Though American Jews don’t have the opportunity to vote in Israeli Knesset elections (unless they are Israeli citizens), we do have an opportunity to vote in a different way. As we know, the global Jewish community is diverse. Jews in different countries are organized in very different ways. In France, for example, the Jewish community gets funding from the government and therefore the community is organized around that. In America we have the Federation system that supports communal organizations, we have Hillel that supports Jews on the college campus, we have the ADL that advocates for our protection and many other organizations. So, it seems that we are a multifaceted and unorganized community.

However, there is one organization – the World Zionist Congress (WZC) – that unites the global Jewish community in support of Israel. Every 4 years, we have the opportunity to vote for delegates to represent our interests at the Congress at which decisions are made regarding funding of educational and charitable organizations and initiatives in Israel. The WZC is the place where Jews from around the world gather in Jerusalem to meet, to show support of Israel and to disburse millions of dollars. It is a powerful organization.

As members of a Conservative synagogue, one aspect of the funding should be important – pluralism. As we know, Judaism in Israel is supported and funded by the State. It is an ultra-Orthodox funding institution and only ultra-Orthodox rabbis and institutions are funded by the Israeli government. Every non-Orthodox institution in Israel has to raise money on its own – a truly daunting task.

The elections for the next WZC begin at the end of January and run through March. You can vote and I strongly encourage you to do so. It’s easy to register – I did it already. From your cell phone simply text the word “vote” to 917-336-1162. You’ll get an automatic response and then another response saying you’re all set. You’ll then receive instructions when voting begins on how to cast your ballot.

Register to vote, make your voice count and support our Movement and pluralism in Israel.
Happy Winter! There is lots going on at Shaare Tefila to warm you up in February. Between joyous Shabbat services and upcoming programs, there is something for everyone!

Over 40 people, children and adults, learned how to and improved their challah baking skills at our Makers & Bakers program, Challah Bake! in early January. All participants made the dough and took loaves home to bake. In addition to the recipe they used, everyone received two other variations to consider for the future. Want to get in on the fun? Sign up on ChaverWeb for Makers & Bakers: Hamantaschen Bake! on February 23; cost is $18.

It is not too late to buy a ticket(s) for Sweet Night of Laughter 9 - Comedy Night on February 1. Tickets are $36 until January 29; $42 after and at the door; Along with the great line up of comedians, your ticket includes a free drink plus refreshments and desserts. Contact me if you have any questions.

Parents, Grandparents, Aunts & Uncles - you are invited to bring your preschool age child to the next Gan Katan meeting on February 9. Led by Mara Lansky, the morning will feature a focus on Tu B’Shevat.

The theme for the Havdalah Experience on February 15 is Taste of Chocolate AND ST’s Got Talent (delayed from January). Get some friends together and show us what you’ve got! Be sure to contact me by February 2 and let me know you are participating.

Calling all performers for “Middle East Side Story” a Purim Shpiel! Will you be our Maria (Esther), Tony (Mordechai) or Bernado (Haman)? The Shpiel will be on the morning of March 8, before our annual Purim Carnival. Contact me by February 2 and let me know you want to be involved in this groundbreaking performance. L’Shalom.

In 2018, a lone gunman attacked the Tree of Life Synagogue in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood of Pittsburgh. In 2019, there was an attack on a synagogue in California, a kosher grocery store in Jersey City, and at the home of a chasidic rabbi in Monsey, N.Y., during a large Chanukah party.

The news is upsetting and we, at Shaare Tefila, and synagogues throughout the United States, are taking the safety of congregants, guests, and staff seriously. We have had a Montgomery County Police Officer evaluate our facility and talk with a number of members about being alert and paying attention to “red flags” – something that doesn’t look right or feel right – so the police can be called before something happens. We have a special Safety and Security Committee, headed by Jesse Stiller, investigating and evaluating options for increasing security at Shaare Tefila. Its report and recommendations will be presented to the Board of Directors for consideration. Safety is not being ignored, but increased safety is not as simple, as some have suggested, as hiring an armed guard. There can be serious ramifications and unintended consequences. [A young armed security guard was shot and killed by police in Illinois on November 11, 2018, because the police reacted to a man with a gun.]

We will be scheduling a second training session with the Montgomery County Community Service Police Officer for our district. We have begun implementing more limited entrance to the building at services. Mike Binder is working with the Men’s Club and other members of our community to set up a schedule for volunteers to be an extra set of eyes and ears with our greeters as people enter for services (p.5). With Mike’s assistance we are in the process of purchasing walkie talkies, as previously recommended by Officer Hidayat, for faster communication among those positioned in and around our building to communicate and warn of an emergency, if necessary.

Much is left to be done, but we are taking steps to increase safety in ways that are effective, sustainable, and compatible with the role of Shaare Tefila as a bet ha-tefilla (“house of prayer”), bet ha-knesset (“house of assembly”), and bet ha-midrash (“house of study”).
The Shofar

SHAARE TEFILA AT THE NEW YORK CITY & TAKOMA PARK NO HATE NO FEAR RALLIES

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE
CONTRIBUTOR: LISA HEDGEPETH

VIGIL IN TAKOMA PARK

On January 5, in conjunction with the event in Brooklyn, NY, several of our congregants attended a vigil in Takoma Park, “Stand Up To Anti-Semitism - No Hate, No Fear.” Hundreds of people braved the cold January air to come together in solidarity against the recent increase of anti-Semitism. We were inspired by speeches from many of our local representatives and songs from interfaith clergy. We look forward to continuing to have our voices heard. We will not remain silent.

HIAS VERSUS TRUMP

On Wednesday, January 8 at the District Court in Greenbelt, Maryland, about 120 people showed their support and solidarity for refugee families. Adriana and Alan Sandler represented Shaare Tefila Social Action Committee. That day, the court heard oral arguments in the case brought by HIAS, Church World Service (CWS) and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) against Executive Order 13888 that would allow states and localities to block refugee resettlement in their jurisdictions by not consenting to such resettlement. This is an attempt by the Administration to enact a state-by-state, city-by-city refugee ban. The judge’s ruling should be made public in the next couple of weeks.

MLK DAY OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

On Monday, January 20, 2020, Shaare Tefila was the host site to a Community Day of Service in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.’s birthday. Our incredible partners were Leadership Montgomery and MedStar Montgomery General Hospital. More than 300 volunteers participated in a variety of activities. We made soup kits for Nourish Now, fleece blankets for Project Linus, placemats for the Children’s Inn at NIH and collected clothing for Success in Style. Our participants ranged in age from newborn to 97!! It was an amazing day!
B’NAI MITZVAH AT SHAARE TEFILA

Jacob Nathan Lansky will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on Shabbat February 29, Parshat Terumah

Jacob has grown from that little kid running around the synagogue to the Bar Mitzvah boy you know today. We thank you all for enhancing his Jewish identity by allowing him to be at home at shul, knowing his village surrounds him. Currently, Jacob is a 7th grade student at Sandy Spring Friends school and a student in the Chavaya Religious School at Shaare Tefila. His love of nature and animals is honored in his Mitzvah Project. He will be making blankets for local animal rescue organizations. You can support this endeavor with donations of Joann Fabrics gift cards, so he can buy discount remnants to create the blankets.

Emily Fero will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah at the Shabbat Mincha/Havdalah Service on Shabbat, February 22

Martin Luther King Jr. Day at Shaare Tefila January 2020

Sylvia Potash enjoying the day
SECURITY AT SHUL IS ON EVERYBODY’S MIND - EXTRA EYES AND GREETERS WILL HELP

M I K E  B I N D E R :  P R E S I D E N T ,  M E N ’ S  C L U B
S E C U R I T Y  C O M M I T T E E  M E M B E R
3 0 1  9 0 8 - 2 2 8 4
M J B I N D E R @  C O M M A N T .  N E T

The Security Committee in Partnership with the Men’s Club will be re-establishing the Extra Eyes and Greeters Program as soon as possible to supplement the current Greeter Volunteers on a regular basis for the foreseeable future. This will require people to serve on assigned or pre-scheduled dates - similar to Shabbat kitchen duty.

We will be reaching out to request members of the Men’s Club and others (please join or rejoin the Men’s Club) to volunteer for, or accept 1 1/2 hour assignments on Shabbat mornings, about four times a year (or as many as you can) to work in teams of 2 -3 at a time, being vigilant about activity outside and opening the door for congregants and guests.

We absolutely do not want Extra Eyes/Greeters to confront anyone or be in harms way, but to be a vigilant presence, deterring possible bad actors, and be able to provide a prompt warning via telecommunication if needed.

By the time you read this, you may have already been personally asked to serve on specific dates. However, we would appreciate if you would preempt the request or assignment, by calling or emailing me (Michael Binder) or the Shaare Tefila office to volunteer for any of the dates listed below. We will create a schedule of assignments, for at least the first six months of the year. Again, we will need a minimum of 2-3 volunteers for each of 2 shifts, each Saturday morning 9:00 -10:30 am and 10:30-12:00 . Dates of other events and services may be added.

January 18, 25,
February 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
March 7, 14, 21, 28
April 4, 11, 18, 25
May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
June 6, 13, 20, 27

A total of 96-144 assignments need to be filled for these dates. (24 dates X 2 Shifts X 2 or 3 Volunteers = 96-144) Please volunteer for at least 2 assignments on different dates. All volunteers will be given instructions about duties - but careful observation, ability to report a concern quickly, and a warm smile is all that is needed.

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS, SHAARE TEFILA STYLE


On the weekend of December 7 and 8, 2019, Shaare Tefila celebrated a milestone. The Anniversary Gala Weekend, honoring Rabbi Jonah Layman on his 25 years of dedication and service to our congregation, was a resounding success! We started with a special Shabbat service on the 7th, organized by Saul Cohen, who presented an exceptional and humorous D’Var Torah, followed by a sit down luncheon, chaired by Wendy Abraham and Sherry Cohen, with invaluable assistance from Ethel Levine. The sanctuary was nearly full and the social hall and Winer Gallery were abuzz with congregants and family and friends of Rabbi Layman.

The celebration continued with the Anniversary Gala on Sunday evening, attended by over 170 people. Cilla Grosberg was instrumental in procuring Catering by Alan Weiss and DJ Karl Hunt to enhance the evening. Decorations were provided by Balloons and Decor by Pattie. The social hall and Winer Gallery were transformed from functional spaces into places filled with a celebratory atmosphere, with seating organized by Bess Teller and decorative touches added by Janene Ellis and Stacey Lynch. I presented gifts to Rabbi Layman; a Havdallah Spice Box made in Poland, which I purchased at the Polin Museum in Warsaw, and a Kiddush cup I purchased in Israel; the inscription “25 Years – L’Chaim” was added with the help of Richard Abraham. A wonderful collection of photos was taken by Ira Kolmaister and Ira Levine.

On Sunday evening, we displayed a number of items in tribute to Rabbi Layman. These included: a paper mache statue, made by the youngest students at the Gates of Discovery Preschool, depicting a child “high fiving” Rabbi Layman, a common occurrence when he visits the school on Friday morning; framed notes from the Chavaya Religious School students in response to the question, “What do you like about Rabbi Layman?”; Proclamations and Letters of Congratulations from elected officials and secular and Jewish community organizations, collected by Milt Goldsamt; and a scrolling video of Tributes, prepared by Mark Kaufman, to Rabbi Layman submitted by congregants, friends, and family – which was actually running on three screens at the Gala.

Tremendous support was provided by Stuart Carroll, obtaining sponsorships and managing our budget.

The entire weekend was flawlessly managed by Babette Cohn, Shaare Tefila Director of Education and Programming.

Thank you to all who came out to celebrate with Rabbi Layman and to those who generously supported the weekend’s events.
**PURIM SCHEDULE**

**Sunday, March 8** - Purim Shpiel followed by Purim Carnival - 11:30 am

**Monday, March 9** - 6:30 pm - evening service and Megillah reading

**Tuesday, March 10** - 8:00 am - Purim morning service and Megillah reading

**MISHLOACH MANOT 2020 FUNDRAISER**

PURIM IS THE EVENING OF MARCH 9 & MARCH 10 DAY.

COORDINATORS:

- Stephanie Buckberg
- Lois Freedman
- Ethel Levine

It’s that time of year again already, and our wonderful Mishloach Manot fundraiser, through Happy Purim, is in the planning stage. Watch for more information!!

For more details contact

Stephanie Buckerg at pmjmine3@gmail.com

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**Come be a part of our Purim Shpiel this year —“Middle East Side Story”— There are 13 performers needed and you could be one of them. Contact Babette Cohn (bcohn@shaaretefila.org) by February 2 to be a star on March 8.**
Winter is now more than half over. It is time to think about spring. We are planning on having our very popular Women’s Seder on Sunday, March 29. It is always lots of fun.

We could also use some help from some men for serving and cleaning up too.

We are trying to setup a walking group. Beginner’s and intermediate walkers are welcome. It would be great to have two separate sessions for both groups but can also arrange for one group too. Times can be on the weekends or even at night when it is light enough. If interested please contact Jackie Benn at 301-512-0694.

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**Musical Women’s Seder**

Celebrating Passover through Song, Dance, and Dinner

**Sunday, March 29, 2020, at 5:00 PM**

Featuring Sally Heckelman and Lisa Baydush

Sisterhood Members--$30 per adult
Non-Sisterhood Members--$35
$10 per child (ages 16 and under)

*****Contact Fran Weiss for more information faoweiss@gmail.com*****

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**MEN’S CLUB**

Mike Binder, President

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**Blue Yarmulke Award**

Shaare Tefila Men’s Club is excited to announce the selection of Ira Kolmaister as this year’s Blue Yarmulke Person of the Year!!

Mazel Tov to Ira, who is well deserving of this honor!

Please join us in honoring Ira at the FJMC Seaboard Region Blue Yarmulke Person of the Year Awards Brunch on **Sunday March 22**, at Congregation Beth Emeth in Herdon, VA. Use [this link](https://www.wizadjournal.com/fjmcseaboard2020/?id=4175) to register for the brunch and to provide a congratulatory message.  

**Reservations must be made by March 10.** Let’s continue Shaare Tefila’s great tradition of honoring its Blue Yarmulke Man of the Year with a large contingent of members and friends at this event. Brunch starts at 11:00 am.

**Congratulate Ira when you see him** at shul, and join us in celebrating his award.

We will help coordinate car pools for attending the Brunch.

Contact: Michael Binder, 301 908-2284.
The Shofar

ROSE AND GEORGE TELLER PRESCHOOL
GATES OF DISCOVERY
Beth Adler, Preschool Director

A DAY OF LEARNING

Last month, our faculty gathered with over 750 local educators to attend the Jewish Federation's Early Childhood Conference. It was an amazing day of learning and connecting. In addition, for the past several years, we have taken the following day as a professional day for our staff to consider the learning that occurs at the conference and what it means in our specific context.

I wanted to share some of my highlights and key takeaways from both days.

Each year there is a theme to frame the conference sessions and this year we were fortunate that the theme was “Gathering,” the same intention we have been researching as a staff. Alex Band, our pedagogista, and I both served on the conference planning committee, doing our part to ensure a day of meaningful learning and inspiring speakers.

In Rabbi Aderet Drucker’s keynote speech, she framed the day by having us think about the ways in which we gather. She posed questions such as: Who will be gathering in this space? What are they concerned about? What is their background? This led me to think about the way in which we gather throughout the day with the children. Do all of the children understand what their individual role is in within our school?

For the second session of the day, we heard from Sandy Lanes, pedagogical consultant with the JCCA, and Dr. Naama Zoran, developmental psychologist and Israel's representative to the Reggio Emilia International Network. We used this time and the next day to consider two aspects of our work: 1. How can we elevate our curriculum? 2. How does a school system take itself further?

We looked at our intent of "gathering" and thought about the anchors, concepts, and values that are connected to it. We spoke about the idea of becoming a system, specifically looking at the developmental stages of children and an ongoing process of becoming as children consider their individuality and how it relates to a larger group. We also discussed the idea that our goals for gathering involve coming together with a purpose. Although the intent of gathering is communal, each teaching team spent time searching for its own connection to this theme. As the year progresses, we continue to gather all of our explorations under the same communal umbrella.

We ended our two days together as a faculty by asking the question: Where are we headed and what is really important for us? We look forward to continuing to explore this question as a faculty.

It was great to see all our friends back at Shaare Tefila again after the long winter break! On January 5 we reconvened with a delicious back to school bagel breakfast. All the students learned about the mitzvah of tza’ar ba’alei chayim/ kindness to animals, and created animal toys, blankets and bowls to help the Lost Dog and Cat Foundation.

Our first Junior Congregation Shabbat service on January 18 was a fun, camp-style experience for all the children who attended. Led by Eytan Layman, everyone got to sing, reflect and make each other laugh with the parsha play of the week. Mark your calendars for the next one on March 28 - you won’t want to miss it!

On February 9 all of Chavaya will focus on Tu B’Shevat. Kitah Alef will consider what they can do to help the earth and learn about the beginning of spring in Israel; Kitah Bet will use the lessons of Dr. Seuss’ The Lorax to consider why it is important to take care of the earth and how doing so is an act of g’milut chasadim/loving kindness; Kitah Gimel will wrap up their study of community responsibility and help Kitah Alef students make bird feeders; and Kitot Dalet, Hay & Na’ahroot will enjoy a Tu B’Shevat seder.

Both children and parents are invited to be a part of our Purim Shpiel, Middle East Side Story. Whom will you be? Maria (Esther), Tony (Mordechai) or Bernado (Haman)? The Shpiel will be on the morning of March 8, before our annual Purim Carnival. Contact me by February 2 for details and let me know you want to be involved in this groundbreaking performance. L’Shalom
Shaare Tefila's
GAN KATAN!

Gan Katan, our Jewish-themed preschool playgroup for little ones, meets each month for stories, songs, Jewish learning, crafts, games, and tons of experiential play.

WHEN: SUNDAY, 10:30 AM
WHO: TODDLERS THROUGH PRESCHOOL AGE
WHAT: PLAY, STORY TIME, CRAFTS AND SNACK - $18 FOR THE YEAR OR $5 PER SESSION.

“Gan Katan Gets Ready For Tu B’shevat!”

Our Gan kids had a wonderful class learning about the Birthday of the Trees!
We read books and crafted our very own blossom pictures to decorate for Tu B’shevat.

JOIN US for the play group on February 9
RSVP to Babette Cohn BCohn@shaaretefila.org

Tot Shabbat, Gan Katan, and Mini Minyan are led by Morah Mara Lansky, an educator, parent, and member of Shaare Tefila.

Tot Shabbat is a joyous, ruach-filled, singing and interactive service, just for our little ones and their families.

WHEN: SHABBAT, 10:45 AM - 11:30 AM
WHO: YOUNG CHILDREN FROM BIRTH THROUGH AGE 6

This past month’s Tot Shabbat focused on welcoming guests to our homes.

JOIN US for our next service on March 28

WOMEN’S ROSH CHODESH CIRCLE
LED BY: SUSAN RUBENSTEIN

Saturday mornings: 10:00 am - 11:00 am
Rosh Chodesh Shevat - February 15 **NEW DATE**
Rosh Chodesh Adar - March 7
Rosh Chodesh Nisan - April 18
Rosh Chodesh Iyar - May 9

JOIN US for our next event on April 24
Click here to register on Chaverweb.
The Shofar

EVENING MINYAN SCHEDULE
CONTRIBUTOR: SAUL COHEN

Our Minyan serves the Olney community every day of the year. Communal prayer is held mornings (Shabbat at 9:30 am, Sunday at 8:45 am, and Monday and Thursday at 8:00 am) and weekday evenings (Sunday – Thursday 7:30 pm), and Friday at 6:00 pm. We depend on our membership support to deliver these services and people are asked to accept their responsibility to attend in the evening on a rotational basis. All members are encouraged to join in prayer as often as possible. The upcoming schedule is below, with the name of each week’s captain in bold. Please fulfill your Shaare Tefila responsibility even if there is a Minyan in a house of mourning. If you know in advance that you will be unable to attend the evening minyan during your assigned week, we ask that you informally switch with another member and inform your Captain. We will also welcome advance information about vacation plans and can adjust your assignment accordingly. Occasionally, we change the time on legal holidays. Your Minyan Captain will contact you if there is any change.

**FEBRUARY 2 – 6**

Team #1

Al Kliman 301-438-1588
alkliman@comcast.net

Julian Leidman Co-Captain
Daniel & Lisa Akman
Morris & Christie Berman
Jay & Joyce Feinstein
Hal & Rebecca Fero
Barbara Fink
Sharon Fried
Jay Hagler
Marc & Tanya Heyison
George & Marilyn Kessler
Ken & Karen LeFler
Karen Leighton
Mark & Shelley Levitt
Carl Sabath & Susan Rubenstein
Marvin Schneider
Alan & Beverly Weinstein

**FEBRUARY 9 – 13**

Team #4

Saul & Sherry Cohen
301-622-2918
saulsher@verizon.net

Dennis Kaye Co-Captain
Hillel & Fran Abrams
Stuart Carroll
Seth Cohen
Michael & Anita Froehlich
Sumner Katz

Team #4 Continued

Sharon Kaye
Abigail Mauldin
Howard & Judy Rumerman
Myron & Judy Sagall
Bill Sumner
Sharon Zitomer

**FEBRUARY 16 – 20**

Team #2

Phil Temkin
301-681-3062
philtemkin@gmail.com

Manny Ginsburg Co-Captain
Steven Franklin
Michael & Marlene Goodman
Marvin Kruger
Lisa Krussman
Shelly & Karen Radnor
Steven Radnor
Gabriel Romano
Stewart & Jane Saphier
Susan Schwartz
Ted & Elizabeth Fischer
Audrey Frank
Ruth Gutstein
Don Helfer
Miriam Peska
David & Florence Polinsky
Elaine Schenberg
Steve & Holly Schotz

**FEBRUARY 23 – 27**

Team #5

Paul Tilles 301-570-4388
pstilles@verizon.ne

Ken Libby Co-Captain
David & Sharon Appel
Michael & Susan Binder
Marjorie Fuhrmann
Hyman & Cilla Grosberg
Dara Grosberg
Harold & Reva Norken
Jack & Bess Teller
Sheryl Tilles
Zelick & Carol Waganheim
Joslyn Wolfe

To all our Chesed Friends,

Thank you for all you did to make our lives easier during such a difficult time. The rides, meals, care, gorgeous and sumptuous deli platter during shiva, and your prayers at shul are so appreciated. Everyone greeted Sid and checked in with him about his health. When we couldn’t make it to shul, we watched streaming together. Sid was a fighter and he fought until his last days with us.

Fondly,
Sue, Debra, Anna, Jeff, Taryn, Max, Barry, Jenny, Geena, and Ethan
Until March 20, 2020, The Winer Gallery is pleased to present *Warm It Up*, an exhibit of original watercolors created by artist Barbara Bell, a resident of Rockville, MD. Barbara’s paintings bring the vibrant colors and light of the natural world to the winter months. Her watercolors attempt to capture elements of the natural world often overlooked by the casual observer, sometimes in remote places, but more often in our own backyards. In this exhibit, she takes us to warmer climes and brighter seasons inviting the viewer to explore the rhythms and cycles of nature as it moves toward regeneration and renewal.

Barbara worked in studio art at Montgomery College, Rockville, in the 1980s concentrating on lithography. Before she re-entered the workforce as a teacher in Montgomery County Public Schools, her work hung in numerous local exhibitions. Twenty years later, retirement afforded her time to return to artwork. She took up watercolor painting, studying first with the late Leroy Lawson and then, for the past eleven years, with David R. Daniels. Barbara is a Signature Artist of the Baltimore Watercolor Society. She has been a Resident Artist at Artists & Makers Studios since September 2015. Her work is held in private collections in Washington, Baltimore, New York, New Haven, Palm Beach, Indianapolis, Portland (ME), and London.

Don’t miss this opportunity to own an original watercolor before the show closes on March 2, 2020. A portion of each sale benefits Shaare Tefila. To see more of Barbara’s work, please visit bellslessons.com.

Shaare Tefila members are reminded to send in their $18 (or more) to the office to help promote the monthly CHAL-LAH and SCHMEAR that helps encourage an excellent Shabbat Kiddush and wonderful camaraderie as you take part in our sumptuous luncheon together. You may be celebrating an anniversary, promotion, birth of a grandchild, special birthday, upcoming graduation, completion of medical treatment, or anything special that is going on in your life that you’d like to share with the synagogue congregation. Your names will be acknowledged in the Shabbat Sheet for that week, along with your reasons for your donation.

We welcome your generosity and look forward to your participation in this *heimish* and yummy endeavor, once a month. We also celebrate birthdays held during that month, with a delicious cake and several types of ice cream, accompanied by "the works." Hope to see you there.

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**TU B’SHEVAT: THE NEW YEAR FOR THE TREES**
**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2020**

The name of the Hebrew month is Shevat and Tu (which means 15) is the Fifteenth day of the month of Shevat. Even though it may be cold where we live, by mid-January in Israel, almond trees are blossoming. Tu B’Shevat is a way to mark the beginning of Spring in Israel.

One of the ways that some Jews celebrate the holiday is to eat fruit that grows in the Land of Israel. The Bible mentions Seven Species, so many people enjoy them on Tu B’Shevat. They are: barley, dates, figs, grapes, olives, pomegranates, and wheat.

The meaning of the holiday has changed over time. Originally, people took portions of the fruit they had grown and brought them to the Temple in Jerusalem. But, once the Temple was destroyed in the year 70, Tu B’Shevat took on new meaning. For some, Tu B’Shevat is connected to the rebirth of the Land of Israel and is a symbol of hope. Today, for many Jews, Tu B’Shevat has taken on importance as a holiday connected to ecology and the environment. We all remember that we have a responsibility in protecting nature.

Today some people have a Tu B’Shevat seder, which is similar to a Passover seder (a meal with a special order of events). So whether you plant a tree, or eat some fruit, or help clean up your neighborhood, or have a seder,

**Happy Tu B’Shevat!**
The Shofar

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
February - March

SAVE THE DATE

FEBRUARY
February 1 - Comedy Night FUNdraiser
February 5 - First Wednesday with the Rabbi
February 23 - Makers and Bakers - Hamantashen Bake

MARCH
March 6 - Shabbat Dinner
March 8 - Purim Shpiel & Carnival
March 9/10 - Purim
March 29 - Havdalah Experience

As we enter our 51st year of service to the greater Olney community we are so grateful for all of the support we receive.” (Ruth Filbert)
Olney Help continues to acknowledge donations by Shaare Tefila membership to its organization. It has been able to expand its support in the Olney Community as need of assistance has increased.

KEEP YOUR DONATIONS COMING!
Next time you visit the shul please bring food items to donate and place them in the baskets under the bench in the Williamowsky foyer.

HARMONY HILLS TOY DRIVE
CONTRIBUTOR: CATHY PLOTKIN

This year your contributions to Harmony Hills ES resulted in gifts for 18 students - 7 families. In addition, several congregants generously donated coats (8 students), hats, and gloves (for 40-plus students) that helped make it easier for them to stay warm this winter. We also received new clothing for another five students. I want to also thank my toy shoppers for doing a fantastic job and going out to shop at a time when one can get the most bang for their bucks!

I am humbled by your continued support of our needy students. I recently learned that Harmony Hills is the 9th poorest school in the state of Maryland. These are truly needy students who are benefitting from our support. You have made a big difference! Thank you SO MUCH!

CHESED COMMITTEE
CONTRIBUTOR: ADRIANA SANDLER

Need a ride?
Contact
Betty Balin 301-622-4354 or
Bernice Goldstein 301-384-1024

Need a meal?
Contact
Ethel Levine 301-593-7041 or
Joyce Feinstein 240-428-1329

Need support?
Contact Rabbi Layman 301-593-3410 X102

SHAARE TEFILA
16620 GEORGIA AVE. OLNEY, MD 20832
301-593-3410 WWW.SHAARETEFILA.ORG
AFFILIATED WITH THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

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rlayman@shaaretfila.org
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cackerman@sharetefila.org

President
Judith Bresler
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Acting Executive Director
Audrey Haber
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301-593-3410 X 101

Preschool Director
Beth Adler
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301-593-3410 X 105

Director of Education & Programming
Babette Cohn
bcohn@shaaretfila.org
301-593-3410 X 106

Office Administrator
Rosanne Sharpe
rsharpe@shaaretfila.org
301-593-3410 X 104

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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 Audrey in the office.

Siddur $54
Machzor $36
Large Type Machzor $54

SHAARE TEFILA IS HOSTING
JCC COMING OF AGE EVENT

Healthy Aging: Lessons from Japan
Speaker: Natasha Sacks
Director of Montgomery College Lifelong Learning Institute
When: Thursday, February 27, 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm
RSVP to JCC 301-348-3809
Cost $8, $10 at door
Light refreshments will be offered 2:30 pm - 3:00 pm

COME CELEBRATE YOUR FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY
AT SHABBAT KIDDUSH FOLLOWING SERVICES
FEBRUARY 22
Recognize a person or event in your life or remember a loved one.
Donate to the Enhanced Kiddush, "Challah & Schmear " TODAY
Contact Audrey in the office ahaber@shaaretefila.org

MEN’S DISCUSSION GROUP
Wednesday, February 12 at 10:30 am

This meeting is at the Hebrew Home Wasserman Building
6121 Montrose Rd., Rockville

Discussion will be led by Rabbi Layman

All Men Are Invited

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

LOOKING TO JOIN SHAARE TEFILA?
Contact:
Stuart Carroll, Membership VP
membership@shaaretefila.org

Audrey Haber, Acting Executive Director
ahaber@shaaretefila.org
301-593-3410 X 101

HTTPS://SHOP.SHOPWITHSCRIP.COM
When you purchase scrip you are supporting Shaare Tefila. With every scrip purchase the shul receives a rebate that is used to fund various shul activities.

Families can now shop online for gift cards to over 750 stores! You can place an order on your computer or using an app on your phone. For more information, visit: https://shop.shopwithscrip.com

Contact Fran Weiss for more information:
faoweiss@gmail.com

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

We continue sell scrip in the shul office or call:
Barbara Fink 301-438-3149
Fran Weiss 301-570-4347
TRIBUTES
December 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019

Andrea Z. Tilles
Memorial Chesed Fund
In Honor Of:
  Gilda Kuritzky’s 90th birthday
  Ira & Ethel Levine
  Andy & Marlene Sandberg’s granddaughter
  Gershon & Diane Kieval
In Memory Of:
  Maurice Potosky
  Alan & Adriana Sandler
  Charlotte Shapiro
  Marvin & Diane Schneider
  Ann Loeb
  Elaine Stein
  Elsa Weinstein
  George & Marilyn Kessler
  Gershon & Diane Kieval
  Hal & Stephanie Epstein
  Harriet Neufeld
  Ira & Ethel Levine
  Marvin Roth
  Joseph Kraut & Rhea Siers
  Judith Kirsch
  Julian Rosenberg & Zella Shabasson
  Lawrence & Ellie Alpert
  Mark & Marjorie Fuhrmann
  Marvin & Sylvia Levy
  Michael & Anita Froehlich
  Barbara Harkaway
  Peggy Slade
  Judith Beiser
  Elaine Ross
  Elaine Schenberg
  Rabbi Robert & Ruth Layman
  Deborah Letow
  Rita Rubinstein
  Milton & Susan Goldsamt
  Gary & Stacy Levine
  Julian Leidman
  Seymour & Sheila Harnik
  Stephen Prensky & Jill Goldwater

Building Fund
In Honor Of:
  Rabbi Jonah Layman
  Elaine Schenberg
In Memory Of:
  Maurice Potosky
  Michael Gross
  Audrey Haber
  Abraham Krosnick
  Phyllis Slavin
  Max Kantzer & Patricia Greene

Charles Futrovsky Endowment Fund
In Honor Of:
  Sherry Cohen’s 70th birthday!
  Gordon & Sophie Novinsky
  Rabbi Jonah Layman’s 25th Anniversary

General Fund
In Honor Of:
  Rabbi Jonah Layman
  Daniel & Susan Marder
  Michael & Anita Froehlich
  David & Lee-Ellen Ronis
  Manny Ginsburg’s Bar Mitzvah Anniversary
  Renee & Michael Lessans
  Michael & Vivienne Auerbach’s grandson
  Hyman & Cilla Grosberg
  Jack & Bess Teller
  Sharon Kayes’ Birthday
  Jack & Bess Teller
  Michael Rosenberg’s Marriage
  Jack & Bess Teller
  Grandfather’s Yartzeit
  Egon & Inge Guttmann
  Marilyn Kessler’s 87th birthday
  George Kessler

In Memory Of:
  Robert Green
  George & Marilyn Kessler
  Leon Lunden
  Liane Lunden
  Samuel Friedman
  Lila Rosloff
  Sylvia Coffee
  Louis & Joan Coffee
  Selma Schachter
  Barbara Harkaway
  Daniel Scher
  Ila Swartz
  Martin Halpern
  Rose Halpern
  Dora Kline
  Robert & Ruth Cohen
  Frances Cohen
  Robert & Ruth Cohen
  Dora and Reuben Sragow
  Ruth Newhouse

Maurice Saposnekoo
  Sophie Cozier
  Leon Bomberg
  Zisela & Lydia Sansanowicz
  Maurice Potosky
  Anne Shuman
  Jack & Bess Teller
  Naomi & Steven Kline
  Benson & Ellen King
  David & Florence Polinsky

Ruth Newhouse
  Saul & Sherry Cohen
  Ralph Shapiro
  David & Florence Polinsky
  Sol Broder
  Sidney Schwartz
  Carol Nove
  Jack & Bess Teller
  Ronald & Gayle Miller
  Stella Margolis
  Shirley Oliner
  Hyman & Cilla Grosberg
  Andrew Feldmann’s father
  Hyman & Cilla Grosberg
  Barry Benn
  Hyman & Cilla Grosberg
  Abraham Krosnick
  Jack & Bess Teller
  Hyman & Cilla Grosberg
  Selma Krosnick
  Michael Gross
  Arthur & Carolyn Rogoff
  Saul & Sherry Cohen
  Barry Benn
  Jack & Bess Teller
  Anne Katz
  Lawrence & Ellie Alpert
  Karen Gross
  Miriam Gross
  Bradley Goldstein
  Morton & Ina Goldstein
  Joseph Sumner
  Benson & Ellen King
  Anne Polinsky
  David & Florence Polinsky
  Irving Tremper
  Jesse & Deborah Stiller
  David Stiller
  Jesse & Deborah Stiller
  Bella Apatoff
  Rabbi Robert & Ruth Layman
  Leon Burke
  Sheldon & Denise Iskow

Harold Fink Israel
Quest Fund
In Memory Of:
  Abraham Krosnick
  Barbara Fink
Machzor Dedication
In Honor Of:
  Rabbi Jonah Layman
  Rita Rubinstein
In Memory Of:
  Maurice Potosky
  David & Lee-Ellen Ronis
  David & Rhona Byer
  Max Kantzer & Patricia Greene
  Ralph Shapiro
  Judy Klotzman
  Sidney Schwartz
  Max Kantzer & Patricia Greene

Martin S. Halpern Adult Education Fund
In Honor Of:
  Michael Froehlich's Birthday
  David & Rhona Byer

In Memory Of:
  Ralph Shapiro
  Joseph & Margaret Gitelman

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
In Honor Of:
  Rita Rubinstein's Birthday
  Cindy Schechter
  Ila Swartz's Birthday
  Cindy Schechter
  Adina Ackerman
  Daniel & Jackie Benn
  Rabbi Jonah Layman
  David & Rhona Byer
  Michael & Anita Froehlich
  Judith Kirsch
  Marta Tanenhaus
  Eric & Diane Kramer
  Joe & Amy Federman
  Daniel & Jackie Benn

In Memory Of:
  Maurice Potosky
  Scott & Alisa Austin
  Joseph & Carolyn Bonnett
  Yehuda Ben-Israel & Rona Gail Rothenberg
  Irving Torchinsky
  Joyce Torchinsky
  Jerome H. Rothenberg
  Yehuda Ben-Israel & Rona Gail Rothenberg
  Sidney Schwartz
  Manny & Penny Flecker

Siddur Dedication
In Memory Of:
  Sidney Schwartz
  Sue Schwartz