



CONGREGATION SHIR AMI

4529 Malabar Ave.
Castro Valley, CA 94546

Email: info@CongShirAmi.org

Web: www.CongShirAmi.org

Congregation Shir Ami in Castro Valley is an intimate, intergenerational Reform Jewish Community that welcomes interfaith families.

Affiliated with the [Union for Reform Judaism](#)

APRIL 2014 (Nissan 5774)

In This Issue

(Events are links, just click)

Event Calendar	2
President's Message	3
Rabbinic Interns' Page	4
Adult Education with the Rabbis	5
Shir Ami Information	5
The Two-State Solution, April 5	9
Shabbat with PreK-3rd Graders, April 11	10
Community Passover Seder, April 19	11
Honoring Volunteers Shabbat Service, April 25...12	
Rosh Chodesh/Sisterhood	15
April Yahrzeit List	16

April 2014 / Nissan 5774

March was an extraordinary month at Shir Ami. Highlights included Purim, visits by both Rabbinic Interns, Family Game Night and the weekend visit by Cantor Ken Cohen.

April brings Passover -- we again take the journey out of bondage into freedom. This year our [Community Passover Seder](#) will be led by Allie Fischman, who served as Rabbinic Intern at Shir Ami last year. The seder will be held on Saturday, April 19. Sign up at events@congshirami.org by April 12. [See flier.](#)

More events to note

- See page 5 for what our Rabbinic Interns, Benj and Megan, have planned for Adult Ed on April 12 and April 26.
- On April 5, 7 pm (6:30 for havdalah), Shir Ami is honored to host Dr. Stan Wulf who will facilitate a discussion of a *Two-State Solution for Israel*.



About the calendar: April & Nissan

The April 2014 calendar is uniquely aligned with the month of Nissan on this year's 5774 Hebrew calendar. Beginning April 1/Nissan 1, day-by-day, the dates align for the entire month. May/Iyar continues this alignment with May matching the Hebrew month of Iyar. From May 1st to the 29th, the dates are the same. On May 30 the Hebrew month changes from Iyar to Sivan, thus ending the 59 day alignment.

Event Calendar

Tue.	Apr.	1,	7:00	pm	Rosh Chodesh/Sisterhood , will be held at Aran's Art Studio, 3313 Village Dr, Castro Valley. Hosted by Harriet Skelly and Marlene Lamnin. Check your email for more details.
Sat.	Apr.	5,	6:30	pm	7:00 pm, Special Guest Dr. Stan Wulf will discuss a Two-State Solution. Havdalah at 6:30 pm.
Sun.	Apr.	6,	9:15/ 10:30	am	9:15, Hebrew; 10:30, School Passover Celebration. Tot Talk (for families with children under 5 years old) will join this Passover Celebration.. This is the last Tot Talk event this year.
Fri.	Apr.	11,	7:00	pm	Shabbat Service with PreK-3rd Grade Students led by Benj Fried.
Sat.	Apr.	12,	1:00	pm	Benj Fried will hold "Office Hours" at Peets from 1-3 pm. Email Benj at rabbi.benj@congshirami.org for an appointment.
Sat.	Apr.	12,	3:30	pm	Alternative Haggadot: How themed haggadot have transformed the Passover story.
Sat.	Apr.	12,	7:30	pm	Havdalah and a Movie with Benj Fried.
Sat.	Apr.	12,			Last day to make Community Passover Seder reservations, events@congshirami.org
Sat.	Apr.	19,	4:30	pm	Community Passover Seder , led by Allie Fischman.
Tue.	Apr.	22,	7:00	pm	Board of Directors Meeting at Shir Ami; all are welcome.
Fri.	Apr.	25,	7:00	pm	Shabbat Service Honoring Volunteers led by Megan Brudney.
Sat.	Apr.	26,	3:00	pm	Book Discussion, <i>My Life</i> , by Golda Meir, led by Megan Brudney.
Sat.	Apr.	26,	5:00	pm	From Tragedy to Triumph: the Israeli "high holidays" including Holocaust Remembrance Day.
Sat.	Apr.	26,	6:30	pm	Community Dinner Celebrating the State of Israel. Come all and enjoy!
Sun.	Apr.	27,	9:15/ 10:30	am	Hebrew and Religious School
Fri.	May	9,	6:30/ 7:30	pm	Potluck Dinner and Shabbat Service led by Benj Fried. This is Benj's last weekend with us until next fall.
Sun.	May	11,	9:15/ 10:30	am	Hebrew and Religious School
Fri.	May	16,	7:30	pm	Shabbat Service led by Megan Brudney. This is Megan's last weekend with us.
Sun.	May	18,	9:15/ 10:30	am	Hebrew and Religious School. Last school day this year.
Sun.	Jun.	1,	12	pm	Annual Membership Meeting
Tue.	Aug.	19,			Save the Date, Jewish Heritage Night- the Oakland A's vs NY Mets.



President's Message



President's Message for April 2014

Shalom Shir Ami,

Spring has come, and with it the holiday of Passover. This festival is one of my favorites (aren't they all) because it both embodies long-established Jewish traditions, and also enables us to make our own. Growing up with my family in New York, not only did I and my sisters ask the four questions, but I was always the wise son, my middle sister the wicked, and my younger sister the simple. The reclining, the dipping, and the reciting of the 10 plagues... we did it all.

Yet, there were traditions that belonged uniquely to my family, a fact I didn't fully realize until I met my wife and started sedering with her and my in-laws. For instance, while my family and I did dip greens into salt water, we also dipped boiled-and-cooled potatoes. Also, apparently there's more of the Haggadah to read after dinner, and the proper Passover tradition is not to fall asleep on one's grandmother's couch. I encountered many a disappointing realizations as I entered adulthood, and this was one of them, to be sure.

Two traditions that my West Coast family practices, as does Shir Ami at our annual Community Seder, are the placing of an orange on the seder plate and the use of Miriam's Cup. For those of you not familiar with the orange tradition, it represents the modern Jew's dedication to include (in the seder and other aspects of Judaism) people who have felt unwelcome in the past. In particular, this tradition represents solidarity with the Jewish gay and lesbian community. As the story goes, a young girl once asked a Rebbe what room there is in Judaism for a lesbian. The Rebbe rises in anger and shouts, "There's as much room for a lesbian in Judaism as there is for a crust of bread on the seder plate." To rebel against this discriminatory response, the tradition emerged to place something on the seder plate that seemed out-of-place, but was included

nonetheless. An orange was selected to substitute for bread crust to keep the plate kosher. More detailed information about the origins of this tradition can be found at: <http://www.juf.org/news/world.aspx?id=414773>.

The tradition of Miriam's Cup – a wine glass filled with water and, like Elijah's, is placed on the seder table – has emerged as a way to honor the role of women in the Passover story. Miriam, a prophet and the sister of Moses, is not mentioned in the traditional Haggadah text, but is nevertheless an important figure in the Exodus story. The rabbis attribute to Miriam the well that traveled with the Israelites throughout their wandering in the desert. In the Book of Numbers, the well dries up immediately following Miriam's death. And of course, water played a role in Miriam's life from the first time we meet her, watching over the infant Moses on the Nile. According to Jewish writer Tamara Cohen, the practice of filling a goblet with water to symbolize Miriam's inclusion in the seder originated with a Rosh Chodesh group in Boston in 1989. The idea resonated with many people and quickly spread (for more on this, see <http://jwa.org/blog/he-orange-on-seder-plate-and-miriam-cup-foregrounding-women-at-your-seder>).

The enjoyment of Passover, like most Jewish holidays, lies in how it enables us to revisit our history and traditions, while also giving us the flexibility to create new traditions of our own. I would love to hear about the traditions you and your family have created, so please share them the next time you see me. Hopefully, it will be at our Community Passover Seder on Saturday, April 19th, starting at 4:30 pm, and taking place in the Oliver Hall at Eden United Church of Christ in Hayward. More information can be found in this bulletin, or by contacting events@congshirami.org.

Chag Sameach,

Jon Zimmerman, President

president@congshirami.org



April 2014 **God's Presence in the Exodus**

The Israelites had been slaves in the land of Egypt for 430 years, according to the Torah, and witnessed nine plagues meant to spur Pharaoh into saving them. Finally, after the tenth plague (the slaughter of the Egyptian firstborn), the Jews rushed out of Egypt in the middle of the night. They had no time to mentally prepare themselves, to pack their bags, or even to let their bread rise. In a single instant they transitioned from being an oppressed people whose every move was dictated by the Egyptians—to a liberated group wandering in the wilderness, still unaccustomed to freedom and its demands, and dependent entirely on God and Moses to guide them.

To facilitate the Israelites' progress, God manifested physically, "and went before them in a pillar of cloud by day...and in a pillar of fire by night" (Ex. 13:21). The rabbis in the Mekhilta, a commentary on the book of Exodus, take issue with this conception of God. How, they ask, could this be? How can God be contained in such puny phenomena as clouds and fire, when elsewhere our Hebrew Bible emphasizes God's limitless presence, saying: "For I fill both Heaven and Earth—declares the Lord" (Jer. 23:24) and "[God's] presence fills all the Earth!" (Is. 6:3)?

To resolve the inconsistency, the rabbis invoke an anecdote told by Rabbi Judah the Prince, the redactor of our Mishnah: "When Antonius [a Roman official who held many discussions with Rabbi Judah the Prince] was holding court upon the dais it would sometimes happen that darkness would descend while his children were still there with him. When he left the dais, he would take a torch and light the way for his children. Now the important members of the Imperial court would approach him and say, 'We will carry the torch to light the way for your children,' but he would say to them, 'It is not that I have no one to carry the torch and light the way for my children, but that thus I can show you how great is my affection for my children—so that you

should treat them with honor!'" Based on this story, the Mekhilta concludes that just like Antonius did not himself need to carry the torch, God does not *have* to go before the Israelites to show them the way; Moreover, God might have chosen any number of other ways to guide the Israelites. Rather, God chose to manifest as clouds and fire and personally accompany the people in order to "demonstrate [God's] affection for Israel to the nations of the world...so that they would treat them with honor."

The rabbis of the Mekhilta thus resolve that the two viewpoints can coexist harmoniously. God's manifesting as clouds and fire does not in any way negate God's ability to indeed fill the entire Earth with God's presence. God's manifestation is not a minimization, but rather a calculated decision meant to display the Israelites' glory before the nations of the world. As we begin to prepare for our Passover observance, let us remember God's act of love and protection as God led us on our first steps out of slavery and into redemption. May God show that same spirit in guiding each of us forth from that which enslaves us this Pesach season!

Rabbinic Intern Megan Brudney



Benj Fried
rabbi.benj@CongShirAmi.org

Rabbinic Interns



Megan Brudney
rabbi.megan@CongShirAmi.org

Adult Education with the Rabbis

Saturday, April 12, Benj Fried

1:00-3:00 pm, Office Hours

Benj will be holding "office hours" at Peets (by Safeway at CV Blvd and Redwood Road). This is an opportunity to have an informal conversation with our student rabbi and to talk about something that's been on your mind. Email Benj at rabbi.benj@CongShirAmi.org if you would like to reserve a time slot.

3:30-5:00 Alternative Haggadot

What does the Passover story have to do with women's issues or gay rights? Come to this adult education lesson and explore the various ways that different themed Haggadot have transformed the Passover story into contemporary and relatable issues.

7:30 pm, Havdalah and Movie Night

We will be watching the film Biglal HaMilchamah HaHi ("Because of that War") a film about an Israeli musician whose parents went through the Holocaust. This is the best Holocaust documentary I have ever seen in my life, and I know it will move you all very much. ~Benj

Saturday, April 26, Megan Brudney



3:00 pm, Book Discussion, Golda Meir's, *My Life*

Megan Brudney will lead a discussion of Golda Meir's autobiography, *My Life*. This first-rate account of the history of Israel is told through the compelling and modest voice of one of Israel's founders, Golda Meir.

5:00 pm, From Tragedy to Triumph

Come learn about the special customs of the Israeli "high holidays" of Yom haShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day), Yom haZikaron (Memorial Day), and Yom haAtzmaut (Independence Day). In anticipation of these days we will perform miniature version of some of the rituals combined with havdalah as we then head into a festive dinner at Shir Ami in celebration of the state of Israel!

6:30pm, Community Dinner Celebrating the State of Israel

A fun and festive Israel-themed gathering for all ages!

Shir Ami Information

SUPPORTING A TWO-STATE SOLUTION IS NO LONGER ENOUGH, WHAT IT WILL TAKE

Discussion at Shir Ami, Saturday, April 5th at 7:00, Havdalah at 6:30.

Valerie Goldman & Sam Krantz would like to invite all members of Congregation Shir Ami to a special event, a discussion regarding the campaign for a [Two-State Solution](#). In February, Sam attended a town hall meeting of J Street in San Francisco. where Dr. Stanley Wulf offered to facilitate a discussion regarding the difficult issues that must be resolved in the negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. Dr. Wulf is a member of J Street's National Advisory Council & is an advocate for the Two-State campaign.

Dr. Wulf will lead a two hour discussion at Shir Ami on Sat., April 5th at 7:00pm. Havdalah begins at 6:30 pm.

We invite everyone who is interested to attend and to encourage others to attend as well. Please RSVP, if possible, to SocialAction@CongShirAmi.org so that we can plan refreshments. We look forward to seeing everyone and having a respectful and engaging discussion.

Two-State Solution, continued.

About Dr. Wulf: Dr. Stanley Wulf was raised in South Africa as a committed Zionist and traditional Jew. Since 1989, he has lived in Berkeley, and has served as President and Treasurer of Beth Israel – Berkeley’s Modern Orthodox community. He has studied at the Pardes Institute – a liberal yeshiva in Jerusalem, and his family has a home in Jerusalem where he visits almost yearly. Professionally, Stanley is an OB-GYN and is currently Chief Medical Officer of a medical technology company. In 2009 he was chosen by his peers as one of the “100 Most Inspiring People in the Life-Sciences Industry.”

About J Street: J Street is the political home for pro-Israel, pro-peace Americans fighting for the future of Israel as the democratic homeland of the Jewish people. This organization believes that Israel’s Jewish and democratic character depend on a two-state solution, resulting in a Palestinian state living alongside Israel in peace and security. The J Street family of organizations is comprised of: J Street, a 501(c)(4) non-profit corporation and registered lobby; JStreetPAC, a political action committee endorsing federal candidates; and J Street Education Fund Inc, a legally independent 501(c)(3) non-profit. J Street represents more than 180,000 online supporters, 8,000 students, and 700 National Rabbinic Cabinet Leaders.

Talking about Mitzvah

The words Mitzvah and Tzedakah are commonly heard around Shir Ami and in other Jewish settings. To ensure that these important traditions carry on, they need to be explained and nurtured. Below are a few ideas to help you and your family understand these concepts/traditions and use them as befits your ideas and values.

What are we talking about?

A mitzvah is often considered a good deed. More traditionally, it means something that must be done. Often that thing that must be done helps someone else. Tzedakah is the work or tasks we do to help make sure there is fairness in the world. There are some things that could be better in the world and those who do tzedakah are helping to fix the world. These Mitzvah and Tzedakah acts help both those who do them and those who receive them. Even small things to help others uses your own skills and makes things better in big way.

Be an example

For Parents: Psychologist, Dr. Noa Heyman, wrote that leading by example, modeling a lifestyle that includes acts of mitzvah/tzedakah is the most effective way to pass along these values. Incorporating “good deeds” as a natural part of your family’s culture/schedule can help.



For everyone: When you go to the grocery store, pick up an extra can of food, container of oatmeal, or jar of peanut butter that you can share with a food pantry for those who are hungry. Or, when there is a “buy one, get one free” sale, share the “free one.”

Do something you love for something you care about. Like animals? Give some time to the nature center or animal shelter. Like coloring? Make happy cards for someone who might be feeling sad or lonely. Like to count or move things around? Maybe a food pantry could use your help to get their food organized. Want to help other kids? Is there a toy, you

could share? Have a favorite sandwich? How about making some extras for someone who is hungry?

Have an allowance or a couple pennies? Maybe you could share in a Tzedakah box. What do you care about?

Need more ideas? Ask our Social Action Chair, SocialAction@CongShirAmi.org

This handout was based on this article. <http://www.kveller.com/traditions/Jewish-Living/tzedakah-kids.shtml>

Or, for holiday-related ideas,... <http://rac.org/pubs/holidayguides/>

Shir Ami led by example with the Mitzvah Project on Purim Weekend. Following is a note about that project:

Hello Everyone,

We just enjoyed a fun and fabulous Purim weekend at Shir Ami, hope you were able to join us. Included in our School's Purim Carnival this year was our Mitzvah Project. Sara Lamnin had some follow-up information for

everyone that she wanted to share, as well as an attached document with great information about Mitzvahs and Tzedekkah for you to read and share with your family.

In the tradition of "Matanot La'Evyonim" or giving gifts of charity, about 2 dozen people of all ages contributed personal care items and their time to create more than 40 hygiene kits for people who are homeless. This collaborative effort was a joyful part of this year's Shir Ami Purim Carnival/Celebration and will have lasting impacts for those in need. The kits will benefit the South Hayward Parish Family Resource Collective, Hayward Community Action Network, and April Showers -- all programs that offer showers to individuals as a stepping stone on the path to self-sufficiency. With the generosity of today's volunteers and donors, individuals can not only wash up with fresh soap, shampoo, and washcloths, but also shave, have a granola bar, and keep track of responsibilities with a calendar and pen. And thank you to everyone who contributed tzedekkah as well. Todah Rabah (thank you very much) to all who made this Mitzvah possible!

Sara Lamnin
Program Director, Hayward Community Action Network, South Hayward Parish

Cantor Ken Cohen

"Such an amazing weekend" sums up how people felt about the weekend with Cantor Ken Cohen. It was indeed a **"spiritual treat"** as he **"helped us magnify the love that we have for each other and for our community."**

Congregation Shir Ami thanks Cantor Ken Cohen for his inspirational visit. We also acknowledge Diana Zankowsky for her role in making this weekend possible. Her tireless focus on the religious and spiritual strength of our community is deeply appreciated.



Tot Talk

"Do you love working with young children and their families, then please volunteer to be a part of the Tot Talk Program next year along with Marlene Lamnin and Bonnie Frey. Feel free to volunteer your talents for one event, or help out in a bigger way, we would love to foster more energy, commitment and creativity for this program. If interested, you can contact Bonnie Frey at outreach@congshirami.org

Now We Can Dance, Screening at Eden Church

Eden Church is offering a free public viewing of the film, "Now We Can Dance: The Story of the Hayward Gay Prom," Sunday, April 6, beginning at 12 noon, in the Norberg Room. (Please enter via Oliver Hall, where the Community Passover Celebration and *Comida para Cherryland* are held.) Read about this moving film at <http://user.govoutreach.com/hayward/faq.php?cid=26054>.

This event is offered for all ages. A Q&A session will follow the film and be led by Betty DeForest, one of the founders of the Hayward Gay Prom. "Now We Can Dance" features the stories of East Bay LGBTQ youth and describes how Gay Prom (the first LGBT Prom in America) was started.

Reverend Arlene also invites the Shir Ami community to join the Eden community for a lunch starting at 11:15 a.m. in Oliver Hall. The lunch is a fundraiser to help send Eden youth to summer camp. Eden Church is located at 21455 Birch Street in Hayward, near the intersection of Birch and Grove Way.

Rabbinic Intern Benj Fried's Sermon

In response to requests for the text of Benj's March sermon, we have posted it on our website.

www.congshirami.org

On the bottom of the home page, it will be in the "Get Connected" section where you find links to the President's Message, the Bulletin and the Rabbinic Interns' Monthly Message.



Photos from Purim Weekend Events, March 2014



Saturday, April 5, 7:00 pm. Havdalah at 6:30 pm

Please RSVP (if possible) to Sam Krantz, SocialAction@CongShirAmi.org,
to ensure enough refreshments

SUPPORTING A TWO-STATE SOLUTION IS NO LONGER ENOUGH

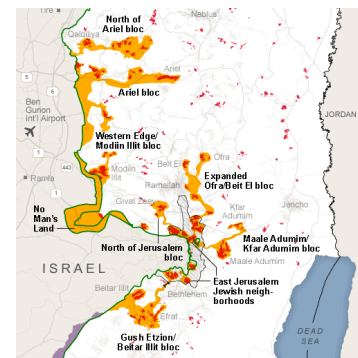
We Need to Know What It Will Take

Why is the “de-facto” border more important for Israel’s security?

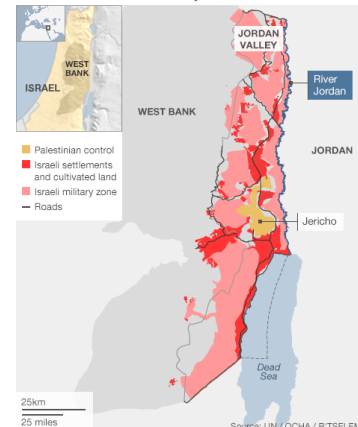
Which settlements cannot be brought in to Israel?

How can we divide Jerusalem without dividing our people?

How can the Palestinians accept a “symbolic” return?



Who controls the Jordan Valley



**If you are not sure of some of the answers,
join us for an evening of in-depth exploration**

שַׁבַּת הַגְּדוֹל
THE GREAT SABBATH

The Shabbat which precedes Passover is called Shabbat haGadol, the Great Sabbath. There are many special customs associated with this Shabbat. It was in Egypt that Israel celebrated the very first Shabbat Ha-Gadol on the tenth of Nissan, five days before the redemption. On that day, the Children of Israel were given their first commandment which applied only to that Shabbat; it was not again given to future generations. Also on the tenth day of Nissan, each man was to take a blemish-free lamb to be prepared for the Passover in Egypt.



Shir Ami Services, Friday, April 11th
(Pre- K to 3rd grade) 7:00 PM
will be led by

Benjamin Fried

Community Passover Seder, April 19

Congregation Shir Ami *Community-Wide Passover Seder*

on Saturday, April 19th, 2014, 4:30 PM
at Eden Church
21455 Birch Street, off Grove Way
Hayward, CA 94541

Reserve by April 12th, to events@conghshirami.org or by EVITE



Shir Ami will be retelling the liberation of the Jewish people from slavery and their redemption. The Evening Service will feature Passover songs.

**The Service and music will be led by former Rabbinic Intern
Allie Fischman**

**A festive kosher-style Holiday meal will be served
vegetarian option available, please indicate on your RSVP**

Costs: Shir Ami Members \$25; non-member children (age 12 and under) \$10 .

Adult Non-Members \$35. No charge to military personnel.

Additional contributions to defray costs are appreciated. No Shir Ami member will be turned away because of inability to pay.

Family tables for 8 are available

Seating is limited ~ please provide the information below



Name _____ Phone _____ Email _____

No. _____ adult Shir Ami members @ \$25 = \$ _____ No. _____ adult non-Shir Ami members @ \$35 = \$ _____

No charge for children of Shir Ami members

No. _____ non-member children age 12 & under @ \$10 = \$ _____ Additional donation to help defray costs = \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Your Reservation is made by check, payable to Congregation Shir Ami, and mailed with the information above no later than APRIL 12th to:

**Congregation Shir Ami
ATTN: Community Passover Seder
4529 Malabar Ave
Castro Valley, CA 94546**

Please include your check; money will not be accepted at the door

Honoring Shir Ami volunteers
and remembering
Yom HaZikaron, HaShoah ve-laG'vurah

Holocaust and Heroism Remembrance Day, known colloquially in Israel and abroad as Yom HaShoah and in English as Holocaust Remembrance Day, or Holocaust Day. It is observed as Israel's day of commemoration for the approximately six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust as a result of the actions carried out by Nazi Germany and its accessories. It recalls also the Jewish resistance in that period.



Shir Ami Services, Friday, April 25th at 7:00 PM
will be conducted by

Megan Brudney

Remember Shir Ami's food basket

Congregation Shir Ami would not be the successful organization that it is without the hard work of its volunteers. I'm honored by the service given by the people below, and want to thank them for their time and effort on our behalf. – Jon Zimmerman, President

- Daryl Berman** – South Hayward Parish Liaison, High Holiday greeter
Jeff Blum – Men's Club Co-Chair, Break-the-Fast, Sukkah decorating, Sukkah take-down & cleanup, Chanukah Faire, Rabbi & Oneg host
Jodi Blum – Chanukah Faire, Rabbi & Oneg host
Judy and Aaron Brackin – Oneg hosts, School oneg hosts
Liane Carmi – Chanukah Faire decorating
Elayna Contreras – Chanukah Faire
Jan Dombrower – Membership Lifecycle Chair, Sisterhood President, Chanukah Faire, Purim Carnival, Rabbi & Oneg host
Melanie Einbund – Treasurer-Payables, Sukkah decorating, Finance Committee, "Rescue in the Philippines" event, Hamentashen baking
Nate Einbund – Sukkah decorating
Lilly Erickson – Break-the-Fast, Chanukah Faire, Rabbi & Oneg host
Bill Firestone – Labor Day BBQ, Sukkah decorating, Rabbi & Oneg host
Rose Firestone – Communications Co-Chair, Bulletin editor, High Holiday greeter, Labor Day BBQ, Sukkah decorating, Hamentashen baking, Chanukah Faire, Religious Committee, Rabbi & Oneg host
Bonnie Frey – Membership Outreach Co-Chair, Communities of Practice, Labor Day BBQ, Sukkah decorating, Break-the-Fast, Tot Talk, Religious Committee, Rabbi & Oneg host, School oneg host, Family Night coordinator
Judy Ganz – Treasurer-Receivables, Hebrew adult education, Sukkah decorating, Finance Committee, Religious Committee
Rick Goldhoff – School Committee Co-Chair, School oneg host
Valerie Goldman – Adult Ed Co-Chair, CV pride festival, High Holiday greeter, Chanukah Faire, Rabbi & Oneg host
Sharon Golembó – Oneg and Potluck Coordinator, Break-the-Fast, Hamentashen baking, Rabbi & Oneg host
Ruth Hartman – Religious Events Chair, Trustee, Donation thank-you letters, Communications Committee, Oneg host
Barbara Heimowitz – Membership Outreach Co-Chair, Labor Day BBQ, "Rescue in the Philippines" event, Chanukah Faire, Community Seder, Rabbi & Oneg host
Stan Heimowitz - "Rescue in the Philippines" event, Community Seder, Rabbi host
Danielle Keil – Chanukah Faire, School oneg host
Marion Kramer – Member at Large, High Holiday greeter, Labor Day BBQ, Finance Committee, Welcoming Shabbat
Sam Krantz – Adult Ed Co-Chair, CV pride festival, Rabbi & Oneg host
Marlene Lamnin – Secretary, Labor Day BBQ, High Holiday Greeter, Break-the-Fast, Tot Talk, Purim Carnival, Finance Committee, Oneg host
Sara Lamnin – Labor Day BBQ, High Holiday Greeter, Break-the-Fast, Mitzvah project, Welcoming Shabbat, Chanukah Faire, Rabbi & Oneg host
Mickey Lange – Chanukah Faire, Rabbi & Oneg host, School oneg host
Kelly and Laura Lepkowsky – Chanukah Faire decorating, School oneg hosts
Hillie Levine – Bulletin flyer creator

Barbara-Ann Lewis – “Rescue in the Phillipines” event, Religious Committee, Torah reader, Rabbi & Oneg host

Peter Lewis – Member at Large, Building & Grounds committee, Sukkah decorating, Break-the-Fast, Rabbi host, School oneg host

Nancy Liskewicz – Marketing Team

Mike and Marci Loss – Sukkah decorating

Noah and Helen Markus – High Holiday greeters, Rabbi hosts, Oneg hosts

Cary Nasatir – Shofar blowing at High Holydays

Milt Palmer – Building & Grounds Chair, “First Fruit” at High Holiday services, High Holiday Greeter, Labor Day BBQ, Sukkah decorating, Chanukah Faire, Tu B'Shevat coordination and food preparation, Hamentashen baking, Rabbi & Oneg host

Pat Palmer - Religious Events Committee, “First Fruit” at High Holiday services, High Holiday Greeter, Labor Day BBQ, Sukkah decorating, Chanukah Faire, Tu B'Shevat coordination and food preparation, Hamentashen baking, Rabbi & Oneg host

Ruth Rosenthal – Break-the-Fast

Vicky Sapper – Member at Large, Finance Committee, Chanukah Faire, Marketing Team

Debbie Schriber – Chanukah Faire, Purim Carnival

Tonia Schulberg – Trustee, Labor Day BBQ, High Holydays nametags, Religious Committee meeting hostess, Sukkah decorating, Buying Shir Ami supplies, Finance Committee, Community Seder, Rabbi & Oneg host

David Schulberg - Religious Committee Co-Chair, co-webmaster, Labor Day BBQ, Sukkah decorating, Rabbi & Oneg host

Lisa and Sophia Silver – Chanukah Faire, Purim Carnival

Bettina Skehan – Marketing Team, Oneg host

Harriet Skelly – Vice President, Trustee, Communications Co-Chair, Communities of Practice, Labor Day BBQ, Sukkah decorating, Break-the-Fast, Tot Talk, Finance Committee, Welcoming Shabbat, Community Seder, Torah reader

Bruce Skelly – A/V technical support, e-mail support, co-webmaster, Labor Day BBQ, Sukkah decorating, Break-the-Fast, Rabbi & Oneg host, Comida Para Cherryland volunteer

Ace Spitzer – High Holiday food drive

Tom Spitzer – Social Action Committee Chair, South Hayward Parish Liaison, Labor Day BBQ, High Holiday food drive, Oneg host

Susan Spitzer – Oneg host

Gail Steele – School oneg host

Jane Steele – School Committee Co-Chair, Labor Day BBQ, Sukkah decorating, Purim Carnival, Chanukah Faire, Oneg host, School oneg host

Lisa Steindel-Byrne – Break-the-Fast

Nancy Storch – Labor Day BBQ

Lina Teferi – Labor Day BBQ, Break-the-Fast

Jeremy Templeton – Tot talk, Chanukah Faire, Rabbi host, School oneg host

Rita Weikal – Labor Day BBQ, Chanukah Faire, Marketing Team

Diana Zankowsky – Religious Committee Co-Chair, Torah reader, Rabbinic intern mentor, Labor Day BBQ, Sukkah decorating, Break-the-Fast, Sukkah take-down & cleanup, Welcoming Shabbat, Rabbi & Oneg host

Fred Zankowsky – Men’s Club Co-Chair, Labor Day BBQ, Sukkah decorating, Break-the-Fast, Sukkah take-down and cleanup, Rabbi & Oneg host

Thank You, Volunteers

Rosh Chodesh/Sisterhood

UPCOMING ROSH CHODESH

What: Rosh Chodesh Nissan
Where: Aran's Art Studio
<http://www.aranceramic.com/>
3313 Village Dr, Castro Valley
When: Tuesday, April 1, 7:00 pm

Please join Harriet Skelly and Marlene Lamnin for a fun evening at Aran's Art Studio. We will celebrate the new month of Nissan and engage in an art project. Aran will be teaching us to paint a whimsical Tree of Life on canvas with acrylic paints. Or if you rather, you can do a paint and glaze piece, fused glass, etc. The price for the canvas painting will be about \$25 (includes instruction and all materials). Refreshments will be served.

ROSH CHODESH RECAP

Last month's Rosh Chodesh we brought in the month of Adar II with candle lighting, song, and blessings. There was a serious discussion about Dinah, Jacob's only daughter and the 13th child in the tribe. Rose Firestone, hostess, led a rousing discussion. To summarize the disturbing story here is a quick rhyme:

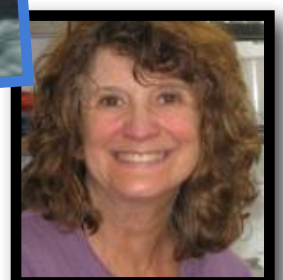
*An infraction came upon Dinah after a stroll
And Shechem, son of Hamor thought her heart he Stole*

*But, outraged brothers knew he sinned
So they tricked him into removing his fore skin.*

*Then, to make sure Dinah was not disrespected.
They rubbed out the offenders, not what they expected.*

After a discussion about this difficult story, we talked about other foremothers who were significant in Jewish history.

We had delicious refreshments compliments of Lily Erickson and Lina Teferi.



Photos from last month's
Rosh Chodesh

For more information on
Sisterhood/Rosh Chodesh,
contact Jan Dombrower
Sisterhood@CongShirAmi.org

April Yahrzeit List

April 2014 Yarzheit List (as of 03/18/14)

April 11, 2014

Betya Druker, mother of Alex Druker
Blanche Fink, very active early member of Shir Ami
Jack Skelly, father of Bruce Skelly

April 25, 2013

Gordon Greenfield, father of Julie Greenfield
Benjamin Halpern, father of Harriet Skelly
Marjorie Wolf, aunt of Ruth Hartman

Kaddish List (those who have died during the past 11 months) (read at both services)

Leona Rosenthal, mother of Ruth Rosenthal and grandmother of Evelyn, Lisa, & Jacob Carmack
Deborah Mitchell, mother of Helen Markus
Stephen Slavin, long-time close friend of Nate Einbund
Kevin Keil, husband of Danielle Keil, father of Sarah, Gabriella and James,
and son-in-law of Vicky Sapper

Do you have a name you would like to have read for Kaddish at Friday services?

Is there someone for whom you'd like a Yahrzeit reminder letter? The process is simple. **Please email Toni Schulberg** (yahrzeit@CongShirAmi.org) and include your name, the name of the person who died, their relationship to you, the date they died (month, day, year in the English calendar), and whether you want to use the English or the Hebrew calendar for your reminder. Toni will send the reminders as requested.

Yahrzeit Donations as of 3/24/14

- Barbara and Stan Heimowitz, In Memory of Fannie Heimowitz, Mother of Stan. In Memory of Sylvia Weingarten, Aunt of Stan.
- Jan Dombrower, In Memory of Harold Dombrower, Father of Jan. In Memory of Syd Kramer, Uncle of Jan.
- Harriet and Bruce Skelly, In Memory of Jean Skelly, Mother of Bruce.
- Judy Ganz, In Memory of her husband, Matthew Ganz and Matthew's parents, May and Sam Ganz.
- Diana and Fred Zankowsky, In Memory of Fred's father, Matthew Zankowsky.
- Melanie and Nate Einbund, In Memory of Mel's father, Sydney Black, Mel's aunt, Faye Felgoise, and Mel's cousin, Shirley Cooperman.

