

HORIZONS

Congregation Or Shalom

835 Darby-Paoli Road 610•644•9086
Berwyn, PA 19312 www.OrShalom.com



March
I Adar 5784 —
II Adar, 5784



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UPCOMING EVENTS

**3/10 Daylight Saving-
Time Begins**

**3/19 Pack up Mishloach
Manot bags for Purim**

3/24 Purim @ 7 pm

3/29 Office Closed

**April 20 Sisterhood
Shabbat Service**

April 23 Seder Meal

**April 28 Passover
Pizza Family Dinner @5
pm**



Horizons is published monthly. Material submitted for publication may be edited for style, length and content.

Please contact the office to report any errors or omissions. Thank you.

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Congregation Or Shalom Executive Committee

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Auxiliary & Community Groups

Sisterhood: Mindy Bernstein
Men's Club: Scott Markovitz
Social Action: Gina Arlen
Education Chair:
Ritual Committee: David Keet

Advertising rates

Advertising contracts are arranged through the Temple office. All advertising is due the first of the month for next month's edition of Horizons. We accept ads with a check made out to Congregation Or Shalom and the ad copy sent at the same time.

Size	11 issues	Per issue
Full Page	\$1000	\$110
1/2 page	\$750	\$80
1/4 page	\$500	\$60
1/8 page	\$250	\$35

Do you know Unaffiliated Jews in Chester County, Montgomery County and Delaware County?

Do you have Jewish friends or acquaintances who live in Chester County, Montgomery County and Delaware County who are not already members of a synagogue? If you do, why not invite them to one of the upcoming events at Or Shalom. They may have a good time and decide to come back. They may have such a good time that they decide to become members themselves. According to a recent survey by the Jewish Federation, there are many, many unaffiliated Jews in Chester county. We'd love to contact them, but don't know who they are. You can help.

Todah rabah!

Amazon has cancelled the SMILE program so we no longer benefit from this. If you are an Amazon customer, please let them know how you feel!

WE NOW ACCEPT PAYMENT BY VENMO
@Congregation-OrShalom

Celebrate with Or Shalom

To put your announcement in next week's, please contact the office via email or phone with your message, photo, and \$36 per announcement. We also now accept payment by Venmo to @Congregation-OrShalom for your donations.





The President's Column

Prayers for the most valued and respected mother-in-law

As always ... the content of this article is based on my thoughts and not those of the Or Shalom (Board, Rabbi, and Congregation)

I hope you all are doing well and enjoying this unseasonably warm weather. I know the scientist do not like global warming, but I am loving it. If all goes well, I will not have to move to Florida to retire ... Florida will move to me. I do not think I will live long enough to see Florida weather in Pennsylvania, but Virginia weather would be nice. The only downside is that I would have to travel north to continue my Maple Syrup hobby.

I had a topic in mind when I sat down to write this article, but just received some bad news. Unfortunately, my mother-in-law, Elcira Maduro, is not doing well. For those of you that have met her I am sure you will agree that she is a wonderful lady. I have always said that I hit the mother-in-law lottery. She is a great mother to her two daughters, an outstanding grandmother to my kids, and from what I hear she was a loving wife to my late father-in-law. Even though her English was better than my Spanish we never had trouble communicating. I am really going to miss her and her level headed advice and support. I am fortunate to have spent time with her and she has enriched my life along with many others. I truly believe there is a world to come because Rita and her mother deserve to spend eternity together.

I am going to keep this article short, but I hope to see you all at Purim and the Passover Seder.

In G-d we trust,
Andy



Rabbi's Reflections

This year we experience not only a secular leap year but a Jewish leap year! We are blessed with an extra day in February and an extra month of Adar, the month of joy! Because we have two months of Adar some argue that we should be doubly joyful or that we bring more joy into the world because we are obligated to be joyful for a longer period of time than a "normal" year. In any case, the month of Adar is intimately connected with joy.

There are two pieces of text which emphasize the joy in Adar:

The month that was reversed for them from grief to joy. -Esther 9:22

When the month of Adar enters, we increase in joy. -Talmud, Taanit 29a

The very holiday we celebrate in Adar highlights how we turn from sadness to joy, the holiday of Purim. And because we have two months of Adar we actually celebrate two Purims: Purim in Adar II but the month before in Adar I we celebrate Purim Katan. We are provided with twice the opportunity to celebrate the survival of the Jewish people in Persia because of Queen Esther's bravery and honesty.

Abbi Naftali Silberberg highlights the beautiful connection between the human condition, sadness, joy, and connection with G-d, all through the lens of Purim:

"The history of our nation is very much compared to the human lifespan. Through the course of a lifetime every person undergoes drastic changes; fluctuation being the most consistent feature of life. The helpless newborn has virtually nothing in common with the independent, talented personality which will emerge years down the line. Adulthood, too, has ups and downs, happy days and depressing days, fulfilling days and seemingly wasted days. There is, however, one constant: the very identity and essence of the person. John Doe remains John Doe from the day he is born until the day he dies.

The same is true with our nation. We have ups and downs, both spiritually and materially, but our very identity, the fact that we are G-d's chosen nation, is never affected.

It can actually be argued that, in a certain sense, our perpetual relationship with G-d is more evident when we are exiled and downtrodden due to our sins, and G-d still interferes on our behalf, as was demonstrated by the Purim miracle. This phenomenon demonstrates the durability of our relationship; the ability of our essential identity to survive no matter our external state.

All other holidays celebrate the "highs" of our nation. And therefore their joy is limited, because highs don't last. Purim celebrates a time when we were at a low point in our history – but our relationship with G-d remained intact. Its joy is therefore greater than the joy of any other holiday, because it demonstrates the essential nature of our relationship with G-d — and that is a constant."

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

Rabbi's Reflections

Page 2

When we have a special year, such as this year, and we have the extra month of Adar, are we to celebrate both Purims with the same intensity, the same level of joy? No, we are meant to slowly turn our joy up as we move through the two months of Adar. The Shulchan Aruch (a code of Jewish laws) states: “mark Purim Katan with a small, festive meal such as a special lunch, and generally (to) increase one's joy as well.” This slow amplification of joy over two months allows us the ability to really check in and connect with our own personal joy. We can use this added time to not only bring joy to our community and family but to ourselves as well. Having more time to focus on joy means we can notice both, what brings about ours and others joy but also the aftereffects of that joy. And this is a beautiful gift, to see how we can bring more joy into the world, to see how joy affects our lives, the lives of others and our connection with G-d.

I wish you an even more joyous month of Adar III!

MARCH Yahrzeits

March 1, Adar-1 21, 5784

Michael Woliner, cousin of David Walker

March 7, Adar-1 27, 5784

Rosalyn Gelb Meyer, mother of Steve Meyer



CONTRIBUTIONS

*Congregation Or Shalom gratefully acknowledges the following
generous contributions in the month of **January 2024***

Cards and Miscellaneous Contributions

Gina Arlen: Memory of Nathalie Stern
Warren & Elizabeth Hyams: Memory of Nathalie Stern
Scott & Mindy Markovitz: Memory Nell Stern
Harris & Julie Miller: Memory of Nathalie Stern
Kenneth & Debbie Paul: Memory of Nathalie Stern
Alan & Susan Weiss: In Memory of Nathalie Stern

Yahrzeit Donations

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Harris & Julie Miller: Memory of Leonard Lafair
Jo Ann Weiss: Memory of Blanche & Marvin Wahl (parents)

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Jo Ann Weiss: In honor of rabbi's birth of twin boys

General Fund

David & Andrea Allon: Donation
David L. McCreary: Happy New Year
Vivian & Barry Morrow: Memory of Ada Hyams
Vivian & Barry Morrow: Memory of Nathalie Stern

RITUAL COMMITTEE

Our search for a replacement for Rabbi Kami is going well.

We have contacted many organizations to find a new leader, including the Rabbinic Assembly, Reconstructing Judaism, the Academy for Jewish Religion (both east coast and west coast), the Central Conference of American Rabbis, and the Hebrew College.

The organization that has been most productive so far has been the Cantors Assembly. What, you ask? Why did we approach the Cantors Assembly? Well, the ritual committee felt that we should pursue every avenue and that we could be well served by a cantor who has a great singing voice, a friendly presence and a strong knowledge of Judaism. This was approved by our Board and the Ritual Committee.

For a few weeks, the search team has been interviewing all the candidates that have applied and has been forming first impressions. Some have been very good. Personally, my expectations have been exceeded. I thought that we would have a hard time attracting good candidates, but despite all our limitations (size, finances, age of congregation), Or Shalom presents very well. Also, it helps that we do have the pull of a great city like Philadelphia.

Of course, the search committee can only recommend a candidate. The actual choice will be made by the Board of Executives and then by a congregational vote.

The latest update is that we have invited one of the candidates to spend a Shabbat with us and he has agreed. Cantor Stephen Freedman will be spending the Shabbat of **March 15 and 16 at Or Shalom**. We will want this Shabbat to be very special. **SO I INVITE/IMPLORE YOU TO ATTEND, IN PERSON, ONE OR BOTH OF THE SHABBAT SERVICES**. We really need to show the best side of Or Shalom. We will have a nice kiddush after the service on Friday evening and will serve lunch after the service on Saturday morning. This will give you an opportunity to talk to Cantor Freedman and get to know him

Please watch for more information about the Shabbat of March 15 and 16 in your email in-box.

Best wishes,

Joel Stern, Janet Hurwitz, Brenda Belkin, and David Keet
The Search Committee



Mishloach Manot/Purim Events 2024

It is almost Purim, a time for costumes, graggers and Mishloach Manot!

One bag of "goodies" will be prepared for each family at Or Shalom and will include groggers.
A contribution of \$200 will list you as a sponsor for every member of the Congregation.
If you wish to sponsor only a few families, the prices are listed below.
If you wish to purchase a package for **someone who is not a member**, the cost is \$5.50 each.

Saturday, March 23

7 PM Dessert! Ice cream sundaes

7:58 PM Havdalah, followed by Purim Service

Wear your costume!

**Please pick up your Mishloach Manot bag on
March 20 – 22 during office hours or the Saturday Purim Service**

DEADLINE FOR RESPONSE IS March 8, 2024

Please complete this section and mail your check, made out to Or Shalom Sisterhood, to
Or Shalom, 835 Darby-Paoli Road, Berwyn PA 19312 or pay by venmo @Congregation-Or Shalom

Sender's Name _____
Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

List the Or Shalom Members to whom you wish to send gifts – use the back of this page if you need more space. Or, **write All**.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

_____ member recipients	@\$4 each or 3 for \$10.00	\$ _____
_____ Nonmember recipients	@ \$5.50 each	\$ _____
_____ All Congregants	@ \$200	\$ _____

Total Enclosed (check payable to Or Shalom Sisterhood) \$ _____



**Join the Sisterhood as they pack up Mishloach Manot bags
@10:30 March 19, 2024**

PURIM

**Saturday Evening
March 23, 2024**

**7 PM Dessert — Ice cream sundaes
7:58 Havdalah, followed by Purim Services**

Wear your costume!

**Please pick up your Mishloach Manot bag on March 20—22
During office hours or at the Saturday Purim Services**

Readers Still Needed — Please contact Rabbi Kami



Adult Ed Second Semester: 2024

Mondays: 12-1pm

3/11

3/25

4/1

4/15

5/6 instead of 4/29

5/13

Understanding Torah through the teachings of
Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks z"l

SOCIAL ACTION NEWS



Last one to
repair the world is a
Rotten Hamantaschen!

A note from your friendly neighborhood social action chair

I didn't speak up at the December 17 meeting, but that doesn't mean I wasn't listening closely. In addition to the other items we talked about, participation in social action projects has fallen off significantly. (I think I might be a committee of one at this point.)

Here's a list of projects we've done in the past that have fallen by the wayside:

- Mitzvah Minstrels
- Holiday Basket Delivery
- Coat Drive
- Working Women's Wardrobe
- Holiday Toy Drives
- Blood Drive
- Mitzvah Day

If anyone is willing to help me re-launch one of these projects, please email me at migi4@verizon.net. Thanks!

Mitzvah Circle

Mitzvah Circle supports individuals and families experiencing poverty, homelessness, and serious illness. They serve those walking along life's edge by providing individualized material support.

Please consider volunteering or making a monetary donation:
<https://mitzvahcircle.org>

Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS)

This organization provides refuge for oppressed individuals/families around the world. Services may include trauma counseling, legal advice, humanitarian assistance, resettlement, immigrant integration, and citizenship programs. To learn more, visit <http://www.hias.org>



SISTERHOOD NEWS

Thank you very much to the Meyers for hosting the February Game Night! Would you like to host one in March?

Purim is around the corner. Join us in packing up the mishloach manot bags on Tuesday, March 19 at 10:30. Afterwards, we will do some spring cleaning in the kitchen. We appreciate all the help Julie and I can get to get the kitchen sparkling. The clean up now will help a lot to prepare for the Passover clean up next month.

Our annual Sisterhood Shabbat will be on April 20. Please mark your calendars so you can attend in person if possible. Check your email for more information and a link to sign up to participate in the service. We would love to see all women participate and we need helpers to prepare/clean up after the lunch.

Thank you, and don't forget to let me know if you can host a Game Night!

Mindy Bernstein,
Sisterhood President

Sisterhood Calendar of Events

March 19 Tuesday, 10:30-11:30 AM Pack up Mishloach Manot bags for Purim and Kitchen clean up

March Game Night TBD!!

April 20 Saturday Sisterhood Shabbat Service

April 28 Sunday, 5 PM Passover Pizza Family Dinner in Social Hall

May 16 Thursday, 6 PM Closing Dinner

ODDS & ENDS

Donations

We would like to thank those who have donated books and other items to the synagogue. Unfortunately, just like you, we have no space to accept most of the books and other items that have been donated unsolicited. Please contact the synagogue office before you drive over to drop off items. If we can use the items, we will welcome them and provide a tax letter receipt but if we just have no room for the items you want to donate, please consider another worthy cause for your donation.

The Conservative Movement just issued their guide for Passover: <https://www.rabbinicalassembly.org/sites/default/files/2024-02/Pesah-Guide-5784.pdf>

Anyone who wants further guidance on the halacha/ Jewish law of Passover.



We sadly share the news that Dorothy Bodner Harris mother of Liz Hyams, mother-in-law of Warren Hyams, and grandmother of Hannah, Sara, and Jack Hyams passed away on Saturday, February 24, 16 Adar 1, 5784, at the age of 98.

Or Shalom Donation Form

I would like to help support Or Shalom. I have specified each donation and I have included one check for the total amount payable to Or Shalom. Please send all donations to: Congregation Or Shalom, 835 Darby Paoli Road, Berwyn PA 19312

We also now accept payment by Venmo to @Congregation-OrShalom for your donations

Name _____	Name _____
Address _____	Address _____
Fund # _____ Amount \$ _____ Phone # _____	Fund # _____ Amount \$ _____ Phone # _____
Made in memory of _____	Made in memory of _____
Made in honor of _____	Made in honor of _____
Speedy Recovery _____	Speedy Recovery _____
Send acknowledgment to (include address) _____	Send acknowledgment to (include address) _____
_____	_____

Definition of Funds

1. Building Fund: Donations are used for the continuous upkeep of our building. These funds help offset unexpected expenses such as A/C, Heater, roof repair and any emergency repairs to our facility.

2. Beautification Fund: Donations are used for the upkeep of our grounds. Trees, plants, mulch, etc.

3. Biblical Garden Fund: Donations are used to maintain and support our biblical garden.

4. General Fund: All monies donated to this fund will supplement the current year's budget.

5. Hebrew School: Funds are used for the needs of the Religious School. Examples: Bulletin boards, books and school supplies, etc.

6. Rabbi's Discretionary Fund: The Rabbi uses these funds for charitable purpose. Donations to this fund can be made directly to the synagogue office.

7. Social Action: Donations will be used for all social action events and programs. Any questions to this fund should be addressed to Gina Arlen at migi4@verizon.net.

8. Tree of Life: A leaf can be purchased to honor or commemorate any important life event. The cost of a leaf is \$180.00 which will be displayed in our foyer. For more information please contact office at 610-644-9086

9. Yahrzeit Plaque: Two plaques can be purchased for \$360.00. The first would be a permanent plaque on the back wall of the sanctuary. The second plaque would be placed during the week of the Yahrzeit on the memorial wall in the front of the sanctuary. Additional information will be requested when purchasing a plaque. Please contact Ellen Gross at Ellenagross@gmail.com for more information.

10. Oneg: Celebrate With Or Shalom: A weekly (Friday) email where you can announce your birthday, wedding, anniversary, or Yahrzeit to your friends at Or Shalom. Include a photo if you like. \$36 per message. We also now accept payment by Venmo to @Congregation-OrShalom for your donations.

11. Siddur Lev Shalem Visit our web site to learn how to donate. \$50 each or 12 for \$500

MARCH CALENDAR

SUN 25	MON 26	TUE 27	WED 28	THU 29	FRI Mar 1	SAT 2
16th of Adar I	Cancelled Edu 17th of Adar I	18th of Adar I	19th of Adar I	20th of Adar I	21st of Adar I First Day of Wc 2 more	22nd of Adar I Parashat Ki Tis 2 more
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
23rd of Adar I	24th of Adar I	25th of Adar I ● 1pm Office Cl	26th of Adar I	27th of Adar I	28th of Adar I ⌚ 5:43pm Cand ● 7:30pm Shab	29th of Adar I Mevarchim Ch 4 more
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
30th of Adar I Daylight Savi Rosh Chodesh	1st of Adar II, t Rosh Chodesh 2 more	Aqua Backflow 2nd of Adar II	3rd of Adar II ● 12pm Office c	4th of Adar II	5th of Adar II ⌚ 6:51pm Cand ● 7:30pm Shab	6th of Adar II Parashat Peku 2 more
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
7th of Adar II St. Patrick's Da	8th of Adar II	9th of Adar II ● 10:30am Pac ● 7:30pm Board	10th of Adar II	11th of Adar II Ta'anit Esther	12th of Adar II ⌚ 6:58pm Cand ● 7:30pm Shab	Purim w/Megil 13th of Adar II 5 more
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
14th of Adar II Purim	15th of Adar II Shushan Purim 2 more	16th of Adar II	17th of Adar II	18th of Adar II	Office Closed 19th of Adar II 2 more	20th of Adar II Shabbat Parah 3 more
31	Apr 1	2	3	4	5	6
21st of Adar II Easter Sunday	22nd of Adar II Easter Monday ● 12pm Adult E	23rd of Adar II ● 7:30pm Ritua	24th of Adar II	25th of Adar II	26th of Adar II ⌚ 7:12pm Cand ● 7:30pm Shab	27th of Adar II Mevarchim Ch 4 more

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CAMBRIDGE SCHOOL AGE PROGRAMS

DEAR PARENTS,

We understand that there is a lot of uncertainty surrounding the start of the school year. Whatever your School Age needs might be, Cambridge is here to provide them. Before School care, After School care, half day Kindergarten Enrichment, or part time/full time Remote Learning through our new CAMBRIDGE ACADEMY, you focus on everything else and leave the remote learning, program oversight, and homework supervision to us!

OPTION ONE: School is open full time, 5 days a week. Cambridge is here for Before and After care and Kindergarten Enrichment for children K - 5.

OPTION TWO: Children K - 5 attend school 2/3 days per week and have Remote Learning 2/3 days per week. Cambridge is here to support your child during Remote Learning. Your child brings their laptop or tablet with them and our Cambridge Academy remote learning program does the rest. We link our program to your school's remote learning program with certified staff for check in and supervision, required meetings and completion of assignments. We provide a safe, controlled environment with a structured program that includes 2 snacks, lunch, outside PT time and Homework monitoring every day. You can rest assured that your child is complying with all the requirements for remote learning in your school district and that Cambridge will guide your child through remote learning, providing the support they need to succeed!

OPTION THREE: Full time Remote Learning for children K - 5. If you choose to have your child attend your school district's virtual learning program remotely, full time, he or she may come to Cambridge for our Cambridge Academy program every day. Just like Option Two, our certified staff will ensure that your child is following all of the guide lines for Remote Learning provided by your school district and, in a safe environment, our talented teachers provide the support your children need to succeed!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT US:

schoolage@thecambridgeschools.com

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The Cambridge Academy

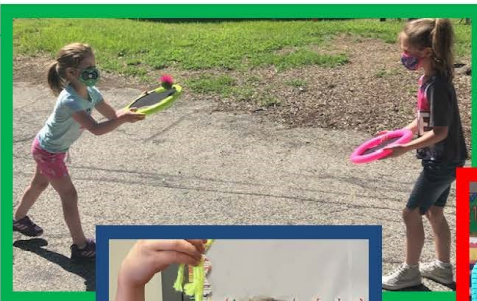
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