

Dear Shir Chadash Family and Friends,
Welcome to letter #43

So many worries... but we really did it.
We had Peter Yarrow here.

AND I HAVE SOME INCREDIBLE VIDEO WHICH I PROMISE I WILL POST TO OUR WEBSITE.

A SPECIAL EVENT IS COMING UP ON THURSDAY... please read and think about attending. They are supposed to be great, for young and old and teenagers...the Israel Scouts, are coming. The ten 16- and 17-year-olds will give a concert on Thursday, June 18 at 7:30 p.m. at Temple Beth-El, 118 Grand Avenue, Poughkeepsie. The program is co-sponsored by Vassar Temple, Congregation Shir Chadash, Temple Beth-El and the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County. Tickets for the concert cost \$10 per adult and \$5 per child (age 5-12) if purchased in advance. Children under 5 are free and there is a cap of \$35 per family of two adults with children. Reserve your tickets by calling Temple Beth-El at 454-0570.

If purchased at the door (ooh), tickets cost \$15 per adult and \$8 per child, with a cap of \$50 per family.

And NOW we have ELEVEN new families.

Please welcome Richard Chazen to the Shir Chadash community.

Richard is a good personal friend... and our now grown kids went to school together forever.

We look forward to making him feel at home.

If you are thinking of joining, now is the time.

Our new year begins on July 1st.

You could be the first family to join post-Yarrow!

Peter challenged us to make a big difference in the world.

This new year we'll see how we can meet that challenge.

Thank you for your proxies for the annual meeting.

We congratulate Melinda Pearson on her election as trustee. She has worked hard as the chair of the membership committee.

The budget passed. We are working seriously to keep expenses down

and yet provide the services we need.

And we decided as a congregation to proceed with our application to the URJ. If this does go through, it would not be until January of 2010.

And FINALLY, we've given Rabbi Polish a promotion... he's now our tenured Rabbi.

We as a congregation appreciate the love and commitment and heart that he's given to us.

And so we'd like him to stay... and give us MORE!

EVENTS and so on:

1. Friday June 19th at 6:00 - FINAL Pot Luck Dinner of the year - bring a main, a side or a salad.

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU'RE COMING BY REPLYING TO THIS E-MAIL????!!!!

Join us for the last supper... of the year.

2. Friday June 19th at 7:30 - FINAL Clergy-led service of the year - ALSO we will be installing our trustee and honoring your dedicated officers and board

3. Friday June 26th - OUR LAST SERVICE of the year - it will be lay-led - the time is TBD.

4. Check your newsletter for a listing of summer activities. YES, we are allowed to pray over the summer!

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. We have not posted the 2009-2010 pledge form on the site, but IT WILL BE DIFFERENT.

Basic membership will go up \$100 (just \$8.33 per month)

Family on a limited income will go up \$75 and

Single person on a limited income will go up \$50.

PLEASE use these new numbers when you sign-up.

Keep in mind that basic annual dues have only gone up \$200 in 10 years.

Shir Chadash has actually been getting less expensive due to inflation.

ALSO, we refuse to let financial considerations prevent anyone from membership.

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

Shabbat Shalom,
Michael