

THE VOICE OF CONGREGATION DOR HADASH An Affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation

In this KOL . . .

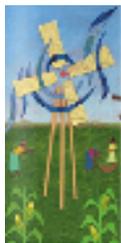
SOCIAL ACTION

There's several calls for volunteers in the KOL on pages 3, 7 and 12. Please consider lending a hand to our neighbors in need.



BRIDGING THE GAP

The DH Program Committee is excited about creating opportunities for school families, children, and the general congregation to come together and participate in fun enriching activities. On p. 5 Programming Chair Janice Gordon shares details about a recent event.



LEARN

Adult Ed. continues to bring us an eclectic mix of culture, art, history, and thought provoking conversation. See the latest schedule on p. 11



RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NEWS

If you missed Hanukkah on Ice, school principal Hal Grinberg recaps an excellent evening full of cool fun and warm latkes. Learn about our upcoming Bat Mitzvahs at DH and the Shabbats school students will be participating in services. All on p. 4.



From the President

So this youth bike trip leader has just finished a cold day on the road in December relaxing after completing a ride to the beach. He is very content with the events of the day as the kids rode strong in Daniel Mossesque fashion with good positive energy reminiscent of Ruth Drescher. This trip leader is very happy that he remembered all of the kid's names even without the Janice Gordon name tags. The staff thumped the kids in beach football as the sun set in a manner that would make Coach Levinson proud. The group's spirit surpassed the best combined efforts of Cheryl Klein & Miri Rabinovitz. One could almost say that our list of problems were as short as Ellen Surloff. And then.....there it was as I erroneously decided to peek at my email. A fatwa had been issued by the unrelenting KOL editor that the inspirational words from the Prez are due tonight. I know Sarah Angrist will be reading this & commenting to Stan that this offers no new words for his Scrabble competition. This weary bike dude needs to submit an article or deal with a Nancy Levine admonition that she never missed during her administration. The thought of repeating a previous article comes to mind but I know I will get busted by Chas Hirsch so I just must proceed to hammer away akin to Hal Rubenstein. I certainly would not want to disappoint Joel Merenstein's faith in me. I once promised Donna Coufal a shoutout in my next rambling article so you got it right now.

So.....much thanks to all of the Dor Hadashers who contribute time, thought, commitment & energy into making our spiritual community such a wonderful & supportive place. A happy & healthy New Year to all.

-Mark Rubenstein

When Leonard Cohen Crossed Paths With Donald Trump

by Lou Fineberg/KOL Editor

Regardless of your preference for this year's presidential candidates emotions from the election continue to run high. The anticipation of changing from one administration to the next has many around the world fearful and others exhilarated. Underlying the moment was the passing of Canadian musical legend Leonard Cohen. His most recognized song, *Hallelujah*, seemed to settle over the election and its aftermath like the spreading of a cloud. By now, the tune is widely recognized; disillusionment in verse with brief moments of ecstasy. *Hallelujah* is sung in refrain frequently following expressions of failure or disappointment. Some purists have criticized Cohen's ironic use of the word *Hallelujah* as irresponsible suggesting that he exploited a revered word intended to praise or express deep gratitude to the divine. It's this edge to his music that helped make Leonard Cohen famous. The ambiguous chorus praising god floated through the airwaves as news of the election unfolded.

Jews, naturally, have been divided over this election, exemplified partly by George Soros' high profile contributions to the left and Sheldon Adelson's to the right. Both, Jewish billionaires, one from finance and the latter largely from casinos and resorts, have very different views on the best direction for the United States and make significant contributions to exert their influence. Trump's bold assertions that he would move the US Embassy to Jerusalem and that Jewish settlements would not be an impediment to peace attracted many of Israel's most staunch supporters while Hillary Clinton appealed to many Jews with more liberal and wide ranging sensibilities.

Whether your anti, or pro Trump, or just don't care, modern American politics is entering uncharted territory. Domestic policy aside, just peering into the fragile landscape of international politics, Trump is a bull in a china shop; whether it's encouraging British Prime Minister Theresa May to call him if she ever travels to the US or letting Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif know that he's ready and willing to play any role that Sharif wants him to play to address and find solutions to outstanding problems – which may sound friendly enough, but casual comments like this are watched very closely by Pakistan's rival, India. Career diplomats at the State Department scratch their heads trying to understand the implications. Who knows, maybe Trump's ignorance will allow him infuse some fresh air into the painstaking world of international politics. He certainly turned national politics on its head for better or worse. For the time being though Trump has broken decades of protocol in his conversations with foreign leaders since becoming president-elect. We have learned only to expect the unexpected.

Cohen's famous song hit the perfect chord for uncertain times. According to the song writer, *"The only moment that you can live [in the world] comfortably in these absolutely irreconcilable conflicts is in this moment when you embrace it all and you say: 'Look, I don't understand a[n] expletive thing at all – Hallelujah!' That's the only moment that we live here fully as human beings."*

Send your thoughts, opinions, stories, reviews, ideas, classifieds, recommendations, mazel tovs, activities, events, announcements, farewells, greetings, artwork, musings to
kol@dorhadash.net

NEXT DEADLINE THURSDAY FEBRUARY 16

Kum-Zitz Yiddish Sing-Along Was A Hit



Coordinated by Rabbi Doris Dyen and Sarah Angrist, and accompanied by Brian Primack on guitar, the Dor Hadash Shira Group delighted the congregation with some of Billboard's all-time top 100 Yiddish songs. Artistic displays were provided by Miri Rabinowitz 🐱. Photo courtesy of Deborah Prise.

PROFESSOR DENNIS B. KLEIN LECTURE

DH and Pitt to Co-Sponsor
Holocaust Lecture

Congregation Dor Hadash and the University of Pittsburgh Department of Religious Studies are pleased to welcome Dr. Dennis B. Klein to Pittsburgh on March 19, 2017. Dr. Klein will lecture on the topic "Did Holocaust Survivors Forgive?". Professor Klein is the director of Kean University's Jewish Studies Program and the Master of Arts in Holocaust and Genocide Studies. He is author or editor of four books, including *Hidden History of the Kovno Ghetto* and *The Genocidal Mind*. He is completing a study of survivors' memoirs called *The Second Liberation: Moral Survival After Atrocity*. Dr. Klein is also the founding editor-in-chief of *Dimensions: A Journal of Holocaust Studies* and founding director of the Anti-Defamation League's Braun Center for Holocaust Studies. His current work on post-atrocity testimonies and forgiveness theory is anthologized in *Memory, Narrative, and Forgiveness*, the 10th anniversary Truth and Reconciliation Commission conference volume, and Jean Améry and the *Philosophy of Torture*.

Please mark your calendars for Sunday morning, March 19th at Dor Hadash.

Interested in upcoming post-election conferences of Jewish organizations?

Dan and Lauren Resnick, along with Eve Wider, have provided the following list, with dates and cities (check online for details). The Resnicks are planning to attend the Feb 25-28 conference of J Street and welcome inquiries about lodging and transportation.

J Street Washington, DC Feb 25-28

Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA) Washington, DC Feb 25-28

Jewish Voice For Peace national-member-meeting-2015/ (JVP) Baltimore, MD March 13-15

UNCLE
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WANTS
YOU



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED !!

help pack food at the Squirrel Hill Food Pantry from 9-10:30am on Sunday March 5th, 2017.

Sign up by emailing
laurieheller@gmail.com

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NEWS

Hal Grinberg/ School Principal

hal.grin@verizon.net

We had beautiful weather for Hanukkah on Ice: a perfect cold evening for skating, no precipitation in sight. We gathered together to get into the Hanukkah spirit, singing Hanukkah songs and eating the great food people brought. We had an excellent turnout: about 125 people were there, and more than 200 latkes were eaten. Special thanks to Ann & Marty Davis, for donating the latkes - again; this is something like the 6th or 7th consecutive year they have donated the latkes. Thanks to all those who joined us. We again had about 23 recent refugee middle-schoolers from the Prospect Park Family Center, plus their mentors. They have a blast every year. Special mention goes to Nick Shorr. George, one of the Prospect Park mentors, is a Duquesne law student who is originally from Nigeria and who is blind. Nick made sure George was fully engaged with everything we did, including helping him get his skates and taking him around the rink. Nick knows what Hanukkah is all about.

We had a great crew to help with set-up and clean-up. If I start naming them, I know I will leave someone out. I never have doubts: one can always count on Dor Hadashers when they know there is work to be done. Donations of school supplies were made to Repair the World, which were greatly appreciated.

The HEH (5th grade) class will help lead the SHabbat morning service on January 14th. The students— Benjamin Myers, Rebekah Rapp, Tsameret & Moriah Ruedenberg-Wright, Nisha Armida Mankoff-Dey, and Norman Ruder, will do individual readings, and together they will lead several of the prayers. Their teacher, Lisa Rothstein, is getting them ready.

We have two Bat Mitzvahs coming up this winter and spring. On February 18th we celebrate the Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Rosenberg, son of Michele Levine and Jim Rosenberg. Then on April 8th we celebrate



Hanukkah on Ice festivities. Photo courtesy of SHIM

the Bat Mitzvah of Orli Meiksin. Orli is the daughter of Avery Meiksin, who grew up at Dor Hadash; the

family now lives in Edinburgh, Scotland. You may remember that a couple years ago, Orli's older sister had her Bat Mitzvah at Dor Hadash. Much of the family lives in Pittsburgh, so they decided to hold these celebrations here. I have been tutoring Orli via SKYPE.

The 7th grade Mitzvah class will be attending the SHabbat morning service and Torah discussion on January 28; and the HEH class will be attending that service on February 25th. The students will be studying those portions in class, so they can participate in the discussions. They should be particularly lively mornings.

Hi Hal,

Just wanted to send a quick THANK YOU for inviting us again to Hanukkah on Ice! About half of the students who attended had never ice skated before so it was a big deal to them. We also enjoyed the food and festivities, as well as learning about how to celebrate the holiday. The families from Dor Hadash were so friendly and welcoming to the kids and we really appreciate it! They were also helpful on the ice since we had so many beginners! The students are going to remember the evening for a long time. Thank you for including us!

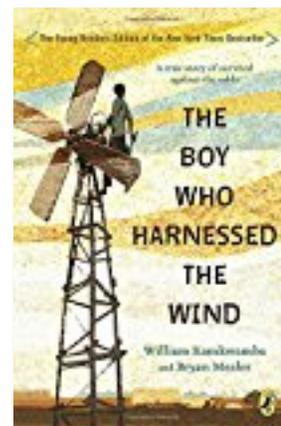
Happy Hanukah!

Susie Backscheider
Youth Mentoring Coordinator/SHIM

FROM THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE by Janice Gordon, Programming Chair

On a cool November day, congregants of all ages gathered together to immerse themselves in a discussion of *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*. This event was skillfully facilitated by Pam Goldman and Donna Lenkner.

To get the crowd warmed up, Harry Hochheiser showed slides of Malawi which he periodically visits as part of his work. It was fascinating to see photos of the village where young William built a windmill from pieces of junk when he was only 14 years old. He was not attending school at the time, because his father could not afford to send him. In addition, William was experiencing constant hunger because of a prolonged famine in his country. Despite the serious nature of these challenges, William's quest for knowledge was unstoppable. When he eventually was able to demonstrate that his windmill was able to produce electricity, the other villagers finally understood that he was not crazy and gave him the respect he deserved.



We broke up into small groups and discussed several themes. We talked about what it is like to go hungry, what it means to have determination in the face of difficulty, and what we can learn from the challenges of a boy in Malawi that we can apply to our own lives in Pittsburgh. Children and adults alike expressed their thoughts and shared their ideas.

Hal Grinberg wove themes from Judaism into our discussion. For example, he brought up the expression "ve'al kol yoshvey tevel", which Reconstructionists and Reform Jews often add to the end of the Kaddish. The addition of this phrase creates an ending that means "May the One who makes peace in the heavens, make peace for us and all Israel and for all who dwell on earth". If you take a look at page 114 in our Shabbat prayer book and go down to the commentary below the line, you will read the following:

Adding the rabbinic phrase "ve'al kol yoshvey tevel" logically completes the concentric circles of our aspirations - our care starts with our minyan, extends to the entire Jewish people, and radiates outward from there to all who share our planet. (Rabbi David Teutsch).

In other words, it is imperative for Jews to be concerned not only with the lives of other Jews but also with the lives of people all over the world. Bringing children and adults together to discuss this book and how it relates to being Jewish turned out to be a truly meaningful way to spend a Sunday afternoon and gave us all much food for thought.

Wondering Jew in Three Parts by Lou Fineberg/KOL Editor

Recently, during several journeys away from Pittsburgh I made good on a promise to myself to start exploring services at shuls in other cities. Trips to Vancouver, Las Vegas, and Minneapolis set the stage for my visits. All three cities, fascinating with distinct histories and culture, offer a Jewish life that is familiar, but with local nuances that make them unique. The brief visits didn't allow for too informed a comparison, but by sharing a Shabbat or holiday with fellow Jews it did provide me with a greater understanding of the places I visited and gave me a sense of belonging where otherwise I had very little, or no personal connection. Jewish continuity fascinates me, as if from a living bible, new life is constantly breathed into our ancient tradition. Writing about these experiences helps me process them and I'd like to share with KOL readers some of my memories in this the first of three installments of the *Wondering Jew*.

Wondering Jew continued on p.7

CALENDAR

January/February

January / February 2017
Tevet / Sh'vat 5777**Friday, January 6****Erev Shabbat Service, 8:00 pm**

Service leader: Mark Rubenstein

Oneg Sponsors: Rob Kraftowitz and Janice Gordon

Saturday, January 7 / 9th of Tevet**Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study**

10:00 – noon, The Study

Parsha: Vayigash, Genesis 44:18 - 47:27

Haftarah: Ezekiel 37:15 - 37:28

Kiddush luncheon following the service

Saturday, January 14 / 16th of Tevet**Torah Study, 9:00 am in the Rabbi's Study****Shabbat Morning Service, 10:00 am**

Service leader: Judy Yanowitz

With participation from the 5th grade class

Parsha: Vayechi, 47:28 - 50:26

Haftarah: I Kings 2:1 - 2:12

Kiddush luncheon following the service

Friday, January 20**Erev Shabbat Service, 8:00 pm**

Service leader: Judy Grumet

Sedra reviewer: Kerry Ban

Oneg Sponsor: Judy Grumet

Saturday, January 21 / 23rd of Tevet**Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study**

10:00 – noon, The Study

Parsha: Shemot, Exodus 1:1 - 6:1

Haftarah: Isaiah 27:6 - 28:13; 29:22 - 29:23

Kiddush luncheon following the service

Saturday, January 28 / 1st of Sh'vat**Rosh Chodesh Sh'vat****Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study**

10:00 – noon, The Study

Parsha: Vaera, Exodus 6:2 - 9:35

Maftir Shabbat Rosh Chodesh: Numbers 28:9-15

Haftarah Shabbat Rosh Chodesh: Isaiah 66:1 -

66:24

Kiddush luncheon following the service

Friday, February 3**Erev Shabbat Service, 8:00 pm**

Service leader: Janey Clark

Sedra reviewer: Jon Pushinsky

Oneg Sponsors: Ruth & Sy Drescher

Saturday, February 4 / 8th of Sh'vat**Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study**

10:00 – noon, The Study

Parsha: Bo, Exodus 10:1 - 13:16

Haftarah: Jeremiah 46:13 - 46:28

Kiddush luncheon following the service

Friday, February 10**Kabbalat Shabbat Service, 6:30 pm****followed by a PotLuck dinner**

Service leader: Rabbi Cheryl Klein

Oneg Sponsor: Roye Werner

Saturday, February 11 / 15th of Sh'vat**Tu B'Shvat****Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study**

10:00 – noon, The Study

Parsha: Beshalach, Exodus 13:17 - 17:16

Haftarah: Judges 4:4 - 5:31

Kiddush luncheon following the service

Saturday, February 18 / 22nd of Sh'vat**Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Rosenberg****Shabbat Morning Service, 9:30 am**

Service Leader: Barbara Baumann

Parsha: Yitro, Exodus 18:1 - 20:23

Haftarah: Isaiah 6:1 - 7:6; 9:5 - 9:6

Kiddush luncheon following the service

Saturday, February 25 / 29th of Sh'vat**Shabbat Shekalim****Shabbat Morning Service and Torah Study**

10:00 – noon, The Study

Parsha: Mishpatim, Exodus 21:1 - 24:18

Maftir Shabbat Shekalim: Exodus 30:11-16

Haftarah Shabbat Shekalim: II Kings 12:1 - 12:17

Kiddush luncheon following the service

Sunday, February 26 / 30th of Sh'vat**Monday, February 27 / 1st of Adar I****Rosh Chodesh Adar I**

Share A Meal: Volunteers Needed

Join Dor Hadash in helping the community. We provide dinners at the East End Cooperative Ministries (EECM) Homeless Shelter in East Liberty the second Wednesday of every month. Volunteers can come individually or in groups, and you can volunteer one month or many. The time commitment includes shopping, preparing and serving the meal. Congregants have expressed satisfaction doing this mitzvah, and most return year after year.

This year, we need Dor Hadash volunteers for March 8, July 12 and August 9. Volunteers must be over 16 years of age due to EECM insurance. Please let me know if you can help out. Helene Weinraub - hsweinraub@gmail.com



Dor Hadash Volunteers serving up a hot meal at EECM

... *Wondering Jew continued from p. 4*

The first stop was to the Renewal congregation Or Shalom in Vancouver's East Side. It was Saturday morning. Services started at 10:00. My Airbnb host kindly offered to give me a ride. Google maps directed us to the commercial intersection of Fraser and East Broadway where no synagogue seemed to be in sight. It looked an unlikely location for a shul because nothing stood out. My host was in a hurry so I jumped out of her car figuring I'd find something to do one way or the other. Several blocks down Fraser the lay of the land quickly changed to residential. Behind some trees and foliage a house of worship emerged unexpectedly. It was a converted church. Just as I spotted the place, a well-dressed man 60ish, in a suit, made his way to the entrance. When I walked through the congregation's doors the scene immediately felt familiar. The grassy must of old prayer books, tallit, and kippot handed down from generations filled the air. Part comforted, part surprised that the same exact smell would present itself thousands of miles and a border away. Greeted upon entering I felt welcomed immediately. The sanctuary was right at the entrance to the building. As people filed in they huddled catching up with each other.

It was no coincidence that the first hands I shook were that of two gentlemen, married to one another, an ardent well-articulated septuagenarian lesbian, and the husband of the female Rabbi. Belonging to a Reconstructionists synagogue I felt right at home, but the vibe here, at least in my brief interactions, was even more left of center, something akin to a Piercesque post-apocalyptic Judaism, although, the only thing that seemed dire in stunning Vancouver was the absurd cost of housing. My new friends were curious about my visit and why I was in town. When I explained to several people that I had attended the *Pro Walk Pro Bike Pro Place Conference* they didn't hesitate to share their strong opinions about rogue bicyclists and the dangers they cause on Canadian streets and sidewalks. It didn't feel like an attack at all, but in Canada where being friendly is as cherished a trait as not being from the U.S. this was the first feisty interaction I had all week.

In the midst of sanctuary chatter a slight woman on the bema began a mesmerizing chant that quelled the voices and signaled the start of the service. The haunting melody had a way of instantly changing the atmosphere. Opinions of nuisance bicyclists had faded like the bicyclists themselves often do from a rear view mirror. Rabbi Hannah may have been petite, but her palpable presence radiated a figure much larger. As late comers arrived, hugs continued to be plentiful; like it was part of the service, not an interruption.

The Renewal movement was still very much a mystery to me. Periodically over the last few years I had heard references to "Reb Zalman". Now that I was at a Renewal Congregation I wondered how Zalman Schachter-Shalomi's style of Judaism differed from Mordecai Kaplan's. They struck me as coming from a similar place, but from a generation apart. One could have been the father of the other. Kaplan addressed the challenges from the perspective of a people en masse immigrating to new homeland attempting to balance a new national identity with their religious one and "Reb Zalman" reevaluated Judaism in light of the counterculture that took hold of the Western world in the 1960s. Both men were indicative of times when many Jews were searching for answers about a more relevant connection to their past. It was no coincidence that what I was feeling the moment I started to meet people at Or Shalom was a sense of the 1960s. It's not to suggest that Or Shalom was living in the past, but instead keeping alive a type of openness and compassion that captivated a generation that came of age in turbulent times.

The parsha that week was Ki Teitzei, often noted for the 74 laws it reveals and its section on obliterating the memory of Israel's enemy Amalek, which is also read annually during Shabbat Zachor immediately preceding Purim, emphasizing the connection between Haman and Amalek. Avi, a self-assured commanding speaker presented a riveting d'var Torah seizing on Amalek to reflect the current crisis between the Palestinians and Israel.

Wondering Jew continued on p. 10

YAHREIT

Melvin Drescher	12/22/98	3Teveth	1/1/17	Sherry Pinkus	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17
Milton Brown	12/16/85	4Teveth	1/1/17	Lena Goldman	1/18/09	22Teveth	1/20/17
Oscar Roth	12/14/07	5Teveth	1/2/17	Philip Mason	1/21/79	22Teveth	1/20/17
Gerald Merenstein	12/21/93	7Teveth	1/3/17	Frederick Fischer	1/24/49	23Teveth	1/21/17
Gussie Litman	1/1/04	7Teveth	1/5/17	Elaine Budd	1/10/10	24Teveth	1/22/17
Sol Cosson	12/26/98	7Teveth	1/5/17	Zellie Ellis	12/31/80	24Teveth	1/22/17
David Primack	1/4/09	8Teveth	1/5/17	Marjorie McCardell	1/11/91	25Teveth	1/23/17
Ruth Pearl	12/21/12	8Teveth	1/6/17	Louis Lichtblau	12/30/72	25Teveth	1/23/17
Harold Cohen	1/1/15	10Teveth	1/6/17	Yael Brickenstein	1/22/12	27Teveth	1/25/17
Manley David Witten	12/31/06	10Teveth	1/8/17	Ethel Marks	1/22/12	27Teveth	1/25/17
Harold Murock	12/16/64	11Teveth	1/8/17	Esther Muhstock	1/22/01	27Teveth	1/25/17
Meir Engel	12/21/07	12Teveth	1/9/17	Max Wurm	1/6/89	29Teveth	1/27/17
Clare Fitzpatrick	1/6/04	12Teveth	1/10/17	Kate Zigmond	1/27/09	2Shevat	1/29/17
Marilyn Seiner Sternglas	1/6/04	12Teveth	1/10/17	Steven Bogen	1/25/04	2Shevat	1/29/17
Marilyn Sternglass	12/21/99	12Teveth	1/10/17	Edward Black	1/3/14	2Shevat	1/29/17
Ester Schoenfeld	1/3/88	13Teveth	1/10/17	Esther Kraftowitz	2/2/87	3Shevat	1/30/17
Miriam Fox	1/4/07	14Teveth	1/11/17	Perry Jubelirer	1/15/13	4Shevat	1/31/17
Edith Fertman	12/22/88	14Teveth	1/12/17	Clara Hovne	1/26/85	4Shevat	1/31/17
Lewis Freedman	1/6/66	14Teveth	1/12/17	Oscar Pearlman	1/25/66	4Shevat	1/31/17
Morris Martin	1/15/06	15Teveth	1/12/17	Sally Dickson Lupovitz	1/28/15	8Shevat	2/4/17
Martin Schlesinger	1/8/85	15Teveth	1/13/17	Emilie Jacobson	1/27/69	8Shevat	2/4/17
Albert Gumerman	1/17/68	16Teveth	1/13/17	Marcus Jacobson	1/9/14	8Shevat	2/4/17
Morris Shonberg	1/2/45	17Teveth	1/14/17	Howard Kellerman	1/20/13	9Shevat	2/5/17
Henry Sucof	1/18/87	17Teveth	1/15/17	John Balzer	1/30/96	9Shevat	2/5/17
Herschel Merenstein	12/29/96	19Teveth	1/15/17	Norman Fox	1/15/89	9Shevat	2/5/17
Gertrude Greenberg	12/31/85	19Teveth	1/17/17	Helen Chelemer Portman	1/20/05	10Shevat	2/6/17
Kalman Schoenfeld	1/15/09	19Teveth	1/17/17	Robert H. Friedman	2/9/06	11Shevat	2/7/17
Paul Isenberg	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/17/17	Dorothy Goldman	1/12/14	11Shevat	2/7/17
Virginia Mannino	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Robert Glaser	2/4/12	11Shevat	2/7/17
Shelley Stark	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Miriam Leavitt	1/26/83	12Shevat	2/8/17
Aaron Lupovitch	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Magda Brown	2/6/12	13Shevat	2/9/17
Rose Rosen	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Judith Rosenberg	1/31/99	14Shevat	2/10/17
Lily Banwell	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Lillian Goldman	2/4/96	14Shevat	2/10/17
Carrie Recht	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Benjamin Goldman	2/3/15	14Shevat	2/10/17
Jeannette Fishkow	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Freda Angrist	2/7/04	15Shevat	2/11/17
Benjamin Brown	12/29/07	20Teveth	1/18/17	Susan Kurtzman	1/21/11	16Shevat	2/12/17
Michael Kovinow	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Morris Schoenwald	1/21/81	16Shevat	2/12/17
Rose Lipshitz	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Shirley Fischhoff	1/19/03	16Shevat	2/12/17
Mollie Lipshitz	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Ruth Clickner	1/27/16	17Shevat	2/13/17
David Engel	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	W. Roy Hashinger	1/28/13	17Shevat	2/13/17
Louis Begler	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Saul Elinoff	1/29/13	18Shevat	2/14/17
Ethel Begler	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Ethel Jarvis	2/17/87	18Shevat	2/14/17
Joseph Cullen Recht	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	William Greenberg	1/22/84	18Shevat	2/14/17
Lillian Lill Oliker	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Lee A Segel	1/30/05	20Shevat	2/16/17
Rita Gould	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Amir Bechor	2/13/12	20Shevat	2/16/17
David Poe	1/2/13	20Teveth	1/18/17	Howard Lupovitz	2/11/96	21Shevat	2/17/17
Emil Engel	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	George Silverman	1/29/97	21Shevat	2/17/17
Lucia Bedarida	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Irwin Fall	1/29/00	22Shevat	2/18/17
Olga Fischer	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Ernest Sternglass	2/12/15	23Shevat	2/19/17
Aaron Lupovitch	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Minna Segel	2/1/00	25Shevat	2/21/17
Mildred Kuntz	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Orley Miriam Kantz	2/18/01	25Shevat	2/21/17
Arthur Banwell	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Michael Friedberg	2/19/01	26Shevat	2/22/17
Marlan Schoenwald	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Mildred Weiss	2/19/12	26Shevat	2/22/17
Edwin Berkowitz	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Harriett Pushinsky	2/8/13	28Shevat	2/24/17
Fred Saunders	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Howard Braun	2/18/15	29Shevat	2/25/17
William Davidson	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Alex Friedman	3/5/65	1Adar II	2/27/17
Sarah Oliker	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Raymond Tucker	3/5/03	1Adar II	2/27/17
Ethel Nemer	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Nathan Witt	3/4/95	2Adar II	2/28/17
Nate Nemer	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	Leonard Belov	2/28/98	2Adar	2/28/17
Emily Goldstein	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17	David Levine	2/13/94	2Adar	2/28/17
Leon Goldstein	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17				
Harry Rosen	1/1/16	20Teveth	1/18/17				

In Appreciation

In Honor of Judy Grumet for the Social Action Committee programs

Margot Cavalier

With Love to Congregation Dor Hadash

Mort & Ina Goldstein

In Honor of the High Holidays honors of Tillie & Harry Rosenberg

Grandparents Shelly & Ellie Levine

In Honor of Congregation Dor Hadash

Roslyn & Earl Markowitz

In Honor of Dan Leger for his continuing extraordinary contributions to Dor Hadash

Norma Artman

In Honor of Cheryl Klein for her continuing extraordinary contributions to Dor Hadash

Norma Artman

Chai Fund

Tova & Joel Tarr

Ted Stern

Brian Hattenbach & Tina Goldstein

Mary Korykowski & Bruce Herschlag

Jerome Mattes

Donna Coufal

In Memory

Robert Abelson

Linda & Allen Selig

Arrthur B. Prise and Matilda B. Prise

Deborah Prise

Frank Sadofsky

Allen & Liz Baum

Lee Ann Levison

Gerald Farbman

Joel & Nancy Merenstein

High Holiday Donations

Linda Kaplan

Martina & Alan Wells

Edith Flom Schneider

Marjorie Carpe

Mark Kahrs

Lauriew Heller

Michelle Domeisen

FINANCE UPDATE by Allen Baum, Treasurer (and treasure)

Now is the time to make a charitable contribution to Dor Hadash

There's a good chance that your mail box and email inbox were stuffed to gills last year with solicitations from charities requesting end-of-year contributions. Well, Congregation Dor Hadash was conspicuously absent from this frenzy. Nevertheless, as our Finance Committee is using this year's income to formulate next year's budget, there is no better time than now to make a charitable contribution to DH.

While most of us pride ourselves in being progressive in our thinking, DH has historically been regressive in how it secures its funding. That is, we rely primarily on uniform membership payments for income, rather than on voluntary contributions that reflect one's ability to pay. So now is your opportunity to redress this shortcoming. Based upon current income projections, we expect to be increasing our membership fee for next year. Your action can prevent or minimize this increase. In fact, if you're feeling guilty about being a beneficiary of the Trump rally, you can get a nice tax deduction by contributing some of your newly appreciated assets to DH. So please, either send a contribution to our Wilkins Avenue address, or inquire (by emailing admin@dorhadash.net or treasurer@dorhadash.net) about how to transfer assets to one of our Funds at the Jewish Community Foundation.

... *Wondering Jew continued from p. 7*

He had the congregation's full attention; many people appeared to be on the edge of their seats. Avi started by pointing out the irony of demanding the Israelites to blot out the memory of Amalek and simultaneously putting his name in the Torah to be read several times a year. It's intentional he surmised, of course, this is a name we should remember, to know our most formidable enemies, whether it be Amalek, Haman, Hitler, or anyone or nation that threatens the existence of the Jewish people, but let's be clear, he went on to opine, that Arafat was never, nor the Palestinians ever an enemy even close to that magnitude of threat to the state of Israel or the Jewish people, and that by the mere suggestion of thinking of either in those terms we misunderstood the lessons of this parsha and run the risk of becoming what we despise most in our enemy by robbing them of their national aspirations.

Too much time has passed for me properly recount the dense layers of Avi's perspective. His references, anecdotes, personal experience all combined to tell an incredibly engaging and reflective story. Though my memory has faded his sedra review was one of the moments of the day that had stuck with me most, partly because of how we all seemed to be listening so intently. Later I learned that was somewhat due to the fact that Avi tends to stir the pot when he takes the bema. His controversial views can put people on edge, which could explain why some congregants were literally on the edges of their seats waiting for his story to take a contentious turn, but this was Or Shalom, not an AIPAC convention, so Avi's talk, this time, concluded without incident.

When it was time to share the list of *yahrzeits*, those in mourning or remembering loved ones were invited to come before the congregation to share a story about the people they've lost. In a Shabbat rich with delightful experiences this was the profoundest moment. During the countless services I've attended over many years never once do I recall a moment set aside to learn more about the faceless seemingly random list of familiar names recounted in remembrance. Three congregants emerged to tell stories about the unique individuals that touched their lives; a mother, a sister, and a friend, deep personal connections that provided a snap shot into the lives of people who were strangers to most of us.

At the conclusion of the service we convened downstairs to a modest social hall where we enjoyed a delicious Kiddush luncheon. One of the congregants was a caterer who put together a variety of unique dishes freshly prepared with a health conscious Middle Eastern theme. The line that formed at the buffet created an opportunity to meet more members of the congregation. Seamlessly I was passed from one person to the next, but having a genuine heartfelt interaction with each new face. After proceeding through the line, my plate full of food, I started to accompany a spry woman, who chanted Torah beautifully during the service. We had been talking a while and went to be seated at one of the round banquet tables when she had a quick exchange with a friend. In that moment someone new approached me with an invitation to join her table, assuring me that the woman with whom I was just speaking wouldn't mind a bit. So I joined Tiferet, who introduced me to her English husband Mark, and several other people including a woman who recently emigrated from Turkey who was unsure about her English and mostly communicated with a warm smile. Tiferet and Mark I learned converted to Judaism, but Tiferet was certain she

had Jewish roots and had done some genealogy research that had almost certainly backed her instincts. She wrote poetry inspired by Jewish mysticism. Intrigued, I asked her if she'd be willing to share some with me. She graciously agreed and sent me several via email. One of them was included in the November/ December KOL.

As the early afternoon unfolded the room slowly emptied as people filed out to continue on with their day. About fifteen individuals remained to participate in a *tisch* – a practice group focused on compassionate communication. In the spirit of my journey's purpose I couldn't help but stay. The session was lead, I believe by a gentleman named Zalman. The group used Marshall Rosenberg's highly regarded book *Non-violent Communication* as the premise for our interaction. We talked about anger and judgement and how they relate to our needs as individuals - things like love, creativity, safety/security. Then we contemplated how we feel when our needs are met and when they're unmet. As we carefully considered the emotions and judgements spawned by our needs we were instructed to think from Rosenberg's perspective that "every criticism, judgment, diagnosis, and expression of anger is the tragic expression of an unmet need." Anger from this perspective is self-reflecting, not born from the focus of our ire, but something more telling about ourselves. The discussion concluded with a volunteer sharing a story of a time when she felt angry. The rest of us were dealt cards with different emotion printed on them instead of numbers and suits. Our task was to select from our hand the emotions that we sensed the story teller may have felt. She then responded to each of our suggestions prompting a conversation about feelings. The second round we were dealt a new deck of cards, each one corresponding to a *need* - things like affection, growth, peace, and purpose. In this round we attempted to understand which needs of the story teller were unmet resulting in her negative feelings. The exercise made a fun game of picking apart human emotions with a fine tooth comb, something that isn't typically thought of as enjoyable. The hour and a half we gathered went quickly. With our hearts on the card table we gathered ourselves and concluded the *tisch*. When I left Or Shalom, energized, happy, and with a deep sense of peace, it was after 3:00.

Coincidentally, earlier in the week at the conference I attended one of the speakers talked a great deal about happiness. He convincingly defined how to achieve it in a sentence, which to me seemed remarkable because the debate about what makes people happy never seems to be resolved, but according to him after exhaustive academic research and highly reputable sources, happiness boils down to the personal connections we have in our lives. Of course, true happiness can't happen in Judaism without at least a contrarian opinion, but it was as solid a perspective on happiness that I'd ever heard. The simplicity of the idea even lent itself to happiness because happiness shouldn't be complicated even though connecting with other people at times can be a challenge. At Or Shalom connecting with others felt effortless. The *tisch* that I stuck around for at the end of the day was an exercise focused on understanding human needs and what emotions resulted when they're being met or not. I can't help but wonder how much exercises like this help reinforce the sense of connectivity I felt at Or Shalom. The *tisch* seemed to truly reflect the culture being nurtured by the congregation. Vancouver may have been nearly 3,000 miles and a border a way, but Or Shalom had a way of making me feel right at home.

RECONSTRUCTIONISM 102

It's time for another round of Reconstructionism study as requested by members who attended last year's workshop. Reconstructionism 101, led by Pam Goldman and Sarah Angrist, presented an introduction to the concepts and philosophy of our movement. The overview focused on the three basic tenets: Belonging, Believing and Behaving. This time, in Recon 102, the topic is more specific to the concept of Belonging. Led by longtime Dor Hadasher Steve Kroser, the workshop will focus on Belonging and the importance of community. Steve has been a Jewish educator, youth leader, consultant and active member of Dor Hadash. Questions for discussion will include: Why Belong? Who Belongs? How Belong?

Mark your calendar for Sunday morning February 12, 2017 from 10 am to noon and plan to attend. It doesn't matter if you attended the first workshop, all are welcome, so come and learn who we are as individuals and as a congregation.

RSVP to: admin@dorhadash.net Phone [412-422-5158](tel:412-422-5158)

ADULT EDUCATION by Deborah Prise , Adult Education Chair

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR ADULT EDUCATION EVENTS!

DH at the Opera (Met Live in HD): Nabucco on Saturday, January 7, 2017, 12:55PM at Monroeville Mall Cinemark. Nabucco was based on the Biblical story of the plight of the Jews as they are exiled from their homeland by the Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar. The first act takes place around the destruction of the first temple in Jerusalem in 586 B.C.E. "The Chorus of the Hebrew Slaves," from the third act of the opera, was inspired by Psalm 137. RSVP to dprise@gmail.com.

Reconstructionism 102: Belonging, Sunday, February 12, 2017, 10AM - 12PM in the Pavillion. Led by longtime Dor Hadasher Steve Kroser, the workshop will focus on Belonging and the importance of community. Steve has been a Jewish educator, youth leader, consultant and active member of Dor Hadash. Questions for discussion will include: Why Belong? Who Belongs? How Belong? RSVP to admin@dorhadash.com or 412-422-5158.

Dr. Dennis Klein Lecture: "Did Holocaust Survivors Forgive?" on Sunday, March 19, 2017, 10AM-12PM in the Pavillion. Professor Klein is the director of Kean University's Jewish Studies Program and the Master of Arts in Holocaust and Genocide Studies. RSVP to admin@dorhadash.net.

Please feel free to share your ideas for future programming with Deborah Prise (dprise@gmail.com) or an adult education committee member. A special thanks to adult education committee members Sarah Angrist, Rachel Hovne, Nick Schorr and Tova Tarr!

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

As we begin 2017, social action causes are more important than ever. Please consider joining this committee - share with us your ideas and your passion. Send us an email and we'll be in touch. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

- Geoff Clauss SAC Chair - geoffclauss@yahoo.com

Share the Warmth

Donate your CLEAN & GENTLY-USED coats to the EECM Coat Drive! For more information contact East End Cooperative Ministry - www.eecm.org

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