MAY AT SHAARE TEFILA

SERVICES
Shacharit: Monday & Thursday: 8:00 am
Sunday & Federal Holidays: 8:45 am
Maariv: Sunday - Thursday: 7:30 pm

Rabbi Layman’s Classes
Torah: Friday at 9:30 am  Talmud: Sunday at 9:30 am
Beginning Hebrew Reading: Sunday at 10:30 am

Shabbat Services
Friday: 6:00 pm  Saturday: 9:20 am (see below for special Shabbatot)

Thursday, May 3
1:30 pm JCC Coming of Age event

Saturday, May 5 - Orli Marshall Bat Mitzvah
9:00 am Shabbat Services

Sunday, May 6
9:30 am Chavaya & Café Shaare Tefila
10:00 am Gan Katan
10:30 am Hebrew Conversation Group
5:00 pm Blue Yarmulke Man of the Year Event

Wednesday, May 9
10:00 am Men’s Discussion Group
8:00 pm Adult Learning w/Rabbi Layman – “Israel Through Poetry”

Saturday, May 12 - Jordan Goodman Bar Mitzvah
9:00 am Shabbat Service
10:15 am Rosh Chodesh Women’s Circle

Tuesday, May 15
6:00 pm Sisterhood Spring Dinner

Wednesday, May 16
8:00 pm Adult Learning w/Rabbi Layman – “Israel Through Poetry”

Saturday, May 19 - Birthday Shabbat and Challah & Schmear
9:30 am Torah Study
10:15 am Shabbat Shira Service
9:00 pm Shavuot Service and Study Session

Sunday, May 20 - Shavuot
9:00 am Shavuot Service includes Hallel and Blessing of the Kohanim
6:00 pm Holiday Evening Service

Monday, May 21
9:00 am Holiday Service includes Hallel, Book of Ruth, Yizkor, Blessing of the Kohanim

Wednesday, May 23
7:30 pm Annual Meeting

Saturday, May 26 - Taryn Schwartz Bat Mitzvah
9:00 am Shabbat Services

Sunday, May 27
10:30 am Hebrew Conversation Group

FROM THE RABBI’S STUDY
RABBI JONAH LAYMAN

We will be fortunate and honored during the month of May to celebrate three of our students as they become B’nai Mitzvah. On Shabbat May 5, Orli Marshall (daughter of Lori & Eric) will become a Bat Mitzvah; on Shabbat May 12, Jordan Goodman (son of Laurin & Bryan) will become a Bar Mitzvah; and on Shabbat May 26, Taryn Schwartz (daughter of Jamie & Jeff) will become a Bat Mitzvah. It will be wonderful to participate in these joyous milestone events with their families.

Though it’s not unusual for our students to become B’nai Mitzvah it is somewhat unusual for all these students to be sharing the day with their fathers and grandfather. It just so happens that Orli’s father read the same Torah portion when he became Bar Mitzvah; Jordan’s father read the same portion when he became Bar Mitzvah; and Taryn’s grandfather Sid Schwartz read the same portion when he became Bar Mitzvah.

Lifecycle events are already moments in which we connect with our families and generations past. We reflect on where we were when we became Bar or Bat Mitzvah and we remember family members who are no longer present to celebrate. It is therefore a bittersweet time. But for Orli, Jordan and Taryn it will be so much more poignant – and for their fathers and grandfather – because they will be creating an everlasting connection. They’ll be able to share their moments of anxiety and joy as they recite their Torah portions and share their speeches and they’ll be reminded of the impact that Jewish tradition has had on them and their families.

As we extend a mazal tov to the Marshall, Goodman and Schwartz families, let’s consider the power that our tradition holds for us. The rituals and customs of Judaism provide us with events that bring families together. These traditions enable us to reflect upon values that we hold dear as extended families come together. With our loved ones by our sides we create another link in the chain of Jewish history and thus create lasting memories.

Mazal tov to all our Bnai Mitzvah and may we be privileged to have such joyous and momentous moments in our lives.

B’vracha – with blessings,
Rabbi Jonah Layman
This month I’d like to point out the exemplary effort on the part of some of our volunteers.

Space does not allow for a full accounting of all the fine work done by our volunteers and the omission of most of our volunteers is not to say that I do not recognize and appreciate the time and work that you provide. I do and am grateful to you.

As a group, thank you to our Board of Directors and Executive Committee. They have worked independently and diligently, allowing me to try to inspire a more global path. These hardworking people have provided guidance and insights to me. They have been supportive of my efforts as President to shift our paradigm as we seek alternative ways of imagining ourselves and the role of synagogue in contemporary times.

All of our volunteers “get it.” They see the importance of creating and maintaining a vibrant creative Jewish community and are to be commended for all their hard work.

On an individual basis, there are a few to whom I’d like to draw your attention.

Fran Abrams is the chair of our Arts & Interiors Committee. She is the person who singlehandedly makes arrangements for the wonderful art displays in the Winer Family Gallery. She works with prospective artists and is on site when art shows are installed and taken down. Her work has greatly enhanced the experience that we all share at Shaare Tefila. As chair, Fran has championed the Yahrzeit Memorial system recently installed in the Grosberg Baumgart Chapel. Fran has also worked on the installation of artwork in the sanctuary. This project is ready to go, needing only for one or more donors to be identified so that it can be installed.

Although perhaps he never did really say it, the maxim “An army travels on its stomach” has been attributed to Napoleon Bonaparte. Ethel Levine, Vivienne Auerbach, Fran Weiss, and Fran Kensky are the kitchen leaders who feed our Shaare Tefila army, spending untold hours making arrangements, cooking and cleaning on our behalf. These things just don’t happen on their own – and they could always use extra sets of hands – but rather through the efforts of these women. Long before we show up and long after we are gone, this group, along with their drafted spouses, Ira, Michael, Jeff, and Stan ensure that we are able to enjoy our many wonderful events.

Our Programming VP, Cilla Grosberg is a person who needs no introduction to anyone who has spent any time at some of our wonderful programs. She is tireless and dedicated. Documenting all that she has done on behalf of our community is a Herculean task and her influences are felt everywhere at Shaare Tefila. Cilla understands the need to have our various functions work together, developing synergies between them and has worked to achieve this. She has taken our programming to new levels and I am fully confident that we will see even newer and better programming in the future.

Lastly, although short on space, I’d like to thank Judy Bresler and our Financial VP, Jeff Weiss, for their sage advice and counsel these past two years. They challenged me to consider perspectives that I hadn’t, and were never afraid to get me to consider alternate approaches. Through our many conversations, we developed consensus and were able to move many issues forward.

To everyone who has given so much of themselves, thank you. You are Shaare Tefila.
Though Shavuot is one of the least popular Jewish holidays, it happens to be one of the most important. We count 50 days after the second seder until Shavuot - the Omer - as we relive the experience of our ancestors. Seven weeks after the exodus from Egypt they arrived at the foot of Mt. Sinai, prepared for God’s revelation and then heard God proclaim the Ten Commandments. That awesome and unique moment of encounter with God - the only time in the Bible when the entire community of Israel heard God’s voice - is celebrated on Shavuot. We relive that experience by having a study session the first night of the holiday, this year Saturday night May 19, and we read the Ten Commandments at the morning service on Sunday May 20. Some Jews actually stay up and study that whole night as they imagine receiving the actual Torah once again.

Shavuot has us ask:
What does Torah mean to you? What Jewish values are central to your life? Can we imagine focusing on practice, study or social justice this year?
May our Shavuot holiday this year inspire us.

**SCHEDULE OF SHAVUOT SERVICES**

**Saturday May 19**
9:00 pm Service followed by study session with Rabbi Layman

**Sunday May 20**
9:00 am Service includes Hallel and the blessing of the Kohanim
3:30 pm - 5:30 pm Shavuot New Member Social at Rabbi & Lenore Layman’s house
6:00 pm Evening Holiday Service (NO 7:30 pm service)

**Monday May 21**
9:00 am Service includes Hallel, Yizkor, the Blessing of the Kohanim, and Selections from the Book of Ruth (NO Evening Service)

**SHAVUOT INFORMATION**

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**SHAVUOT WORD SEARCH**
**TEEN SOCIAL**

**SHABBAT DINNER WITH RABBI & LENORE LAYMAN**

All teens are invited to the Rabbi’s home for Shabbat dinner on **Friday, May 11, 7:15 pm - 9:00 pm**

Parents are invited for dessert at 9:00 pm

**SHAVUOT NEW MEMBER SOCIAL**

**AT THE HOME OF RABBI & LENORE LAYMAN**

**Monday, May 21, 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM**

3308 Megans Lane, Olney, MD

RSVPs not required, but requested to mmandell@shaaretefila.org

**ANNUAL MEETING**

Wednesday, May 23
following 7:00 pm minyan

**On the Agenda**

Year in Review
Election of Officers and Directors
Vote on Dues

Details to come soon

Save the Date: Friday, June 8 - Shabbat Service followed by Installation and BBQ Dinner
B’NAI MITZVAH AT SHAARE TEFILA

Orli Marshall will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Shabbat, May 5, 2018, Parshat Emor.

Original, reading, laughing, intelligent Orli. You will rarely find Orli not reading. She is often in a corner with a good book in a faraway world. When she is not reading, you might find her making funny faces and doing silly impressions to make her friends laugh. She loves spending time with friends walking to the grocery store to purchase gum and Starbucks iced tea refreshers. She is creative and bubbly, intelligent and sweet. She is one of a kind and always keeps her parents on their toes. Next time you see Orli, ask her about the book she wrote through the program NanoWriMo - National Novel Writing Month. I hope you have a few minutes, she will have a lot to say about it.

Rosa Parks Middle School in Olney, MD. His hobbies include acting, singing and dancing, and he enjoys performing on stage in various shows. Jordan’s Bar Mitzvah project pertains to the memory of his grandmother, who died when he was 6 years old, suffering from an autoimmune disease called scleroderma. Jordan and his family and friends have participated in a 5K walk held in Columbia, MD for the past six years to raise funds for awareness, education and research for the disease. In honor of Jordan becoming a Bar Mitzvah this year, he will be serving as the Team Captain and has been busy recruiting team members and securing donations.

Taryn Schwartz will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Shabbat, May 26, Parshat Naso.

What is “The Omer”?

The omer refers to the 49-day period between the second night of Passover and the holiday of Shavuot. This period marks the beginning of the barley harvest when, in ancient times, Jews would bring the first sheaves to the Temple as a means of thanking God for the harvest. The word omer literally means “sheaf” and refers to these early offerings.

Lag B’Omer is a minor holiday that occurs on the 33rd day of the Omer. The omer is a time of semi-mourning, when weddings and other celebrations are forbidden, and as a sign of grief, observant Jews do not cut their hair. Anthropologists say that many peoples have similar periods of restraint in the early spring to symbolize their concerns about the growth of their crops. But the most often cited explanation for the Jewish practice comes from the Talmud, which tells us that during this season a plague killed thousands of Rabbi Akiva’s students because they did not treat one another respectfully. The mourning behavior is presumably in memory of those students and their severe punishment.

According to a medieval tradition, the plague ceased on Lag Ba’Omer, the 33rd day of the Omer. (The Hebrew letters lamed and gimel which make up the acronym “Lag” have the combined numerical value of 33.) As a result, Lag B’Omer became a happy day, interrupting the sadness of the omer period for 24 hours.

https://www.myjewishlearning.com/?s=omer
NEWS FROM THE WINER FAMILY GALLERY
FRAN ABRAMS, FINE ARTS COMMITTEE

Beginning Tuesday, May 1, the Winer Family Gallery presents an exhibit that provides an overview of the religious school at Shaare Tefila. Known as Chavaya, which means experience in Hebrew, the religious school serves students from kindergarten through high school. Chavaya meets Sunday mornings from September through May.

The topics of the 10 posters in the exhibit are History, Field Trips, Hebrew, Families, Music, Prayer/Tefila, Cooking and Eating, Israel, Torah and Jewish Values.

The mission of Chavaya is to provide the children of Shaare Tefila with familiarity and knowledge of Jewish traditions, love and respect for Torah, connection to the people and land of Israel, understanding of Jewish history and fostering a sense of responsibility of our world through Derech Eretz (ethical decency) and Tikun Olam. Through Jewish experiential learning, we hope to discover the very essence of what it means to live a Jewish life. Chavaya’s aim is to help children gather the tools they need to build for themselves a solid Jewish identity and knowledge base from which to lead actively Jewish lives.

The topics of study are reinforced and supported by the addition of art, music, trips, Israeli dancing, guest speakers, sukkah building, tashlich, Purim carnival, model seder and many other activities.

Students in third through seventh grades work weekly with a tutor on Skype to learn prayers and prepare them for their bar/bat mitzvah. Teens have a separate program where they take outstanding trips. For example, the teens joined their teachers for Shabbat services and dinner at the University of Maryland Hillel.

The Winer Family Gallery is pleased to host this exhibit that showcases the exceptional programs offered by Shaare Tefila’s religious school.

MEN’S CLUB

What common theme is shared with Egypt, Matzah, Moses, Milt & Susan Goldsamt and Michael Binder?

If you guessed our Passover Wine Fundraiser, you are right!!! A special expression of appreciation to Milt, Susan and Mike for their continued hard work and dedication in offering our members a select choice of Passover Wines to purchase for the Holiday.

We are informed that this year's sales exceeded last year’s and this means a greater financial contribution to support many of our shul’s activities!!

Thank you Milt, Susan and Mike!!

SISTERHOOD

SISTERHOOD MOTHER’S DAY DINNER

TUESDAY, MAY 15, 2018, 6:00 PM

JOIN US
For an evening of Friendship, Food and Insight
Come learn from Joyce Torchinsky,
Owner and Managing Funeral Director

TORCHINSKY ☺ HEBREW FUNERAL HOME

“The Truth About Funeral Service: An Amusing Peek Into My Life”

RSVP by May 6
Cost: $18

Include your name, contact information and seating request.

Checks payable to Shaare Tefila Sisterhood

Mail details and payment to
Bess Teller
21321 Ridgecroft Dr.
Brookeville, MD 20833
bessteller@verizon.net
As the process continues, we will keep you posted.

Recently, the talk began to turn to what kind of blocks they want to create. Since the blocks are pine, the teachers reminded the children about the pine trees they saw on a recent trip to the forest. They looked at pictures of evergreen trees they had seen on the trip. Then the children began asking how the wood "got out of the tree"? We went back to our books on trees and found pictures of how tree trunks are cut into lumber. The children found the logs we have in the room and brought them to the carpet as well. They asked how the logs/boards become shiny and smooth like the blocks. We got sandpaper out of the tool kit. Then they rubbed the sandpaper over the rough bark. It was like they were witnessing magic. They were stunned that the color and texture changed. They realized that their blocks, and lumber in general, came from real trees. They all sanded until we ran out of time. Their goal was to get to the wood (under the bark).

As the children started trying, "to get to the wood" they quickly realized that sandpaper was not the right tool to remove the bark from the tree. So they moved on to Phillips head screwdrivers. But they were less effective than the sandpaper. The children found a small chisel in the tool kit. This could fit under the bark to help peel it away. Next, they incorporated a hammer. By tapping the chisel with the hammer, they could easily get under the bark and peel it away.

The class is on a mission. When they began stripping the logs of their bark to make wood, they decided they were going to make blocks, "so we have our own blocks to use and we don't have to use those." They have been very dedicated and focused on their goal. Each day they take turns and help each other chisel at the logs. Recently, the talk began to turn to what kind of blocks they want to create. As the process continues, we will keep you posted!
Shaare Tefila's GAN KATAN!

April Earth Day Weekend Fun With Our Shaare Tefila Tots!

On April 21st, our Tot Shabbat was filled with fun Shabbat songs as well as songs about caring for our Earth and wonderful books about what little hands can do to help the world (Tikkun Olam.)

Following that, on the 22nd our Gan Katan-ers immersed themselves in everything Earth! Earth painting, Earth shaped water bead sensory play, Earth books, Earth songs, Earth crafts!

Interested? Bring a little one and join us for our next Gan Katan on May 6th (last one of this school year- email drgmrsl@aol.com to register) and June 2nd for the last Tot Shabbat of the school year. Friends and family are welcome!
The Shofar

PROGRAMS FOR YOUNG FAMILIES

TOT SHABBAT
LED BY: MARA LANSKY
WHO: YOUNG CHILDREN & FAMILIES
WHAT: MORNING SHABBAT PROGRAM
WHEN: SHABBAT, 10:45 AM - 11:30 AM

June 2

GAN KATAN PLAYGROUP
LED BY: MARA LANSKY
WHO: CHILDREN PRESCHOOL AGE AND THEIR PARENTS
WHAT: PLAY, STORY TIME, CRAFTS AND SNACK - FREE
WHEN: SUNDAYS , 10:00 AM
RSVP to Cilla Grosberg: drgmrs@aol.com

May 6

WOMEN’S ROSH CHODESH CIRCLE
LED BY: SUSAN RUBENSTEIN

Rosh Chodesh Sivan - Shabbat, May 12

MEN’S CLUB
MIKE BINDER, PRESIDENT

The Shaare Tefila Men's club, Blue Yarmulke Man of the Year is Julian Leidman! The Blue Yarmulke Man of the Year Dinner Dance honoring all the Blue Yarmulke Men of the Year for the Seaboard Region of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs will be Sunday, May 6, 5- 9 pm at B’nai Israel in Rockville. Make your reservations and/or purchase a congratulatory ad for Julian at https://www.wizevents.com/register/register_add.php?sessid=9917&id=5878

MEN’S DISCUSSION GROUP
Wednesday, May 9 at 10:00 am

Discussion led by Harvey Perritt
Prepared by Ralph Shapiro

Topic: Was President Franklin D. Roosevelt Jewish? Was President Roosevelt a Friend of the Jewish People?

All Men Are Invited

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
May - June

SAVE THE DATE

May
Sunday, May 6 - Blue Yarmulke Man of the Year Event
Tuesday, May 15 - Sisterhood Spring Dinner
Wednesday, May 16 - Israel over the decades through its poetry, with Rabbi Layman
Wednesday, May 23 - Annual Meeting

June
Friday, June 8 - Shabbat Dinner BBQ and Board Installation
Thursday, June 14 - JCC Coming of Age Event
Saturday, June 16 - Birthday Shabbat
DONATE A BOOK FOR USE AT SERVICES
Please consider donating a book in memory of or in honor of a loved one or in recognition of a special life event. Contact Sara in the office.

* Siddur $54
* Machzor $36
* Large Type Machzor $54

MORNING MINYAN

SPECIAL NOTE
Saying Kaddish?
Please inform Rabbi Layman a week prior to be assured a morning minyan.

* Become a regular at minyan. You will be warmly welcomed.

SHAARE TEFILA IS HOSTING
JCC COMING OF AGE EVENT

Frank Sinatra: What Made Old Blue Eyes Great?
Lecture by Anna Harwell Celenza,
Professor of Music, Georgetown University

When: Thursday, May 3, 1:30 pm- 3:00 pm
RSVP by April 30 to JCC 301-348-3809
Cost $7, $8 at door

COME CELEBRATE YOUR MAY BIRTHDAY
AT SHABBAT KIDDUSS FOLLOWING SERVICES
MAY 19

Recognize a person or event in your life or remember a loved one.
Donate to the Enhanced Kiddush,
“CHALLAH & SCHMEAR” TODAY

CONTACT SARA IN THE OFFICE
SMILLER@SHAARETEFILA.ORG

BUY SCRIP

IT’S NOT JUST KOSHER MARKETS & GROCERY STORES

CONTRIBUTOR: Judy Beiser
Order and receive your gift cards in less than a week. Support Shaare Tefila!
The list of stores is extensive:

Including:
Princess Cruise Lines - $100
Royal Caribbean - $100, $500

WE CONTINUE TO CARRY:
Bed Bath & Beyond, TJ Maxx, Home Goods, Marshalls, CVS, L.L. Bean and hundreds more...
Contact Judy Beiser for more information: judy.beiser@verizon.net.

Active vendors:
Giant Food - $100, $50, $25, $10
H Mart - $20
Moti’s Market - $50
Shalom Kosher Market - $100, $50
Shopper’s Food Warehouse - $100, $50, $10
ShopRite - $100, $50
Starbucks - $25, $10, $5
Safeway - $100, $25

To buy scrip, contact the office or call:

* Judy Beiser 301-598-2082
* Barbara Fink 301-438-3149
* Rita Rubinstein 301-816-9686
* Ethel Levine 301-593-7041

LOOKING TO JOIN SHAARE TEFILA?
Contact:

* Stacey Lynch, Membership VP
  membership@shaaretefila.org
* Jill Goldwater, Executive Director
  jgoldwater@shaaretefila.org
  301-593-3410 X 101

NEED ASSISTANCE?
If a family member or another congregant is hospitalized or needs help from the Shaare Tefila Community, please notify the office or Rabbi Layman as soon as possible.

Contact the office or Rabbi Layman
(301) 593-3410
Hazak - Senior Retreat in the Catskills

Join us for the 15th year of an amazing week of scholars and entertainment (think borscht belt meets elder hostel)

Where: Hudson Valley Resort, Kerhonkson New York

When: July 30- Aug. 6 2018

Who: Recent and newly scheduled speakers ranging from music performers to university scholars

Eric Goldman- Adjunct Professor of Cinema at Yeshiva University and president of Ergo Media Inc.
Rabbi Moshe Edelman - Rabbi in Residence for this Week of Learning
Sheldon Horowitz - Our Resident Attorney presents trials and tribulations
Gloria Goldreich - Renowned author and our own Book Club reviewer
Rabbi William Berman - Bible Scholar, Emeritus Rabbi of Commmack Jewish Center
Rabbi Al Thaler - Rabbi Emeritus, Temple Gates of Prayer, Flushing NY
Dr. Randal Woodfield - lyric baritone, Professor York College, Pennsylvania
Rabbi Martin Pasternak - Israel Bonds, National Synagogue Director

Cost includes hotel, all meals, bus transportation, evening entertainment, exercise classes, spa, lectures, daily & Shabbat services

Zone 1: If you live in New York City; Long Island; Northern & Central NJ.
$1259.00 double and $1,739 single

Zone 2: If you live in: Southern NJ. Cherry Hill NJ; Pennsylvania, Connecticut and Delaware $1,299 double and $1,789 single

Zone 3: If you live in Maryland, Massachusetts, Virginia $1,349 double and $1,839 single

Mini Camp Mon-Friday option. (No transportation) $940

Refer a new friend (full stay) - $50 off your rate!

To contact us: 845)794-6000 EMAIL: Destinations613@yahoo.com

To register return the information requested:

Name ________________________________

Address ________________________________

City/ State/ Zip________________________

Phone________________________ Email ________________________________

Emergency Contact & name ____________________________

Check one: Zone 1 _____ Zone 2 _______ Zone 3 _______ driving myself _________ Mini camp (no transportation) ____________________________

(8 ppl needed for transportation location Pick up) List location: ____________________________

Mail check to: National Jewish Convention Center, PO Box 1318, Monticello NY 12701

Contact Moish Potosky for more information: maury3505@aol.com
FEDERATION’S
ISRAEL @ 7.0
A MUSICAL Celebration

SUNDAY, JUNE 3 • NOON-4
THE PLAZA at TYSONS CORNER
Enjoy live music from Israeli artists

STARRING:
Nadav Guedj
Israel’s leading musical artist and Israel’s 2015 Eurovision representative, with the international hit “Golden Boy.”

ALSO FEATURING:
Tzofim Friendship Caravan
This group of energetic Israeli Scout leaders will sing, dance and share stories of friendship and love for Israel.
Kippalive
The professional Israeli a capella group of nine friends will showcase their musical stylings and breakdance moves.

Sign up to win giveaways throughout the day, at: celebrateisraelat70.com/june3

The Jewish Federation
OF GREATER WASHINGTON
The Shofar

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March 1, 2017 - March 31, 2017
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Hyman & Cilla Grosberg
Joseph Newhouse
Jason & Anna Zuckerman

The Shofar

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