

High Holy Days 5782

with

Har Shalom



Mark Your Calendar!

September 6: *Erev Rosh Hashanah*

September 7-8: *Rosh Hashanah*

September 15: *Kol Nidre*

September 16: *Yom Kippur*



Don't miss an exciting announcement
from the Har Shalom Players on Page 17!

SATO
Volunteer
Opportunity!

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Join us for a
special
*"2-Shot
Shabbat"*

July 10

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.HARSHALOM.ORG/CALENDAR

FROM THE RABBI



Adam J. Raskin
Rabbi

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Just days after the most recent cease-fire that was brokered between Hamas and the State of Israel, I was sitting in my screened-in porch with a group of high school and college students discussing the conflict. About a week earlier a Har Shalom parent mentioned to me that her son had so many questions about the latest flare-up of violence, and also the scab of antisemitism that had been picked away yet again. This parent asked if we could convene something where kids like hers could just talk about their feelings, ask questions, and get some support during this painful and confusing time. I put out a quick message on Facebook and Instagram, and the office sent an email a few days before the gathering. I had no idea if anyone would come. After all it's high-time for sports leagues, graduation parties, AP exams and finals...

Imagine my surprise when twenty high school and college kids filled up my screened-in porch. Most of them were Har Shalom members, but a handful brought friends from other synagogues. Their questions were frank and poignant. We discussed the various actors in this conflict; we talked about root causes as well as the most recent aggression. They shared about social media posts by friends who really don't understand the complexity or layers of the issue. They talked openly about their love for Israel and their desire for both Israelis and Palestinians to live in peace, safety, and freedom. At no time were voices raised; there was no disrespect for varying opinions or feelings on the issues; they spoke openly and listened to each other intently. I decided that my approach would not be didactic. I didn't bring any handouts, charts, maps, timelines...I wanted it to be a conversation, and a space for people to just talk and share. I couldn't help but think to myself, what if the major players in this conflict could do what these kids were doing in my backyard! What if they could sit together, speak openly of their yearnings and fears, and pay close, heartfelt attention to each other. Obviously we weren't conducting high-stakes diplomatic

"My new understanding and birth of knowledge from the discussion at Rabbi Raskin's house enabled productivity in my first conversation on the topic with a young Palestinian girl I work with. I was able to be an outlet for her to voice her frustration, and an example that she should not think all Zionists are bad people, and we eventually were able to hypothesize a two-state solution that fit both of our agendas for the land. It was a beautiful experience."

Ben Malech (son of Rori Malech and Lloyd Malech)
junior at Tulane University, majoring in
Finance, Management, and Philosophy

negotiations on my porch, but there was a sense of equanimity that was so reassuring and hopeful.

As we yearn for peace for all people in that land, it is critical that we are educated about the conflict, and understand the stakes. Rather than posting simplistic slogans on social media, or arguing from instinctive, emotional places, the conversation will only advance when people take the time to learn and communicate the way these high school and college students demonstrated on that Shabbat afternoon. I pray that these amazing kids soon become the peacemakers of the world, because if they conduct themselves with the thoughtfulness and maturity I witnessed that day, the future will be much brighter. As the great Rav Avraham Yitzhak Ha'Kohen Kook (1865-1935) wrote: "The increase of peace occurs when all the angles and opinions that exist in wisdom are seen and it is clear how each one has a place. When there is a compilation of all the parts, details, and opinions that look different, through them will be seen the light of truth and justice." These 20 kids role modeled that, and I pray that, on their merit, "the increase of peace" will indeed occur.

L'shalom,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adam J. Raskin".

Rabbi Raskin

FROM THE HAZZAN



Henrique Ozur Bass
Hazzan

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We count 10 weeks leading to Rosh Hashanah: the first 3, between the fast of Tamuz (6/26) and Tisha b'Av (7/18) are called weeks of rebuke. During these weeks we recite haftarot (prophetic readings) of chastisement, and God promises to punish the Israelites. The weeks between Tisha b'Av (7/18) and Rosh Hashanah are of consolation. Forgiveness is the theme of the haftarot we chant during these weeks. This contrast between rebuke and consolation, between punishment and forgiveness, is a common trope in Judaism. God separated day and night, light and darkness; humans separate holy from secular, pure from impure. Sin is bad; following God's precepts is good.

The Sages who created our prayers are sometimes uncomfortable with such contrast between good and bad. For instance, Isaiah states (45:7) that God "fashions light and creates darkness, makes peace and creates evil;" in the liturgy (Sim Shalom for Shabbat, page 107) God "makes peace and creates everything." The evil that Isaiah contrasts with peace is transformed to be a part of the "everything" that God created. The Hassidic masters expanded this concept: God is not an "other," apart from the world and judging the actions of all humans to bring punishment or reward; God is One, the world is One. They quote from Isaiah (6:3) who says the world and all that is in it, are all part of that One God. Not separate from God, but part of that Unity.

In its surface, the juxtaposition of the 3 weeks of rebuke against the 7 weeks of consolation might lead a human being to think in polar terms: I can be good or bad, in different gradations, deserving more Divine reward or more Divine punishment. On the other hand, I choose to understand both Divine judgment and compassion as gifts from God: I sin because I am human, and accepting that fact I can also accept that God judges me. Divine Judgment is a blessing if I accept it as a prerequisite for repentance, atonement, forgiveness and redemption.

There are two paths in front of us during these 10 weeks leading up to Rosh Hashanah: on one, God rewards or punishes us because of our actions. When we walk that path we see God as "other," separate from us, and we ask ourselves "why me, God." The other path is the path of unity with God. In that Unity we accept that we are sinners, we take accountability, and what was understood as "punishment" becomes a Divine gift, a second chance to be in relationship with The Merciful One.

I pray that we use these 10 weeks for introspection, and that introspection brings us closer to Unity with The Holy One.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'H. Bass'.

Hazzan Ozur Bass

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Michael Baron
President

president@harshalom.org

Dear Friends,

I'm writing this on my flight back from Dallas after attending the funeral of Bob Levinson, father of Sari Raskin, beloved father-in-law to Rabbi Adam Raskin, and most especially loving Zayde to Mia, Nessa, and Ezra. Since the Raskins arrived at Har Shalom in the summer of 2011, Bob has been a jovial presence here, especially at his grandchildren's B'nai Mitzvah and the High Holidays.

So why did I catch a last-minute flight to Dallas? Not only because I genuinely love the Raskin family, but because I felt it important, as Board President, to represent the Har Shalom community.

I bring up the word "COMMUNITY" again, because after a cataclysmic year, we are coming back together in our physical space. I think that over the past year, we've found so many ways to strengthen our community, even though we couldn't be together, and I hope that a lot of these ways continue. We already had a successful joint Shavuot Service and Program with B'nai Tzedek. I thank the clergy for putting together this program. Also, Ruth Szykman arranged a wonderful end-of-the-year outdoor program for the Har Shalom Religious School with University of Maryland a-cappella group Rak Shalom performing. And mazel tov to the Pandot & Ariot students in the Sherman ECC on finishing up a challenging school year.

At the typing of this letter, the Reopening Task Force has increased the seating capacity in the Burke Sanctuary to 150 individuals and approved our Kiddush-to-go boxed lunches. I've been attending services every week, and I love being able to walk home with a box of Kiddush favorites... including Marco's tuna salad! Har Shalom began the month of June with four B'nai Mitzvah and ended with Men's Club Shabbat. Almost like old times.

Over the summer we are planning a "Two-Shot Shabbat" (vaccinations, not *l'chaims!*), a drive-in movie event, fruit picking for our families, and more.

But no matter how much we plan and brainstorm, these events cannot be successful without YOU. Our Reopening Task Force, made up of doctors, administrators, and public health experts, will make sure that proper safety protocols are in place for these events.

Can you believe the High Holidays are only 2 months away?! Our High Holiday Committee has been planning for these services, with both optimism and caution. Please watch your emails for the upcoming High Holiday announcements.

As the United States celebrates its 245th birthday this July 4th, it is almost time to celebrate the end of COVID-19 and reopening of our synagogue building.

Stay safe, enjoy your summer, and I'll see you at shul!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael L. Baron".

Michael L. Baron
President

FROM THE SYNAGOGUE ADMINISTRATOR



Carly Litwok
Synagogue Administrator

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carly@harshalom.org

In a “normal” year, all of the plans for the High Holy Days (HHDs) would have been done by the time you read this. We would be mailing HHD ticket and information in July. We typically like to plan in advance so we have time to focus on the details that many people do not even notice – youth services, parking, tickets, signage, setting up chairs, etc. Given that nothing

about this year has been normal, we are planning to mail the tickets later this summer.

As the summer is just beginning, I always sense a shift in many people’s emotions. Summer is a time to relax a little, enjoy some summer sun, maybe take a trip to the beach or head to the pool, and be more at ease (not for the staff at HS as we prepare for the HHDs). This summer is shaping up to be another interesting season as more and more people are vaccinated, the CDC has lifted many restrictions, and things are slowly starting to reopen. I have joined a working group of other Executive Directors with the North American Association of Synagogue Executives (NAASE) to work together on all of the logistical issues of the HHDs this year.

Not that I am rushing summer at all, but when the summer comes to an end, I urge you, our community, to carry some of that ease and a lot of patience, as we plan our HHDs. Dedicated groups along with the staff and clergy have been working tirelessly on creating a meaningful and spiritual HHD season for Har Shalom. Although details are not yet finalized, we do know that this will still be a transitional year, understanding that we have a range of comfort levels in coming back to the building and a large population under the age of 12 who are not yet able to get vaccinated.

One thing that we do know for sure is that we will have a hybrid service – in person and virtual (both streaming and Zoom). Please be on the lookout for communications from us. As I often remind my 2.5 year old daughter Shai, please be patient as we work together to make this year memorable.

Carly Litwok

High Holy Days 5782 with Har Shalom

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Virtual & In-Person Service
Schedules, Ticket Information,
and Resources – coming soon!

www.HarShalom.org/HHD5782



Not receiving Har Shalom's
At Home or **Shabbat Shalom** weekly emails?

Please call the office at 301-299-7087 to
update your digital contact information!

**WITH DEEP GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION
WE THANK THESE GENEROUS DONORS
FOR THEIR RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS**



**ARDEN
BAKER**

*For upgrading the
sound system in the
Burke Sanctuary*



**FRED & IRIS
BURKE**

*For repairs to the
Burke Sanctuary*



**HAR SHALOM
SISTERHOOD**

*For repairs to the
Burke Sanctuary*



**RAMI &
MICHELLE
LOYA**

*For LED light
upgrades in the
school wing and
parking lot*

COVID REFLECTIONS

FROM OUR CONGREGANTS



The Udell Family

September 5, 2020 was an amazing day for our family! It was the day of our daughter Alana's Bat Mitzvah in the middle of a pandemic the likes of which none of us had ever experienced.

Just as we did for our son Coby's Bar Mitzvah in October 2018, we started making plans well ahead of the event – inviting family and celebrating with a big after-party – renting the social hall, the caterer, the DJ. Then as the new restrictions were enforced, being told our vision of a big party could not be, we were at first disappointed, but Carly, Rabbi and Hazzan encouraged us to find a way to adjust and make Alana's day special. We could only have a few friends and family, no food, no schmoozing; and no grandparents could travel to be with us. Alana had to lead the service, and read Torah masked, from inside a plexiglass box on the bimah. However, it was the most wonderful and meaningful day we could have ever hoped for. Even though we had to stay distanced because no one was immunized, we were so happy and thankful that the friends and family that we could invite came.

While we were not able to have a big 'communal' celebration like we started to plan to recognize Alana's accomplishment, as parents, we could not be more proud of how Alana took all of this in stride. Her vision, and our initial vision, of her special day was forever altered. She took her disappointment and channeled it as she led the service inspired and read Torah with poise. She even unexpectedly learned a Torah portion in just two days. Alana took a lot on by herself

and made becoming a Bat Mitzvah even more meaningful to herself, and our family and friends in the shul and online via Zoom (and kudos to the staff for an amazing job with the broadcast).

All in all, it was a joyful day for all of us. We were able to focus on Alana (and not on all of the outside stressors that come with planning a Mitzvah). I know that those of us whose children had pandemic Bar/Bat Mitzvah's will always remember this time as a time of triumph and happiness.

Heather and Curtis Udell

The New-Schneider Family

I consider my family to be fairly regular Shabbat attendees. We attend more Shabbat morning services than we don't. When Covid hit, the abrupt halt to attending Shabbat morning services rippled through all of us. Daniel and I were devastated that Benjamin (born December, 2019) was not going to get to spend his infancy passed around during shul, my children spoke about missing their visits with Rabbi Raskin on the bimah (and receiving Hershey Kisses) and singing with the Hazzan. We missed hearing the Rabbi's sermons in person and worshipping together. We all also missed Marco's tuna and seeing our friends for Shabbat Kiddush lunch.

We were very pleased when Har Shalom made the pivot to online services and programming. We felt lucky to have the opportunity to still pray with our community. As Covid stretched on we attended fewer and fewer online services. It was hard worshipping in the silo of our home and without our greater community. It was more challenging to entice our children to participate with us and we often had to stop praying to attend to things in our home or with our children.

As a member of the board I was routinely invited and encouraged to attend services in-person. To me the idea seemed impossible, even after being vaccinated. How could I possibly bring my unvaccinated children to services? They would not be able to hug the clergy, they would have to sit still in our seats to not infringe upon the social distancing restrictions. It didn't seem to be worth it, we could daven at home, so why risk it?



In May, my sister-in-law visited us and she signed up to leyn Torah. We discussed it and decided we would attend with our children. We gave them strict rules about not infringing on anyone's space, I brought a ton of toys and snacks for the baby (who is now 1 ½) and we ventured out to in-person Shabbat Services for the first time in 14 months.

I am a person who at one time was in the building up to 3-4 different times in a day. The building is a physical space that feels like home. I did not expect reentering to be such a shock to my system. I was taken aback that the act of merely walking into the gathering hall and hearing the voices of people davening in the sanctuary moved me to tears (I hadn't even made it into the sanctuary yet!). I was overwhelmed with emotion just by smelling the building smells, seeing the inside of the walls and knowing others were filling the same space as me.

When I carried Benjamin (the baby) inside the Burke Sanctuary, he leaned his head back and his mouth dropped open. The grandeur of the architecture

of the Burke was unlike anything he had ever experienced. Watching him take in this glorious, holy room in wonder further evoked my tears of joy. The pinnacle of the experience was one that I have taken for granted my entire life, I heard other voices pray at the same time as my voice. For the past 14 months on Zoom I have only heard myself and my husband. To hear the communal voice of the 50 people in the sanctuary was not only one of the most beautiful things I have heard, and as corny as it sounds, it felt as though I was being given the hug of a loved one that I hadn't seen in a long time. I knew that I missed community, but I didn't fully recognize the extent that I missed hearing other voices. At home I still heard the Hazzan sing and the Rabbi pray, but I didn't know how hollow the sound of just the few of us at home following along felt and sounded. I learned at that moment why we have a minyan. Although prayer is highly individualized we are not intended to pray alone.

Being the parent of 3 unvaccinated children, we are slowly figuring out how to proceed in the world with caution. We still have so many questions and so many unknowns. On this day in May, one of our questions was answered: we can return to Har Shalom. It is a little more anxiety producing going anywhere with a toddler who wants to run around and put anything he can in his mouth, however, our community will be there looking out for him as we worship together.

Betsy New-Schneider

Har Shalom Friendships Through the Years

Congratulations to these Wootton High School grads who met during their time at the Sherman ECC! They grew up together, celebrated B'not Mitzvah here at Har Shalom, and now are college-bound!



Left: Maddie Etman (Ithaca College) & Jenna Lind (Univ. of Pittsburgh, Nursing School)

Right: Maya Erd (Univ. of Maryland) & Jenna Lind

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE



Melissa Schwartz
Membership Engagement
and Teen Coordinator

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mschwartz@harshalom.org

As people start to come back into the building, our hallways are once again filled with the noise of a busy synagogue community. Did you know you could miss noise? As we start to reopen, Har Shalom continues to be here for you, our members. Once again, I want to thank Louis Leibowitz and Beth Ann Katz for continuing to reach out via email to our congregation. What started as simply a check-in has turned into a wonderful way to find out how you are doing and if anything is needed. Please continue to be in touch with us, too.

Thank you to those who filled out the member interest survey. What a great response we received! We have been giving the names of those who expressed interest in different committee or volunteer opportunities to the committee chairs and synagogue leadership, who will be contacting you in the coming weeks. If you did not fill out the survey, not to worry, it will be sent out again shortly.

I am excited during the summer months to continue to work on ideas surrounding membership outreach and we continue to welcome new members to our Har Shalom family. Please do not hesitate to let us know if you have a friend or relative that is interested in joining. We will make sure to reach out to them. Over the summer we are working on putting together more in person events (in accordance with our Reopening Task Force) for people to see each other again. Make sure to take advantage of our Kiddush-to-Go bags for those missing Marco's famous tuna fish.

For those traveling once again, be safe and stay in touch with your Har Shalom family! We look forward to hearing about your summer travels. For those children and teens going to camp this summer, please make sure to let us know where you are headed so we can send you letters and packages from home.

B'Yedidut (in friendship),
Melissa Schwartz
Membership Engagement and Teen Coordinator



GOT YOUR VACCINE?!

**JOIN US FOR A
SPECIAL
"2-SHOT SHABBAT"**

SATURDAY, JULY 10



Shabbat Morning Kiddushes are gearing back up!

OUR OFFERINGS ARE CHANGING WEEKLY, AS THE BUILDING SLOWLY REOPENS. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING IN THE KITCHEN TO PREPARE OR SERVE FOOD, GOING SHOPPING FOR INGREDIENTS, OR DONATING MONEY TO ENHANCE THE KIDDUSH EXPERIENCE, PLEASE CONTACT JOANNA RUBIN AT JRUBIN@HARSHALOM.ORG

FROM THE SHERMAN ECC



Beth Hoch
Director of Early
Childhood Education
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Many of you saw the response our PreK children had to the Israel banner being torn down at Har Shalom in late May. The response came out of two class meetings that I had the first morning we returned to school after the incident. Many times when bad things happen we try and shield our children, as we should, to protect them, or we give them just as much information as they ask and provide them the comfort and support they need to feel safe.

In this situation, I felt that it was important that our PreK children, who are 4 and 5, know that someone tore the banner down because they did not like the message. We are raising the future citizens of the world and have a responsibility to teach them civil discourse and to be advocates for justice. Every day in our classrooms we are modeling and teaching respect, kindness, how to deal with conflict, and respectfully disagree with someone. We are teaching tolerance and honoring differences. There are teachable moments in the classroom every day and then the bigger issues in our community and our world. This year we have had hard conversations about racial injustice and tackled Covid and the respect we give when we wear our masks and stay home. We've also shielded our children from so much of the news because it is not appropriate for them to hear about gun violence or trauma.

As parents, grandparents, teachers, and neighbors, we have a great responsibility to balance instilling these beautiful values in our children and also protecting them from too much or inappropriate news. Let us continue to empower our children to focus on the good and find ways to turn a sad situation into a positive. When we give our children these opportunities, we are building their ability to be resilient. Let them spread love, not hate. Let them be the peacemakers of the next generation.

B'yedidut,
Beth Hoch







MAZEL TOV TO THE
Ariot & Pandot
ON THEIR SIYUM!

FROM THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT



Ruth M. Szykman

Director of Education

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Looking Back, Looking Forward

After spending a whole school year online, it was so incredible to have our HSRS *Siyyum* in person this May. Over a hundred people gathered in the parking lot at Har Shalom as we celebrated our students, teachers and a successful year of Jewish learning. Having teachers and students meet for the first time in person on the last day of school was certainly a first for me!

Now that the Year of Covid is in the rearview mirror – we get to look ahead. The big news? HSRS will be in person on Sundays! We will keep our small, intensive Hebrew classes online during the week. (no carpool!!!) This summer is all about planning that safe return to the building in the Fall. After a year on Zoom, we've learned a lot about flexibility, alternative ways of learning, and the huge importance of spontaneous class dance parties. HSRS teachers and I will be looking at our curriculum and seeing how we can take the good parts of this last year and use that to enhance our learning for next year. I'm just excited to break out all those craft supplies that have been sitting in my office all year.

The return to the building also means that we can expand our Youth programming – look for a calendar that has fun, creative opportunities for both kids and parents alike. Art, music, sports and, of course, cooking are all going to be on the menu for next year.

I'm also happy to announce (drum roll please) that we'll be introducing new Teen programs this Fall. Upper School for grades 8 and 9 will meet Tuesday nights and offer a range of classes from *Shoah* to Jewish Night Court to Art and Torah. We'll serve dinner, learn a bit and hang with friends. Confirmation Class with Rabbi Raskin will offer 10th and 11th graders an opportunity to focus on "Putting the 'I' in Israel."

If, as you read this, you have more suggestions for the upcoming year – well, come join our discussions. The Education and Youth committee needs your ideas and creativity. You don't have to sign up for a lot, come do a little – every bit counts. Reach out to me this summer and let's talk. Ruth@harshalom.org or 301.404.9155.

And – here's your friendly reminder: **REGISTER FOR HSRS!!!!** Go to our website and fill out the online form - www.harshalom.org/HSRS.

Have a great summer – can't wait to see you all in the Fall!

Ruth





Melissa Schwartz
Membership Engagement
and Teen Coordinator

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FROM TEEN ENGAGEMENT

How can we help? That was the sentence I heard most often this year during our monthly Making a Difference program. Our teens shared six months of online learning on a variety of topics such as homelessness, inclusion, identity, activism, and how to speak with those whom we disagree. I think what I enjoyed most was hearing the questions posed to all of our speakers. Our teens wanted to know not just how they could help, but how could they really make a difference. They wanted to better understand the world around them and their role in it.

I also am so happy that we were able to hold our first in-person Lag Ba'Omer bonfire event. We had s'mores, cornhole, basketball, and trivia; but most importantly the teens just enjoyed being together. There was a happiness that filled the air and it was wonderful to see. Taking that energy, this summer I will be working on a calendar of events for our teens.



For any children or teens going to camp, please email me where you will be and be on the lookout for letters and packages from your Har Shalom family!

Best wishes for a *Kayitz Tov* (good summer),
Melissa Schwartz
Membership Engagement and Teen Coordinator

ADULT EDUCATION

For a full list of upcoming Adult Education, visit www.HarShalom.org/Adult-Ed

JEWISH MISCONCEPTIONS

Sunday, July 11
9:30 - 11:00 AM

*Join us for a series with Rabbi
Raskin about misconceptions
Jews have about Judaism*

REGISTER FOR ZOOM LINK:
www.HarShalom.org/Misconceptions



MIDDAY MINDFUL MOMENTS
WITH HAZZAN OZUR BASS
THURSDAYS @ 12:30 PM



THIRTY MINUTES OF HEALING, MEDITATION,
MINDFUL NIGGUNIM, STUDY OF HASIDIC
TEXTS AND OPEN SHARING.

REGISTER TO RECEIVE THE ZOOM LINK:
WWW.HARSHALOM.ORG/MINDFULMOMENTS

SAVE THE DATE

Observance of Tisha B'Av

Sunday, July 18

Details Coming Soon!



FROM THE HAR SHALOM PLAYERS

AND THE HAR SHALOM PLAYERS' 2022 PRODUCTION IS. . .

The Har Shalom Players' (HSP) production team has selected ***Mamma Mia!*** as its musical for 2022. It is inspired by the storytelling magic of ABBA's songs, from "Dancing Queen" and "Take A Chance On Me" to "Super Trouper" and "Thank You For The Music."

MAMMA MIA!'s enchanting tale of family and friendship unfolds on a Greek Island paradise. On the eve of her wedding, a daughter's quest to discover the identity of her father brings three men from her mother's past to the island they last visited 20 years ago. Over 40 million people worldwide have been dancing in the aisles to this sensational musical.

Performances in the Burke Sanctuary are scheduled for **Saturday evening, March 12 and Sunday afternoon March 13, 2022**. Save those dates, as well as Wednesday and Thursday, November 3 and 4, 2021 when we will be holding auditions for *Mamma Mia!* As time gets closer, we will be providing more information in the Tablet about the audition process. We hope many Har Shalom members and their families who love to sing and act will audition for this amazing show.

The Har Shalom Players production team, including Ken Lechter and Stew Remer (Co-Producers), and Shelly Horn (Artistic Director) welcomes its newest member of the team, Scott Richards as the *Mamma Mia!* Musical Director. Scott comes to the HSP with an excellent reputation for having taught music and conducted orchestras for many Washington DC community theatre groups.

Tickets for HSP's production of *Mamma Mia!* will be available in early January 2022.

The title "MAMMA MIA!" is displayed in a large, blue, serif font. The letters are filled with a dense pattern of small, white, star-like sparkles, giving the text a shimmering, celebratory appearance. The word "MAMMA" is on the top line, and "MIA!" is on the bottom line, with the exclamation mark being a large, solid blue circle.

FROM SATO: SOCIAL ACTION/TIKKUN OLAM

The SATO (Social Action/Tikkun Olam) committee continues to support our local community with donations through the pandemic.

SOUP CONTINUES! Twice a month Har Shalom chefs cook soup for donation to food insecure Montgomery County residents. To date we have donated over 500 quarts of soup to the upCounty Consolidation Hub in Germantown as well as to friends and neighbors who are ill or in need of a cheery meal.

Upcoming zoom cooking dates are July 11 & 25 and August 8 & 22. Join us on zoom or cook on your own. Register and get the recipes at www.HarShalom.org/KindSoup.

Frozen soup pick ups are at 10:15 Tuesday mornings at Har Shalom. We continue to look for favorite soup recipes, especially cold soups. (How many ways can we make gazpacho?) Any questions, contact Marjorie Klein, msklein424@aol.com.

Knitters and crocheters meet throughout the summer to make blankets for donation. If interested, contact Marjorie Klein, msklein424@aol.com.



SATO Racial Justice Committee Volunteer Tutoring Opportunity



The Sela DC Public Charter School and Congregation Har Shalom are forming a partnership! After a meeting between several Har Shalom members and Sela's Principal and Director of Culture and Student Services to discuss how we could support its elementary school students, a need for volunteer tutors in reading, math, and some basic Hebrew was identified. Sela offered to provide training to all tutors, so no prior teaching skills are necessary although teachers are most welcome to volunteer. Tutoring will be virtual and will begin in October. So far, we have nine Har Shalom members who have signed on as tutors and hope to add more to our team.

Sela (<https://www.selapcs.org/>) was founded by two Jewish women, who wanted a secular school for their children with a diverse population but with some Hebrew and Israel-related curriculum content. Following a year of gathering information, they wrote a proposal to the DC Office of Education based on a New York City Hebrew immersion school model. Their proposal was accepted and in 2013, Sela opened in the Fort Totten and Takoma, DC NE area.

Enrollment in DC charter schools is by lottery and because of Sela's reputation, many parents are now putting Sela as their first choice. Student enrollment is now just above 260 with 50% of the children from low-income families, including 17.9% of children at risk (below the poverty line), and 10.9% of children with special needs. The faculty is very diverse, and of particular note, over the years their Hebrew language faculty has included teachers from Israel, Russia, and Ethiopia.

Please contact Shelley Remer, shelley.remer@verizon.net, if you are interested in participating in this meaningful work.

FROM THE HESED COMMITTEE

The need for Hesed, or Acts of Loving Kindness, is ever present in our community. Whether at the birth of a new child, the loss of a loved one, a medical illness or procedure, or an unexpected event, the Hesed Committee is here to support you, our Har Shalom family.

Recently, we received these comments and emails that tell part of our Hesed story at Har Shalom:

- "Thank you very much for setting up the meal train and for sending us our first meal [after the birth of our newborn]! This is so helpful as we adjust to the "new normal" with baby E."
- "Thank you for the food delivery [during shiva for a loved one]. Just seeing your Hesed volunteer with a smiling face that morning helped me."
- "Thank you [for helping secure a much needed vaccine for a high-risk member of our community]! I am so glad [a volunteer] will be able to help them and so promptly! You are doing a wonderful service!"
- "Thank you for that wonderful, yummy Shabbat Dinner [following a home fire that led to a long-term relocation]. So appreciated. We loved the thoughtfulness, the generosity, and the gracious way it was handled from start to finish."

Help the Hesed Committee continue to spread hesed, loving kindness. Have you heard of a Har Shalom member who you think could benefit from a phone call, a meal, or other comfort? Please email our Hesed Committee: Hesed@HarShalom.org or call Leslie in the Clergy Office at 301-299-7087 ext. 1.

We always need and welcome your help! If you have time to make a few phone calls, write some handwritten notes, make or order a meal or help with delivery or a small errand, please contact us at Hesed@HarShalom.org or contact us directly. We are eager to support the community and we welcome all ideas, volunteers and new energy with open ears and open arms.

Aileen Goldstein & Fran Elson
Co-chairs, Hesed Committee



SHARING IS CARING!

Join the Hesed Committee
in supporting members of
our community by providing
a meal through Meal Train.

For more information
and to sign-up visit:
www.HarShalom.org/hesedMT

Thank you in advance for your help and support!
As always, if you or anyone you know is in need,
please email hesed@harshalom.org
so we can reach out and offer support.

SATO's Monthly and Ongoing Collections

Please place all items in lobby and mark for SATO!



July/August
School Supplies for Stepping
Stones Family Shelter



SATO'S ONGOING COLLECTION

New and nearly-new bras,
new underwear, socks, and
feminine hygiene products,
for donation to

I SUPPORT THE GIRLS.

Please put items in a labeled
bag (SATO) and leave it
in the vestibule.



CATCH UP WITH THE SISTERHOOD

From Your Sisterhood President, Susan Grant



Happy Summer! The weather is warm and we are able to spend more time outdoors, visiting with family and friends. Enjoy! Your Sisterhood is working behind the scenes to bring you another year of rewarding programs. Please make sure to rejoin

Sisterhood by adding it to your synagogue statement or paying Sisterhood directly by check. See below for contact information. You can also pay your dues by Venmo using @HarShalom-Sisterhood.

We hope you enjoyed our Appreciation event on May 12th with The Word Mavens. Ellen Scolnic and Joyce Eisenberg regaled us with Yiddish and Hebrew words and their meanings in a lovely and fun presentation. Did you know that the word finagle is not Yiddish?! I love the word *knippel*, meaning a woman's secret stash of money. My mother always had a knippel and I thought all women had them too!

We look forward to welcoming you back to the synagogue this Fall. As I write this article, I don't know if we will be back in person yet or still on zoom. Either way, Sisterhood is prepared to keep you busy, active, engaged, and creating friendships through our programs. See you in the Fall!

Paying by check?

Please send \$50 made out to Sisterhood of Har Shalom with "dues" written in the memo to:

Karen Jenkins
992 Farm Haven Drive
Rockville, MD 20852



SISTERHOOD PRESENTS:

Rosh Hodesh Elul
August 8 at 8:00 PM

It is **FOUR WEEKS** until *Rosh Hashanah*.

We'll explore how we can prepare ourselves for the High Holydays beginning with our *Heshbon HaNefesh*.

www.HarShalom.org/SisterhoodRH

RSVP Required by August 4, 2021

FAMILY NEWS

B'NAI MITZVAH



Davica Bradley-Bunkin

August 8

Child of Doug Bradley



Reese Effross

August 21

Daughter of Andrew & Hope Effross

MAZAL Tov!

March 15 - May 15

Lisa and Mark Kirsch on the birth of their granddaughter, Noa Lauren Evins, on March 26th, to Jessica and Alex Evins.

Michael & Paulette Baron on the engagement of their son, Zach, to Paige Ames.

CJ Snow, son of Linda Silverman & Dan Snow, on his graduation from The University of Maryland on May 21st, with a BS in Materials Science Engineering and a Minor in Sustainability.

Hal & Laurie Freed joyfully celebrated the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Benjamin Jack Auerbach, on May 1st via Temple Emanuel Zoom. Ben is the son of parents Dr. Aaron and Suzanne Auerbach, and brother of Zachary Ryan.

Debbie & Ed Schapiro and Char & Russ Krasnoff on the birth of their grandson, Joshua Bryan Krasnoff, on April 22nd. The proud parents are Jenna & Cory Krasnoff.

Syl Sobel on the publication of his book "Boxed Out of the NBA: Remembering the Eastern Professional Basketball League," co-authored with Jay Rosenstein. The book is about the top pro basketball minor league in the country

in the 1950s through '70s, back when the NBA had 10 or fewer teams and an unwritten quota on Black players. We tell the story of some of the best players in the U.S. who never got the recognition they deserved. Amazon ranked it as its no. 1 new release in sports industry books when it launched two weeks ago.

Sherri & Justin Starr on the birth of their son, Ethan Miles Starr, on April 16th. Ethan is welcomed by great-grandparents Shirley Deckelboim and Abraham Sanders; grandparents Ros & Gary Deckelboim and Michelle & Gary Starr; aunts and uncles Susan & Josh Alderoty, Carly & Matt Bernstein, and Jake Starr; and cousin Sophie Alderoty.

Marj Klein and Toby Holtzman on their birthdays.

Morgan Fusfield, daughter of Lauren Appelbaum & Jonathan Fusfield, on her birthday.

Mara & Larry Bier on the birth of their granddaughter, Kailah Miriam Bier, on March 8th, in Berkeley, California. The proud parents are Matthew & Natalie Bier.

Sen. Cheryl C. Kagan, who was honored by the American Jewish Committee on April 25th with the Hyman Bookbinder Award for exemplary leaders who demonstrate the energy and spirit of Jewish advocacy.

Scott & Marcie Wertlieb on their 20th anniversary

Randy & Laurie May on their 50th anniversary.

Mitch & Amy Smith on their 26th anniversary.

Owen & Margie Ritter on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Coby Ritter, on March 13th at Congregation Shaare Torah, a year after the original simha date. Coby's proud parents are Rob & Betsy Ritter.

Yonatan & Amanda Nesher on the birth of their daughter, Maya Carolina, on March 15th. Maya is welcomed by big brothers Adam and Benjamin.

Harry Lichtman, son of Bennett & Judy Lichtman and brother of Celia Lichtman, on becoming a freelance reporter for the Baltimore Jewish Times.

...FAMILY NEWS CONTINUED ON PAGE 22

CONDOLENCES:

March 15th - May 15

Frances Feder on the passing of her brother-in-law Stanley Feder, uncle of Marisa Marcus.

Sandy Ressler on the passing of his father, Murray Ressler.

Cindy Berkowitz on the passing of her husband, Herbert Berkowitz.

Marcia Levy on the passing of her sister, Maria de Fatima Moreira de Souza.

Judd Kessler on the passing of his brother, Warren Kessler.

Director of Education Ruth Szykman on the passing of her father, Stanley Blumberg.

Lesley Cooper on the passing of her mother, Arlene Klein.



CEMETERY PLOTS FOR SALE!

**BUY NOW; PRICES
GOING UP SOON!**

Garden of Remembrance
in Clarksburg, MD:
\$2200 each

Judean Gardens
in Olney, MD:
\$2500 each

Mt. Lebanon
in Adelphi, MD:
\$1000 each

**Contact Joanna Rubin at
jrubin@harshalom.org
for more information or
to make a purchase.**

DONATIONS

March 16th - May 11th

Abram Blum Library

In Memory Of

Jeanette Hoffman
Richard & Lois Neuman
Samuel Rubenstein
Saul Schepartz

Ashin-Zitomer Dor L'Dor

In Memory Of

Warren Kessler, brother of
Judd Kessler
Jeffery & Mikki Ashin

Building Improvement

Joyce Lipman
Dennis & Linda Winson

In Honor Of

Allan Mann
Warren & Ann Steinberger

Morris and Lillian Cahan Adult Education

In Honor of

Morris & Lillian Cahan
Weekend of Learning
Richard & Nancy Millstein

In Memory Of

Honey Rosen
Phil & Judy Grimley
Herbert Berkowitz
Joyce Lipman

Community of Caring

In Honor Of

Bat Mitzvah of Erica Malet
Aileen Goldstein
Birthday of Stewart Remer
Ira & Susan Weiss
Marjorie Klein
Marcia Akresh
Dorise Blatt
Our 50th Wedding
Anniversary
Randolph & Laurie May

Counting Our Blessings (COVID)

In Memory Of

Jack Hanover
Mark Kirsch & Lisa Hanover

Debbie Karch Children's Library

In Memory Of

Herbert Berkowitz
Jeffrey & Irene Rosenbloom
Esther Sherman
Warren & Ann Steinberger

Dorann Bunkin Environmental Impact Fund

In Memory Of

Herbert Berkowitz
Madeline Shere
Kenneth Shere

General Operating

In Memory Of

Herbert Berkowitz
Robert & Mary Brull
Judy Morenoff
Warren Kessler, brother of
Judd Kessler
Thomas Reichmann &
Miriam Toporowicz
Randolph & Laurie May
Stanley Blumberg, father of
Ruth Szykman
James & Brenda Schmand
Sylvia Stoff, mother of
Elizabeth Stoff
Larry & Dawn Fischer
Herbert Wisotsky, father
of Phil
Philip & Shirley Wisotsky
Bessie Ross, my grandmother
Joseph Ross, my grandfather
Warren Kessler, brother of
Judd Kessler
Robert Ross

Thomas Leax

Ann & Warren Steinberger

Maria de Fatima Moreira de

Souza, sister of Marcia Levy
Bena Siegel

Murray Ressler, father of

Sandy Ressler
Stuart & Sheila Taylor

Eugene Gilman, father of

Dawn
Larry & Dawn Fischer

Herbert Berkowitz

Sorell Schwartz

Sheila Matasar, aunt of Eliot

Eliot & Christiane Sorel

Irvin Cohen

Minnie Cohen

Barney Weitz

Henrietta Weitz

Norman & Marilyn Cohen

Arlene Klein, mother of Lesley

Cooper

Daniel Snow & Linda
Silverman

Marie Penn Blechman

Judy Morenoff

Leonard Karch

Edith Karch

Norman Mann

Harvey & Ellen Karch

In Honor Of

Debbie and Ed Schapiro, on
the birth of their
grandson,
Joshua Bryan Krasnoff
Birthday of Richard Isen
Steve Susswein, outgoing
Board President
Michael Baron, incoming
Board President
Susan Grant, Sisterhood
President
Carly Litwok, Executive
Director
Richard & Linda Isen
The birth of our grandson,
Jordan Chase Jenkins, to
proud parents Alan & Jillian
Jenkins.
Harold & Karen Jenkins
Hazzan Henrique Ozur Bass
and Rabbi Adam Raskin, on
the Bar Mitzvah of our son,
Jesse Cohen
Rabbi Deborah & David
Cohen
Lila Segal's Bat Mitzvah
Sorell Schwartz

Harvey Forest

In Memory Of

Harvey Forest
Kay Mannes
Joan Forest

Hazzan's Discretionary

Judd Kessler & Carol Farris

In Memory Of

Abraham Hilf, father of Paula
Steven B. & Paula Cohen
Marcel Drucker
Jeffrey & Heather Fitter
Heidi Jolson
Steven Polakoff
Herbert Berkowitz
Jerome & Harriet Breslow

Estelle Binder

Mona and Drew Tavss

Henry Zetlin, father of Linda

Richard & Linda Isen

Donald Schuster, father of

Steve

Steve & Wende Schuster

In Honor of

**Stuart and Sheila Taylor, on
the birth of their grandson,
Eli Meyer Schwartz**

**Larry & Sara Goldkind, on the
wedding of their son,
Clifford Goldkind**

Richard & Linda Isen

Hazzan Ozur Bass'

**Contemplative Evening
Services & Midday Mindful
Moments**

Eileen Sherr

Marcia Witt

Hevra Kadisha***In Memory Of*****Herbert Berkowitz**

William Bresnick & Ellen

Kaner Bresnick

Marie Kramer

**Mike Feldman, my father-in-
law**

Helene Feldman

Maintenance Fund***In Memory Of*****Herbert Berkowitz**

Judd Kessler & Carol Farris

Prayer Books***In Memory Of*****Phil Davis, father of Margie**

Owen & Margie Ritter

Rabbi's Discretionary

Judy Abrams

Sue Alterman

Miriam Avrunin

Elizabeth Cahan

David & Phyllis Coburn

Moshe & Myra Cohen

Aileen Goldstein

Harvey & Ellen Karch

Steve & Ellen Milhiser

Hazzan Henrique & Rabbi Janet

Ozur Bass

Hanna Lee Pomerantz

Robert & June Plotkin

Owen & Margie Ritter

Daniel & Rose Shames

Stephen & Eileen Sherr

Joel & Leslie Susskind

In Honor Of**Morris & Lillian Cahan****Weekend of Learning**

Judd Kessler & Carol Farris

Steve Susswein, outgoing**Board President**

Randolph & Laurie May

Rabbi Raskin's Hebrew**Reading Crash Course**

Ira Sherman & Maryjo

Meier

Randy & Leslie Nordby

Birth and Bris of our son,**Jeffrey Nordby**

Randy & Leslie Nordby

Birth and Bris of our son,**Ethan Miles Starr**

Justin & Sherri Starr

In Memory Of**Barbara Kaplowitz**

Brett Kaplowitz

Herbert Berkowitz

Norman & Barbara

Brickman

Allan & Janet Akman

Judd Kessler & Carol Farris

Katherine Rettinger**Steve Rettinger**

Arthur Rettinger

Albert F. Lyon, father of Toni

Bruce & Toni Immerman

Evelyn Gross

Edward & Wendy Gross

Anna Bernstein, mother of

Hiram

Meryl & Hiram Bernstein

Stanley Blumberg, father of**Ruth Szykman**

Ruth Szykman & Andy

Cohen

Religious School***In Honor of***

**The Har Shalom community,
for your kindness and
support during this difficult
time**

Ruth Szykman & Andy

Cohen

Ruth Szykman

Moshe Cohen

In Memory of**Stanley Blumberg, father of****Ruth Szykman**

Brad & Jillian Bernstein

Ann & Neil Covin

Jon & Stacy, Avery & Noah

Garon

Seth & Marisa Marcus

Howard & Cindy Menditch

Joshua & Ellen Poltilove

James & Brenda Schmand

The Tollefson Family and

Jeff Feiertag

Share Your Blessings

Harvey & Ellen Karch

In Memory of**Arlene Klein, mother of Lesley****Cooper**

Phil & Karen Priesman

Warren Kessler, brother of**Judd Kessler****Murray Ressler, father of****Sandy Ressler**

Bernard & Francine Lubran

Sherman ECC Fund***Mazel Tov to***

**Mara and Larry Bier on the
birth of their**

granddaughter, Kailah

Miriam

Elyse and Allan Weiner

Debbie and Ed Schapiro on

the birth of their grandson,

Joshua Bryan Krasnoff

Rami & Michelle Loya

Siddur Sim Shalom***In Memory Of*****Herbert Berkowitz**

Bena Siegel

In Honor Of**Hank Etes**

Warren & Ann Steinberger



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