



30 Hinchman Avenue, Wayne, NJ 07470
973-696-2500 www.shomreitorahwcc.org

May 2023
Iyar/Sivan 5783

L'CHAIM

Celebrating Tradition, Embracing the Future!



SHOMREI TORAH SHAVUOT SERVICES 6 & 7 Sivan 5783

Thursday, May 25

Erev Shavuot / Tikkun Leyl Shavuot

6:00 pm Dinner & Study*

7:59 pm Candle Lighting Time

8:00 pm Festival Service

8:30 pm Desserts & Study

Friday, May 26-Morning

Shavuot Day 1

9:30 am Festival Service with Akdamut

Friday, May 26-Evening

Shavuot Day 2 / Confirmation of Eliana Fleischer

5:30 pm Oneg Shabbat

6:00 pm Confirmation Service

8:00 pm Candle Lighting Time

Saturday, May 27

Shabbat/Shavuot Day 2/Yizkor

9:30 am Shavuot Service with Yizkor and Ruth

9:00 pm Shabbat ends

9:10 pm Ma'ariv & Havdalah - Zoom

*RSVPs are appreciated for Dinner.

Please contact office@shomreitorahwcc.org or call 973-696-2500



**Please refer to weekly
“What’s Happening” or call the
Synagogue office for Zoom information**

SUNDAY MORNING

9:00 am Minyan

WEEKDAY MORNING MINYAN

Monday-Friday, 7:45 am

WEEKDAY EVENING MINYAN

Sunday-Thursday, 7:45 pm

TORAH STUDY THURSDAYS

Thursday 3:00 pm

FRIDAY EVENING

6:00 pm Shabbat Service

SHABBAT MORNING

9:30 am Shabbat Service

SATURDAY NIGHT

Havdalah after Shabbat ends

**SHABBAT & HOLIDAY
CANDLELIGHTING
TIMES**

5/5.....7:30 pm

5/12...7:47 pm

5/19...7:53 pm

5/25...7:59 pm

5/26....8:00 pm

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FROM THE BIMA

Shavuot is often called the forgotten Jewish holiday. It typically arrives after the religious school year has ended, and it often coincides with Memorial Day weekend. It is one of the three Pilgrimage Festivals along with Sukkot and Passover. However, those two are each a week long and come filled with rituals. On Shavuot there is no sukkah or seder, no lulav or matzah. It is even unclear what Shavuot celebrates.

Biblically, it is a harvest festival. At Passover the barley harvest began and when they counted the Omer, it was barley that they were counting. Shavuot marked the start of the Spring wheat harvest that would conclude at Sukkot in the Fall. Back when the Temple stood, people would bring the first fruits of the field from their harvest and make a declaration from Deuteronomy 26 that we now include in the Haggadah for Passover, "You shall then recite as follows before the Lord your God: My father was fugitive Aramean... Wherefore I now bring the first fruits of the soil which you Adonai have given me." (Deut. 26 5 & 10)

The rabbis taught that Shavuot is also the date that God gave us the Torah through Moshe on Mount Sinai. Since the destruction of the Temple two thousand years ago that has been the focus of the holiday. There is a tradition that on the day we were to receive the Torah, we overslept and so was born the custom of studying Torah the first night of Shavuot. Some do so until sunrise, but we at Shomrei Torah tend to stop earlier. In modern times we have connected Confirmation to Shavuot since it is about learning.

Shavuot will begin on Thursday, May 25th and we will have a Tikkun Leil Shavuot Study Session along with a service. On Friday night (5/26) we will celebrate the Confirmation of Eliana Fleischer the only 10th grader learning in our Hebrew High. Join us either or both nights. And of course, we will have Festival morning services on Friday and Shabbat (yes, of Memorial Day Weekend).

There is a custom of eating dairy on Shavuot, because once the Torah was given the Israelites realized they didn't have any kosher meat to eat. So be sure to enjoy blintzes and cheesecake!





A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT SHERI TABACK

Spring has sprung! It's hard to believe, but it has been one year since I was installed as our synagogue president. In this past year we have had many successes. We've worshipped together at wonderful in-person High Holiday, Festival and Shabbat services. Our religious school students have thrived in our terrific school. We broadened our horizons by participating in a round table discussion with members of a local church for Black History Month, and cooking and sharing an Iftar dinner together with members of the Muslim community during Ramadan. We hosted

interesting speakers like Naomi Adler, CEO of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America and our Scholar in Residence, Dr. Zackary Wainer. We and our children have viewed and discussed interesting films for Selichot, project Aviva, and Sundays with Sokol. We entertained our community with our fun and fabulous Purim Shpiel and carnival. We had fun and raised funds at our fabulous Casino Night in the fall, and by the time you read this we will have celebrated the 50th Anniversary of Shomrei Torah and our founding pillars at our annual Gala. This is just to name a few!

Last week we installed our new members of the Board of Trustees: Lee Ann Beck, Erin Gilgur, Ilana Ginsberg, Meredith Gordon-Delman, and Phil Nuccetelli. I am so excited to work with you! We also welcomed our new Executive Vice President, Beth Julie. We are so very lucky to have Beth as our EVP/President Elect! Her love and passion for Shomrei Torah is apparent to all who know her! I'd like to thank our outgoing trustees for all their hard work and dedication during their tenure on the board: Rob Baron, Scott Delman, Rachel Greenwald, Ilissa Hook and Alan Asarch--thank you for your service to Shomrei Torah. It was a pleasure working with you and I hope that you won't be strangers! Most special thanks goes to Karen Weiss, who stepped up to be our EVP and to whom both I and our Shomrei Torah community owe a huge debt of gratitude! Karen has provided unending support, wisdom and love and words cannot express my thanks to her!

Springtime is the time when we start planning for the upcoming year, and the great news is that you do not have to be a member of the synagogue leadership to get involved and share your talent, energy and ideas! I have said many times that our congregation is full of wonderful, smart and creative people and please know that I would love for you to get involved! We have many committees that you can join to help us plan for the coming year. As I wrote earlier, we had many successes this year but we can always continue to improve and do more. This takes a village! Please join me in helping to keep our Shomrei Torah community strong and vibrant. I'm looking forward to hearing from you!

Bat Mitzvah of Jocelyn Gerstein

May 13, 2023

22 Iyar 5783

My name is Jocelyn Gerstein, and I am a 7th grade student at Anthony Wayne Middle School. I will be called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on May 13. I enjoy tumbling, traveling, and hanging out with my friends and family. I have been doing acro since I was 3 years old. I love going to sports events and Broadway shows, too. I also love traveling and have been lucky enough to have gone on cruises and vacations with my family almost every summer since I was six years old. And I am so grateful for all the support that my family and friends have given me during this exciting journey.



My Parsha includes Behar and Bechukotai. Bechukotai starts with a promise and a curse. If the Israelites follow the laws and commandments that God had bestowed upon them, they would be blessed. Their land would be peaceful and productive. And at the same time, their enemies would stay away. However, if the Jewish people did not obey the rules, God would punish them.

I would like to thank Morah Beth, Rabbi Mark, and all of my teachers. Morah Beth has helped me so much, teaching me about my religion for the last 2 years and tutoring me for my big day. Rabbi Mark helped me a lot with my D'var Torah and has guided me through my years in Hebrew school. I would also like to thank all my teachers throughout my time at Shomrei Torah. They have taught me about my religion and have made this whole thing mean so much to me.

Lastly, I would like to thank my parents and Maya. They have helped me in so many ways. My mom for planning everything, my dad for always pushing me to stay positive, and Maya for being my role model through this whole journey. I am so excited to share with you everything I learned, and I hope to see you at my Bat Mitzvah on May 13th, 2023.

*Mazal
Tor*



BAR MITZVAH OF LIAM BETITO

Saturday, May 20, 2023

29 Iyar 5783

Shalom! My name is Liam Betito and I'm a 7th grader at Thomas Jefferson Middle School in Fair Lawn. I love to travel, spend time with my family and friends, swim, eat (burgers and donuts are my favorite) and ride my bike.

My Parshah is Bamidbar in the Book of Bamidbar, and my Haftarah is from the Book of Samuel 1 (Chapter 20). In my Parshah, God asks Moses to take a census of the people of Israel who are of fighting age. People tend to count things they value so by counting our people, in a way, they are representative of something valuable.

My Haftarah focuses on the powerful friendship between David and Jonathan. Jonathan saved David's life despite Jonathan's father, King Saul, wanting to have David killed. It speaks to the personal struggles we face when choosing to do the right thing as well as the potential of love and loyalty that can be created through great friendship.

Like Jonathan and David, over the past several years, I have learned that sometimes doing what is right, isn't always easy but with the help of my family and guidance of Shomrei Torah, I always strive to do the right thing. I have also learned what makes a good friend and try to seek out good people to spend my time with.

With the recent rise of antisemitism and extremism in America, I will be donating part of my Bar Mitzvah gifts to the Anti-Defamation League. This is a group focused on stopping "the defamation of the Jewish people" and to securing "justice and fair treatment to all."

I want to thank my Aba, Stuart and Morah Beth who spent countless hours teaching and studying with me to get ready for my Bar Mitzvah. At times, it was difficult, but I when I needed help, you were there. Thank you for being there for me like Jonathan was for David.

I would also like to thank Rabbi Mark for his guidance, as well as my mom, my sisters and April who supported me throughout the whole process. I am looking forward to visiting my family in Israel after school ends and celebrating my Bar Mitzvah at the Kotel with my Israeli family and then seeing Europe for the first time. I am particularly excited about going to Italy (and eating pizza and pasta). Mama Mia(!) and Shabbat Shalom.



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Due to a glitch in the office the April update was not published, so here is both April and May.

Because Purim fell on a Tuesday this year, we were able to have our students fulfill all four Purim day mitzvot. To show that this was not a normal day, rather than meet in our classrooms, we met in the sanctuary. While there, they fulfilled the first mitzvah, they heard a reading of the Megillah and we reviewed the story as we went along and sang Purim songs for good measure! Then they participated in the mitzvah of Matanot L'Evyonim, special tzedakah given on Purim. I gave them the same four options that the congregation had over Purim – Local: WIN Food Pantry, National: Nechama/A Jewish Response to Disaster Relief, International: HIAS/ Refugee Resettlement by the Jewish community & Israel: Masorti/Pluralistic Judaism in Israel. Of course, they could also put their money into the shul's tzedakah box or our Synagogue Projects box. They also had the opportunity to participate in the ritual of the "Half Shekel" that was done in ancient times which I enable people to do with half-dollar coins.

The students then went into the Pittel Social Hall where they had a Purim Seudah/Festive Meal, thereby fulfilling the third mitzvah and finally, they decorated and filled their own Purim bag to give away doing the mitzvah of Mishloach Manot. I think the hardest part was that after decorating and filling the bag, they didn't want to give it away!

As soon as we finished with Purim, it was on to learning about Pesach since there is so much to cover and so little time to do it. Hopefully, our Sunday school students have had fun doing Passover projects in class that they bring to their seder and show to one and all. Our older students learned about the Seder and some of the songs that we sing. We endeavored to ensure that each and every student could chant the Four Questions at their seder and we hope that they all had the opportunity to do so (even if they also have a younger sibling or cousin).

After our Pesach break, we returned to commemorate Yom HaShoah and Yom HaZikaron and then to celebrate Yom Ha'Atzmaut. Israel and the Holocaust were the two most significant events to happen to our people during the 20th century, so we try to make sure that our students understand them as important parts of recent Jewish history.

There is only one more month of religious school for us accomplish as much as possible before our students attend Jewish summer camps to continue their Jewish educations.

Shalom,
Rabbi Randy Mark
Principal



Morah Dassy's Gan/Aleph students did a wonderful job painting the flag of Israel! Come see it displayed on the bulletin board!

Shomrei Torah Annual Gala
50th Anniversary
April 30, 2023



Honoring Our Founding Members

Lynn & Bob Altschuler, Lucille & Charles Cohn, Elliot Eisenstein,
Jung & Stanley Fein, Judy & Alan Feldman, Suz & Ken Feldman,
Suzanne Freedberg, Linda Gaba, Ruth Kreger, Suz & Barry Mirsky,
Marilyn & Mike Rubin, Elaine & Sy Schlossberg,
Barbara & Lenny Simon, Estelle & Lee Solomon

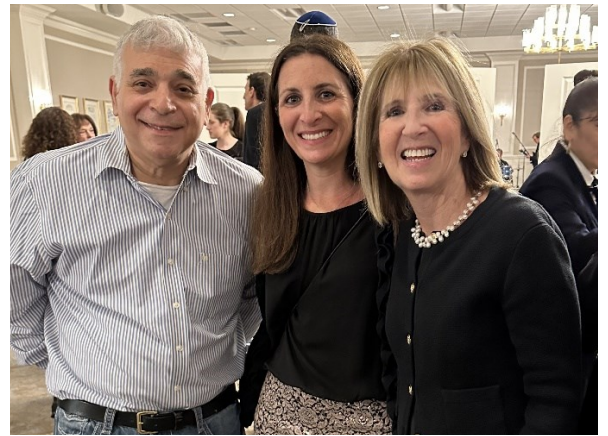
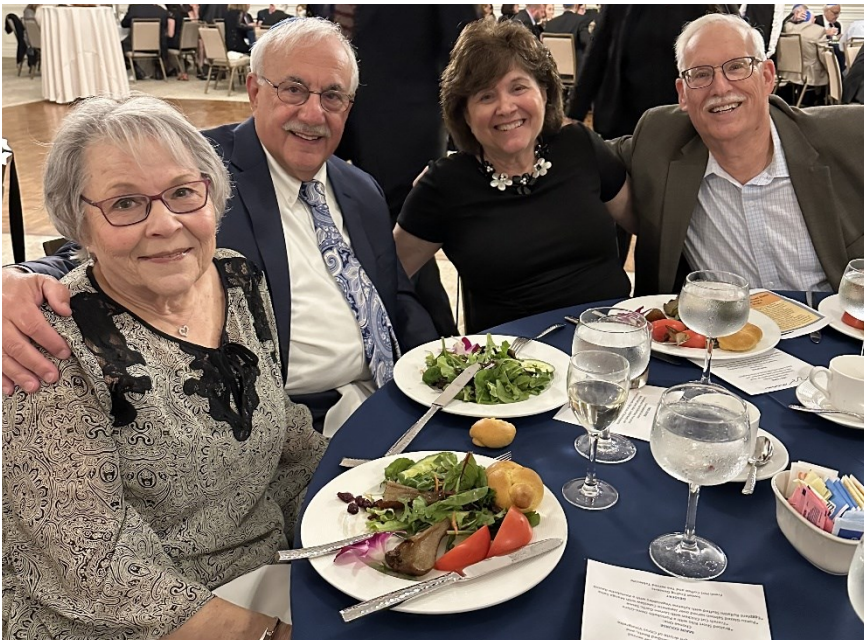
















FAREWELL TO MORAH ETTY

**We will be honoring her and the 25 years she served
our religious school with a special,
all-congregation farewell luncheon:
Sunday, May 7th at noon.**

***Please RSVP by May 1
so we can be prepared.***

*We are putting together a scrapbook of memories.
Please send photos, as well as written memories and/or well-
wishes from former students and any congregant to the
Synagogue: office@shomreitorahwcc.org*





**Shomrei Torah's
End-of-Year Event
A Gathering for Our Members
Sunday, May 21
11:30 am—1:00 pm**

**Religious
School
9:30-11am**

**End-of-Year
Ceremony
11:00 - 11:30am**

Lunch, Bounce House, DJ and MORE!

**RSVPs
encouraged so
no one leaves
hungry!**



**Help celebrate a successful Religious School year
at Shomrei Torah!**



**Contact synagogue office: 973-696-2500 or email
office@shomreitorahwcc.org by Sunday, May 14**





May BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

1st

Stacy Gerstein

2nd

Jocelyn Gerstein
Sara Parness
Alexis Parness
Arthur Sukel

3rd

Brian Lewis

5th

Noah Kressel
Corie Capodiferro
Mark Shulman
Myla Heller

6th

Sarina Kreyman
Andrew Gutman

7th

Judy Weil

8th

Bennett Wasserstrum

9th

Robert Altshuler
Richard Margolis

10th

Sean Ginsberg

11th

Anita Skolnick

14th

Janice Blaifeder

15th

Paul Moskowitz
Liam Betito
Seth Friedman

16th

Kenneth Feldman
Paul Beck

18th

Meredith Delman
Jill Spodek
Alan Friedman

19th

David Marcus

20th

Elliot Eisenstein
Diane Seltzer

21st

Ella Hesney

22nd

Rebecca Jalowicz
Sam Halpern

23rd

Mimi Lakind

27th

Fern Weis
Rimma Markhasin
Michael Rubin

29th

David Zarin
Gail Dodds

30th

Aaron Sohn

31st

Judith Kass



13th

Carol Frankel & Ernest Strauss

15th

Diane & Richard Seltzer
Christine & Michael Warren

18th

Iris & Gene Fisher
Roby & Bruce Wiener

20th

Amy & Sam Morovati

26th

Terri & Oscar Reicher

27th

Judy & Adam Waxman
Jodie & Mitchell Epstein

28th

Heidi & Robert Wolk

29th

Anita & Stuart Skolnick
Edith & Ivan Voyticki
Arlene & Michael Marks

31st

Alice & Paul Moskowitz





Join Shomrei Torah for
a joyous Shabbat
celebrating
Israel at 75!

Saturday, June 3
9:30 am Service followed by a
Special Israeli Kiddush

RSVPs appreciated
973-696-2500 or
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Save the Date!
The "Salute to Israel"
parade is on
Sunday, June 4, 2023!



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TZEDAKAH ALLOCATION

At this month's Ritual
meeting, the decision was
made to donate **\$180** to
Hadassah organization.

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A card that may be sent for any occasion:
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announcements.

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memory or for any occasion.

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has been made to Sisterhood in honor or
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973-595-0764
git529@optonline.net

**If your last name begins with
M to Z, please call**
Laura Siegel
973-706-7039
lyzie314@aol.com

Nelson Lanchero

Tri-State Area

(201) 249-1345

n.lanchero@gmail.com

Appointment Date: Time:



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Uncle of Len Blaifeder

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Mother of Barbara Zitcer

ABRAHAM DYMAN
Father of Marlene Seidman

HELEN ELLIAS
Mother of Ian Ellias

IDA EZORSKY
Mother of Maxine Berger

SUMNER FANGER
Uncle of Eric Weis

MARILYN FRIEDMAN
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Aunt of Barry Berger

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Brother of Eric Weis

**EDUCATION FUND
IN MEMORY OF**

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IN MEMORY OF**

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LEONARD FLEISCHER
Father of Joseph Fleischer
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Brother of Roberta Ort & Gene Resnick
Anita & Stuart Skolnick

**RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND
IN HONOR OF**

DIANE & JASON LESHOWITZ
Blake's Bar Mitzvah

**GENERAL FUND
IN HONOR OF**

ADRIENNE & SCOTT PODELL
Son's Engagement
Anita & Stuart Skolnick

JANICE & LEN BLAIFEDER
Son's Marriage
Anita & Stuart Skolnick

SHERI & IVAN TABACK
Daughter's Engagement
Anita & Stuart Skolnick

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Elaine & Sy Schlossberg

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SHERI & IVAN TABACK
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Margo & Seth Bader

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MARSHALL FRANKEL
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ALICE SPIRA
Wife of Alby Spira
Synagogue Board & Affiliates
Rhita & Steve Gastwirth
Susan & Bob Gordon

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SHERI & IVAN TABACK
Daughter Sarah's Engagement
Rhita & Steve Gastwirth
Susan & Bob Gordon
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Roz & George Hirschberg

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The United Synagogue
of Conservative Judaism



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