Cantor Sarah Celebrated Her Ordination with Her Shirat and ALEPH Families

On January 9, Cantor Sarah was ordained as a cantor, culminating more than five years’ training at the ALEPH Ordination Program (AOP), a cantorial program that promotes the rich banquet of global Jewish music. Candidates study classical Ashkenazi nusach (traditional musical motifs) as well as non-Ashkenazi music, such as Sephardic, baal niggun and chant-style singing. Graduates are able to navigate and lead in a wide variety of contexts, blending both traditional and contemporary emerging styles.

“It is extremely gratifying now to be able to officially use the title Cantor in front of my name and know that I earned it through many years of hard work and dedication to this goal,” she said.

For Cantor Sarah, the goal of cantorial ordination germinated in high school. Although she had worked as a full-time cantor since her college graduation, she ran into barriers when she researched mainstream cantorial seminaries and discovered that students with non-Jewish partners were not allowed to apply.

“Even though I wanted to learn, I couldn’t,” she said.

Finally, on her third try, she discovered ALEPH, a program founded by Reb Zalman, who believed that “music is the carrier wave of the message.” She chose the program both because it was welcoming and, more importantly, because of its robust and comprehensive curriculum and respected reputation.

The program exceeded her expectations, shaping her as a well-rounded cantor able to bring much to her congregation. “The ALEPH Cantorial Program cross trains cantors as service leaders, pastoral care givers, life cycle officiants, teachers, and chanters of both classical and progressive nusach and trope. It is because of my training at ALEPH that I was able to go from a Reform synagogue to serving CSH, a Conservative synagogue. In addition, the creativity that we learn in lifting up our prayers with meaning, melody, songs, instruments, chants, and even spoken word adds a layer of skill to service-leading that is unlike any other cantorial training,” Cantor Sarah said.

The dozens of congregants who attend Saturday morning Renewal services know firsthand what Cantor Sarah is talking about. “I love Cantor Sarah’s voice. Besides her effort to learn our traditional Renewal prayers, she has also brought wonderful new songs and prayers that have added to the joy and meaning of Shabbat,” said regular attendee Alan Sidman. Mimi Nelson Oliver agrees. “Renewal services are like a spiritual retreat in the midst of what sometimes feels like a storm — a chance to re-boot, re-connect and reflect on what is really important,” she said.

AOP dates its origins back to the mid-1970s and progressively evolved over the course of four decades to where it is today. It started in Somerville in 1968. Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi, or Reb Zalman as he preferred to be known, was influential in the founding of Havurat Shalom, a collective egalitarian spiritual community. He was a visionary pioneer in contemporary Jewish life. His ideas and work influenced the birth of the Havurah movement and the international Jewish Renewal movement.

In 2000, Reb Zalman engaged Hazzan Jack Kessler to develop a new kind of cantorial program that would train hazzanim who are grounded in tradition but who could also keep Jewish music
Rabbi’s Corner

Respond to Abuse

In late January, three incidents of antisemitic graffiti and one targeting non-binary students were reported at the Village School, a 4-6 grade school in Marblehead. The Torah offers guidance in responding to issues like these.

21Any widow or orphan ye shall not afflict.
22If thou do afflict him, and he cries out at all to Me, I will surely hear his cry. 23And My anger shall blaze forth, and I shall kill you by the sword; and your wives shall become widows and your children orphans. (Exodus 22:21-23)

I have intentionally translated the verses, using Old English, in which ye and you refer to the plural, while thou and thee refer to the singular.

The verses seemingly exhibit two grammatical problems. First, it switches from the plural (ye) to the singular (thou), then back to the plural (you). Second, while the initial verse speaks of the widow and orphan, the next verse uses the pronoun, “him,” seemingly only referring to the orphan.

Rabbi Abraham ben Meir Ibn Ezra (known as Ibn Ezra) lived during the 12th century, first in Spain, then wandering throughout Europe. He was sensitive to these grammatical issues and taught that the Torah was communicating additional information through its unique formulation. He explained that it switches from the plural (“ye shall not afflict”) to the singular (“if thou do afflict”) to indicate that “whoever sees a person afflicting the orphan and the widow and does not aid them, is also considered an afflicter.” In other words, 900 years ago Ibn Ezra interpreted the Torah as addressing the role of bystanders in enabling abuse.

Moreover, by switching back to the plural in the final verse, Ibn Ezra writes, the Torah emphasizes that even if only “one person afflicts an orphan or a widow and no one comes to their aid, all are punished. The next verse therefore reads, ‘I shall kill you (plural),’ that’s all of you.” The afflicter and the bystander are both punished, equally.

Furthermore, when I taught this on a Shabbat morning, Roberta Chadis pointed out that the power of the singular in the second verse, primarily in the use of “him,” but also in “thou,” highlights the individual case of affliction and the individual afflicted. In other words, the Torah makes each case specific, to heighten our sensitivity and empathy toward the afflicted and our outrage towards this behavior.

This Torah wisdom is applicable to combatting antisemitism and attacks on sexual orientation, as experienced at the Village School. To a large degree the response has included this approach. Team Harmony from Marblehead High School, which is trained in the battle against hate, lead peer conversations with Village students. The importance of speaking up, being an ally not a bystander, was emphasized. Moreover, John Buckey, Superintendent of Marblehead Schools, wrote in an email blast, “Over two days, in two different boys bathrooms, in two different areas of the school, a swastika was etched into a stall. Yesterday, profane language targeted at Jewish people was written on a stall in a girls bathroom.” In the fourth incident, the school reported that “Only 2 genders” was graffitied in a bathroom as well. While I believe the specific profane antisemitic language should also have been made public, that is nevertheless a detailed reporting of the events.

As we combat rising antisemitism, let us educate our children in the Torah. Let us educate them against hate by using specific cases and examples and by teaching them the importance of being an upstander, of speaking out against any instances of hate.
CANTOR’S NEWS

The Power of Purim

As Purim approaches, this year we again read (and sing!) the story of Esther. Showcasing a woman’s story in a sea of Jewish patriarchs leaves us with a powerful message. Women, even in ancient times, had opportunities to bring goodness and peace to the world. What does it mean that we not only read the story but act it out for all to see? That we want to rejoice, have fun, and laugh? I think back to Purim 2020, the Shpiel was the last synagogue event that took place in person before the pandemic. The sanctuary was packed with a cast of adults and kids on stage, loud music, fun costumes, and a full audience. That sense of joy and togetherness helped bring us through difficult times in the coming months. Purim, like other Jewish holidays, reminds us of our people’s resilience. May we too feel that sense of rejoicing as we look forward to celebrating Purim together in person in 2022.

Many blessings,
Cantor Sarah

Message from the President

At a recent Zoom-based Shabbat Renewal service, I was looking at all of the faces of our attending congregants on my computer screen and was struck by how much I missed everyone. I missed sitting next to my girlfriends, I missed hearing our voices joined in song, I missed seeing the light from the Ner Tamid that hangs in our sanctuary and graced the beautiful space that was Temple Israel. Perhaps when you read these words, we will be back together and our worlds will have grown to include more than our current limits. Perhaps not. Either way, I hope we will all be grateful for the blessings of a life with people and places to miss. I hope we will appreciate how lucky we are to be part of such a wonderful community, to be connected to this moment in time and to each other, and to share our precious lives with such a kind and generous and special group of people. A recent Torah portion spoke of God’s instructions on how to build the mishkan (the movable place where we were instructed to keep the words of God—the Ten Commandments) before the erection of the first Temple. The instructions were very precise, yet included an important metaphor that seems to have even more significance today: We should build a mishkan for God to dwell in our hearts. May we all remember to open our hearts to God and to each other. May we be thankful for all of our many, many blessings. And when we leave these narrow places and return to an easier life, may we remember to always and ever be grateful and open-hearted.

Warmly,
Ruth Estrich

SAVE THE DATE: Women’s Seder on Sunday, April 3

CSH and the JCCNS will join together to host a Women’s Seder titled, “Journeys to Liberation – Transcendence, Acceptance, and Freedom to Reveal Our True Identities” on Sunday, April 3 at 11 a.m. We will share stories of our foremothers to spiritually prepare for the holiday through prayer, song, story, dance, food, and conversation. The Braid, formerly the Jewish Women’s Theater, will partner with us virtually to bring a creative and modern twist to an ancient tradition. Cantor Sarah will enhance the event with her musical talents. The Braid, formerly Jewish Women’s Theatre, creates a legacy by inspiring Jewish stories that connect us all. As the national go-to Jewish story company that pioneered a new art form called Salon Theatre, they give voice to diverse contemporary stories grounded in Jewish culture and experience that can be performed anywhere.

This event is open to any self-identified woman connected with the Jewish community or who wishes to connect. There is a $5/per person fee for a kosher boxed meal prepared by Adea’s. For more information, contact janis@shirathayam.org

Calendar

SATURDAY, MARCH 12
Shabbat Synaplex
9:00 am Renewal; Traditional Shacharit led by Beni Summers
9:00 am CJE (grades K-6)
10:00 am Torah Service with Hadassah Shabbat Across the Regions; Nosh & Drash with Beni Summers; No Torah Yoga

MONDAY, MARCH 14
7:30 pm Becky’s Book Club, Discuss The Marriage of Opposites by Alice Hoffman (Go to https://shirathayam.org/book-club/ for link and location).

TUESDAY, MARCH 15
4:00 pm CJE (grades 2-7)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16
PURIM CELEBRATION (See insert for details)

FRIDAY, MARCH 18
6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat at CSH

SATURDAY, MARCH 19
Shabbat Synaplex
9:00 am Renewal with Cantor and guest Noam Sender; Traditional Shacharit led by Rabbi Michael
9:00 am CJE (grades K-6)
10:00 am Torah Service; Torah Yoga with Stacie Nardizzi; Nosh & Drash led by Noam Sender

TUESDAY, MARCH 22
4:00 pm CJE (grades 2-7)

FRIDAY, MARCH 25
6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat at CSH

SATURDAY, MARCH 26
Shabbat Synaplex
9:00 am Renewal; Traditional Shacharit led by Jan Brodie
9:00 am CJE (grades K-6)
10:00 am Torah Service; Torah Yoga with Stacie Nardizzi; Nosh & Drash (TBD)

TUESDAY, MARCH 29
4:00 pm CJE (grades 2-7)

FRIDAY, APRIL 1
6:00 pm Kabbalat Shabbat at CSH

SATURDAY, APRIL 2
Shabbat Synaplex
9:00 am Renewal; Traditional Shacharit led by Beni Summers
9:00 am CJE (grades K-6)
10:00 am Torah Yoga with Stacie Nardizzi
10:00 am Torah Service followed by Drash given by Beni Summers: Avodat T’shura: Jewish Framework for Expanded States

See our website calendar (https://shirathayam.shulcloud.com/calendar) for upcoming Traditional Shacharit leaders, Renewal guest musicians and Nosh & Drash leaders.
Cantor Sarah

Continued from page 1

alive, relevant and growing into the future. The two agreed that this would entail training people with a spectrum of skills that go far beyond pure vocal performance and the skill-set that was once sufficient for someone to be called a hazzan. By 2001, Reb Zalman had ordained three hazzanim. Reb Zalman then turned over the effort to Hazzan Jack, who created a comprehensive training program that embraces traditional hazzanut, contemporary Jewish musical and liturgical creativity.

Hazzan Jack, who is a Jewish Theological Seminary trained hazzan/cantor with extensive experience in congregational leadership and a Master’s in Voice from Boston Conservatory, is Director of the ALEPH Cantorial Program. (In 2002 the Cantorial Program and the Rabbinic Program came under the new umbrella of the ALEPH Ordination Program.) As of 2022, ALEPH has ordained 30 cantors. Cantor Sarah is the only cantor ordained in the 2022/5782 class.

“Working with Sarah has been a five-year-long delightful adventure. She is totally dedicated and responsible, and always gives 110%. She has always been the first to volunteer in workshops because she knows that getting involved is the best way to learn. Now she is applying her skills, and her work will surely enrich our congregational life in many ways. I am looking forward to our continued relationship: I haven’t lost a student. I’ve gained a colleague!” Hazzan Jack said by email.

He described the typical ALEPH students as highly gifted, creative individuals who are motivated by a deep desire to be in the forefront of the revitalization of Jewish prayer in this generation. “In ALEPH we focus on combining a deep grounding in the rich heritage of melodies and texts of Jewish prayer, amplified by new rhythms, melodies, and approaches to making communal prayer dynamic, participatory and transformative for heart and mind. Our approach, which has been cultivated in Renewal circles for decades now, has in recent years found its way into mainstream synagogue practice.”

“We find Conservative synagogues like Shirat Hayam, for instance, bringing in Renewal melodies, percussion, meditative prayer experiences, healing prayers, and an array of Renewal style approaches to making communal prayer dynamic and participatory. We believe that synagogues can once again become magnets for Jewish spiritual seekers, Jewish families, and anyone who cares about the continuity of Jewish life, where we can find prayer experiences that elevate our souls, and activate our best selves. We can make the Jewish prayer experience (whether in person or on Zoom) into an engaging and exciting, soul-nourishing experience. This is our commitment,” Hazzan Jack explained.

Yet, for many of us two huge questions still remain unanswered: what exactly is meant by “Renewal?” And how can a synagogue be both Conservative and part of the Renewal movement?

Shaul Magid, the Distinguished Fellow in Jewish Studies at Dartmouth College and author of the seminal American Post-Judaism: Identity and Renewal in a Postethnic Society, generously responded to an email addressing these issues.

From the beginning, according to Magid, Reb Zalman did not envision Renewal as a new Jewish denomination, but rather as a new vision that could revive late 20th century Judaism. “He wanted different communities to adopt pieces of that vision as it suited its own inclinations,” he said. “Renewal offers a different template and assumes we are living in a new global (and not only Jewish) era that demands a more radical re-evaluation of how we engage and encounter Jewish life,” he added.

In other words, Renewal is a tool in our collective toolbox, a lens through which to view Conservative (or Reform, Reconstruction or Orthodox) Judaism. Think of it this way: Judaism is ice cream, a treat that comes in many flavors. Reform, Conservative and Orthodox happen to be vanilla, chocolate and strawberry. Renewal is like chocolate jimmies that can be sprinkled on all three without changing their underlying flavors. Rather, they enhance them.

At Shirat Hayam, Renewal goes beyond the service from 9-10 AM on Shabbat morning: the Renewal approach also informs services and life-cycle rituals. “The synagogue experience, particularly prayer, must be accessible, meaningful and leave people feeling transformed,” said Rabbi Michael. “Perfunctory ritual has failed to maintain the vibrancy of Jewish life. Renewal Judaism offers an approach to revitalizing Jewish practice, which we have successfully infused into our Conservative shul.”

ALEPH Executive Director Sooji Min-Maranda says “many students tend be older, often on their second or third act. For some, ordination was something that was always tugging at their souls and various life circumstances intervened.” She also has seen an uptick in younger applicants who transfer from a more traditional seminary where they didn’t feel their approach to spirituality quite fit. “Most say that they are excited about the way ALEPH embraces spirituality and brings emotional relevance to Jewish life,” she said.

For Cantor Sarah, however, ALEPH is more than just its Ordination Program. “It is a network of people and communities that identify themselves as a part of Renewal Judaism, which is a cross-denominational phenomenon. In the future, we can attend conferences, participate in learning, and connect with other innovative synagogues and leaders to enhance the programming and share what we do here with others outside of the North Shore,” she said.

Ben Yellin Thanks His Shirat Community

On Sept 27, Ben Yellin suffered a devastating bicycle accident. Karen and David Rosenberg and 182 donors funded the purchase of a wheelchair accessible van for Ben Yellin in a mere 5 days during the last days of December. Below is Ben’s letter to his CSH family.

To Our Shirat Hayam Community,

We have been overwhelmed with the outpouring of support since my accident in September. It is hard to put into words how much we appreciate the community has done for us. I’ve already been able to take advantage of your kindness in this new modified van by starting my therapy at Project Walk. It’s more than just the van, though. The Go Fund Me page that everyone has donated to is just amazing and it will fund so many of the costs associated with my accident. The amount of food that has been delivered is a blessing as there is so little time for Marcy to cook a meal these days. She also told me how you took such care of her and Jacob while I was in the ICU and at Spaulding.

We appreciate the continue support of our Temple family. You have been a blessing to our family.

With so much gratefulness,
Ben Yellin
Meet Patti Arundel, CSH Bookkeeper

Patti Arundel joined the Shirat Hayam team in the fourth quarter as our bookkeeper and spent the month of December working with Anna Hathaway to manage the enterprise’s ongoing accounting process. Before that, she worked at Salem Suede, which was founded by David’s dad. Patti has two grown children and is the proud grandmother of two grandsons. She looks forward to supporting all of our numbers needs and getting involved in other operational aspects of the congregation.

Donations

December 1, 2021 – January 31, 2022

**BRODY MINYAN FUND**

- Get well to Ann Segal
- Get well to Janice Levine
- In honor of Caleb Sidman, son of Renee and Jason Sidman, becoming a Bar Mitzvah from Doris Villa
- In memory of Evelyn Handis
- In memory of Harold Epstein
- In memory of Leonard Lieberson from Eli Tallow
- In memory of Philip Linsky from Gloria Sax
- In memory of Jeffrey Schwartz from Jill and Murray Goodman
- In memory of Sandy and Myron Lappin
- In memory of Selma Shoer, mother of Brian Shoer, aunt of Scott Kaplowitch from Natalie White
- In memory of
  - Mother, Belle Rosenkrantz
  - Uncle, Hyman Krugman from Alice Leidner

- Aunt, Betty Levine from Alva Parker
- Father, Samuel Brooks from Andrea Kline
- Father, Robert Costello
- Father, Richard Parsons from Andrea and Robert Costello
- Husband and Father, Norton Flaxer from Ann-Jean, Scott, Aden and Andrea Flaxer
- Mother, Anna Titchell Gilman
- Step-father, David Gilman from Arlene Leventhal
- Mother, Nadya Shames from Aron Mirmelshteyn
- Father, Samuel Ribok from Barbara Goldberg
- Father-in-law, Joseph Fishman from Bernard Handis
- Mother, Sylvia Polsky from Bernard Mitchell
- Father, Melvin Polsky from Bernice Mitchell
- Mother, Sarah Brenner from Beverly Shapiro
- Mother, Florence Lewis
- Uncle, Albert Lewis
- Uncle, Reuben Lewis from Constance Lewis
- Great Grandfather, Max Kramer from Deborah McWade
- Father, Arthur Itzkowitz from Doreen Godes
- Mother, Esther Tallow from Eli Tallow
- Father, Saul Young from Helene Aranow
- Mother, Shirley Goldberg from Herbert Goldberg
- Mother, Minnie Axelrod from Israel Arnold
- Father, Israel Arnold from Judith and Mark Arnold
- Grandmother, Emma Stark
- Grandfather, Siegfried Stark from Madeline Stark
- Mother, Sarah Glazer from Myles Glazer
- Father, Max Goldstein from Myra Gulko
- Mother, Lee Stoller
- Grandfather, Harry Berman
- Good friend, Rebecca Shepard from Natalie White
- Grandmother, Rose Rubin
- Aunt, Zelda Rotman
- Uncle, Jack Rotman
- Aunt, Celia Lebow
- Cousin, Nancy Shertzer from Rhonda Preman
- Nephew, Jonathan Ogan from Robert Ogan
- Mother, Minnie Gilefsky from Ronald Gilefsky
- Father, Fred Gerber from Sandy Hooker
- Mother, Roberta Kline
- Grandmother, Ida Razin from Susan Kline
- Mother, Sally Tattlebaum from Toby Sloane
- Mother, Sally Tattlebaum from Toby Sloane

**Life of the Congregation**

Thank you to Sheri Schapiro, Deborah Noah, Andrea Kline, and many others who have passed away.

**Members:**

**Frances Bobroff**
1/9/2022

**Philip Linsky**
1/20/2022

**Leonard Lieberson**
1/26/2022

**Florence Wigetman**
1/20/2022

**Judith Fishman**
12/3/2021

**Selma Shoer**
12/24/2021

**Elaine Simons**
1/9/2022

**Relatives of Members:**

- **Judith Fishman**
  - Mother of Joan Rosenthal
- **Selma Shoer**
  - Mother of Brian Shoer
  - Aunt of Scott Kaplowitch
- **Elaine Simons**
  - Grandmother of Joseph Simons

**Donations**

Our deepest condolences to those who have passed away.

**Members:**

- **Frances Bobroff**
  - 1/9/2022
- **Philip Linsky**
  - 1/20/2022
- **Leonard Lieberson**
  - 1/26/2022
- **Florence Wigetman**
  - 1/20/2022
- **Judith Fishman**
  - 12/3/2021
- **Selma Shoer**
  - 12/24/2021
- **Elaine Simons**
  - 1/9/2022

**CONDOLENCES**

Condolences from the desk of Janis Knight, Director, Center for Jewish Education:

Winter finds CJE busy with the Achrayut unit, the concepts of our responsibilities to others, whether through Tzedakah or acts of lovingkindness or even courtesy. Our teens baked for their senior friends in the Better Together program and our students in grades 4 – 7 are taking new electives classes, including graphic arts, music and (of course) more cooking! Electives give students a chance to explore the diverse array of Jewish culture and let them explore beyond the prayer and values curricula that form most of our studies.

It continues to be a challenging time to be a teacher (and a student). I would like to once again publicly thank the men and women who come weekly and semi-weekly to teach and learn with our students. While much of our everyday world seems to have gone back to normal, it has not and the stress is wearing on all. More than ever, our teachers are called upon to be patient, to be reflective, to model resiliency. Meanwhile, the rapidly changing nature of our times results in stressed out children, impatient colleagues, changing curricular goals, and open classroom models that are not always well-suited to educational needs. Through it all, the CJE has been blessed with competent and caring teachers. Thank you to Sheri Schapiro, Deborah Noah, Andrea Katz, Rachel Schwart, Tracy Savageaux, Jason Stark, Cantor Sarah, and Rabbi Michael.

**Becky’s Book Club**

Join Becky’s Book Club facilitator and leader, Amy Cohn, for CSH monthly discussions. Named in memory of Becky Shepard z”l, who started the CJE congregational book club and passed away in 2014, the meetings take place on Zoom and are open to the community. The group will discuss The Marriage of Opposites by Alice Hoffman on March 14 (a forbidden love story set in the early 1800s on St. Thomas about the extraordinary woman who gave birth to the Jewish painter Camille Pissarro—the Father of Impressionism).

All meetings start at 7:30 pm. after minyan. Live Zoom link is available at shirathayam.org. Go to the Get Involved tab, click Affinity Groups and then click Becky’s Book Club.

**Continued on next page**
In appreciation of the engagement of Emma McGuiirk, granddaughter of Phyllis Sagan, to William Rain
In honor of Lily McGuirk, granddaughter of Phyllis Sagan, being accepted to Trinity College from Beverly Kahn
In memory of Philip Linsky from Beth and Jeffrey Kasten
In memory of Jeffrey Schwartz from Diana Kaplan
In honor of Caleb Sidman, son of Renee and Jason Sidman, becoming a Bar Mitzvah
In memory of Philip Linsky
In memory of Leo Karas, father of Joe Karas
In memory of Judith Fishman, mother of Joan Rosenthal
In memory of Leonard Lieberson from Lori and Larry Groipen

In memory of
Father, Bernard Siskind
Grandfather, Louis Lipsky from Beverly Kahn

GENERAL FUND
In appreciation of the kindness of Ruth Estrich from Alvh Parker
In honor of the birth of Aliya Rose Jasilli, daughter of Jen and Nick Jasilli, granddaughter of Lori and Larry Groipen from Erica and Eric Osattin
In honor of the birthdays of Nana and Papa from The Sarnowitz and Bowers Family
In honor of the birth of Isaac ilan Lemberg, son of Alison and Guy Lemberg, grandson of Marla and Philip Gay from Phyllis Sagan
In honor of the birth of our granddaughter, Abigail Sophia Osattin in honor of the new home of Alison, Gabe and Matan Silverman from Sandi and Stuart Osattin
In memory of Philip Linsky from Arlene and David Addio; Beth and Marc Andler; Robin and Michael Blake; Mark Blass; Louise Chudnofsky; Roberta Cohen; Robin and Bob Cooper; Carol and Samuel Denbor; Charlotte Fine; Marshla Gerber; Herb Goldberg; Myra and Paul Gulko; Phyllis and Howard Kaplan; Phyllis Levin; Lois Ogan; Laura and Bruce Rafey; Harriet and David Rostoff; Phyllis Sagan; Barbara and David Schneider; Cheryl and Arthur Schwartz; Toby Sloan; Karen and Steve Solomon; Marilyn Stoll; Ellen and Barry Turkian; Barbara Vinick; Reggie and Lewis Weinstein
In memory of Jeffrey Schwartz from Izi and Howie Abrams; Beth and Marc Andler; Rhona and Steve Brand; Kelly Flynn; Susan and Harvey Fritz; Valerie and Alan Gilbert; Andrea Kline; Ilana and Greg Mogolesko; Myra and Paul Guiky; Gila and Al Namias; Marjorie and Randall Putkin; Elise and Richard Rothbard
In memory of Leonard Lieberson from Terry and Mark Berenson; Carol and Sam Denbor; Mary Ellen Healey; Shari Sagan and Scott McGuirk; Fran Pearlman; Phyllis Sagan; Marilyn Stoll
In memory of Charles Sagan on his yahrzeit from Hope and Larry Zabar
In memory of Leo Karas, father of Joe Karas from Debbie and Howie Brooks; Phyllis Sagan
In memory of Claire Spielberg, mother of Jay Spielberg from Janice Levine
In memory of Judith Fishman, mother of Joan Rosenthal from Lois Ogan; Phyllis Sagan
In memory of Evelyn Handis from Ruth and Eric Kahn; Ellen and Barry Turkian
In memory of Selma Shoer, mother of Brian Shoer, aunt of Scott Kaplowitch from Ilana and Greg Mogolesko
In memory of Sandy and Myron Lappin from Sandi and Stuart Osattin
In memory of
Mother, Jeannette Schneidar from Alan Schnelwar
Father, Leo Cohen from Barry Cohen
Grandmother, Sadie Epstein
Father, Saul Kauder from Bonnie Kauder; David Kauder
Father, William Cohen
Sister, Miriam Cohen Lehman from Bunny Cohnen Gofinkle
Son, Matthew Forman from Dorothy Forman
My parents, Chana and Beno Dodyk
All my relatives from Elizabeth Dodyk
Mother, Dorothy Blitt
Mother, Leah Vishno from Francia and Lowell Blitt
Mother, Sylvia Elowsich from George Shube
Mother, Marion Feldman from Judith Feldman
Mother-in-law, Ruth Evelyn White from Judy White
Father, Martin Liebman from Lois Kaplan
Sister, Briana Lisa Foreman from Rand Foreman-Bergman
Father, Seymour Bergman from Arnold Bergman
Mother, Rose Bornstein from Norma Rooks
Mother, Belle Gerber from Valerie Gilbert

HOWARD STEVEN FEFFER SCHOLARSHIP FUND
In memory of
Grandfather, Joseph Kalman Feffer from Lawrence Feffer

KIDDUSH FUND
In appreciation of CSH from Barry Yackolow; Susan Yackolow
In honor of Caleb Sidman, son of Renee and Jason Sidman, becoming a Bar Mitzvah from Ellen and Richard Alexander
In memory of Philip Linsky from Ellen and Richard Alexander; Beth and Bob Hoffman; Joan and Murry Rich; Kailie Winkeller
In memory of Jeffrey Schwartz from Ellen and Richard Alexander; Barbara Vinick
In memory of Evelyn Handis from Louis Sadur

In memory of
Wife, Harriet Diamond from Alan Diamond
Father, Samuel Sch nelwar from Alan Schnelwar
Father, Israel Shuman from Arnold Shuman
Father, Isidor Tolpin
Father-in-law, Milton Vinick from Barbara Vinick
Great grandfather, Jacob Steinberg
Grandmother, Sylvia Kramer from Deborah McWade
Mother, Mollie Goldberg from Howard S. Goldberg
Mother, Wilma Alexander from Ellen and Richard Alexander
Mother, Irma Kahn from Eric Kahn

In memory of
Father, Barnett Kraft from Saul Kraft from Frances Pearlman
Mother, Sara Goldman from Paul Goldman
Brother, Philip Goldman from Gloria Sax
Mother, Edna Bornstein from Helaune Cotton
Mother, Frieda Ross from Libby Ellin
Friend, Beverly Richman from Lois Ogan
Husband, Melvin Chudnofsky from Louise Chudnofsky
Husband, Joseph Bean from Marjorie Bean
Mother, Shirley Goldberg from Marty Goldberg
Son, Alan Cashman from Marvin Cashman
Mother-in-law, Beatrice Newman from Marvin Cashman
Mother, Shirley Harsip from Michael Harsip
Mother, Anna Schachter Uncle, Leo Schachter Uncle, Velvel Schachter Father, Jack Schachter from Sandra Hirschberg
Husband, George Linsky from Audrey Linsky
Mother, Frances Dillon from Nonnie Robin
Brother, Murray Weinstein from Reva Surette
Mother, Judith Ogan from Robert Ogan
Father, Abraham Alpert
Uncle, Charles Gilman
from Ronna Greif
Parents, Sarah and Joseph
Cohen
from Sandra Osattin
Mother, Eleanor Rubin
from Sheldon Rubin
Mother, Dora Osattin
from Stuart Osattin

**PRAyERSketch Fund**
In memory of Selma Shooer, mother of Brian Shooer, aunt of Scott Kaplowitch
from Rhonda and David Preman

**In Memory of**
Husband, father and grandfather, Myer Rubin
from The Preman Family

**Rabi’s Discretionary Fund**
In appreciation of Rabbi Michael
from Cynthia and Andrew Boyd; Elyse Caruso; Amy Cohn and Seth Berman; Lori and Steve Edelson; Marilyn Epstein and Family; Randy Ferrara; The Kaplowitch Family; Joseph Karas; Joan and Steven Rosenthal; Beth Salier; JoAnn Simmons and Chet Derr; Eli Talkov and Family; Barry Yacklow; Susan Yacklow
In honor of the birth of Joan and Steve Rosenthal’s grandson, Ellis
from JoAnn Simons and Steven Rosenthal; Beth Salier; JoAnn Simmons and Chet Derr; Eli Talkov and Family; Barry Yacklow; Susan Yacklow
In honor of the birth of Joan and Steven Rosenthal’s grandson, Ellis
from JoAnn Simmons and Steven Rosenthal; Beth Salier; JoAnn Simmons and Chet Derr; Eli Talkov and Family; Barry Yacklow; Susan Yacklow
In honor of Carol Levin’s special birthday
from Barbara and David Schneider
In memory of Leonard Lieberson
from Arlene and David Addiss; Susan and Frank Cocomo; Charlotte Fine; Gail and Jerry Gerson; Barbara and Ron Gilefsky; Janet and David Grey; Beverly Kahn; Clare and David Kaplan; Stephanie and Andrew Katz; Harryette Katzen; Janice Kopelowitz; Joseph Marrow; Karen and David Rosenberg; Barbara and David Schneider; Toby Sloane and Family
In memory of Philip Linsky from Donna and Archie Cohan; Lori Dver; Dawn Ehrlich; Leslie and Harold Freedman; Beverly Kahn; Stephanie and Andrew Katz
In memory of Jeffrey Schwartz from Marci and Robert Alpert; Pearl and Maurice Greenbaum; Amy and Jeffrey Sorkin
In memory of Eugene Mishkin, wife of Robert Mishkin from Dawn Ehrlich; The Ogan Family
In memory of Judith Fishman, mother of Joan Rosenthal from Susan and Larry Goldberg
In memory of Evelyn Cohn, mother of Amy Cohn from Pearl and Maurice Greenbaum
In memory of Leo Karas, father of Joe Karas from Judy Eidelberg; Phyllis and Michael Eidelberg; Lynn and Neal Mizner
In memory of Seymour Friedman from Lynn and Neal Mizner

**In Memory of**
Mother, Ida Woogmaster from Barbara Gilefsky
Father, Harry Rodman from Gerald Rodman
Granddaughter, Marissa Broady from Louise Chudnofsky
Father, Leo Cohen from Michael Cohen
Wife, Sandra Holmes from Richard Holmes
Father, Albert Chery from Ruthann Cohn

**RITUAL Fund**
In memory of Philip Linsky from Marcia Cohen; Judith Goldberg and Alan Diamond; Judy Rosenberg

**In Memory of**
Mother, Ida Gold from Beverly Nathan
Father, Roz Epstein from Jay Epstein
Brother-in-law, Ralph Dunn
Mother-in-law, Jenny Postor from Cynthia Poster
Grandfather, Jack Abrams from Rhonda Gilberg

**Shir Chessed Fund**
In appreciation of Shir Chessed from Marilyn Epstein and Family; Rae Goldberg; Ann Pendexter
Get well to Jerry Madorsky from Bette and Dan Shoreman
In honor of Cantor Sarah’s ordination from Margery Shapiro
In honor of Caleb Sidman, son of Renee and Jason Sidman, becoming a Bar Mitzvah from Karen and Jerry Madorsky; Margery Shapiro
In honor of the birth of Isaac Ilan Lemberg, grandson of Marla and Philip Gay from Karen and Mark Meyer
In honor of Bethany and Moshe Roditi’s 45th wedding anniversary from Gitte Kushner
In memory of Jeffrey Schwartz from Sherry Wurtzel, mother of Renee Sidman from Bette and Dan Shoreman
In memory of Philip Linsky from Marla and Philip Gay; Susan and Larry Goldberg
In memory of Elaine Simons, grandmother of Joe Simons from Marla and Philip Gay
In memory of Judith Fishman, mother of Joan Rosenthal from Carla Greenberg; Margery Shapiro
In memory of Leonard Lieberson from Lois Ogan and Family

**Tzedek Lakol - Racial Justice Initiative**
In honor of Caleb Sidman, son of Renee and Jason Sidman becoming a Bar Mitzvah from Bethany and Moshe Roditi; Sue Weiss
In memory of Philip Linsky from Carole Cohen; Barbara and Alan Sidman
In memory of Frances Bobroff from Phyllis Snyder

**In Memory of**
Father, Stephen Simmons from Jill Simmons-Wetmore
Husband, Stephen Simmons from Judi Simmons
Father, David Goldberg from Karen Meyer
Father, Seymour Bergman from Arnold Bergman
Aunt, Arlene Burman from Marsha Gerber

**ToraH Fund**
In memory of Carl Goldman, brother of Harvey Goldman from Marion Garfinkel

**In Memory of**
Husband and father, Robert Garfinkel
Sister-in-law, Barbara Freedman
Grandfather, Harry Osattin
Grandmother, Malia Osattin from Marion Garfinkel and Family
Mother, Anne Bornstein
Uncle, Saul Bornstein from Ruth Kahn

**Tree Planted in Israel**
In memory of Harry Epstein from Ellen and Yehiel Vilenchik
In memory of Jeffrey Schwartz from The Lapatin Family; Fran and Bob Walker
In memory of Evelyn Handis from Eugenia Mishkin, wife of Robert Mishkin from Leslie and Bob Ogan and Family
In memory of Leonard Lieberson from Lois Ogan and Family

**Interview**
Continued from back page
the laying of the corner stone. I was also President of the Temple Beth El Young Couples’ Club, which brought many new members to the temple.
Here at Shirat Hayam, I am honored to lead minyan once a week and to sing at Holy Happy Hour Minyan. (I also sang with Cantors Emil, Elana and Alty). The music is uplifting and inspirational. We are most fortunate to have Cantor Sarah and Rabbi Michael — they are an incredible team! Cantor Emil taught me to read the Torah portion for Rosh Hodesh, which I usually do monthly along with Shelley Sackett and Natalie White. I also chant the paragraph about Queen Esther from the Megillah on Purim, which is an entirely different melody from Rosh Hodesh.

**What are some of your most memorable chanting experiences?**
First, my husband, Charles, and I performed on many cruise ships in the talent show and we ran the Friday evening services. Charles read the prayers that were in English and I would chant the Hebrew prayers for Friday night. There were usually 15 to 100 people who attended, so we got to meet many of our fellow clansmen on board. The cruise ship provided a nice collaboration after the service of wine, challah, gefilte fish and even chicken soup.
Second, at one point in time, Robert (Bob) Littlefield was the organist at Temple Beth El. Bob was and is, the choir director at the First Parish Unitarian Church in Beverly. He wanted his congregation at church to hear some of our beautiful music and asked me to chant “Kol Nidre” with his choir as backup. I was very honored and it was well received.

**Anything you’d like to add?**
I have been legal secretary to Attorney Loring Paul Fluke in Lynn for almost 55 years. I love being a member of Shirat Hayam. We are fortunate to have Ruth Estrich as president. Her message to all of us about being grateful for so many things is significant and always adds to the service.

Congregation Shirat Hayam | 781.599.8005 | www.shirathayam.org | NEW WAVE 7
CONGREGATIONAL SPOTLIGHT

Meet Soprano Ann Segal

Every issue, The New Wave spotlights a congregant as a way to help us get to know each other by putting a face with a name. This month, soprano soloist Ann Segal (whose voice we’ve enjoyed for years at High Holy Days, weekly minyan, Purim, Rosh Hodesh and more) shares her thoughts about Shirat Hayam and its special, personal meaning.

What role did religion and synagogue life play in your childhood?

I was born and raised in Peabody, Massachusetts almost 85 years ago! We lived on Main Street, across the street from the Peabody Public Library. At that time, there were only three synagogues in Peabody: Anshai Sfard, Temple Tifereth Israel, and Congregation Sons of Israel, which my grandparents and family attended. The women sat upstairs and the men downstairs. I can still remember leaning on the balcony, which overlooked the bima, to listen to the combined men’s and boys’ choir. In those days, no women were allowed to sing in the choir at that time. The men’s harmonies and beautiful Hebrew chanting captivated me. Each day of the High Holy Days, I would revel in the sound of this glorious music. It still moves me to the core.

When did you start singing and ultimately become a professional singer?

I began singing publicly in the first grade. We would have assemblies and the teacher would call on several of us to get up and sing a song. I was always called on, and would stand in the front of the room and sing the same song every time — “You Are My Sunshine.”

My parents moved to Salem when I was in the seventh grade. I became friends with a girl who encouraged me to join a chorus called “The Magic of Youth,” which sang on Radio Station WESX in Salem every Saturday. I sang with this group from the time I was 12 until 14. I also ran the “Boom Mike” and had a solo every other week. The director was Otis Blanchard, who would interview youngsters who wanted to sing, play the guitar or piano and even tap dance. I sang with the Glee Club in High School and soloed in the Senior Review, singing “Somewhere Over the Rainbow,” the finale for Act One.

After my marriage to Harold Sontz in 1957, I joined the Temple Beth El Choral Society in Lynn under the direction of Cantor Morton S. Shanok, who was my voice teacher for many years. I also studied voice at New England Conservatory of Music and with several other teachers and coaches, including Paul Madore. I am a member of the Paul Madore Chorale and have been singing with them for over 40 years!

On three occasions during the Memorial Day Celebration, I was asked to sing the Star Spangled Banner on the lawn of the Peabody City Hall in front of the monuments which honored those who had passed in the wars. The Mayor, School Committee, flag bearers and assembled group were all present. I was very honored to have sung for this event and to give back a little to the City where I was born.

I have performed as a soloist with the Salem and North Shore Philharmonic Orchestras, the Quincy Choral Society, the Lynn Concert Singers and the Paul Madore Chorale. I even sang “The Star Spangled Banner” at Manning Bowl at the opening of a baseball game and performed with the United States Navy Band.

I had the honor of cantoring for five years at the Friday evening and Saturday morning services at Temple Tifereth Shalom (then Temple Beth Shalom) in Peabody. Over the years, I have sung with approximately 15 cantors in various synagogues and have sung at many B’nei Mitzvah, anniversaries, weddings, bridal luncheons, donor dinners, sisterhood meetings, nursing homes, rehabilitation centers — you name it!

What brought you to Shirat Hayam and how are you involved?

Prior to the merger, I was a longtime member of Temple Beth El (since 1957), where I was the President of the Temple Beth El Choral Society. I sang in the professional choir every Friday night with our wonderful quartet. We even sang on WBZ TV in Boston at the studio! On the High Holy Days, our choir added four singers to become an octet. The music was very different from today — more traditional and accompanied by the organ.

When they broke ground for Temple Beth El in Swampscott, I was President of the Temple Beth El Choral Society and was included in...