

FROM THE RABBI
Erev Rosh Hashanah Sermon



Here we are again. Tonight, we are brought to the edge of the abyss and called to answer the first and most important question asked in the Torah: *Ayeka?* Where are you?

OK, so you're turning 45 this year. Or 55. Or 70. That's a long time to be alive! What do you have to show for it? How meaningfully have you lived? How deeply have you loved? How generously have you given? How much loss have you suffered? What are your triumphs? What are your wounds?

What was worth fighting for? Do you walk with integrity or with regret? With fear or with courage? Who are you?

These questions create an opening – so it is only natural to pause and recognize we are vulnerable in the face of a new year, and in recognition that another year has come to an end.

These questions for all of us likely highlight a perceptible distance in between our realities and our aspirations for ourselves. Time is passing, and we have less time to meet our aspirations. Will I get to where I want to be? Do I really know what I long for?

We can explore what kind of people we have become, we can examine ourselves and identify deficiencies of character.

We can explore what kind of country we live in. We can examine deficiencies of democracy, and our communal and national realities. Is our country where we want it to be? There's so much angst and brokenness. There's there's fear, and many questions.

We can explore what kind of Jewish people we are. We can examine how we express differences, how we love and wrestle with Israel. What it means to be a Jew in America today.

We have yearnings and we have realities. We don't want to give up our imaginings of who we want to be and where we want to go, not as individuals, as Americans, or as Jews. And in this moment — *bein hashmashot* — between two years — is when we can best see both the past and the potential future in one moment.

(continued on page 2)

Contents

Gesher News4
 One Book, One Congregation.....5
 From the President7
 High Holy Days Highlights.....9
 Shabbat San Diego13
 Life Cycle16
Todah Rabah.....17
 Let's *Kvell*17
 Reconstructionist News19
Yahrzeits20

COMING UP...



Special *Kabbalat Shabbat* and *Sukkot* Service
 Friday, October 2 • 6:00 p.m. at
 Goldstein-Siegel home

Simhat Torah
 Monday, October 5
 6:30 p.m. at SDJA



Blessing of the Animals
 Sunday, October 11
 12:15 p.m. at Carmel Grove
 Park

Office Hours
 Monday – Friday
 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 Valentina Sharabi
 Congregation Administrator
 858-268-3674 x101

(continued from page 1)

Last year while on a rabbinic retreat, my colleague, Rabbi Michelle Dardashti of Brown Hillel shared the writings of Parker Palmer, a noted writer, speaker and activist who focuses on issues in education, community, leadership, spirituality and social change.

Among many other topics, he writes and speaks about what he calls “the tragic gap.” The tragic gap is the distance between the hard realities around us, and what we know to be possible among us because we have seen it with our own eyes. It is called “tragic” not because it might be sad - although sometimes it is - he calls it tragic in the classic sense of the word, because the distance between reality and aspiration will always be there. It will always be that way, even while we will continue to strive to bring the two closer together.

When we came together at that retreat, my colleagues and I were grappling professionally and personally with the then recent failure (again) of the peace talks and the revelations brought about by the Pew Study on American Jewish life. Some of us had recently dealt with serious illness, with the sudden death of family members, questions about their rabbinic work, and overall satisfaction with where life had led them in the 18 years of the fellowship.

Admittedly, we were all in various expressions of this very idea. There was an uncomfortable distance between what we hoped for and where we hoped to be at this time in our lives. We spent those three days talking about how to bridge the space, the distance of the gap.

It’s clear that this idea is an eternal part of the human condition. The “tragic gap” could be used to describe any aspect of our lives, personal, communal or global.

There is an interesting parallel to the world of prayer. Jewish tradition teaches that we should face Jerusalem when we pray. The rabbis ask towards which Jerusalem should we face? The *yerushalyim shel ma’alah* or the *yerushalayim shel maatah*. The heavenly Jerusalem or the earthly Jerusalem? The real Jerusalem of political conflict, thousands of cats, and garbage that doesn’t always get picked up in a timely manner?

Or the heavenly one of peace, ancient history, justice, and *tikvah* — hope. The Jerusalem that struggles or the one that doesn’t?

There isn’t really a dispute, says one rabbi, as both Jerusalems face one another, and you cannot get to the heavenly one without traversing the earthly one. So it is quite similar to Palmer’s idea, since there is no way towards our aspirations except through our reality.

Sometimes we think: “Oh, next year will be different.” Then when we get to the next year we ask, “shouldn’t the world look different, somehow?” We realize that however much progress we have made, there is still a long way to go. Just last year we marked 60 years since the Civil Rights Act, and in the last year we have had to remember far too many times that #blacklivesmatter.

We think Jews have attained a degree of comfort and strength in the diaspora, and then following the massacre at Charlie Hebdo, four Jews were murdered in a kosher deli in Paris. There are many more examples, of course, and it is because, as Palmer presents it, most of us stand in these gaps all the time. Sometimes we veer off towards one extreme he calls “corrosive cynicism” — the despair that makes it seem like there is nothing that can be done. Other times we head into the other extreme of “irrelevant idealism,” when our naïve fantasy makes it seem like everything will be ok. Both views are partial and fragmented, and leave us disengaged entirely in a kind of paralysis. So collapsing into one extreme or the other doesn’t help.

This “gap” exists in everything: space, time, and within human beings.

What is required is an open heart, a sharpened awareness of being in the gap. Our coming together tonight is in part in order to identify and navigate the Gaps of our existence. The gap between who we are and who we want to be; the gap between what we want for our country and what is; and the gap between what we understand to be our mission as a Jewish people, and how we manifest our communal destiny.

(continued on page3)

(continued from page 2)

The tragic gap is a place of motion if we can know the reality, and not give up on our aspirations. It is part of our Jewish condition to strive towards something more even while living in the moment. The Jewish narrative is steeped in the quest for redemption. We believe it is possible because it has happened before — the Exodus from Egypt is the story we tell and retell to remind us that in every generation we must remember that once we were slaves, and now we are free. As a result, we have a responsibility for others' redemption as well. Doing this work together can yield greater depth and connection, since collectively, we hold the distance between reality and aspiration.

We've all had a certain kind of year, and we know what we are still longing for. So over these *yamim noraim*, we will be dwelling in this gap together. We will sit in the complexity of the in-between. The lives we've led, and the lives we've yet to lead. For ourselves, for our nation, and for the Jewish people. And perhaps — even for just a few moments — we will be able to get closer to our aspirations, our dreams, and keep them company.

Shana Tova! May our journey of the new year yield renewal for us all.

— Rabbi Yael Ridberg

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Rosh Hashanah sermon, Kol Nidre, Yom Kippur sermons and divrei Torah will be posted to the website in the next few days. To listen to the Rabbi's Kol Nidre sermon, click [here](#). To listen to her Yom Kippur sermon, click [here](#).



Rabbi's Café • Sundays • 10:30 – 12:00 p.m. at SDJA

This year Rabbi Yael will introduce the Jewish practice of *Musar*, which offers each of us a method of cultivating character traits that we want to embody. The central premise of *Musar* practice is that the ultimate purpose of each of our lives is to make this world a better place and that integral to the work of repairing the world (*tikkun olam*) is the work of elevating the level at which we each individually behave in the world (*tikkun middot*). Through this practice, we are offered a way of becoming more patient, more trusting, more reliable, more forgiving and so on. Each of these character traits that we cultivate is called a *middah* (virtue or value), and each month we will examine a different virtue. **Mark your calendars:** November 8, December 13, January 17, February 7, March 6, April 10



Do you know what went on upstairs at Al Bahr Center on *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur* mornings? Well, let me tell you!

My mom, Sandy Sherman (on guitar) and I led the Family Service for young families which included a wonderful family prayer opportunity under personal *tallitot*, a very special *Shema* moment, singing, sharing, and praying. It was a chance for young children to learn about and experience the High Holy Days and for parents to be able to pray and remember loved ones.

Simultaneously, Carolyn Harris, a beloved Gesher School teacher, led an age-appropriate service for our 7–11 year olds. She included personal reflection opportunities for children to illustrate and write their personal reflections about the holiday. After the hour-long service, Carolyn and I came together to share songs and stories with the children, and then we divided into two groups. We tossed “I’m Sorry” ping pong balls into a bin and shared our wrongdoings. We traced a body and shared what each body part can be used for in the new year. The children traced their own hands and wrote how they intended to use their hands for good. We made new years cards for family members and got to know each other during a fun Skittles activity. And through songs, the children practiced the *shofar* blasts and heard and sang about the story of Jonah and the Whale. We had two fun-filled mornings full of learning and sharing. Next year, come on up and visit us, and see how the Dor Hadash children are spending the High Holy Days.



Todah rabah (thank you very much) to all who participated and volunteered for the children.

- To my mom, Sandy Sherman, who helped lead the Family Services.
- To Joanna Gerlt, who coordinated the parent and *madri'im* volunteers and to those who volunteered: Cynthia Sitek-Chandler; Leah Chandler; Becca Jensen; Gali Laska; Tamar and Adam Ladd; Ayala Ben-Tall,; Jonathan Ingber, Carolyn Harris; Giza Braun; Samuel and Rhaiza Jablecki; Catherine Clancy; Joanna Skolnick, Joanna Gerlt; David and Joanna Brooks-Kamper; Becky Biegelsen and Mark Ander; Heidi Feldman.

Annual Sukkot Shabbat

Friday, October 2, 6:00 p.m.
at the home of Bob Siegel
and Ros Goldstein.

Vav students will receive their
siddur in a special ceremony
during *Kabbalat Shabbat*
services.

Bring a potluck dairy/
vegetarian item to share.

Dor Hadash's 8th Annual Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 11 at 12:15 p.m.
Carmel Grove Park in Carmel Valley
3801 Carmel Grove Road



Feel free to bring a picnic lunch and enjoy the playground.
(There are no bathrooms at the park.)

**Your child(ren) will be honored at our New
Student Consecration
and Simḥat Torah Celebration
Monday, October 5 • 6:30 p.m.
in the library at SDJA**

**We will welcome the holiday of Simḥat Torah
with singing and dancing as we celebrate the
Torah.**

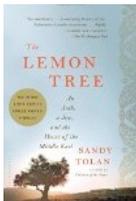
**This consecration marks the official beginning of
religious school for our students.**

**Your child(ren) will receive a gift from
Dor Hadash in celebration of this life cycle event.**



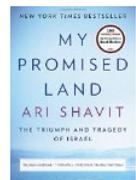
Mazal tov to Holly Gail Baumann and Betsy
Schneider for receiving the Advanced Pedagogic
Award for professional development for the 5775
school year.

ONE BOOK, ONE CONGREGATION



OBOC has selected their next two books. On Sunday, November 22 at 1:00 p.m. the group will meet at the home of Bleema and Richard to discuss Sandy Nolan's *The Lemon Tree*. On January 8 at *Kabbalat Shabbat* services at SDJA they will discuss Ari Savit's *My Promised Land*. Rabbi Yael will facilitate the conversation on January 8.

Support Dor Hadash; please buy the books through our [website](#). Be sure to sign up with iGive so that Dor Hadash earns both through iGive and Amazon.



FIRST DAY OF GESHER SCHOOL



Madrichim: Melina, Brianna, Charlotte, Isha, Sophia, Becca, Leah, Noah, Ezra, Audrey



Char, Rosa and Ella



Becca (*madricha*), Giza and Gan and *Alef* students



Ed Director: Betsy Schneider. **Teachers:** Giza Braun, Carolyn Harris, Mallory Genauer, Mindy Nnambi, Holly Gail Baumann

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Todah Rabah



On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I want to offer a *todah rabah* (thank you very much) to everyone who helped make our High Holy Days experience a memorable one.

- To the Ritual Committee: Susan Levine, Committee Chair; Holly Baumann; Shari Ciancio, John Ciancio, Mort Tuchin, and newest member Susanne Scherman, who all worked closely together and with Rabbi Yael and Betsy Schneider to plan our High Holy Days.
- To Rick King and Susan Levine for baking and bringing mini-muffins to *Tashlich*.
- To John Ciancio who took over as coordinator of packing and *schlepping* from Mort Tuchin this year and Mark Ander, *schlepping* assistant extraordinaire. It was a bigger job than ever, particularly when the elevator broke down at Al Bahr Center.
- To all of the packing and *schlepping*, set up and take down volunteers: Mark Ander; Holly Gail Baumann; Ayala Ben-Tall; Hoppy Chandler; John Ciancio; Ely Freedman; Andrea Glasser; Ros Goldstein; Michael, Rhaiza, Samuel and Thomas Jablecki; Rick King, Becca and Naomi Jensen, Tamar Ladd, Bob Leibenguth, Susan Levine, Fran Meronoff, Jamie Meronoff, Bleema Moss, Patti Nussbaum, Yael Ridberg, Gary Rotto, Drew Schultz, Susanne Scherman, Betsy Sherman, Bob Siegel, Steve Silberman, Carol Yeomans.
- To Shari Ciancio for coordinating volunteers, including greeters and *schleppers*.
- To Naomi Jensen for coordinating the *Erev Rosh Hashanah oneg*, her assistants Becca Jensen and Judy Hante, all who brought items to share, and Judy, Becca, Connie Reingold, Jack Reingold, and Steve Silberman, for staying to help clean up.
- To Elliot Weinstein and Andrea Glasser for being at the Will Call table (20+ years!).
- To Char Katz and Ros Goldstein for coordinating, setting up and cleaning up Break-The-Fast.
- To Lee Goldberg and Hoppy Chandler, head ushers.
- To Mark and Patti Nussbaum for their hard work in printing, addressing, and collecting the pledges and follow up.
- To Mark Nussbaum for his always inspiring *Kol Nidre* appeal.
- To our greeters Ilene and Charlotte Durst; Lynda Gaynor; Ros Goldstein; Char Kat; Bob Leibenguth; Ann Mortimore; Betsy and Steven Chessler; Bob Siegel; Abi Weissman; Patti and Mark Nussbaum.
- To Holly Baumann for serving as our dedicated and capable *gabei*.
- To our *Torah* and *Haftarah* readers Susanne Scherman, Richard Tilles, Naomi Jensen, Marlene Bellamy, Rabbi Yael, Mort Tuchin, Giza Braun, Judy Hante, Naomi Jensen, Brianna Ingber, Ely Freedman.
- To Rabbi Alexis Pearce and Barbara Carr for their inspiring *divrei Torah*.
- To *Shir Hadash*: Giza Braun, Shari Ciancio, John Ciancio, Brianna Ingber (our talented violinist), Jonathan Ingber (director and *shofar* blower), Lois Ingber, Jeff Rabin, for the countless practice hours and their beautiful singing.
- To Ely Freedman for the beauty of her musical accompaniment on guitar, piano, timbrels, drum, and voice.
- To Betsy Schneider for coordinating the children's High Holy Days activities.
- To Sandy Sherman who helped lead the Family Service with Betsy and to Carolyn Harris who led the service for the Gesher students and worked with Betsy and Sandy in the Gesher *Minyan*.

(continued on page 8)

(continued from page 7)

- To all of the parents and teens who volunteered upstairs at the *Gesher Minyan* including Gali Laska, Leah Chandler, Becca Jensen, Tamar and Adam Ladd, Ayala Ben-Tall, Catherine Clancy, Joanna Skolnick, Joanna Gerlt, David Kamper and Joanna Brooks, Heidi Feldman, Becky Biegelman; Cynthia Sistik-Chandler; Jonathan Ingber; Giza Braun
- To Valentina Sharabi, our office administrator, who worked so hard handling all of the “paperwork” — and who was always available to help solve a crisis, no matter what the time or day of the week.
- To Barbara Chancy, our esteemed Treasurer, who handled all of the HHD finances along with all of the day-to-day financial work she does for our community.
- To the Membership committee for always being willing to do whatever was needed.
- To the Tall family of City Farmers Nursery for again providing all of the beautiful plants for the *bima*; it makes such a difference.
- To Celena Hante and Becca Jensen for providing child care.
- To the staff at Al Bahr Center for their extra help, accommodating our needs, and for always making us feel welcome.
- To any and all who volunteered in some way and your name is not printed here.
- And, of course, to Rabbi Yael for her lovely, moving, stimulating High Holy Days services and thought-provoking sermons.

I also must take a moment to apologize to anyone who had planned to attend Break-the-Fast that was held upstairs and couldn't because the elevator was out of order. In hindsight, there were things we could have and should have done...and didn't...and apologize to those who were inconvenienced and disappointed by our inaction.

It is always a joy to see so many members and friends come together for *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*. I hope to see you all at other holiday celebrations and community events throughout the year. Wishing you all a sweet new year.

— Judy Hante



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE HIGH HOLY DAYS 5776



Lynda and Giza

Jonathan and Brianna practicing for *Kol Nidre*.



Elliot and Andrea welcome old friends.

Jeff playing the dulcimer.



Patti and Mark

Rabbi Ron and Rebecca catching up.



Family Service

Several of our students and teens honored us by writing and presenting their original pieces at the High Holy Days this year. Their work is reproduced here with permission:

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Renewal, New Year, Beginning Again by Brianna Ingber

Part of the High Holy Days focuses on the mistakes we've made during the past year. We beat our fists on our chests to emphasize taking this "to heart."

Although remembering mistakes is important, we can benefit from remembering our successes, too. For instance, last year, when I was in seventh grade, I organized a camping trip for my school. I learned how to plan events and use my new skills to organize the holiday party and the trip my school took to Catalina.

Renewal or restarting gives us a second chance to do something better. As we renew and restart this new year, remembering our successes can provide the encouragement to go forward.

L'Shanah Tovah



Rosh Hashanah by Gali Laska

New beginnings, reflect on the past, a time to change.
a new year, a chance to change the way you think of the world.
a chance to start over and do it differently

New beginnings, reflect on the past, a time to change.
I know I have hurt you, let me make it better
I'm sorry, please forgive me

New beginnings, reflect on the past, a time to change.
Your my best friend I say
I'm sorry. We could have done better
the warm hug says it all.

New beginnings, reflect on the past, a time to change.
As we dip our apples in the honey
we remember life is sweet
make your changes
but remember
everyone makes mistakes

Yom Kippur: Malchuyot (Sovereignty)

Malchuyot by Ella Brooks-Kamper

Other religions sometimes depict God as a man, a physical being. Our religion thinks of God as everything: the sunlight, the rocks, the trees, the earth. To imagine God as everything — the connector — gives God physical being, but not a human shape. The difference between God being shaped like a human being and God being shaped like everything that surrounds us is that when God is everything around us we can feel God's presence all the time. It's not like you have to see God or hear God's voice to know God is there. That presence all around us gives us comfort because we know God is there wherever we go. It gives God more power; it reminds us that God is much more than us. God is not just another person. God is the landscape we move through. God was the desert the Israelites crossed through and God was the water that fed them. God is both the problem and the solution. God is the apology and the forgiveness. God is everything.

Yom Kippur: Shofarot

Being Awake by Delilah Delgado

If I asked you to describe being awake, what would you say?

Sure, awakening is what happens when your alarm goes off in the morning. But really, if you think harder about it, being truly awake is so much more than that.

The world is hard yet beautiful. But sometimes, we forget to look for the beauty, or we choose to ignore the harshness. Sometimes, we're asleep.

Sometimes, it's hard to see the world — and its people — as they truly are. Sometimes, we just accept our sleeping lives, and we don't appreciate everyday things like just being alive, day after day, or having people who love us.

But then, every so often, something happens that makes us wake up and see how lucky we are. For example, take Harry Potter. When Harry believes that he is about to die, J. K. Rowling writes, "Very slowly, he sat up, and as he did so he felt more alive and more aware of his own living body than ever before. Why had he never appreciated what a miracle he was, brain and nerve and bounding heart?" (Pg. 692). Just think to yourself: you are a miracle. If you spend your whole life ignoring that fact, not paying attention to the simple idea of being alive, imagine how much you will have missed!

Every time you feel your pulse, every time you open your eyes to see a new day, each step you take, think to yourself: I am a miracle.

This is what truly being awake is. Cherish the moment and embrace the magnificence of life. If we choose to, we can open our eyes to the beauty of everyday life, and the beauty in ourselves and others.

But if we choose to wake up, beauty isn't all we see. We also see our own sins and the sins of others. And yes, sometimes it is scary to awaken and look our flaws full in the face, as Annie Dillard writes in *An American Childhood*:

"I woke in bits, like all children...until the intervals of waking tipped the scales and I was more often awake than not. I...predicted with terrifying logic that one of these years not far away, I would be awake continuously and never slip back, never be free of myself again" (Pg. 11).

But yet...to be truly free of yourself...what do you become? Someone else? You own your mistakes and flaws, as well as your successes. You need to appreciate your triumphs and repent for your sins. And what better way to help us wake up to both our mistakes and achievements than the sounding of the *shofar*?

So, when you hear the *shofar* being blown, wake up. Absorb the beauty and repent for sins. Never take yourself, others, the world, life for granted.

When you wake up, you realize that life is a gift. Love is a gift. Even pain is a gift. So wake up whenever you can. See the world as it really is. Don't spend your whole life sleeping!

Yom Kippur: Zichronot (Remembering)

Zichronot by Samuel Jablecki

Tick...tock, tick... tock ...What does that sound remind you of? In our house, we have clocks that chime every 15 minutes and every hour on the hour every day!!!!

My mom's thoughts are that the chiming of the clock is a tangible reminder in our house that time is fleeting and thus it compels us to make better use of it.

When I heard the word *zichronot* it brought to mind the Latin word *chronus* — which stands for time. But in Hebrew, *zichronot* actually means memories or remembrances....Time and memories... seems like today we don't have enough of either of them. In this era of technology, entire industries have been created behind the thought of capturing moments. We rely on gadgets and apps to collect moments — because moments are ephemeral.

But, I wonder why??? Why are we so intent on preserving the memory rather than being in the moment and enjoying it without anything to show off?

I suppose if you couldn't remember the event, having a physical reminder of the moment would be helpful. If Alzheimer's, or dementia, or just plain old age robbed you or your ability to keep memories, having a gadget do it for you would seem useful, especially if those memories are the good ones...but what of the bad ones? We desperately try to remember and never miss a moment so we constantly memorialize the good times. We see our past through rose-colored glasses. But what about the bad stuff that also happened? Barbra Streisand sang a song that says, "Memories may be beautiful and yet, what's too painful to remember, we simply choose to forget."

Why don't we instagram those painful moments, too?

What about those other moments which we feel ashamed to admit or even to remember... like when I walk with my dog and I choose not to bring a doggie bag or when my parents push me too far and I scream...On the other hand, I never want to forget how much support my parents give me or how I got straight A's in most of my school subjects, or how lucky I am...

In the words of Barbra... "If we had the chance to do it all again, tell me, would we, could we."

Tick, tock...tick, tock...



Simhat Torah

Bring your friends and family to celebrate the end and the beginning of the annual Torah reading cycle as we unfurl the entire Torah and we consecrate our new Gesher School students.

Monday, October 5 • 6:30 p.m. • Library at SDJA

Light snack provided by the Education Committee



SPONSOR AN ONEG SHABBAT



Host an *oneg* in honor of a special person or occasion, or to remember a loved one's *yahrzeit*.

For an \$18 donation, Dor Hadash will provide the *challah*, wine and juice, candles, paper goods and utensils which can all be found in the *Shabbat* box. Since we no longer have staff who will set up the *oneg*, the sponsor is responsible for setting up, including filling cups with wine and juice for *kiddush*, and cleaning up.

How do you sign up? There is a link on the Dor Hadash website (look under the tab "Our Community — Forms and Onegs) or just use this [link](http://tinyurl.com/cdhonegsignup) <<http://tinyurl.com/cdhonegsignup>> to sign up. For more detailed information on hosting, please check out the [instructions](http://tinyurl.com/oneginstructions) <<http://tinyurl.com/oneginstructions>>.

So hurry and sign up before the date you want is taken by someone else. And remember, you are encouraged to sign up for as many *onegs* as you want to honor birthdays, anniversaries, new job, retiring...what a great way to celebrate that special occasion!

Questions? Email Valentina in the office or call her at 858-268-3674.

INTERESTING ONLINE JEWISH RESOURCES

SAN DIEGO JEWISH COMMUNITY

There's a lot going on in the coming months in the local San Diego Jewish Community.

Find out more at <http://jewishinsandiego.org>

Jewish Family Service — www.jfssd.org

San Diego Jewish World — www.sdjewishworld.com

The [National Havurah Committee](http://www.nhc.org) (NHC) is a network of diverse individuals and communities dedicated to Jewish living and learning, community building, and *tikkun olam* (repairing the world). The NHC is a nondenominational, multigenerational, egalitarian, and volunteer-run organization. To learn more about the National Havurah Committee, contact CDH member [Arlene Pincus](mailto:Arlene.Pincus).

Jewniverse — thejewniverse.com

Jewish Reconstructionist Communities —
jewishrecon.org

RESTING FROM, RESTING FOR



SHABBAT
SAN DIEGO
22-24 OCTOBER 2015

When we think about resting, there are two motifs: I rest from — having become tired and needing renewal. I rest for — wanting to be at my best for an upcoming undertaking.

Shabbat accomplishes both — we rest from, regaining not only physical strength, but moral clarity and commitment as well; we rest for, reinvigorating the good values and highest purposes which we bring to each undertaking.

On October 22–24, 2015, millions of Jews in over 500 cities in 65 countries around the world will join as one in celebrating a unique, cohesive and meaningful *Shabbat*. *Shabbat* San Diego is the organization implementing the program in San Diego and Dor Hadash is a participating synagogue. We expect over 20,000 San Diegans to participate throughout the county.

Save the dates below and look for more information in October's issue of *HaKasher* and the weekly *Schmeer*. Pre-events explaining how to observe *Shabbat* are also being planned.

All events are **free**, but you must register at www.shabbatsandiego.org to participate in the **Mega Challah Bake** and **Unity Havdalah Celebration**.

THURSDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 22 • 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., Community Mega Challah Bake **San Diego Jewish Academy**

Make *challah* to take home and bake. All ingredients will be provided. Teens are invited to join together in making the world's longest *challah*. The event is free but you **MUST** register at www.shabbatsandiego.org to make sure there are supplies for you and your group. Please consider a \$8 donation per *challah*.

FRIDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 23 • 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m., Kabbalat Shabbat and Oneg **San Diego Jewish Academy**

Welcome in *Shabbat* with your Dor Hadash family at San Diego Jewish Academy. Guests warmly welcomed. Invite your unaffiliated Jewish friends and neighbors! Click [here](#) to RSVP.

SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 24 • 9 am – 11 am, Geshet Shabbat **San Diego Jewish Academy**

Dor Hadash Geshet *Shabbat* service. Please join your Dor Hadash community for a fun, family-friendly service. Guests warmly welcomed. Click [here](#) to RSVP.

SATURDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 24 • 7:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m., Unity Havdalah Celebration **Town & Country Conference Center, centrally located in Mission Valley**

Communal *havdalah* service followed by musical celebration under the stars. Together as a community, along with Jews around the world, we will enjoy a multi-sensory *havdalah* celebration, separating the sacred *Shabbat* from the new week. We will celebrate with the rest of the world another end to a special *Shabbat*. Starting with the moving entry of our young children from all denominations, carrying glow sticks and singing in unison, representing the future of our community, we will hold a world class rendition of the *havdalah* service. This will be followed by a fun community concert.

Last year we had a **sold out** event with 1900 attendees. This year we expect an even **larger** crowd! Be sure to preregister to ensure your spot. See more at <http://shabbatsandiego.org/events/havdalah/#sthash.bq17E9JG.dpuf>

Questions? Contact me, [Betsy Chessler](#), Dor Hadash's *Shabbat* San Diego champion.

— Betsy Chessler

A little rhyme for Shabbat San Diego 2015.

The website is working. Registration has begun.

October 22-24 will be so much fun.

When you browse through the site there is lots to see.

So many events including post and pre.

Find cooking classes; lectures, teaching prayers and rituals;

And an event at The Ranch making spreads and pickles.

There are two mega challah bakes — one right at SDJA.

Register soon. They'll fill up. Missing out will be a pity!

Shabbat celebrations are everywhere, including right here at Dor Hadash!

Invite your Jewish friends and neighbors. No one should be alone.

The *Havdalah* Celebration at Town & Country you'll Adore,

Featuring Israeli Superstar David D'Or.

Registering for the Mega Challah Bake and *Havdalah* Celebration is a Must.

So Register and Get Your Friends to Register Too.

Shabbat San Diego '15 Will Be Spectacular.

We are Counting on You!

Sign up at <http://www.shabbatsandiego.org>

Questions? Contact Betsy Chessler, Dor Hadash's contact for Shabbat San Diego 2015.

TZEDAKAH

Dor Hadash has many opportunities for you to put your money where your heart is. Your donations supplement items in the annual budget. Donating is easy. Donate online, send in your check or call the office to make other arrangements. Congregation Dor Hadash gratefully acknowledges your generous donations.



Thank you to all who made a pledge at *Kol Nidre*.

CRACK! BAM! FLOWER!

Learn how these three words translate to specific tiles in Mah Jongg, an ancient game originating in China. For several years a Dor Hadash group has been playing American Mah Jongg twice a month. Mahj night moves to the second and fourth **Wednesday** of (usually) every month at 7 p.m. The group meets at members' homes on a rotating basis.

We welcome all Mah Jongg players! Beginners are welcome. For more information, contact Susan Enowitz.

SAVE THE DATE

New Member Dinner Set for Saturday, November 7

Rabbi Yael, President Judy Hante and the Membership Committee will be hosting the annual dinner for new member families on Saturday, November 7, 5–7:30 p.m. at the home of Patti and Mark Nussbaum in La Jolla.

This is always a fun evening of playing, *schmoozing* and casual dining starting at 5 p.m. and ending with *havdalah*.

New members, please save the date! An invitation will be sent by email.

— Membership Committee



Yom Huledet Sameah
Happy Birthday — October

Yom Nissuin Sameah
Happy Anniversary — October



John Evans	10/2	
Ely Freedman	10/3	
Mark Nussbaum	10/4	
Yael Ridberg	10/6	
Julie Davidson	10/10	
Thomas Jablecki	10/12	10th
Robin Whitman	10/13	
Ella Brooks-Kamper	10/13	12th
Eileen Barron	10/15	
Jay Silverman	10/15	
Orion Schultz	10/20	7th
Marlene Bellamy	10/22	
Barbara Chancy	10/22	
Jonathan Slonim	10/22	9th
Michael Carr	10/25	
Samuel Chessler	20/25	16th
Brian Stahl	10/27	
Kevin Delgado	10/28	
Leon Natker	10/28	
Susan Bisom-Rapp	10/29	

Rebecca Lewison and Robert German	10/5	12th
Robin and Adam Whitman	10/6	13th
Lillian Bartlett and Jaime Meronoff	10/12	2nd
Andrea Glasser and Elliot Weinstein	10/12	34th
Marlene Zagon and Mort Tuchin	10/18	16th

Hesed Committee

Naomi Jensen is the chair of the *Hesed* (kindness/compassion) Committee. The committee is responsible for *bikkur holim* (visiting the sick) and helping out at the home of those sitting *shiva* (week-long mourning period). The committee needs Dor *Hadash* members who would be willing to be called upon to volunteer their time to make visits to sick members, occasionally offer transportation to medical appointments or other events, make phone calls to members in need, and perform other acts of kindness. Please contact [Naomi](#) if you would be willing to be called upon in times of need.

Mi Shebeirah

Tamar Booth	Sybil Ingber	Barbara Rose
Mike Bryant	Greg Kangleon	Marilyn Scheininger
Stan Burney	Terry Keister	Lynn Schwartz
Barbara Carr	Adam Ladd	Jill Schwartz
Catherine Clancy	Barbara Maitles	James Sitek
Bethany Coppa	Carole Malkin	Muriel Sobelman-Jencks
Karla Donahue	Amy Moser	
Sharon Houston	Serena Nnambi	



TODAH RABAH

For my *Bat Mitzvah* project, I volunteered with JFS (Jewish Family Service) and participated in a monthly distribution of food from the Hand Up Food Pantry to military families living in San Diego. At these distributions, we would hand out food and diapers to parents to help take care of their families and children.

I noticed that so many families come to these distributions with their children that I thought having kids books for them to look at and take home would feed the kids' imaginations and their learning. I asked all of my friends, family, and members of Congregations of Dor Hadash and Beth El to bring children's books on the day of my *Bat Mitzvah*, so that I could bring them to a future distribution and give them to the kids.

The month after my *Bat Mitzvah*, my mother, my friend Hannah, and I went to the distribution with over 500 books. We got to the place of the distribution and set up. People came with children of all ages — from infants to three-year olds to children who were already in middle school. We helped everyone find the books that were just right for them.

There were about 65 families who came that day and they each got as many as 10-12 books each. Everyone was so grateful for the books they had received for their children. When we finished the program, we only had about 15 books left.

It was such an amazing experience. As someone who has grown up reading and has continued to love reading, I was so happy to see all of these children who had just received an opportunity to enjoy reading as much as I do.

I would like to thank everyone who made this opportunity possible. I would not have been able to give books if it were not for your generous contributions. Thank you so much.

— Gali Laska



Let's Kvell!

Rebecca Scherman, a graduate of Gesher School and former madri^ḥa just returned from the Catalina Film Festival where the short film that she worked on, *Shooting an Elephant*, was awarded the U.S. Shorts Merit Award. It was two years ago in May when Rebecca spent two weeks in Nepal working on JP Rothie's film as an Intern Assistant to the Director. Her job spanned roaming Katmandu for props, keeping the script and the director on track, and as acting medic on-set. After her return to the U.S., she spent months at home and in L.A. working on the film credits and lining up the sound with film footage. It was an amazing experience she will always remember.

Here's a 1 minute teaser of the film: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HpljcOlk7is>

Please email hakesher1@dorhadash.org by the 20th of each month for inclusion in *HaKeshet* if you would like to *kvell*.

PLEASE SIGN UP FOR iGIVE

Please sign up for iGive.com. It is **totally free**. Sign up online and select Congregation Dor Hadash as your favorite charity.

Then, just shop or search online! Congregation Dor Hadash earns up to 26% of your purchase at each store. We also earn a penny per search even if you don't buy anything.

iGive.com has the largest online network of shoppers, 1,000+ online stores, and **free** membership. You get access to free shipping deals, coupons, and great deals through the entire network of stores. Participating stores include Amazon, Pottery Barn, REI, Staples, Petco, Expedia, Best Buy, QVC and many more. Up to 26% of your purchase at each store is donated to Dor Hadash. Many of these contributions could even be considered tax-deductible. Try iGive.com and enjoy free, easy fundraising. www.iGive.com/CongregationDorHadash



Update to eScrip Program: Vons and Safeway no longer participates in eScrip effective August 1, 2015. Dor Hadash can still earn from other eScrip merchant and programs. See escrip.com for more information.

ATTENTION ONLINE SHOPPERS!

Shopping for birthdays? anniversaries?
graduations? baby showers? wedding showers?

Shop online!

Please share these links with your friends; ask them to shop through our website.

Shop at amazon.com? Go through Dor Hadash's [website](#) and earn \$\$\$ for Dor Hadash every time you shop.

UPDATE: Looking for Judaica items? Shop at [judaism.com](http://www.judaism.com). Ten percent of everything you spend will be donated to Dor Hadash. Please use this [link](#) or <http://www.judaism.com/index.asp?ref=DorHadashSanDiego> when shopping at [judaism.com](http://www.judaism.com).

Dor Hadash is a "cause" on iGive.com. iGive will donate every time you shop at any of thousands of online stores. Use our special link to register:

<http://www.igive.com/CongregationDorHadash>

Please go to our website at <http://dorhadash.org>. Click on the navigation link on the left — Support Dor Hadash — to be taken to our Support Dor Hadash page. You will find links for amazon.com, judaism.com, iGive.com, eScrip.

FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITY

MightyNest for Schools is an internet shopping fundraiser. Shop at your convenience for healthy everyday items and 15% of your purchase price will go to Gesher School.

<http://schools.mightynest.com/faqs>
type in 92130 and Gesher School





UPDATE FROM THE RECONSTRUCTIONIST MOVEMENT NEW POLICY ANNOUNCEMENT

Hevre,

As this email reaches your inbox, Dr. Elsie Stern, our vice president for academic affairs here at RRC, is notifying our rabbinical students that on September 21, 2015, RRC's faculty voted to no longer bar qualified applicants with non-Jewish partners from admission to RRC, and to no longer ban RRC students in good standing from graduating as rabbis, because they have non-Jewish partners. As you are likely already aware, this policy change is the result of many years of discussion within the Reconstructionist movement.

Why have we taken this step? We no longer want to prevent very wonderful and engaged Jewish leaders from becoming rabbis. After years of study, research, and discussion with many members of the Reconstructionist community, we have concluded that the status of a rabbinical student's partner is not a reliable measure of the student's commitment to Judaism—or lack thereof. Nor does it undermine their passion for creating meaningful Judaism and bringing us closer to a just world. The issue of Jews intermarrying is no longer something we want to fight or police; we want to welcome Jews and the people who love us to join us in the very difficult project of bringing meaning, justice, and hope into our world.

As many of you asked us to do, we have strengthened our admissions standards on reviewing an applicant's commitment to Jewish continuity in their personal, familial and communal life. We make this change while also revising our curriculum in major ways, focusing intensely on how to train rabbis (and other leaders) on practices and teachings of Jewish distinctiveness, even as we are preparing them for leadership in a multicultural world. It has been a long journey to come to this place. No one in the process takes this historic decision lightly. We do feel that it reflects some of the realities in Jewish communities today. Our congregations have members with non-Jewish partners, and we need rabbis who can provide them with role models for vibrant Jewish living. Reconstructionism has always been predicated upon changing as Jews and Judaism change, even when these changes are emotionally challenging.

In this season of *Sukkot*, we can't help but think of the theme of the *ushpizin*, the guests we welcome into our *sukkah* each year. Some of them are family, and some of them are temporary strangers. Each of them has a life story to share with us. As we continue to welcome guests further into the inner sanctum of Jewish life and into our own families, we are humbled. Know that our faculty has wrestled with this issue for many years, on our own and in conversation with many of you.

In the coming days and weeks, we will schedule calls to discuss this further with congregations, rabbis, board members, supporters, and congregational and communal leaders. Stay tuned for details. [I look forward to your responses](#), and please join me in moving ahead into the new season.

L'shalom,

Rabbi Deborah Waxman
President, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College and Jewish Reconstructionist Communities

Yahrzeits – October 2015
18 Tishrei – 17 Cheshvan

In remembrance of	Remembered by	Relationship	Date	
Joseph Bellamy	Marlene Bellamy and Don Maescher	Marlene's father	10/2	Tishrei 19
Violet Lawton	Sheldon and Sheila Jurist	Sheila mother	10/3	Tishrei 20
Evelyn Shields	Barbara and Michael Carr	Barbara's aunt	10/4	Tishrei 21
Martin Kinsler	Judy Hante, Steve Forney and Naomi Jensen	Judy and Naomi's uncle	10/6	Tishrei 23
Sydney Moss	Richard Warburton and Bleema Moss	Bleema's father	10/7	Tishrei 24
Emanuel Zagon	Marlene Zagon and ort Tuchin	Marlene's father	10/8	Tishrei 25
Bernard Cahn	Ellen Margolis and Larry Cahn	Lawrence's father	10/11	Tishrei 28
Alex Pincus	Richard and Arlene Pincus	Rick's father	10/12	Tishrei 29
Eda Kremsdorf	Deborah and Richard Kremsdorf	Richard's mother	10/13	Tishei 30
Irving Jurist	Sheldon and Sheila Jurist	Sheldon's father	10/18	Heshvan 5
Jack Scheininger	Marilyn Scheininger	Marilyn's grandfather	10/20	Heshvan 7
William Nussbaum	Mark and Patti Nussbaum	Mark's grandfather	10/21	Heshvan 8
Dorothy Attiyeh	Jessica Attiyeh	Jessica's mother-in-Law	10/22	Heshvan 9
Patricia Richardson	Mark and Patti Nussbaum	Patti's mother	10/22	Heshvan 9
Philip Nussbaum	Mark and Patti Nussbaum	Mark's father	10/23	Heshvan 10
Paul H. Keister	Terry Hall Keister	Terry's father	10/25	Heshvan 12
Melvin Goldberg	Chaya Khan	Chaya's uncle	10/25	Heshvan 12
Misha Falikman	Jessica Attiyeh	Jessica's father	10/26	Heshvan 13
Julius Michaels	Dr. Daniel Michaels and Sue Coles	Dan's father, Sage's grandfather	10/26	Heshvan 13
Leah Greenberg	Alex Green and Genell Greenberg	Genell's mother	10/29	Heshvan 16

May their memories be for a blessing

OCTOBER 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
PLEASE NOTE THERE ARE NO SERVICES AT DOR HADASH ON OCTOBER 16 AND OCTOBER 30.						
				1	2 6:00 <i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> and <i>Sukkot</i> – in the <i>Sukkah</i> at the Goldstein-Siegel home. Call the office for the address.	3 10:00 Torah Study at SDJA
4 9:00 Gesher School	5 6:30 <i>Simchat Torah</i> Celebration and new student consecration at SDJA	6 Happy Birthday Rabbi! 4:30 Gesher School	7	8	9 7:00 <i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> with Rabbi	10
11 9:00 Gesher School Blessing of the Animals 12:15 at Carmel Grove Park	12	13 4:30 Gesher School 6:30 Ritual Meeting @ Carmel Rec Center	14	15	16 7:00 Shabbat at Home	17
18 9:00 Gesher School	19	20 4:30 Gesher School	21	22 <i>Shabbat</i> San Diego Mega <i>Challah</i> Bake at either SDJA or Tifereth Israel - registration required	23 <i>Shabbat</i> San Diego 7:00 <i>Kabbalat Shabbat</i> with Rabbi and song leader Marshall Voit	24 <i>Shabbat</i> San Diego 10:00 <i>Gesher Shabbat</i> with Rabbi and song leader Marshall Voit
25 9:00 Gesher School	26	27 4:30 Gesher School 6:30 Board of Trustees	28	29	30 7:00 Shabbat at Home	31

**The mission of Dor Hadash is to create a caring Jewish community
in accordance with the values of Reconstructionist Judaism**

Congregation Dor Hadash is affiliated with the Jewish Reconstructionist Communities in association with the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College
www.jewishrecon.org

Hakasher (The Communication)

Editor: Susan Levine

Proofreaders:

Holly Baumann and Sheila Kirschenbaum

Dor Hadash Board of Trustees

Judy Hante, President

Cynthia Sistik-Chandler, 1st Vice President

David Kamper, 2nd Vice President

Barbara Chancy, Treasurer

Patti Nussbaum, Secretary

Ezra Bisom-Rapp (student)

John Ciancio

Lee Goldberg

Elizabeth Schultz

Susanne Scherman

Gary Rotto, Immediate Past President

Yael Ridberg, Rabbi

Betsy Schneider, Education Director

Hakasher, Congregation Dor Hadash's newsletter, is published monthly by the Board of Trustees except there is a combined June/July issue. Although the newsletter is supported through membership dues, contributions towards its publication are appreciated. All submissions are accepted at the discretion of the Officers and Board of Trustees of Congregation Dor Hadash and the editor. Due to space limitations, submissions may be used in future issues and are subject to editing. Submissions for consideration should be factual and concise. Contact names and addresses as well as the author's name and address should be included. Submissions in electronic form are preferred. Email submissions to hakesher1@dorhadash.org

Deadline: All submissions including advertisements, reports, and updates should be dropped off, emailed, or faxed by the 15th of the month for publication in the following month's newsletter.

Advertising rates per month: \$18/business card; \$36/quarter page; \$54 half page; \$72 full page

Address:

on the campus of San Diego Jewish Academy
11860 Carmel Creek Road
San Diego, CA 92130
858-268-3674 • 858-704-3850 (fax)

CONGREGATION DOR HADASH

11860 Carmel Creek Road

San Diego, CA 92130