine (for the Rabbi) on the buffet table with the covered Challah. Prepare trays of grape juice and wine in the small cups to distribute for Kiddush. As people arrive with their pot luck contributions, make sure each dish has a serving spoon and help set them out on the table.

Around 7:45, as people are finishing eating, recruit some helpers to break down the tables and set up chairs for services. Someone (not necessarily you) should take the tablecloths home, wash them, and return them by the next Shabbat service. Put Shabbat candles in candlesticks and smaller candles in the menorah. (The candles are stored in the low cupboard to the right as you face the bimah.) Clean up the main courses, but leave the desserts out for people to nosh on after the services. We do not have a separate oneg after services on a potluck night.

At the end of the evening, sweep the kitchen floors. We now have recycling service at Shir Ami! So collect recyclables separately during the evening. Take out all trash and recycling (cans are to your right as you go out the front door) and place fresh liners in the waste baskets (these are in the tall utility closet next to the dishwasher). Place the lit Shabbat candlesticks in the sink for fire safety. Check to be sure that the stove and oven are off. Turn off all lights in the building and double-check that all doors are locked.

Feel free to ask others to help you with setup and cleanup. Most congregants are happy to lend a hand, and the job can be quite enjoyable when done with friends!

Your generosity and participation add spirit to our community and are greatly appreciated!

Sharon Golembo

Shir Ami Rabbinic Intern Hosting Responsibilities

Friday

- Pick intern up from airport and take him/her to the Quality Inn (formerly the Holiday Inn Express) 2532 Castro Valley Blvd., CV.
- Provide a Shabbat dinner (either at your home, at a restaurant or pot luck if one is scheduled)
- Bring intern to Shir Ami for Friday night Services [arrive at least 15 minutes before service time]
- Attend services. Optional: light and bless Shabbat candles at start of service.
- Drive intern to hotel after services

Saturday – subject to discussion depending on intern's needs

- Provide transportation if needed to Shir Ami Saturday morning (sometimes there is B'nai mitzvah tutoring)
- Provide lunch
- Provide transportation for adult education (could be late afternoon or evening)
- Provide dinner and transportation back to the hotel

Sunday

- Provide transportation to Shir Ami for Hebrew School (should arrive at Shir Ami by 9AM)
- Provide transportation to the airport after Sunday School (pick up intern at 12:45 pm)

SUKKOT סוכות



Sukkah Celebration and Pot Luck under the Stars

Friday, October 2nd at 6:30 PM

Led by Suzy Stone

Please participate in our rotating food assignment

A through N.....Main Dish

O through Z.....Salad, Side Dish
or Dessert



**Simchat Torah Services
led by
Matt Dreffin
will be held at Shir Ami
on Friday, October 9th at 7:00 PM**

**Come and bring a friend;
all are welcome!**

What Does God Have to Do With It? Jewish Perspectives on Life, Death, and the Afterlife

Congregation Shir Ami 2009-10 Adult Education Series

This 5-part adult education series will begin with a look at different theories about God that can help us create a personal theology. We will then look at different views of the afterlife found in the Torah, the rabbinic writings, and the Kabbalah. In the second half of the year we'll focus on modern-day medical ethics as they relate to issues of both life and death. What does Judaism say about organ donation and fertility issues? How can Jewish tradition guide us in caring for our parents? What are we morally bound to do in end-of-life situations? How far must we go to save someone's life? This class is geared for an introductory-level conversation, but all knowledge levels are welcome!

Adult Education Dates and Topics

- October 3, 2009
 - Toward creating a personal theology: What/who is God? What characteristics can we use to define God?
- October 24, 2009
 - Jewish views on the afterlife.
- November 21, 2009
 - Jewish rituals and observances related to the loss of loved ones.
- February 13, 2010
 - Jewish views on medical ethics in life.
- April 16, 2010
 - Jewish views on medical ethics in death.

Series led by Rabbinic Intern Suzy Stone. Classes typically meet at 3:30 pm at Congregation Shir Ami, but are subject to change. To confirm, visit www.congshirami.org or email adulteducation@congshirami.org.



CONGREGATION
SHIR AMI

Affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism

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Israeli Film Series 2009-10

Congregation Shir Ami Adult Education Series

Join us at 7 PM for a community Havdalah ritual followed by an Israeli film and spirited discussion. Rabbinic Intern Matt Dreffin brings us another diverse selection of films that provide windows into the complexities of Israeli society. The following list is tentative and subject to change based on availability. To confirm, visit www.congshirami.org or email adulthoodeducation@congshirami.org.

October 10, 2009: Sweet Mud (2006) אדמה משוגעת

November 7, 2009: To Take a Wife (2004) ולקחת לך אישה

December 12, 2009: Life According to Agfa (1992) החיים על פי אגפה

January 16, 2010: The Trojan Horse: Israel and the War of Images

February 27, 2010: Year Zero (2004) שנת אפס

March 13, 2010: Time of Favor (2000) ההסדר

April 24, 2010: James' Travels in the Holy Land (2003) גיימס בארץ הקודש
מסעות

May 15, 2010: Under the Domim Tree (1995) אץ הדומים תפוס

TEXAS HOLD-EM



TOURNAMENT

AT CONGREGATION SHIR AMI

4529 MALABAR AVE., CASTRO VALLEY

RSVP TO "NOAH" 510-774-1438

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24TH, 2009

DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 PM; PLAY STARTS AT 7:00 PM SHARP

ADVANCE SALE PRICE \$40; \$50 AT THE DOOR

BEGINNERS WELCOME! FREE INSTRUCTION AVAILABLE

**A TOURNAMENT OF SKILL AND LUCK; DONATED PRIZES BASED ON YOUR
RAFFLE TICKET WINNINGS. RAFFLE TICKETS MAY ALSO BE PURCHASED**

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A DRINK COUPON AND GREAT FOOD**