

Dear Shir Chadash Family and Friends,
Welcome to letter #24

An American general, Lucian Truscott, observed upon his first exposure to battle in North Africa, "no matter how large the force engaged, every battle is made of small actions by individuals and small units."

What does this have to do with Shir Chadash? I'm thinking about our membership and its growth. We grow one family at a time. It is a process of nurturing one relationship at a time. Introduce a friend to Shir Chadash. AND you can bring them to our FIRST ANNUAL GAME NIGHT (see below).

This week we welcome TWO NEW FAMILIES as members: Bill & Eleanor Marr and Peter & Beth Brofman.

They join: Rochelle & Dave Bellach, Judi Arner Brown, Stacie & Dave Wogalter, Roberta Wiener and Jeffrey & Linda Ricker, as new Shir Chadash families this year.

EVENTS and so on:

1. We still need PURIM PLAYERS!!!
2. Do you sing doo-wop? I guarantee that you will have a blast singing Frankie Valli tunes with the Shir Chadash Purim Players. The first rehearsal is this coming Tuesday Feb 10th at 6:30pm at the church. Change your schedule so you can do it. This really is a UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY.
3. WHAT other synagogue has a Rabbi/lyricist/comedian with a yen for puns and social commentary??? WE ARE SO LUCKY!
4. But we're running out of time. Call our director Mana Watsky at 452-4089 to sign-up.
5. Friday, Feb 6th (TODAY) at 7:30 - Shabbat evening services.
6. Rabbi Polish will talk about the current tension with the Vatican. Two months ago he was speaking with the Pope. This week he is disturbed by him. Come hear why.
7. Saturday, Feb 7th at 9am, Sharing Shabbat. Torah Study with Rabbi Polish, OUR WONDERFUL SCHOOL for the kids (pls read the Cantor's note in this month's newsletter), Services at 10:45 with the Junior Choir, Torah reading and Diane Light-Spiro commenting on the Torah portion, and bagels for all.
8. ABOUT TORAH STUDY... EVEN IF YOU THINK "I'm not good at this"... you would be surprised. We have about 25 people around the table with backgrounds from A to Z. They all learn something. Most contribute as well. All have

fun.

9. Saturday, Feb 7th at 6pm, **GAME NIGHT**. Where? At the Rothman's (6 Tower Rd., Hopewell Junction). Why? An informal way to introduce new folks to our Shir Chadash family. Games? Well we have a pool table and I understand that many other games will be available.
 10. Bring an appetizer or dessert to share... but call if you can come 223-5925.
 11. Sign-up for our Jewish History Series - to start on Tuesday 2/17 at 7:30
 12. The first lecture is titled, "History of the Jews: the First 5768 Years"
3. _Jeff Lash will answer many of the questions you may have about our people:
- How do we know that the Creation happened 5769 years ago?
 - How many dinosaurs were on the Ark?
 - When did Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah live?
 - When did we live in exile in Babylonia? By the way, where the heck IS Babylonia???
 - When was the modern state of Israel born?
- No homework or tests will be given, but we'd like to know who'll be attending, so please phone Jeff @ 227-4650 or e-mail jlash10136@aol.com. This is the first of 4 classes on Jewish History. Topics for the following 3 lectures will be announced shortly.
1. About cooking and serving dinner for 60 homeless people on Feb. 26th :
 2. I think we may have enough people: the Turner's, the

Feuer's, the Kaswer's, the Wogalter's, the Liebler-Levitan's, the Peter's... I think that's it. If your name is not on this list, let me know. I'll get people together to organize the cooking and serving. Thanks.

3. Adult Hebrew Class is continuing on Wednesday nights at 6:30. This is a very successful endeavor. If you want to jump-in and learn some Hebrew, you still gotta chance.
4. UPCOMING PROGRAM - Thursday, Feb 12th 5:30pm at Sanders Auditorium at Vassar College... "Songs of the Lord in Strange Lands: Sacred Music and the Faces of Contemporary Jewish Spirituality," will be the topic of a musically illustrated lecture by Haifa University professor J. H. Chajes, who will be accompanied by his daughter violinist Levana Chajes. This is the annual Dr. Maurice Sitomer Lecture, free and open to the public.

SO, IF YOU HAVE READ THIS FAR AND AREN'T A MEMBER YET... WHY AREN'T YOU?

YOU SHOULD BE. YOU CARE ENUF. I know times are hard. That means that it's harder for us together to continue. We have the soul. We have the energy. We need some bucks.

Shabbat Shalom,
Michael