

LAFAYETTE, IN Established 1889

661 North 7th St. Lafayette, IN 47901 765-742-2113 www.soalafayette.org

January, 2015 10 Tevet – 11 Shevat, 5775

Service Schedule:

Egalitarian Friday Night Services begin at 8:00 p.m. and are followed by an Oneg.

January 9, there will be a Children's Service, beginning at 6:00 p.m.

Traditional Saturday morning services begin at 10:00 a.m. and are followed by a Kiddush.

Candle Lighting Times:

January 2 – 5:15 p.m. January 9 – 5:21 p.m. January 16 – 5:29 p.m. January 23 – 5:37 p.m. January 30 – 5:45 p.m.



Yahrzeits

May their memories be for a blessing.

Shaineh Bercovitz – 11 Tevet, January 2 Dorothy Katz – 11 Tevet, January 2 Jack Leventhal – 13 Tevet, January 4 Abe Pearlman – 15 Tevet, January 6 Tillie Korenstein – 15 Tevet, January 6 Miriam hasson – 16 Tevet, January 7 Charles Elkin – 17 Tevet, January 8 Joseph Suessman – 18 Tevet, January 9 Israel Elkin – 19 Tevet, January 10 Bina Uta Goldfield – 20 Tevet, January 11 Max Goldsmith – 21 Teevet, January 12 Sarrah Levine – 22 Tevet, January 13 Ida M. Goldberg – 24 Tevet, January 15 Dave Berk – 24 Tevet, January 15 Elsie Brudner-Selkirk – 24 Tevet, January 15 Lillyan Bass – 29 Tevet, January 20 Sara Axelrod – 29 Tevet, January 20 Clara Paul – 1 Shevat, January 21 Bertha Paul – 1 Shevat, January 21 Morris Leibovitz – 2 Shevat, January 22 Gertrude Krushen – 4 Shevat, January 24 Louis Friedman – 5 Shevat, January 25 Lolly Mazor – 6 Shevat, January 26 Sadie G. Bercovitz – 6 Shevat, January 26 Chajah Spector – 7 Shevat, January 27 Gittle Feinstein – 9 Shevat, January 29



Refuah Schlemah

We wish speedy recoveries to Joe Rubinstein and Irwin Treager.



Dates for Your Calendar

Children's Service Friday, January 9, 6:00 p.m.

LJCRS Classes resume Sunday, January 11

Sisterhood Board Meeting Monday, January 12, 1:30 At the home of Sonya Garfinkel

Shul Board Meeting Thursday, January 15

Sisterhood Lunch Out Maza Restaurant, West Lafayette Wednesday, January 20, noon Chair: Sonya Garfinkel

Tu B'shevat Seder and Kiddush Saturday, January 31

We offer our most sincere thanks to all the people who made our Chanukah celebration a success.

Thank you to Mark Lillianfeld who was Chairman of the Latke Party, to his assistant Becky Lillianfeld and her friend John and to Elliott Slamovich and Stanislaw Pejsa.

And a special thanks to Sonya Garfinkel for chairing the Chanukah Sale.

LJCRS, Rebecca Goodman, Director

What an incredible month of learning. I had the wonderful opportunity to speak to over 40 guests at our Bagel Brunch on December 7. I explained that our students aren't just learning. They're creating, dancing, speaking Hebrew, debating, researching.... they are discovering their love of Judaism.

The preschool students built Chanukah menorahs. The kindergarten/1st grade reviewed the patriarchs and matriarchs of the Torah. The 2nd/3rd graders have learned Jewish symbols and the history behind the chai, hamsa, the Israeli flag. The 4th/5th graders are researching great Jewish figures in modern history. The 6th/7th graders are constructing their own and studying parsha from the pertallit spectives of the major Torah characters. The 8th/9th graders are concentrating on Pirke Avot and "Juda Science:" the merger of Judaism and Science. Can the stories of the Torah be explained through science? And of course, we have Adi teaching Hebrew and Breit leading music and services.

Next semester, we are going to have a Mishloach Manot fundraiser, selling Purim baskets to the community. Details will come next month. Watch for our flyers!

Classes for the Spring Semester begin January 11. To enroll your child. Or for more information about LJCRS, please call me at 520-331-0367 or send me an email at ljcrs620@gmail.com.



Letter from Jerusalem

Start ups:

I'm just finishing reading Start Up Nation by Senor and Singer. The introduction states, in part, "Finally, if there is one story that has been largely missed despite the extensive media coverage of Israel, it is that key economic metrics demonstrate that Israel represents the greatest concentration of innovation and entrepreneurship in the world today." So, I was pleased to learn that my former Sunday School student, Walter Klatch who has lived in Jerusalem for many years now represents a number of new, local start-up companies that he is convinced have impressive growth potential. He matches donors from the States who would like to invest in the future of these young talented entrepreneurs. Often, investment clubs single out these companies as worthy of their attention.

An Accessible President:

My friends Alice and Chayim Weizman last Shabbat davened in a nearby Shul different from their usual venue. Much to their delight, they were informed that this Shul hosted a special guest. After services, the Weizmans had the opportunity to chat and wish Gut Shabbos to Israel's president, Reuven Rivlin. They were impressed by the modesty and accessibility of the president. He had two body guards standing quietly nearby who then accompanied him on his walk home.

Actually, on the subject of guards, since the recent horrific atrocities which have been committed in our city, I've been aware of a noticeable increase in the number of guards protecting many institutions, even wedding halls, etc. They create an increased sense of personal security.

The Chanukah Atmosphere:

Street lamps have colorful chanukiot decorating them, shops are selling olive oil and colorful candles to use in the menorahs. I'm planning my annual cousins' "melaveh malkah" the Saturday night of Chanukah. We'll have some games, latkes (more of an American custom) and the usual Israeli Sufganiot, prominent now in all bakeries, groceries etc. These "donuts" do not have holes in the middle, and are usually filled with ielly. caramel, etc. My party should feature music by my talented London grandsons, on guitar and flute, and of course some Chanukah gelt. This year, as I have mentioned earlier, I have the largest contingent of grandchildren learning here. They provide me with much "naches."

And along with the Chanukah preparations, my musical ensemble here has been extra busy, with B:H very successful gigs. We have now added to our repertoire a new melody for Hanerot Halolu, and lively tunes, Israeli style, for Yevonim and Al HaNisim. These, of course are in Hebrew, but we sing Oh Chanukah in English, Yiddish and Hebrew. In order to be evenhanded, we play and sing a Ladino Sefardic melody called "Ocho Kandelikas." We continue to feature "Oy Ir Kleine Lichtelach" – "Oh You Little Candles" which I learned from my mother many years ago.

Words:

I am particularly interested in words and am really delighted to teach veteran Israeli newly coined words which, so far, not one person knew. The first word is "agmon" Since an "agam" is a lake that is a clue to the word for pond. I learned it on my tour of the Hula valley in the north, which had to be drained of the peat silt, in order to be habitable, thus creating many ponds.

The second word is very new. The "at" sign which we use in e-mails @ is called "chruchit" here. The latest word is Hebrew "chruchit." I learned some interesting connections from which that word is derived. "Chrich" is a sandwich, "caruch" is a volume, a tome, and "korech" I recognized from the Haggadah as the three covered matzot which grace the Seder table. They all identify with something bound up.

With Warm Regards,

Cyrelle

Gedalyeh Engel Education Award

The Greater Lafayette Holocaust Remembrance Committee is pleased to announce a grant opportunity for area educators for projects that address issues related to genocide, discrimination, bullying, human rights, the Holocaust or lessons to be learned from the Holocaust.

Suggested examples of projects include:

- travel to Holocaust sites in Poland;
- enroll in an online class about genocide;
- study human rights in a class on campus;
- create an oral history project with your students;
- bring a speaker to your school initiate a diversity club at your school;
- take a field trip to a Holocaust museum;
- reach out to students with an anti-bullying campaign.

A total of \$2,000 will be awarded to individuals or teams of educators currently teaching in schools in Tippecanoe or contiguous counties. Proposals must reflect the goals of the GLRC.

Interested educators should contact Sarah Powley, Co-Chair of the GLHRC at <u>powleys@comcast.net</u>. Applications will be accepted until January 31, 2015.

Purdue University Jewish Studies Program

Noon Lecture and Discussion Series

Spring 2015

Wednesday, February 18 ~ Stewart Center, Room 313 ~ 12:30 Aaron Hoffman, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Purdue University, "The Effectiveness of Israel's Use of Social Media to Publicize Its Counterterrorism Efforts"

Wednesday, March 11 ~ Beering Hall, Room 1222 ~ 12:30 Rabbi Levi Tiechtel, "Chabad: Its History and Journey from White Russia, 1773 to West Lafayette, Indiana, 2014"

Wednesday, April 15 ~ Stewart Center, Room 313 ~ 12:30 Lynn Parrish, Graduate Student, Philosophy and Classical Literature, Purdue University, " 'In the Abundance of Thy Lovingkindness': The Portuguese Synagogue of Amsterdam"

All members of the Purdue University community and the public are cordially invited to attend these free events offered by the Jewish Studies Program.

A little food for thought.

"If the statistics are right, the Jews constitute but one quarter of one percent of the human race. It suggests a nebulous puff of star dust lost in the blaze of the Milky Way. Properly, the Jew ought hardly to be heard of, but he is heard of, has always been heard of. He is as prominent on the planet as any other people, and his importance is extravagantly out of proportion to the smallness of his bulk.

"His contributions to the world's list of great names in literature, science, art, music, finance, medicine and abstruse learning are also very out of proportion to the weakness of his numbers. He has made a marvelous fight in this world in all ages; and has done it with his hands tied behind him.

"He could be vain of himself and be excused for it. The Egyptians, the Babylonians and the Persians rose, filled the planet with sound and splendor, then faded to dream-stuff and passed away; the Greeks and Romans followed and made a vast noise, and they were gone; other people have sprung up and held their torch high for a time but it burned out, and they sit in twilight now, and have vanished.

"The Jew saw them all, survived them all, and is now what he always was, exhibiting no decadence, no infirmities, of age, no weakening of his parts, no slowing of his energies, no dulling of his alert but aggressive mind. All things are mortal but the Jews; all other forces pass, but he remains. What is the secret of his immortality?"

- Mark Twain, 1897

Tu B'Shevat, the 15th of Shevat — celebrated this year on Thursday, February 4, 2015—is the day that marks the beginning of a "new year" for trees. This is the season in which the earliest-blooming trees in the Land of Israel emerge from their winter sleep and begin a new fruit-bearing cycle.

Legally, the "new year" for trees relates to the various tithes that are separated from produce grown in the Holy Land. These tithes differ from year to year in the seven-year shemittah cycle; the point at which a budding fruit is considered to belong to the next year of the cycle is the 15th of Shevat.

We mark the day of Tu B'Shevat by eating fruit, particularly from the kinds that are singled out by the Torah in its praise of the bounty of the Holy Land: grapes, figs, pomegranates, olives and dates. On this day we remember that "man is a tree of the field" (Deuteronomy 20:19), and reflect on the lessons we can derive from our botanical analogue.

