



CONGREGATION SHIR AMI

4529 Malabar Ave.
Castro Valley, CA 94546
(510) 537-1787

Email: info@CongShirAmi.org
Web: www.CongShirAmi.org

Congregation Shir Ami in Castro Valley is an intimate, inclusive, intergenerational Reform Jewish Community that welcomes interfaith families
Affiliated with the [Union for Reform Judaism](#)

SEPTEMBER 2010 BULLETIN (ELUL 5770 ~ TISHREI 5771)

In This Issue

Event Calendar.....	1
President's Message	2
Event: Labor Day BBQ	3
High Holidays: Schedule	4
High Holidays: Tickets & Memorials	5
Lifelong Jewish Learning	6
School Notes	6
More ShirAmi News & Events ...7	
Rosh Chodesh/ Sisterhood	8
Tzedakah Box (Social Action) ...9	
Community Page	10
Yahrzeit List	11
Bulletin Board (Community Resources)	12
Contacts	13

EVENT CALENDAR

Day	Date, Time	Event	Location
Mon.	Sept. 6, 2 pm	Shir Ami Labor Day Barbeque	Shir Ami
Wed.	Sept. 8, 8 pm	Rosh Hashanah Evening Service	Shir Ami
Thur.	Sept. 9, 10 am	Rosh Hashanah Morning Service	Shir Ami
Thur.	Sept. 9, 2 pm	Rosh Hashanah Children's Service	Shir Ami
Thur.	Sept. 9, 3:30 pm	Rosh Hashanah Tashlich	Lake Chabot
Sat/Su	Sept. 11 & 12	Castro Valley Fall Festival Booth	C.V. Blvd.
Sun.	Sept. 12, 9:30 am	Religious School ALL Students, 9:30 am	Shir Ami
Thur.	Sept. 16, 7 pm	Board Meeting (open to all members)	Shir Ami
Fri.	Sept. 17, 8 pm	Kol Nidre Service	Shir Ami
Sat.	Sept. 18, 10 am	Yom Kippur Morning Service	Shir Ami
Sat.	Sept. 18, 1:30 pm	Yom Kippur Children's Service	Shir Ami
Sat.	Sept. 18, 3:30 pm	Yizkor & Concluding Service	Shir Ami
Sat.	Sept. 18, 5:30 pm	Yom Kippur Break the Fast	Shir Ami
Wed.	Sept. 22, 7 pm	Rosh Chodesh/Sisterhood Potluck in the Sukkah	Home of Diana Zankowsky
Fri.	Sept. 24, 6:30 pm	Sukkot: Potluck Dinner & Service in the Sukkah Led by Lara Pullan Regev	Shir Ami
Fri.	Oct. 1, 7 pm	Simchat Torah Service & Board Installation Led by Andrew Terkel	Shir Ami
Fri.	Oct. 15, 8 pm	Shabbat Service Led by Lara Pullan Regev	Shir Ami
Fri.	Oct. 29	Kid's Shabbat Service/Potluck/Regular Shabbat Service Led by Andrew Terkel	Shir Amii



- Shir Ami **Labor Day BBQ**, September 6
- **Rosh Hashanah** begins the evening of September 8
- **First Day of Religious School**, Sunday September 12, 9:30 am
ALL students meet at Shir Ami at 9:30 am for classes

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Shir Ami Members and Friends,

I can feel the New Year approaching as many of us have been getting Shir Ami ready to greet 5771. The grounds have been cleared of weeds and overgrowth, the classrooms have been spruced up, the carpets have been cleaned and the silver Torah adornments have been polished – thanks to the Keil family.

It was a pleasure to meet our two new Rabbinic Interns, Lara Pullan Regev and Andrew Terkel at the end of August. They bring great enthusiasm, energy, and musical talent to our community. We had a very productive Religious Committee meeting on August 28 to schedule all the services, potlucks, holiday celebrations, Rabbinic Intern visits, adult education classes, etc. for the coming year, and we are excited about the New Year.

At this time of year I haven't always felt ready for the High Holidays or looked forward to them – in fact I sometimes dreaded them! I didn't like to sit in a hot temple reciting prayers and going through motions that I didn't understand. The melodies were different and sometimes annoying. But this year is different for me. I am actually looking forward to the High Holidays.

Over the past two years I have been taking advantage of all of the Adult Education that Shir Ami offers: the Rabbinic Interns' adult ed classes, Judy Ganz's Adult Hebrew prayers class, and Diana's Judaism 101 class. Even the

monthly Rosh Chodesh meetings led by Jan have been educational. I now have an idea about where the prayers come from and what I am saying when I recite them. And I have started to challenge myself by participating in last year's High Holiday services and even leading a service this summer. If you would like to experience a deeper connection at this time of year, I encourage you to join me in some of these activities and challenges!

I wish you a sweet New Year and am looking forward to seeing all of you during this eventful month: Labor Day BBQ, Silent Auction and Raffle (Sep 6), Rosh Hashanah (Sep 8-9), Fall Festival (Sep 11-12), Yom Kippur (Sep 17-18), Sukkot Potluck and Services (Sep 24).

L' Shana Tova,
Harriet

Harriet Skelly
president@congshirami.org



EVENT: LABOR DAY BBQ

LABOR DAY BBQ

**Save the Date! Labor Day BBQ and Raffle
Monday, September 6, 2:00-5:00 p.m.**

**Adults \$15; Children, ages 12 and under, \$6
(If prepaid by September 1, Adults are \$12, Children are \$5)**

New Prospective Members - No Charge

An EVITE will be sent soon.

If you have a high-quality item to donate to our raffle, or can provide a service such as homemade challah, a homemade baked good, babysitting or any other service, please contact Barbara Heimowitz.



Donations that have already been received:

Amici's East Coast Pizzeria
Lark Creek Walnut Creek
La Mediterranee- Berkeley
Golden Spoon
Panera Bread
Charles Schulz Museum
American Swim Academy
Winchester Mystery House
Beach Blanket Babylon
Children's Discovery Museum
Asian Art Museum
Blackhawk Museum

C.V. Bowl
Berkeley Iron Works
Wax Museum
Oakland Zoo
Punchline Comedy Club
Boomers
Children's Fairyland
Cheese Steak Shop
I Fly SF Bay
San Jose Repertory Theater
Contemporary Jewish Museum in SF
Theater Works in Palo Alto
Lawrence Hall of Science
Handmade Greeting Cards by Harriet Skelly

HIGH HOLIDAYS: SCHEDULE

High Holidays at Shir Ami, 2010, 5770-5771



Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, September 8, Evening Service.....8:00 PM
 Thursday, September 9, Morning Service.....10:00 AM
 Children's Service, September 9.....2:00 PM
 Tashlich.....3:30 PM

Yom Kippur

Friday, September 17, Kol Nidre Service.....8:00 PM
 Saturday, September 18, Morning Service.....10:00 AM
 Children's Service, September 18.....1:30 PM
 **Study of the Story of Jonah.....1:15~1:30 PM
 Discussion in the garden, September 18.....2:00 PM
 Yizkor and Concluding Service, September 18.....3:30 PM
 Break the Fast.....5:30 PM

HIGH HOLIDAYS: TICKETS & MEMORIALS

Congregation Shir Ami

4529 Malabar Avenue Castro Valley, CA 94546

www.congshirami.org

August 1, 2010

Dear Friends:

You are undoubtedly aware of our upcoming High Holyday Services on September 8th & 9th and September 17th & 18th. This year, we look forward to welcoming our two new student Rabbis from Hebrew Union College: Lara Pullan Regev and Andrew Terkel, both 2nd year students. In addition, we are very pleased to once again have Rachel Brott as our Cantorial Soloist. We are looking forward to beautiful High Holyday services. We know that you will enjoy our program with even more surprises from some younger members.

This year's High Holyday ticket prices will be the same as last year. If you have any guests, we will have tickets for \$300 per family and \$150 for singles available by contacting me. This donation can again represent partial membership at Congregation Shir Ami. Full-time college students and members of the armed forces on active duty are always welcome as our guests at no charge.

Our current budget does not allow for these services. Once again we ask you for a Memorial Contribution. Please return the stub below to my address as soon as possible, for *tickets* (non-members only) and *memorials*. The names of the departed will be read at the Yom Kippur Memorial (Yizkor) Service. We do **not** depend on last year's list.

Thank you for your help. I would like to extend my best wishes for a healthy and happy New Year to you and your family.

Sincerely,
David Schulberg
Co-Religious Committee Chair
(510) 276-6100

To: David Schulberg
16174 Via Arroyo
San Lorenzo, CA 94580-2506

Enclosed is a check for ____ tickets @ \$_____ for

Name: _____

Address: _____

Enclosed is my Memorial Contribution for \$_____ in memory of:

(Please Print Clearly)

LIFELONG JEWISH LEARNING

Congregation Shir Ami will begin 5771 by continuing to offer two ongoing classes, *Introduction to Judaism* and *Adult Hebrew*. Our new rabbinic interns, Lara Pullan Regev and Andrew Terkel, will also offer their own programs, which will be announced during the High Holy Day services and presented here in October.

Introduction to Judaism

Judaism 101

For anyone who wants to explore the meaning of a Jewish text, the observance of a Jewish holiday or of a way to practice Judaism in your home, we welcome you to the ongoing class on Judaism.

The class is informal, studying from a variety of sources and always includes food.

Next class: Sukkot Celebration

Sunday, September 26th, 3 to 5 pm
In the sukkah at the Zankowsky home.

Contact Diana Zankowsky,
adulthed@congshirami.org for directions and additional information.

Adult Hebrew

Learning Hebrew through Prayer
Mondays, 7:30-9:00 pm

This weekly class is taught by Judy Ganz. If you have basic Hebrew literacy skills and you are interested in joining, please contact Judy at adulthebrew@congshirami.org



Online Resource

Congregation Shir Ami, a Reform congregation, is a member of the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ). The URJ website has a wealth of information for adults. Try this link, <http://urj.org/learning/my/>, to begin exploring the possibilities.

SCHOOL NOTES

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL STUDENTS!!!

First Day of Religious School is Sunday, September 12 at Shir Ami, 9:30 am for ALL students! See you there!!!

**First Day of Hebrew School:
Tuesday, September 14**

MORE SHIR AMI NEWS & EVENTS

CASTRO VALLEY FALL FESTIVAL September 11 and 12

Congregation Shir Ami will once again have a booth at the annual Castro Valley Fall Festival, September 11 and 12. There's room for one or two more volunteers—contact Ruth Hartman if you're interested in taking a 2-hour shift. And be sure to stop by and say hello when you're at the Festival!

Shop at Safeway to earn money for Congregation Shir Ami



Renew or sign up with your Safeway Club Card today!

Renew by Nov. 1

If you participated last year, renew so our group continues to earn contributions.

- Go to eScrip.com
- Click on "YES RENEW!"
- Enter either your phone number, email, or Club Card number

OR

Sign up

Your participation can mean hundreds of dollars for our group.

- Go to eScrip.com
- Click on "1-Sign Up"
- Enter your Club Card number

What's new!

Safeway wants to do what we can to help every child stay fit and have access to nutrition programs. So we are asking schools and groups that receive Safeway donations to allocate 20% toward fitness and nutrition activities.

Contact Shir Ami eScrip Coordinator, Danielle Keil,
escrip@congshirami.org for more information.

ROSH CHODESH/ SISTERHOOD

Calendar:

Wednesday, September 22, 7 pm
Potluck In the Sukkah
Home of Diana Zankowsky

In just a few days, on September 8th, the new moon will appear and signify the beginning of the month of Tishrei. On this day the entire Jewish community celebrates the holiday of Rosh Hashanah, the head of the year and the beginning of 5771. On all other new moons, the women of Shir Ami celebrate Rosh Chodesh, the holiday of the "head" of the "month." On each of these months, we mark the beginning of the month by coming together with a ceremony, an activity and seasonal foods.

During this month of Tishrei, the Sisterhood has established an additional tradition. We meet in the sukkah at the home of Diana Zankowsky. This year we will be meeting on Wednesday, September 22nd, at 7 pm for the first night of Sukkot.

Please bring a potluck dish to share and dress warmly.

Last month we met for a social occasion. About a dozen of us went to see a production of *Broadway Bound*. The consensus was that it was well done and we all enjoyed the evening.

Next Month

Rosh Chodesh will occur on October 8th and 9th. Look in the October Bulletin for the details of the celebration for Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan.



TZEDAKAH BOX (SOCIAL ACTION)

Social Action News and Opportunities



*"Hear my words, you wise men,
and give ear to me, you who know;
for the ear tests words as the palate
tastes food.*

*Let us choose what is right;
let us determine among ourselves what
is good."*

(Job 34:1-4)



Autumn brings a new school year, a New Year, apples, festivals, and the start of another election season. While it can be overwhelming to sift through the propositions, candidates, and races, each of us has a responsibility to "determine what is good" and participate in the process. If you need to find a proposition or candidate information session in your area, please contact Sara at socialaction@congshirami.org

It's not too late to register to vote and it's not too late to be informed.
<http://www.smartvoter.org>

High Holy Days Food Drive



Demand at the Alameda County Community Food Bank is at an all-time high in its 24-year history.

There will be food drop-off bins at Shir Ami on Yom Kippur for non-perishable food items. You can also take make a Virtual Food donation. Every \$1 donated purchases \$7 in food. Why not do both?

[Food Bank Fact Sheet](#)

COMMUNITY PAGE

Thanks to everyone who participated in the annual pre-High Holiday schul cleanup and yard extravaganza:



Angie Ross, Barbara Ann Lewis, Diana and Fred



Zankowsky, Jane Steele, Toni and David Schulberg, Julie Greenfield, Ruth Hartman, Stan and Barbara Heimowitz, Bonnie Frey and her son, Sean,

Harriet and Bruce Skelly, Sara Lamnin, and most importantly thanks to **Jon Zimmerman**, for organizing and heading up the Herculean effort. The grounds are much improved!



Ruth Hartman attended a family reunion celebrating her father's 80th birthday in the Canadian Rockies. Seven grandchildren were in attendance of the happy event!

Gary Wolff took part in a rafting/floating trip on the Green River in Utah.

Irene Gilchriese is taking off for a year of study at the University of Madrid. ¡Buena suerte, Irene!

Diana Zankowsky and **Ruth Hartman** attended a week-long study Kallah sponsored by U.R.J. on Long Island.

Stacy Zankowsky returned from a five week stay in Puerto Rico, studying the ecology of the rain forest.

Bill and David Firestone and **Daniel Finlay** spent a week volunteering as chaperones and workshop leaders at Alameda County 4H Camp located in Napa County.

Best wishes for a complete recovery to **Jan Dombrower's** father, who suffered a stroke.

We remember **Layah Laks**, a long-time former member of Shir Ami, who passed away on August 10.

Thanks to the following members for providing oneg following services in the past two months:

8/13 Sara Lamnin and Jon Zimmerman

8/27 Harriet and Bruce Skelly

Todah Rabah to the following members and supporters for their generous donations to Shir Ami:

- **Ingrid Weinberg** in memory of her mother, **Betty Meininger**, at her yahrzeit.
- **Judy Ganz** in memory of her mother, **Shaiva Berenstein**, at her yahrzeit.
- **Florence Finkle** in memory of **Maury Finkle**, at his yahrzeit
- **Daryl Berman**, in memory of **Blanche Rose Berman**, at her yahrzeit.

COMMUNITY PAGE, CONTINUED



Yahrzeit List

September 8 and 9, 2010 (Rosh Hashanah)

- **Maurice Aronowitz**, father of Rose Levine
- **Maurice Finkle**, husband of Florence Finkle, and former president of Shir Ami
- **David Sapper**, father of Danielle Keil
- **Abraham Wolf**, father of Ann Blank

September 17 & 18, 2010 (Yom Kippur)

- **Gertrude Kramer**, mother of Marion Kramer

September 24, 2010 (Sukkot)

- **Jack Farbstein**, uncle of Ruth Rosenthal
- **Rabbi Joseph Glaser**, HUC area Rabbi when Shir Ami began, and a great help to Shir Ami
- **Sarah Leona Markus**, grandmother of Noah Markus
- **Karl Meininger**, father of Ingrid Weinberg
- **Sylvia Wolf**, mother of Ann Blank

Kaddish List

(to be read at all September services)

- **Layah Laks**, long time former member of Shir Ami
- **Clara Schneider**, mother of Marilyn Schneider, and grandmother of Irene, Sarah and Carolyn Gilchriese
- **Darlene Golembo**, sister of Sharon Golembo
- **Ita Klebanova**, mother of Sofiya Blank
- **Sharon Lawrence**, aunt of Kaitlin and Matt Beckman (Barbara Haber's ex-sister-in-law)

BULLETIN BOARD (COMMUNITY RESOURCES)

MIDRASHA NEWS

Online registration is NOW OPEN for the Tri-Valley/Tri-Cities Midrasha Sunday evening **program for teens**, as well for the community-wide Midrasha retreats.

Congregation Shir Ami is a sponsor of this excellent teen program and we encourage our teens to enroll. The program calendar, along with other useful information about this year's program, can be accessed on the TV/TC Midrasha website:

<http://tvtcmidrasha.com>.

Opening day of Midrasha is **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19**, at Congregation Beth Emek in Livermore (3400 Nevada Ct.). ***Please note the new, earlier starting time: 7:00 PM.*** Classes will end at 9:15 PM, as in years past.

If you find that the cost of the Midrasha program and/or the retreats are beyond your means, you may apply for financial aid using the online application. Financial aid applications must be received **no later than September 15** in order to be considered for the 2010-11 school year.

If you have questions concerning the Midrasha program or retreats, contact Director Day Schildkret (925.549.1664 or director.tvtcmidrasha@gmail.com). For questions concerning registration, contact Karen Holtz (925.600.9130 or kholtz@comcast.net).

MATISYAHU IS COMING TO LIVERMORE!

Internationally acclaimed singing sensation Matisyahu will be appearing in concert at the Bankhead Theatre in Livermore on Tuesday, September 21 at 7:30. Matisyahu burst on the music scene in 2004 with an inimitable style that blends traditional Jewish themes with Reggae, rock, and hip-hop beat-boxing sounds. He is best known for his Top 40 hit 'King without a Crown' and his song 'One Day' was selected as the theme song for the 2010 Winter Olympics.

Matisyahu will perform for 90 minutes and will hold an open question and answer session. This will be an acoustic (unplugged) performance in an intimate setting with superior acoustics and comfort. VIP patrons receive priority seating and a post-show private reception with Matisyahu. Ample free parking available. A complimentary buffet will be served after the show - plan to stay and schmooze!

For more information or to purchase tickets visit www.JewishTriValley.com or call 925.846.0700.

This will be a truly memorable event and an opportunity to get up close and personal with a musical superstar.

The event is presented by Chabad of the Tri-Valley, in conjunction with The Jewish Federation of the East Bay and the Contra Costa County JCC, and with support from Voyage-Air Guitar.

SEEKING COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND A COMMUNITY PAGE EDITOR

Please, if you have any news which you would like to share with your Shir Ami community, send it to Julie Greenfield at: community@congshirami.org

Also, if you are interested in becoming editor of this page (and knowing all the goings-on), please contact newsletter editor Rose Firestone at: editor@congshirami.org

CONTACTS

Congregation Shir Ami
4529 Malabar Ave.
Castro Valley, CA 94546
(510) 537-1787

Email: info@CongShirAmi.org
Web: www.CongShirAmi.org



Rabbinic Intern
Rabbinic Intern

Lara Pullan Regev
Andrew Terkel

Rabbi.Lara@conqshirami.org
Rabbi.Andrew@conqshirami.org

President
Membership
School Liaison

Harriet Skelly
Barbara Heimowitz
Jodi Blum

president@conqshirami.org
membership@conqshirami.org
education@conqshirami.com

Building Maintenance
Community Page
Donations:General & Special Fund,
Dues
eScrip
Invoices/Payables
Men's Club
Newsletter
Newsletter Mailing
Oneg Shabbat (hospitality)
Religious
Religious
Rosh Chodesh/Sisterhood
Social Action
Social Action
Social Action
Yahrzheit

Noah Markus
Julie Greenfield
Florrie Finkle
Barbara Haber
Danielle Keil
Maryann Leshin
Jon Zimmerman
Rose Firestone
Lilly Erikson
Sharon Golembo
David Schulberg
Diana Zankowsky
Jan Dombroweer
Daryl Berman
Julie Greenfield
Sara Lamnin
Toni Schulberg

facilities@conqshirami.org
community@conqshirami.org
donations@conqshirami.org
dues@conqshirami.org
escrip@conqshirami.org
treasurer@conqshirami.org
mensclub@conqshirami.org
editor@conqshirami.org
editor@conqshirami.org
oneg@conqshirami.org
religion@conqshirami.org
religion@conqshirami.org
sisterhood@conqshirami.org
socialaction@conqshirami.org
socialaction@conqshirami.org
socialaction@conqshirami.org
yahrzheit@conqshirami.org