

### Adat Shalom's Newsletter

### December 2017 • Kislev/Tevet 5778

## In This Edition

#### ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES

Rabbinic Intern Miriam Green is teaching two adult education classes on *teshuvah*. Join us for lively discussions and learning.

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#### SHABBAT ACROSS ADAT

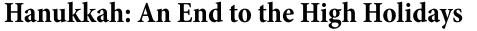
Our first Shabbat Across Adat was a huge success, bringing together over 100 members of our community. Join us for the next dinner on April 13, 2018.

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#### COMMUNITY SHABBAT AND HANUKKAH DINNER

Celebrate Shabbat and Hanukkah at Adat Shalom on Friday, December 15. The evening will include latkes, sufganiot, Hanukkah activities, and Hanukkah songs with Cantor Schatz!

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#### **RABBI NOLAN LEBOVITZ**

There is a Chassidic Tradition that the period of Divine Judgement that begins with Rosh Hashanah does not truly end until the lighting of the *hannukiyah*. In

many ways, Hanukkah is the perfect ending to the High Holidays.

In the Hebrew month of Tishrei, we begin with Rosh Hashanah commemorating the new birth of the world, and then on Hannukah we commemorate the rededication of the Temple. On Yom Kippur we sit in a state of fasting and reflection, while on Hannukah we sing joyously and eat (too much) fried foods. Throughout the High Holidays we pray for a good judgment, while on Hanukkah the Jewish people showed the might to execute judgement. Hanukkah marks the end of the journey from the angelic realm of Tishrei to the very human world of Kislev. From the white kittel I wear on the bimah, we move to the early darkness of winter.

For all of these reasons, we light the candles as a family during the darkest period of the year and remember that spirituality can be found throughout the year. After more than a month without holidays, we return to the spiritual *mitzvot*. And we do it together.

Hanukkah marks the end of the journey from the angelic realm of Tishrei to the very human world of Kislev.

Personally, I am so excited for our community Shabbat dinner to occur during Hanukkah this year. It is special to eat together in the glow of the Hanukkah candles and the glow of the Shabbat candles while remembering the incredible Jewish narrative during Temple times and during the tremendous times we live in today *bayamim ha'hem bizman hazeh*—in those days during this time.

## On Sunday, December 10th, join us for

Congregational Meeting & **Jewgle** Film Screening

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# **It's Election Season at Adat Shalom!**



#### ELIZABETH BAR-EL, President

Over the last two years, Adat Shalom has transitioned its calendar based on 2015 by-laws amendments. Board elections

are now held in December for half the Board at a time with alternating two-year terms, which now begin in January. With this change, our annual congregational meeting now takes place in early December.

Although winter break and Hanukkah are the highlights of the coming month, from this year on, Adat Shalom's congregational meeting, which is scheduled on December 10th at 5:30, joins the December landscape for our community. At this year's meeting, the congregation will elect a new slate of officers and some new board directors. (The terms of other Board members continue through the end of 2018.) In addition to elections, the December 10th agenda will include a "State of the Synagogue" presentation, looking back on 2017 and forward to 2018, financial reports on the budget and Restricted Asset Fund, and of course some inspirational words from Rabbi Lebovitz.

We also thought that maybe we would try something different, and perhaps create a new tradition. Instead of a morning meeting as we have held in the past, the annual congregational meeting has been scheduled on a Sunday evening and combined with a fun and exciting event: the first 5778 Violet Harris Fund Jewgle movie screening. The two events will be bridged by a light dinner, which may bear some thematic connection with the film (look elsewhere in this edition of Kol HaShalom and you will figure it out!). So, come for the election and stay for dinner and a movie. I hope this will become a December tradition that we all look forward to.

Happy Hanukkah – *Chag Urim Sameach* – to you and your families.

## Upcoming Events

WOMEN'S LEAGUE HANUKKAH HEROES DAY Sunday, December 3 at 10:00am

MONDAY MORNINGS WITH THE MASTERS Mondays, December 4, 11, 18 at 8:15am

TALKING TORAH Thursdays, December 7, 14, 21, 28 at 10:00am

> **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING** Sunday, December 10 at 5:30pm

JEWGLE MOVIE SCREENING OF "LIFE AND HUMMUS" Sunday, December 10 at 7:00pm

**WOMEN'S LEAGUE MEETING** Monday, December 11 at 7:30pm

ADULT EDUCATION WITH MIRIAM GREEN Monday, December 18 at 7:00pm

JEWISH HERITAGE NIGHT WITH THE LA CLIPPERS Wednesday, December 20 at 7:30pm

## Shabbat Services

Shabbat morning services every Saturday at 9:30am. Morning minyan Mondays & Thursdays at 7:00am

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE AND TOT SHABBAT Saturday, December 2 9:30am Shabbat Service, 10:30am Tot Shabbat

COMMUNITY SHABBAT DINNER & SERVICE Friday, December 15 6:30pm Dinner, 7:30pm Service

## **Religious School**

**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL CLASSES** Wednesday, December 6 at 4:00pm Sundays, December 3 & 10 at 9:00am

**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL PRESENTATION** Friday, December 15th 7:30pm

## Office Closures

Office will be closed on December 25 and January 1.

New Dates Shabbat Across Adat has been rescheduled to April 13.

Jewgle event with author Maggie Anton has been rescheduled to April 8.

Gala Date Announced: May 6, 2018

# **Congregational Meeting & Jewgle Film Screening** Sunday, December 10th

### **Congregational Meeting**

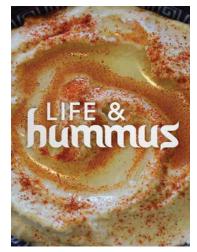
On Sunday, December 10th at 5:30 pm Adat Shalom will hold its annual congregational meeting. We will elect all Board officers and two Board members with expiring terms to take office on January 1, 2018. A brief "state of the synagogue" report will also be given. Please join us for this meeting, followed by a light meal! Please call the office or email joanna@adatshalomla.org to RSVP.





### Film Screening: Life & Hummus

After the congregational meeting, stay for a screening of the film, Life & Hummus, a documentary by filmmaker Alex Matros, whose search for the origin of hummus led him to discover that hummus has a history and impact far beyond what he could ever have imagined. The movie will begin at 7:00pm and will be followed by a Q&A with the filmmaker. Please call the office or email joanna@adatshalomla.org to RSVP.



#### Adult Education Classes with Rabbinic Intern, Miriam Green Please RSVP to the office or by emailing joanna@adatshalomla.org

#### Session 1: Monday, December 18 at 7:00pm

Teshuvah: The Not-So-Basics

We will begin by looking at the classical teshuvah process described by Rambam and integrate modern insights from leading Jewish ethicist Louis E. Newman (author of Repentance) and from Rabbi Rami Shapiro (author of Recovery: The Sacred Art).

#### Session 2: Thursday, January 18 at 7:00pm

#### Teshuvah as Transcendence

We will examine in depth the philosophy of teshuvah articulated by Rabbi Abraham Kook, the first Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi of Israel. He describes teshuvah as a path for all, not just for those who have erred, to reach new spiritual heights.



Celebrate Hanukkah at Adat Shalom with latkes, sufganiot, Hanukkah activities for the kids, and Hanukkah songs with Cantor Schatz and Rabbi Lebovitz!

Children 5 and older \$10, Adults \$18. Please RSVP by Wednesday, December 13 (price increases to \$20 for adults after deadline)

Women's League Hanukkah Party

# HANUKKAH HEROES DAY

Sunday, December 3rd at 10:00am

Enjoy a one-man show by veteran film and television actor Arnold Weiss, who has appeared in over 100 plays, created the role of Oscar in "Chaim's Love Song", and developed numerous one-man shows on Jewish heroes.

Candle lighting! Delicious food! Hanukkah shopping!

\$10 Donation

RSVP to Sue Krell: (310) 398-1313 skrell1@verizon.net



Chanukkah Angels

#### **Community Tzedakah Project**

Adat Shalom, through Chai Lifeline, has adopted several families who have a child with a serious illness. These families need help making this Chanukkah season bright for their children. If you would like to help, please call the office or bring a gift card to a local store to our wrapping party on Sunday, December 3 at 10:30am.

Thank you to

Marla Knoll for organizing this wonderful tzedakah project!

# **Shabbat Across Adat**

On Friday, October 27, the first Shabbat Across Adat brought together approximately one hundred congregants for Shabbat dinner at nine host households. The theme of the evening was Personal Innovation, which Rabbi Lebovitz continued in his sermon the following morning. We want to thank all of the generous hosts, Marla Knoll, and the entire committee for organizing this program!





### Jewgle Event with Dr. Pinchas Giller

On Sunday, October 22, our community learned with guest author Rav Pinchas Giller, who walked us through a historical overview of Kabbalah. It was our first Jewgle event of the year, presented by the Violet Harris Fund, and we look forward to seeing all of you at upcoming film screenings, rabbis in residence, and learning with our next guest author, Maggie Anton, who will be joining us on Sunday, April 8th.

## **Guest Teaching at Ward AME Church**

On Wednesday, November 15, Rabbi Lebovitz visited our friends at Ward AME Church, where he was a guest teacher. In preparation for their visit to our Community Shabbat Dinner and Service the following Friday, Rabbi Lebovitz taught about our Shabbat dinner traditions and the Kabbalat Shabbat service.



# **Religious School Corner**

#### IAN JAVID, Religious School Student

In religious school, we began learning the alef-bet and about *anavah*, which means humility. We learned that, as Jewish people, we have to have a balance of self-esteem and confidence. We watched videos and listened to stories about *anavah*. We talked about how we can practice *anavah* every day.



# Tour de Summer Camps

Team Adat Shalom participated in the Jewish Federation's Tour de Summer Camps to raise money so that children across Los Angeles can have the life-changing experience of attending Jewish summer camp

From left to right: David Shemano, Tracy Shemano, Richard Destin, Richard Miller, Ron Ackerman, and Steve Schneider. Not pictured: Liz Bar-El





#### Ner Tamid Society Illuminators

Illuminators are those who join the Ner Tamid Society in its first two years by planning for a bequest through your estate planning by the end of 2018. Recognition and appreciation will be shown through permanent plaques in the synagogue, through our newsletter and other announcements, and at religious services and other events. Through the Ner Tamid Society, you can contribute to our community for the rest of your life and beyond.

#### Benefits of membership:

Donor recognition Estate planning seminars Recognition events for you and your family Potential estate tax savings Potential capital gains tax savings Potential income tax savings on charitable life income gifts

#### Examples of giving include:

Gifts of cash Gifts of real estate Deferred gifts and bequests Gifts of personal property Charitable gift annuities Charitable remainder trusts Life insurance

For more information, contact our Synagogue Director, Maureen Sweeney at 310-475-4985.

Stay tuned for more information on our upcoming Ner Tamid panel of experts on Sunday, February 4!



# TOT@ADAT Tot Shabbat Saturday December 2 10:30am

Join Cantor Dale Schatz at Adat Shalom with your kids for a special Hanukkah Tot Shabbat morning filled with art, music, and treats!

> Questions? Contact Joanna in the office at 310.475.4985

Join a Havurah

A suggestion for Jewish innovation in 5778: How about joining a havurah?

A havurah is a small group of like-minded people who get together regularly to celebrate Shabbat and holidays, and for friendship and fun.

We are forming new havurot at Adat Shalom. If you would like to explore joining a havurah, please call or email the office.

# TALKING Toram

Thursdays at 10:00am Learn with Rabbi Lebovitz and enjoy coffee and a nosh at Adat Shalom. All are welcome!

# Monday Mornings with the Masters

Class with Rabbi Nolan Lebovitz will begin every Monday following minyan around 8:15am.

We are studying "Orot," the teachings of Hasidic Master Rabbi Avraham Isaac Kook.

# New Member Corner: Barbara Burtin & Family

Thank you to Anat Soffer for interviewing our new members!

Adat Shalom is pleased to welcome Barbara Burtin and her children, Clara (7), Julia (5), and Eliel (almost 3). Barbara grew up in Burgundy, which is in the east-central region of France. Post-undergrad, she worked in the US, France, and Italy before relocating to Philadelphia to get her MBA. Nine years ago, Barbara moved to Los Angeles, where she now lives in Venice with her children. Barbara works for an investment management firm, for which she travels frequently. When she has free time, she enjoys surfing and the arts, including the opera, music, and museums. She enjoys spending time with her children, who are all bilingual and speak English and French fluently.

Barbara and her family were introduced to Adat Shalom by our dear members, Jerry and Sandy Helman. Since Joining, Barbara and her children have enjoyed our High Holiday services, Tot Shabbat, and other events at Adat Shalom. They feel welcome and the children love to come to shul!





## Jewish Heritage Night

Wednesday, December 20 at 7:30pm

Celebrate Hanukkah with Adat Shalom and the Los Angeles Clippers! Please contact Joanna in the office for more information at 310-475-4985.

# Women's League Membership Brunch

Calling forth memories of camp fires, singing and youthful togetherness, Chairs of the event, Holly Factor and Rose Ziff, greeted 55 members and guests to a memorable Sunday morning as they encouraged us to Go Camp 'In with Adat Shalom Women's League. During this morning of "songs, s'mores and schmoozing" we enjoyed a sumptuous breakfast and a dessert of Ronnie Lampert's famous fruit cobbler and individual s'mores cakes. All this preceded a "back to the future" sing-along of folk songs and their histories led by renowned cantorial soloist Cindy Paley, accompanied by banjo player and singer Ed Labovitz, culminating with women standing, arm in arm, to join in chorus for "Lean on Me," symbolizing the warmth and friendship of Adat Shalom Women's League. Many thanks to Holly, Rose, and the many women who made it all happen.



## Women's League Torah Fund Shabbat

#### Saturday, January 20

Torah Fund Cha-yay Olam Award Recipients: Micke Bubis and Lourine Hall

Join us to hear greetings from Debbie Guest, special envoy from regional Women's League, and a sermon by our own Rabbinic Intern Miriam Green.

We welcome your participation! Please contact Women's League

Shabbat Chair Ronnie Lampert at 310-397-4815 or stanronnie@ yahoo.com for more information.



# **Donations**

#### **General Fund**

- HELEN BUDIN
- MICHAEL & CYNTHIA DIAMENT

in honor of Richard Destin and Esther Margulies for hosting the Shabbat Across Adat

- SAEID & HABIBEH **EHSANIPOUR**
- COLIN & EVE GELB
- MARCUS & IUDITH **JACOBSON** for the Yizkor Service on Yom Kippur and on Shimini • ISRAEL BONDS Atzeretz
- BELLE LANDA in honor of Stuart & Marlene Bernstein
- RABBI RICHARD & NANCY LITVAK

in appreciation of their granddaughter's participation in the Shabbat **Enrichment** Program

 ARTHUR & BETH OJENA in memory of Ted Levine

- As of November 9, 2017
- MICHAEL & JESSICA WACHT in honor of Howard Brandes' Birthday

#### **Kiddush Fund**

- ANONYMOUS
- DORIT KALEV & DANNY **KHORSANDI**

#### **Yizkor**

- ESAYAS EZRA
- HILLSIDE MEMORIAL PARK
- JERRY & LINDA LEBOVITZ MICHAEL & CYNTHIA in loving memory of Simon "Ba" Lebovitz Marie "Gammie" Lebovitz Papa Nathan Zelman and Gramma Fay Zelman

#### Violet Harris Fund

 ALVIN HARRIS in memory of Anna Harris Stanley Harris Beatrice Levy Benjamin Magazine and Marion Fischer

- Yahrzeit
  - FARINAZ BABAZADEH in memory of Joseph Babazadeh
  - BARRY & ELIZABETH BAR-EL in memory of Wilfrid Black and Rita Black
  - RUTH BENVENISTE in memory of Eric Benveniste
  - PARI BOROUKHIM in memory of Nathan Boroukhim
  - DIAMENT in memory of Blanche Karabensh
  - ANITA DUPRATT in memory of Natalie Mucha
  - MIRIAM FELDMAN in memory of Arnold Feldman Jean Kann and Max Zweig

- SANDRA GOLDSTEIN in memory of Meyer Blank
- ARLENE GOODWIN in memory of Harold Brill
- HANNA GRINBERG in memory of Ian Grinberg
- TINA GUSTAVSON & GAIL **BROSNAN** in memory of William Hornick and Mitzi Hornick
- SHIRLEY HANSON in memory of Ruth Brand
- MURIEL HESS in memory of William Hess
- JULIUS & ELLEN **KAUFMAN** in memory of Jenny Schenfield and Max Schenfield
- SUZANNE KRELL in memory of Leah Krell and Donald Krell (continued on pg 10)

# We Need Your Help...

We rely on our Adat Shalom community to let us know when someone has been hospitalized, ill, or has lost a loved one.

Hospitals are not permitted to release patient information, so we would appreciate it if you have such information about someone in our community please call the Adat Shalom office at 310-475-4985 or email joanna@adatshalomla.org.

Rabbi Lebovitz would also like to know if anyone is celebrating a birth or other simchah.

# **Our Condolences**

Condolences to Muriel Hess and the entire Hess family on the passing of Leonard Hess.

Condolences to Jerry and Linda Lebovitz and the Lebovitz and Birnbaum families on the passing of Ted Levine.

#### Michael & Julie Cohen Yoram Cohen & Lottie Wolfe-Cohen **Michael & Cynthia Diament Uri & Eveline Ginzburg** Earl & Ellie Gordon Jerry & Linda Lebovitz

Happy Anniversary!

**Charles & Helen Brill** 

Arthur & Beth Ojena Lewis & Diane Sternfels Philip & Janet Trask

# **Happy Birthday!**

Mira Dixon Alana Gordon-Levin Dalya Kopmar Wes Miller Liora Sweeney Steinberg

## Donations, continued from pg 9

- WILLIAM & LENORE LAMBERT in memory of Israel Lambert and Samuel Heuer
- MARCIA MACHOL in memory of Kate Bernstein
- STUART NEEDLEMAN in memory of Max Needleman
- BRUCE & MYRA NEWMAN in memory of Beatrice Rosenthal
- ARTHUR & BETH OJENA in memory of Sue Ojena
- OWEN & LINDA ROBINSON in memory of Silvia Friedberg
- HARLEY & HARRIET ROCKOFF in memory of Bessie Rockoff
- JERRY & DEBBY ROTTER in memory of Annette Tofield
- ARTHUR & MARILYN RUSSELL in memory of Nathaniel Joseph Fisher
- MORTON & LORRAINE SCHRAG in memory of Rebecca Shrag
- FAYE SCHWARTZ in memory of Elizabeth Polim and Irma Gross Schwartz
- LEWIS & DIANE STERNFELS in memory of Sylvia Olefsky and Martin Sternfels Jr.



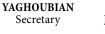
- MAUREEN SWEENEY in memory of Karyn Kocsis Sweeney
- **PHILIP & JANET TRASK** in memory of Eugene Levine
- KENT & NANCY UGORETZ in memory of Sandra Kaplan
- BERNARD & RUTH WALDOW in memory of Theresa Waldow and Betty Waldow
- LOUISE WECHSLER in memory of Lawrence Wechsler and Goldie Haas
- HAROLD & TOBY WEINBERGER in memory of Elaine Weinberger
- SAM & SHELLY WENGUER in memory of Paul Wenguer and Edith Elkus
- CLAIRE WINER in memory of Isadore Klein
- GARY & KAREN ZELCER
  in memory of
  Ted Levenson

#### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

#### MICHAEL & MERRIE BORAN

- in memory of Joseph Joblin • JEREMIAH COHEN
- MICHAEL & CYNTHIA DIAMENT
- HENRIETTA GORDON
  in memory of
  Susan Gal
- JEROME & SANDRA HELMAN

ELIZABETH BAR-EL President SANDRA KASS Executive VP KAREN



- DENISE KATZ
- JERRY & LINDA LEBOVITZ for the Sukkot Yizkor Service
- STAN & WENDY LEFTON
- JUDITH MILLER in memory of Morton Futterman and Sam Haber
- ROBERT & PAM NESHKES
- BARBARA STONE in honor of Henny Gordon and Miriam Hearn for hosting Shabbat Across Adat

#### **High Holiday Donations**

- GERDA BEN-ZEEV
- CHARLES & HELEN BRILL
- HELEN BUDIN
- ALLAN & ELIZABETH COHEN
- RONALD FEINER
- BEN & BRACHA FEINREICH
- STEWART FORDHAM & JOYCE SHEINGOLD
- DON & TONI GOLDSTEIN
- GEORGE & LOURINE HALL
- JEROME & SANDRA HELMAN
- MARILYN HUDSON
- MEHRAN & MELODY JAVID
- SUZANNE KRELL
- WILLIAM & LENORE LAMBERT

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