SHAARE ZEDEK SYNAGOGUE News

829 North Hanley Rd. St. Louis, MO 63130 Office (314) 727-1747 ExecDir@ShaareZedek.org

Invigorating our congregation through music

Ruach Am'cha

Spirit of the People

KICK-OFF WEEKEND JANUARY 8-9

A year-long initiative designed to infuse music into all aspects of our congregational life.

See event schedule and details inside and at shaarezedek.org

Todah Rabah!

Haftarot for December

Joe Levy, Steve Keyser, Alex Zvibleman, Aviva Buck-Yael, Harold Karabell, Harriet Shanas

Greeters for December

Esther Zuckerman, Roger Young, Elena Aschkenasi, Susan Fleminger

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Kiddushes for December

Synagogue, Don & Joanne Singer, Anne & Irv Zvibleman

***Kiddush sponsors omitted in November: Ann Frank, Danny & Bryan Weintrop for Sherri Weintrop's 50th Birthday*

Minyan Breakfasts

Joe Iken, Julia Iken, Barbara Bahn, Rhoda Grimsky, Pat Rosen, Marshall Myers, Sherri Weintrop

OPEN M-F 10:00AM- 12:30PM
Special Hebrew School Hours:
M, W 5:30- 6:30 pm

Sunday hours by appointment. Arrangements may be made for special occasions (i.e., weddings, b'nai mitzvot, bris melah, etc.)

Mazal Tov!

Anniversaries in January

Leslie Birenbaum & Susan Roth
Allen Levin & Joyce Gang
Rudolf & Frances Oppenheim
Alan & Molly Portman
Paul & Karen Rader
Herbert & Cecile Raskas
Craig & Liz Redler
Amanda & Emilio Trujillo
David Warren & Rhona Lyons

New Plaques in Guller Chapel

Mollie Cohen
Mildred Pessin Drifon
James Pessin
Andrew Rauchman

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Religious School (314) 725-6230

Mark Fasman
Rabbi

Joanna Selznick Dulkin
Hazzan

Marvin Lerner
Ba'al Koreh

Jeff Miller
Executive Director

Gary Kodner
Synagogue President

Liz Redler
USY Director

Melissa Berk
Kadima/Noar Director
Mishpacha Coordinator

Michael Raileanu
Shaare Shalom Education Director

Micki Kingsley
Sisterhood President

Mitchell Shenker
Men's Club President

Laura Rosenberg, Mital Lyons-Warren
USYCo-Presidents

Board Leadership

Gary Kodner	President
Marsha Birenbaum	Chairman of the Board
Sandy Boxerman, Beth Levy, Monroe Ginsburg	Vice Presidents
Jeremy Buhler	Secretary
Marc Spector	Treasurer
Al Leving, Randy Silverstein	Sergeants-at-Arms

Committee Chairs

Monroe Ginsburg	Ritual
Beth Levy	Membership
Michael Levine	Budget
Sandy Boxerman	Personnel
David Propper	Building
Karen Rader	Education
Kathi Rosenberg	Youth
Jeremy Buhler, Steve Selipsky	ECC
Beth Rubin	Shaare Shalom
Sydney Farber	Adult Ed
Helene & Alan Spetner	Family Life
Barbara Bianco	Chesed
Micki Kingsley	Social Action
Gary Kodner	Communications
Bob Olshan	Israel
Sara Myers	Halls & Catering
Julie Friedman	Ruach Am'cha

Shaare Zedek Newsletter designed by Tovah Enger

A Message from the Rabbi

Rabbi Mark Fasman

Sitting at the Shabbat table with my father and sister last month, we were discussion what to say to our children when they ask, Why Be Jewish? At one point, Ellen asked me, "So, what would you say are the three most important components of Jewish identity?

I was actually surprised by my answer. This is how I answered my sister: the three essential elements of Jewish identity are —

1. We believe in one God.
2. We are outsiders.
3. We are survivors.

Then I started working out the implications of each of these elements. And in so doing, I realized that I just might be right.

So first: we believe in one God. Entire books have been written on the implications of this statement (among others, the Hebrew Bible and the Talmud). We believe that there is one God; we believe that God has expectations of human behavior, and we believe that God has particular and more extensive expectations of Jewish behavior. This is called ethical monotheism, one of the great gifts of the Jews to the world.

Our belief in God is our belief in human responsibility and accountability for our behavior towards other human beings and towards the rest of Creation. For Jews, this belief means that our lives have meaning, that the universe is not random, and that there is a reason to seek out the good and to struggle to *do* the good – especially when what is right conflicts with our biological instincts.

Second: we are outsiders. From the time of our patriarchs (often described as "sojourners"), to our slavery in Egypt, to the Babylonian captivity, to the last two millennia of exile, we have lived among others, at their whim. Our history has shaped our identity and our values. Our history makes us particularly sensitive to the plight of those without social power – the widow, the stranger, and the orphan.

We are sensitive to all oppressed minorities because "we were slaves in the land of Egypt" – this is not a statement of history. It is a statement we make at our *seder* tables each year: *b'khol dor va-dor* – "in every generation each person must see himself as if he had gone personally forth from Egypt"; we internalize the perspective of the slave, and thus we are always sensitive to the pain of those who are not in control of the circumstances of their lives.

As described by Michael Wex, in his new book, *How to Be a Mentsh…*, every generation of Jews has understood that, because we are outsiders we must create our *own* social support systems. Thus, to be considered legitimate a Jewish community has had to have structures in place for: *bikur cholim* - visiting and providing necessities for the sick; *hakhnasat kallah* - providing wedding clothes and provisions for indigent brides; *Chevra Kadisha* - seeing to the needs of the dead; *hachnasat orkhim* - providing for travelers with no money for lodging or food; *ma'ot chittin* - providing Passover food for those who can't afford it; *gemilut chasadim* - free loan society; *Talmud Torah* - providing free Hebrew school for the indigent; *malbish arumim* - providing free clothing for the indigent; *Beit Yetomim* - providing for orphans; *hekdesh* – a poorhouse for the homeless; and *moshav z'keinim* - providing a home for the aged. A community that lacks these institutions isn't really a "Jewish community."

"Our belief in God is our belief in human responsibility and accountability for our behavior towards other human beings and towards the rest of Creation."

And third: we are survivors. There are no people on earth with as long a history of persecution, throughout the globe and in every generation. There are no people on earth that have been so consistently the object of irrational hatred. And thus, there are no people on earth that are as equipped to survive. We have learned to be portable, to value that which cannot be taken from us: learning (that has trained our minds to seek new questions as well as new answers), faith, community, covenant, and traditions. Wherever we go, we take with us the same standards of Jewish behavior (whether or not we adhere to them), that define us as ultimately answerable only to the King of Kings, (and not a human regime).

We are a people defined by hope – hope for a better future for our families, for the Jewish People, and for all people on earth. At the same time, we have learned not to trust in the goodness of people and not to trust that *others* will bring about *y'mot ha-mashia'ach* – the Messianic Era. We have learned that, in order to survive, we can only rely upon ourselves to do the work of *tikkun ha-olam* – repair of our broken world.

We are the people who have understood in our *kishkes* that survival depends on an attitude articulated over 2,000 years ago by the great sage Hillel: If I am not for myself, who will be for me? And if I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?

If you wish to read Haftorah for Shabbat or Festivals
contact our new coordinator
Sydney Farber
kitty1106@aol.com
Please put 'Haftorah' in the subject line.

Presidential Matters

Gary Kodner

My USCJ trip to Cherry Hill

After spending a week in Cherry Hill NJ, I returned energized and confident that the Conservative movement is alive and reset to take on the challenges of the future. Despite all the pre-convention Kvetch and threats, the convention (themed: "We are Family") featured an incredible renaissance of leadership, governance, determination and Ruach.

So much was accomplished. We installed a new director/CEO, enacted new by-laws, approved a reorganization of the regions, cut budgets, and installed a new board and international president.

It gave me great pride to represent Shaare Zedek Synagogue. I was accompanied by a St. Louis delegation consisting of Harriet Shanas, SZ past president and current USY regional chair, and representatives from BSKI and BA.

I was embraced by people who cared about each other and who cared about the future of Judaism. I collected on behalf of our synagogue, 8 Solomon Schechter Awards for Synagogue Excellence. I encountered those who knew and complimented us on our rabbi and hazzan. Entering an elevator I was asked, you're from Shaare Zedek in St. Louis, do you know Rudy Oppenheim?

I attended numerous breakout sessions, listened to some of the best speakers, leaders and educators our movement has to offer. I also had ample schmooze time to speak one on one with other synagogue leaders and gain insight to their programs, plans, challenges and solutions.

I was privileged to hear from some of the great minds and leaders: Dean of the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies, Rabbi Bradley Artson , Israel Ambassador Michael Oren, and Outgoing USCJ International President - Dr. Raymond Goldstein, incoming President - Richard Skolnik, JTS Chancellor - Dr. Arnold Eisen - Past USCJ Exec. VP and CEO - Rabbi Jerome Epstein, Author and president of Synagogue 3000 - Ron Wolfson, Steven Cohen, R. Steven Greenberg, Rabbi Andrea Merow and many others.

Rabbi Steven Wernick was installed as our new USCJ executive vice president and CEO. This was the first such installation in 23 years.

Rabbi Wernick, weaving the theme of Hanukkah, when the Maccabees faced despair, saw an opportunity, took risks, and won, saving Judaism for all of us, their descendants, throughout, he talked about the risks we must take to remain relevant. A firm believer in Conservative Judaism, with its unique ability to fuse tradition, ancient wisdom, and modern understandings of the world. Wernick is working hard, devising new ways to convey that understanding to people less committed to it than he. He has been touring the United States and Canada , listening to synagogue professional and lay leaders, listening to their desires and their discontents, and he is using this information to plan for our future.

His talk earned a standing ovation. The energy in the packed room overflowed into the hall and to the rest of the conference. Here are some excerpts from Wernick's compelling speech:

"Tonight, I want to talk about taking risk and how calculated risk when infused with wisdom and courage can pay off in important and significant ways.

We find Conservative Judaism today at a moment of great complexity. We all know the challenges that face us: a competitive marketplace of ideas and allegiances in a "nano-second" culture; shifting demographics; intermarriage, assimilation and apathy, an increasing polarization of the right and the left; limited resources exacerbated by a kind of economy that most of us have never seen in our lifetimes; and varying perspectives on how to address these challenges both within our organizations and among them. Due to these demographic, social and economic realities our numbers have decreased and many of our synagogues and institutions are struggling or are performing less effectively than we know that they are able and that they would like. As a result of all of this some have prophesized our imminent demise. I'm sure the Maccabees had to put up with plenty of false prophets too. There are always those who would prefer to curse the darkness rather than kindle a candle…"

"…you're still here, and I'm still here, because, like those who have gone before us, we find Conservative Judaism a compelling way of life and we're betting it has a bright future. Like you Conservative Judaism has influenced every significant element of my identity…"

"I am a Conservative Jew because of what Conservative Judaism is – we seek to uphold our sacred Jewish traditions while embracing the liberty and wisdom to be found in modern North American life. I am a Conservative Jew because living such a life allows me to be fully rooted in modernity while constantly experiencing the sacred and reaching toward heaven. I am a Conservative Jew because seeking to simultaneously uphold tradition and embrace modernity demands that we focus on honest, open and respectful discussion on almost any issue. And we do. When it came to the role of women, the acceptance of homosexuality or the welcoming of those who are intermarried into our communities we learned from each other, we debated each other and we reached conclusions that were not always neat, but precisely because we focused openly and honestly on them, they are always authentic Jewish responses to the challenges of our day. As a community

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HazzaNotes

Hazzan Joanna Selznick Dulkin

This month, as part of our *Ruach Am'cha* kickoff weekend, we will be incorporating two seemingly non-traditional spiritual practices into our Jewish observances of Shabbat. Since *Ruach Am'cha* aims to incorporate music into all aspects of synagogue life, this month we begin two new ways to incorporate music into our *prayer* life. The first is a chanting and meditation service, and the second is a drum circle. After this month, every second Shabbat morning and afternoon of the months to follow, we will fold these musical spiritual practices into Shabbat. Both of these practices serve to open our hearts in a new way, and both opportunities are conducted in a safe, non-judgmental environment, meant to be truly accessible to everyone, no matter where you fall in the "competency" spectrum regarding prayer, music or Hebrew. I say that drumming and chanting are "seemingly" non-traditional because both actually have deep roots in our tradition.

The word "chant" may perhaps invoke for you an Indian ashram, or a group of Buddhists, perhaps, but Jews? Since when do we chant? We actually chant every week, and have for centuries, the words of Torah and prophets, as part of our religious services. Hebrew sacred chant, or cantillation (trope), is the oldest form of Jewish music that exists. The Jewish musical canon is founded on the musical motifs found in our trope, and there are now countless geographical variations – a Moroccan will chant in a distinctly "middle eastern" mode while a European will chant in a more "western" mode. The idea of Hebrew sacred chant is not at all new in the context of Jewish prayer, either. The Jewish mystical tradition, going back to the medieval period, employed chant as an avenue for opening the soul and focusing *kavannah* (intention), in much the same way others use a niggun or a mantra.

"Chant allows us to dwell in the space of a word or phrase, inhabiting it with intention and feeling."

When we chant, we will take a word or phrase from a prayer, and a repetitive melody or few notes, and let those few words be our prayer, stand in for the whole paragraph or page. How many times have you wished that the Hebrew in services went by at a slower pace so that you could spend time on a passage or phrase of the Siddur? By focusing on one word of a psalm, prayer or Biblical passage, you imbue it with meaning, and the word, in turn, opens you up to new possibilities. Chant allows us to dwell in the space of a word or phrase, inhabiting it with intention and feeling. With fewer words to rush through, more time is taken for devotion – the heart of prayer. I invite you to join us at the upcoming meditation and chant service with Lynnsie Balk Kantor, our special guest leader, whom we are fortunate to have join us!

We are also extremely fortunate to have Adam Rugo join us on what will become a regular basis for our *Ma'ariv* and *Havdallah* drum circles. There is a tradition, called *Melave Malka* (escorting the Queen), where we "send off" the Shabbat Queen with song, dance and food, and in the process, she is enticed to stay a few more hours. Our drum circle will serve as a *Melave Malka* – a royal send-off to the Shabbat Queen. Adam will begin each drum circle with some instruction before the *Ma'ariv* and *Havdallah* service, and then we will drum our way through the end of Shabbat. Adam is a drum scholar, who has learned and taught drumming all over the world. He has a special knack for group-building through drumming, making both musicians and non-musicians feel welcome. We will be employing African and Middle Eastern beats to accompany Jewish tunes from around the world; just as our ancestors Miriam and Moses beat drums and shook timbrels, just as the Levites sang and played in the Temple – so we will continue the tradition of sacred percussion here at Shaare Zedek.

I invite you to take part in a new way to pray this month, whether it is quiet chanting or mediation, or the joyful noise of a drum circle – or both. May the turning of the year 2010 bring each of us closer to our people and to God, and may it bring us both quiet calm and joyful noise!

Ruach Am'cha

Shaare Zedek is among 15 grantee synagogues in the country chosen by the Legacy Heritage Foundation, to pilot programming which incorporates music into all aspects of synagogue life.

This year, celebrate with us in your homes and at shul:

* Be a host family, creating special musical Shabbat celebrations in your home. (Become a Host family by partnering with one of our congregational "Ambassadors" to create unique and meaningful musical Shabbat celebrations in your home.)
* Become a "Niggun of the Month club" member
* Join our monthly Havdalah Drum Circles
* Shabbbat afternoon Zemirot
* Find serenity with Shabbat morning Chanting & Meditation
* Sing with an intergenerational choir

Mark your calendar

KICK-OFF weekend activities (dinner, chant, drum circle) JAN 8-9, 2010

For more information, or to get involved, please contact:

Hazzan Dulkin, Hazzan@shaareezedek.org, or Program Coordinator Julie Friedman, Julie@shaarezedek.org

Presidential Matters

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that values pluralism we celebrate the vitality of a Judaism that is built upon a foundation that fuses our classical texts and modern sensibilities in informing the lives we live.

This is what makes an authentic, emotionally enriching, ritually relevant and intellectually satisfying modern Judaism. In many ways the struggle over the relevancy of United Synagogue is a struggle over the relevancy of Conservative Judaism itself. And this is why I chose to leave a congregation that I valued and that I believe valued me to assume the leadership of United Synagogue at a time in which the landscape of the organization is being greatly tested. We are here because we want all Conservative congregations and communities to succeed. And I can think of no greater challenge and no greater calling than that. And I'm betting that you feel the same way, and together we can take some calculated risks that will pay off big for the Judaism we believe it…"

"I'd like to say one more thing about why I believe the challenge that we must engage in now for the future of Conservative Judaism is critical. In particular I want to say something to those who suggest that the middle has not and will not hold. The middle is an indispensable part of every social structure. I believe represents the ideal or the practice of promoting moderate practices which lie between different extremes…"

"Now is the time, therefore, for all the arms of Conservative Judaism to unite and build upon our collective successes while we create new models to assure healthy, vibrant and spiritually fulfilling Conservative communities locally, regionally, in Israel and around the world. United Synagogue looks forward to its role in all of this as one who unites, as a facilitator and as a conduit of Jewish life through which all our congregations, all our communities and all our organizations will be able to share and replicate the great ideas and successes of the many members of our communities who identify with and support us."

Men's Club

Mitch Shenker, President

Sports Night

The Shaare Zedek Men's Club is proud to announce that Rick Hummel, Baseball Hall of Fame Sports Writer will be the featured speaker at our annual Sports Night on **Sunday, January 24 at 6:30 pm**. Please see exact details for the evening included in this issue of the bulletin.

Richard Lowell Hummel was born Feb. 25, 1946, the only child of Hobart and Geraldine Hummel. He went to Quincy (Ill.) High School, spent two years at Quincy College and graduated from the University of Missouri School of Journalism in 1968.

During three years in the Army, Hummel worked for the Colorado Springs Free Press/ Sun. He was hired by the Post-Dispatch in 1971, started covering the Cardinals in 1973 and became the lead writer in 1978. In 2002, he was named the newspaper's national baseball columnist.

Hummel was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize in 1980 for a series of stories on controversial shortstop Garry Templeton. He won the 2006 J.G. Taylor Spink Award from the Baseball Writers Association of America, which is the honor given to one writer each year who will be enshrined in the Hall of Fame. He has covered virtually every type of sporting event, including 29 World Series, 27 baseball All-Star games and two NCAA Final Four basketball tournaments.

Hummel has two children from his first marriage - Scott, 33, a cardiologist at the University of Michigan Medical Center, and Christy, 29, a public relations specialist in Chicago; and a daughter, Lauren, 15, from his second marriage. He has one grandchild, 2-year-old Alexandra. He lives in Webster Groves and has been with his current companion, Debbie Medbury, for nine years.

Finally, the "Commish" nickname does not come from Hummel's baseball expertise. It came from the sports statistical leagues he has governed over the years.

Remember; look for complete details of this evening elsewhere in this month's bulletin. Get your reservations in early.

Health Tip of the Month

(Information for this article was obtained from the "Harvard's Men's Health Watch")

Strength training is an important component of maintaining health. As men age, their muscles become smaller and weaker, and their bone density decreases. Although age, hormonal changes, and dietary deficiencies contribute, the factor most responsible for these deleterious effects is disuse. If you don't use it, you lose it. And it has been shown that poor muscle strength in midlife predicts functional limitations and disability 25 years later. Resistance training makes muscles stronger, increases muscle protein synthesis and boosts the body's production of testosterone and growth hormone, helping to explain how the muscles get bigger and stronger. Larger muscles mean a faster metabolism which burn more calories. Even when they're at rest, muscle cells are more metabolically active than fat cells. Each extra pound of muscle tissue will consume about 13 to 99 extra calories a day. That's why men who maintain their muscles as they age are less likely to pack on extra fat.

Talk to your doctor, and if you are healthy enough to start an exercise program, don't neglect the strength training. And if you do decide to "pump iron", make sure you learn how to do it correctly. When done improperly, it can be harmful, and even dangerous.

Mitch

Sisterhood

Micki Kingsley, President

It's 2010. Our Chanukah program last month was another wonderful event thanks to the hard work of Sue Propper and her trusty helpers. And thanks to Jennifer Rogers Asher for her time and effort in helping us with our handicrafts. Now, little by little the days will start getting longer.

At the end of this month, the Sisterhood will participate in Women's League Shabbat on Saturday, January 30. It will also be Tu B'Shvat, the new year of the trees. We know that trees were extremely important in Biblical time because of all the references to taxing, planting, cultivating and nurturing the fruit of trees, what kinds of trees we can or cannot cut down, and much more. Many of us even commemorated the Torah *Yad* that we made almost two years ago with the inscription "*Etz chaim he l'machazikim ba*"-It is a Tree of Life to those who hold on to it…[the Torah]. We recognize this language from the liturgy when we return the Torah to the Ark.

The Torah Fund pin this year is also "tree"-related – It is a leaf and imparts the commandment from Genesis *Le'avdah u'l'shamrah* – to plant and preserve. If you haven't sent in your donation for the Torah Fund, please consider how important our donations are to the Jewish Theological Seminaries' continued work in educating and preparing *klei Kodesh* and teachers for our future. At the regional Board Meeting of the Intracontinental region in November, the Regional Torah Fund chairman mentioned that Shaare Zedek has always reached the financial goals assigned to a synagogue of our size, a feat that not every synagogue achieves over many years. Much credit goes to Ruth Levy and her committee for ensuring our successes. I've peeked at the proposed menu and it looks delicious. I hope you have marked your calendars for **Sunday, March 14**, and plan to share the Torah Fund luncheon program with us.

The most recent issue of the Intracontintental Region newsletter included a letter I sent in on our Saturday *Kiddush* fund-raisers. Many congregations have all but given up preparing a Kiddush-luncheon for lack of sponsorship and women willing to volunteer their time to carry it out to success. This past year we have been fortunate. We are grateful for the many members who have chosen to have a Sisterhood Kiddush; and we are blessed with the ever-faithful crew of workers. I was proud to write the article and to recount the efforts of our "*Kiddush*" women.

Our gift shop seems to be selling a lot of beautiful pendants, thanks to the initiative of Aleene Zawada and to Ann Frank and others in the gift shop who have been promoting their sales. The 30% off into the Chanukah season has helped traffic in the shop, and I know that the Intercontinental Regional meeting initiated a number of sales; but we can't be like the retail stores many of whom depend on "black Friday" after Thanksgiving to bring them out of the red. We have to make every effort to patronize our gift shop throughout the year. As our official spokeswomen, Julia Iken and Ann Frank, continue to try to impress on us – if we don't shop there, who will, and if not now, when? And thanks to Ruth Levy, Dorrie Lerner and Rhoda Grimsky and the others who also volunteer their time during the week to keep the gift shop open for the opportunity to make a sale, so that we and, by extension, the synagogue, continue to benefit.

I want to thank Mitch Shenker for his words in the Men's Club column last month on the Women's League program *"Mitzvah Yomit"* – a daily deed or commandment. Women's League provides many materials and program ideas for doing *mitzvot*. We as Jews are taught to strive for *tikkun ha olam* – the perfection of the world, in our relationship with our Creator and in our interpersonal relationships. We are taught and encouraged to observe the Sabbath, to honor our parents, to help those in need, to watch what we say, to protect our environment, and so much more. We may feel that the tasks are so daunting and unreachable that we can't do it all, so we won't do anything. But, you, as one person, and you and I together, and you and someone else, can make a difference. A mitzvah is not only a positive thing in itself, but it also helps us, to know that we are working toward a better world. Here are just a few to try out – or if you're already doing these *mitzvot* – to continue: help an elderly neighbor with chores or shopping, pick up trash around the synagogue or in a park you visit, donate blood if you are able, introduce yourself to a stranger at services, continue to support food pantries, plant a tree in Israel, read to a child, and smile. This is just the very tip of the crowns of the Torah. I will continue to pass along more in the coming months in this column. One thing about *mitzvot* – the possibilities are endless but they always bear fruit, even if we don't see the produce.

Our condolences to Zendra Ashkanazi on the passing of her beloved husband Melvin Ashkanazi, and to her children and grandchildren on the passing of their father and grandfather. *Zichrono l'vracha* - May his name always be remembered as a blessing.

Permanently commemorate your families' Simchas on our Ashreinu wall.

Beautifully engraved leaves with your personal message are available.

Contact the Synagogue office.

Youth Programs

Liz Redler, USY Director

USY hayride

What an incredible year 2009 has been for USY! Our membership doubled as did the level of participation of our youth in various programs within SZSL and Shaare Zedek. We have held a Progressive Sukkah dinner which included a visit to Rabbi Fasman's home, helped with the fabulous Martini's and Monet event, and held a Veteran's Day program where we built a peace pyramid with food items that was donated to the Food Pantry. The Food Pantry containers were overflowing by the end of the evening!

SZSL has an ongoing theme which is community. The goal has been to immerse its members in the Shaare Zedek community, to do as much within the synagogue and give as much support to our synagogue family as they give to us. 2010 will be a continuation of the same. This year, our USY will provide the entertainment for the Sisterhood Torah Fund Luncheon on March 14, will help with food preparation for Meals on Wheels, and will put on the wonderful annual Purim Carnival. We are also always ready and willing to help any group that needs us, so please don't hesitate to ask!

On behalf of my exceptional SZSL USY group, thank you all for such outstanding support, and may 2010 be the best year yet!

Liz Redler

Melissa Berk, Kadima/Noar Director

Shalom Shaare Zedek,
I would like to welcome our newest Kadima members David Braude, and Ariel Miller! Mazal Tov on your B'nai Mitzvot!
Did you know that everyone who has a Bar or Bat Mitzvah receives a free Kadima membership?
Ever wonder why you should get involved in Kadima? Let's hear firsthand from one of our Kadima co-chairs Delia Rainey:

I've been a member of USY for almost three years now, and this is my first year on the executive board. As many of you know, my board position is the Kadima VP. Being a part of the 2009-2010 Kadima year is extremely important to me because not too long ago, I was a Kadimanick, too!

The story goes back to when I was in middle school, when Sarah Rubinson reigned supreme. In those days, the youth lounge always had an expired barrel of expired cheese-balls lying around and colorful ocean creatures still swam all over its walls. I remember thinking Kadima was SO cool. The tight-knit friendships of my large age group made us unstoppable. After going to a Kadima program, I always knew I was going to come home with a bunch of laughs and a nice sense of belonging and comfort. I think this warm feeling of long lasting friendships combined with inside jokes and stale kosher snacks is what keeps this community chugging along, and is something that all kids deserve to experience in their adolescent years.

I know that if I had never been in Kadima, I wouldn't have all these amazing memories, from having an extremely gross marshmallow fluff Iron Chef Competition, to throwing hay at each other on a late night hayride during our trip to Columbia, and even to Elliot Wilson and Jacob Bashkin making up their own version of 'Ice Ice Baby'. Just writing down these memories, I am laughing like crazy!

Well, what I'm trying to say is this: Kadima still is cool. Come along and join the gang, the good times and cheese balls are waiting!

-Delia Rainey, Kadima VP of SZSL

The Jewish Food Pantry Needs Our Help

For the month of January the Harvey Kornblum Jewish Food Pantry is looking for these specific items in order to provide well-balanced nourishment for the community in need.

The current need is for...
Hearty canned soups
Canned Tuna Fish
Canned Pasta with Meat
Healthy Snacks
Canned Fruit
Dry Pasta and/or Rice Mixes

Items should be brought to your temple or synagogue collection site.

Currently, the Jewish Food Pantry is feeding over 3,500 individuals in a month. They have an increase of 48% in new clients. The need is great so please help in any way you can. Thank you.

For further information, please contact Louise Levine, 636-227-1259.

Early Childhood Education

Marty Schaeffer & Tessa Katan

A CENTER WHERE DEVELOPMENT TAKES PLACE THROUGH THE ARTS

At Shaare Zedek Early Childhood Center the program involves many ways for children to express themselves creatively. We provide opportunities for children to sing, play instruments, dance and move to music and create their own art through exploration with exciting and new materials. Young children feel a sense of emotional satisfaction when they are involved in creativity through the arts. Art builds self-esteem, social and motor skills, and an awareness of the world around them.

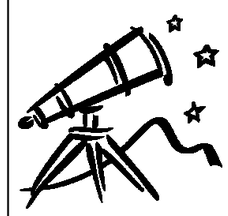
Activities centered around, creating art requires children to make choices and decisions. This builds children's self-esteem by giving them opportunities to express what they are thinking and feeling.

When working in groups, children develop social interactions, exchange of ideas and learn to accept peer feedback on their work. While making art, young children develop control of both large and small muscles.

The very young child enjoys the creative art experience with their senses. They like the feel, smell, and sometimes taste of the paint, markers, glue and paper. Exploring materials is very important because it builds knowledge of the objects in the world around them.

Activities that involve our children in making and appreciating art help to develop and meet the needs of the whole child. At SZECC we work to meet the challenge of providing creative experiences while integrating art through a developmentally appropriate early childhood and Jewish curriculum.

Memorial Plaques in the Guller Chapel are available.



WHERE WILL YOU COUNT THE STARS ON FEBRUARY 6?

Our sages taught that Shabbat ends when three stars can be counted in the evening sky. Even if the night is cloudy, the stars at the Planetarium will shine brightly.

Havdalah Under the Stars • James S. McDonnell Planetarium in Forest Park
Saturday, February 6, 2010
Doors open at 6:45 pm • Havdalah Services at 7:15 pm & 8:15 pm
Star Shows at 7:45 & 8:45 pm
Activity Booths from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Cost: $4 per person • maximum $16 per family

Havdalah separates Shabbat from the work week, the holy from the mundane. Under twinkling stars and glowing planets, families will participate in Havdalah and enjoy related activities.

For more information, contact Hazzan Joanna Dulkin (314.727 1747), call CAJE (314.442 3760), or go to www cajestl.org

Presented by the Jewish Family Educators Network in cooperation with Central Agency for Jewish Education (CAJE) and funded by a grant from the Henry and Gladys Crown Charitable Income Trust, honoring the memory of Shirlee Green. CAJE is a beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation of St. Louis.

CAJE Live. Love. Learn Jewish.

Havdalah Registration Form

We Want to Count the Stars!

To reserve your space (limited space available - reserve early), return this form to: Havdalah, Central agency for Jewish education, 12 Millstone campus drive, St. Louis, MO 63146 or register online at www.cajestl.org (search key - havdalah) by January 27.

Name(s): _____
Address: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Cell: _____ Congregation: _____
Number of adults: _____ Number of children: _____
We would like to attend the following havdalah & star show: ☐ 7:15 + 7:45 p.m. ☐ 8:15 + 8:45 p.m.
Total amount enclosed: _____ (please make checks payable to CAJE)

Everyone Has A Story

By Sima Needleman

The Story of Simon and Tom Platnico

If at Shaare Zedek you ever see a bespectacled octogenarian male sporting a Disabled American Veteran's (DAV) Cap and a number of impressive medals on his jacket, you can rest assured that the man is Simon Platnico, whose son, Tom, brings him to shul and comes back for him after services to take Simon home.

Simon's parents were immigrants to the United States. His mother, Eva Litwak (who was the daughter of "Morris the Tailor"), was born in Vilna, Poland, but her family moved to Kiev, Russia, where she met and married (Simon's father) Tavia (Thomas) Platnikoff, who was a laborer and had been drafted into the Czar's army during the Russian-Japanese War of 1904-1905. In late 1905, Tavia immigrated to America alone, promising he'd send for Eva and their first child, Raymond, as soon as he earned enough for their passage. After arriving in New York, Tavia was met by a representative of a Jewish resettlement agency which sent him to St. Joseph, MO and helped him find a job. As soon as he could, Simon sent for Eva and Raymond and then worked at various jobs in order to support his family. At one time Tavia worked for the Swift-Armour Packing Company and another time, he bought a horse and carriage and was a peddler, selling scraps of pot copper, aluminum, zinc and other types of sellable items, which Simon referred to as "junk"

Over the years, Tavia and Eva had seven more children. Simon, who was born on April 6, 1922, was the youngest. Both of Simon's parents, who could read Hebrew, spoke Yiddish in the home, but his mother never learned to read or write English.

Simon and his siblings got jobs at various times to help support the family. (For example, Simon worked as a delivery boy for a pharmacy, and his brother, Archie's salary from Komen's Bakery helped out substantially when his father was between jobs.) Simon's mother, meanwhile, was always a full-time homemaker, who was "a typical Jewish mother." She kept a strictly kosher home and was a great cook. The family belonged to an Orthodox Synagogue in St. Joseph called B'nai Yaakov, where his father went daily to daven. Simon celebrated his Bar Mitzvah at B'nai Yaakov in 1935.

Simon's parents were ahead of their time in a decision they made in the 1930's. They wanted to move to St. Louis where several of their older children were then living. But Tavia had a job in St. Joseph. Therefore, they found a house on South 11th Street in St. Louis, and Simon and his mother lived there while Tavia remained in St. Joseph during the workweek because of his job. Eva enrolled Simon in Hebrew School at Shaare Zedek, which at that time was Orthodox and was located in the West End. They must have gone back and forth between the two residences because Simon went to Shaare Zedek Hebrew School (in St. Louis), but he attended Roosevelt Junior High School and then Central High School (in St. Joseph, MO), from which he graduated in 1941.

When the United States entered WWII after the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor, Simon tried to enlist in the armed services but was turned down because of his poor eyesight. Disappointed though he was, he began job-hunting and found employment at the United Department Store as a stock clerk. However, in May 1942, Simon was delighted because he received a draft notice from the U.S. Army! He was first sent to Ft. Leavenworth, KS for basic training. While there, his father died, and Simon got a 7-day emergency leave to go home. After basic training, Simon was sent to Camp Pickett, VA for medical tech training. Next, he went to the 64th General Hospital at Fort Jackson, SC. From there, he went with his unit to Tunisia to set up a M.A.S.H (Mobile Army Surgical Hospital) unit. (Interestingly, although he had been trained as a medical technician, Simon was assigned to be a cook's helper.) From Tunisia, Simon went to Italy, crossing the shark-infested Mediterranean Sea in a small landing craft. In Rome, Simon got three weeks of training in the use of weapons - - to prepare him for combat. Simon, who became a reconnaissance scout and a fighter, took part in the Army's spring offensive. Knowing about the Nazis' treatment of Jews, Simon felt passionate about his assignments. Before going into battle, he always recited the Shema.

Simon was discharged from the Army in October 1945. For a few years, he held a number of different employment positions, including a checker at a metal company and a collection agent for an insurance company. During that time, Simon re- met (his future wife) Ann Gralnick. One day, he was at the Jewish Community Center on Union Boulevard when he saw Ann, a girl that he had met years before when he and his mother had moved to St. Louis. He went over to talk to her, and he liked her right away. It was getting late, and Simon offered to take her home. That was the beginning of their courtship. Ann was easy to get along with, and like Simon, she came from a poor family. "She was a great person and everybody liked her." Simon mentioned that she was kind and thoughtful and always sent greeting cards to people on their birthdays and anniversaries.

In 1954, Simon married Ann. Their first child, Edward (Eddie) was born in 1955. Two years later, Thomas (Tom- - named after Simon's father) and his twin sister, Eileen, completed the family. In 1958, Simon began a new job as an inventory manager for the Army. He held this civil service job for almost 30 years. Sadly, Ann suffered from diabetes, and in 1995, when she died; Simon said a part of him died, too.

The highlight of Simon's life was his service in the U.S. military during World War II. In spite of his deafness (which was the result of a bombing raid by German soldiers) and being blind in one eye due to a stroke he suffered 5 or 6 years ago, Simon delights in reminiscing and discussing his life-changing experiences during the War. In his own words, Simon **"is and has been a fighter for Judaism all his life."** He earned a number of medals and citations for his bravery including the Purple Heart "for wounds received in action," the Bronze Star Medal "for meritorious achievement in ground combat against the armed enemy" and the U. S. Army Certificate of Appreciation for outstanding service to the Nation." Simon Platnico, in his heart, is still "a fighter for Judaism."

✡✡✡✡✡✡✡✡✡✡✡✡✡✡✡✡✡✡✡✡

Simon's son, Tom, and his twin sister, Eileen, were born on August 8, 1957. Eileen, her husband and one of her 3 children live in New Zealand. Her other two children are in England. Tom's brother, Eddie, who had a birth defect, has lived at Bellfountain Rehabilitation Center for a number of years.

Tom grew up in University City where he went to Hebrew School and Sunday school at Shaare Zedek (which had become Conservative and had moved to Hanley Road in University City). He celebrated his Bar Mitzvah in 1970. When Tom entered public school, the University City schools were experimenting with a number of different grade-groupings. As a result, he attended many different schools: University Forest Elementary School; the Sixth Grade Center; Brittany Middle School; Hanley Junior High; U. City High School; and U. City Alternative High School where he completed an academic curriculum and graduated in1975. While in high school, Tom, who briefly played drums, enjoyed playing flag and tackle football with kids in the neighborhood. After high school, he went camping and on float trips with friends from his neighborhood.

Over the years, Tom has worked in a number of positions. He was a cook at Kiel Center, a ticket taker at both the TWA Dome and at the Arch. In addition, Tom worked as a troubleshooter for a company called Converges, providing telephone support and assistance for cable and DSL users.

Tom began to smoke while he was in high school. He smoked for 30 years, and has paid the price ever since. He was diagnosed with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) in 1997, which restricted his activities. Nevertheless, with encouragement from his father, Tom went to a vocational computer school called The Career Learning Center for computer training from 2000-2001. After he completed the course, he taught himself how to repair and program computers on his own.

In 2005, Tom learned that he had interstitial lung disease (also known as pulmonary fibrosis), a condition which required him to depend on supplemental oxygen in order to breathe. Fortunately, two years ago (May 6, 2007), Tom had a double lung transplant. Now, he is able to live a more normal existence although he tires easily and has to rest after any kind of activity.

Tom and Simon's lives are inseparable. Growing up, Tom and his family lived at 7061 Melrose Avenue (where he and his father still live today). Cohabitation works out well for them. Tom drives Simon wherever he wants to go (doctors' appointments, shul, etc.). From time to time, they go to a restaurant together for dinner. Tom can often be found sitting at his computer either doing some work or playing a computer game. When he can, he exercises on a stationary bike and a treadmill that he keeps in their home. Meanwhile, Simon, who is a member of the Jewish War Veterans, Disabled American Veterans and Veterans of Foreign Wars, watches news, weather forecasts, and westerns on television. They share the cooking but Tom does the grocery shopping. A homemaker comes periodically to clean their house.

The two men exhibit a devotion to each other. Tom, who is grateful to be alive, philosophically believes "If one day is gloomy, the next day will be brighter." And, Simon said more than once, "Thank God I've got Tom."

Solomon Schechter Day School Main Event 2010

Build A Sanctuary in Your Heart

Honoring Sanford & Gloria Spitzer
and
Dr. David & Lynnsie Balk Kantor

Sunday March 7, 2010 5:30pm
at Congregation B'nai Amoona

Honoring our Special Teachers for their Years of Dedication & Commitment:
Debbie Garbow (Morah Devorah) 25 years
Mimi Baden & Suzanne Sloane 15years

Mark Your Calendars

Ruach Am'cha kick off weekend is **January 8th & 9th**. We'll be premiering the following activities:

1. Shabbat evening Ruach Amcha Dinnner
2. Shabbat morning chanting and meditation
3. Shabbat afternoon zemirot following kiddush
4. Shabbat evening havdalah drum circle

SHAARE ZEDEK DOR ways

COME ONE, COME ALL!

Shaare Zedek DorWays is proud to sponsor the social event of the new year!

Young Adults (moms, dads, single, or married) are invited for a beer tasting, brewery tour, and social gathering at the Schlafly Bottleworks Crown Room on **Sunday, January 17th, 2010 at 7pm***

*It's a holiday weekend! Monday is a holiday so you won't have to get up early! Come out and play!!

$10 at the door per person. This includes 6 tickets for beer tastings and a tour of the Schlafly brewery. A cash bar will be also be available. Tours available from 7 pm to 8 pm.

RSVP to Melissa Berk by January 8th at szyouthandfamily@gmail.com.

SCHLAFLY BEER
7260 Southwest Ave. (at Manchester)
Maplewood, MO 63143
314.241.BEER

DorWays: Families & Young Members

Melissa Berk, Program Coordinator

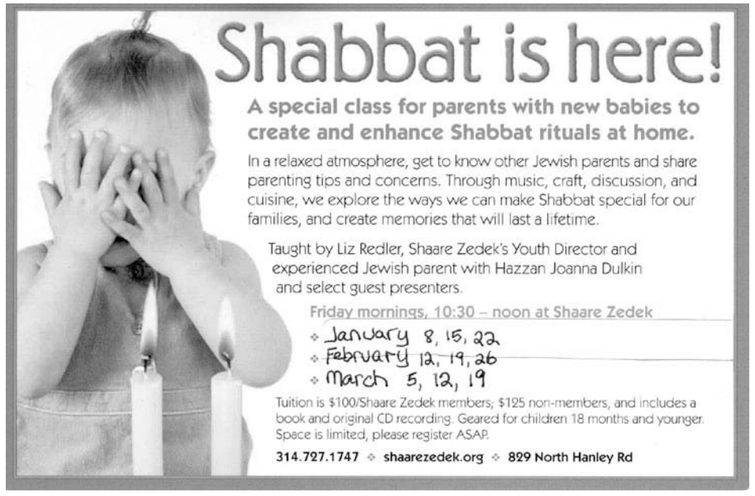
DorWays is Shaare Zedek's group for young members and their families. Dor in Hebrew means generation and it is our hope that DorWays serves as an entryway for young members and their families into synagogue life at Shaare Zedek! We currently have forty member families, and many prospective families participating in our programs and enriching their lives and the lives around them.

On December 5th, seventy babies, young children, parents, grandparents, and friends gathered as a community for a wonderful celebration of Hanukkah. Together, we welcomed in the new week as we sang the Havdallah blessings, and got excited for Hanukkah while eating delicious potato latkes! Our festivities continued as the children spun around like dreidels to the beautiful music of Hazzan Joanna's voice and guitar, and culminated in a sweet note as the children decorated delicious Hanukkah cookies! A special thank you to Teresa Perryman, and the entire Early Childhood Center Parent Participation Organization, for sponsoring the cookie decorating activities, as well as Peggy Nehmen for taking fabulous photographs! A great big thank you to Sherry Kaplan for volunteering her help in the kitchen, and always a heartfelt thank you to Alan and Helene Spetner for their constant generosity and support!

We would like to take a moment to officially welcome our newest members: Zachary Louis Buhler, Shira Neshama Dean, Ella Devorah Kalachek, and Zachary Aaron Schnitzer! See if you can spot them in the photos celebrating Hanukkah!

This month we have the event you've all been waiting for . . . The Schlafly Tour and Tasting for Young Adults. On January 17th, leave your little ones at home, if you have them, and come take Schlafly by storm. Bring your old friends, and make new friends while enjoying a beer tasting tour and a cash bar. If you are a young adult with children, without children, single, or married, then this event is for you! Just be sure to RSVP to Melissa at szyouthandfamily@gmail.com by January 8th.

Also, remember to check your calendar for the regular Shabbat Service and activities including Tot Shabbat, Family Services, and beginning January 8th, another session of *Shabbat is Here*, our parent/baby Friday morning class!



Adult Education

Sydney Farber

Welcome to the Gregorian/Julian calendar's first month of the new year, 2010, January. On the Jewish calendar, we finish with Tevet and begin Shevat, corresponding to January 16th. Shevat is the 11th month with Adar (next month) being the last, and then we start all over again with Nisan (Pesach). It is also one of the four New Years (FYI: The other New Years are Nisan, Elul, and Tishrei.).

Tu B'Shevat טוּ בִּשְׁבָט (15th of Shevat) is sometimes called Jewish Arbor Day/New Year for trees. There are a few customs related to this holiday, such as eating a new fruit (particularly one that grows in *Eretz Israel*) or planting trees on this day. Like other minor holidays, it is not mentioned in the Torah. This year it corresponds to January 30th and is on a Shabbat (and referred to as *Shabbat Shira* [The Sabbath of Song]). It was given that name because we stand and read/chant the Song *Az Yashir Moshe*... which Moses sang at the Reed Sea (Exodus 15:18).

And now for some Adult Ed happenings in January:

• **Rabbi Fasman's Tuesday evening class** took a short break in December, but resumes with the second section, Jewish Space on January 19 and 26, then continues on February 2, 9, 16, and 23. The third section (*Jewish Prayer*) will begin after Pesach (Passover) - details on this in April. The class meets at 7:15 - 9:00 p.m. in the Community Room. Light refreshments are served

• **Rabbi Ryan Dulkin's Shabbat class** began on December 12 and continues on January 9th from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. The text that he's focusing on is Neil Gillman's *Encountering God in Jewish Theology.* Though it's suggested that you read the book, there will be handouts at each class.

• **Ivrit with Dorit:** This beginners class started in December and continues on Sunday mornings from 9:30 - 10:30 am. So if you've been wanting to learn to read Hebrew, now's your chance. There is no cost to Shaare Zedek members; materials are provided for you. For those who need to refresh their Hebrew skills, a class will be provided for that, too. Get more details on this from Dorit (dorit_g@sbcglobal.net).

• **Learning to chant Haftarah classes** will begin soon.

For further details on these classes and more, go to the Shaare Zedek website (http://www.shaarezedek.org), then Education, then Adult Ed.

Have a good January/Shevat and cya next month,

Sydney

Ruach Am'cha

Julie Friedman, Project Coordinator

Spirit of the People

Mark the date for the weekend of January 8th & 9th – Our Kick Off Weekend!

Friday evening, the 8th marks our first Ruach Am'cha Shabbat celebratory dinner. Begin the evening with our Rinah Band Service at 6:00pm, and then gather together with our musical Ambassadors at 7:15, for a deliciously prepared Mediterranean meal, complete with Shabbat Festivities and spirited music. Come prepared to partake in an evening of song. *Reservations are required for dinner, so please contact Nancy in the office at 727-1747 or e-mail nancy@shaarezedek.org to ensure your space.*

Be sure to wake up the next morning in time to attend our first Shabbat Musical Meditation service, beginning at 9:30. Our service will be led by Lynnsie Balk Kantor. A residential real estate agent, married to Dr. David Kantor, Lynnsie is the mother of three teenagers. She holds a masters in Dance Education from New York University and has taught modern, jazz, ballet and Israeli dance to people of all ages. Having studied yoga for the last 10 years, Lynnsie brings to us an extraordinary perspective that is certain to broaden our experience and our understanding of prayer.

Afterward, meet up in the chapel for our family service or in the main sanctuary for traditional Shabbat prayer, followed by a special afternoon luncheon featuring l'chaim (schnapps) and z'mirot (Shabbat hymns). Hazzan Dulkin will be leading us in song, along with our Musical Ambassadors.

Saturday evening, we welcome Adam Rugo to lead us in our first Havdallah Drum Circle, which will take place just after Mincha at 5:30. Adam is a professional musician, composer and educator, specializing in percussion. He began his studies with master percussionists in 1991, while a Teaching Fellow at Washington University. Adam teaches throughout the Saint Louis area and performs in the World Music Group Nuclear Percussion ensemble. He is also the Musical Director for Circus Harmony. We are excited for the opportunity to host Adam for our Havdallah Drum Circle and assure you that this is an experience not to miss!

Beyond the weekend, our Intergenerational Choir, led by Alice Fasman, begins its regular Sunday morning get together at 11:30. If you're between the ages of 10 and 110, and you love to sing, this is your opportunity.

And still...there's more. Rabbi Fasman is gathering individuals to lead our first Shaare Zedek brass ensemble! Have you ever played the trumpet, the trombone, the tuba or any other brass instrument? Maybe you have it tucked away in a closet someplace, waiting to be played once again? If you play Brass, we want you to join us! *(Contact Julie@ShaareZedek.org or call Hazzan Dulkin for details.)*

Join us for any or all of the exciting projects this year!

Ruach Am'cha, our year long journey is generously funded by the Legacy Heritage foundation.

MEN'S CLUB SPORTS NIGHT AND SPAGHETTI DINNER

☆ Sunday, January 24 at 6:30 pm. ☆

We're Talkin' Baseball with Hall of Fame Sportswriter Rick Hummel

Rick Hummel is in his 25th year of covering baseball for the Post-Dispatch.

Rick will speak and answer our questions about the upcoming baseball season.

Advanced reservations:

- **Adults $8.00**
- **Kids 18 & under $5.00**
- **Men's Club members $5.00**

$10.00 for all at the Door

Call for reservations: 314-727-1747

Place:
The friendly confines of
Shaare Zedek Leve Auditorium
Hosted by SZ Men's Club

Paid Mens' Club members receive a discount!

Shaare Shalom

Michael Raileanu, Education Director

I have a very clear memory for my childhood in El Paso , Texas of the time from January through March. We would return from winter break and we would go straight through to mid-March without a break or vacation of any kind. My mom (z"l) taught for 35 years. I remember her saying what a great time of year it was for teachers. They could do so much and cover a tremendous amount of ground during this period. As I remember it, we students had a slightly different view of things: everyday lasted a year and the entire period was at least a lifetime or two.

Such is no longer the case. These days we have MLK, Jr. weekend off. We have Presidents weekend off and here St. Louis we are as likely as not to have a day or two off for snow. As opposed to my mom's excitement, these days the time crunch that teachers naturally feel might even be heightened at this time. There is so much we want to do and we find ourselves interupted time and again. I think Martin Luther King, Jr. was a very special man worthy of honor, and I am an American History buff and I love learning about the presdents, but I am also a school administrator and I wish we had about 150% more time to do everything we want to do.

Therefore, I turn to you, the parents of Shaare Shalom Religious School. Please make every effort to ensure that your child is at school every day and that they arrive on time, ready to go. Our teachers are looking forward to sharing so much with your children, we want to take advanatge of every single day, please do your best to help us make that happen.

In December we were very busy. Thank you to the Shaare Zedek men's Club for coming and making Hannukiyot with our Bet class and to Harvey Leader of BSKI for his constant flexibility and help. Also, a huge thank you to everyone who turned out for our Hanukkah Celebration. Bob and Joyce Olshan giving of their time to lead Israeli dancing, Hazzan Joanna Dulkin for leading our singing and Rabbi Miller and Rabbi Fasman for stepping out of their regular classroom roles and teaching the larger groups. Thanks also to my committee chairs, Beth Rubin of Shaare Zedek and Ellen Scholten of BSKI, for shopping and helping to get everything ready; in them I have true partners. Thanks to Jeff Miller of Shaare Zedek for being so accomodating and helpful.Finally, for making this program possible thanks to the Jewish Federation of St. Louis and the generosity of the Gladys K. Crown Foundation, honoring the memory of Shirlee Green, and the Rich Education Fund of the Jewish Federation.

As the year moves on we have a number of events planned. Please watch your mail, email and for the flyers distributed at school in order to ensure your child's maximum participation.

My family and I hope that you have a fantastic 2010 filled with fun, personal growth and intellectual challenge.

Michael S. Raileanu, M.A.Ed.

Director

Teach Your Passion to Someone!

Pre-K and K students and teachers making Hanukkiyot at the SSRS Hanukkah Celebration.

Bet Class with their Hanukkiot.

Do you want SISTERHOOD to do the work?

Please keep us in mind when you celebrate a Simcha…
a Bar or Bat Mitzvah, an auf ruf, an anniversary, a birthday, a new baby, or any other occasion you want to celebrate with a SISTERHOOD KIDDUSH.

You can also join with another person or group and co-sponsor.

We do the work, you'll enjoy a delicious Shabbat Kiddush, and the synagogue will benefit from our fund-raising.

Call the office for information. We'll be glad you did. Thank you.

Donations To the Synagogue

Shaare Zedek acknowledges with grattitude the following contributions

GENERAL FUND

IN HONOR OF

Irene Bernstein's Recovery
Stanley & Elaine Gollub
Herb Fredman's Recovery
Stanley & Elaine Gollub
Aviva Buck-Yael's Birthday
Micki Kingsley
Peggy Nehmen's Birthday
Micki Kingsley
Nancy Raskas' Birthday
Micki Kingsley
Rhiannon West's Birthday
Micki Kingsley
Sima Needleman's Birthday
Micki Kingsley
Ariel Miller's Bat Mitzvah
Hanley & Florence Cohn
The 60th Anniversary of Erwin & Adell Alpern
Vivian Kranzberg
Rabbi Menachem H. Eichenstein
Cantor Yeshaiyahe Minkes BRAV Eleazar
BRAV Yakoav Gedalia
Ariel Miller's Bat Mitzvah
Sara & Marshall Myers
Merav Shamir's Marriage
Sara & Marshall Myers
Daniel Birenbaum's Marriage
Sara & Marshall Myers

IN MEMORY OF

Art Bahn
Stanley & Elaine Gollub
Gerry Goodman
Goldye Stupp

YAHRZEIT OF

Alan Grimsky
Rhoda Grimsky

SAMUEL FRANK CHESED FUND

IN HONOR OF

Julie Iken's Birthday
Ann Frank
Sherri Weintrop's 50th Birthday
Rhoda Grimsky
Micki Kingsley
Marion & Jerry Cohen
Mickey Hoffman
Sig Adler's Speedy Recovery
Rhoda Grimsky
Robert Wolf's Speedy Recovery
Ruth Jacob

IN MEMORY OF

Adolph Gelb
Sherri Weintrop
Sig & Carol Adler
Rhoda Grimsky
Jeffrey Glixman
Ruth Jacob
Art Bahn
Alan & Suzie Broddon
Julie Iken's Brother-in-law
Barbara Bianco
Ruth Jacob

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

IN HONOR OF

Rabbi Fasman's "Under 15-Minute" Sermon
Sherri Weintrop
Jerry Schwartz and Mitch Shenker leading morning minyan
Stacy Gaal
Rabbi Fasman helping Sam Prepare for his Bar Mitzvah
Donn & Beth Rubin
Rabbi Mark & Alice Fasman's Anniversary
Sima & Phil Needleman
Sherri Weintrop's Special Birthday
Sima & Phil Needleman
Lee Green's Birthday
Micki Kingsley
Rabbi Fasman's support of Sid's WWI Memories Program
Sylvia & Sid Rosen

YAHRZEIT OF

Edward Kalachek
Sylvia Silver

HAZZAN'S DISCRETIONARY FUND (MUSIC)

IN HONOR OF

Hazzan Du kin helping Sam Prepare for his Bar Mitzvah
Donn & Beth Rubin
Hazzan Du kin's Birthday
Sima & Phil Needleman
The 50th Anniversary of Garry Vickar's Bar Mitzvah
Sima & Phil Needleman

IN MEMORY OF

Sarah Feder, Beloved Grandmother
Isabel Pollack

YAHRZEIT OF

Ann Rosen, Beloved Aunt
Isabel Pollack
Ben Pollack, Beloved Father
Isabel Pollack

FAYE KEYSER SEUDAH FUND

IN HONOR OF

The Birthdays of
Ruth Levy
Isabel Pollack
Maurice Guller
Claire Halpern
Barbara Bahn
Sanford Boxerman
Gabriel Karabell
Gershon Spector
Jennifer Asher
Hannah Cooke
Sydney Farber
Jack Fasman
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Elaine Tenzer
Garry Vickar
Michael Wetmore
David Braude
Phyllis Kalmes
Peggy Nehmen

LIL & BUDDY SPETNER "SWEET MEMORIES" FUND

IN HONOR OF

Susie & Myles Tenzer's New Grandson, Samuel
Helene & Alan Spetner

Donations To the Synagogue

continued

Sylvia Silver's new granddaughter, Ella Kalachek
Helene & Alan Spetner
Amy & Chad Doughty's 3rd anniversary
Helene & Alan Spetner
Marcia Brockman's 60th Birthday
Helene & Alan Spetner

IN MEMORY OF

Mel Vines
Helene & Alan Spetner
Mel Ashkanazi
Helene & Alan Spetner
Julie Iken's brother-in-law, Harvey
Helene & Alan Spetner

I.J. ZUCKERMAN SCHOLARSHIP FUND

IN MEMORY OF

Dr. Jeri Changar
Sam Zuckerman and Cliff Wright

EARLY CHILDHOOD RENEWAL FUND

IN HONOR OF

Julie Iken's Birthday
Pat Rosen
Sydney Farber's Birthday
Pat Rosen
Pat Rosen's 70th Birthday
Mark & Rita Weinstein
Sandra Brickman's Speedy Recovery
Laura & Dennis Rainey

ANNA BORNSTEIN SCHWARTZ FUND

IN HONOR OF

Eleanor's Goldstein's Speedy Recovery
Dorothy & P'nenah Goldstein
Sylvia Schwartz's Good Health
Dorothy & P'nenah Goldstein

YAHRZEIT OF

Anna Schwartz
Leon & Sylvia Schwartz
Eleanor and Eugene Goldstein

USY

IN HONOR OF

David Braude's Bar Mitzvah
Micki Kingsley
Ariel Miller's Bat Mitzvah
Micki Kingsley

Sara Goodman Tribute Fund

Tribute Chairman **Dorris Lerner** (314) 434-3676
1997 Seven Pines Drive St. Louis, Mo 63146

The Sisterhood acknowledges with thanks the following contributions in support of our many projects.

Honors & Thank You's

Garry Vickar – in honor of 50th Anniversary of Bar Mitzvah
Dorrie & Marvin Lerner
Marion & Jerry Cohen
Micki Kingsley – for all your kindnesses throughout the year
Mitchell & Joyce Podolsky

Bar/Bat Mitzvah

Jeff & Gabrielle Miller – Bat Mitzvah of daughter, Ariel
Irene Belsky
Stan Braude & Nancy Berg – Bar Mitzvah of son, David
Jerry & Marion Cohen
Carol & Siegfried Adler – Bar Mitzvah of grandson, Zev
Dorrie & Marvin Lerner
Sharon & David Silverman
Elliot & Sue Cohen

Birthdays

Sherri Weintrop
Dorrie & Marvin Lerner
Irene Belsky
Estelle Handler
Micki Kingsley
Pat Rosen
Micki Kingsley
Betty Siegel
Micki Kingsley
Carol Adler
Micki Kingsley
Mollie Stone
Dorrie & Marvin Lerner
Marilyn Kunitz
Micki Kingsley
Julia Lieberman
Micki Kingsley
Seymour Raiffie
Micki Kingsley
Harvey Small
Micki Kingsley

Recovery

Sherri Weintrop
Irene Belsky
Ruth Ehrlich
Mildred Koshner
Ruth Ehrlich
Arleen Kerman
Micki Kingsley
Carol Adler
Laurie Raffelson & Family
Melissa Dubinsky & Family

In Memory

Steve & Carol Glixman – son, Jeffrey
Irene Belsky
Esther Gelb – husband
Irene Belsky
Dr. Les Goldman – mother
Irene Belsky
Sklar Family – Richard
Irene & Gary Belsky
Harry Freistein – wife
Irene Belsky
Zendra Ashkanazi – husband, Mel
Dorrie & Marvin Lerner
Sydney Farber – uncle, Adolph Gelb
Micki Kingsley
Phyllis Patton – brother, Ed Blalock
Micki Kingsley

Yahrzeits

Barbara Becker
Gedalia Kopperman

Viola Beckerman
Etta Hoffman

Irving Cassel
Bertha Cassel

Ruth Ehrlich
Jack Ehrlich
Maurice Weisman

Hilton & Carolyn Epstein
Leah Epstein

Ed Fitter
Rose Weinstein Fitter

Lois Fitter
Sylvia C. Levin

Dorit Galor
Gussie Lander

Mildred Hoffman (Mickey)
Genevieve Stitzer
Hyman Hoffman

Maxine & Murray Kalina
Thelma Sandler

Byron Katcher
Rae Katcher

Jerry & Joan Kaskowitz
Edna Kaskowitz
Louis Kaskowitz
Morris Kofsky

Norman Lefton
Sarah Lefton

Beverly Leve
Rubin Leve

Gerald Margolies
William Baren

Hidla Markowitz
Mildred Fenster

Rachel Miller
Maurice B. Kranzberg

Sima Needleman
Sadie Kolman

Frances R. Olian
Irvine H. Olian

Larry Perlmutter
George Perlmutter

Nancy Pollack
Jack Wormser

Pat Rosen
Jack Brangle

Marvin Rothman
Goldie Rothman

Donn & Beth Rubin
Irvin Rubin
Samuel Rubin

Isabelle Schultz
Rose Balk

Cecile Spiegelman
Esther Neumann

Mollie Stone
Eva Stone

Phyllis Warner
Gilbert Warner

Esther Zuckerman
Leah Epstein

CASTING CALL

ALL Kosher Hams ages 10-110 are to report to the shul to be in the annual fabulous Shaare Zedek Purimspiel, performed on **Wednesday night, February 24, 2010!**

An original, brief, and hilarious show, written by our Hazzan, based on (but not entirely faithful to)...

The Wizard of Oz

There will be only a few rehearsals, and the first one will be **SUNDAY NIGHT, February 7th.**

If you are unable to attend either audition but would like to be involved, please contact Hazzan Dulkin at Hazzan@shaarezedek.org.

Condolences

The family of ***Melvin Ashkanazi*** who passed away on December 5th. Husband of Zendra Ashkanazi, father of Shelah Feldman and grandfather of Naomi, Gabriel, Meir and Shayna Feldman.

David Iken Memorial Fund

IN HONOR OF

Birthdays of Joe & Julia Iken
Micki Kingsley
Complete recovery of Herbert Fredman
Martin & Barbara Becker
Julia Iken's birthday
Sidney & Sylvia Rosen
Martin & Barbara Becker's anniversary
Sidney & Sylvia Rosen
Rabbi Mark & Alice Fasman's anniversary
Sidney & Sylvia Rosen
Hannah Cooke's Bat Mitzvah
Martin & Barbara Becker
Ariel Miller's Bat Mitzvah
Martin & Barbara Becker
Jerry & Marion Cohen
Recovery of Morris Rotskoff
Martin & Barbara Becker

IN MEMORY OF

Ruth Enger
Sylvia Covitz
Jeanette Freistein
Sylvia Covitz
Joe & Julia Iken's brother in law
Sylvia Covitz

Please contact **Frances Oppenheim 314-721-0026 if** you would like to honor someone by making a donation to the David Iken Memorial Fund.

PLEASE ATTEND A MINYAN AND BE COUNTED

We have daily minyanim, 7am & 6pm, 8am on Sundays, 9am on Saturdays.

Choose a time that is convenient for you. Become a regular. You will appreciate it. We will apreciate it.

Those saying Kaddish for a loved one will appreciate it even more!

Shaare Zedek Synagogue
829 N. Hanley Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63130

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Shaare Zedek Calendar January 2010 Tevet/Sh'vat 5770

Fri Jan 1, 2010
Minyan 7am & 6 pm
4:32pm Candle lighting
6pm Shabbat Rinah

Sat Jan 2, 2010
Parashat Vayechi
9am Shabbat Service
11am Tot Shabbat
4pm Mincha
5:34pm_Shab ends

Sun Jan 3, 2010
8am Minyan 6 pm

Mon Jan 4, 2010
Minyan 7am & 6 pm
9:45am Rabbi Fasman Class
6:45pm Ritual Niggunim
7pm Ritual Comm.

Tue Jan 5, 2010
Minyan 7am & 6 pm
8am Herb Fredman Class

Wed Jan 6, 2010
Minyan 7am & 6 pm
7pm USY Lounge Night

Thu Jan 7, 2010
Minyan 7am & 6 pm

Fri Jan 8, 2010
Ruach Am'Cha Kickoff
Minyan 7am & 6 pm
10:30am Shabbat is Here Class
4:38pm Candle lighting
6pm Rinah Band

Sat Jan 9, 2010
Parashat Shemot
9am Shabbat Service
9:30am Shabbat Morning Chanting and Meditation
10:45am Family Service
12pm Ruach Am'cha Zmirot
4:05pm Mincha
4:30pm Havdalah Drum Circle
5:40pm_Shab ends

Sun Jan 10, 2010
8am Minyan 6 pm
10am Sisterhood Mtng
10:15am Sisterhood Niggun
11:30am Intergen Choir Rehearsal
2pm – 5pm ECC music together

Mon Jan 11, 2010
Minyan 7am & 6 pm
9:45am Rabbi Fasman Class

Tue Jan 12, 2010
Minyan 7am & 6 pm
8am Herb Fredman Class
11:30am – 1pm JCRC Meeting

Wed Jan 13, 2010
Minyan 7am & 6 pm

Thu Jan 14, 2010
Minyan 7am & 6 pm
7pm Exec Board

Fri Jan 15, 2010
Minyan 7am & 6 pm
10:30am Shabbat is Here Class
4:45pm Candle lighting
6pm Rinah Band

Sat Jan 16, 2010
Parashat Vaera
Rosh Chodesh Sh'vat
B/M Simon Handmaker
9am Shabbat Service
10am – 11am Rabbi Dulkin's Class
10:45am –Noar Parsha Players
11am Tot Shabbat
4:10pm Mincha
5:47pm _Shab ends
6pm USY Winter Wonderland

Sun Jan 17, 2010
8am Minyan 6 pm
9:30am Men's Club
7pm DorWays Young Adults @ Schlafly Brewry

Mon Jan 18, 2010
Minyan 7am & 6 pm
9:45am Rabbi Fasman Class

Tue Jan 19, 2010
Minyan 7am & 6 pm
8am Herb Fredman Class

Wed Jan 20, 2010
Minyan 7am & 6 pm
7pm USY Lounge Night

Thu Jan 21, 2010
Minyan 7am & 6 pm

Fri Jan 22
Minyan 7am & 6 pm
10:30am Shabbat is Here Class
4:53pm – Candle lighting
6pm Rinah Band

Sat Jan 23, 2010
Parashat Bo
B/M Noah Engel
9am Shabbat Service
10:45am Family Service
4:20pm Mincha
5:55pm_Shab ends

Sun Jan 24, 2010
8am Minyan 6 pm
11:30am Intergen Choir Rehearsal
6:30pm Sports Dinner/Men's Club

Mon Jan 25, 2010
Minyan 7am & 6 pm
9:45am Rabbi Fasman Class

Tue Jan 26, 2010
Minyan 7am & 6 pm
8am Herb Fredman Class
7:15pm Class - Jewish Space

Wed Jan 27, 2010
Minyan 7am & 6 pm

Thu Jan 28, 2010
Minyan 7am & 6 pm
7pm Board Meeting

Fri Jan 29, 2010
Minyan 7am & 6 pm
5:01pm Candle lighting
6pm Shabbat Rinah Service

Sat Jan 30, 2010
Parashat Beshalach
Tu B'Shvat
Sisterhood Shabbat
9amShabbat Service
10:45am Youth Lounge
4:25pm Mincha
6:03pm_Shab ends

Sun Jan 31, 2010
8am Minyan 6 pm
11:30am Intergen Choir Rehearsal

We hope you enjoy this new format that allows us to provide you with more complete information.

Visit the Shaare Zedek website for the traditional interactive calendar with the latest additions and corrections. www.ShaareZedek.org