Adat Shalom's Newsletter

November 2017 • Cheshvan/Kislev 5778

In This Edition

HIGH HOLIDAYS 5778 IN PICTURES

We hope you and your loved ones have a happy, healthy 5778!

PAGES 6-7

NEW MEMBER CORNER

Help us welcome some of our newest members, the Victor and Esquenazi families, into the Adat Shalom family!

PAGE 5

RABBI IN RESIDENCE: SARAH SHULMAN

We're excited to welcome the Director of Camp Ramah Northern California, Rabbi Sarah Shulman, on November 11th as our next Jewgle Rabbi in Residence.

PAGE 3

Our Upcoming Community Dinner



RABBI NOLAN LEBOVITZ

Most of the time that I speak of community, I mean our Adat Shalom community or the Jewish community at large. Over the last two months, we have enjoyed

the High Holidays, Sukkot, Simchat Torah, Kabbalat Shabbat with Paul Wolff, and the beginning of our Jewgle programming for the year. Now, in November, my perspective changes as I begin to reflect on a different aspect of our community.

For me, November means autumn, football, and Thanksgiving. I begin to feel gratitude and reflect on my place in my American community. It is with all of this in mind, that I am so excited to welcome Ward AME Church to our upcoming Adat Shalom Kabbalat Shabbat this month.

Last year, we began our relationship with Ward AME. We marched with them in the MLK Day Parade and we supported their efforts to address homelessness. It is not enough to work together as partners in programming. Especially at this time of year, we should sit together and share Shabbat in friendship.

I hope you make sure to come on Friday, November 17th. I look forward to seeing you there.



I am so excited to welcome Ward AME Church to our upcoming Adat Shalom Kabbalat Shabbat this month.

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KABBALAT SHABBAT DINNER & SERVICE

Friday, November 17

Including our very first Tot Kabbalat Shabbat for young families!



Page 3



A Message from the President

ELIZABETH BAR-EL, President

With Simchat Torah now in the rearview mirror, a long period of holiday activity is

over and Adat Shalom moves forward toward a year full of community gathering, learning, and Torah. Sukkot was special for the Bar-Els this year with our son, Ziv, visiting from Israel. Barry & I particularly enjoyed that for the first year, Ziv and Lior built the sukkah on their own, and we spent the week gathering there together. Adat Shalom's sukkah, so beautifully constructed by the Men's Club led by Richard Destin with support from the Religious School and other volunteers, was back to its full size and filled up on October 7th, when more than 50 people joined in for Havdalah, Wine & Cheese. The sukkah was the perfect place to schmooze, learn a bit from Rabbi Lebovitz, and be serenaded by the music of Dale Schatz while children watched a movie in Newmark Hall. Thank you, Elana Dixon, for putting this beautiful event together and to all who helped set it up.

Although the sukkah is down, we continue to come together at Adat Shalom, at the very least every Shabbat morning. The first Jewgle event was held on October 22nd with guest author Pinchas Giller, who provided a fascinating historical overview of Kabbalah. We also tried something new, and more than 40 Adat Shalom families gathered for Shabbat dinners at nine houses hosted by other Adat Shalom members. In addition to delicious food, the rabbi prepared a common discussion topic for all the houses building on his Yom Kippur sermon about pursuing personal creativity and innovation to find meaning and connection with Jewish values. We look forward to SAA (Shabbat Across Adat) #2 in April, and hope even more families will join in.

Adat Shalom's third Friday Shabbat dinners also continue, with the addition of a short tot family service before dinner. Please join us on November 17th when we will welcome special guests from the Ward AME Church, with whom the Religious School has been partnering to foster friendships and cultural understanding. You may remember that they walked together in last year's MLK Day parade, and a repeat event is planned for 2018. Bringing our two communities together for Shabbat dinner extends the Sukkot spirit of generosity and welcoming from last month to this month. (I once heard that Thanksgiving was actually modeled after Sukkot.) I hope that you will join us for what will surely be an interesting and enjoyable evening.

Wishing you all a happy November and Thanksgiving!

Upcoming Events

TALKING TORAH

Thursdays, November 2, 9 & 16 at 10:00am

Please note that there is no Talking Torah on Thursdays, November 23 & 30

MONDAY MORNINGS WITH THE MASTERS

Mondays, November 6, 13, 20 & 27 at 8:15am

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, November 8 at 7:30pm

WOMEN'S LEAGUE MEETING

Monday, November 13 at 7:30pm

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, November 29 at 7:30pm

Shabbat Services

Shabbat morning services Every Saturday at 9:30am

Morning minyan Mondays & Thursdays at 7:00am

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE, FAMILY SHABBAT, AND TOT @ADAT

Saturday, November 4 9:30am Service 10:30am Tot Shabbat

JEWGLE RABBI IN RESIDENCE: RABBI SARAH SHULMAN

Saturday, November 11 at 9:30am

COMMUNITY SHABBAT DINNER & SERVICE

Friday, November 17 5:45pm Tot Kabbalat Shabbat 6:30pm Dinner 7:30pm Service

Religious School

FAMILY SHABBAT

Saturday, November 4 at 10:30am

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Wednesdays, November 1, 8, 15 & 29 at 4:00pm

Sundays, November 12 &19 at 9:00am



Office Closures

The office will close early on Wednesday, November 22 and will remain closed on Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 in observance of Thanksgiving.



JEWISH IDENTITY THROUGH MEDIA, LITERATURE & RABBINIC VOICES

Presented by Adat Shalom Violet Harris Fund



RABBI IN RESIDENCE

Rabbi Sarah Shulman

Saturday, November 11 at 9:30am

Camp Director Camp Ramah Northern California

KABBALAT SHABBAT DINNER & SERVICE

Friday, November 17

5:45pm

Our very first Tot Kabbalat Shabbat for young families

6:30pm Community Dinner

7:30pm Service

Join the Adat Shalom community in welcoming Shabbat with a delicious dinner followed by musical Shabbat services with Rabbi Nolan Lebovitz and Cantor Dale Schatz.

Please RSVP to the office at 310-475-4985.

Dinner: \$18/adult \$10/child before November 15, then \$20/adult Service and Tot Kabbalat Shabbat are open to all!



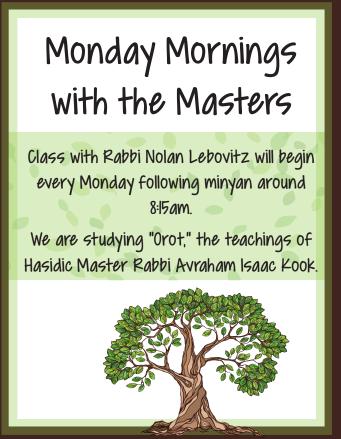
Jewgle

Unfortunately, the November 5th Jewgle event featuring author Maggie Anton has been cancelled.

See page 3 for our next Jewgle event!



Talking Torah Learn with Rabbi Lebovitz and enjoy coffee and a nosh at Adat Shalom Every Thursday at 10:00am All Are Welcome!



New Member Corner

Thank you to Anat Soffer for interviewing our new members!



David and Cecilia Victor & Family

Adat Shalom welcomes back the Victor Family: Cecilia, David, and their two sons, Benjamin and Samuel. David and Cecilia met in 1986, where they had a \$1 lunch at USC. Their older son, Benny now attends USC. He also write, composes, and plays several instruments. Their younger son, Sammy, is a junior in high school. Sammy plays jazz trombone and football. In case you hadn't noticed, this family loves music!

The Victor family originally joined Adat Shalom in 2000. They recently returned for the High Holidays and were overwhelmed and touched by the welcome they received. They are very happy to be back "home." The Victors enjoy attending Rabbi Lebovitz's classes, Shabbat dinners, services, and Adat Shalom's many holiday celebrations. In their free time they enjoy music, good food, a good Netflix show, and spending time with their sons. They look forward to becoming an integral part of the Adat Shalom community.

Welcome back, Victor family!



Welcome New Members!

We warmly welcome our newest members, Rachelle Neshkes, Aaron Rosenfield, and their daughter, Lyanna.





Francesca and Zoe Esquenazi

Adat Shalom is delighted to welcome new members, Francesca (Frani) and Zoe Esquenazi. Francesca met Rabbi Lebovitz at the Miller Introduction to Judaism program and recently became a member of Adat Shalom with her wife, Zoe.

Frani grew up in Los Angeles and also lived in Peru for a few years. Zoe grew up in Miami. Frani and Zoe met at a party thirteen years ago and have now been married for eleven

years. Frani and Zoe welcomed their beautiful daughter, Leah, in 2011. Sadly, Leah was born with mitochondrial disease, which took her life in 2013. Frani and Zoe look forward to honoring her memory by becoming parents again and are looking into domestic adoption.

Frani works as a video game producer at Lab Zero Games. Zoe works as a freelance cinematographer and has worked on television shows, in film, and has even done voice

over work. The couple is currently working on a documentary about sweet Leah's life and the incredible impact she had on everyone around her. For more information about Mitochondrial Disease, please visit: https://www.umdf.org/what-is-mitochondrial-disease/

In their free time, Frani and Zoe enjoy hiking and camping with their two dogs and spending time in nature. They are music lovers (Zoe plays keyboard guitar) and love to create songs, art, and dance. Frani and Zoe have enjoyed the high holiday services, attending the Friday night dinners & services, and celebrating a Passover Seder with fellow members Esther Margulies & Richard Destin. Welcome, Frani and Zoe!







Tashlich

On the Sunday following Rosh HaShanah, our Adat Shalom community gathered together at Kenneth Hahn Park to cast away our sins into water.

We were led in prayer and song

by Rabbi Lebovitz and Cantor Schatz and enjoyed a beautiful morning together!



Havdalah After Neilah

We hope you enjoyed a wonderful High Holiday season with your Adat Shalom family and that you have a happy, healthy 5778!





Women's League Chanukkah Party CHANUKAH HEROES DAY

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, December 3rd at 10:00am

One-man show by veteran film and television actor Arnold Weiss!

Candle lighting!

Delicious food!



\$10 Donation

RSVP to Sue Krell: (310) 398-1313 Skrell1@verizon.net

Sukkah Building

On Sunday, October 1, our Men's Club and Religious School came together to build Adat Shalom's beautiful sukkah! Thank you to everyone who helped and especially to Richard Destin and Mehran Javid for organizing this important and fun event.







Havdalah in the Sukkah

On Saturday, October 7, during the holiday of Sukkot, our Adat Shalom community came together in our sukkah for wine, cheese, and fun! After a short teaching with Rabbi Lebovitz, we sang fun songs with Cantor Schatz while the kids watched a movie in the newly renovated Newmark Hall. A good time was had by all, truly a *Z'man Simchateinu*, a time of rejoicing.

Thank you to Elana Dixon for making this wonderful event happen and to Vitorio and Rosemarie Swid for their help in making it such a success!







HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Maya Gabai Eden Gabai Ari Bierman Ethan Schlecter Emily Schlecter

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Michael & Donna Ernstoff
Mitchell & Nancy Gossett
Irwin & Naomi Friedman
Samuel Rotter & Amalia
Francalangia
Ari & Erica Kopmar

Donations

As of October 14, 2017

General Fund

- PHYLLIS BASS in appreciation of receiving an Aliyah on Yom Kippur
- MICHAEL & CYNTHIA DIAMENT in memory of Irwin Katz
- DAVID & HOLLY FACTOR in honor of the birth of Jacob Birnbaum
- MELISSA HELD BORDY
- CARLY GREENBERG
- LEWIS & DIANE STERNFELS in appreciation of receiving an Aliyah during the High Holidays
- OMER IVANIR & SUSANA SALAZAR

Kiddush Fund

 YORAM & LOTTIE COHEN in honor of their son Yermie and Rachel's upcoming wedding

Chaim Sabbah Fund

• LEWIS & DIANE STERNFELS

Yahrzeit

- FRED & VICKIE KAPLAN in memory of Joel Warner, Edith Warner, Lee Warner, and Gitta Warner
- SANDY & ANDREA NITZ in memory of Albert Benveniste
- BERNARD LAUFER in memory of Natan Singer
- DR. STEPHAN ZUSMAN in memory of Jack Zusman
- Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- IRWIN & NAOMI FRIEDMAN in memory of Ruth Shen and Joseph Schild
- JUDITH MILLER in memory of Morton Miller

High Holiday Donations

- DIANE ALVY
- HELEN BUDIN
- FRANK BUDNICK
- RICHARD DESTIN & ESTHER **MARGULIES**
- ESAYAS EZRA
- HENRIETTA GORDON
- WALTER & MARCIA GREENBERG
- RICHARD & INGE GREENWALD
- CYNTHIA HASDAY
- MARCUS & JUDITH JACOBSON
- JULIUS & ELLEN KAUFMAN
- STANLEY & RONNIE LAMPERT
- MARCIA MACHOL
- SANDY & ANDREA NITZ
- MASSOUD NOSRATI
- BILL & MARIE WEITZMAN



NER TAMID SOCIETY

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

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



Board of Directors

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KAREN **YAGHOUBIAN** Secretary

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JANET TRASK Development Chair

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HENNY GORDON Women's League