

Dear Shir Chadash Family and Friends,  
Welcome to letter #38

A THANK YOU FROM THE MITZVAH DAY COORDINATOR, the director of Jewish Family Services of Dutchess County, Linda Tafapolsky...

"Lindsey Turner and his enterprising band of "Fixer Uppers" deserve special recognition for their contributions in finding a deserving family whose house required extensive repair. This team poured more than 60 hours of labor -- much of it skilled contracting expertise -- into helping this family."

THANKS ARE DESERVED AS WELL TO THE FAMILIES THAT HELPED OUT AT GRACE SMITH HOUSE.

EVENTS and so on:

1. Today, Friday, May 8th at 7:30pm - Shabbat Services
2. Wednesday May 13th at 6:30pm - Adult Hebrew Class continues...
3. Friday May 15th - Shabbat Services
3. Saturday May 16th, the last Sharing Shabbat of the year. Friday night services will continue until June 26th. ALL YOU HEBREW STUDENTS... NOTE that Bernadette Condesso will present the d'var Torah.
4. May 20 at 7:30 - "Remembering the Shoah" - if you missed it the first time, you have a 2nd chance to hear Ed Ginsberg's moving talk and see his photos of his and Deanna's trip to visit many of the sites of the holocaust - THIS is a joint program with FPPC.
5. May 31st Before the Summer "slacker" season: come to the Rothman's home for a brunch and showing of the DVD A Sacred Duty: Using Jewish Values to Heal the World. It is well worth watching and gives us much to think about and discuss. No charge and you don't have to bring anything, but we would like a count. (pls reply to this e-mail so we know how many folks to expect) Time is 11 AM - 1 PM.
6. Sunday, June 7th, Our Annual Meeting... members received an e-mail packet yesterday.

Location is still to be announced. Note that the vote on the URJ will be postponed until the Annual Meeting (see the packet for details).

7. Saturday, June 13th, OUR SPRING CONCERT,

We WILL have internationally-known folk singer and human rights activist Peter Yarrow, of "Peter, Paul and Mary".

General admission will be only \$25.

Preferred seating and post-concert reception with Peter, \$100.

It is not too early to reserve a seat.

AND there is a form for selling ads. If every member (AND NON-MEMBER) bought just ONE ad it would make a big difference. Is anybody there? Please sell an ad or buy an ad... especially if you are non-members.

BY THE WAY, if you've been thinking about joining Shir Chadash, about raising your hand to be counted as a supporter of this community, please do so now. Our year ends at the end of June, which means that a new fresh, unspoiled year begins on July 1st.

<http://www.shir-chadash.org/pdf/Pledge%20Form%202008-2009.pdf>

JOIN Now at 2008-2009 rates before we raise them!

Are we going to raise them? Who knows, but you could still join now.

In effect, you get 14 months for the price of 12.

And it is so easy to spread out payments over 12 months with our autopay option.

I would love to have our TENTH NEW FAMILY of the year.

A minyan?

BUT no kidding. We need YOU for our community to be sustained.

AND, you need us.

AND EVENTS ELSEWHERE...

> Thursday May 21st at 7pm, at Congregation Schomre Israel, 18 Park Avenue, Poughkeepsie, The Secret Language of Jewish Art - An illustrated exploration with Marc Michael Epstein, Vassar College Professor of Religion & Director of Jewish Studies

> SOCIAL ACTION PROJECT WITH FPPC - We will be helping with an annual event that FPPC runs... a drive to collect and distribute school supplies for poor families in the City of Poughkeepsie and environs. Given the financial hardships many families are undergoing

they are often forced to make a choice between preparing their children for

a successful school year or putting food on the table or paying a utility

bill. We believe that this is where our gifts will make a difference and help a child succeed in School. The drive is in August, but preparations are starting soon. More about this later.

AND TO BE AWARE OF:

> Health and Human services checklist here:

<http://www.pandemicflu.gov/plan/pdf/faithbasedcommunitychecklist.pdf>

Be prepared to have 2 weeks food and water.. a good idea for any emergency situation.

AND, my friends, seriously -- no more hugs, kisses and/or handshakes until this is over...

Shabbat Shalom,  
Michael