

the Ma'alot

SHM

December 2016 • Kislev~Tevet 5777

**CHECK THE TEMPLE WEBSITE
CALENDAR FOR EVENT LOCATIONS**



Shabbat Services / Torah Study

Mormon Center, 23 Lake Road, Irvine



Tuesday night Hebrew & High School

Back Bay Conference Center (above Irvine Lanes)

3415 Michelson, Irvine



Sunday Religious School

Tarbut V'Torah Lower School Campus

5200 Bonita Canyon Rd, Irvine

We Are On the Move...

As of Monday, December 12th, all temple staff and clergy will be in their temporary location at 4000 MacArthur Blvd. 6th Floor, Newport Beach



The phone number is the same, 949-857-2226 will ring at the new location and you will hear all of the same friendly voices. Appointments made during business hours—9:00 am to 5:00 pm—will be held at 4000 MacArthur.

There is a security guard in the lobby, check-in with them for access to the building. When you arrive at the 6th Floor check-in with the receptionist and SHM staff will meet you at the front desk. We are not the only tenants on this floor, so you will need to be escorted to the various offices.

You can enter the complex from either MacArthur or Jamboree. We recommend that you enter from Jamboree (turn onto Koll) as there are 20 free parking spaces in front of the building that you can access from this entrance. There is ample paid parking in the large lot off of MacArthur if you need to park there. We look forward to serving you from our temporary home.

Please note that there will be no access to the Michelson location after December 12th. If there is anything that you need from the building please contact us as soon as possible. We will not be back on the property until construction is finished.

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the Ma'alot

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Rabbi Bernie King, z"l

FOUNDING RABBI

SHABBAT SERVICES ~DECEMBER 2016

All Shabbat Services will be held at the Mormon Center, 23 Lake Drive, Irvine

Friday, December 2nd

- 7 pm: Family Shabbat Service with Youth Band and Pre-K, K, 1st & 6th Grade Participation

Friday, December 16th

- 6:30 pm: Tot Shabbat Service
- 7:30 pm: Shabbat Service with Temple Musicians and guest, Father Quon Tran, "Catholicism"

Friday, December 9th

- 7:00 pm: Teen Shabbat (Grades 8-12) at the home of Rabbi Steinberg
- 7:30 pm: Shabbat Service with Mentsch of the Quarter, honoring Karen Busch

Friday, December 23rd

- 6:00 pm: College Homecoming Shabbat Service (Note holiday start time)

Friday, December 30th

- 6:00 pm: Chanukah Shabbat Service (Note holiday start time)

WORDS MATTER

ROSH HASHANAH MORNING ~ DELIVERED OCTOBER 3, 2016



Please say the following with me: "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt. Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt." IT ISN'T TRUE! It literally is not true. Words can break your bones or at least erode them. In a recent study, Dr. Brian Koehler, Professor of Psychology at New York University, states that negative words spoken to another create "a cascade of physiological and neurological responses that adversely affect the listener of those words." http://www.isps-ch.org/fr/archives/Events/2011/Conference_Brian-Koehler.pdf The study goes on to suggest that even the genetic expression of one's DNA can be altered but the trauma of verbal abuse. Words can hurt. Words can damage. As the Talmud says, "it is a worse crime to cause pain with words than to steal money from someone. Why? Money can be returned. Words, once said, can never be taken back."

In other words my friends, words matter! They matter in every possible way. There is great power in our language and we must be vigilant in the words we use and speak. At the beginning of the Amidah prayer, we state, "God, open my lips, that my mouth may declare your glory." And at the conclusion of this series of blessings, we state, "May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, our Rock and our Redeemer." Imagine, my friends, if when we woke up in the morning, we prayed that one line to encourage us to open our lips so that everything we say will be a symbol of God's presence in the world. And when we go to sleep to ask that whatever we have said during the day, that those words be acceptable to all?

Words matter. I would venture to say at this beginning of this ten day process of repentance, that 95% of whatever hurts we are feeling, were caused by words misspoken, words deliberately meant to harm the soul, said in anger, said in an

intoxicated state, uttered in disappointment, shared in confidence and then betrayed... whatever hurt we carry today, my guess is that that pain is rooted in words people have spoken to us or about us.

Words matter and my first point this morning is that we need to be much more careful with them. My favorite is the backhanded compliment. Just recently, here is what a few people have said to me, "Someday, Rick, you are going to make a fabulous rabbi." And another said, "You look so great. You must have lost a ton of weight – you were quite heavy." Thanks so much! They meant well—at least, I think so.

In his fabulous book on the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Joseph Telushkin writes about how the Rebbe watched every word he said. For example, in Hebrew, a hospital is called a "beit cholim – a house of the sick." The Rebbe would refer to a hospital as a "beit refuah – a house of healing." He knew words mattered and he wanted the patient to envision himself as someone healing, not getting sicker. The Rebbe and all of us would do well to follow the words of the Book of Exodus that tell us:

"And the people saw the voices...imagine if we could see our words, our voices, as they expressed themselves...how many hurt feelings would be spared? How many souls would be less harmed, more comforted – if we could, as the saying goes, simply watch what we say? Commenting on the verse from the Book of Proverbs, "Death and life are in the hands of the tongue," Rabbi Eli Sheller states, "The tongue is mightier than the sword. A sword can only kill someone nearby, whereas words spoken on one continent can "hit the heart" of someone on another continent (in seconds). The tongue, of all the limbs and organs, moves with the least difficulty and the most speed. Consequently, lashon ha rah (speaking ill of someone) is one of the sins committed most frequently. It is for this reason that mouth is guarded with two gates:

the teeth and the lips. A person has to think twice before he says something once. A bird that escapes may be caught again, but a word that escapes will never return."

Words have power and the sooner we understand such power, the more careful we might be. Life offers us the potential to be transformative. Imagine how, if we used our words with passion and love, how they could transform the inner essence of person for goodness and blessing.

The inspirational author Steve Goodier tells the following story. "It was a cold, rainy day in March. Across the room in the retail store where Mandy worked, sat Laura, a woman about Mandy's age. Other workers did not like Laura; they thought of her as snobbish and aloof. And Mandy agreed. But sweeping the bias from her eyes, she made up her mind to say something kind to Laura. Finally, she managed, "Do you know, Laura, that I've worked in this room with you for several months. And whenever I glance up I see your head silhouetted against the window there behind you. I think you have the prettiest profile and hair that I have ever seen on anybody." Her words were not insincere flattery. She meant it.

Laura looked up and began to cry. "That's the first kind word anybody has ever said to me in all the time I've worked here," she said. Mandy discovered that Laura's aloofness was not due

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FROM OUR RABBI AND DIRECTOR OF LIFELONG LEARNING



Rabbi Leah Lewis
The Jaffe Family Rabbinic Chair

I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands—one nation, indivisible—with liberty and justice for all.

In 1892, Francis Bellamy, an ordained Baptist Minister turned writer for a program that was designed to increase patriotism among schoolchildren penned this statement. He wrote this pledge in honor of the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' arrival in the new world. No need to rise for these words tonight because these are not the words that the children in schools these days stand to recite. I'll read it again, in case you missed it...

I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands—one nation, indivisible—with liberty and justice for all.

Among the differences? In Bellamy's Pledge of Allegiance, God was missing.

I stand here with you on this night, this Rosh HaShanah 5777, as a rabbi who believes profoundly in the notion that each of us has a different way of believing that must not only be tolerated, but celebrated. Whatever it is and whatever it is not. And I say that to me, a modern, open-minded, critically thinking human being living in the United States of America during these troubling tension-filled days, God is still missing. Not the God that extremists like to use as some twisted validation for violence or hatred, but my God. Shema Yisrael Adonai Eloheinu Adonai Echad.

All summer long, while the horrifying headlines around the country were appearing at rapid speed, so were the emails and phone calls and

ECHAD

ROSH HASHANAH 5777 ~ DELIVERED OCTOBER 3, 2016

group chats happening among rabbis. Countless conversations about how each of us was able to make sense out of the chaos—or not—and about how we could begin to address what was unfolding around us during these High Holy Days. On July 7th, the news—“Two Days, Two Deaths: Alton Sterling and Philando Castile.” ‘I will talk about our inner prejudices,’ a colleague wrote. July 7th—“Dallas Sniper Attack: Five Officers Killed.” ‘Perhaps a sermon about sacrifice and standing up for what you really believe in,’ said a different rabbi. July 17th—“Baton Rouge Shooting of Officers.” ‘We need to talk about gun violence,’ they said. Of course we closed the month of July with the political conventions... from both Cleveland and Philadelphia, the rhetoric and, thus, the headlines, were filled with vitriol and finger-pointing. The issues facing our country and the issues facing us as people who live here, are complicated. They are sensitive. They are too many to count—and that was just a couple of weeks in July. What about August? And September? What about Tulsa and Charlotte and San Diego, just last week?

This summer, when I was able to turn away from the headlines, I turned my attention to Coming Apart, author Charles Murray's 2012 examination of what he calls “white America” through the lens of social science. Murray claims that since the early 1960's, Americans have been drifting apart from one another. Divisions are happening along racial, religious and ideological lines, for sure. But Murray's analysis is of the rift that continues to build along class lines. “In 1963,” he writes, “the main difference between the old-money rich and everybody else was mainly that they had more money.” This is not the case anymore. Now, we live in different places, work in different industries, have children at different ages, eat different food, drive different cars, get our news from different sources and join different clubs. Murray concludes that it is rarer than ever before in American history for us to know people who are unlike ourselves. We don't know each other and we don't trust each other and, like he explains using statistics to make his point, “When social trust breaks down,

social capital breaks down across the board...our country is coming apart at the seams.”

Now I am not convinced that our country is actually coming apart. But there is no denying that we are living and dying apart from one another, and we feel it every day. We are white, we are black, we are brown and we are every color in the rainbow. That's what this country of ours has always aspired to be. What ever happened to “one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all”?

There is, I believe, insight to be found in the evolution of the Pledge of Allegiance. In 1954, in response to the threat of Soviet Communism, it was President Dwight D. Eisenhower who pressured Congress to add the simple phrase, “under God.” Eisenhower taught that this would “strengthen those spiritual weapons which forever will be our country's most powerful resource in peace and war.” Now, regardless of how much I would or would not have agreed with Eisenhower's political positioning had I been around during his presidency, and appreciating that established religion has no place in the political arena, I must admit...to me, ‘one nation under God’ sounds pretty nice right about now.

So, what will I talk about during these High Holy Days? Tonight, I want to open a conversation about how we can find hope during these divisive times. Nestled among horrific national and world events, this is not a sermon about any global issue or about a political agenda. To me, this is personal. And it is profoundly religious. You see, the Jewish people are well acquainted with divisive times. But throughout our history, I am convinced that our perseverance and our strength have been sustained by one key idea: Shema Yisrael Adonai Eloheinu Adonai Echad.

Every day of the week, Jews around the world gather together in prayer. In the morning and then again in the evening, the center point of that worship is the Shema and her blessings. Shema - Hear O Israel, Adonai is our God, Adonai is Echad,

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CONGREGATION SHIR HA-MA'ALOT



Inaugural SHM
Women's Retreat
**"Jewish Woman,
Modern Woman"**

**Friday, Jan. 13th to
Sunday, Jan. 15th**

**Bruin Woods Retreat Center
Lake Arrowhead, CA**

To be a woman in the modern era is a matter of finding balance and our personal paths. To be a Jewish woman in the modern era is to find that balance on the foundation of a rich tradition and heritage in which the role of the woman is complex and multifaceted.

**Join NaSHiM (SHM Women)
for a weekend of exploration
and fun, food, and friends!**

**Cost: \$425 per person (for NaSHiM members),
double occupancy in a two bedroom, two bath suite.
If you are not a NaSHiM member, please add \$36 for dues.**

**Price includes all meals, programs, and semi-private lodging.
Space is limited, RSVP online at www.shmtemple.org
or call the temple at 949-857-2226 by December 9th**



FROM OUR CO-PRESIDENTS

JOIN THE FAMILY ON OUR JOURNEY!

BY RACHEL HARMAN, DELIVERED AT YOM KIPPUR FAMILY SERVICE

There is a well-known Debbie Friedman song that asks, "Where does the journey begin? Where will we go?" Well, our synagogue community is indeed on a journey—where will our journey take us?

After years of planning, fund-raising, and dreaming, right after the shofar blows today, we will begin to build our new building. With all the hard work and planning—while still keeping our Temple community busy and thriving—we have just enough time left over to dream.

With every wedding, we dream of a space for the bride to prepare for her ceremony, we dream of an outdoor courtyard for a lovely cocktail hour and a beautiful social hall for a grand party. With every Sunday school we dream about having enough classrooms for all of our students, having multipurpose spaces where our students can be creative with art, music, and dance. Our creative and energetic clergy and school leaders have endless ideas to enrich our lives—a space to create these programs will be an amazing gift—leading to even bigger dreams.

During construction, we will all be on a journey together—we will journey to the Mormon Church for Friday night services, we will journey to TVT Jewish Day School for Sunday school, we will journey to the Back Bay conference center for Tuesday Hebrew school and high school programs. Our youth groups will journey all around town for fun events. Our families we will journey together to Mason Regional Park for family off-site programing.

We will also have the opportunity to gather in each other's homes for events such as Sukkot and Passover. Families are opening their homes for dinner on the first night of Sukkot, October 16. For me, this is an opportunity I am looking forward to—my family's first time to build our own Sukkah. (Ok, it's from a kit and requires no tools, but a sukkah none the less!) Honestly, without the opportunity for this congregational Sukkot celebration, I'm not sure I would have done it! I hope it will inspire us to new traditions. [This event was wonderful—now if I can just get

around to taking down the Sukkah!]

Our spiritual journey will be rich. We will have many opportunities to study other religions with a series of insightful speakers. Our Shabbat services, no matter where we are, will continue to bless us with thoughtful prayer and beautiful music to nourish our souls.

Modern technology will help us all know where our journey takes us; check out the new social media App—"SHM the Place to Be"—as well as the SHM website and Facebook page for locations, maps, and event information. Reach out to friends through social media and invite them along. SHM has long been a place of warmth, community and friendship and if ever there was a time to reach out to our community with warmth and friendship, this is it!

Even as we journey, our operating expenses continue. Our annual dues cover a lot, but we rely on additional donations at high holy days to help keep things running. We hope you will continue to give generously to support our synagogue. For me and my family, the value of synagogue life far exceeds the numbers on a donation card—its value is in the commitment my kids have shown to Temple life, to their Jewish education, and Jewish friendships. Its value is in the Chavurah that is our extended family, the people who we celebrate with and we turn to for support. Its value is in the peace I find at Shabbat services after a busy hectic work week. Its value is in the ruach, the spirit, I find at every Friday Night Live service and during Sunday school assemblies with our children.

We take this journey on the shoulders of those who came before us, on those who instilled in us the belief that our Jewish community needs to remain connected and valued. We are blessed to have incredibly generous members who pledged over 9.4 million dollars toward the building campaign – before a tractor has hit the dirt – amazing. Our fund-raising continues because we have committed that our pledges will pay to complete this project. Every pledge matters, not just in dollars, but in commitment—everyone makes a



Beth Carroll &
Rachel Harman
Temple Co-Presidents

difference. This campus will keep our SHM family thriving, allowing us to expand our programming, celebrate, learn, and pray together in a beautiful, spiritual space. This will be a place where our future Jewish community can thrive. Where our children can bring up their children, and they can bring up their children—I'dor v'dor—generation to generation.

We teach our children the value of Tzedakah—what a better way to model this value than by joining our SHM family on this journey.

If you have not had the opportunity to give to the capital campaign, please reach out to us, every bit of support is valued. Discuss with your family and your children, talk about the value of synagogue and community life, talk about tzedakah, talk about involvement and talk about our journey together this year.

Beth Carroll and I wish you all a Shana Tova and a wonderful new year. Please join us on this journey, call us if you get lost, and we can't wait to see you all around town!

Building Update by Beth Carroll

- Our official ground breaking ceremony was conducted on September 30th. A wonderful celebration, official dirt shoveling and a very exciting moment in our Temple history.
- 100% Construction Document preparation completed and submitted to the City of Irvine Building Department on October 10th. While waiting for the review to be completed, subcontractors and other vendors are being screened and lined up for bidding which happens after the documents are approved.
- We have continued to meet with outside consultants, including a resource from Homeland Security to review our designs and premises for optimizing the security of our campus.
- We are reviewing the options for solar power. Solar will both allow us to save money and resources. A great Tikun Olam addition to our plans!

- We had planned to locate our clergy and staff offices in a trailer on the property. This option has turned out to be too complicated and costly. Office space has been identified nearby at 4000 MacArthur, 6th Floor (see front cover). The temple team waited until the latest possible time to physically move to save on rental fees. Please call the Temple Office to confirm our location prior to a visit, 949-857-2226.
- If you still haven't had an opportunity to support the Capital Campaign, you can find a handy link on the temple web site: shmtemple.org/donate.html
- All our boxes are packed and we're ready to go...as soon as the building permits are in, we are getting started!

Mensch of the Quarter

Friday, Dec. 9th , 7:30 pm



As a trained therapist, Karen Busch is well-acquainted with group facilitation. When she agreed to facilitate

part of our Mussar program, she did not realize the amount of training, specific to Mussar and Jewish learning, that would be part of the program. Karen, a true mensch, did the training and has led many members of our congregation into transformative Mussar study, discussion and practice. All this, while maintaining a busy practice of her own. Karen offers the best of herself with a smile, a sense of humor and a keen wisdom. We are grateful that she is part of the SHM family.

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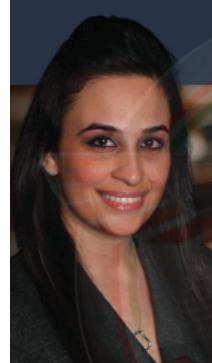
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Shir Ha-Ma'alot Temple Member

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- Trusts and Estates
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- قوانین مالیات

- قوانین تجاري و ثبت شرکتها

- قوانین املاک و مستغلات

- امور انحصار وراثت

- دعاوى حقوقى

SCHOOL NEWS

**Not only did we Survive,
we thrived!**

(at our Survivor Sukkot Island Family Celebration)



Family Chanukah Celebration in the Park!!

Extreme
MAKEOVER



Temple Edition

**Join us at
Mason Regional Park: Shelter 6
18712 University Drive**

In 165 BCE, Judah and the Maccabees rededicated the Temple in Jerusalem. As we anticipate the rededication of our own temple after construction, we will be doing an extreme makeover for our new building. All families at SHM are encouraged to attend!!!

**Sunday,
December 18th**
**Single Hebrew Session
at 8:30 am**
**Chanukah Program at
10:00 am**

Religious School will be held off-site this day. All students and their families are anticipated to be at this event as it is in the place of traditional "religious school" this day.

Rabbi Bernie King Mitzvah Projects ~ B'nai Mitzvah Students



Evan Legator

December 3, 2016

Son of Allan & Lindsay Legator

I attend: Orchard Hills Middle School

I enjoy: Soccer, skating and hanging out with friends

Mitzvah Project: Raised funds for World Wildlife Fund



Jakob Dubin

December 10, 2016

Son of Dalia & Eric Dubin

I attend: Orchard Hills Middle School

I enjoy: Playing tennis, writing, and chess

Mitzvah Project: Volunteered at the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's "Light the Night Walk"



Allison Morros

December 17, 2016

Daughter of Mark Morros & Cari Cohn-Morros

I attend: Los Alisos Intermediate School

I enjoy: Singing, swimming, performing, and being with family

Mitzvah Project: Raised funds for and volunteered at Pet Rescue Center



Gabriel Lewis

December 24, 2016

Son of Leah & David Lewis

I attend: UCI CDS

I enjoy: Basketball and time with family and friends

Mitzvah Project: Helped to organize a bowling fund-raiser/friend-raiser for Spirit League, a sports league for kids with special needs



Sophia Stewart

December 31, 2016

Daughter of Meredith & David Stewart

I attend: Lakeside Middle School

I enjoy: Swimming, reading, being with friends and family

Mitzvah Project: Volunteered with the Friendship Circle

YOUTH GROUPS @ SHM

(Register online at shmtemple.org/Events & RSVP or follow the link in your email notice. See you there!)

SHMoFTY 9th–12th Grade Youth Group

SHMoFTY Skates! at Irvine Spectrum

Saturday, December 10th

5:30 pm for dinner (optional)

6:30 pm for skating only

Meet by the ferris wheel at 5:30 pm for an optional dinner or join us at 6:30 pm for skating! We will be on the ice until 7:45 pm. Please register online at www.shmtemple.org

JiFTY 6th–8th Grade Youth Group

JiFTY at NFTY SoCal 678

Saturday, December 3rd

JiFTY is headed to NFTY SoCal 678! We're meeting up with our friends from all over southern California for a day of learning, games, food, and fun!

MiTЫ 6th–8th Grade Youth Group

Scavenger Hunt!

Sunday, December 4th at 1:00 pm

Meet us at the ferris wheel at Irvine Spectrum for an exciting, mysterious afternoon. Please register online at www.shmtemple.org

Mini-MiTЫ 3rd & 4th Grade Youth Group

Getting Crafty!

Sunday, December 18th at 1:00 pm

Location for the event to be announced soon!

If you have any questions about these events or about any youth program please contact Jordan at jordan@shmtemple.org



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407.760.5734 • gshikler@gmail.com
www.gidonphoto.com

In celebration of the Bar Mitzvah of Gabriel Lewis, son of Rabbi Leah & David Lewis, we invite you to join us for a special Oneg in his honor.

Friday, December 23rd immediately following Shabbat Services at the Mormon Center, 23 Lake Rd., Irvine

Welcome New Members

Kyle Ruane

Kevin Ruane

Jackie Visner

Joan Visner

Matthew & Debra Cunov

Barry & Adriana Sender

Condolences to...

Michelle Shatzen on the death of her step-father, Dr. Franklin Hanauer

Connie O'Connor on the death of her mother, Florence Brody

Jodi Baum on the death of her father, Neil Fred Lane

Jeffrey Horn on the death of his grandfather, Nathon Brightman

Monica Hirsch on the death of her husband, Henry

Jessica Herron Caring & Sharing is Happening at SHM!

Our Chanukah and Christmas Gift Drive will be a little different this year as we construct our new temple home. As space is limited we will not be collecting gifts but will be buying and delivering gift cards and grocery cards to the families. Contributions to the Jessica Herron Fund at the temple are encouraged. Any amount is appreciated. A donation of \$80 will feed a family in need for a week.



If you are interested in participating in any of all of this season's Jessica Herron Caring & Sharing drives, please let us know. Please note the following contact information and deadlines to get involved:

- Christmas: Contact Barbara King (frombking@cox.net) by Tuesday, December 6th
- Chanukah: Contact Dana Klein (nevatalate@aol.com) by Tuesday, December 13th

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE!

Note: We will not have a Friday Night Live! in December

Social Justice

Friday, January 27th

at 7:30 pm

(at Mormon Center, 23 Lake Drive, Irvine)

Music is a powerful tool for evoking the inner space within which trans-formative prayer can happen. The ancients knew this, and music was a big part of the ancient temple ritual.

This service features congregational melodies and eclectic, contemporary music which compliment the creative service booklet compiled by Cantor Shikler, specifically for this service.

DECEMBER 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 6:30 pm - Temple Musicians 6:30 pm - Living Room Learning at the home of Andrea Martin	2 (Friday night services are now at 23 Lake Road, Irvine) 7 pm - Family Shabbat Service with Youth Band & Pre-K, K, 1st & 6th Grade Participation	3 8:30 am - Torah Study 10 am - Bar Mitzvah of Evan Lagator JiFTY at NFTY SoCal 678
4 (Religious School is at TVT Lower Campus) 8 am - Early Hebrew Chavurah 8 am - Off-site Event for Prek, K, & 1st Grade 9:15 am - Judaica Classes 9:30 am - New Member Discussion Group 11:30 am - Youth Band 1 pm - MiTY Event	5	6 (Back Bay Conference Center above the Irvine Lanes) 4:15 pm - Hebrew School (4490 Von Karman, Newport Beach) 6 pm - Executive Committee Meeting 7:30 pm - Board of Trustees Meeting	7 6:45 pm - Adult Choir	8 6:30 pm - Temple Musicians	9 (Friday night services are now at 23 Lake Road, Irvine) 7 pm - Teen Shabbat (Grades 8-12) at Rabbi Steinberg's home 7:30 pm - Shabbat Service with Mentsch of the Quarter	10 8:30 am - Torah Study 10 am - Bar Mitzvah of Jakob Dubin 6 pm - SHMoFTY Event
11 (Religious School is at TTV Lower Campus) 8 am - Early Hebrew Chavurah 8 am - Confirmation Class to the Soup Kitchen 9:15 am - Judaica Classes 9:30 am - God, Faith and Jewish Identity 11:30 am - Youth Band	12	13 11:30 am - Holocaust Survivors Luncheon in Laguna Woods (Back Bay Conference Center above the Irvine Lanes) 4:15 pm - Hebrew School 5 pm - 8th-10th Grade 6:30 pm - 11 & 12th Grade 7:30 pm - SHMoFTY Board Meeting 7:30 pm - Men's Spirituality Group	14 6:45 pm - Adult Choir 7:15 pm - Mussar: Seeking Everyday Holiness for Beginners at Mimi's Cafe in Irvine	15 6 pm - Brotherhood: Family Laser Tag 6:30 pm - Temple Musicians	16 (Friday night services are now at 23 Lake Road, Irvine) 6:30 pm - Tot Shabbat Service 7:30 pm - Shabbat Service with Temple Musicians and guest, Father Quon Tran, "Catholicism"	17 8:30 am - Torah Study 10 am - Bat Mitzvah of Allison Morros
18 (Off-site at Mason Regional Park in Irvine) 8 am - Early Hebrew Chavurah 9:30 am - Family Chanukah Celebration at the Park 1 pm - Mini-MITY Event	19	20 No Hebrew School - Winter Break	21 6:45 pm - Adult Choir	22	23 (Friday night services are now at 23 Lake Road, Irvine) 6 pm - College Homecoming Shabbat Service (Note holiday start time)	24 No Torah Study this week 10 am - Bar Mitzvah of Gabriel Lewis
25 No Religious School - Winter Break	26	27 No Hebrew School - Winter Break	28 6:45 pm - Adult Choir	29	30 (Friday night services are now at 23 Lake Road, Irvine) 6 pm - Chanukah Shabbat Service (Note holiday start time)	31 No Torah Study this week 10 am - Bat Mitzvah of Sophia Stewart

to snobbishness, but shyness. The two became friends. Other workers soon began to include Laura in their activities, and she blossomed like a flower that, for the first time, found sunlight.

Goodier comments, "The right words, spoken in kindness, made all the difference. Words carry the potential to tear down or to build up. But when they are both sincere and kind, they are instruments that wield great power. Never underestimate the potential and power of your words." So let us use our words for good, never for evil. It is why I am so dismayed with this political season – our national spirit is being torn apart by all the vitriol and animosity thrown around – even more by the name calling and lack of not only watching one's words, but not even caring about one's words and they damage such words wreak.

You will hear me say in all of my sermons this High Holy Day season the following – for now I am done praying for world peace or for our leaders to change or for anything beyond my own control. I can only change myself. The change I am speaking of this season is the one that comes from within. Let me say this – the High Holy Day season is a time of great communal and individual reflection – this year, let's focus on just changing ourselves...because the other seems not to work, at least not right now. Let's not worry about what the politicians say, or the pundits. Let's not worry what our friends say or our relatives – let's just focus on what each of us as an individual says each and every day. Let us recognize that our words have immense power – they matter, so how we use them matters. Let's settle on that idea and maybe, just maybe, the rest of the world will catch on...maybe not, but at least we will have done our part to change ourselves.

Rabbi Jeffrey Kamins of Canada shares the following as an exclamation point on this idea of watching our words. "In his Ted talk Shining Eyes, conductor Ben Zander relates the story of a survivor of the Shoah who told him the following. She was about 15 and her little brother 8 when they were deported to Auschwitz; on the train she noticed his bare feet and berated him for not remembering his shoes. She survived and he perished. To this

day she has regretted that those were her final words to her baby brother, the last thing he heard from her, and she has vowed that what she says to others should be said in the vein that it may be the last thing she says, the last thing another hears from her. While this may be an impossibly high bar, it is the standard for which we all should strive in our speech. When we fail, we have repentance to set the course straight; but when we succeed we have created the world in which we actually wish to live." (<http://upj.org.au/index.php/learning/parshat-hashavua/parshat-hashavua-archive/248-rosh-hashana-sermon-by-rabbi-jeffrey-kamins>)

My last point this morning is about creation, from our Torah portion that we read a few minute ago. "1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. 2 Now the earth was unformed and void, and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the spirit of God hovered over the face of the waters. 3 And God said: 'Let there be light.' And there was light. 4 And God saw the light, that it was good; and God divided the light from the darkness.

5 And God called the light Day, and the darkness God called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

The Torah tells us God spoke and there was light. As we watch our words, let them be filled with light which illuminates the world. Too much darkness comes from our mouths and blinds us. The real test, of comes, when the going gets tough – when we are angry or hurt, when we are scarred or beaten, when we are gossiped about or criticized – how will we respond? What words will we use to defend ourselves?

Here is what we must remember as we read earlier this morning. We were created in God's image. If we want that image to come forward and have a place on earth, then we must understand that our words create reality. God spoke and there was light. We speak and there is what? A reality filled with judgment or a reality filled with love? We speak and there is what? A reality filled with pain and hurt or joy and laughter? A reality filled with sadness and anger or fun and peace? Let's speak in ways that bring a divine light to all that we do.

As I sit in my office every day, I am awed by the power of words. Often times, people share with

me the hurt they feel because of what someone has said to them. Their heart hurts and the body aches and the words are like arrow remain lodged in the spirit. And yet, I also sit every day in my office with a family after family whose child is becoming Bar/Bat Mitzvah and I hear the parents boldly and with joy express their love for their child. The thirteen-year-old cringing in his seat – it is the greatest, but you know as uncomfortable as the teenager is, the words penetrate...the student hears their parents and it matters because words matter. Words have power. They have the potential to change our very being.

Friends, let's not be complacent with our words this year – let's really think about how we use them. Let's be diligent, as the v'havtah tells us, to teach our children to speak with kindness on their lips. Mom was right – if you don't have something nice to say, don't say it at all. But even more, our words can create a universe filled with goodness. Let's start with ourselves, our families, our work and then maybe, just maybe, the rest of the world will catch on. Today is known as the birthday of the world – well, let's teach this baby how to talk. Words matter – so let's make our words matter for goodness, for joy and for comfort. And so I pray for us all: God, open up our lips that our mouths may declare your glory and may the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, our Rock and our Redeemer.



God, Faith and Jewish Identity

Sundays at 9:30 am at TVT Lower Campus

Examining the blessings of religion is not purely an intellectual exercise. Join with rabbis Steinberg and Lewis for any or all of these sessions which will raise profoundly religious questions in a manner that challenges the mind and the spirit with the context of Jewish thought.



December 11th:

"Revelation: What Really Happened at Sinai"

January 22nd: "Atheism and Judaism"

March 5th: "God and Suffering"

April 2nd: "God: Person or Power?"

College Homecoming Shabbat Service



**Friday, December 23rd
at 6:00 pm**

Join us for this wonderful service as we welcome home all of our college students. Whether you are a freshman or completing graduate school, we hold each and every student in our thoughts and prayers and look forward to celebrating Shabbat with you and your families.



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Brotherhood

Family Laser Tag

**Thursday, December 15th
at 6:00 pm**

Bring the kids for a great evening of Laser Tag, hangiging with the fellas, and good spirited competition.

Dinner is not included, however there is a snack bar at the facility. RSVP to the temple office at 949-857-2226 or online at www.shmtemple.org

Questions: Contact David Teincuff at david@logos2life.com

Torah Study

with Rabbi Steinberg and Rabbi Lewis

Saturdays at 8:30 am

(at the Mormon Center, 23 Lake Rd)

Meets: 12/3, 12/10, 12/17**No Torah Study 12/24 & 12/31**

Each week our Torah portion invites us to search our souls for meaning, memories, mitzvah, and lessons on how to be a mensch. We read the Torah over and over again each year as we gain more insight into its depth. Study the weekly Torah portion with the Rabbis and gain inspiration that will nourish your soul.

Special Evening Living Room Learning at the home of Andrea Martin**Thursday, Dec. 1st at 6:30 pm**

Please note the new start time for this event!

Living Room Learning is a program designed for women that will cover issues, concerns, and topics in a safe, intimate, and warm environment. There is no fee for this evening, please register online at www.shmtemple.org

Mussar: Seeking Everyday Holiness for Beginners

Facilitated by Karen Busch

Wednesdays at 7:15 pm**December 14th**

Mussar means "instruction." At the center of the program is the inspiring material in "Everyday Holiness" written by Alan Morinis. Working with this text, participants become exposed to the core teachings of the Mussar tradition and its relevance to every day life.

Celebrating Faith

Shabbat Service with Temple**Musicians and guest,****Father Quan Tran, "Catholicism"****Friday, December 16th at 7:30 pm**

Father Quon Tran is a Roman Catholic priest from the Diocese of Orange, and is currently assigned to Christ Cathedral Parish. Father Tran has been ordained a priest for more than five years. He will share his thoughts and insights on Catholicism with us as part of our program, "Celebrating Faith"

***Congregation Shir Ha-Ma'alot*****Doris and Milton Chasin Teen Israel Scholarship****\$2500 Scholarship****(Two Scholarships Available)****Students Incoming 10th, 11th or 12th Grades****May Apply for the Scholarship!****Who is Eligible?**

This must be the first educational teen trip this student has taken. Congregational trips with parents DO NOT exclude the students from applying.

Student must be a current member and studying in the Congregation Shir Ha-Ma'alot High School Program.

Program must be at least four weeks in length. Approved programs currently are the following:

TIES (Teen Israel Summer Experience) Bureau of Jewish Education

NFTY (National Federation of Temple Youth) Reform Movement Trip

BBYO (B'nai Brith Youth Organization)

Young Judea

All other programs must be approved prior to application.

What is the Application Process?

Students must submit a two to three page essay on the importance of Israel to the Jewish people, by February 10, 2017. The Committee will review the essays and choose finalists to call in for a formal interview.

In order to receive the Scholarship, the student must agree that within a week of his/her return home, he/she must submit a 750-1000 word essay on how Israel affected him/her. This essay will be published in the Ma'alot. Two scholarships will be awarded.

Scholarship Awarded Mid-February

Please contact Rabbi Steinberg for an application
(949) 857-2226 or email at rsteinberg@shmtemple.org

Submit essay to Rabbi Steinberg by February 10, 2017 at:

3652 Michelson Drive • Irvine, CA 92612

High Holy Days Thank You

On behalf of the congregation, we would like to express our appreciation to the High Holy Days Committee and to all of the volunteers who pitched in to help with the numerous tasks involved in making the holidays special for all of us. Thank you for all your passion, commitment and efforts to make this season memorable.

- **Off-site Parking/Shuttle Coordination** – Marc Franklin
- **Head Usher / Coordinator** – Barry Fast; Ushers: Tom Armbruster, Jeff Arrow, Louise Beckerman, David Bleiweiss, Brenda Colgate, Brad Eisenstein, Jamie Evans, Funda Irvin, Alan & Carole Frankel, Deborah Globerson, Dianne Golden, Myron Goldstein, Steve Hatch, Susan Hinchey, Aaron Horwitz, Eric Horwitz, Beverly Jacobs, Kara Jacobs, Janet Lawrence, Lloyd Lenson, Victor Lindsey, Irene Mack, Donna Pick, Bob Radus, Steve Raskin, Michael & Lori Reznick, Abby Rozenberg, Steve Secofsky, Ruth Shulman, Gary & Cookie Soland, David Teincuff, Steve Tobenkin.
- **Greeters and Monitors** – Sharon & Darin Blindell, Brad Eisenstein, Jeremy Goldman, Myron Goldstein, Mark Hyman, Janet Lawrence, Heath Liner, Stephanie Mitchell, Lloyd Sellinger, Jerry Silver, Barry Saywitz,
- **S'lichot Coordinator** – Myra Firth; Assisted by Bakers: Lysa Goldstein, Rachel Harman-Friedman, Diane Lindsey, Valerie Magursky, Lori Schwartz, Sheryl Sloate, Jennifer Williams and anyone else who brought a dessert.
- **Prayer Book Checkout Coordinators** – Debra Borden, Cindy & Rachel Dreyer & Karen Hyman.
- **High Holy Day Food Drive** – Joe Sloate assisted by Adam, Ethan & Isaac Sloate & Aaron Firth.
- **Pledge Card Distribution** – Teri Bassman, Jamie Evans, Wendi Fast, Mickey & Wendy Gubman, Stephanie Mitchell, Charlotte Radziminsky, David Susson, Joan Weiss
- **Children's Workshops** - Teachers: Sara Ahdoot, Sandra Blumenkranz, Sarah Colgate, Heidi Duerr, Jacob Friedman and all the madrichim, Sophia Brener, Aaron Firth, Liana Friedman, Alyssa Golden, Jordan Goldstein, Gabe Lewis, Rachel Morros, Ruby Perlman.
- **Tashlikh Coordinators** – Anthony & Julie Osborn
- **Sukkot Dinner** – Carol & Eliana Lean

Thank you to our young singers Sophia Abraham, Hali Baron, Anna Bassman, Isabella and Sophie Brener, Molly Cohn, Jordan, Goldstein, Sara Jacobs, Ayah Klugman, Rachel Morros, Ruby Perlman, Elin & Lillie Radziminsky, Shelby Rindenau, Rebecca Snyder, Rachelle Speckler, and to for singing so beautifully with the Cantor. Thank you to the Temple Musicians, Nancy Rosen, Diana Lobel, Leonie Kramer, Toni Rios and to the Choir led by Matthew Martinez with song provided by Ellen Arrow, Patty Bialik, Debra David, Phil Foreman, Shayna Foreman, Lisa Pearl, Thilde Peterson, Nancy Rosen, Steve Samuel, Sandy Schekman, Loralee Sheridan, Art Smith, Michael Trank, Terry Trank and Wendy Worrell.

A very big thank you to the entire SHM staff for their support. In addition, thank you to our Presidents Beth Carroll and Rachel Harman for their leadership. Most importantly, thank you to Rabbi Steinberg, Rabbi Lewis and Cantor Shikler for their wonderful and inspiring services.

Joe Sloate & Mickey Gubman

High Holy Day Chairs

One. When I was growing up, this line was referred to as "the watchword of our faith." Quite the build up! But what I didn't understand then was that to fully appreciate the impact of the Shema itself, we need to understand this line in the context of the prayer service. It is sandwiched between two other blessings about God and love. The first, which comes before the Shema, is a blessing about how God loves us – by giving us Torah, by being in relationship with us. The second, which comes after - the V'Ahavta - is about how we, human beings, show our love for God. We do it through mitzvot – our actions. With the words that come from our mouths and the deeds that come from our hands, we love God by acting in a manner that demonstrates that we love God's creation. The Shema is the meeting point in the relationship that the Jewish people share with God.

Now, even if you are sitting here thinking that this doesn't matter to you because God doesn't matter, rest assured that to the God I believe in, whether you are Jewish or not, every one of us matters.

Back in June, when the country was reeling in the aftermath of the Orlando massacre, Rabbi Shai Held, the Co-Founder of Mechon Hadar, a center for Jewish learning in New York, published an Open Letter to People Who Are LGBTQ. This is what he wrote:

"Rabbi Akiva, one of Judaism's greatest sages, tells us that each and every human being is beloved by God because we are – all of us, without exception – created in the image of God. In other words, you don't need to earn God's love; it is given to you with your existence, the gift of a loving God."

No amount of hatred or bigotry can ever change that simple but stunning fact: as a human being, you matter, and matter ultimately.

One of the biggest problems with religion is that people stubbornly, insistently reduce God to their own size; they imagine that God loves the same people they love, and that God hates the people they hate. This is not just insidious theology; it's actually idolatry, because people are just worshipping a blown up version of themselves. So let me say it simply: God's love transcends all of that."

It is too bad that it takes tragedies like Orlando to remind us that God's love transcends the limits set

by who we know and who we do not know, and by who we can relate to and who we cannot. God loves all of us all of the time and, so should we, created in God's image, be able to rise above our own limits to be open to knowing people who are like us and those who are not... all the time.

In the Torah portion that we will read tomorrow morning, we find two accounts of creation. Bereshit bara Elohim – in the beginning, God created everything. Human beings included. And in the second account of creation, the one in which Adam – the first person – was created from the dust of the earth, we read, 'lo tov lehiyot Adam l'vado,' it is not good for any person to be alone.' So God created Chava, Eve, the second person. Thus God created companionship, the beginning of community and the potential for one human being, created in God's image, to see the Godliness in another.

During our groundbreaking ceremony last Shabbat, Rabbi Steinberg spoke about something called "mattering." It is the simple yet profoundly challenging notion that every person matters. He was absolutely correct when he said that "Mattering" is essential in the world of the synagogue so that the synagogue can be a sanctuary from the rest of the world. Tonight, when we celebrate the creation of the world, I would add that we ought to consider "mattering" as an essential challenge not only in the synagogue, but everywhere.

Allison Fine, a past president of her Reform synagogue in New York and a thought leader and writer about the intersection of social media and social change, points out that as human beings living in modern society, we want to know that we matter – not only to those who are like us, but to everyone. And with each passing day, this becomes a greater challenge. Fine writes, "Social media has enabled anyone, anywhere to speak, critique, organize, protest and start a business." It is a phenomenal change in the way we function as a society. The problem, she warns, is that people are speaking, but too often, nobody is listening.

Shema Yisrael – It is time to listen, Israel. It is time to listen to people that we know and respect already – and to those we don't yet know. And it is time to allow ourselves to know them. Adonai is our God, Adonai is One. God is One. Singularity. Wholeness. Unity. As the great Rabbi Harold Schulweis (z"l) said when describing

his own belief, God is "Echad, but not one in the mathematical sense, one as opposed to two or as opposed to three, or as opposed to twenty. To believe in Echad," he continued, "is to understand God as the Great Connection, the Nexus, the Binding, that links me and you within the great chain of being... To recognize God as Echad is to believe that everything and everyone is connected, that we all belong to each other and in the deepest spiritual sense that we are, all of us, cosmically connected. To believe in 'echad' is to know that nothing is isolated."

No thing, no person is isolated and everything, everyone matters. Despite the way we may feel when we speak and it seems like nobody is listening, or when peaceful protest turns to violent outrage, or when we cry out in despair because it feels like I don't matter and you don't matter and they don't matter, God is connection and we are connected. We matter.

Dr. Brian Williams, the trauma surgeon who happened to be on duty at Parkland Community Hospital in Dallas on the dark night of the shootings there, spoke to the press when he had a moment to wrap his unprepared mind around what had occurred, and he knew that the coming apart that is happening in our country is happening because we have it all wrong. None of us, regardless of the color of our skin or our occupation or our socioeconomic class or our religion or any other distinguishing factor, [none of us] is alone. "I don't understand why people think it's okay to kill police officers," he said, "I don't understand why black men die in custody and they're forgotten the next day. I don't know why this has to be us against them. It has to stop. We are all in this together, we are all connected. All this violence, all this hatred, all these disagreements, it impacts us all, whether you realize it or not. This is not the kind of world we want to leave for our children. Something has to be done."

Dr. Williams is right. Something must be done. Quickly, swiftly, thoroughly. That something, I believe, can be found in the unity that God models for us. Echad. We use the phrase, "we are created in God's image" all the time. So much, I believe, that we stop hearing its implications. Think about it. If you are created in God's likeness, God's image, you are like God. And so is the person next to you, and so is the person down the street and the person on the other side of town who you may never come to meet. And so am I. We are



Family Chanukah Shabbat Service

**Friday, December 30th
at 6:30 pm**

Mormon Center, 23 Lake Rd., Irvine

Chanukah—the holiday of light—is a time to join with friends and family as the sanctuary is illuminated with the brightness of Chanukah menorahs and the sparkle of smiles.

all a part of the ultimate One of holiness, Echad. We share that in common. Change begins with a simple recognition that holiness lies not only in the people who are like us, but also in those who are not like us. We matter to God and we need to matter to one another. All of us.

In his new book, *Not in God's Name*, Rabbi Jonathan Sacks lends concrete examples to this same idea. He writes, "The unity of God asks us to respect the stranger, the outsider, the alien, because even though he or she is not in our image – their ethnicity, faith or culture is not ours – nonetheless they are in God's image."

So what are we going to do about it? Well, it just so happens that in less than two weeks, on the Shabbat following Yom Kippur, when our building is closed for construction, we, Congregation Shir HaMa'alot, will begin to meet weekly at the Mormon Center in Woodbridge. 'Why there?' people ask. Simply because, knowing that we were in need of a place to gather to celebrate Shabbat, this congregation, whose worship looks nothing like ours, opened its doors to us with an amazing generosity of spirit and of resources. We are all created in the image of God.

Inspired by our new Mormon friends down the road, we will spend this year learning about other religions – and about other ways of living our own religion. "The Blessings of Religion: Celebrating Faith" is our congregational theme this year.

Thank You...

Thank you to our amazing
2016 Summer Shabbat committee...

Greeting, creating themed activities
and decorations, and yummy onegs
were enjoyed by everyone!

Chair: Charlotte Radziminsky

Susan Hinchey

Arlene Taslitz

Louise Beckerman

Bob Radus

Joan Weiss

Carol Lean

Julie Hart

Raschel Greenberg

Ruth Shulman

The Lean Family

The Duerr Family

The Martin Family

The Evans Family

The So Family

The Averill Family

The Rosenberg Family

The Goldman Family

The Ball Family

The Van Es Family

The Flechner Family

The Baron Family

The Silverman Family

The Kfir Family

The Hornback Family

The Stewart Family

TZEDAKAH DONATIONS

RABBI STEINBERG'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Bob & Nancy Wolf, the services at the holidays were so inspiring—You did good
Hope & Ken Snyder, thank you for your kindness and support, both recently and throughout the years

Lyse & Myron Goldstein, thank you for guiding Jordan through such a beautiful and meaningful Bat Mitzvah service

Charlotte Pinsky, in appreciation for the beautiful Yom Tov services

Amy & Joel Sokolow, thank you for helping make Sam's renaming so special, personal and inspiring

Bob & Nancy Wolf, thank you to Jeff, Stephen and Max Brenner for taking care of us during the holidays. We appreciate your kindness.

Barbara & Bob Kaitz, thank you for the beautiful and meaningful High Holiday services

Jon & Tasha Alpert, thank you for a wonderful baby naming and Bris ceremony for our son, Bryce

Gladys Wilson in memory of Bertha Rice

Lori Schwartz & Bert White, thank you for your inspiring words during holiday services

Fred & Aviva Forster, congratulations to Hope Sherwood & Jon White on the success of "Dont' Kiss Me"

Mark Lazar, wishing a speedy recovery to Lisa Monette

RABBI LEWIS' DISCRETIONARY FUND

Zena Reichert & Family, thank you for a lovely Bat Mitzvah for Emma

Dick & Pat Perlman, thank you for all you did for Ruby Perlman in her Bat Mitzvah preparation

Charlotte Pinsky, thank you for making the High Holy Days so meaningful and special

Lyse & Myron Goldstein, thank you for helping make Jordan's Bat Mitzvah so meaningful

Rhonda Shellow in honor of Ruth Mehlman

Jane & Dennis Fischel, thank you for your wonderful Shiva service for our mom/mother-in-law, Lee Fischel

Lori Schwartz & Bert White, thank you for the spiring holiday services

Bob & Nancy Wolf, the services at the holidays were so inspiring. You did good.

Ruth Shulman and all of the family in memory of Leonard Shulman

CANTOR SHIKLER'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Zena Reichert & Family, thank you for a lovely Bat Mitzvah service for Emma

Charlotte Pinsky, thank you for adding so much inspiration through your music

Janet Lawrence & Greg Berkowitz, thank you for the honor of chanting from the Torah

Lyse & Myron Goldstein, thank you for your guidance and support in helping Jordan prepare for her Bat Mitzvah

Bob & Nancy Wolf, thank you for your inspiring music during the holidays

Bob & Nancy Wolf, congratulations on Gidon's wedding

Lori Schwartz & Bert White, thank you for the beautiful holiday music

Rhonda Shellow in honor of Ruth Mehlman

Barbara & Bob Kaitz, thank you for the beautiful High Holiday music

CULTURAL ARTS/FNL FUND

Charlotte Pinsky, thank you to Beth Shikler for all that you do

GENERAL FUND

Lori Schwartz & Bert White in honor of reading Torah at Rosh Hashanah

Anna & Charles Greenberg, tzedakah donation

Ellen Nadel in memory of Marv Rosenhaft, father of Jennie Frank

Wendy & Bruce Gary in memory of Frank Hanauer, stepfather to Shelly Shatzen

Todd & Cherie Creager in honor of Jon White & Hope Sherwood White's 40th Anniversary

Bruce & Jacki Barron in honor of Jon & Hope White's 40th Anniversary and successful premiere of "Don't Kiss Me"

Steve & Diana Marienhoff in memory of Marv Rosenhaft

JESSICA HERRON SHARING & CARING FUND

The Harrington Family in memory of Jessica Herron and her legacy of giving to others, especially those in need

Jann Glasser in honor of Seth Glasser

Barbara King, loving thanks to my soul sister, Marsha Bisheff

Barbara King, mazel tov to Steve & Marsha Bisheff on your golden 50th Anniversary

The Granow Family in caring memory of Jessica Herron

Barbara King in loving memory of Jean Marcus Kraut

Hara Waldman & Hal Stern in honor of the engagement of Lindsey Herron to Yoni Goldberg

SHARING & CARING FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Linda Coss

Henry Coopersmith

Ina Zeleznick

Catherine DeCou

Anne Armento

Dona Novack

Toni Ulrich

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Sheryl Becker

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Dana Klein

Lori Schwartz & Bert White

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Caryn Altman

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Marcia Labowitz

Katie Fleigler

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Robert Langer

Sandra Perlmutter

Sally Herron

Nancy Platka

Staci Kessel

Jack & Shelli Diamond

Chavernuts Chavurah

Florence & Martin Klein

Ina Zeleznick

Jacqueline & Blake Michaels

Margaret English

TZEDAKAH DONATIONS

SPECIAL EVENTS FUND (AARON & BROCK SILVERSTEIN)

Stan & Deborah Silverstein in memory of our sweet son, Brock

YOUTH GROUP FUND

Debbie Spielman in memory of Gail Crafton

YAHRZEIT FUND

Bert White in memory of Miriam White

Alfie Schekman in memory of Esther Schekman

Gail Eisenstein in memory of Leonard Shulman

Ina Zeleznick in memory of Ann Rossman

JP Cohen in memory of Doris Gellman

John Tharp in memory of Ruth Caraco, Henry Caraco, Anna E. Tharp

Beverly & Jake Jacobs in memory of Dorothy Olshan

Roz Sherman in memory of Lillian Banke

Miriam Birnkrant in memory of Morris Grant

Sonya Shvartsman in memory of Fima Kuperman

Loralee Sheridan in memory of Robert M. Sheridan, MD

Sara Pulwer in memory of Fela Talerman

Miriam Birnkrant in memory of Morris Grant

Rob Glasser in memory of my mother, Gloria Glasser and my uncle, Bernard Glasser

Marv Selcer in memory of Max Selcer

Kory Hittelman in memory of Kelly Braden
Linda Davis in memory of Lewis Zellman
Debra Passo in memory of Leonard Kessler
Henry Sterman in memory of William Eilfort
Rick Alpert in memory of Marian Alpert
Marcy Alpert in memory of Rita Kuperberg
Barbara Greenwald in memory of Norman Greenwald
Schwartz/White Famiy in memory of Marti Ann Schwartz
Claire Schecter in memory of Richard Sherzer
Claire Schecter in memory of Aranka Scherzer
Claire Schecter in memory of David Scherzer
Pearl Wasbin in memory of my beloved husband, Victor Wasbin
Barbara Kaitz in memory of Alice Rabb
Milly Ball in memory of Jenni Frank's father, Marvin Rosenhaft
Linda Davis in memory of Marvin Rosenhaft, father of Jenni Frank
Mark Drucker in memory of Joseph Drucker
Dyanne Drucker in memory of Fred Fleischman
Marlyn Fried in memory of Daniel Fried
Joan Weiss in memory of Margit Weiss
Joan Weiss in memory of Cynthia Bentley
Rick Alpert in memory of Abe Alpert
Harold Plon in memory of Samuel Plon

Harold Plon in memory of Fred Plon

Bob Sherman in memory of Beatrice Sherman

Peter Cohen in memory of Joan Cohen

Sharon Blindell in memory of Max Selcer

Jo Ann Anthony in memory of Ralph Mayer Anthony

Jo Ann Anthony in memory of David Anthony

Jo Ann Anthony in memory of Joe Landeros

Rick Manzo in memory of Ignacio Manzo

Sponsor a Student

Linda & Tom Armbruster

Hara Waldman in memory of Marvin Rosenhaft, father of Jenni Frank

Capital Campaign Donations

Shir Friendshippers Chavurah in honor of the 40th Anniversary of Hope & Jon White

Linda Coss in memory of Marv Rosenhaft

Gail & Jim McNulty in memory of our dear friend, Marv Rosenhaft

COMING IN JANUARY

Sunday Speaker Series: Rabbi David Eliezrie, "Chabad"

Sunday, Jan. 8th at 9:30 am

Nashim: Women's Retreat

Friday, 1-13 to Sunday, 1-15
at Bruin Woods Retreat Center, Lake Arrowhead

**Shabbat Service with guest,
Reverend Mark Whitlock,
"African Methodist Episcopal"**
Friday, Jan. 13th at 7:30 pm

**Shabbat Service with guest,
Rabbi Miri Gold
sponsored by NaSHiM**
Friday, Jan. 20th at 7:30 pm

Mazel Tov...

Rabbi Steinberg featured in 2016 OC 500 Directory

Rabbi Steinberg has been included this year in the Orange County Business Journal's "OC 500, Directory of Influence for Our Community of Business" as one of the most influential civic leaders in Orange County. Rabbi's photo and biography are featured, including information about SHM and Reform Judaism.





**CONGREGATION
SHIR HA-MA'ALOT**

3652 Michelson Drive • Irvine, CA 92612
(949) 857-2226 ph

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Other Donation Opportunities

- Memorial Board \$360 per name
- Tree of Life \$180 per name
- Prayer book Fund \$35 per book

Congregation Shir Ha-Ma'ilot has many Sanctuary and Facility Giving and Naming Opportunities. Please contact the Temple office for further information.

A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words...

We tell Shir Ha-Ma'ilot's story through words and pictures each year in our Event Catalog, website and monthly newsletter.

I collect photos from events throughout the year to use for a variety of printed and online pieces. Quite a few of them are from our Facebook page but many come from you via email. Please feel free to send me any of your favorite SHM photos:

Icline@shmtemple.org
Lynda Cline, communications

Tzedakah Contributions

Please enclose contribution and mail with this form to the Temple office.
(Minimum \$10.00 per name or occasion)

Donation Given by:

Name _____

Name _____

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Address _____

City/Zip: _____

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Check Credit Card on file

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In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

Special Occasion _____

Other _____

Please apply my contribution to the following special fund(s):

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Alex Zeleznick Children's Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Oneg Shabbat Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Campership Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Book Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cantor Shikler's Disc. Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbi Lewis' Disc. Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Arts/Friday Night Live! Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Rabbi Steinberg's Disc. Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elana Frenkel Memorial School & Youth Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Ritual (Jerry Jacobs) Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Florence Ruth King Chesed Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Events Fund (Aaron & Brock Silverstein) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Todd Evan Ross School Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jessica Herron Adopt-a-Family Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Yahrzeit Fund |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Library Fund | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Group Fund |