



We wish you and yours a very happy Thanksgiving and a wonderful beginning to our traditional holiday season. Let us remember that we MUST help those less fortunate than ourselves at EVERY time of the year, not just November and December. Remember how blessed you are and how you are required to share your blessings with others. Do not forget that many of your blessings are due to those

Congregation Yad Shalom
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November 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 BOARD MEETING	6 19th of Cheshvan, 5770 י"ט בחשוון תש"ע 4:47p Candle lighting	7 GILLOOLY B'NAI MITZVOT 20th of Cheshvan, 5770 כ"י בחשוון תש"ע 6:16p Havdalah (72 min)
8	9	10	11	12	13 SHABBAT SERVICE, 8 PM, LRR #3 26th of Cheshvan, 5770 כ"ז בחשוון תש"ע 4:40p Candle lighting	14 27th of Cheshvan, 5770 כ"ח בחשוון תש"ע 6:09p Havdalah (72 min)
15	16	17 30th of Cheshvan, 5770 ל' בחשוון תש"ע Rosh Chodesh Kislev ראש חודש כסלו	18 1st of Kislev, 5770 א' בכסלו תש"ע Rosh Chodesh Kislev ראש חודש כסלו	19	20 3rd of Kislev, 5770 ג' בכסלו תש"ע 4:35p Candle lighting	21 SHABBAT SERVICE, 10 AM, LRR #3 4th of Kislev, 5770 ד' בכסלו תש"ע 6:05p Havdalah (72 min)
22	23	24	25	26	27 10th of Kislev, 5770 י' בכסלו תש"ע 4:32p Candle lighting	28 11th of Kislev, 5770 יא' בכסלו תש"ע 6:01p Havdalah (72 min)
29	30					

YAD SHALOM

KIBBITZER

Cheshvan - Kislev
5770
November
2009

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Schedule of Services

NOVEMBER

Thursday, 5: Board Meeting

Saturday, 7: Gilooly Bar Mitzvah

Friday, 13: Shabbat Service,

8:00 PM, LRR #3

Saturday, 21: Shabbat Service, 10:00

AM, LRR #3

DECEMBER

Thursday, 3: Board Meeting

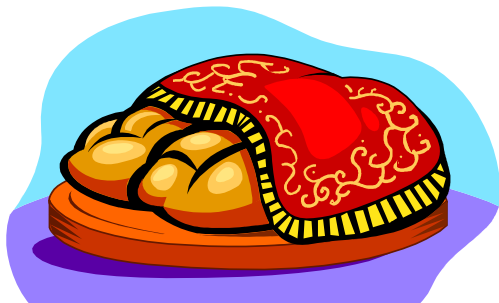
Friday, 12: Shabbat dinner and Service,

6:30 PM, LRR #3

Saturday, 20: Shabbat Service,

10 AM, LRR #3

Sunday, December 13: Chanukah Party



Please remember that it is the tradition for members of the congregation to bring a snack and/or drink to share for our Oneg Shabbat after services. We thank you, as always, for your generosity.

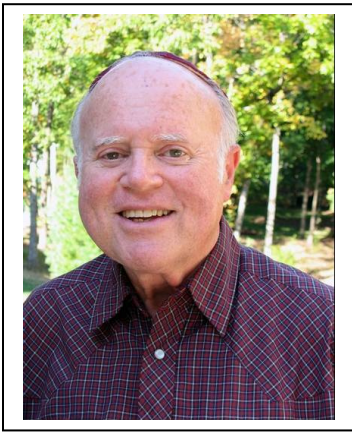


**HAPPY NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS
TO:**

7 – Caryn Fox

15 – Stella Wiesman





Chanting Along With Cantor Zucker

On *Simhat Torah*, we read three different *Torah* portions as follows:

(1) In the first, we conclude our annual *Torah* reading cycle from Deuteronomy wherein Moses blesses the twelve tribes individually and predicts, in some cases, the roles they will play in the new Nation that the *Torah* calls *B'nai Yisrael*, the Children of Israel. When we get to the final verses of Deuteronomy, the congregation rises as we bid farewell to our greatest Teacher/Rabbi, *Moshe Rabbeinu*, who passes away at the age of 120 still in control of all his faculties. Moses didn't die of an illness; rather, a new chapter was to begin in Jewish history with a smooth leadership transition from Moses to his pre-selected successor, Joshua. The person who has this *aliyah* for the final reading in the five books of Moses is called the Bridegroom of the *Torah* or *Chatan Torah*.

(2) The next *aliyah* will be read from the very beginning of the *Torah*. This is where it's convenient to have more than one *Torah* scroll available to be read because it can take *Torah* rollers a half-hour to scroll all the way from Deuteronomy back to Genesis. I just did it on the eve of *Rosh Hashanah* where the *Torah* read on the previous *Shabbat* morning service was past the middle of Deuteronomy and the *Torah* reading on *Rosh Hashanah* about Abraham and Sarah and the young Isaac is in the first half of Genesis. The person honored with this initial reading from Genesis is appropriately called the Bridegroom of Genesis or *Chatan Bereshit*. The six days of creation (Genesis 1:1-31) is read for this *aliyah* from "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." to ". . . and there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day."

(3) We also call up a *maftir aliyah* on *Simhat Torah* for whom we read near the end of Numbers, the fourth of the five books of Moses. Again, it's convenient to have a *Torah* scroll rolled up for this *aliyah* on *Simhat Torah*. If one is not available, then it's close to half-hour to scroll back from Chapter 1 in Genesis to Chapter 29 in Numbers. However, this is no great loss on *Simhat Torah* since there already is some eating and drinking going on while scrolling takes place on this festive communal holiday. You might say the holiday refreshments help pass the scrolling time.

As a religious experience, I find *Simhat Torah* as spiritually exciting as *Purim*. There are processions with *Torah* scrolls of all sizes – some children bring in their toy *Torah* scrolls to the service – and flags and apples, and dancing with the *Torah* takes place in between *Hakafot* or processions. On *Purim*, we also have a procession that includes kids and adults in costume depicting either beloved or reviled characters in the story of *Purim*, which is a classic tale about anti-Semitism. *Simhat Torah*, which the rabbis established as a Jewish holiday after the Second Temple was destroyed, is now attached to the biblical festival of *Shemini Atzeret* which is cited in Numbers 29: 35-38 as the eighth day of *Succot*.

The holidays of *Simhat Torah* and *Purim* seem pretty open when it comes to partying during our religious services. Yet, we just read from the *Torah* on *Yom Kippur* afternoon that the people occupying the Promised Land - that Moses was leading us to for forty years before Joshua assumed

leadership - defiled it with their bad behavior, and so the Children of Israel were strongly cautioned not to follow in their licentious behavior (Leviticus 18:24-28). Our rabbis were strict on what behavior was permissible during worship. You may recall from the *Haftarah* on Day 1 of *Rosh Hashanah* that the High Priest, Eli, mistook the unusual behavior during personal prayer of Samuel's mother, Hannah, as drunkenness, a big no-no by anyone during the religious service. After explaining to him how much her desire for a child influenced her appearance to him, the High Priest waived her conduct and even blessed her personal request to God. Hannah later gave birth to Samuel, dedicated her son to religious service and he later became one of the Jewish people's most popular prophets and leaders. Two books of our bible are named for him: I Samuel and II Samuel.

Phyllis and I hope you enjoyed the busy month of *Tishri* when we celebrated the High Holy Days of *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur* and the festivals of *Succot*, *Shemini Atzeret* and *Simhat Torah*. Our next Jewish holiday will be the eight days of *Chanukah*, December 12-19, 2009. Like *Purim* and *Simhat Torah*, *Chanukah* is not specifically mentioned in the *Torah*; it commences every year on the 25th day of *Kislev* when the *Maccabees* rededicated the Second Temple in Jerusalem (in 167 BCE) defiled by the Syrian Greeks and then found only one vial of oil to light our *menorah* which, we believe, miraculously lasted eight days.

Again, may our names all be inscribed and sealed in the Book of Life for the new Jewish Year 5770.
Amen

**Donations are gratefully appreciated because
they help us serve the community and grow**

FROM: _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____
ADDRESS: _____
MESSAGE: _____

Would you like an acknowledgment in the newsletter? _____

Send acknowledgment to: Name _____
Address _____

Send to: Congregation Yad Shalom
P.O. Box 1557
Centreville, Virginia 20122

THANK YOU!



President's Message

Lee Oppenheim

Bernie Madoff has done more to create anti-Semites than Adolph Hilter. An unlikely topic around a Rosh HaShanah dinner table. It began innocently enough when I asked my brother what his Rabbi's sermon was about that morning. As usual we brought up issues like those that are predisposed to hatred or blaming others would always find a target to latch on to explain their bigotry. Yes this was a very large ponzi scheme. Yes Bernie Madoff used his Jewishness as an ally in this scheme. Many trusted him because he was Jewish. Many Jewish social and philanthropic groups were confident that because he was a Jew he would protect their investments for the greater good of the people. And because of this he has done great harm both to us as Jews and in helping bigots throughout the world. But he was not the only Jew who has garnered headlines recently. We have a kosher slaughterhouse being owned and supervised by ultra-orthodox Jews being closed down for ethical, legal and moral reasons. We've had Rabbis and orthodox Jews in the news for selling donor organs. Just to name a few.

My brother's Rabbi turned this issue into one we all need to listen to and take pains to take actions to resolve. When and where did we lose the moral and ethical high ground? Let's start with the root of all evil – money. Earning a living and helping your family is not against our principles. It seems to have changed into a maxim that says we can do anything and say anything in order to take money from others and enrich ourselves. These actions can inflict pain as long as it does not inflict it on us and possibly our families. Even our families may be targets if it improves our position. Just look at all the family tragedies we read about during divorce or estate proceedings.

Then we have our moral code as established in the Torah. In getting ahead in this world why is it acceptable to disregard Hashem's commandments. Again we want others to treat us one way while we treat them in another. Paying workers an honest wage and paying them on time is required. Treating workers with dignity is required because we were slaves in Egypt and should remember those lessons. Participating in money laundering, environmental misdeeds and more violates our responsibilities to Hashem and our fellow human beings. As workers we want to be treated fairly. Yet if we hire someone, how often do we show our ugly side to the world?

One could say that these actions are being passed down to our children, family and friends. Truly our children learn at our side based on our talk and our action. We have a wonderful year ahead of us. Take two hours on a Friday night or Saturday morning and participate in services with your family and friends. Our lives can improve by this. First by showing others that learning is important, something we do at each and every service. Then by putting what we learned into deeds. Let us be more concerned about others than we are about ourselves. Talk about what we have and not about what we don't have. Share what we have with those who don't have anything.

So we begin a new Yad Shalom tradition. We will be collecting non-perishable foods for local area food banks at each of our services. Please support Yad Shalom in tikkum olam, or repairing the world, one family at a time. We improve ourselves and we show our children, family and the world that we are the Chosen People, through words and deeds. Thus can we defeat the evildoers, Jews and non-Jews alike.

Become the Chosen People once again and live by its true values. Hashem saw our potential and chose us among all the peoples of the world. Stand-up and be counted. Show the highest moral and ethical behavior in all our dealings. Make it shine so all the world sees what the world can be if we live according to His will.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER AND THE BEGINNING OF DECEMBER

ENTERTAINMENT BOOK FUND RAISER

Congregation Yad Shalom is selling Entertainment Books this year in order to raise funds for the Congregation. Books are \$30 each. Yes, the price has gone up this year, but what hasn't? You can begin using your book as soon as you receive it and the savings will continue until Sept. 30, 2010. The Entertainment Book provides discounts at restaurants, fast food places, car rentals and more. Please help the Congregation by ordering your book now. Please email us at yadshalom at(@) yadshalom.com. We deliver.

FRIDAY NIGHT SHABBAT SERVICE, NOVEMBER 13TH

Join us for candle lighting, songs and a d'var torah Friday evening starting at 8:00 PM. Come prepared to discuss the life of our matriarch Sarah and what it means for us today. Cantor Zucker is waiting to lead the choir to new heights and needs you, family and friends, to fill the seats. Join us at Little Rocky Run Recreation Center #3, 13900 Stonefield Rd, Clifton, VA. Our Tikkum Olam project is providing non-perishable food to area food banks. Please support this project by bringing your donations to each of our services. A box will be in the lobby for this purpose.

SATURDAY MORNING SHABBAT SERVICE, NOVEMBER 21ST

Enjoy Saturday morning with family and friends as we learn more about Isaac and the problems he encounters. There is famine and there is sibling rivalry. Join us in prayers and songs enhancing your Jewish experience. Services start at 10:00 AM. Join us at Little Rocky Run Recreation Center #3, 13900 Stonefield Rd, Clifton VA. Our Tikkum Olam project is providing non-perishable food to area food banks. Please support this project by bringing your donations to each of our services. A box will be in the lobby for this purpose.

YAD SHALOM BOOK CLUB MEETS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND

Plan ahead and read "TRIANGLE" by David Von Drehle. Learn about life in the early 1900's as our great-grandparents flocked to America. What was life like and what tragedies awaited them? What can we learn from their experiences and what changes were because of a single fire? We meet from 3 – 5 PM on Sunday, November 22, at the Geltner's house in Warrenton. Please RSVP by emailing to <http://www.yadshalom.com> if you plan to attend so that we can properly prepare for everyone's comfort.

FRIDAY NIGHT DINNER AND SERVICE, DECEMBER 4TH

Please reserve the date to enjoy a wonderful Shabbat meal with your Yad Shalom family. Dinner begins at 6:30 PM at Little Rocky Run Recreation Center #3, 13900 Stonefield Rd, Clifton. Following dinner a brief service and d'var torah will be held. The entrees are provided by the congregation with everything else brought by participants. Reserve the date now and we'll provide further details closer to the date.

NEW CLASSES BEING OFFERED

The JCC of Northern Virginia to offer a pre-marriage class and a Lamaze class this fall:

Tying the Knot: A Pre-Marriage Workshop for Couples. Wednesdays, October 21-November 18

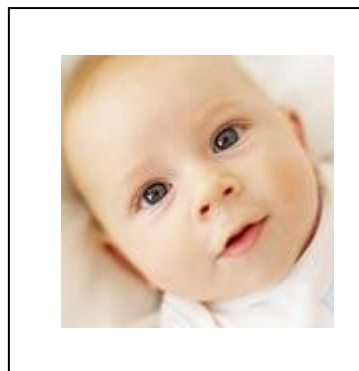
If you're engaged or thinking of becoming engaged, this class is for you. Explore your relationship and the skills needed to handle the challenges that arise when couples share their lives. Jewish values and traditions provide a strong context for a safe and supportive group discussion. Topics include marital roles and expectations; religion and spirituality; intimacy and finances; decision-making skills; and more! \$75/per couple. The class is also being offered at the Washington DCJCC. Visit www.washingtondcjcc.org for more information

L'Amazing Baby: Childbirth Preparation with a Jewish Twist. Wednesdays, October 21-December 2

This class offers parents-to-be a traditional prepared childbirth class for labor & delivery, including stages of labor, breathing & relaxation and coping techniques, plus a spiritual, ritual and emotional support network for welcoming a Jewish child into the community. The cost is \$75/per couple.

For more information and to register, visit www.jccnv.org or contact Laurie Albert at LaurieA@jccnv.org or 703-323-0880.

Both classes are underwritten by the United Jewish Endowment Fund and the Jewish Federation of Greater Washington.



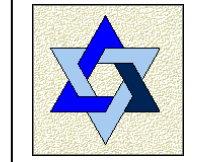
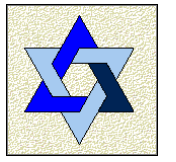
Board of Directors



YOUR 2009-10 YAD SHALOM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*Front row (L-R): Gloria Pioso, Executive Vice President
Fran Lasken, Vice President for Education
Lee Oppenheim: President*

*Back row: (L-R): Robert Lasken, Treasurer
Jon Sunray, Immediate Past President*



NOVEMBER YAHRZEITS – WE REMEMBER THEM

11/1 – Clare Campbell’s Cousin, Iris Levine
11/2 – Jerry Gordon’s Mother, Hattie Gordon
11/25 – Nancy Gordon’s Mother, Molly Leader

Membership Application

We love having visitors and love talking to new members so please feel free to spend some time with us in our religious services and/or social events. If you have any questions, please call our President, Lee Oppenheim, at 703-753-0928. And if you would like to join us, GREAT!

Please fill out the following application and submit to: Congregation Yad Shalom,
P.O. Box 1557, Centreville, VA 20122

Adult _____ Birthdate (mo/day/yr) _____

Work Phone _____

Adult _____ Birthdate (mo/day/yr) _____

Work Phone _____

Anniversary (mo/day/yr) _____

Children and Birth Date (s)

Address _____ City/State/Zip

Home Phone _____ Email _____

Please select one of the following:

_____ Family Membership: \$700 (Married Jewish couple with children under 18 years of age)

_____ Married Couple Membership: \$600 (Married Jewish couple without children under 18 years of age)

_____ Family Individual Membership: \$500 (Jewish man or woman with child(ren) under 18 years of age)

_____ Associate Membership: \$180 (You belong to another synagogue but want to join Yad Shalom as well)

_____ Individual Membership: \$400 (Single Jewish man or woman or one married to non-Jewish partner)

_____ I am interested but need more information. Please contact me.