



CONGREGATION SHIR AMI

4529 Malabar Avenue
Castro Valley CA 94546

Web: www.CongShirAmi.org
Email: 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

<i>Event Calendar</i> Find up-to-the-minute event details at Shir Ami's website, www.congshirami.org <i>All events are held at Shir Ami unless otherwise noted.</i>					
Thur.	June	2	7:00	pm	Shir Ami Board Meeting. All are welcome
Tue.	June	7	6:30	pm	Rosh Chodesh: Potluck dinner and program hosted by Melanie Einbund and Rita Weikel
Fri.	June	10	7:30	pm	Shabbat and Shavuot Service led by Diana Zankowsky
Sat.	June	11	9:00	pm	Erev Shavuot Study w/ cheesecake & desserts. Led by Barbara-Ann Lewis & Diana Zankowsky
Fri.	June	24	7:30	pm	Shabbat Service led by Barbara-Ann Lewis
Sat.	June	25	7:30	pm	<i>Two Nurses Look at Current Day Cuba.</i> Joan Edelstein and Sharon Golembo presenting
Sat.	July	9			Castro Valley Pride Event, Shir Ami will have a booth at CVHS parking lot on Redwood Road
Fri.	July	15	7:30	pm	Shabbat Service led by Saul Kaye
Fri.	July	29	7:30	pm	Shabbat Service led by Jan Dombrower Chimpky and Harriet Skelly
Fri.	Aug.	19	7:30	pm	Shabbat Service led by Bryan Zive with James Keil. This is the beginning of James Keil's Bar Mitzvah weekend
Sat.	Aug.	20	10:00	am	James Keil's Bar Mitzvah service at Congregation Beth Sholom in San Leandro
Fri.	Aug.	26	7:30	pm	Shabbat Service led by Diana Zankowsky
Sat.	Aug.	27	10:00	am	Religious Committee Meeting at the Schulberg home. RSVP religion@congshirami.org

SUMMER SHABBAT SERVICE SCHEDULE

Our Rabbinic Interns serve Shir Ami during the school year, September through May. Below is our summer schedule for Shabbat services. Come join us!

June 10	Diana Zankowsky
June 24	Barbara-Ann Lewis
July 15	Saul Kaye
July 29	Harriet Skelly & Jan Dombrower
August 19	Bryan Zive (James Keil Bar Mitzvah weekend)
August 26	Diana Zankowsky

JUNE/JULY BULLETIN

This bulletin covers both the months of June and July. The next bulletin will be published August 1. Stay alert to schedule changes in the weekly email blasts.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

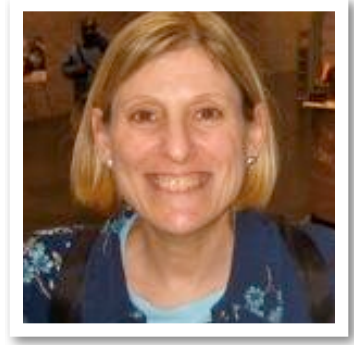
Dear Shir Ami Community,

It is with mixed emotions that I write my last column as President of this warm and loving community. I will admit that I am relieved not to have to write another column as this has been the hardest part of being President for me! On the other hand I have enjoyed all other opportunities that presented themselves to me over the last two years. I have been blessed with a very supportive "family". When I look at the list of Shir Ami accomplishments for this past year (see the next page in this bulletin) I am truly inspired and proud of my Shir Ami family.

I am excited about this summer. In June I will be going to the Midwest for my annual "stampfest" with my Yahoo group friends. This will be our 10th year of getting together to play with paper, stamps, ink, etc and making cards. I look forward to this time every year! Then Bruce and I will be at Camp Newman for

two weeks in July. I will be teaching Visual Art Journaling as I did last summer. We love being at camp!

I would like to officially welcome Sara Lamnin, as Shir Ami's President for the coming year. Sara will be setting the vision and direction for the community and I am looking forward to working with her.



I wish you all a wonderful summer and I hope to see you at our summer Shabbat services.

With love,
Harriet

JUNE 11, 9:00 PM, CELEBRATION OF SHAVUOT AT SHIR AMI

It was the custom of the mystics living in Safed to gather on Shavuot to study together all night. At Shir Ami, we take traditions like this one and make them our own. We will be gathering this year to study (and eat!) together on Erev Shavuot, **June 11th, at 9:00 pm and conclude a bit after 11.** (No all-night study for us!) We will have plenty of dairy desserts, including cheesecake, to nosh on during the evening.

One of our study sessions will be a book discussion, looking at the first chapter of [The Grammar of God: A Journey into the Words and Worlds of the Bible](#), by Aviya Kushner. Traditionally, Jews study Torah as a way to celebrate receiving the Torah. This chapter is on Creation/Bereshit, a great way to begin any study. The book is available to borrow through the Alameda County Library or for purchase at Afikomen (in

Berkeley) or any of the online booksellers. Hardcover, Audible and e-reader versions are available.

In addition, the study also included portions of Haftarah, Psalms, the Song of Songs, the Book of Ruth and Chronicles. Since we at Shir Ami do not routinely recite the Haftarah for each Shabbat (usually taken from the Prophets), we will examine the two Haftarah readings selected by the mystics for Shavuot study: Ezekiel 1, and Habbakuk 3. We will also learn a little about these two prophets.

Co-facilitators will be Barbara-Ann Lewis and Diana Zankowsky. Please contact Diana, religion@congshirami.org with any questions.

2015-2016 ACHIEVEMENTS AND MILESTONES

- Celebrated our 50th anniversary!
- Initiated and sponsored the formation of the Eden Area Interfaith Council
- Welcomed new member families
- Drafted and adopted a financial policy document to guide our use of funds
- Convened lay-led summer Shabbat services
- Had outreach table at Castro Valley Pride Festival
- Had outreach booth at the Fall Festival.
- Participated in visitor's Shabbat evening at Camp Newman
- Held successful Labor Day BBQ and fundraiser
- Held High Holiday services and break-the-fast event, and introduced the new machzor, Mishkan Hanefesh, to the community.
- Completed draft of HHD services for the new machzorim.
- Welcomed one new Rabbinic Intern
- Held successful year of Shir Ami Hebrew, Religious School and Tot Talk including a field trip to the Contemporary Jewish Museum
- Hosted Sukkah Decorating Party and Sukkot-Shabbaton sleepover
- Held Holiday/Shabbat services for Sukkot, Chanukah, Purim and Passover
- Co-sponsored *Holidays in the Holy Land* display at Castro Valley Library
- Hosted successful Tu B'Shevat Seder
- Participated in Martin Luther King day community observances
- Held School Purim Carnival
- Held Shavuot Tikkun Leyl evening of study.
- Participated in several interfaith outreach events.
- Participated in South Hayward Parish with 2 SHP Board members
- Continued building our partnership with Rev Arlene and the Eden United Church of Christ by hosting a Community Passover Seder, contributing to the Comida para Cherryland and participating in a Sunday service at Eden UCC.
- Held volunteer appreciation at the Annual Members Meeting.
- Provided camperships for our youth to attend Jewish summer camps
- Participated in regional NFTY youth group and events
- Offered successful adult education classes including book discussions, text study, Adult Hebrew, museum visit, movie nights and more!
- Held 20th annual sisterhood retreat and monthly Rosh Chodesh meetings
- Participated in Jewish Heritage night at Oakland A's Stadium
- Made visits to the sick and infirm; brought meals to member families
- And oh... the Potlucks!

INTRODUCING RABBINIC INTERN LIORA ALBAN

Liora Alban is a rising third-year rabbinical student. She was born and raised in Los Angeles, CA and attended The University of California, Berkeley where she majored in Religious Studies with a concentration in Judaism. Liora completed her junior year of study at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and worked during this year at Women of the Wall. Liora is always looking for ways to combine her passions of Judaism and art. In fact, during her years in Berkeley she worked at the Magnes Collection of Jewish Art and Life and directed UC Berkeley's only Jewish A Cappella group. Liora moved to Jerusalem for another year beginning in June of 2014, this time to begin her rabbinical studies at Hebrew Union College. She returned in 2015 for her second year of rabbinical school, and began working as a Hebrew school teacher at Temple Isaiah in Los Angeles. She also served as the student rabbi of the China Lake Naval Base in Ridgecrest, CA. This summer, Liora will be working as a Unit Head at URJ Camp Newman. Liora is looking forward to meeting everyone at Congregation Shir Ami. She hopes that 5777 will be a year full of joyous praying, learning, and growing together.



Rabbinic Interns, 2016-2017

Liora Alban rabbi.liora@congshirami.org

Bryan Zive rabbi.bryan@congshirami.org

KADDISH LIST

**(THOSE WHO HAVE DIED DURING THE PAST 11 MONTHS.
YARZHEIT LIST IS ON NEXT PAGE.)**

Travis Mahoney,
Loren Simpson,

nephew of Wendy Crow
husband of Sidney Simpson, prior member of Shir Ami,
and cousin of Toni Schulberg

Neil Joseph Kellman,
Sonja Romero,
Karl Felperin,
Florrie Finkle,
Sara Belenki

brother of Jessica Collett
birth mother of Lori Knopf Santora
member of Shir Ami
long time member of Shir Ami
mother of Arkady Massen

SCHOOL NOTES

We have had another successful year. Some highlights of the year include our field trip to the Jewish Contemporary Museum; guest speaker, Veterinarian Sara, who brought a dog and talked about being a vet; and a variety of chugim/electives, including one where everyone made a Shir Ami t-shirt. We learned about the holidays, shabbat and about the prophets and judges-- such as Jonah, Joshua, Moses, Samson and Deborah.

James Keil has worked very hard and will have his bar mitzvah on August 20. We will start a new school year in September.

SISTERHOOD/ ROSH CHODESH

**Tuesday, June 7, 6:30 pm,
Potluck Dinner and Program**

As we leave Spring and enter Summer, we want to get into the mood of the season and lay back a bit. Traditionally we celebrate the giving of the Torah (Shavout), embrace The Story of Ruth and enjoy dairy dishes.

So if 'laid back' is what you are looking for, please join hosts Melanie and Rita as we celebrate Rosh Chodesh Sivan.

For information on Sisterhood events and to be added to our email list, contact Jan Dombrower Chimpky, sisterhood@congshirami.org

TWO NURSES LOOK AT CURRENT DAY CUBA

Sat, June 25, 7:30 pm

Two Shir Ami nurses, Sharon Golemba and Joan Edelstein, will share their amazing trips to Cuba. Sharon will focus on the health care system and historical sites, such as the Bay of Pigs and Museum of the Presidential Palace. Sharon's visit was through James Lewis' Nursing Education Cuba Tour. Joan will then review what she learned about both the history of Jews in Cuba and the current state of Jews, focusing on the Jews of Havana, Cienfuegos, and Santa Clara. The program on Jews of Cuba was through a tour with the Museum of Jewish Heritage Travel.

The icing on the cake: Sharon will bring Cuban culinary samplings.

JUNE AND JULY 2016 YARZHEIT LIST (KADDISH LIST ON PREVIOUS PAGE)

June 10, 2016

Ted Balmforth,	son-in-law of Ann and Sam Blank
Sarah Blank,	mother of Sam Blank
Jerry Becker,	early active member of Shir Ami
Lilian Theil Black,	mother of Melanie Einbund
Sheila Frey,	mother of Bonnie Frey
Arthur Kramer,	father of Marion Kramer
Samuel Manton Theil,	grandfather of Melanie Einbund

June 24, 2016

George Berenstein,	father of Judy Ganz
Doris Greenfield,	mother of Julie Greenfield
Fran Johnson,	long-time member of Shir Ami
Robert Krantz,	father of Sam Krantz
Robert Levinson,	lay leader of Shir Ami for many years

July 15, 2016

Rose Levine,	wife of Hillie Levine, and long-time founding member of Shir Ami
Deborah Mitchell,	mother of Helen Markus
Irwin Martin Mitchell,	father of Helen Markus
Alyce Nasatir,	mother of Cary Nasatir
Jacob (Jack) Ross,	father of David Ross
Steven Slavin,	long-time friend of Nate Einbund
David Teferi,	husband of Lina Teferi

July 29, 2016

Leo Knopf,	father of Lori Knopf Santora
Scott Kendall,	former student at Shir Ami
Layah Laks,	long-time former member of Shir Ami
Hans Schwarzenberger,	father of Barbara Heimowitz
Frances Wolch,	former member of Shir Ami who made the Ark door tiles