



# Shir Notes

The Official Newsletter of Congregation Shir Ami Volume 15, Number 1,  
January 2017. Affiliated with United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

## Events of the Month

### Shabbat services at de Toledo High School

Saturday, January 7 - 10:30 am

Two very special things will be happening at this service:

1) We will be welcoming our new members into the family with a special prayer from **Rabbi Vorspan**

2) we will be consecrating our new officers.

Please make every effort to attend and greet our new members as well as support our officers. Your attendance will mean a great deal to all!

Saturday, January 21 - 10:30 am  
Anniversary Shabbat  
Linen Shabbat

### Around the Rabbi's Tisch Thursdays, Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26 7:30 pm at the Vorspans'

Our 5777 season of Rabbi's weekly discussion continues. Call Rabbi at (818) 888-9817 or see flyer.

### Torah and Shabbat Study Saturday, Jan. 14, 10:30 am Northridge Mobile Home Park

**Stan Schroeder** leads our monthly study and discussion session. Call Stan at (818) 718-7466 or see flyer.



Visit our website:  
[www.shirami.com](http://www.shirami.com)

## Rabbi's Column



A friend turned me on to still photography when we were students in college. I bought an excellent camera (Mamiya-Sekor 1000DTL) and fine lenses, and began snapping away.

I created a dark room in my home bathroom, but took many color slides to save money on developing color film.

One evening I was shooting a sunset at the Pacific ocean, capturing a photo a second during the entire sequence.

When the slides came back from developing I loaded them onto the carousel tray, darkened the room, and began watching the results of my excursion.

I never throw slides away, but one slide so confused and disappointed me that I disposed of it immediately. There was a green flash that completely marred the photograph.

A week later I was reading about sunset photography in a magazine and learned that one of the rarest photos one can shoot is the flash green sunset picture. It was an actual thing! It's rare because the atmospheric conditions have to be just right to create the phenomena, and one can't plan for it.

I read about one professional photographer who spent years traveling the earth trying to get that one flash green sunset picture.

And I threw my picture away.

But the lesson to be learned can't be to save everything! We do need to reduce our footprint enough so as not to just clutter the earth. But we also have to be judicious in what we throw out. Is it rubbish, or truly a treasure?

But here's my take-away: If I hadn't taken pictures, I wouldn't have had even the potential of creating a treasure! If we don't develop hobbies, create experiences, branch out, experiment, we won't have memories that can sustain us.

And I'm not advocating taking lots of movies and photos. I'm suggesting we need to create the moments, many that we might find a waste of time.

But even accumulating moments to eventually discard the memories gives proof of a life being lived!

Better to have photographed and tossed than to never have photographed at all!

**Rabbi David Vorspan**

## President's Report

Happy New Year!

Last month we had a great and vocal showing at our annual members meeting. While we performed the business of electing a new board and officers, there was also a sharing of ideas and expectations for this year.



With the New Year there is a lot of "newness" in Shir Ami. For one thing, we will consecrate our new Board of Directors and Officers at our first Shabbat service this year. If you look closely, you will see some new faces on our Board. These new faces, along with the old faces (there has to be a better way to say that!) are planning new, exciting programs for Shir Ami.

At that first Shabbat service, we will be welcoming five new members! We are really going places this year and you're all invited, so this is the year to become an avid reader of the *Shir Notes*.

With this "newness" we will also be keeping to our traditions. We will continue with our **Shabbat services**, our monthly **Shabbat/Torah Study**, filling the **SOVA barrels** and our Thursday night adult education program, "**Around the Rabbi's Tish (and on the Rebbitzin's Chairs)**." We will also be putting the "action" in Social Action with our **Linen Shabbat** this month.

With the activities we are planning for this year, the one thing that is essential to making this a great year is YOU. We will be needing volunteers so that we can continue our programming and events. We have many people who already volunteer, but we always need more because, as the saying goes, "many hands make light work." If you haven't volunteered in some time, then all I ask is that you volunteer for one event this year. You could be the difference in making an event one that really rocks.

As always, if you have any questions or want to provide your input, please feel free to email me at [JDPistol@aol.com](mailto:JDPistol@aol.com).

Thank you.

**Jordan Pistol**, President

## Afternoon of Contemporary Judaism with Rabbi Ed Feinstein

by Stan Schroeder



Congregation Shir Ami is proud to announce that **Rabbi Ed Feinstein of Valley Beth Shalom** will speak to our congregation and TRZ in the Ramat Zion Social Hall at 2:00 pm Sunday, February 12. His topic will be ***Can You Hear Me Now?***

I can attest that Rabbi Feinstein is the most dynamic and entertaining speaker in the community. He speaks throughout the country and we are indeed blessed that he offered to speak to us *pro bono*.

Refreshments will be served. See flyer for more information. You won't want to miss this unique opportunity. Please respond by February 6 so we can plan accordingly.

## 2017 Shir Ami Officers & Board of Directors

President: Jordan Pistol  
 Executive Vice President: Ken Bereny  
 Treasurer: Mike Easley  
 Secretary: Karen Benson  
 Program VPs: Sima Schuster and Gladys Sturman  
 Membership VP: Ellen Fremed  
 Ritual VP: Stan Schroeder  
 Social Action VP: Fran Kobulnick  
 Ways & Means VP: Sherry Dollins

Board of Directors:  
 Owen Delman  
 Rebecca Finlay  
 Barbara Grubman  
 Sheilah Hart  
 Steve Schuster



In addition, former presidents Harvey Cohen, Helga Unkeless, and Jerry Zatz are Board members.



# DONATIONS

Congregation Shir Ami wishes to acknowledge the following donations:

## Yahrzeits

- Rose Chaplan for Abraham Chaplan
- Ethel Granik for Harold Granik
- Jerry Kovar for his mother
- Lorraine and Edwin Orens for Vera Orens and Irving Zelenitz
- Ann and Seymour Potell for Herb Potell
- Clara and Stan Rosenbluth for Frank Wolf
- Lonny and Nancy Scharf for Charles Kaplan
- Claire and Lew Silverman for Leah Besbeck
- Irving Strassner for Abraham Strassner, Eli Strassner, and Fannie Strassner
- Fiona Taylor and Stan Goodman for Sheena Mendoza

## Birthdays

- Jerry Gort (84)
- Peg Kovar
- Lonny Scharf
- Claire Silverman (85)
- Rabbi David Vorspan (70)
- Elana Vorspan
- Rae Wazana (73)

## Anniversaries

- Jerry and Peg Kovar
- Ann and Seymour Potell (66)

# Birthdays & Anniversaries

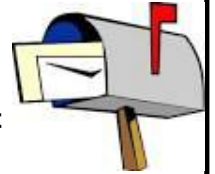
## Birthdays

Paul Soifer.....	12/2
(omitted last month).	
Jacque Gordon.....	1/1
Jerry Gort.....	1/2
Leon Nachenberg.....	1/2
Neal Tober.....	1/4
Owen Delman.....	1/7
Karen Harvey.....	1/16
Fenton Harvey.....	1/20
Joan Magit.....	1/20
Claire Silverman.....	1/20
Lawrence Scharf.....	1/21
Fiona Taylor.....	1/21
Lynn Cherney.....	1/22
Elinor Grayer.....	1/24

## Anniversaries

Gale and Jay Cohen.....	1/15	11th
Debra and Wayne Geffen.....	1/23	34th
Marian and Isadore Perlmutter.....	1/30	68th

## Mailbox



Thank you to **Claire Silverman, Jacque Gordon, and Sheilah Hart** for all the work and preparation you did for David's Birthday Kiddish. He enjoyed all the food, as we all did!!! I really appreciate the time and work you put into making the Kiddish so nice.

With love and appreciation,  
**Bonnie [and David] Vorspan**



## Congregation Shir Ami Tribute Cards

Thanks to **Phyllis Schroeder** for sending your cards celebrating *simchas* and conveying your get-well and condolence messages.



She is creative with individualized, artistic cards that include a message and color graphics. Call her at (818) 718-7466. Minimum donation of \$5 per card is appreciated.

## Congregational News

Get well wishes *rafuah schleimah* to:

- Phyllis Robinson**
- Lynn Cherney**
- Fran Kobuknick**
- Al Simon**
- Jerry Gort**



May they be blessed with a complete recovery in body and spirit.

### Social Action Committee

Our Committee has worked very hard in 2016, doing many productive community mitzvah projects with and on behalf of Congregation Shir Ami! We truly are ***the little temple that could and does make a huge difference in our community.*** Very special thanks to **Rabbi and Bonnie Vorspan**, who take the lead in many of our projects, and to those board members who have shown us so much support.

As we wrap up 2016, our final project December 16, was our annual **Chanukah Shabbat at West Valley Healthcare Center.**

Thanks to all the hard work of **Claire Silverman, Rae Wazana, Ellie Zatz, Neal Tober, Sheilah** and **Lisa Hart, Mike Easley** and his sister-in-law **Linda**, all the residents had a marvelous time. Claire led everyone with her guitar and the Social Action choir in the prayers over the Shabbat candles, challah and wine. Then everyone participated in the Chanukah prayers, as well. There was a very enthusiastic crowd who joined in the festivities, enjoying the latkes, challah and dessert. The residents each received a holiday gift and had one-on-one visits from our committee members. This special mitzvah project was enjoyed by all who attended. Many thanks to those who made this day successful! See some pictures in the right hand column.



We also delivered the **Target \$10 gift cards to Jewish Family Services domestic violence project** this week. Although we fell short of our goal to collect 100 cards, we made a difference in the lives of those who received them.



They will be used to buy much needed personal items and the recipients will not feel so isolated during the holidays. Thank you again to those who donated. We will continue to collect the cards, leading up to Mother's Day.



The **SOVA food drive** is ongoing, and as we close out 2016, I want to thank everyone who brought non-perishable, non-breakable food items to our SOVA barrels in the lobby at de Toledo High School. Please continue to remember those who depend on SOVA for their food and now toiletry items as well. Also remember that SOVA also collects new and gently used children's books.

Our **annual Linen Shabbat** to benefit the domestic violence shelters we help sponsor is Saturday, January 21 at our regular de Toledo High School Shabbat service. Please remember that all linens

must be new due to health regulations. See the flyer in this newsletter to know what linens are most needed. They include twin and full size sheet sets, twin and full size comforter sets and blankets. Waterproof mattress pads, bath towels, and washcloths are also needed.



The reason we do this is because when each family comes into the emergency domestic violence shelter, they will receive these new linens, which they keep with them as they move on from the emergency shelters to long term shelters and then to the next step in their programs. These linens must be new due to health regulations, but it is also special for the women and children to have dignity and respect knowing they have their own linens. **Sheilah Hart, Laura Simon**, and myself are co-chairs of this event.

Thank you for your emotional, financial, and physical support. We always look forward to have you join us in all our community mitzvah projects and are always in need of more volunteers for our Committee.

Shalom, **Fran Koblunick**, Social Action Vice President



## Biography of the Month: Leonard Cohen

by Stan Schroeder

**Leonard Cohen** was born on September 21, 1934 in Westmount, Quebec, an English-speaking area of Montreal, into a middle-class Canadian Jewish family. His mother, **Marsha Klonitsky**, was the daughter of a Talmudic writer, **Rabbi Solomon Klonitsky-Kline**, of Lithuanian Jewish ancestry. His paternal grandfather, whose family had moved from Poland to Canada, was **Lyon Cohen**, the founding president of the Canadian Jewish Congress. His father, **Nathan Cohen**, owned a clothing store and died when Cohen was nine years old. The family observed Orthodox Judaism, and belonged to Congregation Shaar Hashomayim, to which Cohen retained connections all his life. On the topic of being a Kohen, Cohen related in 1967, "I had a very Messianic childhood. I was told I was a descendant of Aaron, the high priest."



Cohen attended Roslyn Elementary School, completed grades seven through nine at Herzliah High School, where his literary mentor **Irving Layton** taught, then transferred in 1948 to Westmount High School, where he studied music and poetry. He became especially interested in the poetry of **Federico García Lorca**.

Cohen involved himself actively beyond Westmount's curriculum, in photography, on the yearbook staff, as a cheerleader, in campus clubs (Art, Current Events), and even when "heavily involved in the school's theater program", he served in the position of President of the Students' Council. During all of that period, he taught himself to play the acoustic guitar, and formed a country-folk group that he called the Buckskin Boys. After a young Spanish guitar player taught him "a few chords and some flamenco", Cohen switched to a classical guitar. He has attributed his love of music to his mother, who, he said, had such a lovely voice:

Cohen was a spiritual seeker, and his life's journey brought him into a deep exploration of other faiths – not unlike the personal odyssey of the other truly great contemporary Jewish singer-songwriter with whom he was frequently compared, **Bob Dylan**.

His extensive study of Zen Buddhism, including the five years spent in ascetic contemplation at a Mt. Baldy, California Buddhist monastery, are all part of the Cohen lore. But he insisted that even during this period he remained true to his Jewish roots.

"In the tradition of Zen that I've practiced, there is no prayerful worship and there is no affirmation of a deity," he said in 2009, "so theologically, there is no challenge to any Jewish belief."

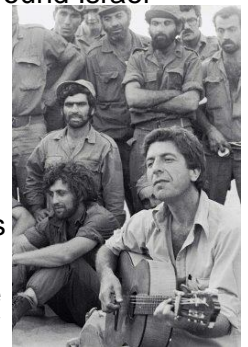
Many of his beautifully-crafted songs recall his Jewish heritage. His 1974 "Who by Fire" was inspired by the Jewish holiday of Yom Kippur, he explained, and echoes the powerful *U'Netaneh Tokef* prayer of Yom Kippur. "*Hallelujah*", one of Cohen's most famous songs, spoke about King David, author of the Book of Psalms: "Now I've heard there was a secret chord / That David played, and it pleased the Lord."

Other songs commented on Jewish experiences. When Cohen was living in Europe in the 1980s, he wrote "First We Take Manhattan", depicting the way he felt as a Jew, appreciating European life but keenly aware that Jews had been murdered in those very places.

Cohen was living in Greece in 1973, when the Yom Kippur War broke out in Israel and he immediately felt that he wanted to do whatever he could to help the Jewish state. While many people might have watched the war unfold from afar, Cohen booked a flight to Tel Aviv. His plans were vague; he thought he might volunteer on a kibbutz to help fill the labor shortage as young men were called up to fight.

Instead, he was spotted in a Tel Aviv cafe by Israeli singer **Oshik Levi**, who explained to Cohen that he was about to go to the Sinai Peninsula to entertain the troops and suggested that Cohen join him. Cohen did and spent several months travelling around Israel entertaining troops.

On his first day singing for the troops, Cohen found a quiet spot between concerts and wrote the words to one of his most moving songs, "Lover Come Back to Me", a wish that Israel's troops be protected: "And may the spirit of this song, / may it rise up pure and free. / May it be a shield for you, / a shield against the enemy." In a concert in Tel Aviv in 1980, Cohen explained that the song was inspired "by the grace and the bravery of many Israeli soldiers at the front".



Cohen was an ardent peace activist. He announced a concert in Tel Aviv in 2009. He also wanted to perform in Ramallah and donate all the proceeds from the concerts to peace organizations. But he was targeted by anti-Zionists, Amnesty International refused to work with him, and the Palestinian promoter backed out. Undaunted, Cohen refused to give up. His September 24, 2009 concert near Tel Aviv sold out within hours and he played to a packed audience of about 55,000 Israelis. "May your life be as sweet as apples dipped in honey," Cohen told his fans, and recited blessings over the crowd.

continued on page 6

## Biography of the Month: Leonard Cohen

(continued)

For his 82nd birthday on September 21, 2016, Leonard Cohen gave the world a gift: a sneak preview of his upcoming album, the title track of “*You Want It Darker*,” released October 21.



In a body of work chock-full of *midrash-in-song*, including numbers such as “*The Story of Isaac*,” “*Who By Fire?*” – his poetic rendering of the Yom Kippur prayer *Unetanah Tokef* – and his most famous song, “Hallelujah,” which begins, “I’ve heard there was a secret chord / That David played, and it pleased the Lord...” his latest song is perhaps his most Jewish yet, another plaint of a narrator addressed to God, asking why bad things happen to good people, why mankind suffers, and why God seemingly wants us to descend to the darkest depths before offering redemption.

Most obviously, there is the chorus sung in Hebrew: “*Hineni, hineni*, I’m ready my Lord,” the Hebrew words spoken by Abraham to God in *Vayera*, the Bible portion that includes that touch-stone for Cohen – the *Akeidah*, or the binding of Isaac. The song’s narrator addresses God from a position of humility and readiness to serve.

What’s more, Cohen goes to great lengths to set these lyrics to Jewish music. He hired the world-renowned, all-male choir of Congregation Shaar Hashomayim, the Montreal synagogue in which he was raised (and was a member of) to provide background to the track *It Seemed the Better Way*. And the temple’s cantor, **Gideon Zelermyer**, sings the final chorus on a no-holds-barred original piece of *khazones* — cantorial music.

Leonard Cohen died in his home in Los Angeles November 7, 2016 following a fall in the middle of the night. He was buried in Montreal November 10 in a funeral attended by only his family and a few lifelong friends. According to his son **Adam**, “he was lowered into the ground in an unadorned pine box, next to his mother and father, exactly as he’d asked”. He had lived in a modest West L.A. home for many years on the same street as Adam, a record producer who produced his latest album. It was mostly recorded in Leonard’s living room.

(continued in right hand column)

We can remember him by one of his many quotes: *May you be surrounded by friends and family, and if this is not your lot, may the blessings find you in solitude.*

## Operation Gratitude and Project MOT

by Charlene Kazel

We have closed the books on 2016 and it was the best year ever! We donated **819 books and 1,763 cards** to **Operation Gratitude and Project MOT** (combined). As we enter the New Year 2017 we begin with a *tabula rasa*, a blank slate. May we be able to continue our generosity and be able to brighten and uplift the lives of our heroes and protectors. May the new year bless everyone with good health, happiness, and peace!



## Jewish World Watch

by Rae Wazana

Congregation Shir Ami has a Walk Team registered for the next **Jewish World Watch** annual **Walk to End Genocide** in the Conejo Valley on Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> 2017. Next year’s Walk will take place at the Thousand Oaks Performing Arts and Civic Center on Thousand Oaks Blvd. We would love to have many of you walk with us and join Shir Ami’s team in supporting JWW. To register on-line, you can go to [www.conejovalley.walktoendgenocide.org](http://www.conejovalley.walktoendgenocide.org). Click on the Conejo Valley location and register to join our team. You can also make a donation to support our Walk team and JWW. Another way to register is to call the JWW office in Encino at (818) 501-1836. **Fiona Taylor** and I will be co-captains for our Team.



Please don’t forget that we are also collecting full-size personal hygiene items such as shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, liquid soap, bars of soap, body lotion, and deodorants to fill decorated bags to give to refugees from Sudan, Iraq, and the Congo who are arriving in the San Diego area.

Thank you for all of your support and for continuing to **NOT STAND IDLY BY!**

If you have any questions, please call me at (818) 881-5549. Happy Hanukkah and a very happy, healthy, fulfilling New Year!

## TREE OF LIFE

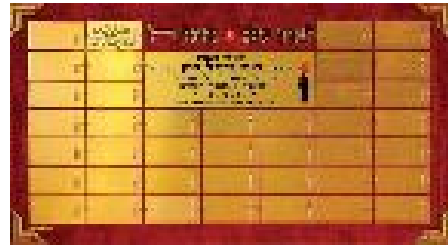


**This beautiful Tree of Life, with leaves priced at \$100 and rocks at \$250 (one remaining), makes a perfect way to celebrate family occasions and support Congregation Shir Ami.**

**The Tree is on a rosewood background and consists of gold-colored leaves and rocks. It is displayed at all Congregation Shir Ami services and events.**

**For more information or to place an order, call Sherry Dollins at (818) 886-7590.**

## Congregation Shir Ami Memorial Board



**If you would like to honor the memory of your loved ones by dedicating plaques on our new Memorial Board, please call Sherry Dollins at (818) 886-7590 so she may mail you an order form. The cost of each plaque is \$36.**

**Each plaque may contain up to three lines of engraving: English name, Hebrew name, and the years of birth and death. Both of our Memorial Boards are displayed at all our services.**

## Hanukkah in San Luis Obispo (2015/5776)

by Clara Rosenbluth

On the first night of Hanukkah Stan and I attended a candle lighting ceremony held in the Mission Plaza in San Luis Obispo. Twenty years ago the priest of the mission church approached the rabbi of Congregation Beth David and suggested they erect a large menorah in the plaza and hold a candle lighting ceremony each night of Hanukkah. This has become a yearly tradition and is now sponsored by the Jewish Federation of SLO. It is attended by Congregation Beth David (Reform), Temple Ner Shalom (Conservative), as well as the community at large.

A group of musicians, "Reeds in the Wind", entertained while the crowd gathered. The church bells always ring every hour on the hour. The candle lighting was called for 5:00 pm. Just a few minutes before, an announcement was made that the ceremony would start right after the bells finish ringing. I am sure this is the only Hanukkah candle

lighting that is preceded by the tolling of church bells. There were several dignitaries present, including the mayor of SLO and a couple of council members.

The candle lighting was followed by the singing of Hanukkah songs with the words projected on a wall of the church. The party that followed included several booths with games for the kids, a dreidl spinning contest and cookie decorating. The event was covered by the local TV station and was on the evening news.



## Shop at Ralphs - Earn Money for Shir Ami

by Maralyn Soifer

Here is an easy way to earn money for our Temple. We

are now officially a **Ralphs' community agency**. All you have to do is follow these simple instructions to help earn money for Congregation Shir Ami.



1. If you don't have a Ralphs' rewards card already, go to the store or go to website **www.ralphs.com** and select **Order a Ralphs reward card**.
2. Once you have your card, go to the website: **www.ralphs.com** and select **Create an account**
3. If you have an account, your email address is your account ID. If you forgot your password, select **Forgot your password?** and you will receive an email with instructions to reset it. Follow the instructions to enter your email address and create a new password.
4. If you already have a Ralphs' reward card and an account, you will see Account Summary when you login. You can change to our Temple by clicking on **Edit** within **Community Rewards**.

You can do a search for Congregation Shir Ami by putting in the number **92785**. Our congregation will pop up and click on the button next to the name. Click on the button that saves the changes.

5. You should also check the bottom of your receipt when you shop. It should say "**At your request, Ralph's is donating to CONGREGATION SHIR AMI**".
6. If all else fails, call me in the evening at (818) 704-0306. I'll be happy to walk you through it.
7. Start Shopping!

**Make sure that the clerk swipes your card each time you shop. Verify that your receipt shows a contribution to Congregation Shir Ami at the bottom.**

**Important Note: All participants must confirm their selection annually starting in September. On or after September 1, sign into your account and reconfirm Community Rewards selection.**

Congregation Shir Ami  
P.O. Box 6353  
Woodland Hills, CA 91365





Afternoon of Contemporary Judaism  
 Sunday, February 12 2:00 pm  
 with

# Rabbi Ed Feinstein

Senior Rabbi, Valley Beth Shalom

## *Can You Hear Me Now?*



At Temple Ramat Zion (our co-sponsor)  
 17655 Devonshire St., Northridge



In a well known Verizon commercial a technician wearing eyeglasses and a blue uniform asked, “Can you hear me now?” As Jews we proclaim *Sh’ma Yisrael ...* in our daily prayers. Judaism teaches us to *hear* and to be *here*. How can we hear better what God is saying to us?

Rabbi Feinstein serves on the faculty of the Ziegler Rabbinical School of the American Jewish University, the Wexner Heritage Program, and the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem. He lectures widely across the United States. An engaging lecturer and storyteller, he unites the ancient Jewish love of ideas with the warmth of Jewish humor.

Refreshments will be served.

Call Stan Schroeder at (818) 718-7466 for more information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places at Afternoon of Contemporary Judaism at Temple Ramat Zion Social Hall Sunday, February 12, 2017 at 2 pm.

Mail to Congregation Shir Ami, PO Box 6353, Woodland Hills, CA 91365 or email same information to stan101@pacbell.net.

## Thursdays January 5, 12, 19, and 26, 7:30 - 8:30 pm “Around the Rabbi’s Tisch” at the Vorspans’

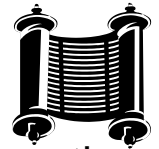


This popular Shir Ami educational series continues the first half of its 5777 season. Come join us for our weekly discussion of Rabbi Vorspan’s selected topics of Jewish interest. We discuss Jewish texts and current events as they relate to Jewish values and our lives as Jews. This is a unique opportunity to learn and share in an informal format around the Vorspans’ dining room table.

The Vorspans’ home is located at 22320 Philipprimm St. in Woodland Hills. Call Rabbi Vorspan at (818) 888-9817 for more information.

## Saturday January 14, 10:30 am: Torah/Shabbat Study at Northridge Mobile Home Park

Stan Schroeder leads a Shabbat study session one Saturday morning a month at 10:30 at the Northridge Mobile Home Park Rec Room, 19120 Nordhoff St. We discuss the weekly Torah portion, the Shabbat prayers that are included in our Contemporary service, and various subjects relevant to Conservative Judaism.



Our next session will be January 16. The Torah reading will be parsha *Vayechi* (Genesis 47:28 - 50:26), the conclusion of the book with Jacob’s death and his sons becoming the twelve tribes of Israel, We are commanded “*la asok b’divrei torah*” (to engage in the study of Torah). Join us and fulfill the mitzvah.

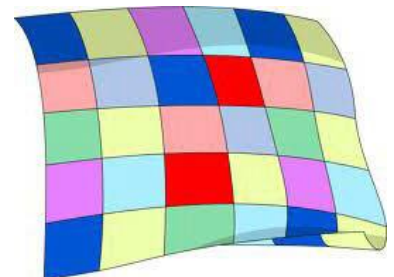
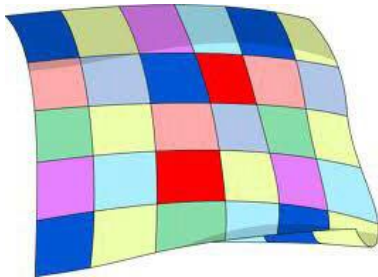
Call Stan at (818) 718-7466 for more information.

Please join Congregation Shir Ami  
on Saturday, January 21 at 10:15 am  
(Service starts at 10:30 am)



at de Toledo High School  
for a special Linen Shabbat.

Please bring **NEW** twin, full, or queen size blankets or quilts, **NEW** full or twin size sheet sets, **NEW** full or twin size waterproof mattress pads, **NEW** pillow cases, and **NEW** bath towels and washcloths to Shabbat services on **Saturday, January 21st**. They will be given to moms and their children in domestic violence shelters. There will be a speaker to discuss the shelters and ongoing projects.



We look forward to seeing you and your family at this special community *mitzvah* project Shabbat. Please bring your non-perishable food donation to the service.

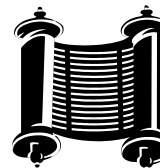


For more information, please call  
**Fran Kobulnick** at (818) 345-2405  
or **Laura Simon** at (818) 883-1765.



**Congregation Shir Ami Schedule of Shabbat Services 2016**  
**Conducted by Rabbi David Vorspan at**  
**de Toledo High School, 22622 Vanowen St., West Hills**  
**Services held in library near the front entrance**

**Saturday 10:30 am (unless otherwise noted)**



**January 2016**

Saturday, January 7 - Birthday  
Consecration of Officers  
Saturday, January 21 - Anniversary  
Social Action Linen Shabbat

**February 2016**

Saturday, February 4 - Birthday  
Saturday, February 18 - Anniversary

**March 2016**

Saturday, March 4 - Birthday  
Saturday, March 18 - Anniversary

**April 2016**

Saturday, April 8 - Birthday  
Saturday, April 22 - Anniversary

**May 2016**

Saturday, May 6 - Birthday  
Saturday, May 27 - Anniversary

**June 2016**

Saturday, June 10 - Birthday  
Saturday, June 24 - Anniversary



David Vorspan  
Rabbi



Jordan Pistol  
President

***If you would like more information about our congregation please visit our website at [www.shirami.com](http://www.shirami.com)***