

## A Month of Singing & Learning Together

So many exciting things are happening at Shir Hadash in the month of February. Shabbat Shirah (the Sabbath of Song) will be celebrated on February 3 and 4 at Shir Hadash. We began singing songs together during the New Song sing-along on January 25, and we will end the month of February singing together with a Shabbat workshop on the 24th and 25th. On February 10 and 11, we will have the Levine Lectureship Scholar-in-Residence Weekend, with visiting scholar Rabbi Dr. Shmuly Yanklowitz, who uses Jewish ethics to fuel his activism. He has written several books on this topic and speaks all over the world about it and has even been to the White House to be honored for his work. There will be several opportunities for everyone at Shir Hadash to meet with and speak with him. Please visit the [Latest Events/Blog](#) page on our web site for more detailed information and registration links.

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**"I find my deepest connections in Jewish music."**



FROM CANTOR FELDER-LEVY

## Shabbat Shirah

Nathan b. Naphatali Herz said, "The whole world is nothing more than a singing and a dancing before the Holy One, blessed be God. Every Jew is a singer before God, and every letter in the Torah is a musical note."

As a Cantor, my world often revolves around music. And while I enjoy pop music and Broadway music, I find my deepest connections in Jewish music. And there is a lot of Jewish music in existence. From the works of Max Janowski, Louis Lewandowski, and Salomon Sulzer to Debbie Friedman, Jeff Klepper, Noah Aronson, Elana Arian, and Natalie Young (and many more). To the vast amount of *Niggunim* (wordless melodies), old and new and Chassidic music that can create and build up the experience within our services. All of these genres have and continue to be a part of our worship services.

While Shabbat happens every week and each week's services are filled with song, there is one special shabbat, Shabbat Shirah, dedicated to music. It is derived from our Torah portion the weekend of February 3 and 4, *B'shallach*. *B'shallach* means "he let go." The "he" in this case is Pharaoh, who finally lets the Israelites flee Egypt. And after the miracle of the splitting of the Red Sea, Miriam takes a timbrel in her hand and leads all of the women in song and dance, having just experienced a miracle that we can only imagine truly happening.

In the history of our congregation, we have had the pleasure of having musical guests on Shabbat Shirah, or we have done special services created by composers, or we have chosen to honor one specific composer by singing all of their music.

This year, our choir has chosen to sing many of their favorite songs from the last couple of decades. We have some Janowski and Debbie Friedman, as well as some beautiful pieces that they will sing during a sermon in song (more song than sermon).

Our choir has been working hard for the last two months to help lead our services with the gift of song on Friday night, February 3, at 6:15 pm. Berthold Auerbach, a German-Jewish poet, said, "Music washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life." Shabbat enriches our souls and music brings our souls alive.

We hope you will join us, whether in person or livestream or zoom (register online for the link).



## CARING COMMITTEE

### Caring Committee is Branching Out

The Caring Committee is expanding our function to reach the entire congregation. For instance, we feel it's extremely important to provide bereavement support when needed. In addition to sending notes of condolence, we are working on a program offering help with Shiva Minyan preparations. Projects with the Social Justice and Sustainability Committees are also in the works.

Our inter-generational birthday card-making project with Caring Committee members and K-2nd grade Kulanu students was a huge success, so we are looking forward to making Get Well cards with 3rd and 4th graders in February.

Feel like helping your fellow congregants by making or delivering a meal, making a friendly call or visit, or helping prepare for a Shiva Minyan?

Contact: Cindy Gordon at [cindygordon@yahoo.com](mailto:cindygordon@yahoo.com) or Carolyn Kerlin at [kerlin@comcast.net](mailto:kerlin@comcast.net).

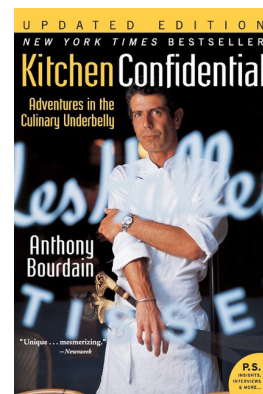
The Next Caring Committee Meeting is on Friday, February 3, at 9:30 am, via Zoom. Please [register](#).

## MEN'S CLUB

### Non-Fiction Book Group

Wednesday, February 22, 12:00 pm

The Men's Club non-fiction book group is meeting in person on February 22 at Shir Hadash at 12:00 pm in Room 1 for discussion. Bring your lunch. The book being reviewed is *Kitchen Confidential*, by Anthony Bourdain. The event is open to all Men's Club members and prospective members. Please contact Marty Lazar at [marty.lazar@mac.com](mailto:marty.lazar@mac.com) if you wish to attend.



### It's Almost Time for Purim Fun!

Keep your eyes open for a way to surprise someone in the Congregation with a greeting and a bag of *Mishloach Manot*, as well as support Shir Hadash! *Mishloach Manot* is a mitzvah that involves giving food gifts to friends and family on the holiday of Purim to bring joy. In celebration of Purim this year, Shir Hadash will be having a *Mishloach Manot* fundraiser, beginning February 7.

## February Services

<b>FRI</b> <b>3</b>	6:15 pm	Shabbat Shirah/Shabbat Service <a href="#">SHTV</a> <a href="#">zoom</a>
<b>SAT</b> <b>4</b>	9:30 am 10:30 am	Torah Study Shabbat Service <a href="#">SHTV</a> <a href="#">zoom</a>
<b>FRI</b> <b>10</b>	5:30 pm 6:00 pm 6:15 pm	Pre Shabbat Light Dinner Teen Dinner, followed by Shabbat at 7:00pm Shabbat Service <a href="#">SHTV</a> <a href="#">zoom</a>
<b>SAT</b> <b>11</b>	9:30 am 10:30 am	Torah Study Take Over by Rabbi Shmuly: Jewish Ethics Through the Lens of Pirkei Avot Shabbat Service <a href="#">SHTV</a> <a href="#">zoom</a>
<b>FRI</b> <b>17</b>	6:15 pm	Shabbat Service <a href="#">SHTV</a> <a href="#">zoom</a>

<b>SAT</b> <b>18</b>	9:30 am 10:30 am	Torah Study Shabbat Service <a href="#">SHTV</a> <a href="#">zoom</a>
<b>FRI</b> <b>24</b>	6:15 pm	Shabbat Service <a href="#">SHTV</a> <a href="#">zoom</a>
<b>SAT</b> <b>25</b>	9:30 am 10:30 am	Torah Study Shabbat Service <a href="#">SHTV</a> <a href="#">zoom</a>

Services are in person unless noted.

[zoom](#) Live via Zoom. Sign up at [shirhadash.org/calendar](https://shirhadash.org/calendar).

[SHTV](#) In person, also available live-streamed on Shir Hadash TV, at [shirhadash.org/live](https://shirhadash.org/live).



## Guest Scholar Rabbi Dr. Shmuly Yanklowitz

Friday, February 10–Saturday, February 11



Rabbi Dr. Shmuly Yanklowitz, President and Dean of Valley Beit Midrash in Arizona, is an Orthodox rabbi, a global social justice activist, and the author of many books, including his most recent work, *The Book of Proverbs: A Social Justice Commentary*. Valley Beit Midrash (a global center for learning and action) is a forward-thinking, pluralistic, not-for-profit organization rooted in Jewish ethics that is committed to improving lives in our communities through Torah learning, social action, and leadership development.

Find more information about Rabbi Dr. Shmuly Yanklowitz at [rabbishmuly.com/about.html](http://rabbishmuly.com/about.html).

### Friday, February 10

**7:30 PM Tish with Rabbi Nico and Rabbi Shmuly.** Following the Shabbat Service, meet us in the Oneg room for a cozy discussion around the Shabbos Table, where Rabbis Nico and Shmuly will answer questions that you have submitted, as well as share stories about social justice. Please [register](#) and submit questions for Rabbi Shmuly.

### Saturday, February 11

**9:30 AM Torah Study Take Over** by Rabbi Dr. Shmuly Yanklowitz: Jewish Ethics Through the Eyes of *Pirkei Avot*. Everyone is welcome. Join Rabbi Shmuly for a lecture about Jewish ethics through the lens of his latest book *Pirkei Avot: A Social Justice Commentary*. *Pirkei Avot* is a text about Jewish practical wisdom and the first record of social justice in Western civilization. His commentary explores the text through a lens of contemporary social justice and moral philosophy. Please [register](#). Here is a short [video](#) about his book.

**12:30 PM Kiddush Community Lunch** in the Oneg room. We will all come together for a community lunch.

**1:15 PM Jewish Activism Developing Our Social Justice Voice.** What does being Jewish have to do with social activism? Come meet with Rabbi Shmuly to find out how he has developed his social justice voice. Register [here](#).

We have some parallel activities planned for kids; please register [here](#).

*We thank Leonard and Buff Levine for sponsoring the Levine Lectureship series.*



## ECC Enrollment Now Open!

Oftentimes when families come to visit us for the first time, they remark, "We didn't even know there was a preschool here." The Shir Hadash ECC might be the best-kept secret in Los Gatos!

We are a fully licensed preschool for children aged two through entry into kindergarten and are here Monday through Friday, 7 am-6 pm.

Some things that make us special:

- The Shir Hadash Early Childhood Center creates a safe and nurturing Jewish early childhood environment rooted in our congregational community and Reform Jewish values.
- We offer classroom ratios that are much lower than the state ratios.
- We have a large outdoor space that we are in the process of beautifying—it includes many natural elements and loose parts. We spend at least 1.5 hours outside each day.



- Our program philosophy is inspired by the schools of Reggio Emilia and is play based and child centered.

Enrollment for our summer program and the 2023-2024 school year has just started, and spaces are filling up quickly!

If you would like to know more about Shir Hadash ECC or are interested in enrolling your child, I would love to show you around our space! You can email me to set up a time for your visit: [janet@shirhadash.org](mailto:janet@shirhadash.org).

### SHIR FAMILY, KULANU & JET

All families with preschoolers through 3rd grade come celebrate Tu B'shevat with Shir Family amongst the beauty of the redwoods.

We will go for a short nature walk at Redwood Grove Nature Preserve, plant some seeds and enjoy a picnic lunch together as the kids play on the playground at Shoup Park. Don't forget to register and we hope to see you there!



Saturday, February 4th from 10am - 12pm  
Redwood Grove Nature Preserve  
482 University Ave, Los Altos

Please Register



### CLUB 4, 5, 6 GOES GAMING!

4th February 5-7:15 PM

Havdalah and dinner, followed by one hour game experience at Immersive Gamebox at Valley Fair Mall

Space is limited.



### TEENS A WHOLE FANTASTIC WEEKEND FOR YOU!

AT SHIR HADASH  
FEBRUARY 10-12TH

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 10TH  
TEENS ONLY SHABBAT  
7-12TH GRADERS

6:00pm Shabbat Dinner \$15  
7:00pm Shabbat Service guest  
musician Lior Ben Hur



SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11TH

TEEN PARTY AT JCC LOS  
GATOS

7:00pm  
BOBA/PIZZA  
LIVE ROCK BAND - CLOVER



SUNDAY FEBRUARY 12TH

THINGS TO PACK FOR  
COLLEGE AND HIGH SCHOOL

11:00pm Rabbi Daniel Levine teen talk  
about Israel, anti-Semitism and his life  
(JewishLife) podcasts  
FREE LUNCH



Please register for all events on the  
calendar page



# The Global Climate Crisis Is Our Most Pressing Concern

Bruce Preville and Ruth Saldivar—  
Sustainable Shir Hadash & SHOC

Working together we can take individual and collective action to contribute to a more environmentally sustainable world for all. Our congregation has joined Hazon's Jewish Environmental Action Group's [Climate Leadership Coalition](#), and our congregation is working on a plan to reduce greenhouse gases for our campus and our greater community.

This Climate Action Plan will:

- Reduce our environmental impact
- Inspire others to take action
- Improve our health and save money

The Shir Hadash Organizing Committee, SHOC, also works on environmental issues. Most recently they sponsored the viewing of the documentary, "Story of Plastic," which details the negative impacts of plastics on our environment and health. The three most important takeaways from our panel of three local experts on the reality of plastic recycling are:

- Recycling plastic is nearly impossible. Reputable sources tell us that only 5-15% of plastic is actually recycled. The rest is in landfills and our oceans.

- Shifting responsibility for recycling and reuse to the producers and mega corporations using plastic packaging can greatly impact reducing plastics in our environment.
- Ending production of single-use items and single-use plastic packaging. Local action matters. We, together, can make a difference. Successful tactics and strategies at the local level filter up to the state and national levels.

Take action with us to create a better world for future generations.

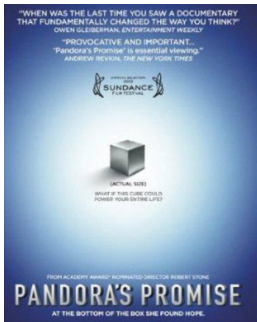
Join our environmental efforts by:

- Scheduling a 20-minute 1-1 conversation with a Sustainability or SHOC team member, email [SHOC@shirhadash.org](mailto:SHOC@shirhadash.org). Tell us about your interest and learn ways to get involved.
- Attending a Sustainability or SHOC meeting. Next Sustainability Meeting will be on Feb 5th. SHOC Meeting, Jan 22 - SHOC Meeting via Zoom
- Emailing [bruce@preville.net](mailto:bruce@preville.net) with your questions and interests.



## Panel Discussion on *Pandora's Promise*

Wednesday, February 8, 7:00-8:30 PM [zoom](#)



Shir Hadash SHOC (Social Justice Committee) presents a panel discussion on the movie *Pandora's Promise*.

*Pandora's Promise* is a 2013 documentary (87 minutes) that looks at how our attitudes toward nuclear energy were formed and provides data and interviews to address concerns raised

about including this resource in our plans to meet future energy needs. *Pandora's Promise* asks whether the one technology we fear most could save our planet from a climate catastrophe while providing the energy needed to lift billions of people in the developing world out of poverty.

After pre-viewing the documentary *Pandora's Promise* on your own, hear our panelists, Woody Hastings and Eric Loewen, discuss the pros and cons of solving the environmental and energy needs of the planet with respect to nuclear energy.

Register at [hadash.link/pandoras-promise](https://hadash.link/pandoras-promise), for the Zoom link to the panel discussion and information on how to watch the movie for free.



Dr. Eric Loewen, Ph.D., is Chief Consulting Engineer, Advanced Plants Technology, GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy (GEH) in Wilmington, N.C., and serves as chair of the Senior Industry Advisory Panel, Generation IV International Forum (SIAP-GIF). Dr. Loewen received his B.A. in Chemistry and Math with a



minor in Physics from Western State College, and M.S. in Nuclear Engineering and Ph.D. in Engineering Physics from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Woody Hastings is Fossil Fuel Phaseout Program Manager for The Climate Center (started by Al Gore). Woody received his bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies with an emphasis on sustainability and social justice from San Francisco State University. He is also a Fellow of the Leadership Institute

### We Thank These Donors for Their Generous Contributions...

Denise Beagle	Edmund & Eleanor Intrator	Los Gatos-Saratoga	Michael & Isabel Schneider
Iris Berke	Kristin & Maxwell Johnson	Camera Club	Michael & Marilyn Segal
Jan Berliner	Warren & Judy Kaplan	Alan & Lynda Maybruck	Ann Sharon
Susan Brenner	Avery Kaufman & Richard	Houri & Jacob Moradzadeh	Jack & Carole Siegel
Alison Brunner &	Borenstein	Jodi & Richard Muirhead	Martin & Pamela Silverman
Andrew Coven	Marilyn & Daniel Keelan	Julee Ogawa & George Kent	Pat & Pekka Sinervo
Barrie Rosenberg Cress	Carolyn & Gregg Kerlin	Aviva & Chris Paul	Albert & Ruth Sporer
& Jonathan Cress	Kevin & Yelena Kessel	Helen & Leopold Pivk	Ed & Jo Stein
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Carol Glasman	Yvette Levine	Ron & Linda Rossen	Edmund & Nancy Weston
Brad & Cindy Gordon	Paula & Marc Levitt	Rochell Rubenstein	Richard & Carol Zbriger
Arthur & Deborah Heisman	Reuben Levy	Julia Sandelman	
Teresa Homand	Michael Lipsie	Virginia & Ron Scheinhaus	





## Congregation Shir Hadash Community,

Thank you so much to everyone who helped make our Mitzvah Day 2023 such a huge success! From the park volunteers, who braved the rain and cold weather, to the amazing artists who decorated bags and cards, to the Care package delivery folks, who traversed muddy paths in their delivery efforts, our community came together in a magnificent Day of Service!

At Martial Cottle park, through drizzling rain, Shir Hadash volunteers planted drought-resistant native grasses.

We created over 200 Compassion kits, which will be distributed to unhoused individuals through several community agencies. (All congregants are encouraged to take several kits in their cars to give out to unhoused individuals they encounter.) We cooked incredibly hearty vegetable soup and baked cookies for those in our CSH community who are facing health struggles. And we accomplished all of this together, in the community.

I'd like to thank the members of our Shir Hadash community who helped plan, coordinate and execute Mitzvah Day 2023 including Shanda Witkin, Christy Altman, Andria Grodzinsky, and Carrie Schneider.

I'd also like to thank our Mitzvah Day "sponsors":

- 4Imprint, whose One-by-One charitable giving program awarded us a \$500 grant which covered the cost of our Compassion Kit reusable water bottles.
- Santa Clara County Board Supervisor Joe Simitian, whose office gave us a \$500 grant to help cover the costs of our Compassion Kit supplies. Supervisor Simitian visited Congregation Shir Hadash on Mitzvah Day and spent over an hour touring our facilities, speaking with members of our Board and clergy and meeting members of our congregation.

For those of you who were unable to sign up for one of the Mitzvah Day activities, please be assured that we will endeavor to have more activities, with more signup spots, at Mitzvah Day 2024.

With appreciation,

Michelle Wolf-Bloom,  
Shir Hadash in the World





SAVE THE DATE

## Purim Celebration

Carnival  
Sunday, March 5,  
11:30 AM

Spiel & Service  
Monday, March 6,  
6:00 PM

The Purim carnival begins at 11:30 am for families with children under 5, and at 12:00 pm for everyone else.

Stay tuned for more details.



**Nashim**  
REMARKABLE JEWISH WOMEN  
JOIN RABBI NICO FOR BRUNCH  
AND GO ON AN ENCHANTING JOURNEY  
THROUGH THE UNTOLD NARRATIVES OF FEMALE  
CHARACTERS IN JEWISH TRADITION

1ST & 3RD THURSDAYS  
NOV. 3-MARCH 16, 11:30 AM

שידוך חדש  
Congregation Shir Hadash

The *Nashim: Remarkable Jewish Women* series ends in March, so there are just a few more classes to enjoy. The two classes in February are on [Thursday the 2nd](#) and [Thursday the 16th](#).

# FEBRUARY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> 10:30a Free Meditation Class Taught by Marilyn Katz <a href="#">zoom</a>  4:00p Adult Education Meeting <a href="#">zoom</a> 7:00 B'nai Mitzvah Parent Meeting–Kickoff for 2025	<b>2</b> 11:30a Nashim: Remarkable Jewish Women	<b>3</b> 9:30a Caring Committee  6:15p Shabbat Shirah/Shabbat Service <a href="#">zoom</a> <a href="#">shtv</a>	<b>4</b> Shabbat B'shafach 9:30a Torah Study 10:00 Shir Family Tu B'Shevat in the Trees 10:30 Shabbat Service <a href="#">zoom</a> <a href="#">shtv</a>  5:00p Club 4,5,6 Goes Gaming!!
<b>5</b> 9:00a Kulanu Learning 10:00 Men's Club Board Meeting 10:00 Sustainability Meeting  12:30p Kulanu Hebrew Sundays	<b>6</b> TU BISH'VAT	<b>7</b> 6:30p JET 7:00 Silicon Valley Intro to Judaism <a href="#">zoom</a>	<b>8</b> 10:30a Free Meditation Class Taught by Marilyn Katz <a href="#">zoom</a>  7:00p SHOC Social Justice Panel Discussion Pandora's Promise via Zoom	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 5:30p Pre Shabbat Light Dinner–Please Register 6:00 Teen Dinner Followed by Shabbat at 7:00pm 6:15 Shabbat Service <a href="#">zoom</a> <a href="#">shtv</a> 7:30 Tish with Rabbi Shmuly–Questions, Answers & Stories About Social Justice	<b>11</b> Shabbat Yitro 9:30a Torah Study Take Over by Rabbi Shmuly: Jewish Ethics Through the Lens of Pirkei Avot 10:30 Shabbat Service <a href="#">zoom</a> <a href="#">shtv</a>  12:30p Community Lunch 1:15 Rabbi Shmuly: Jewish Activism
<b>12</b> 9:00a Ahavat Cycling 9:00 Kulanu Learning 11:00 Teen Talk with Rabbi Daniel Levine: Things to Pack for College & High School  12:30p Kulanu Hebrew Sundays 3:00 Shulperbowl Party	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 6:30p JET 7:00 Silicon Valley Intro to Judaism <a href="#">zoom</a>	<b>15</b> 10:30a Free Meditation Class Taught by Marilyn Katz <a href="#">zoom</a>	<b>16</b> 11:30a Nashim: Remarkable Jewish Women	<b>17</b> NFTY CWR @ Camp Newman  6:15p Shabbat Service <a href="#">zoom</a> <a href="#">shtv</a>	<b>18</b> Shabbat Mishpatim NFTY CWR @ Camp Newman 9:30a Torah Study 10:30 Shabbat Service : IN PERSON, ZOOM & LIVE-STREAM
<b>19</b> NFTY CWR @ Camp Newman 11:00a SHOC Meeting <a href="#">zoom</a>	<b>20</b> PRESIDENTS DAY NFTY CWR @ Camp Newman Office & ECC Closed	<b>21</b> 7:00p Silicon Valley Intro to Judaism <a href="#">zoom</a>	<b>22</b> ROSH CHODESH ADAR 10:30a Free Meditation Class Taught by Marilyn Katz <a href="#">zoom</a> 11:45 Men's Club Book Group	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 6:15p Shabbat Service <a href="#">zoom</a> <a href="#">shtv</a>	<b>25</b> Shabbat Trumah 9:30a Torah Study 10:30 Shabbat Service <a href="#">zoom</a> <a href="#">shtv</a>
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 6:30p JET 7:00 Silicon Valley Intro to Judaism <a href="#">zoom</a>				

Please visit [www.shirhadash.org](http://www.shirhadash.org) for the full calendar.

[zoom](#) Live via Zoom. Sign up at [shirhadash.org/calendar](http://shirhadash.org/calendar).  
[SHTV](#) In person, also available live-streamed on Shir Hadash TV, at [shirhadash.org/live](http://shirhadash.org/live).