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# DAVAR MEGILLAH

DECEMBER 2015 • MONTHLY NEWSLETTER • KISLEV / TEVET 5776

## UPCOMING EVENTS



Friday, December 4, 7:30pm  
**RABBI'S SERMON SERIES**  
See page 3 for details



Saturday, December 5, 12:00pm  
**LUNCH & LEARN**



Sunday, December 6  
**EREV CHANUKAH**



December 7 - 14  
**CHANUKAH**



Thursday, December 10, 5:00pm  
**TASTE OF CHANUKAH**  
See page 6 for details



Sunday, December 13, 5:00pm  
**CHANUKAH PARTY**



Wednesday, December 16, 7:00pm  
**SISTERHOOD ROUND TABLE**  
See page 8 for details



Thursday, December 17, 12:00pm  
**READINGS WITH THE RABBI**  
See page 7 for details



Friday, December 18, 6:15pm  
**SHABBAT KEHILLATIT**  
**NO COMMUNITY DINNER**  
See page 3 for details



Saturday, December 19, 12:00pm  
**LUNCH & LEARN**



Sunday, December 20, 7:00pm  
**MOVIE NIGHT**  
See page 9 for details



Sunday, January 3, 10:00am  
**SISTERHOOD HIKE**

## Chanukah - - Festival of Lights

- A Message from Rabbi Scott Meltzer

Winter in San Diego has arrived. The days are getting shorter and colder. Now that we have changed our clocks last month, I have to be careful, if my lunch runs late, it could be dark before I finish LUNCH.

The cold and early darkness this time of year is not only meteorological, it is quite personal. The news of violence on the streets of Israel is constant and disarming. And the killing for the sake of killing in France and Lebanon is beyond our conception. And then there is everyday sadness within our own community - illness, loss.

I encounter darkness simply in walking to my car. This time of year is just scarier than summer.

It makes perfect sense that our Festival of Lights, Chanukah, showers us with light at this darkest time of the year - more candles, more lights, more warmth. Even frying latkes and *sufganiyot* makes the house warmer and the broiling fragrance

brings a feeling of security.

Our Festival of Lights also brings a deeper, more spiritual sense of warmth and comfort. Chanukah is directly linked to the Book of Daniel in the *Tanakh* (Bible). And Daniel is the one book of the *Tanakh* that promises a day will come when god will seek all those we who now sleep in the dust, those who have died, and bring them back to life. Daniel foretells a future resurrection!

The concept of resurrection is among the most comforting of ideas. It is the promise that even death cannot separate us from the ones we most love. Resurrection, unlike talk of being reunited in heaven, means that we can again live our lives together in this world. It means we can hold each other, even dance with each other. For me, the promise of resurrection is the belief that once again, some day, I will eat the *latkes* that my grandmother made, and enjoy them with my grandfather.

*Rabbi's Message continued on page 9.*



Oh Chanukah O Chanukah! Come light the Menorah!!

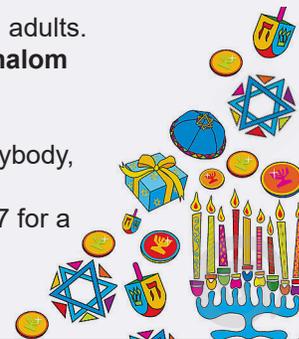
## OHR SHALOM CHANUKAH PARTY

Join us on Sunday, December 13, 5:00pm



- Candlelighting. The 8th night! Remember to bring your Chanukiah and candles.
- Light dinner - and latkes!
- Piñata and entertainment!
- Free drawings for kids and adults.
- **Special treat: The Ohr Shalom Choir!**

More surprises! Fun for everybody, young and old!  
Suggested contribution \$3/\$7 for a family.





## WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

**Ray Sachs**  
President

### Progress!

Lots of projects around the Synagogue are getting done and it's really nice to be able to check things off my list. I thought I would give you a report.

The first week of November saw the renovation and remodeling of our sanctuary ark. Before, the doors didn't open very widely and you could only see one Torah fully, and maybe two others partially. Now, the doors open widely and all nine Torahs are displayed in their beautiful new covers. There will be more work done this month to optimize lighting and the fit and finish of the doors and hinges.

The third week of November saw the

fixing of the leaks on our roof. The roof was actually in good shape but we needed flashing and sealing around many of the areas as well as cleaning out of certain drains. I no longer fear El Niño!

That same week we prepared the walls in the sanctuary for the art installation to come. We did some plastering and electrical work so as to be able to display the art optimally. With all this work, our sanctuary will truly be stunning.

Lots of new members joined this year. We are planning a welcome event soon. I know I can count on our wonderful and warm congregation to make them all feel welcome!



DECEMBER 2015  
ISSUE NO. 319

**DAVAR**

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*This newsletter is a publication distributed free of charge to members of Ohr Shalom Synagogue. We regret any omissions and would appreciate being notified in order to amend any involuntary error.*

#### Bulletin Deadlines

Readers are welcome to submit articles, photos, event notices to the Davar. Please e-mail all submissions to: [davar@ohrshalom.org](mailto:davar@ohrshalom.org)

#### Deadline:

- December 5 for January issue
- January 5 for February issue

#### Ohr Shalom's Publicity Liaison:

##### Jane Zeer

Attention Committee Chairs and Program Coordinators: Please contact Jane at [janezeer@cox.net](mailto:janezeer@cox.net) to coordinate publicity of upcoming events.

## OHR SHALOM SERVICE SCHEDULE

### Kabbalat Shabbat Service Schedule

Friday, December 4th - 7:30pm (Rabbi's Sermon Series)  
Friday, December 11th - 6:15pm (Kabbalat Shabbat Service)  
Friday, December 18th - 6:15pm (Shabbat Kehillatit)  
Friday, December 25th - 6:15pm (Kabbalat Shabbat Service)  
Friday, January 1, 2016 - 7:30pm (Rabbi's Sermon Series)



### Rabbi Meltzer's Friday Night Sermon Series

"Learning Lessons from Rebels"

Friday, December 4, 7:30pm

"How the Rebellious Maccabees Rebelled Against Torah to Save It."

### Shabbat Kehillatit

Friday, December 18

Family-friendly early service - 6:15pm.  
No Community Dinner.



### Shuli Shabbat

Mark your calendar for **Saturday, January 9 at 10:00am.**  
Shuli Shabbat for ages 0-8. Arts and Crafts, story and lunch.

### ZAMRU "Sing Out" Shabbat

Friday, January 22, 6:15pm

6:15pm ~ Kabbalat Shabbat Services

Join Yale Strom and Elizabeth Schwartz and celebrate Shabbat through vibrant, musical prayer.



### Shabbat Morning Babysitting

Babysitting available. Reservations are strongly recommended.  
E-mail your reservation to: [office@ohrshalom.org](mailto:office@ohrshalom.org).



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Follow us on Facebook for the weekly e-Kol, details of upcoming events and pictures of past events.

Go to: [www.facebook.com/ohrshalomsynagogue](http://www.facebook.com/ohrshalomsynagogue)

## PARSHIYOT & CANDLELIGHTING December 2015



### PARSHAT VAYESHEV

Fri: December 4  4:24PM – 22 Kislev

Sat: December 5 

Torah: Genesis 37:1 - 40:23

Haft: Amos 2:6 - 3:8

### PARSHAT MIKETZ

Fri: December 11  4:25PM – 29 Kislev

Sat: December 12 

Torah: Genesis 41:1 - 44:17

Haft: I Kings 3:15 - 4:1

### PARSHAT VAYIGASH

Fri: December 18  4:27PM – 6 Tevet

Sat: December 19 

Torah: Genesis 44:18 - 47:27

Haft: Ezekiel 37:15 - 37:28

### PARSHAT VAYECHI

Fri: December 25  4:31PM – 13 Tevet

Sat: December 26 

Torah: Genesis 47:28 - 50:26

Haft: I Kings 2:1 - 2:12

## Ohr Shalom's Choir!

Studies show that choral singers rate their satisfaction with life higher than the public does, and also, that singing decreases anxiety and depression.

Our Ohr Shalom Choir is fun and refreshing, and we hope you join us! Everyone is invited – Ohr Shalom members, friends and relatives!

**Come join us on Mondays at 6:30pm. You'll be happy you did!**

**December Dates:**  
December 7  
December 14





## ISRAEL DESK

**Susie Meltzer**  
Israel Desk

### Pope Francis: Anti-Zionism is Anti-Semitism

It is December and I am adjusting to the sights and sounds of Christmas all around me. This season of the year we are often reminded as Jews living in America that we dwell in a Christian society. Celebrating Chanukah is easily either dwarfed or dismissed by the blitz of the Christmas celebration.

At a time when anti-Semitism is on the rise world-wide as well as international anti-Israel sentiment related to the Palestinian conflict, I am feeling the same strong sense of being an outsider as I did as a Jewish child growing up in a very Christian world. Then I came across news from the Vatican that brought a sense of warmth to my heart and a smile to my face.

In a story reported by Yair Rosenberg, Pope Francis met recently with World Jewish Congress leaders to mark the 50th anniversary of an historic Vatican declaration that altered Jewish-Catholic relations by absolving Jews of collective responsibility for Christ's death and denouncing anti-Semitism. Pope Francis used this gathering to condemn what he described as a modern form of anti-Semitism: the denial of the Jewish state's right to exist.

"To attack Jews is anti-Semitism, but an outright attack on the State of Israel is also anti-Semitism," the Pope told the WJC delegation. "There may be political disagreements between governments, but the State of Israel has every right to exist in safety and prosperity." Pope Francis's statement is noteworthy because he is far from an unconditional backer of Israel, having criticized both sides of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. But Pope Francis drew a bright red line between critiquing Israeli policies and critiquing Israel's existence. The former, he said, is legitimate and sometimes necessary; the latter is bigotry.

The Pope now joins other key global leaders who have recently expressed the same message. President Obama, along with both British PM David Cameron and French PM Valls, has affirmed that denying Israel's right to exist—as opposed to criticism of Israel's policies—constitutes anti-Semitism. The Pope's message resonates with me this December as a beacon of light for the world.

May we all celebrate this holiday time with prayers for peace in Israel, in the Middle East and around the world.

Happy Chanukah!



## KITCHEN BITES

**Barbara Haislip**  
Kitchen Volunteer

### Pumpkin-Cherry Breakfast Cookies

Here's a cookie that could serve as a healthy breakfast bar that is better for you than a pop tart. Each cookie packs 5 grams of both protein and fiber. A 4-inch cookie is 290 calories. I really like these cookies made with whole wheat flour, coconut oil, dried cherries, and pepitas. It's the latest recipe I tried from *Better Homes and Gardens* magazine. The recipe makes 16 cookies which can be frozen and reheated in a toaster.

#### Pumpkin-Cherry Breakfast Cookies

- 2 C whole wheat flour
- 1 C old-fashioned oats
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 tsp pumpkin pie spice
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1 can (15oz) pure pumpkin
- 1 C coconut oil
- 1 C brown sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1/2 C roasted, salted pepitas
- 1/2 C dried cherries
- cookie sheet(s)
- parchment paper

Preheat oven to 350°F. Whisk together the first five ingredients and set aside.

In a mixer at medium speed combine the pumpkin, coconut oil, brown sugar, and egg until well-combined. Gradually add the flour mixture, then the pepitas and cherries.

Scoop onto parchment-lined cookie sheet to form 16 mounds that are 2 inches apart. Flatten into disks. Bake 20-25 minutes or until dark brown on the bottoms. Cool on wire rack.

*Notes:* I made mine slightly smaller and used two cookie sheets. I got 21 cookies and a lot of breakfasts! I roasted the pepitas in the oven as it was heating up. It's really important to crisp the bottoms. Yum!



### 2016 AIPAC SAN DIEGO DINNER

Sunday, January 10, 2016 Reception 6:00 p.m. •  
Program 6:45 p.m.

Hilton San Diego Bayfront Hotel  
1 Park Blvd • San Diego, CA 92101

Join table captains *Fanny and Ruben Rosental* or  
*Susie and Eli Meltzer*.

Advanced registration required.  
\$165 per person, \$180 after December 18.  
Contact [sddinner@aipac.org](mailto:sddinner@aipac.org) or call (858) 626-2790.



## SOCIAL ACTION CORNER

**Brad Eisenberg**  
Social Action Chair

### By the Numbers

- 1,350 pounds of food donated for the High Holy Days Food Drive (last year's was 968 pounds)!
- 300 paper bags donated by Trader Joes of Hillcrest for the High Holy Days Food Drive!
- 20 Turkeys delivered to Christie's Place!

Thank you to everyone who helped make the above possible.

### Gifts for Embrace-a-Family

Through JFS Embrace-a-Family Program, the Ohr Shalom community helps ensure families in need have a joyous holiday celebration. Many Embrace-a-Family recipients would not have Chanukah or Christmas celebrations without this program.

#### How the Program Works

We will match up you, your family or your group to a family. We will provide you with a description of the family, including gender and ages of children and their holiday wish list. You will purchase toys, clothes, food, gift certificates, and more. We would like to provide anyone the opportunity to participate regardless of your own financial situation. Therefore the purchases can be underwritten by Ohr Shalom social action funds to cover some or all of your purchase.

*Please note:* The deadline for gifts to be delivered to Jewish Family Service for the Embrace-a-Family program is December 13.

If you would like to help underwrite this effort, please send your monetary donation to the Ohr Shalom office with memo "Embrace". Please contact Rebecca Zipp at [rebecca.zipp@gmail.com](mailto:rebecca.zipp@gmail.com) for more information.

### Seeking Coordinators and Volunteers

We have lots of great projects big and small need volunteers, leaders, coordinators, etc. The following are some examples:

- JFS Embrace-a-Family – embracers (Rebecca Zipp coordinator)
- Hunger Project at St. Vincent de Paul – coordinator and volunteers

- I Love a Clean San Diego Beach Cleanup – assistant leader (Alice Cupples leader)
- Habitat for Humanity – assistant leader (Richard Walters leader)
- Uptown Community Service Center (mail boxes for homeless) – leader and volunteers
- Veterans Village of San Diego (collecting warm blankets and sleeping bags ) – leader

Do you have a social action project you'd like our help accomplishing? Please contact me if you have an interest in participating in any of the above.

Stay connected to Ohr Shalom Social Action Committee by joining our Friends of Social Action email list. Please contact me at [brad.eisenberg@att.net](mailto:brad.eisenberg@att.net) or contact the office if you would like to join.

### Keep Those Donations Coming!

Current donation drives – donation bins are set up in lobby area of synagogue:

#### JFS Hand Up Youth Food Pantry

Ongoing – Non-perishable food – cans, grains, etc.

**Monetary** – Embrace-a-Family gifts

....or if you prefer to make a general monetary donation to "Social Action Fund," we will purpose the funds for the above. Please indicate which campaign your donation is for.



**Questions? Ideas?**  
Please contact: **Brad Eisenberg**  
Social Action Chair at  
[brad.eisenberg@att.net](mailto:brad.eisenberg@att.net)



### Monarch School Dinner

**Please join us on Monday, February 22, from 4:00-6:30pm**

to provide dinner to the students of the Monarch School in downtown San Diego.

We need volunteers to provide homemade or purchased macaroni and cheese, salad, rolls, dessert, juice, milk and supplies for ~200 homeless children at the Monarch School in downtown San Diego. We also need preparers and servers for the afternoon of the dinner (must be 18 years or older to serve).

In addition to providing a K-12 education for students impacted by homelessness, the Monarch School provides healthcare, clothing and food, along with enrichment and support programs including an after school program, tutoring, counseling, expressive arts therapy and family assistance. For more about this unique school, see [www.monarchschoools.org](http://www.monarchschoools.org).

Please contact Jane Zeer at [janezeer@cox.net](mailto:janezeer@cox.net) if you are interested in providing food and/ or serving dinner at the Monarch School.



## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

**Corinna Goold**  
Committee Chair

### Light it Up!

*Brrrr!* It is cold and dark outside! We are officially heading into the winter months when the days are shorter and we have pulled out our jackets and contemplated turning our heaters on. It is the time when we want to gather around one another for the warmth of community and togetherness. Just seeing everyone's smiling faces lights up the day. The warmth of friendliness and kindness brightens up those dark Thursday evenings when our kids are getting out of Religious School.

It is so appropriate that our next Jewish celebration is Chanukah. We literally bring light into the world. Each candle that is lit obliterates a piece of the darkness around it. That is such a poignant picture for this season and for our times. Each time we endeavor to do good, we light an inner candle within ourselves. Every kind word, every smile, every effort to make someone's day better brings light. There are so many opportunities to kindle that flame within ourselves and others. There are numerous ways to get involved and if you're not sure where to start, check out our Social Action

Committee at Ohr Shalom. With each of these simple and meaningful acts, we light up the world. I hope we can all consider ourselves walking Chanukiyot, particularly this season, but year round as well.

The Religious School is a warm and happy place where we all make an effort to be lights in this world. Our 7th graders, the *Zayin* class under the direction of Vanina Bunton, came together and created a beautiful acrostic poem. I hope their words and light warm you and encourage you to share the brightness and the glow of *tikkun olam*. **Happy Chanukah Everyone!**

- S** - *Shamor v'zahor*, we observe and remember the
- H** - Holy 7th day that God gave us to rest.
- A** - As we put the six days of work behind us,
- L** - Let's light the candles
- O** - On Friday night.
- M** - May we be blessed with peace at home
- P** - People come together and
- E** - Everyone sings joyously
- A** - Appreciation is shown by all as we
- C** - Celebrate the 7th day by
- E** - Eating, praying, and resting.



### A Taste of Chanukah

**Thursday, December 10, 5:00pm**

St. Paul's Manor, 2635 Second Avenue, San Diego (meet in the lobby)

You are invited to join the students of our Religious School and bring a taste of Chanukah to the Seniors at St. Paul's Manor. Optional: bring your own chanukiah and candles.

Celebrating Chanukah with the seniors is a wonderful mitzvah.



## OSYG

**Jessica Lemoine**  
Youth Programs

### OSYG Ohr Shalom Youth Group for kids in grades 7 through 12:

Sunday, December 13 - Ohr Shalom Chanukah Party, 5:00pm

### Junior USY for preteens in grades 7 & 8:

Sunday, January 31 - JCC presents: Seussical, 1:00pm

For more information contact Jessica Lemoine at [jessicasontag.lemoine@gmail.com](mailto:jessicasontag.lemoine@gmail.com).

### Kadima for children in grades 4th-6th:

Sunday, December 13 - Ohr Shalom Chanukah Party, 5:00pm

Sunday, January 31 - JCC Presents: Seussical!, 1:00pm



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## ADULT EDUCATION

**LOIS GELB**  
Adult Education Chair

## ADULT EDUCATION

Introduced by Rabbi Meltzer, **Jackie Tolley** (Director of Hillel of San Diego, SDSU) and two remarkable students, **Michael Kagan** and **Julia Elhai**, presented a clear view of very real challenges on campus, put them into perspective and described a vibrant Jewish student community. Our audience, which included Vanina Bunton's Hebrew School students, responded with rapt attention and good questions. A big thank you to that trio of speakers who left after their talk to participate in SDSU Hillel's Mitzvah Day activities.

### "SUNDAY MORNING TALK SHOWS"

At **10:00am in the Social Hall**, we start our time together with a little "nosh and schmooze" – a delightful tradition of the Sunday Morning Talk Shows. Then we take our seats for informative, stimulating and enjoyable programs. We're happy to welcome old friends and new faces as we resume our Talk Shows in 2016!

- **January 10, 2016.**  
(See the box on this page.)
- **February 7, 2016.**  
Football Through A Referee's Eyes.
- **March 13, 2016.**  
Latkes vs. Hamentashen – which represents Judaism better?

### ONGOING STUDY SESSIONS

Are you an "empty nester" or retiree? Why not take some time for classes during the week? You'll enjoy learning and the good company of classmates.

Led by Rabbi Meltzer, classes are conducted in English and open to all. No registration is required, so just join us!

**TALMUD:** Tuesdays, 5:00 – 6:00pm

**PIRKEI AVOT:** Chapter 6. Wednesdays, 11:00am – 12:30pm

We plan to finish this chapter in December! There's still time to sample a few classes before we take a break for our new program.

**BIBLE:** Haggai and other Post-Exilic Prophets. Wednesdays, 2:00 – 3:00pm

### LUNCH & LEARN

**Saturday, December 5 & 19, 12:00pm**

Following Shabbat service. Share a meal and study with Rabbi Meltzer and fellow congregants! You'll find that study sessions make Shabbat more meaningful and enjoyable..

### Sunday Morning Talk Show January 10, 2016



**Topic:** Water – a very important issue.

What do we know, where can we learn more, and how can we help? We'll tap our community experts for guidance.

### READINGS WITH THE RABBI

Whether or not you've read this month's selection, you are welcome to join the group and its discussion.

#### **Thursday, December 17 at noon**

*Doomed to Succeed: The U.S.-Israel Relationship from Truman to Obama*, Dennis Ross  
(You are invited to bring a vegetarian brown bag lunch.)

#### **Sunday, January 24 at 10:00am**

*All the Lights We Cannot See*, Anthony Doerr

### iEngage Jewish Values and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict



#### **12 Wednesdays at Ohr Shalom, January 20 – April 13, 2016, plus 2 public lectures**

In January, Ohr Shalom will join a highly regarded **iEngage** program of the Shalom Hartman Institute (SHI). Our studies will focus on various Jewish perspectives about Israel and the complex meanings of peace in our traditions.

The curriculum of this program aims to rectify internal Jewish communal challenges related to talking about the conflict by naming and working through the various values narratives that animate different political views. Through the study of internal Jewish narratives about Israel and unpacking the complex meanings of peace in Jewish tradition, this series aims to make participants more aware of the values that make up their own political views, and create a more stable pluralism in how we talk about this most divisive issue.

- **Community-Wide Opening Conversation with Rabbi Lauren Berkun, Director of Rabbinic and Synagogue Programs, SHI North America**  
**Wednesday, January 6 at 7 pm at Congregation Beth El**  
Register at [shalomhartman.org/sandiego](http://shalomhartman.org/sandiego)

- **12-sessions iEngage: Jewish Values and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict with Rabbi Scott Meltzer**  
**Wednesdays, January 20 – April 13, 11:00am – 1:00pm at Ohr Shalom**  
Free. Open to member and non-members.  
To register, please contact the Ohr Shalom office: 619-231-1456, or [office@ohrshalom.org](mailto:office@ohrshalom.org)

- **Communal Concluding Conversation with Rabbi Dr. Donniel Hartman, President SHI**  
**Monday, May 23 at 7 pm at Congregation Beth El**  
Register at [shalomhartman.org/sandiego](http://shalomhartman.org/sandiego)

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The Shalom Hartman Institute is a pluralistic center of research and education deepening and elevating the quality of Jewish life in Israel and around the world. Through their work, they are redefining the conversation about Judaism in modernity, religious pluralism, Israeli democracy, Israel and world Jewry, and the relationship with other faith communities.

*This program has been generously funded by:* Elaine Chortek • Laura Galinson and Jodi Diamond • David and Claire Ellman • Elena Feldman • Ray and Rhona Fink • Selwyn and Hilary Issakow • Richard and Ann Jaffe • Julian and Jenny Josephson • Steve and Denise Shoemaker • Stan and Mal Smiedt • Alan and Caryn Viterbi.



## SISTERHOOD

**Susanne Lisker**  
Past President

### Molly Picon

For over 70 years, **Molly Picon**, star of the Yiddish theater and film delighted audiences with her comic song and dance performances. While she began her career in vaudeville and flourished in the 2nd Avenue theaters of New York, she later performed on stage and in Yiddish and Hollywood films for Jewish and non-Jewish audiences around the world, helping to keep Yiddish culture alive by bringing it out of the shtetl and into the mainstream American culture.

She was born in New York in 1898 and grew up in Philadelphia. She spent her youth performing song and dance routines, and at age 16 she left high school to pursue a full time stage career.

Molly married director and producer Jacob “Yankel” Kalich, a Polish immigrant, on June 29, 1919. Yankel took her to Europe, where she improved on her Yiddish while performing. Her new understanding of Yiddish culture laid the foundation for the rest of her career.

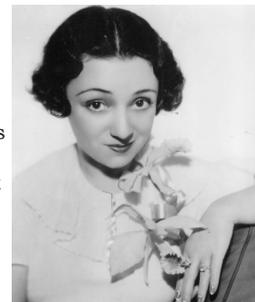
She created a unique presence on the Yiddish Theater stage, playing parts written for her by Yankel, almost exclusively as young girls who either dressed or behaved like young boys.

Her first film was a European production *Das Judendmadel* (The Jewish Girl) in Austria. However, her first surviving Yiddish film was *Ost und Vest* (East and West), a hilarious depiction of a feisty secularized Jewish girl visiting her traditional relatives in Europe. In the early 1930s, they traveled to Europe, South America and South Africa. They visited famous poet Bialik in Palestine where she performed in Yiddish, defying the “Hebrew only” policy of that community.

In 1934, she began broadcasting her first radio show and was exposed to an ever wider American audience. Her most famous film was probably *Yidl Mitn Fidl* (Yiddle with His Fiddle), made in Poland in 1936. In 1938, she and Yankel filmed *Mamale*, the best Jewish film made in Poland before the Nazi onslaught. The film took on special poignancy as Molly and Yankel struggled to capture the endangered shtetl culture on the eve of World War II. During the war, they performed at army bases all over the US and Canada in an effort to boost morale, a task they continued to carry on after the war in Europe in the Displaced Persons camps, recognizing the need of survivors for *Yiddishkeit*, joy and a

little personal pleasure.

Molly and her husband were active fundraisers and often performed benefit shows to support causes such as The Children’s Fund, Cerebral Palsey Fund of America, and the State of Israel, as well as shows in Yiddish (in Israel) on behalf of the Jewish National Fund, Magen David Adom and other organizations.



When she returned to the US, she was cast in *Come Blow your Horn* and received an Academy award nomination for her role. She portrayed Yente the Matchmaker in the film adaptation of the Broadway hit *Fiddler on the Roof* in 1971.

When Yankel died in 1975, Molly created a one-woman show *Hello Molly* which traced her long and loving relationship with the Yiddish Theater. She continued to perform well into her eighties and died on April 6, 1992.



## SIS. PRESIDENT’S CORNER

**Linda Kucinski**  
Past President

November was a busy month for Sisterhood. We started the month off attending UJF Women’s Options event. All were inspired by the three trailblazing speakers and being surrounded by over 1000 Jewish women.

Next we had our first Rosh Chodesh of this year, led by Rachel Millstone. We were blessed to have Tina Bernard Eshel speak to the group and guide us through discussions about sexuality and relationships. Then we had our first Sisterhood club event, led by Steffi Retin. The women attending were taught jewelry making by our local



artist Stephanie Wells. We each chose our own stones and pieces to make a unique necklace for ourselves. We all seemed touched by the uniqueness and specialness of creating our own artwork. Finally, Sisterhood was thrilled with our grand opening of the new Gift Shop upstairs. Special thanks to Tracey Raz for her incredible artistic design and to Naima Solomon for handling inventory.



Make sure to send in your check for your Sisterhood membership. If you haven’t joined since Rosh Hashanah, make sure to do so. We have a fun-filled year planned and your membership helps support our programs and our synagogue.

We are looking for volunteers to sign up for regular shifts so the Gift Shop can be open. Email [giftshop@ohrshalom.org](mailto:giftshop@ohrshalom.org) if you are interested.

### Upcoming Events

**Wednesday, Dec. 16, 7:00pm**  
Sisterhood Round Table - Open to all ladies

**Sunday, Jan. 3, 10:00am**  
Sisterhood Club Event - Hike in San Diego, then eat together

**Monday, Jan. 11, 6:45pm**  
Rosh Chodesh Shevat - Musical Healing with Bracha



### In December we are celebrating...

Eileen Wingard	December 3
Laurel Corona	December 9
Sandy Golden	December 12
Janet Bernstein	December 16
Beth Herrick	December 20
Janice Bonner	December 21
Amy Morris	December 29
Barbara Haislip	December 31

## RABBIS MESSAGE (CONT.)

Resurrection, itself, does not need to occur to bring comfort and a smile. The idea of the resurrection, the imagining of resurrection makes me feel warmer – comforted – safer.

I do not know if I believe in the resurrection as a future event that will occur. When I think about it reasonably or scientifically ... the beauty, the warmth and the comfort disappear quickly against the reality that this is indeed not a very reasonable belief.

Rather than thinking about it rationally, I imagine it, romantically, emotionally, and wow, it is beautiful. These same days are suddenly not so dark, so cold, or so scary. Chanukah brings us joy and song, candles and *sufganiyot*, light and warmth. Chanukah also gives us the comfort of imagining living again with those whose journeys have taken them beyond this world. Rejoicing at Chanukah includes rejoicing with them.

I invite you to celebrate Chanukah with a rekindled connection to those whose souls rest on the other side of life. I invite you to celebrate with them as if the resurrection has already occurred.

May your Chanukah be bright and warm, joyful and filled with all of those whom you love!

Chag orim sameach! Have a joyful Festival of Lights!



## MOVIE NIGHT

**Al Shelden**  
Imm. Past President/Administration

### Sunday Movie Night December 20 at 7:00 pm



This month we will have one more movie in continuing our theme of page to film, but this time with some liberty taken. Taking up the same theme as last month's "Woman in Gold" – treasures and art stolen by Nazis from Jews and others

during World War II – this month's movie looks at a special army platoon "drafted" by President Roosevelt to go into Germany during the last days of WWII to "rescue" these treasures and return them to their rightful owners. Join us at 7:00 pm to see the platoon referred to as:

### *"The Monuments Men"*

Rex Reed, in his 3½ out of 4 star 2014 review of "The Monuments Men" said,

"This is their story. It is true. It is history. As a film, it is riveting, suspenseful, harrowing and exciting, and somehow, it also manages to be something rare among war pictures – a big-scale entertainment."

The movie is based on the platoon's story of what has been referred to "as the greatest art treasure hunt in history." The platoon was made up of seven museum directors, curators, and art historians, people who knew more about Rembrandts than army rules and regulations and the rigors of combat. The art they were to recover was behind German army lines, the German army had been ordered to destroy everything as the Third Reich crumbled and the Russian army was quickly advancing from the East.

The movie stars George Clooney, who also directed the movie, and co-wrote the screenplay with Grant Heslov, based on the book by Robert M. Edsel. The movie also stars Cate Blanchett, Matt Damon, John Goodman, Bill Murray, Bob Balaban, Hugh Bonneville, Jean Dujardin, and Dimitri Leonidas.

It is rated PG-13.

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## PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

**Lynn Mendelsohn**  
Programs/Events Chair

### Happy Chanukah - Looking Forward to Events in 2016!

This issue of the Davar is replete with reminders that our festive Chanukah party will be held in the Social Hall on Sunday December 13th. Be there! The party will be a happy experience for all ages. And we will get to hear the Ohr Shalom Choir!

Next year will bring many opportunities for the Ohr Shalom community to congregate in friendly celebration. The date of the 2016 annual Lights of Ohr Shalom will be Sunday April 10th. Hold

that date, and stay tuned for more details.

Construction already is underway in the sanctuary to accommodate the art pieces that were commissioned for us last summer by Lou and Estelle Dunst. The Chicago Judaica artist Amy Reichert is at work on those, and we expect their installation early next year. We are planning a Sunday morning dedication and luncheon – probably in February. More later.

Happy 2016!

## TODAH RABAH AND LIFE CYCLE EVENTS

Thank you for your generous donations in October:

### SYNAGOGUE FUND

**For Shabbat Chocolates**  
Richard Scholten

**In honor of Ellie Miriam Katz**  
**In honor of Dorothy Canter's**  
**96th Birthday**  
Louise Chandler

**Refuah Shleimah to Mark Smith**  
Ruben and Fanny Rosental  
Samy and Sara Zands

**In honor of Eli Meltzer receiving**  
**the Gold Cane Award**  
Ruben and Fanny Rosental

**In memory of Adela Hanono**  
**In memory of Roger Zouari**  
Ivan and Lynn Mendelsohn

**In memory of Roger Zouari**  
Sallie Palash  
Don and Toni Goldstein  
The Retin Family  
Esther Tishman  
Beverly Schmier  
Ruben and Fanny Rosental  
Raulf and Sharon Polichar

**In memory of Mindel Green**  
**In memory of Sosya Berman**  
Raisa Green

**In memory of Concepcion Zachs**  
Eli and Susie Meltzer  
Eileen Wingard  
Raulf and Sharon Polichar

**For Hagbah honor**  
Jerry Horn

**In memory of Moises Rosenfeld**  
Sara Limenes

**In memory of Regina Rubinstein**  
**In memory of David Rubinstein**  
**In memory of Miriam Tauber**  
Ruben and Susanne Lisker

**In memory of Bella Green**  
Elizabeth Green

### **Minyan Schedule**

Sunday-Thursday at 6:15pm

Please consider attending a minyan service to help ensure that we can continue providing this important service for our congregation.

### SOCIAL ACTION FUND

**In memory of Flo Semelmaier**  
**In memory of Concepcion Zachs**  
Rachel Millstone

**In memory of Roger Zouari**  
**In memory of Concepcion Zachs**  
Ilan and Lynn Awerbuch

**Christie's Place Turkey Drive**  
Louise Chandler  
Harvey and Lois Gelb  
James Fulks and Jess Glaser  
Jerry Horn  
Ivan and Lynn Mendelsohn  
Raulf and Sharon Polichar  
Bernie Semel and Tricia Pummill

**Embrace-a-Family**  
Eli and Susie Meltzer

### KITCHEN FUND

In memory of Roger Zouari  
Barbara Haislip

### GABAI FUND

In honor of the Adat Amigos Havurah  
Mark and Marjorie Medress

### TODAH RABAH TO OUR ONEG SPONSORS

Lillian Keller  
Stephen Blum  
Richard Scholten

### TODAH RABAH TO OUR SHABBAT KIDDUSH SPONSORS

Frank Darbe and Eva Brzezinski  
Al and Marilyn Shelden

### TODAH RABAH TO OUR SHABBAT LUNCH AND LEARN SPONSORS

Sallie Palash  
Vanina Bunton

Share a simcha or commemorate a loved one's yearzeit with your Ohr Shalom family by sponsoring an Oneg or Kiddush.



Friday Oneg or Shabbat Morning Kiddush Sponsorship: \$72

### **Condolences to:**

**Lior Dubnov and family** on the passing of **Dr. Gregory Pipko**, beloved Father and Grandfather.

**Reina Shteremberg and family** on the passing of **Concepcion Zachs**, beloved Mother, Grandmother and Great Grandmother.



### **Mazal Tov to:**

**Stephan Keller and family** on his Bar Mitzvah.

**Ari Rostenberg and family** on his Bar Mitzvah.

**Elana Gelman and Anthony Roumell** on their Wedding.

**Gary and Sue Brown** on the birth of their Grandson, **Brooks Cosimo Brown**.

**Todah Rabah** to our November Shabbat Service Leaders, Torah and Haftarah Readers, D'rashot and Minyan Leaders:

LeAnne Adams  
Szymon Brzezinski  
Hudi Eshel  
Joe Hartman

Morris Lazard  
Jennifer Meltzer  
Shayna Meltzer  
Bryce Mendelsohn

Ivan Mendelsohn  
Ruben Rosental  
Alan Rostenberg

*Todah Rabah to:* Rocky Reid - for his weekly maise in the Kol.

*Todah Rabah to our office volunteers for November:* Gail Kalker, Koba.

*Todah Rabah to our November Shabbat Kehillatit dinner volunteers:* Barbara Haislip, Marci Prag and Matt Razinsky.

# YAHREZEITS

*Pauline Cohen	Eddy Cohen's Mother.....	1-Dec/Kislev 19
Sarah Epstein	Honey Mark's Mother.....	1-Dec/Kislev 19
Sydney Pick	Daniel Pick's Grandfather.....	1-Dec/Kislev 19
Shana Rubin	Joseph Rubin's Daughter.....	1-Dec/Kislev 19
*David Rubinstein	Susanne Lisker's Father.....	1-Dec/Kislev 19
*Bertha Smith	Mark Smith's Mother.....	1-Dec/Kislev 19
*Marvin Smith	Mark Smith's Brother.....	1-Dec/Kislev 19
Sophie Gorad	Koba's Grandmother.....	2-Dec/Kislev 20
Tomas Gruener	Carlos Gruener's Brother.....	2-Dec/Kislev 20
Alan Seidman	Brian Cane's Grandfather.....	2-Dec/Kislev 20
Fannie Zipp	Janice Zipp Cannizzaro and Elaine Smith's Aunt.....	2-Dec/Kislev 20
Zion Soffer	Fortune Millstein's Father.....	3-Dec/Kislev 21
Bella Green	Elizabeth Green's Step-Grandmother.....	4-Dec/Kislev 22
*Benjamin Kalinka	Brenda Bielas' Father.....	4-Dec/Kislev 22
Yojeved Rosenfeld	Sara Limenes' Mother.....	6-Dec/Kislev 24
*Minnie Witz	Evelyn Sevel's Mother.....	6-Dec/Kislev 24
Joseph Reitsky	Dorothy Canter's Father, Marilyn Shelden's Grandfather.....	7-Dec/Kislev 25
*Walter Schmier	Beverly Schmier's Husband.....	8-Dec/Kislev 26
Rebeca Levy	Alberto Levy and Beatriz Levy-Israel's Mother.....	9-Dec/Kislev 27
Haya Abramovic	Faye Levy's Mother.....	10-Dec/Kislev 28
Jack Hartman	Joe Hartman's Father.....	10-Dec/Kislev 28
*Alberto Levy	Luisa Levy's Husband, Vicky Cohen's Father.....	11-Dec/Kislev 29
Elaine Green	Marda Rose's Aunt.....	12-Dec/Kislev 30
Guillermo Ramirez	Julia Stone's Father.....	12-Dec/Kislev 30
Betty Stopnik	Roz Berman's Mother.....	12-Dec/Kislev 30
Sidney Feldmar	Toni Goldstein's Father, Jennifer Meltzer's Grandfather.....	13-Dec/Tevet 1
Pola Gitler	Sara Fainstein's Aunt.....	13-Dec/Tevet 1
Gil Liberberg	Liza Tacher's Father.....	13-Dec/Tevet 1
*Rabbi Jacob Goldberg	Esther Tishman's Father, Rosa Ratniewski and Lilian Deicas' Grandfather.....	14-Dec/Tevet 2
Ruth Himelfarb	Steve Fox's Grandmother.....	14-Dec/Tevet 2
Anna Paget Lacher	Roberta Shoman's Grandmother.....	15-Dec/Tevet 3
Rose E. Rose	Marda Rose's Grandmother.....	15-Dec/Tevet 3
*Helen Zipp	Janice Zipp Cannizzaro and Elaine Smith's Mother.....	16-Dec/Tevet 4
Abraham Cohen	Remembered by Aaron Rubinstein.....	17-Dec/Tevet 5
Matilde Cohen	Esther Modiano's Grandmother.....	18-Dec/Tevet 6
Lena Forman	Laurie Slade's Grandmother.....	18-Dec/Tevet 6
*George Millstone	Rachel Millstone's Father.....	18-Dec/Tevet 6
Rae Tenen	Remembered by Joe Rubin.....	18-Dec/Tevet 6
Sosya Berman	Raisa Green's Mother.....	19-Dec/Tevet 7
Ethel Boner	Steve Boner's Mother.....	19-Dec/Tevet 7
Frances Goldstein	Don Goldstein's Mother, Jennifer Meltzer's Grandfather.....	19-Dec/Tevet 7
Lenora Levin Wollman	Alice Broudy Cupples' Aunt.....	19-Dec/Tevet 7
Steve Shoman	Marty Shoman's Brother.....	19-Dec/Tevet 7
Hyman Wolpoff	Sheldon Wolpoff's Father.....	19-Dec/Tevet 7
Sara P. Blumovicz	Remembered by Rafael Sloatizki.....	20-Dec/Tevet 8
Miriam Miliband	Jared Solomon's Grandmother.....	20-Dec/Tevet 8
Chicky Seadler Breier	Mark Breier's Mother.....	21-Dec/Tevet 9
Edward Gelb	Harvey Gelb's Father.....	22-Dec/Tevet 10
Shie Sheiman	Libe Marek's Grandfather.....	22-Dec/Tevet 10
Morris Feintech	Remembered by Ethel Friedman.....	23-Dec/Tevet 11
Esther B. Feller	Sandra Golden's Mother.....	23-Dec/Tevet 11
Luis Goldberg	Lina Gorinstein's Brother.....	23-Dec/Tevet 11
Roslyn Kanevsky	Alberto Levy's Aunt.....	23-Dec/Tevet 11
*Frieda Lacher	Roberta Shoman's Mother.....	23-Dec/Tevet 11
*Harry Cohen	Eddy Cohen's Brother.....	24-Dec/Tevet 12
*Alberto Hecht	Lilly Hecht's Husband.....	24-Dec/Tevet 12
Sheila Schwartz	Elizabeth Schwartz's Mother.....	24-Dec/Tevet 12
Stanley Joseph Wisinski	Esther Siegel's Father.....	24-Dec/Tevet 12
*Ilan Cohen	Trudy Cohen's Husband, Eddy Cohen's Brother.....	25-Dec/Tevet 13
Edward Friedman	Remembered by Ethel Friedman.....	25-Dec/Tevet 13
Marie Lyons	Lynn Mendelsohn's Mother.....	25-Dec/Tevet 13
Mollie B. Ward	Elizabeth Goldman's Mother, Joshua Goldman's Grandmother.....	25-Dec/Tevet 13
Matilde Galicot	Jose Galicot and Julio Galicot's Mother.....	26-Dec/Tevet 14
*Alfred Mark	Maxine Weseley's Father.....	26-Dec/Tevet 14
Anna Burgman Kuttner	Susie Meltzer and Karen Rund's Grandmother.....	27-Dec/Tevet 15
Shlomo Broder	Aaron Rubinstein's Grandfather.....	28-Dec/Tevet 16
Jacqueline Horstein	Abraham Horstein's Wife, Alma Geiger and Harriet Wolpoff's Mother.....	28-Dec/Tevet 16
Isaac Penhas	Sally Maizel and Esther Modiano's Father.....	28-Dec/Tevet 16
*Evelyn Shelden	Al Shelden's Mother.....	28-Dec/Tevet 16
*Ema Halio	Reyna Forman, Vida Sportes and Miryam Sloatizki's Mother.....	29-Dec/Tevet 17
Alexander Baron	Jody Mizrahi and Stacey Baron-Blank's Father.....	30-Dec/Tevet 18
Esther Levy Behar	Esther Modiano's Grandmother.....	30-Dec/Tevet 18
Rosalind Feller Sacks	Sandra Golden's Sister.....	31-Dec/Tevet 19
Kalman Tishman	Rosa Ratniewski and Lilian Decias' Grandfather.....	31-Dec/Tevet 19

\* denotes a memorial plaque was purchased in memory of a loved one



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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**December 2015**

**Kislev / Tevet 5776**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p><b>Save the Date...</b>  <b>Sunday, January 17, 5:30pm</b>  <b>Family Movie Night</b></p>		1 19 Kislev Ad Ed: Talmud 5:00pm Minyan 6:15pm	2 20 Kislev Ad Ed: Pirkei Avot 11:00am Ad Ed: Post Exilic 2:00pm Minyan 6:15pm	3 21 Kislev Religious School 4:30pm Minyan 6:15pm	4 22 Kislev Office Closes 2:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service Rabbi's Sermon Series 7:30pm 4:24pm	5 23 Kislev <b>Parshat Vayeshev</b> Shabbat Service 9:30am Lunch & Learn 12:00pm
		6 24 Kislev <b>Erev Chanukah</b> Religious School 9:30am Minyan 6:15pm	7 25 Kislev <b>Chanukah Day 1</b> Minyan 6:15pm Choir Meeting 6:30pm	8 26 Kislev <b>Chanukah Day 2</b> No Ad. Ed. Class Minyan 6:15pm	9 27 Kislev <b>Chanukah Day 3</b> Ad Ed: Pirkei Avot 11:00am Ad Ed: Post Exilic 2:00pm Minyan 6:15pm Board Meeting 6:45pm	10 28 Kislev <b>Chanukah Day 4</b> Religious School 4:30pm A Taste of Chanukah at St. Pauls 5:00pm Minyan 6:15pm
13 1 Tevet <b>Chanukah Day 7</b> Rosh Chodesh Tevet Religious School 9:30am Chanukah Party 5:00pm Minyan 6:15pm	14 2 Tevet <b>Chanukah Day 8</b> Minyan 6:15pm Choir Meeting 6:30pm	15 3 Tevet Ad Ed: Talmud 5:00pm Minyan 6:15pm	16 4 Tevet Ad Ed: Pirkei Avot 11:00am Ad Ed: Post Exilic 2:00pm Minyan 6:15pm Sisterhood Round Table 7:00pm	17 5 Tevet Readings with the Rabbi 12:00pm Religious School 4:30pm Minyan 6:15pm	18 6 Tevet Office Closes 2:00pm Shabbat Kehillatit 6:15pm No Community Dinner 4:27pm	19 7 Tevet <b>Parshat Vayigash</b> Shabbat Service 9:30am Lunch & Learn 12:00pm
20 8 Tevet No Religious School Minyan 6:15pm Movie Night 7:00pm	21 9 Tevet Minyan 6:15pm	22 10 Tevet <i>Fast of Tevet</i> No Ad. Ed. Class Minyan 6:15pm	23 11 Tevet No Ad. Ed. Classes Minyan 6:15pm	24 12 Tevet No Religious School Minyan 6:15pm	25 13 Tevet Office Closes 2:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:15pm 4:31pm	26 14 Tevet <b>Parshat Vayechi</b> Shabbat Service 9:30am
27 15 Tevet I No Religious School No Minyan	28 16 Tevet Minyan 6:15pm	29 17 Tevet No Ad. Ed. Class Minyan 6:15pm	30 18 Tevet No Ad. Ed. Classes Minyan 6:15pm	31 19 Tevet <b>New Year's Eve</b> No Religious School Office Closes at 2:00pm No Minyan	1 20 Tevet <b>New Year's Day</b> Office Closed Kabbalat Shabbat Service Rabbi's Sermon Series 7:30pm 4:35pm	2 21 Tevet <b>Parshat Shemot</b> Shabbat Service 9:30am
3 22 Tevet No Religious School Sisterhood Hike 10:00am Minyan 6:15pm	4 23 Tevet Minyan 6:15pm Choir Meeting 6:30pm	5 24 Tevet Ad Ed: Talmud 5:00pm Minyan 6:15pm	6 25 Tevet Ad Ed: Pirkei Avot 11:00am Ad Ed: Post Exilic 2:00pm Minyan 6:15pm	7 26 Tevet Religious School 4:30pm Minyan 6:15pm	8 27 Tevet Office Closes 2:00pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:15pm 4:41pm	9 28 Tevet <b>Parshat Vaera</b> Shabbat Service 9:30am Shuli Shabbat 10:00am Lunch & Learn 12:00pm