



Sha'arei Shalom

Monthly Newsletter

August 2015

Contact Us

www.shaareishalom.org

508-231-4700

P.O. Box 454

Ashland, MA 01721

email: info@shaareishalom.org



Click here to [Join our Mailing List!](#)

In This Issue

- Rabbi's Letter
- President's Corner
- Upcoming Services
- 2015-16 Service and Holiday Calendar
- Religious School Update
- Elissa Naiman Evergreen Group
- Member Notices
- Metrowest Jewish Community Events

Upcoming Events

August 28th SHABBAT SERVICE @ 7:30 p.m.

All Congregation Services take place at the Ashland Community Center, 162 West Union Street (unless otherwise noted).

- Evergreen – August 12th @ 7:30 p.m.

We are now enrolling for the 2015-16 Religious School year.

[Click here for 2015-2016 Religious School Registration Form](#)

Please contact Lisa Clay at lcc1129@yahoo.com for more information

Rabbi's Letter

by Margie Klein

On Love and Brokenness

Dear Friends,

As I write, it is a warm and breezy day outside. Summer is in full swing, and people in my neighborhood are walking leisurely, as if the rush of life has melted with the giant piles of snow.

For my August Newsletter, I was going to write about how we might embrace the pace of summer, to learn from moving more slowly. I was going to write about how today, July 31st is the holiday of [Tu B'av](#), a sort of Jewish Valentines Day and celebration of love.

Then, yesterday in Israel happened, shocked reports arriving in my inbox and Facebook feed. First, an [Ultra-Orthodox Jew stabbed six peaceful marchers](#) at Tel Aviv's Gay Pride parade. Then, last night, [Jews burned down a Palestinian house in the village of Douma, killing a baby](#) and wounding his parents and brother. The arsons wrote in Hebrew on the burned house in graffiti, "Revenge," and "Long live the Messiah."

I am left speechless. Each of these acts feel to me like a clear *Chilul Hashem*, a desecration of God's name, an act done by Jews in the name of God, which actually diminishes God's presence in the world and shames all Jews. As my friend, Rabbi Lila Veissid wrote in response from her Kibbutz pulpit in Israel,

Both these crimes were committed in the name of Judaism. This isn't Judaism. This is extreme murderousness, baseless hatred, the reason why Jerusalem was destroyed. The knife, the incendiary bomb and the horrendous words that accompany those deeds, are an offense to the Torah and to the Honor of Torah. They are blasphemy, *chilul ha-Shem*.

So what do we do with all this? How do we hold this clash of realities and responsibilities - to embrace the gorgeous days of summer and the Jewish celebration of love on the one hand, and on the other, to acknowledge, mourn, and condemn these heinous hate crimes done in our names?

Responding to Lila on the Hebrew College rabbinical listserv, my friend Rabbi Rogerio Cukierman offered this helpful teaching from his community in Brazil. Rabbi Rogerio points out that this week's torah portion is Va'etchanan, where we find the words of the Shma, "Hear O Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord is one." Rabbi Rogerio teaches that the Chassidic rabbis interpreted the final word of the Shma, "*Echad*" not as "one," but as "everything," as in, "God is everything, and everything is God."

So the rabbis ask, "How can everything be God, when many things in our world are so painful?"

The Chassidic master, Rebbe Shneur Zalman of Liadi answers, "That is why we have the second line, "*Baruch shem kivod malchuto l'olam va'ed*," "Blessed is God, whose glory is manifested in every different aspect of God's kingdom and is renewed forever."

In other words, the first line of the Shma offers a vision of ultimate unity. The second line acknowledges the multiplicity and fragmentation of our world, and still invites us to believe that God is in every aspect. As worshippers and as Jews, it is our job *both* to discern and celebrate the oneness and beauty of God and of the world, *and* to acknowledge the fragmentation, and commit ourselves to Tikkun Olam, the repair of the world and the reunification of what has been broken.

It is hard to hold both ideas in our hearts, of love and pain, unity and fragmentation. I close with a reflection on this challenge from E.B. White, author of Charlottes Web:

If the world were merely seductive, that would be easy; if the world were merely challenging, that would be no problem. But I wake up each morning torn between a desire to save the world and a desire to savor the world. This makes it very hard to plan the day.

I pray we may find the strength to do both.

Rabbi Margie

President's Corner **by Jane Greenstein**

As many of you may have heard, Rabbi Margie is expecting! We are so happy for her and Jeremy and extend our prayers and good wishes for any easy end to her pregnancy. As the rabbi's due date is October 2nd, the leadership of the congregation has been busy making alternate plans for the High Holidays as well as for coverage in October and November while she is out on maternity leave.

We are pleased to announce that we have hired Rabbi Jeffrey Foust to run High Holiday services as well as cover our Friday night services in October. He will also be available for pastoral care and life cycle events for our members should they be needed. Rabbi Foust has extensive experience, having been the rabbi for Temple Beth Israel in Waltham for 12 years as well as having led High Holiday services for Northeastern Hillel. We are thrilled to have his assistance in carrying on during Rabbi Margie's leave. With Rabbi Foust on board, we are confident that members and non-members alike will feel continuity in the form and spirit of our services during this time.

In addition to planning for Rabbi Margie's maternity leave, the leadership has also been busy putting together our calendars for the 2015-16 ritual/school year. Please see below for our service and holiday celebration calendar. A link to our school calendar can be found in the Religious School section below. We look forward to seeing some of you at our July and/or August services. For those whose summer plans make it so that they can't join us, we look forward to reconnecting in the Fall.

Upcoming Services

Please also mark the date for our following **Friday night service on August 28th**, both at 7:30 pm at the Ashland Community Center.

We are currently in need of oneg sponsors. Please consider volunteering to host an oneg this year...it's easy, fun and rewarding to provide refreshments for congregants, friends and family after the Friday evening service so we can enjoy the warmth and joy of the Sabbath together. Hosting an oneg is a mitzvah, and your gift of time and effort is greatly appreciated! Please contact Jamie Sack at sack.jamie@yahoo.com or 508-627-0387 for more information. Thank you!



Sha'arei Shalom

2015-2016 Shabbat and Holiday Celebration Calendar

SEPTEMBER

Sun.	13	Erev Rosh Hashanah at 7:00 p.m. (Federated Church)
Mon.	14	Rosh Hashanah Day 1 at 9:30 a.m. (Federated Church)
Tue.	15	Rosh Hashanah Day 2 at 9:30 a.m. (Federated Church)
Tue.	22	Kol Nidre at 6:30 p.m. (Federated Church)
Wed.	23	Yom Kippur Morning Service at 9:30 a.m. and Neilah at 6:30 p.m. (Federated Church)

OCTOBER

Fri.	2	Friday Night Service – Simchat Torah and Siddur Consecration
Fri.	17	Shabbat Kids (6:45 p.m.) Friday night service— <i>Sam Freedman</i>

NOVEMBER

Fri.	6	Shabbat Circle—20 th Anniversary Celebration (6:30 p.m.)
Fri.	20	Friday Night Service—7 th graders lead

DECEMBER

Tue.	8	Town Menorah lighting (6:15 p.m. at Montenegro Square in downtown Ashland)
Fri.	11	Chanukah Shabbat in the Round – Community song celebration
Sun.	13	Chanukah Party (10:00 a.m. - noon; Ashland Middle School)

JANUARY

Fri.	8	Friday Night Service
Fri.	22	Shabbat Kids (6:45 p.m.) Tu B'shvat Seder

FEBRUARY

Fri.	26	Shabbat Live
------	----	--------------

MARCH

Fri.	11	Shabbat Circle—Grade K-2 participation (6:30 p.m.)
Fri.	18	Friday Night Service – Purim and Grade 3-6 participation
Sun.	20	Purim carnival (10:00 a.m. - noon; Ashland Middle School)

APRIL

Fri.	1	Friday night service— <i>Sarah Levenson</i>
Fri.	15	Friday night service— <i>Josie Kaufman</i>

MAY

Fri.	6	Shabbat Kids (6:45 p.m.) Friday night service— <i>Emilie Clay</i>
Fri.	20	Friday night service— <i>Eva Parson</i>

JUNE

Fri.	3	Friday night service— <i>Ben Weinstein</i>
Fri.	17	Friday night service— <i>Grayson Dolin</i>

JULY and AUGUST

July	22	Friday Night Service
August	19	Friday Night Service

Unless otherwise noted, all Friday night services/events take place at the Ashland Community Center and begin at 7:30

Religious School Update

by Lisa Clay

Planning is already underway for next year. If you are a returning family and you haven't already done so, **please send in your registration form and deposit for next year ASAP.** If you would like to discuss financial arrangements, please contact Jane Greenstein. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lisa Clay at lcc1129@yahoo.com.

[Click here for 2015-2016 Religious School Registration Form](#)

Our 2015-16 School calendar is available. You will note that we start school on Sunday September 20th after Rosh Hashanah.

[Click here for 2015-16 Religious School Calendar](#)

Also remember to share this information with anyone you know who might be interested in our school. Feel free to send anyone my way who wants to learn more about our wonderful program.

Have a wonderful summer! See you soon.

Elissa Naiman Evergreen Group

by Sheila Watnick

Evergreen celebrated the birthday of Linda Hecker at the July 21st meeting at Linda's house. Some of the members got a bit nostalgic talking about the earlier days of the group. They also talked about their exercise programs, families and plans for the remainder of the summer.

The next two meetings will be on Wednesday, August 12th, and September 30th, at 7:30 p.m. at locations to be confirmed. Female temple members 60 and above are welcome. Contact evergreen@shaareishalom.org.

Babysitting!

Josie Kaufman is available for babysitting. She is 12 years old and has taken the Red Cross babysitting course. She can babysit on weekends. Contact Josie with any questions at 508-881-6930

WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG FAMILIES

PJ LIBRARY IS A JEWISH FAMILY ENGAGEMENT program implemented on a local level throughout North America. We mail free, high-quality [Jewish children's literature and music](#) to families across the continent on a monthly basis.

PJ Library is a program of the [Harold Grinspoon Foundation](#), made possible through partnerships with philanthropists and local Jewish organizations. Today, families in hundreds of communities across the United States and Canada are able to explore the timeless core values of Judaism through books and music.

All families raising Jewish children from age six months of age through five, six, seven or eight years (depending on the community) are [welcome to enroll](#).

<http://pjlibrary.org/>

DO YOU LOVE TO SING? CHECK OUT SHIR JOY!

Whether you sing professionally or have only sung in your shower, this is your chance to join with other adults who love to sing Jewish music. Shir Joy is a Jewish choir that started up in the fall of 2011. We practice on Sunday evenings from 7-9 pm right at Congregation B'nai Shalom in Westborough. In our first year we had over 35 members from 14 central MA towns & cities. Rehearsals this coming year will begin on October 14 following the High Holidays. Choir participants are not required to be Jewish nor do members need to be affiliated with a Jewish organization to join. We hold several concerts over the year in the Central MA area.

Shir Joy will be directed again this coming year by Jonathan Rappaport, an experience choral conductor with over forty years of experience. Dues of \$75 per year. love of Jewish music, and ability to keep in tune with your neighboring singers are required. Although we do make beautiful music together, we also build strong community bonds. We welcome new members. If you are interested in participating or want additional information, check out our website www.shirjoychorus.com, or email ShirJoyMA@gmail.com. Shir Joy is partially funded from a generous grant from Jewish Federation of Central Massachusetts.

добро пожаловать!

Engaging Metrowest Russian Jewish Families in Jewish Community Life

A grant from the Genesis Fund is enabling us to reach out to Russian Jewish families throughout Metrowest. By developing collaborative relationships, we are identifying and connecting with members of this large and vibrant community through engaging programming and activities.

As part of this program, JFN is also doing special "**Privet Malish**" visits -- **Welcome Baby!** visits with gift baskets and resources tailored for Russian Jewish families.

If you are interested in learning more about our programs or "Privet Malish," or if you know someone who is, please contact our Russian community connector, [Luba Olshan](#), for more information.

JEWISH FAMILY NETWORK

Metrowest Events & Activities

*A collaboration of the
Jewish Community Centers of Greater Boston
and Jewish Family Service of Metrowest*



Playground Meet-Ups!

Keep Thursdays at 10:00 AM Free all Summer

For children ages 0-5, siblings & parents!

July 2: Choate Park, Medway

July 9: Walnut Hill, Natick

July 16: Goodwill Park, Holliston

July 23: Hannah Williams Park, Wayland

July 30: Cushing Park, Framingham

August 6: SMILE Tot Lot Park, Sudbury

August 13: EMC Park, Hopkinton

August 20: Walnut Hill Park, Natick

Friday, August 7: Shabbat in the Park, 5:30 PM

Framingham Village Green, Framingham

Celebrate Shabbat (welcoming the Sabbath) with a summer outdoor picnic in a relaxed setting with family and friends. Families provide picnic dinner. We will provide Challah and Grape juice. Stay for the Framingham Concert on the Green!



While making your summer plans
JFS of Metrowest invites you to...

Save the Date

For our 4th annual Backpack Event!

*Bring a backpack to fill with school supplies and JFS will donate it to
the students in the Metrowest community.*

JOIN US

Wellesley Public Library

Monday, August 24th, 2015

10:00am-12:00pm

OR

Framingham Public Library

Tuesday, August 25th, 2015

10:00pm-12:00pm

Stay tuned in early August for the invitation and registration link!



[JFS of Metrowest](#) | 475 Franklin Street | Framingham, MA 01702 | (508) 875-3100



PARENTING THROUGH A JEWISH LENS is a program that brings expert facilitators together with caring parents to foster greater understanding of their vital role in their children's lives.



REGISTER NOW

PARENTING THROUGH A JEWISH LENS

CLASSES ARE FORMING FOR 2015-2016 IN THE FOLLOWING MASSACHUSETTS COMMUNITIES:

Beverly
Brockton
Brookline
Burlington
Cambridge
Canton
Dedham

Framingham
Jamaica Plain
Needham
Newton
Waltham
Wayland
West Roxbury

FOR MORE INFORMATION
AND TO REGISTER:
hebrewcollege.edu/parenting

160 Herrick Road
Newton Centre, MA 02459
617-559-8734
parenting@hebrewcollege.edu

Jewish Heritage Night w/THE LOWELL SPINNERS!



**Sunday, August 23
3:05pm**

The Lowell Spinners invite you to attend our first ever Jewish Heritage Night at LeLacheur Park Sunday, August 23. Join us as the Spinners take on the Staten Island Yankees with special promotions throughout the game.



**Class-A Affiliate of the
Boston Red Sox**



**Contact Seth Distler at sdistler@lowellspinners.com or
(978) 805-5115 for ticket information**
