

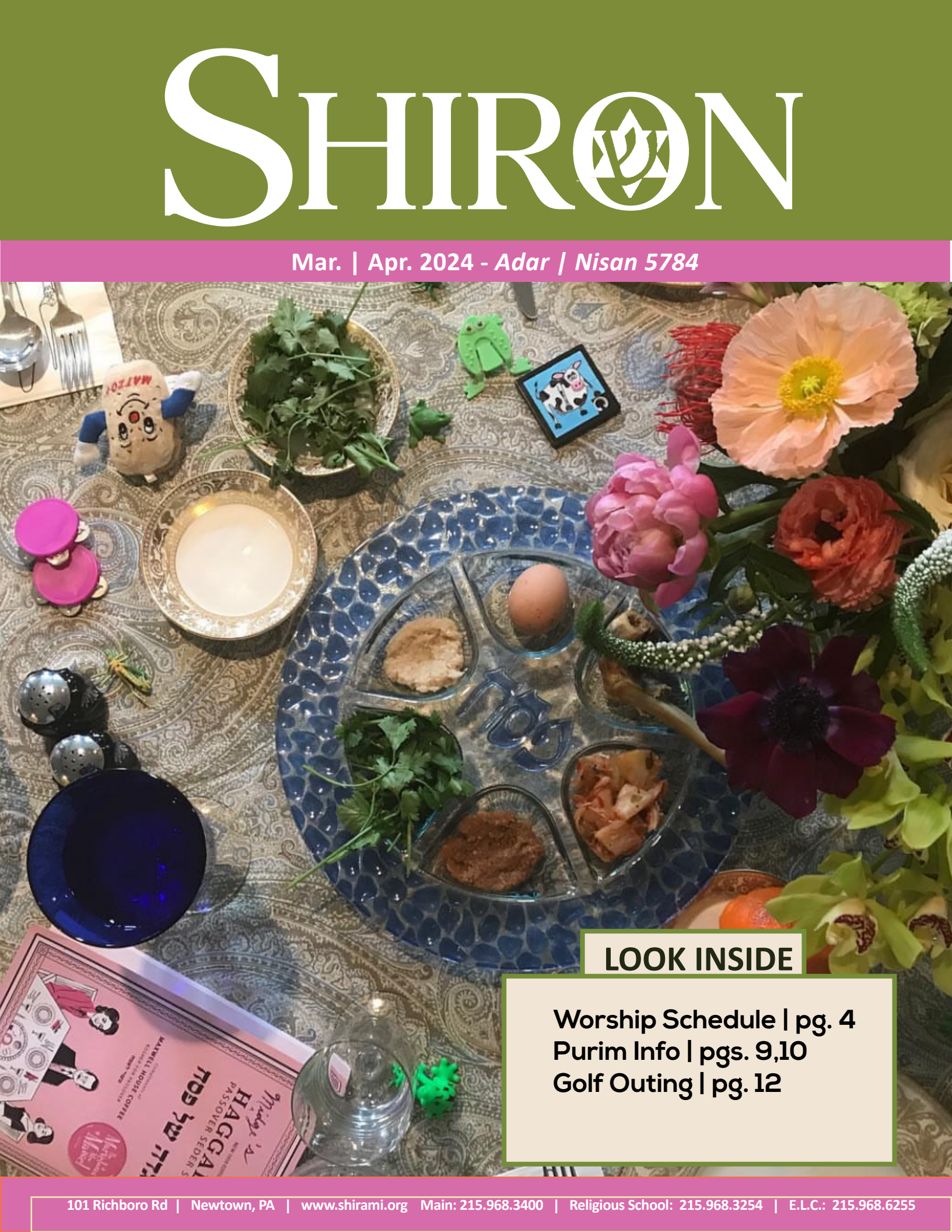
# SHIRON

Mar. | Apr. 2024 - Adar | Nisan 5784

**LOOK INSIDE**

Worship Schedule | pg. 4  
Purim Info | pgs. 9,10  
Golf Outing | pg. 12

101 Richboro Rd | Newtown, PA | [www.shirami.org](http://www.shirami.org) Main: 215.968.3400 | Religious School: 215.968.3254 | E.L.C.: 215.968.6255



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# FROM OUR RABBI'S STUDY

*Celebrate Purim with Shir Ami | Rabbi Charles Briskin*



RABBI CHARLES BRISKIN

One of my favorite childhood memories from my synagogue was the annual Purim spiel and carnival. The clergy and teachers acted out a funny play retelling the tale of the story from Megillat Esther—the Scroll of Esther. The play was followed by a big car-

nival in the social hall with games, prizes, food, and a lot of fun. In truth, most synagogues' Purim spiels and carnivals have not changed much since I was a child. It becomes an enduring and unforgettable memory for many that passes from generation to generation.

It is interesting that so much fun and frivolity is associated with Purim. After all, the story itself is serious, sobering, and definitely not meant for children. A wicked aide to a feckless king devises a plot to destroy the Jewish people all because the aide felt one particularly proud Jew disrespected him.

It takes the reluctant intervention of the proud Jew's niece, who becomes queen, to expose the aide and ultimately save the Jewish people. It's a story filled with deception, corruption, sex, and violence. And yet, we often transform it into a play that is appealing to children.

Why do we do this?

In part because of the carnival atmosphere, the dressing up in costumes, and the wearing of masks appeal to children. Purim can be the Jewish response to Halloween or Mardi Gras. Furthermore, many customs surrounding Purim call for it to be a day of joy, celebration, and partying; as Rabbi Dana Evan Kaplan writes, everything that is normally true in the regular world is turned upside down on Purim. Fortuitous events just happen. People overhear things that they're not supposed to overhear. Nothing is as it seems. And while God is notably absent from the story, many coincidences appear, which can be God being present while staying anonymous.

Despite the serious nature of the story, Purim has become associated with silly spiels, carnivals, masquer-

ades, and more. Many communities have turned Purim into a children's celebration. At the same time, some have also created adult-only versions of the spiel and party where some of the more tawdry themes can be more appropriately played out.

Purim is a children's celebration at Shir Ami. Our SHAFTY Teen youth group puts on a great Purim Carnival every year. Our post-b.mitzvah students lead a Purim spiel for our kindergarten through fifth grade students just prior to the carnival.

However, we don't limit our celebration to children only. We've also made Purim more of an adult gathering that befits its adult themes. Our Adult Purim Spiel and Party has become one of our signature events of the year, a night out that you won't want to miss. This event, our annual Hamentashen baking party, and the delivery of our Mishloach Manot Purim gift baskets have made Purim a focal point of our year.

Over 100 volunteers join to participate in one or more of our Purim activities. These different opportunities bring people together from across the generations and demonstrate some of the best that Shir Ami offers. We build community while touching the lives of every member positively. Many of your friends devote hours of their time and energy to organizing everything that Purim has become at Shir Ami.

We invite you to join us to bake Hamentashen, pack and deliver our Mishloach Manot, help with our Adults- Only Purim Spiel and Party on Saturday, March 23, or simply come and join us to celebrate this festive time of the year.

Purim is a time to make memories for our children that will pass from one generation to the next. It's also a time for us to make new memories of our own, memories born from the simple act of gathering as a community to help contribute to the vitality of our community.

We look forward to seeing you in the weeks ahead, whether to bake Hamentashen, deliver Mishloach Manot, support SHAFTY and our Kids Purim Carnival, or join our Adults-Only Purim Spiel and Party. Much fun is in store and we hope you will celebrate with us.



Shir Ami, Hadassah & Gems at the J  
present

SHIR AMI

# LUNCH & LEARN

Israel Religious Action Center's  
Struggle For a Better Israel In  
Times of War and Peace  
w/ Orly Erez-Likhovski



Thursday  
March 14



12:30PM-2PM



SHIR AMI

101 Richboro Rd | Newtown  
Shalom Hall

REGISTER NOW

\$15/Person for lunch at 12:30pm  
Program only at 1pm is Free

**ONLY EREZ-LIKHOVSKI** Executive Director of the Israel Religious Action Center (**IRAC**), a post she has held since 2022. Prior to assuming this role, she was the director of the legal department of IRAC. In this capacity, she led the legal struggle against discrimination on the basis of religious affiliation, gender segregation in the public sphere and racial incitement. IRAC was also a key player in the pro-democracy protests of 2023.

## MEDITATIONS & MORNING BLESSINGS

w/ *Rabbi Briskin*

Wednesdays and Fridays | 8:45am-9am | via ZOOM

**Did you remember to take your Morning Meds?**

15 minutes of mindfulness meditation can be a great way to jumpstart your day. Join Rabbi Briskin for a short morning ritual that includes mindful meditation, music and more. Every Wednesday and Friday from 8:45-9:00 a.m. on Zoom. *No previous experience with meditation is necessary.*

**\*\*Zoom links can be found on calendar and in weekly Shir Happenings email.**



# MARCH | APRIL WORSHIP SCHEDULE

## Friday, Mar. 1

7:00pm Intergenerational Shabbat Service with Rabbi Briskin, Cantor Berlin, Rabbi Goldberg, and Michael Smolen. Featuring March birthday and anniversary blessings.

*Abraham-Swerdlow Sanctuary*

## Saturday, Mar. 2

10:15am Chevrat Torah w/ Cantor Julie Berlin

*Chodorow FLC & Zoom*

## Friday, Mar. 8

7pm Shabbat Service

*Abraham-Swerdlow Sanctuary*

## Saturday, Mar. 9

10:15am Chevrat Torah w/ Rabbi Chuck Briskin

*Chodorow FLC & Zoom*

## Friday, Mar. 15

6:00pm 3rd & 4th grade Family Shabbat Experience

7:00pm Shabbat Service w/ Choir  
*Abraham-Swerdlow Sanctuary*

## Saturday, Mar. 16

10:15am Chevrat Torah w/ Cantor Flo

Friedman

*Chodorow FLC & Zoom*

## 10:15am Bat Mitzvah of Gabriella Robins

## Friday, Mar. 22

7:00pm Shabbat Service including a Torah service.

Jerry Gross will chant Torah and we will celebrate the Auf Ruf (pre-wedding blessing) for Jerry's son and future daughter in law, Cody Gross and Melissa Brigani.

*Abraham-Swerdlow Sanctuary*

## Saturday, Mar. 23

### Erev Purim

10:15am Chevrat Torah w/ Rabbi Paula Goldberg  
*Chodorow FLC & Zoom*

## Sunday, Mar. 24 Purim

## Friday, Mar. 29

7:00pm Shabbat Service

*Abraham-Swerdlow Sanctuary*

## Saturday, Mar. 30

10:15am Chevrat Torah w/ Cantor Julie Berlin  
*Chodorow FLC & Zoom*

## Friday, Apr. 5

7:00pm Intergenerational Shabbat Service with Rabbi Briskin, Cantor Berlin, Rabbi Goldberg, and Michael Smolen. Featuring April birthday and anniversary blessings. We will also celebrate the baby naming of Judah Elkin, son of Emily and David Elkin, brother of Elana and Chloe, grandson of Alan and Melody Rosenberg.  
*Abraham-Swerdlow Sanctuary*

## Saturday, Apr. 6

10:15am Chevrat Torah w/ Rabbi Chuck Briskin  
*Chodorow FLC & Zoom*

## Friday, Apr. 12

7:00pm Anna Gever Shabbat Service w/ Choir and special guest Cantor Marshall Portnoy, honoring our Circle of Giving Donors  
*Abraham-Swerdlow Sanctuary*

## Saturday, Apr. 13

10:15am Chevrat Torah w/ TBD  
*Chodorow FLC & Zoom*

## 10:15am B'nai Mitzvah of Cam & Brody Collins

## Friday, Apr. 19

7:00pm Shabbat Service w/ Torah Reading  
*Abraham-Swerdlow Sanctuary*

## Saturday, Apr. 20

9:30am Shir Sprouts: Infants, Bright Beginnings, 2's Breakfast  
*Elson Auditorium & Strom Chapel*

10:15am Chevrat Torah w/ Cantor Julie Berlin  
*Chodorow FLC & Zoom*

## 4:30pm Bat Mitzvah of Sloane Blatt

## Friday, Apr. 26

7:00pm Shabbat Service  
*Abraham-Swerdlow Sanctuary*

## Saturday, Apr. 27

10:15am Chevrat Torah w/ Rabbi Chuck Briskin  
*Chodorow FLC & Zoom*



## B.mitzvah

### **Gabriella Robins**

daughter of Misty & Travis

Robins

March 16 2024

6 Adar 5784

*Parashat P'kudei*



### **Cam & Brody Collins**

sons of Melissa Collins

April 13, 2024

5 Nisan 5784

*Parashat Tazria*



### **Sloane Blatt**

daughter of Lisa & Jason Blatt

April 20, 2024

12 Nisan 5784

*Chol Hamoeid Pesach (Ex  
34:1-26 from Ki tisa)*



## PLEASE NOTE

All Services that are held in the  
Abraham-Swerdlow  
Sanctuary are streamed  
and can be viewed by  
clicking the  
**LIVESTREAM** link  
on the top of our  
website's home page.

Services and  
programs that are  
offered via Zoom will have  
links in our weekly  
**Shir Happenings** email.

## Condolences

- Ed Short on the passing of his sister, Anne Timmons
- Fran Orkin on the passing of her brother, Carl Grossberg
- Marlene & Marvin Laster on the passing of their niece, Sandra Laster
- Bill Spitz on the passing of his mother, Phyllis Spitz
- Mel Berman on the passing of his wife, Sandra Berman
- Jack Benoff on the passing of his father, Edward Benoff
- Barbi Weinberg on the passing of her mother, Iris Wellen
- Debra Schorr on the passing of her mother, Elaine Geiger
- Evan Kleiman on the passing of his father, Bruce Kleiman

\*as of 2.20.24

**Save the Date**  
**Friday, May 3**

**Shabbat Service and Confirmation Service; Join us for a special Shabbat service as we celebrate the Confirmation ceremony for Chloe Fingerman, Elliot Petroski, Lia Shubin and Aden Wexler.**



# PASSOVER SCHEDULE

**Monday, Apr. 22**  
**Erev Passover | First Seder**  
**Offices & School Closed**

**Tuesday, Apr. 23**  
**Passover | 2nd Seder**  
**Offices & School Closed**

**Monday, Apr. 29**  
**Last day of Passover**  
**Offices & School Closed**  
**5:30pm** Yizkor Service End the Festival of Passover by taking time to remember your loved ones during a brief service and ritual of remembrance.  
Chodorow FLC

**6:30pm** Bread-Fest Join us at Meglios for pizza, pasta and more carbs as we mark the end of the 7 day Festival of Passover.

**STAY TUNED  
FOR  
MORE DETAILS**

The Women of Shir Ami

## Women's SEDER

**Thursday, April 11**  
**6pm - 8pm**  
**Shalom Hall**

Join Cantor Berlin and the Women of Shir Ami for our annual Women's Seder. Celebrate the Passover traditions with stories of inspirational women in Jewish history and a tasty holiday meal.

Daughters  
and  
granddaughters  
ages 13+  
are welcome  
with attendees

**\$35 /pp for WoSA members**  
**\$40/ pp for non-members**

**REGISTER HERE**







# STRIDE FOR RESPITE

SUNDAY, APRIL 28  
CITIZENS BANK PARK

3:00pm **Check-In Begins**  
4:00pm **Opening Ceremony**  
4:30pm **Stride Together for Respite**

## HOW TO JOIN OUR TEAM

- **Click Here**
- Click 'Register'
- Click 'Join a Team'
- Type 'Shir Ami' in the search box to be taken to our team page.
- Select the proper number of 'registrations' based on who is coming from your family (Adults 19 and older/Kids 6-18 years old/Kids 5 and younger)
- Now you are part of the team!

[CLICK FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)



 [egoldberg@shiramipa.org](mailto:egoldberg@shiramipa.org)

MORNING COFFEE  
w/ RABBI BRISKIN  
9:15am - 10:15am  
First Wednesday  
of the Month

\*\* See weekly Shir Happenings  
or our online calendar

# REFUAH SHLEIMAH

## *We Pray for Healing of Body, Mind, and Spirit for:*

Jay Alexander  
Arlene Applebaum  
Joshua Banner  
Bunny Barschi  
Mindie Bittner  
William Berger  
Ken Bieber  
Laurie Braun  
Carol Cherson  
Eric Cherson  
Barbara Paley Cohen  
Mary Dayen  
Diane Dienstman  
Claudia Digesu  
Vincent Esposito  
Mona Feldman  
Arthur Fisher  
Murray H. Frohman  
Rylee Gersten  
Howard Jordan Goldberg  
Rabbi Paula Goldberg  
Irv Goldfinger

Virginia Hildebrandt  
Zachary Hirsh  
Linda Idleberg  
Albert Jones  
Marvin Kalafer  
Richard Kaplan  
Steven Katz  
Ruth Kranetz  
Nancy Lever  
Amy Lasner  
Loralee Love  
Miriam Necowitz  
Kaye Paletz  
Meryl Paletz  
Linda Pura  
Ronit Rackowski  
Michael Sachs  
Arthur Schimmel  
Marilyn Sheniak  
Lidia Solomonov  
Karin Surkin  
Ira Tabas

Betsy Twersky  
Susan Weisberg  
Terry Weisberg  
Susan Westheimer  
Kyla Sheindel Yaffa bat  
Sarah Sarah

\*as of 2.26.24

**Please take a moment to  
review the Refuah Shleimah  
list. If there is anyone who  
should be added or removed,  
please email  
[jodie.levinson@shiramipa.org](mailto:jodie.levinson@shiramipa.org)**

---

## KADDISH LIST IS AVAILABLE ON THE SHABBAT HAPPENINGS EMAIL THAT IS SENT OUT ON THURSDAYS

On the anniversary (*yahrzeit*) of the death of your loved one, it is customary to light a candle in memory of that person. The *yahrzeit* candle burns for twenty-four hours serving as a sacred and somber symbol of your mourning while framing this period of remembrance (*yizkor*). Before lighting the candle, you may choose, on your own or with family and friends, to recall the everlasting gifts that your loved one left behind for you to cherish and protect. As you prepare to light the candle, you may recite this benediction to help you focus your attention and to create an intention for this solemn moment.

*"Ner Adonai nishmat adam; The light of god shines in our soul."* (Proverbs 20:27)

[I/we] give thanks for the blessing of life, for companionship, and for memory.

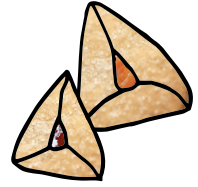
Our tradition teaches us that we never lose those we love, for love is stronger than death.

So [I/we] kindle this light now, and as it burns, so may the memory of \_\_\_\_\_ continue to be an inspiration.

(From the CCAR Rabbi's manual;2015)



# PURIM 2024!



Every congregant and ELC family will receive a FREE Purim Basket filled with delicious goodies & the 2024 Shir Ami Community Yearbook delivered to their home.

## Be a part of the first annual Shir Ami Community Yearbook!

This year, we'll celebrate our vibrant community with a yearbook that highlights the people who make Shir Ami your home away from home. In addition to featuring ELC, Religious School and Shir Ami events, we invite individual families to participate! Share a special message, your family photo, a note of gratitude...you decide!



**FULL PAGE** | **HALF PAGE**  
\$236 | \$118



Scan here to learn more about all Purim activities and events

Submissions due Saturday, March 9

**Celebrate Purim with family and friends...  
Order your Hamantaschen and  
bake-at-home kits today!**



**Saturday, March 23**  
(Doors open at 6:30pm)

**Join us for the Purim Spiel!**  
Entertainment, music, food, cocktails & more! Adults only.

Home deliveries routed through routific.com **Routific**

**SHIR AMI**  
YOUTH GROUPS

# SHIR AMI PURIM CARNIVAL

**SAFARI  
THEME**

EXPERIENCE A FUN  
ADVENTURE

**SUNDAY, MARCH 17**  
**11AM-1PM**  
Geared towards ages 3-11

ONE PRICE  
For ALL  
Activities

**REGISTER HERE**

- Inflatables
- Games
- Prizes
- Fun Foods
- Puppet Show

**\$20/Wristband**

## 2024 SHIR AMI YEARBOOK

So proud to be a part of the  
Shir Ami community!

**Marcus Family Happenings!**  
Josh participated in his first Social Street Run. Julie is looking forward to traveling to Spain this summer. David (8) and Caroline (7) can't wait for camp Hallelu. Susie & Masde (4) are loving dance & gymnastics.

**The Marcus Family**  
Josh, Julie, David, Caroline, Susie & Masde  
Shir Ami members since 2018

This year, we'll celebrate our vibrant community with a yearbook that highlights the people who make Shir Ami your home away from home. In addition to featuring ELC, Religious School and Shir Ami events, we invite individual families to participate!

Share a special message, your family photo, a note of gratitude...you decide!

**\$236 FULL PAGE**  
**\$118 HALF PAGE**

Deadline to submit is March 7

**Mazel Tov  
Maxine!**  
1.27.24  
Mom, Dad and Everett (and Bartel) are so proud of your accomplishment. We love you!  
The Newman Family  
Shir Ami members since 2014

Sending love (and warmth) from Boca!  
Bubble & PopPop Greenblatt  
Proud members of Shir Ami since 1998!

**SCAN**

# HAPPY PURIM !!

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW OUR EVERYTHING PURIM PAGE](#)

## HAMANTASCHEN ORDERS

A MINIMUM ORDER OF ONE BAKERS DOZEN HAMANTASCHEN FOR \$18 IS REQUIRED. EACH ADDITIONAL HAMANTASH IS \$1.50. THE BAKERS DOZEN (13) CAN BE MULTIPLE FLAVORS.

ORDER BY MARCH 14TH! NO EXCEPTIONS. ORDERS WILL BE DELIVERED TO YOUR HOME ON SUNDAY, MARCH 24TH.

**SCAN HERE!**

## LIVE FROM SHUSHAN IT'S SATURDAY NIGHT

**PURIM  
SPIEL  
&  
COCKTAIL  
PARTY**

**Saturday  
March 23  
6:30pm-  
11pm**

**SCAN NOW**



# A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

## What Will Your Legacy Be? | Stephanie Kravatz

The definition of “Legacy” is something that is passed on. Legacy can take many forms. A Legacy may be of one’s faith, ethics and core values....A Legacy may be financial, wealth passed to the next generation. A Legacy may come from one’s character, reputation and the life one leads – setting an example to guide the futures of others.

In January, Shir Ami embarked on a Life and Legacy project. It is the first time in the 48 years of our existence that we have committed to creating an endowment that will sustain our congregation into the future. It is hard to imagine 100 years or even 50 years from now, and I am sure, if you do, you probably do not see yourself in that portrait. We can envision the lives of our children and grandchildren. Perhaps we picture them living in Bucks County or maybe in the far reaches of the world. Some might even imagine a futuristic scenario where humans have inhabited a far off, distant planet. Our creativity helps us to dream of technological innovations that reach far beyond today’s capabilities. Many of us harbor hopes for world peace and acceptance for everyone. As Jews I hope we all have visions of a thriving Jewish culture embracing the past traditions and creating new ones.

When I think of the Jewish people of the future I hope and pray that they will still have synagogues comprised of similarly-minded people who engage in both Torah study and Tikkun Olam. I hope they still see the importance of raising Jewish children instilled with the values of the generations that preceded them.

By creating our Life and Legacy project we are taking a huge step to assure that the future of Shir Ami and the Jewish community in Bucks County is protected. Over the course of the next 3 years we have committed to securing 54 members’ Legacy commitments. These commitments are realized through a bequest or through a donation made today to Shir Ami’s Endowment Fund. These gifts can be purposed through wills, trusts, life insurance policies, cash, etc.... As one of our Past President’s said. “This gift is the least painful gift I have ever given to Shir Ami because I will be gone when it is time to part with it”.

No one wants to think of their demise and for some this reality is much closer than for others. I remember the first time I traveled after my daughter Hannah was born. In addition to plane tickets and hotel reservations Alan and I made a trip to a lawyer to draft our will. It was un-imaginable to me that we would ever need to use it but we wrote it anyway. Twenty-seven years later, having added 2 more children as beneficiaries we have realized that while we still hope no one needs to use our will anytime soon, maybe there are other people and organizations besides our children that are important to us and deserve a portion of what we will leave behind.



STEPHANIE KRAVATZ

We joined Shir Ami when we moved to Bucks County, before we even had children. My children attended preschool, religious school, and participated in Shafy. They became B. Mitzvah and Confirmants and someday will hopefully be married under a chuppah in our sanctuary. Shir Ami is where we have prayed and socialized. It is where we met our closest friends. It is where I mourned my grandmother, uncle, father-in-law and mother. I have repaid Shir Ami for all it has given me by serving on committees, the board and now serving as president. Alan and I have also committed to paying forward all that we have received and valued in our synagogue membership by assuring that we support Shir Ami after we are gone, through our Legacy commitment.

Over the next 3 years, our committee, led by Jon Stevens, will be reaching out to you to ask for the opportunity to meet. We want to hear about your Shir Ami experience. What has Shir Ami given to you through the years and how do you feel about its future? If you have that same feeling as I do, that your life would not be what it is without having been part of the Shir Ami community, or if you feel strongly that the Jewish community in Bucks County needs to be preserved, we hope you will consider making a Legacy gift of your own.

While a 5-year-old girl singing Shake the Lulav at Sukkot in the year 2100 may not know your name, her grandparents and maybe her parents will. They will recognize, as they look around the sanctuary, that they would not be there watching their little girl sing her heart out, were it not for those who came before them.



Shir Ami  
**GOLF**  
with  
Mahjong & Cards

Join your Shir Ami community for a great day of golf, mahjong or cards.

# Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup> 2024

## Philmont Country Club

### Register to Golf

\$250 per Golfer



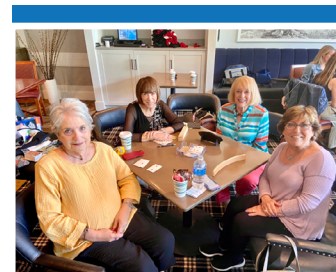
### Register for Mahjong or Cards

\$75 per Player



### Become a Sponsor

Options for Every Budget



**To Register:** [www.ShirAmi.org/Form/Golf](http://www.ShirAmi.org/Form/Golf)

**For Business-Level Sponsorships:** [www.ShirAmi.org/Form/Golf](http://www.ShirAmi.org/Form/Golf)

**For Questions:** [ShirAmiGolf@gmail.com](mailto:ShirAmiGolf@gmail.com)

The Shir Ami Golf Outing with Mahjong and Cards is a social and fundraising event that brings our community members together to participate in some of our favorite activities while supporting Shir Ami's Circle of Giving.



## NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT SHIR AMI WELCOMES THE SHAPIRO FAMILY



**TELL US ABOUT YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS:** Jason is the Owner of DKC Landscaping, Youfei is a Software Engineer and Adam is our 7 month old son.

**WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO JOIN SHIR AMI:** To be part of the Jewish community and meet with other new parents!

**HOW YOU SPEND YOUR FREE TIME/HOBBIES:** We love improv, comedy shows, swimming, pickleball, and eating at a good restaurants. Jason's favorite food is Popeyes, and Youfei loves Hotpot.

**FAVORITE VACATION SPOT:** Hawaii, although our last vacation was to Marco Island, FL

## Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are  
needed for holidays,  
events, and onegs!

- Greeters and Ushers  
(High Holy Days and/or Shabbat)
- Set up and/or support for  
holiday events
- Help with post-event clean up
- Provide food(s) or dessert(s)

**Register Now**



## A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR 2023-2024 CIRCLE OF GIVING DONORS

### Chazak (Strength)

Joseph & Johanna DiMedio  
Jon & Meri Stevens  
Jim & Matti Wasserson

### Tzedek (Righteousness)

Daniel & Karin Surkin

### Chesed (Kindness)

Anonymous Donor  
Jack & Sharon Benoff  
Bob & Donna DeSantis  
Harvey & Paula Goldberg  
Ed & Ellie Short

### Ahava (Love)

Anonymous Donor  
Mark & Margie Kopins  
Alan & Stephanie Kravatz  
David & Alyssa Kressman  
Dennis & Phyllis Malinger  
Jerry & Harriet Paley  
Yale & Erin Saltzman  
Steven & Lindye Shechtman  
Alan & Marilyn Sheinberg  
Scott & Debbie Stevens  
William Spitz & Meryl Reis

### Chaver (Friend)

Matt Hoffman & Elana Walker  
Leonard & Risa Kane  
Kenneth Lipton  
Marc & Jackie Luber  
Sandy Luber  
Jason & Youfei Shapiro

### Simcha (Joy)

Ron Abraham  
Helen Berman  
Charles & Karen Briskin  
Brett & Randi Cohen  
Bruce & Pamela Dick  
Richard & Fern Fried  
Norm & Linda Idleberg  
Howard & Janis Kritzer  
Michael & Beth LaPat

Marvin & Marlene Laster  
Neil & Rachel Lesser  
Judy Mazess  
Steve & Myrna Pressman  
Steve & Elaine Rovner  
Larry & Debbie Schorr

### Kavod (Honor)

Bob & Debbie Dunn  
Jordan & Emily Fried  
Jarad Fingerman  
Allan & Susan Goodman  
Carole Kant  
Peter Koe  
Melvin & Rhoda Kreiner  
Barry & Judith Kroll  
Lowell & Judy Mann  
Steve & Dee Rodos  
David & Lorrie Riggs  
Theodore & Diana Rosenberg  
Howard & Ruth Spector

### Shalom (Peace)

Jeff & Stacey Cohen  
Robert & Flora Day  
Neil & Dara Dayen  
Ted & Suzanne Reiss

### Beracha (Blessing)

Steven & Suzanne Chou  
Adam & Diane Dienstman  
Eric Goldberg &  
Geri Newburge  
Michael Kelly &  
Alison Saifer  
Mitchell & Elizabeth Jacobs  
Peter & Kim Korda  
Becky Markowitz  
Phil & Kim Nordlinger  
Paul & Ellen Rawicz  
Michael & Rachael Smolen  
Ken & Julie Standig  
Dennis & Ricki Tafflin

### Chai (Life)

Harvey & Marjorie Abramson  
Marshall & Karen Asner  
Alan & Julie Berlin  
Ken & Susan Bieber  
Daniel & Barbara Blumberg  
Arlene Buchman  
Jason & Natalie Cohen  
Bob & Essie Cherkin  
Nicholas & Claudia Digesu  
Kevin & Bronnie Fiely  
Jack & Diane Fein  
Richard & Lynne Fiorelli  
Glen & Robyn Firestone  
Gene & Iris Freyer  
Scott & Jodi Friedman  
Mark & Beverly Goldberg  
Brett & Shawn Goldberg  
Steve Ginsberg &  
Ilana Hessing  
Mike & Nancy Green  
Nathaniel & Joanna Holzman  
Arlene Illiesco  
Joel & Mona Jaffe  
Elaine Jancourtz  
Arthur & Paula Krauss  
Scott & Ferne Levy  
Jeffrey & Rachel Lyons  
James & Beth McAleese  
Risa Morris  
George & Ellen Rifkin  
George & Susan Rosenberg  
Steve & Debbie Rosenberg  
David & Debbie Rosenthal  
Brian & Melissa Rubenstein  
Dan & Elizabeth Schwartz  
Alex & Rachel Sigman  
Charles & Andrea Silverman  
Owen & Luz Simon  
Ron & Ann Smolow  
Elliot & Susan Strom  
Harold & Diana Turek-Gever  
Jeremi & Rachel Tyler  
Philip & Eileen Weinstein  
Brandon & Rebecca Weiss  
Marc & Lisa Weiss

\*\*Donations as of 2.14.24



## To donate to the Circle of Giving Fund:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to Shir Ami and mail to:  
101 Richboro Road, Newtown, PA 18940**

Donors at all levels will be recognized monthly  
in the Shiron.

- ☐ Enclosed is my check (payable to "Shir Ami")
- ☐ Please bill my account (in accordance with my current payment plan)
- ☐ Please have the office contact me to discuss payment arrangements

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT CIRCLE OF GIVING:  
**215.968.3400 | [pnordlinger@shiramipa.org](mailto:pnordlinger@shiramipa.org)**

\_\_\_\_ YES, I would like to be a member of Circle of Giving for the fiscal year July, 2023 through June, 2024. I pledge, in addition to my full Shir Ami dues, the following contribution to the Circle of Giving:

- ☐ **\$10,000** - Chazak (Strength)
- ☐ **\$7,200** - Tzedek (Righteousness)
- ☐ **\$5,400** - Chesed (Kindness)
- ☐ **\$3,600** - Ahava (Love)
- ☐ **\$2,500** - Chaver (Friend)
- ☐ **\$1,800** - Simcha (Joy)
- ☐ **\$1,000** - Kavod (Honor)
- ☐ **\$720** - Shalom (Peace)
- ☐ **\$540** - Beracha (Blessing)
- ☐ **\$360** - Chai (Life)
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_ (other amount)



# LIFELONG LEARNING MARCH /APRIL

## You Are What You Eat – Why Keeping Kosher Matters (Or Not) in Our Lives, led by Rabbi Briskin

For thousands of years Jewish people have asked: Is that kosher? But what does that actually mean? Join Rabbi Briskin and delve into the laws of kashrut, why Jewish tradition/law has always deeply cared about what you put into your body, the relationship between Jewish law and being a vegan/vegetarian, as well as the meaning(s) the laws of kashrut have in our times as a Reform Jewish community.

Thursday, April 4 | 7pm

**Location & Registration Coming Soon**



## GOLDEN SLIPPER GEMS

IN PERSON AND ZOOM PROGRAMS

COMMUNITY BUILDING  
THROUGH LEARNING AND  
EXPERIENCE

Gems focus is on older  
adults living active and  
engaged lives

WE OFFER DIVERSE CLASSES  
IN THE ARTS, MUSIC, FILM,  
LITERATURE, POLITICS,  
HEALTH AND WELLNESS,  
EXERCISE, AND MORE.



For More Information:

Greta Wrigley  
gwrigley@goldenslipper.org  
(267) 984-0722  
<https://goldenslippergems.org/bucks-county/>



Contact  
Meryl Reis  
if interested:  
[msmeryl23@gmail.com](mailto:msmeryl23@gmail.com)

## NIGHTTIME BOOK CLUB DISCUSSIONS Open to All

*We read contemporary fiction and have engaging  
discussions, led by our readers. Yes, we talk about the book.*

Join us on the second Monday of every month  
7:30 pm | Main Office Conference Room

Monday, March 11  
Matrix by Lauren Groff

Monday, April 8  
The Unbreakable Heart of Olivia Denaro  
by Viola Ardone





**RACIAL JUSTICE**  
 Tikkun Olam & Lifelong Learning  
 3rd Thursdays of the month held in person -  
 Family Life Center

7pm-8:30pm  
 Chairpersons - Janis Bader & Harriet Paley

JUST SHOW UP - NO HOMEWORK SESSIONS!!!!

Thursday, March 21, 2024 - NY Times short clip videos  
 "A Conversation about Growing Up Black", 2015  
 "A Conversation with My Black Son", 2015

Thursday, April 18th, 2024 - NY Times short clip videos  
 "A Conversation with Asian-American on Race", 2016  
 "A Conversation with Latinos", 2016  
 "Confronting the Invisibility of Anti-Asian Racism", J. Lee, Brookings Inst.,  
 May 18, 2022, 6pgs.

Thursday, May 16, 2024 - Conclusion  
 "Reconsidering Being "Colorblind"", by [URJ.org/AudaciousHospitality](https://urj.org/AudaciousHospitality),  
 2 pgs.  
 "Ways Your Congregation Can Act Now for Racial Justice", Rabbi Jonah D.  
 Pesner, 5pgs.

# A Taste of Torah – A Women's Torah Commentary



On Sunday January 21 – we gathered to celebrate and introduce the Women's Torah Commentary to the Shir Ami community. It was a wonderful afternoon filled with fun, food and Torah discussion. It truly was a *Shehecheyanu* moment!

Let's learn together. What is a Torah Commentary? Why is this commentary special? How is this commentary different? How does Torah relate to our lives today? We can encourage more people of all ages and genders to engage in Torah. Don't be intimidated – we will do it together! We want to think outside the box, share your ideas and suggestions.

Thank you to those who attended, we look forward to seeing more of you at our next taste of Torah event. Thank you to our donors, our office and maintenance staff and our Torah Team – Cantor Julie Berlin, Meryl Reis and Nancy Axler.

Want to order your personal copy and or donate one to Shir Ami - \$72/book – contact Becky Markowitz

## **Women's Torah Commentary Sponsors (as of 1-21-24)**

Alan & Marilyn Sheinberg, Becky Markowitz, Deborah Gates-Maten,  
Donna & Bob DeSantis, Harriet & Jerry Paley, Helen Berman,  
Ivy Pearlstein, Jon & Meri Stevens, Karin & Dan Surkin,  
Larry & Debbie Schorr, Luber Family, Marci Goldfinger,  
Margie Kopins, Meryl Reis & William Spitz, Nancy & Marc Axler,  
Nancy Siderits, Rabbi Paula & Harvey Goldberg, Robert & Flora Day,  
Susan Bilker Goldfinger, Weiss Family and Women of Shir Ami

L' Shalom,  
Becky Markowitz | Torah Team Captain



Check out our Pinterest page for a ton of great Purim recipes, craft ideas and more!

<https://www.pinterest.com/ShirAmiBucks-County/purim/>





## Shir Ami Code Blue 2023 Report

In association with AHTN (Advocates for Homeless and Those in Need), we completed 10 Code Blue nights during the month of December. During those nights, a total of 265 men and women took shelter in our building. Each night, our guests arrived at 8:30pm and were housed in Shalom Hall. They received hot, nutritious buffet dinners that were graciously served by our volunteers. Cots provided by AHTN allowed our guests to have a warm, restful night's sleep. In the morning we served them breakfast and provided them with sandwiches to go before they left at 6:30am. Each guest received toiletries, coats, socks and shoes as needed plus a small gift on Christmas Eve.

We want to thank our staff and maintenance team for all of their support in this wonderful Tikkun Olam initiative. The congregation came together and we were blessed to have so many fantastic volunteers who were ready and willing to organize, cook, clean and be the welcoming force in this amazing partnership with AHTN.

We are looking forward to providing assistance to the unhoused for many years to come.

Sincerely,  
Barbara Roth & Essie Cherkin  
Tikkun Olam Co-Chairs.



[Learn more about AHTN's Code Blue program here.](#)



• **WOMEN OF SHIR AMI** •

# HAMANTASCHEN BAKING CLASS!

ONLY  
**\$5 FOR MEMBERS**  
**\$10 FOR NON MEMBERS**

**SUNDAY,  
MARCH 3  
1PM - 3PM**

MAIN KITCHEN AT SHIR AMI  
\*Please bring rolling pin if you have one

**REGISTER HERE**



ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE EMAIL NANCY AXLER.



# MAHJONG LESSONS

*Do you want to play Mahjong but don't know how?  
Just need a refresher? Now is your chance...*

**JOIN WOMEN OF SHIR AMI  
FOR MAHJONG LESSONS!**

 Come learn the rules, the tiles, and some strategies.  
It's a great opportunity to make new connections  
and have a full introduction to the game.

**SUNDAY MORNINGS**  
9:30am-11am

March 10  
March 24  
April 7  
April 14  
\*bagel breakfast included

**\$20 for lessons for WoSA members  
\$25 for non members**

If you want to purchase a Mahjong card,  
you can [order here](#).

- Must order by Feb 5
- They won't be delivered until March 30.

To participate, you will not need your own Mahjong card

**REGISTER NOW >**



Any questions, please email [maxnax@verizon.net](mailto:maxnax@verizon.net)  
or call Amy at 215-450-4207 and leave a message



## ShirLegacy

### A vision

Nearly 50 years ago, our founders gathered together to realize their vision of building a Reform Jewish Congregation in Bucks County for themselves and future generations.

Today, our vision is to grow and sustain Shir Ami, the Heart of Bucks County Reform Judaism, for the next 50 years and beyond.

Help us build our ShirLegacy and sustain our community for the years to come.  
Please contact [Jon Stevens](#) to find out how.



# WOMEN OF SHIR AMI

## Spring Time Fun with the Women of Shir Ami! | Nancy Axler



NANCY AXLER

Winter is almost over, and it's time to get rid of those winter grays and get ready for some fun spring activities. Women of Shir Ami are offering several opportunities to color your schedule and get involved with some lovely people.

Let's start with Purim first. Shir Ami as a whole is organizing the annual Purim Spiel, which will be a blast for adults as we hear a bright interpretation of Esther prevailing over Haman. That same week is the Purim Carnival. SHAFTY has lots of plans to entertain the youth in our community while the Women of Shir Ami will satisfy their hunger at our food court on Sunday, March 17th. Bring some cash to get a breakfast or lunchtime treat and to quench everyone's thirst after running around from room to room. Don't forget the hamantashen! Not only can you buy some at the carnival from us, but Eve and Larry Lefkowitz are assisting us to make our own hamantashens on Sunday, March 3rd, at 1:00. Register and join us so that you'll be ready for Purim.

Now some of our more seasoned members might recall a 70's show about an independently strong woman—"...and then there's Maude." Well, this spring we've revised that a little—"...and then there's mahj." Come join us for 4 sessions of mahjong lessons led by our mahjong guru, Linda Brown. Lessons will be held on Sunday mornings (3/10, 3/24, 4/7, & 4/24) during religious school from 9:30-11:00, and we'll provide bagels to enjoy while you learn. Hopefully, you've ordered your 2024 mahjong card, which should be delivered around 3/30, but even if you didn't, we'll share (and we'll have a few spare cards available for purchase if you're interested) so you can apply what you've learned in the last two sessions. Bring some friends to learn with you so that you can start your own game afterwards. Non-members only pay \$5 more.

April brings us to another holiday festivity—our annual women's seder. This year, the seder will be presented on Thursday, April 11th under new leadership with Cantor Julie Berlin. Enjoy a new perspective on women's contributions to the Passover story while enjoying

a tasty and traditional meal. Again, bring a friend or introduce your next generation to our history.

Also in April, Women of Shir Ami will be supporting the congregation's Sweetheart Dance on the 7th so you can "Kick off the Sunday shoes" and volunteer to enjoy the smiles on our kids' faces during a very special event.

Don't forget to stop by our Gift Shop near the main office. Members benefit from a 15% discount on most items. Call Cari Sacks-Witten for an appointment if you can't come by during open hours. Also contact our member, Donna DeSantis, to get your prepaid grocery gift cards. You're spending money at these stores anyway so why not make a charitable contribution to Shir Ami while you do. A percentage of each card goes to the Shir Ami community activities. Then for one more charitable act, register with the Jewish Relief Agency in Philadelphia to join us on March 17 and April 14, where we pack food for those in need once a month. Let us know if you need a ride or want some company for this heartwarming activity.

Lastly, save these dates for some upcoming events and let me know if you might want to join the planning committees. On Monday, May 6, Women of Shir Ami are hosting the Pennsbury Community Choir and Avi Wisnia for a performance of the Holocaust Cantata on Holocaust Memorial Day. A portion of ticket sales will be donated in memory of Holocaust victims. Then on June 20, we will be holding our Adult Bingo Night. Look out for notices about our introduction to Gentle Yoga and for Rosh Chodesh discussions with our Women's Torah Commentary. Talk to Becky Markowitz if you would like to order your personal copy or donate some to Shir Ami. More details on all of this will follow in the next Shiron.

In the meantime, have a safe, healthy, and colorful spring, and we look forward to your involvement with the Women of Shir Ami.

With Sisterly Affection,  
Nancy Axler



**Men's Club Presents**  
**HOCKEY**

Flyers **VS** Lightning

**Tuesday, Feb. 27 | 7pm**

Wells Fargo Center  
3601 S Broad St | Philadelphia, PA 19148

\$115/ticket  
includes food and alcohol

**REGISTER NOW**



**Shir Sprouts Saturday**

Honoring our Infants, Bright Beginnings, and 2's

**Saturday, April 20**  
**9:30am-10:15am**  
Elson Auditorium & Strom Chapel

**Register Now**

Please join us for our Shir Sprouts Shabbat Morning program. We'll celebrate Shabbat with music, shmoozing, playtime and a bagel breakfast. We will honor our infants, Bright Beginnings, and 2 year old students.

All families with preschool-aged children are welcome.

Can't wait to see you!




**Lots of great things happening!**  
**Don't miss out!**  
**Click on each ad for details**

SHIR AMI MEN'S CLUB PRESENTS

**MARCH MADNESS**

**THURS. MAR. 21**

NEWTOWN BREWING CO.  
103 PENNS TRAIL  
NEWTOWN

**6PM TO 9PM**

TICKET ONLY **\$40** OPEN BAR  
BUFFET DINNER PROVIDED BY ZOOKS BBQ

TEAM A **VS** TEAM B

**REGISTER HERE**



**You're invited!**  
**to ShirGroups**

ShirGroups are small groups based on common interests, hobbies, and/or demographics. Members gather in these groups to participate in a range of activities and experiences. This is a wonderful way to meet new people within the Shir Ami community based on shared interests and to connect in meaningful ways.

**LEARN MORE**

**Enrollment begins now!**

**Register by March 1, 2024**





The Empty Nesters Group had  
a great breakfast event at  
Moish & Itzy's on  
Sunday, February 18

## SHIR AMI DISCOUNT CARDS

SHIR AMI			HANGER BOUTIQUE Richboro 10% OFF reg price/\$50 or more	LEARNING EXPRESS Newtown/Richboro 10% OFF excl Lego's & Squishmallows	MANNY'S DELI Holland 10% OFF excl deli counter, holiday orders
ADORN ME Newtown 10% OFF entire purchase	APPLEBEE'S Newtown 10% OFF excludes alcohol	BEN & IRVS Huntingdon Valley 10% OFF Eat in only, No Holidays	MARCO'S PIZZA Newtown 10% OFF total order	MOISH & ITZY'S Newtown 10% OFF excl deli counter, holiday orders	NAKED CHOCOLATE Newtown 10% OFF total purchase
BOBBY CHEZ Newtown 10% OFF	BORSCHT BELT Newtown 10% OFF excludes caviar/smoked fish	EDGEWOOD CAFE Yardley 15% OFF total order	NEWTOWN BAGEL Newtown Buy 1 doz bagel, get 3 free	NEWTOWN PIZZA Newtown 10% OFF total purchase	PARTY FAIR Newtown 10% OFF excl balloons/custom invites
EL BARRIO Holland 10% OFF excludes alcohol	GREYSTONE Newtown 10% OFF total order	HALAL GUYS Newtown 10% OFF total order	PIZZA PIE II Langhorne/Pine Watson Shopping Center 10% OFF total order	PLAYA BOWL Newtown/Fairless Hills 10% OFF your purchase	PLAYPAD Langhorne 10% OFF open play
Shir Ami's Discount Card must be presented at time of order. Cannot be combined with others. Non-transferrable. Does not discount tax/gratuity. Offers subject to change. Exp 10/31/24 →			RICHBORO CAR WASH Richboro \$3.00 OFF any car wash	RITA'S Newtown/Richboro/Warminster/Southampton 10% OFF total order	STEAK & HOAGIE FACTORY Newtown/Richboro 10% OFF total order
			TRE FRATELLI Summit Square Shopping Ctr. 10% OFF dine-in only	VILLA ROSA Yardley 10% OFF total order	YARDLEY BAGEL CAFE Yardley Buy 1 doz bagel, get 3 free

Save money at dozens of local businesses throughout the year, while at the same time  
helping to raise money for Shir Ami

[ORDER YOURS HERE](#)



# Blood Drive!

Thursday, April 18 | 11am - 4pm  
in Shalom Hall

[REGISTER HERE](#)



# TIKKUN OLAM COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP!



## MARCH & APRIL Reach Out Foundation Wednesday Lunches

Shir Ami is proud to offer our continued support to the Reach Out Foundation, a drop-in center for the homeless, by providing lunch every Wednesday.

We hope you will participate by joining us in this important mission. Your contributions as well as your time and support are greatly appreciated.

[SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER HERE](#)

If you have any questions you may contact:

Barbara Roth - [bsroth66@yahoo.com](mailto:bsroth66@yahoo.com) | Essie Cherkin - [echerkin27@yahoo.com](mailto:echerkin27@yahoo.com)

## MAKE MEALS | CARING FOR FRIENDS

It's more important than ever not to let food go to waste. If you find yourself with extras, have some Caring for Friends packaging on hand in order to immediately freeze leftovers and drop off at Shir Ami. We have been a longtime supporter of the Caring for Friends initiative. Help feed locals who are unable to help themselves simply by packaging your leftovers or planning out some meals in their foil tray system. It's easy to help us provide meals for seniors, kids, etc.

### TO SUPPORT CARING FOR FRIENDS



1. Fill out the Caring for Friends pre-printed lid and cover the tray
2. Fill large section with a protein (i.e. turkey or veggie protein)
3. Fill small sections, one with a veg and one with a starch
4. Cover tightly with foil and fill out Caring for Friends form
5. Keep in your freezer for 3 or more days and then bring it to the Shir Ami freezer for transport.
6. Volunteers will transport frozen meals to the Caring for Friends warehouse, for distribution to those in need.



## BE A "KEEPER" OF JEWISH EXCELLENCE THIS YEAR

Shir Ami is pleased to present our **Keepers of Jewish Excellence** program, allowing all members the opportunity to study throughout the year. Please consider becoming a "Keeper" at Shir Ami. Your donation supports all of the important mitzvot of learning and prayer that we share, and what's more, allows us to continue our Shir Ami Lifelong Learning programs. "Keepers" will be recognized in the Shiron for their generosity.

I'd like to support Life Long Learning at the following level:

☐ \$500   ☐ \$250   ☐ \$180   ☐ \$100   ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Enclosed is my check (payable to "Shir Ami")   ☐ Please bill my account

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**The Borscht Belt**  
DELICATESSEN

Award Winning  
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### Catering for:

- Jewish Holidays
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- Tailgates
- Shabbat Meals
- Brunches
- Onegs
- Picnics
- Camp Packages
- Casual Weddings & Bar/Bat Mitzvahs

Please make checks payable to Shir Ami and mail  
to: 101 Richboro Road, Newtown, PA  
or donate via our website at  
[www.shirami.org/payment.php](http://www.shirami.org/payment.php).

**Pinterest**

Be sure to check out our Pinterest page  
for ideas, crafts and recipes  
for all holidays!

**PURIM**

**&**

**PASSOVER**

## CIRCLE OF GIVING

by Essie and Bob Cherkin  
by Anne and Dennis Goren  
by Luz and Owen Simon

## IN MEMORY OF

Dr. Bob Rosen  
by Shelly and Stan Cohen  
by Ed and Ellie Short

Nancy Sauter  
by Shelly and Stan Cohen

Anne Timmons  
by the Shir Ami Board of Directors  
by Meri and Jon Stevens  
by Sharon and Jack Benoff  
by Nancy and Rick Siderits  
by Ellen and Paul Rawicz

Carl Grossberg  
by the Shir Ami Board of Directors  
by Meri and Jon Stevens  
by Sharon and Jack Benoff

Karen Katz  
by the Shir Ami Board of Directors  
by Meri and Jon Stevens  
by Karin and Dan Surkin

Ed Benoff  
by the Shir Ami Board of Directors  
by Meri and Jon Stevens  
by Marc and Jackie Luber  
by Robin and Glen Firestone  
by Joshua McCoy  
by The Perera Family  
by Ellie and Ed Short  
by Nancy and Rick Siderits  
by Ellen and Paul Rawicz

Shirley Orber  
by Sue Ellen Schimmel

John Joseph Byrne  
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Ernie Gross  
by Suzy Cohen

Sandy Berman  
by the Shir Ami Board of Directors  
by Meri and Jon Stevens  
by Iris and Gene Freyer

Rebecca and Sidney Lazarus  
by Lenore Weissberg

Edna and William Weissberg  
by Lenore Weissberg

Leo Carlin  
by the Shir Ami Board of Directors  
by Meri and Jon Stevens  
by the Perera Family  
by Sharon and Jack Benoff

Iris Wellen  
by the Shir Ami Board of Directors  
by Meri and Jon Stevens  
by the Perera Family

Bess Newborn  
by Sandy Luber

## IN HONOR OF

Yafa Shapiro conversion to the Jewish Faith  
by Jason and Youfei Shapiro

Long time friendship with Alan and Robin Feinberg  
by Shelly and Stan Cohen

Sierra Cohen becoming a Bat Mitzvah  
by Ellen and Edward Short

Her children and grandchildren  
by Ann Pollock

Rabbi Rebecca Benoff  
by Kate and Ron Bernstein

Sloane Blatt becoming a Bat Mitzvah  
by Meri and Jon Stevens

Cam Collins becoming a Bar Mitzvah  
by Meri and Jon Stevens

Brody Collins becoming a Bar Mitzvah  
by Meri and Jon Stevens

## RABBI CHARLES BRISKIN'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

by Debbie and Larry Schorr

## IN MEMORY OF

Lorraine and Allan Simon  
by Luz and Owen Simon

Ed Benoff  
by Lenore Weissberg

## IN HONOR OF

a speedy recovery for Robert Snyderman  
by Neal and Rochelle Newman

## IN APPRECIATION OF

Funeral Service for Carl Grossberg  
by Fran and David Orkin

Rabbi Briskin  
by Sharon and Jack Benoff

## CANTOR JULIE BERLIN'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

by Debbie and Larry Schorr  
by Mindie and William Bittner

### IN MEMORY OF

Sandy Berman  
by Ilana Hessing and Steven Ginsburg  
by Janis and Howard Kritzer  
by Mel Berman  
by Diana and Harold Gever

### IN APPRECIATION OF

Shiva Minyan for Carl Grossberg  
by Fran and David Orkin

Cantor Berlin  
by Sharon and Jack Benoff

## RABBI ERIC GOLDBERG'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

### IN MEMORY OF

Sandy Berman  
by the Shir Ami Board of Directors

### IN HONOR OF

Support for Israel  
by Aimee and Steven Goldberg

Deb Pellen  
by Allison and Scott Leff

Stan and Shelley Cohen  
by Shira Cohen

### IN APPRECIATION OF

Rabbi Eric Goldberg for his dedication to our community and commitment to Jewish Education  
by Dana and Steven Levy

Rabbi Eric Goldberg  
by Sharon and Jack Benoff

## RABBI PAULA GOLDBERG'S HONORARY CHEVRAT TORAH FUND

by Debbie and Larry Schorr

## RABBI STROM, EMERITUS DISCRETIONARY FUND

## CANTOR ELSON, EMERITUS DISCRETIONARY FUND

## ANNA GEVER MUSIC FUND

### IN MEMORY OF

Anne Timmons  
by Jackie and Marc Luber

Sandy Berman  
by Therese Greenland  
by Bob and Flora Day  
by Shelley Pulaski-Fisher and Fred Fisher  
by Mindy and David Chesner

## BEVERLY SPIEGLER SPEC. EDUCATION LIBRARY FUND

## BOBBI SLUTZSKY ELC SCHOLARSHIP FUND

### IN MEMORY OF

Iris Wellen  
by the Shir Ami Board of Directors

## BOB MCGARRY ADULT EDUCATION FUND

## BRUCE BIRNBAUM TIKKUN OLAM FUND

## CLAIRE AND JERRY MILLER CAPITAL FUND

by Mindie and William Bittner

### FOOD BANK

by Rabbi Elliot and Susan Strom

### IN MEMORY OF

Edward Benoff  
by Harriet and Jerry Paley  
by Mindy and David Chesner

Sandy Berman  
by Donna and Bob DeSantis  
by Linda Millman  
by Ann Pollock  
by Nancy and Rick Siderits

Leo Carlin  
by the Siderits Family

Saul and Shirley Gilman  
by Margie and Mark Kopins

Anne Timmons  
by Jan Maharam

## ISRAEL CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

### IN MEMORY OF

Edward Benoff  
by Fran and David Orkin

Elaine Holzman  
by Susan and Ken Bieber

## ISRAEL TIYUL FUND

### IN MEMORY OF

James G. Stevens, Sr.  
by Jon and Meri Stevens

Karen Katz  
by Barbara and Leonard Roth

Edward Benoff  
by Becky Markowitz

Sandy Berman  
by Eileen and Philip Weinstein

Lisa Simon  
by Dennis and Ricki Tafflin



KAY SWERDLOW BUILDING FUND  
by Debbie and Larry Schorr

KEEPERS OF JEWISH EXCELLENCE

MARCIA ABRAHAM FUND FOR JEWISH LIFE

**IN MEMORY OF**

Edward Benoff  
by Ronnie Abraham

Ira Sachs  
by Ronnie Abraham

MEN'S CLUB YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP FUND

**IN MEMORY OF**

Sandy Berman  
by Paula and Arthur Krauss

PRAYERBOOK AND TORAH COMMENTARY DONATIONS

by Helen Berman  
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by Debbie and Larry Schorr  
by Ellie and Ed Short  
by Ann Pollock  
by Wendy and Columbo Sosky  
by Meri and Jon Stevens  
by Lisa and Daniel Kurtz  
by Jeff Eder and Melanie Cutler

**IN MEMORY OF**

Ed Benoff  
by Sandy and Peter Borowsky

Shirley Gilman  
by Margie Kopins

PRESSMAN LIBRARY FUND

SAFETY AND SECURITY FUND

by Karin and Dan Surkin  
by Debbie and Larry Schorr  
by Kate and Ron Bernstein

SENIOR ENDOWMENT

SHARING IS CARING FUND

by Debbie and Larry Schorr

**IN MEMORY OF**

Estelle Goldfinger  
by Irving Goldfinger

Edward Benoff  
by Marci Goldfinger

SIMCHA

SLOMOVITZ/ HUDES SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE FUND

STAN AVERBACH BIBLICAL GARDEN FUND

TEMPLE SHALOM SISTERHOOD CHILDREN'S FUND

**IN MEMORY OF**

Sandy Berman  
by Nancy and Rick Siderits

(\*Donations current as of February 8, 2024)



JEWISH RELIEF AGENCY

**Sunday, March 17 and  
Sunday, April 14  
9am-12:30pm**

JRA Warehouse  
10980 Dutton Road  
Philadelphia, PA  
19154

**Contact Columbo Sosky  
for information  
[columbo130@aol.com](mailto:columbo130@aol.com)**

# Gift Shop

## Gift Shop Hours

Tuesdays from 4:15pm to 6:15pm and  
1-2 Fridays/month, prior to Shabbat Services & by appointment.

## Gift Shop Needs Volunteers

Our beautiful gift shop cannot run without our wonderful volunteers. We are looking for volunteers for any day/time, but especially for Sundays, any time between 9am to 11:30am and Wednesdays from 5:30pm to 7:30pm.

Contact [csackswitten@yahoo.com](mailto:csackswitten@yahoo.com) | 215-579-1667  
to schedule appointments and/or for info on volunteering opportunities



**Here is a convenient way to get rid of unwanted clothes.**

*All items will be donated to JFCS (Jewish Family and Children's Services) and Code Blue*

We are collecting  
**CLEAN, WEARABLE**  
unwanted clothing.  
(free of stains & tears)  
for  
Men, Women  
Children & Infants

No Shoes or Accessories  
(except winter boots)

No Formal Wear

Please drop off  
in tall, kitchen-type  
garbage bags

**Drop-off bins located in main office lobby**

Shir Ami | 101 Richboro Road | Newtown | 215.968.3400



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

### SHIR AMI'S PASTORAL CARE TASK FORCE / CHESED COMMITTEE

We are looking for a group of volunteers that are willing to commit to supporting members of our community who are in need.

Some of the tasks we need help with are:

- Phone Calls
- Notes for Simchas, Deaths & Illness
- Shiva Support
- Visits to Homebound / Seniors
- Mealtrain Coordination
- Delivery in your neighborhood
- Bakers & Cooks
- Rides (occasionally)
- Deliver small synagogue gifts to congregants
- Mail out kid's birthday acknowledgements

If you are interested, please contact:  
Harriet Paley | [hpaley\\_rwaldoe@yahoo.com](mailto:hpaley_rwaldoe@yahoo.com)

or

Helen Berman | [helen@hlberman.com](mailto:helen@hlberman.com)



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### Why not advertise with us?

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Call office for details



**DO YOU GROCERY SHOP?**  
**If you answered YES, then why**  
**not support Shir Ami**  
**while shopping?**

All you have to do is pre-purchase supermarket cards (in \$50 increments) and Shir Ami will receive 5% back from each card! We sell about \$20,000 every month, which in turn provides an extra \$1000 to Shir Ami.

Participating markets include:

**SHOPRITE, ACME, GIANT, MCCAFFREY'S and REDNER'S**

*\*If you are local to Shir Ami, we will deliver the cards right to your door. If you live further away, such as New Hope, Doylestown or New Jersey, we will be happy to find a convenient meet-up location.*

For more information or to order your cards, simply [FOLLOW THIS LINK](#) or email [shirgiftcards@gmail.com](mailto:shirgiftcards@gmail.com)



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Member of Shir Ami

- Medicaid Planning
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- Estate Administration
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**Why not advertise with us?**

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# SHIR AMI

[www.shirami.org](http://www.shirami.org)

**Main Office:** 215.968.3400

**Religious School:** 215.968.3254

**E.L.C.:** 215.968.6255

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**Phil Nordlinger**, Executive Director  
**Rabbi Eric Goldberg**, Director of Education  
**Nina Orr**, ELC Director  
**Cheryl Primola**, Preschool Administrator  
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(z'l) zichrono livrachá "of blessed memory)

## OUR MISSION

*Shir Ami is the hub of Reform Judaism in Bucks County.*

We are **DEDICATED** to sustaining and growing a vibrant and diverse Jewish Community.

We are **DEVOTED** to educating all who seek a greater understanding of our traditions, values, and practices.

We are **COMMITTED** to connecting with each other, cultivating spiritual growth, creating a just and compassionate society, and supporting Israel and our Jewish family worldwide.