



# CONGREGATION SHIR AMI

4529 Malabar Avenue  
Castro Valley CA 94546

Web: [www.CongShirAmi.org](http://www.CongShirAmi.org)  
Email: [Info@CongShirAmi.org](mailto:Info@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

## *Event Calendar* Find up-to-the-minute event details at Shir Ami's website, [www.congshirami.org](http://www.congshirami.org)

**\*\*\*All events are held at Shir Ami unless otherwise noted.\*\*\***

Thur.	Dec.	3	7:00 pm	Shir Ami Board Meeting, at Shir Ami. Open to all.
Fri.	Dec.	4	7:30 pm	Join us for the 2nd Annual Human Rights Shabbat Service, led by Rabbi Julie Bressler
Sat.	Dec.	5	10:00 am	Shabbat Morning Service, led by Rabbi Julie Bressler. Experience Shabbat in a different way
Sat.	Dec.	5	1:30 pm	Mishkan HaNefesh Committee, with David Schulberg
Sat.	Dec.	5	4:00 pm	<i>Jewish Rituals, "Shabbat At-home Practice"</i> , with Rabbi Julie, <a href="mailto:rabbi.julie@congshirami.org">rabbi.julie@congshirami.org</a>
Sun.	Dec.	6	9; 10:30 am	Hebrew and Religious School
Sun.	Dec.	6	*11:15 am	Tot Talk, a free, monthly program for children under 5 and their families. *NOTE earlier start!
Tue.	Dec.	8	7:00 pm	Shir Ami 50th Anniversary Celebration Planning Meeting, <a href="mailto:events@congshirami.org">events@congshirami.org</a> , page 7
Thur.	Dec.	10	7:00 pm	Sisterhood's Annual Chanukah Celebration at the home of Bettina Skehan, details by email
Fri.	Dec.	11	6:00 pm	Potluck and Chanukah Celebration. All are welcome at our dinner and celebration
Fri.	Dec.	11	7:00 pm	Menorah lighting and Chanukah Shabbat Service, with Rabbi Bryan Zive
Sat.	Dec.	12	9:30 am	<i>Coffee &amp; Commentaries</i> , with Rabbi Bryan. <b>Held at Shir Ami this week!</b> Coffee provided
Sat.	Dec.	12	11:30 am	Mishkan HaNefesh Committee, with David Schulberg
Sat.	Dec.	12	3:00 pm	<i>Reform Judaism's Hot Button Issues</i> , with Rabbi Bryan. This week, <b>Tattoos and Piercings</b>
Sun.	Dec.	13	9; 10:30 am	Hebrew and Religious School
Sun.	Dec.	20	9; 10:30 am	Hebrew and Religious School
Wed.	Dec.	23	7:00 pm	Meditation group, no experience needed. Contact Julie Greenfield <a href="mailto:meditation@congshirami.org">meditation@congshirami.org</a>
Sat.	Jan.	9		Book Club with Rabbi Julie Bressler, <i>The Periodic Table</i> by Primo Levi

**Coming in January, Save the Dates!** A three-part class on the services in *Mishkan T'fillah*, to be held on **three Wed. evenings**.

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Shir Ami Family and Friends,

As we leave the month of Cheshvan, the month of darkness, behind us and enter into the month of Kislev we face the busyness and stressful frenzy of the holiday season. Who should I give a gift to? What should I get them? What will be meaningful? Will they like it?

This is the time when we come out of the dark month and bring light into the world. We literally bring light into the world by lighting an additional candle each night of Hanukkah. This year I came across a way to bring light to others who are in "dark places" and also an answer to those nagging gift questions: the [Hanukkah Project](#). The Women of Reform Judaism (WRJ) has partnered with Jewish Women International (JWI) to make the holidays special for some of the 15,000 children living in domestic violence shelters. Help make a difference for the youngest survivors of violence while celebrating those you love by giving a gift that sends books and comfort to more than 40 libraries in shelters.

Here is how it works:

- You choose a special person in your life and make an \$18 donation in his or her honor.
- During Hanukkah, WRJ/HWI will send a beautiful card to each designated recipient,

stating that a charitable contribution has been made in their honor.

- Proceeds from the sale of these cards will be used to provide children's books to domestic violence shelters for the holidays.
- In addition, your gift supports the year-round social justice work of WRJ and JWI.

Buy your Hanukkah Project cards online at <http://www.jwi.org/wrj-hanukkah>.

I am looking forward to bringing light into the world with my Shir Ami community when we celebrate Shabbat and the 6<sup>th</sup> night of Hanukkah on Friday, December 11. We will have a potluck dinner and light our Hanukkiot together so remember to bring your menorah and 7 candles to light.



Harriet Skelly  
President

[president@CongShirAmi.org](mailto:president@CongShirAmi.org)

## BOOK CLUB SELECTION FOR JANUARY 9 BOOK CLUB W/ RABBI JULIE

### ***The Periodic Table* by Primo Levi**

*"Every chapter is full of surprises, insights, high humor, and language that often rises to poetry.*

-The New Yorker

*The Periodic Table* is a complex and beautifully rendered memoir by the author of *Survival in Auschwitz*. Primo Levi (1919-1987), a chemist by profession, uses the elements as a frame for stories of his childhood in the Jewish community of Turin, his work with the Partisans, and some extraordinary experiences after the War. Levi writes in an approachable and welcoming style as he paints a picture of his extraordinary life.

This memoir is the 2015-2016 book club selection for **One Bay One Book**, a project of the Jewish Community Library that aims to connect Jewish book groups and communities across the Bay Area through literature. Throughout the year, there will be many events and discussions related to the book and the topics it discusses. Check out more information and see other upcoming events at their website - <http://www.jewishlearningworks.org/one-bay-one-book/>.

*The discussion of **The Periodic Table** will take place during **Rabbi Julie Bressler's** January 8-10, 2016 visit. Stay tuned for more information.*

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## RABBINIC INTERNS' CLERGY COLUMN

Each month, our Rabbinic Interns take turns and share their thoughts with us. This month we are fortunate to have *two* columns, one from each Rabbinic Intern.

### Julie Bressler: The Many Definitions of Reform Prayer

I returned home just a few weeks ago from the URJ Biennial in Orlando, Florida energized and excited. I spent five days learning, laughing, praying and celebrating with 5000 other leaders in the Reform Movement. One of my highlights included the opportunity to experience Shabbat Tefillah with the entire community. I appreciated the beautiful melodies provided by the service leaders and felt they spoke to the ethos of the community of the moment. The prayer versions selected included a mix of Hebrew and English, contemporary and classics with a few nusach-based (traditional) melodies as well. While I felt inspired by these services, I encountered friends and colleagues who felt similarly and differently. A co-worker exclaimed, "I felt like I was at church!" Another friend offered, "The rabbi never smiled, she seemed so stilted." Yet another classmate added, "It was amazing to hear my friend's melody being sung by 5000 people." Clearly, there is no consensus on prayer in Reform Judaism!

The comments surrounding Shabbat worship at Biennial mirror the conversations and debates regarding prayer that occurred during the development and establishment of Reform Judaism in the mid-nineteenth century. In its early iterations, this new expression of Judaism (not yet Reform officially) borrowed many practices from the surrounding Christian communities such as decorous prayer and prayers translated into the vernacular. Its rabbis were well-educated men with doctoral degrees who explored new roles unrelated to halakhic authority. As they became more focus on pastoral care and preaching capacities, their authority stemmed from moral leadership and liturgical skills as opposed to their knowledge of text and law, which had always defined a rabbi's role in the past. These rabbis aimed to retain the essence and taste of traditional Judaism while incorporating the lens and perspective of modernity. Hebrew remained an essential piece of the prayer service, but many prayers used the vernacular with the hopes of lessening the barriers to entry of the

general public. In an effort to distance themselves from the power and influence of traditional rabbis, the reformers emphasized only the laws and precepts found in the Torah. This belief excluded *kashrut* (keeping kosher), second day *chag* (holidays) and fasts (besides Yom Kippur) from their practice because all of these *minhagim* (practices) were established in the rabbinic texts. Without the yoke of many *mitzvot* and halakhic principles, early reformers were able to focus on the importance of prayer, ethical behavior and both synagogue and home-based practices to promote as the basis for a strong and modern Jewish life.

As the decades passed, early Reform Jews continued to experiment with different prayer practices, which still continues today. We have moved from choirs and organs to guitars and folk music, and there are always individuals who seek something different than what is popular. A prayer leader is called a *Shaliach Tzibur* – literally a messenger or emissary for the congregation – and is tasked with creating a meaningful prayer experience for every single member of the community. This definition of leadership truly reflects the idea that prayer is a communal event and the leader is merely guiding the experience. Prayer is enhanced by each individual in the space and heightened through the disparate voices and intentions of the prayer participants.

Congregation Shir Ami is also full of individuals who engage with prayer in many different capacities. Some of you have shared with me an interest in adding more Hebrew, others wish for less. Some want explanations while others desire to pray without interruption. Still more of you have questioned whether you feel comfortable expressing praise to God when you question your own belief. Even with our differences, we come together and are able to pray as one community. Sometimes the service may speak to your needs that evening, and sometimes it may be a struggle to connect with the pace and intention of the service. I encourage you to take note of your own connections during prayer services – How does this prayer make me feel? What meaning am I deriving from these words? What could help make this experience more meaningful to me? Share with Rabbi Bryan and myself what you felt during services and how we can help you connect even more to the words and melodies of our service. We look forward to learning with you!

### Rabbinic Interns

Julie Bressler [rabbi.julie@congshirami.org](mailto:rabbi.julie@congshirami.org)

Bryan Zive [rabbi.bryan@congshirami.org](mailto:rabbi.bryan@congshirami.org)



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## **Bryan Zive: "My latkes are the best in the world!"**

I always enjoy a good challenge. We can talk Torah, the law, sports and even get into a fun battle of Monopoly together! Being a Broncos fan here in Raiders country makes me feel like our desert dwelling ancestors as strangers in a strange land. And yet, I still say, "Bring it on!" Personally, I love when people challenge and inspire me to become better. I embrace every second of it! However, there is one challenge that people offer that always gets me riled up. They say, "My latkes are the best in the world!" As the encouraging and supportive person that I am, I will respond, "I'm sure. I can't wait to taste them!" But, with this comment, I can assure all of you that you are incorrect! My family's latke recipe is the very best in the world, with the perfect crisp and savory bite! Okay, maybe that was a bit harsh. Your latkes are probably wonderful, too. And, although Chanukah brings us beautiful songs, delicious latkes and sufganiyot and an array of presents, Chanukah represents our continuous rededication. In fact, the name "Chanukah" comes from the Hebrew

verb meaning "to dedicate". When we place a Mezuzah on the doorposts of our homes, we call that ceremony a Chanukat HaBayit, a dedication of the house. We do not dedicate things because it's commanded by God (in fact, Chanukah is not mentioned once in the Torah!). We dedicate because it shows honor and respect to the holiest of places. In the case of the Chanukah story, the holy Temple in Jerusalem was rededicated about the Hasmonean and Maccabean victories. We dedicate our homes because many of our holiest moments occur there. And during Chanukah, we light our Chanukiyot and dedicate ourselves to our past and our future. We remember the miracles and victory, but also bring light to our future. So many things make Chanukah wonderful. When you light your first candle and thank God for the joy of this season, crunch into your first latke and sing your first song, take a moment to dedicate this holiday to whatever or whoever is most important to you. And may that light always continue to shine brightly.



## **RABBINIC INTERNS' SCHEDULE**

### **Dec. 4-6, with Rabbi Julie Bressler**

**Fri., Dec. 4, 7:30 pm,** Join us for the **2nd Annual Human Rights Shabbat Service**. Shir Ami will join hundreds of congregations across the country in reflecting upon how human rights are a source of light in our world. Through music, prayer and reflection, we will think about how we can live up to our charge to serve as a "light among the nations."

**Sat., Dec. 5th, 10 am: Saturday Morning Shabbat Service.** We will come together for a Saturday morning service complete with reflective melodies and text study during the Torah service. We will read from and discuss *Parshat Vayeshev*. This is a great opportunity to experience a different type of Shabbat service without having to travel to a different synagogue!

**Sat., Dec. 5, 4:00 pm: *Sharpening Our Jewish Gears: Shabbat at Home Practice*** - Continuing our class on Jewish ritual, we will focus on how we can bring Shabbat observance into our own home. Through reflection on the prayers, traditions and laws associated with Shabbat practice, we will each leave the class with a better understanding of our own connection to Shabbat and new ideas to enhance our experiences each Friday and Saturday. This class will end with Havdalah.

### **Dec. 11-13 with Rabbi Bryan Zive**

**Fri., Dec. 11: Chanukah Potluck Services and Celebration**

6:00 pm Potluck dinner, 7:00 pm *Chanukiyah lighting and service*, appropriate for all ages, full of music, prayer, a Chanukah story and plenty of light.

**Sat., Dec. 12, 9:30 am: *Coffee and Commentaries:*** Enjoy your Shabbat morning with Student Rabbi Bryan Zive. Sip on your latte or a spot of tea while we study the weekly Torah portion. (Nothing formal, just fun!) ***Location for this month is Shir Ami- coffee will be provided!*** (Prerequisite: Come ready for an engaging conversation!) This week's edition: *Confronting the Truth: Starring Joseph and his brothers*

**Sat., Dec. 12, 3:00 pm: *Reform Judaism's Hot Button Issues:*** Our introduction to Reform Responsa (Rabbinic committee rulings) will include the most pressing, controversial and hot topic issues facing the Reform Movement. We'll continue to use Responsa to help clarify some of your burning questions! This month's topic: ***What does Reform Judaism say about Tattoos and Piercings?***

## SCHOOL NOTES

On October 23rd the older children and Marlo participated in the Shabbat service. They sat all together, close to the bimah. Some helped lead prayers in Hebrew and some read them in English. We are proud of this group of children as they did a great job, even with the distraction of Homecoming fireworks.

We had a very nice Community building activity. All the children and staff got Shir Ami t-shirts to decorate (similar to a camp activity). Tables were put outside and everyone got into the creative spirit by decorating their shirts. You can see some pictures on Facebook.

Children have been learning about the prophets. The older children have been learning through plays. They read and move to various parts and then have a discussion. The younger students do an art project while discussing the story. Recently Rabbi Bryan asked the students about the lion and den they had made. It was really cool to hear each child share one part of the story of Daniel. The four-year-olds contributed equally as did the five-, six- and seven-year-olds.

## TOT TALK

Our next Tot Talk is on **Sunday, December 6th, at 11:15 am**

Tot Talk photos have been shared on Congregation Shir Ami's Facebook Page (in the timeline and the photos section). Here is the link: <https://www.facebook.com/CongShirAmi>. "Like" our facebook page and check out the cute pics.

## MEDITATION GROUP

The meditation Group will meet Wednesday, December 23rd, 7:30 pm. No experience necessary. Contact Julie Greenfield, [meditation@congshirami.org](mailto:meditation@congshirami.org)

## SHIR AMI SISTERHOOD/ ROSH CHODESH



Sisterhood had a wonderful turnout for our annual Sisterhood pre-Thanksgiving dinner. Our potluck provided a variety of traditional Thanksgiving dishes: turkey, stuffing, potatoes, cranberries, vegetables and salads. We had pies galore for dessert!



We started with a beautiful Thanksgiving prayer given by our hostess, Harriet Skelly. Diana Zankowsky gave us each a plan for being grateful, which leads to well being and peace of mind. It was a fun, delicious, and joyous event!

## ANNUAL SISTERHOOD CHANUKAH PARTY, Thursday, Dec. 10, 7 pm.

Our annual Chanukah party will be held at the home of Bettina Skehan. We will share a meal, light the candles, and exchange gifts!

Please bring Latkes, a salad, or dessert to share, your menorah and 6 candles for the 5th night, and a desirable wrapped gift for the gift exchange game.

Look to your email for more information as we near the date!.

For information on Sisterhood events and to be added to our email list, contact Jan Dombrower Chimpky: [sisterhood@congshirami.org](mailto:sisterhood@congshirami.org).

## SAVE THE DATE for the 2016 Women's Retreat

February 26-28, 2016  
San Damiano Retreat Center,  
Danville (See flier on the last page of this Bulletin.)

Connect with your Jewish sisters and have a great getaway! Join us for this annual weekend of women's friendship, worship, creativity, music, and play. Rabbinic Intern Julie Bressler joins us to share her spiritual leadership. Newcomers are very welcome.

Contact Ruth Hartman, [events@congshirami.org](mailto:events@congshirami.org), if you have questions.

## THANK YOU FROM JAN

Dear Sisterhood, I want to thank you all for your generous donations to Wounded Warriors and the Cancer's society organization, Relay for Life, in honor of my recent marriage. I so appreciate all the celebration and honoring that was done on our behalf of this celebration. I feel very loved and cared for by all of you. Thank you so much. With love,  
Jan Dombrower Chimpky



## SAVE THE DATES! COMING IN JANUARY

A three-part class on the services in Mishkan T'fillah, to be held on three Wednesday evenings.

See next page for more details.

**December 4, 2015**

John Blum,  
Larry Dean,  
Max Schulberg,

father of Jeff Blum  
father of Tyler Dean  
father of David Schulberg

**December 11, 2015**

Frederick Apple,  
Ann and Michael Bruser,  
Joseph and Meshka Druker,  
Inez Gautreaux, (pronounced GO-TRO)  
Frieda Greenbaum,  
Jan (pronounced YAHN) Okoniewski,  
Elina Segel

father of Angie Ross  
active early members of Shir Ami  
grandparents of Alex Druker  
aunt of Toni Schulberg  
grandmother of Diana Zankowsky  
husband of Marion Kramer  
niece of Lina Teferi

**Kaddish List (those who have died during the past 11 months)**

Sonja Romero  
Karl Felperin,  
Florrie Finkle,  
Sara Belenki  
Irwin Martin Mitchell,  
Hillie Levine,  
Beatrice Dombrower,

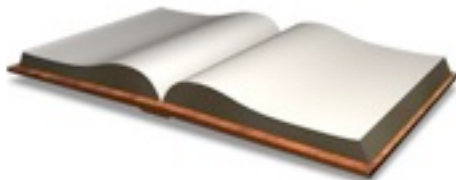
birth mother of Lori Knopf Santora  
member of Shir Ami  
long time member of Shir Ami  
mother of Arkady Massen  
father of Helen Markus  
charter member and mainstay of Shir Ami for many years  
mother of Jan Dombrower

**DONATIONS**

From Milton & Pat Palmer  
From Bruce & Harriet Skelly  
LewisMarc Frank  
Ruth Goldberger  
Noah Markus  
Judy Ganz,  
Sharon Golembo

in honor of Toni Schulberg's birthday  
in honor of Toni Schulberg's birthday  
remembering UNCLE marty Mitchell  
donation for the funeral of Kurt Goldberger  
three yahrzheits  
in honor Pat Palmer's 90th birthday  
Yahrzeit of Lorraine Golembo and mother-in-law Shirley Marie

**SAVE THE DATES!**



**COMING IN JANUARY**

A three-part class on the services in **Mishkan T'fillah**, to be held **on three Wednesday evenings**. Exact dates will be announced in December.

- During the first class, we will study the Friday night service.
- The second class will focus on the Saturday service.
- The final class will be on the Torah service.

These classes will be opportunities to understand the order of the service, the meanings of the prayers and the interaction between the service leader and the congregation. If your child is studying Hebrew or beginning to prepare for his/her B'nai Mitzvah, this is your chance to learn what your child will be leading.

**HAPPY CHANUKAH!**

**ARE YOU STILL LOOKING FOR A CHANUKAH GIFT?? OR A GIFT FOR ANY REASON??**

Here are three suggestions from this Bulletin:

- In the President's Message (page 2), Harriet talks about the Hanukkah Project, which helps children in shelters have happier holidays. Buy your Hanukkah Project cards online at <http://www.jwi.org/wrj-hanukkah>.
- Buy a Shir Ami COOKBOOK!! It's a bargain at \$15. (see page 8)
- Honor someone by sponsoring a set of our new High Holiday prayer books. (see page 9)



# SHIR AMI 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION EVENT PLANNING

*The Shir Ami 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration is just not your usual brunch!*

- Get your picture taken when you register!
- Music by the Darryl Berk trio!
- Learn about Shir Ami history – see the video!
- Dine with your family and friends. Reserved tables are available!
- We're serving blintzes, potato pancakes and a full buffet!
- Party favors for all!
- A souvenir program to celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup>!

**SAVE THE DATE: MARCH 20, 2016 – 11:00 AM  
CROW CANYON COUNTRY CLUB, SAN RAMON**

## Volunteer Updates

**Souvenir Program** – Bettina Skehan has joined the Program Committee with Ruth Hartman, Valerie Goldman, Harriet Skelly & Melanie Einbund. Bettina will be refining and compiling the Rabbinic Intern responses. Ruth will be handling the content. Thank you Bettina and Ruth!

**If you are interested in volunteering or just finding out about the event, please contact Barbara or Melanie.**

**We are selling ads to sponsor our souvenir program. See the flier in this newsletter**

## **MEETING DATES-- all meetings at Shir Ami, 7 pm**

Dec. 8, 2015; Jan. 5, 2016; Feb. 2, 2016;  
Mar. 8, 2016; Mar. 15, 2016 – event run through;  
March 29, 2016

Come share in the fun at our next meeting, Big or small your input and skills are welcome.

**NEXT MEETING, Tues., December 8, 2015, 7 pm**

B'Shalom, Melanie and Barbara

## **YOU CAN RESERVE YOUR TICKETS NOW!**

**Just send a check to Shir Ami to place your reservation.**  
**Adults and Youth (ages 14 and above) \$36 per ticket**  
**(double chai),**  
**Children Ages 6-13, \$18 per ticket (Chai)**  
**Children Ages 3-5, \$9**  
**Children Ages 0-2.99 (under 3 years) Free**

## SHIR AMI ANNIVERSARY EVENT SPONSORSHIP

2016 SHIR AMI  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event



Congregation Shir Ami will be celebrating our 50th anniversary as a synagogue in Castro Valley on March 20th, 2016 at the Crow Canyon Country Club. There are several sponsorship opportunities. Your sponsorship will increase your visibility among the attendees and Shir Ami Community and invited guests. You will have special recognition in the event program and a mention on the Shir Ami website.

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Yes! I would like to commit to being a sponsor at the 2016 50th Anniversary Event for Congregation Shir Ami at the following level:

- 1/8 page Ad - \$25       1/2 page ad - \$90  
 1/4 page Ad - \$50       Full page ad - \$150

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Office Name \_\_\_\_\_

How would you like your sponsorship ad to read as? \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check (payable to Congregation Shir Ami) in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, please contact me for artwork \_\_\_\_\_

Deadline for ordering an ad is December 10, 2015. Contact [events@congshirami.org](mailto:events@congshirami.org) with questions.

Return via mail to Congregation Shir Ami – PO Box PO Box 2099, Castro Valley, CA 94546



# Congregation Shir Ami *Cookbook*

Created by the 2015 Confirmation Class, this cookbook contains a collection of recipes from current members as well as featured favorites from the Congregation's 1969 edition cookbook .



The cookbook can be purchased for \$15 each, making it a great holiday gift! Fill-in, tear-off and mail-in the slip below to order now...

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Yes! I would like to order \_\_\_\_ cookbook(s) at a price of \$15.00 each. Total amount enclosed: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Checks should be made payable to **Congregation Shir Ami**, and sent to: Congregation Shir Ami – Cookbook, P.O. Box 2099, Castro Valley, CA 94546

**Questions? E-mail: [treasurer@congshirami.org](mailto:treasurer@congshirami.org)**



מחזור לימים הנוראים

# משכן הנפש

MISHKAN HANEFESH  
*Machzor for the Days of Awe*



Congregation Shir Ami has purchased new High Holy Day prayer books. This new machzor, called **Mishkan HaNefesh**, has modern and gender-equality content, updated translations, rich commentary, and a beautiful selection of poetry. Mishkan HaNefesh provides an environment for those of all backgrounds to find meaning in the High Holy Days.

Each regular print 2-volume set can be sponsored for a donation of \$50; large print for \$75; and pulpit edition for \$100. Your donation is a great way to recognize important people and events in your life, and even celebrate the coming Chanukah/holiday season. **To sponsor a set of Mishkan HaNefesh prayer books, please fill out and send in the form below.** Questions? Contact [mishkan@congshirami.org](mailto:mishkan@congshirami.org), or call Jon at 510-220-3345.

Make check payable to: **Congregation Shir Ami**. Send to: HHD Prayer Book, c/o Congregation Shir Ami, P.O. Box 2099, Castro Valley, CA 94546

Enclosed is a check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ set(s) of Mishkan HaNefesh (please include as many types & inscriptions as appropriate)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Set Type (Regular/Large Print/Pulpit/Music): \_\_\_\_\_

Inscription #1: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Inscription #2: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Congregation Shir Ami's  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**March 20, 2016 at 11:00 AM**

**Crow Canyon Country Club  
711 Silver Lake Drive Danville, CA 94526**

Why attend?

To reconnect with former and current members

To enjoy live music and a fabulous brunch!

To celebrate the role our wonderful congregation has played in the lives of ourselves, our families, and our community.

To have fun!

**Adults - 14 and over: \$36**

**Kids - 6-13 years old: \$18, 3-5 year olds: \$9**

**Kids under 3 - no charge**

**Questions? E-mail: [events@congshirami.org](mailto:events@congshirami.org)**

Join us for our 20th Annual

**Shir Ami Women's  
Retreat:  
Celebrating  
Our Resilience**

Friday, February 26 – Sunday, February 28, 2016

At the beautiful San Damiano Retreat Center in Danville

Connect with your Jewish sisters and have a great getaway! Join us for this annual weekend of women's friendship, worship, creativity, music, and play. Rabbinic Intern Julie Bressler joins us to share her spiritual leadership. As always, newcomers are *very* welcome.

The cost for the weekend is \$260.

Please register online at <http://goo.gl/forms/ySH5QfQ8f8> and mail your check, payable to Ruth Hartman, the same day. (Mailing address is at the online registration site.)

*Register ASAP, no later than **February 1.***

*Questions?*

*Contact Ruth Hartman: 510-543-6902 or [events@congshirami.org](mailto:events@congshirami.org)*