Now is Our Time to Engage in Social Justice

By PRESIDENT MICHAEL CHER TOK

Although we celebrated our Jewish New Year a few months ago, the secular New Year offers another chance for us to reflect and make resolutions. This year, many of us are deeply concerned about the political shift in our nation, and what it means for our country, the Bay Area, and for us as Jews. As I write this, there are many uncertainties. And it is clear that a new administration will move us away from some of the priorities our community cares deeply about. I believe it is imperative for us to take action. Personally, I’ve been recalling the political climate when Ronald Reagan was elected President in 1980, and again in 1984.

For me, this was a formative period; I started college at this time and became an activist. I researched and wrote about the Nuclear Freeze campaign. I joined the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry. I served as a leader of a gay and lesbian group on campus, and organized rallies to push my university to respond to the AIDS crisis.

Sha’ar Zahav was also deeply engaged in social justice during this period. We were part of the sanctuary movement to provide safe haven for Central American refugees fleeing civil conflict. The congregation not only organized to take care of our own during the AIDS epidemic, we also worked to create changes in funding for research and treatment. And, within Reform Judaism, our members pushed to gain recognition for gay clergy, and later, for gay marriage. Then, several years ago, we joined the San Francisco Organizing Project (SFOP, now Faith in Action). Together with local congregations and schools, we lobbied the City’s supervisors to create Healthy San Francisco to ensure that people in San Francisco without insurance had access to healthcare. These are just a few examples of Sha’ar Zahav’s legacy of social action. Part of what binds us together at Sha’ar Zahav is our deep commitment to tikkun olam. In our tradition, these are the (continued on pg. 14)
On January 20, 2017, we’ll wake up to a world of unknowns: What will life be like for me under the new administration? How will the progress we have made over the past eight years be reversed? How will this moment in time define the future of our country and the world?

For some of us, the questions will also be: What is my role now? How am I, as a ___(fill in the blank)____ going to define this moment for myself? Who am I being called upon to be today? Our Sha’ar Zahav community is asking a similar question: What role do we have in this new climate?

Thought-leaders, pundits and even comedians have been giving us advice on what to do next, how this moment could change (at least temporarily) the course of history, and how to be in this new world. Though I encourage all of us to ask the questions above, I admit that I am still forming my own answer. In the meantime, I continue to return to my Facebook post written the morning after the election: Last night, I watched my daughter sleep. The polls were closed and the election had been called. And, she slept so peacefully. A pack of coyotes howled wildly, closer than I had ever heard before. And, she slept so peacefully. The sun rose this morning. I started making breakfast. And, she still slept so peacefully.

Because she is still only a beautiful 7-year-old little girl, I don’t yet know what her life will look like or what this election will mean for her. I don’t yet know if she, as a Chinese-born girl who is Jewish through adoption and conversion, will have a lifetime of sleeping so peacefully.

But I do know this: I’ve written on her mirrored closet door that she is “strong, smart, beautiful, loving, brave and loved.” I know that if she holds these ideals to be true and feels unabashed, uninhibited, fierce love from me and others, no election will define her future. No amount of racism, sexism, anti-semitism, xenophobia, and hatred will hold her back from experiencing the blessings of the world and living the life she is gifted to live.

May this new era in America be one in which you and I, and my daughter Orli, define ourselves as strong, smart, beautiful, loving, brave and loved.
Years ago, I had the idea of starting an organization called Musical Alliance of Religions and Peoples. It was during President Bill Clinton’s second term, and I fantasized about locking him and Ken Starr in a room and making them teach lullabies to each other until they started getting along. I thought that singing together — particularly lullabies — was a foolproof form of bonding that would help people establish foundations from which they could work together on resolving deep conflict.

Naive? Absolutely — and this was before I considered all of the bands throughout history that fell apart because the members couldn’t stand each other. More seriously, I came to realize that music and dialogue cannot, on their own, resolve deep systemic problems and societal rifts. But I still believe in the power of singing. I believe that diverse people can come together in music and song, and from there go to conversation, and then to dialogue, and eventually to understanding and even problem solving. So in November, the week after the most divisive presidential race in US history, we put together an impromptu multi-faith Community Sing at Sha’ar Zahav. We were joined by many folks from both within and outside the CSZ community; in particular, we were blessed to welcome Pastor Jane McDougle and congregants from Holy Innocents Episcopal Church.

Singing together that night was tonic for the soul: buoyant, deep and life-giving, supported hugely by our pick-up band of Carolyn Reiser, Dan Meer and Nate Levine. We sang “With a Little Help from My Friends,” “Love Grows One by One,” “Hallelujah,” and “The Rainbow Connection” as if our lives depended on it.

We don’t know how things will unfold over the next months. But the one thing I know is that the brokenness, the divisiveness can’t continue. We’ve got to reach out to one another, build connections and get to know each other so that we can be there for each other.

We’ll be doing a Community Sing again, maybe even again and again, with additional community partners, widening our networks, building strength and resilience together through song.

The vocal cords are made of thin tissue, but oh, what a sound they can make — particularly when we all use them together.
Future Scholar

Gil’i Zaid, son of Hilary Zaid and Lauren Augusta, will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah on January 21. A member of Sha’ar Zahav since birth, Gil’i is a seventh grader at Contra Costa Jewish Day School in Lafayette. He loves baseball and has enjoyed five seasons in the North Oakland/South Oakland Little League, where he’s known for his outstanding fielding, RBIs and stellar batting average. Gil’i was very happy to petition successfully for a baseball rotation in his school’s P.E. program.

He is a superb scholar who loves math. Last year, he was named among the top-ranked national participants in the International Mathematical Kangaroo competition. When he’s not knocking tennis balls over the neighbors’ rooftops, Gil’i enjoys spending time with his dogs and his friends, pulling taffy and speaking in the patois of online games his parents do not understand.

Gil’i and his mothers and older brother Ro’e Zaid would like to express our special thanks to his bar mitzvah mentor Ami Zusman. Our bar mitzvah preparations would not be possible without the help of Cantor Bernstein, Rabbi Riter, Ora Prochovnick and the amazing families of the 2016/17 B’nei Mitzvah Chavurah.

Online Comedian, Offline Friend

Harry Lahn-Schroeder, son of Deena Lahn and Mary Schroeder, will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah on January 7th. He is a lifelong member of Congregation Sha’ar Zahav. Harry is a seventh grader at the Brandeis School of San Francisco. He has many good friends stretching back to pre-school, and he enjoys playing video games with them online and telling jokes and funny stories with them in person. In the summers he attends U Camps, a creative arts camp where he has both acted and directed in original short films. He also enjoys playing flag football and trampoline dodgeball, swimming and riding roller coasters.

Harry would like to thank his bar mitzvah mentor, Merle Malakoff, for his support and dedication.
Animal Rights Activist

Oona Alexandra, daughter of Jessica Alexandra and Tony Villaluna, will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah on March 25. Oona lives with two dogs and two cats, her older sister Maxima, and her ima (mother). She is a seventh grader at Aptos Middle School, where she has been a dedicated library assistant since 6th grade. Oona’s mitzvah projects included: working at the food bank, cleaning up trash from her neighborhood and Golden Gate Park, working with Kulanu, an organization that works around the world to support isolated and emerging Jewish communities, visiting seniors, and holding bake sales to raise money for the SPCA.

Oona is an avid animal rights activist and has never met an animal she does not want to pet (unless it has more than 4 legs). Oona has followed in her sister’s footsteps and participates in GirlVentures, which provides opportunities for girls to rock climb and spend time in the California wilderness. There’s nothing Oona likes better than the challenge of a steep, vertical wall with an overhang. Oona was introduced to the joys of roller derby by her Beit Sefer teacher, Staci, and now dreams of becoming a jammer for a Bay Area team.

Oona wants to thank her bat mitzvah mentor Ora Prochovnick, who she says is the “best mentor ever!”

Nachas:

Sept 1st - Congratulations to Andrew Ramer on the publication of his new book, *Torah Told Different: Stories for a Pan/Poly/Post-Denominational World.*

Oct 29th - Congratulations to Shai Garrett Garcia-Goldberg on becoming a bar mitzvah.

May Their Memories Be For a Blessing

Sept
Natalie Fried, mother of Laura Lowe
Jean Chalmers, sister of Tiela Chalmers

Oct
Bertrand Bell, father of Judith Bell


Nov
Robert Hillel Bernstein, father of Ray Bernstein
Our website is a physical manifestation of our values: authenticity, empathy, engaging with difference, and commitment. These values can be seen on every page. For example, you will find member stories throughout the site, shining a light on our diversity and the ways Sha’ar Zahav has affected individual lives. I invite you to read those stories, and to return to the website as more stories are added.

I also encourage you to share your story, either on our website (contact me for details), via Facebook, or with me.

I am honored to serve Sha’ar Zahav in this capacity. You are a truly talented and dedicated group of individuals that created and continue to build a unique Jewish community.
You Have to Ask Why

By LEEAHT SEGEV / Director of Education

I recently sat down with Rabbi Riter over lunch to discuss the future of Beit Sefer Phyllis Mintzer (BSPM). As I talked about specific activities, programs and curriculum ideas, he encouraged me to take a step back and first ask why? Because, he said, to know where you’re going, first asking why makes you fully aware of where you are starting from. Why are our families here? Why do they want a Jewish education for their children? What do they envision those children will look like as Jewish adults? Then we can figure out a program that addresses those whys. So I thought it was only appropriate in my first column as Sha’ar Zahav’s Director of Education to share my own personal why. Why am I here? Why do I do what I do?

My grandfather is a Holocaust survivor. Growing up, I remember hearing about his harrowing stories of survival and feeling as if I carried a personal responsibility. My family survived when so many others did not. When my daughter was born, I realized my responsibility was not just in bringing Judaism to my children, but that I had a larger purpose in the Jewish world. I have now found that larger purpose in Jewish education. My why was to educate a new generation of Jewish children. Bigger than that, my goal as an educator was not just to teach them Torah stories or Hebrew. It was to help these kids find their own why. Why is it important to be Jewish? Why is there still relevancy for Judaism in our modern world? My personal history and my questions inform my vision of what a religious school should be. For me, it’s not solely about school. Yes, it’s important to teach Hebrew, Torah and holidays and we absolutely should teach these Jewish components. Yet, if we only focus on these subject matters, then we lose that why.

If we balance book learning with the search for deeper meaning, we create a future generation of Jewish adults who see the beauty in Judaism — the community, the values, and the deep spirituality that being part of such a rich tradition brings to our lives. They will engage in Jewish learning not just until they are 13, but for their whole lives. That is my why.

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BSPM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED — Beit Sefer Phyllis Mintzer is looking for congregants to volunteer in the school on Saturday mornings. Here are some of their needs: Hebrew tutors to work with small groups of students and volunteer leaders to run special group projects, such as music, art, filmmaking, and gardening. Have another special skill you could teach? Contact Leeaht Segev, Director of Education, at education@shaarzahav.org for more information.

“I realized my responsibility was not just in bringing Judaism to my children, but that I had a larger purpose in the Jewish world.”

- Leeaht Segev
The Rabbi Search Is On!
By ALEX INGERSOLL & KAREN SCHILLER

By the time you read this, the members of the Rabbi Search Committee will be reading through resumes, setting up interviews and preparing to recommend to the Va’ad the one candidate who we believe is the right person to become our next “settled” rabbi. How did we get to this point and what is your role in all this?

Back in May, Michael Chertok asked each of us if we would be willing to co-chair the Rabbi Search Committee. With the help of Michael, Rabbi Riter and Cantor Bernstein, we assembled a committee consisting of Immediate Past President Laura Lowe, Sha’ar Zahav co-Founder Daniel Chesir, Ray Bernstein, Don Fisher, Rachel Nancollas, Mark Pressler and Judy Schwartz. At our first meeting in August, we discussed our responsibilities to the Sha’ar Zahav community and started detailing the rabbinic qualities which would best serve our congregation.

Because Sha’ar Zahav is a member of the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), we have access to the placement services of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR). Using the information that you had given us during the strategic planning process and the Listening Campaign held shortly after Rabbi Angel left, plus the reports we got from LightBox Collaborative’s work, and with very helpful input from Rabbi Riter, Cantor Bernstein and the Va’ad, we crafted an application that represents who we are as a congregation that “transcends the ordinary” and outlines the qualities we desire in our rabbi at this stage of our history. We submitted the application right after the High Holy Days and we immediately started receiving resumes.

So what comes next? The committee will be interviewing candidates by phone or skype - to learn more about them and to narrow the field. Then the top candidates will be invited to visit us in person – both to engage in more comprehensive interviews and to meet the congregation. While we aren’t allowed to ask candidates to lead a service or give a drash, we will create opportunities for them to interact with members of the congregation in some way.

By March or April early spring, we hope to have identified the one person who we feel is the right rabbi for us. We’ll bring our recommendation to the Va’ad, who will decide whether to bring our recommendation to the congregation at the Annual Meeting, where members will then have a responsibility to vote on whether or not to hire the candidate. Our new rabbi will join us on July 1, 2017.

Questions? You can reach the committee at shaarzahavrabbisearch@gmail.com.

Focus on Shiraz
PRESENTED BY RON LEZELL

Please join me at services on Friday, March 10th (the night before Purim), when I’ll deliver a drash focusing on my December 2016 return visit with the Jewish community of Shiraz, Iran where I will be for the first two nights of Chanukah. I’ll also speak about my visit to Hamadan and what is traditionally considered to be the tombs of Esther and Mordecai, once Iran’s most important Jewish pilgrimage site.

Following services, you’re invited to stay for a slide show and Q&A.
**SHA’AR ZAHAV COMMUNITY**

**MUSIC OF THE NIGHT: A BROADWAY CONCERT AND SING ALONG**

Let out your inner Broadway star! Join Cantor Leigh Korn and Cantor Sharon Bernstein in a scintillating evening of song, featuring tunes from your favorite shows plus a smattering of new songs to tickle your fancy. Reception to follow. Members $10; non-members $20.

**Saturday, January 28, 8pm**
Congregation Sha’ar Zahav, San Francisco

**Saturday, February 4, 8pm**
Temple Isaiah, Lafayette

For more information and to purchase tickets, please call 415-861-6932 or visit www.shaarzahav.org.

Sponsored by the Rabbi Julius and Pearl Funk Musical Events Fund.

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**SHA’AR ZAHAV VA’AD NOTES**

By MARC LIPSCUTZ

**During the September 2016 Va’ad meeting we:**

- Were taught by Larry Wexler that our challenges, journeys, and achievements were also experienced by our Torah ancestors.

- Welcomed Leeah Segev, our new Director of Education, and Adam Pollack, our new Director of Engagement.

- Documented ending fiscal year 2015-2016 with a surplus, in part due to members generously contributing to our Rainbow Campaign.

- Continued to logistically plan for our High Holy Days return to the Herbst Theater.

- Reviewed progress on designing a new CSZ logo.

- Approved a motion to use scholarships and payment plans to accept all children into BSPM, with non-member families with kindergarten through third grade students paying in full.

- Discussed a preliminary proposal for a grant submitted to the Jewish Community Federation for enhanced marketing of Siddur Sha’ar Zahav.

**During the October 2016 Va’ad meeting we:**

- Were taught by Marc Lipschutz that the Days of Joy of Sukkot and Simchat Torah are most fully experienced following the Days of Awe, and that separation, return and joy are all harmonies within the song of Ha’azinu, sung by Moses to us on the final day of his life.

- Renewed our first mortgage, with a relatively small principal, at a favorable rate, after completely paying off our second mortgage.

- Reviewed High Holy Days services held at the Herbst Theater, and shared overwhelmingly positive feedback provided by members and guests, along with a few suggestions for improvement. Our new logo was also positively received. Furthermore, generous donations completely covered our increased costs.

- Approved a motion to submit a formal grant request to JCF to create, package, and market CSZ liturgy.

All CSZ members are invited to attend Va’ad meetings, usually scheduled on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.
SHẢ’AR ZAHAV DONATIONS

High Holy Days Sponsors (5777)

Steve Weisner
Arthur Slepian & Gerry Llamado
  in honor of Michael Chertok,
  Cantor Sharon Bernstein
  & Rabbi Ted Riter
Marc Lipschutz
  in memory of parents Martin & Renee Lipschutz
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High Holy Days Pledges 5777

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High Holy Days Pledges 5776

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Yvette and Pierre Adida
Mel and Aviva Bernstein
Michael Peterson
Tony Harris

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  in honor of Rena Frantz for
  her artistry and generosity
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becoming a bar mitzvah
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Diane Swanson
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in memory of Natalie Fried
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Ora Prochovnick
in memory of Natalie Fried
Jim Edlin & Eve Meyer
in memory of Pearl Peskind Edlin
Jonathan Penner
in memory of Jean Chalmers
and Jerry Rosenstein
Karen Schiller
in memory of Natalie Fried
and in celebration of Alex & Martin’s
8th wedding anniversary
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in memory of Natalie Fried
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in honor of Sharyn Saslafsky’s birthday
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The Rabbi Julius & Pearl Funk Musical Events Fund
Jonathan Funk & John Arnold
in memory of Natalie Fried
Jonathan Funk
in honor of Rabbi Riter
and Cantor Bernstein
and in honor of State Senator Mark Leno’s
many years of service to the community
and to welcome Adam Pollack to
the Sha’ar Zahav community
John Arnold
in honor of Jonathan Funk

Cantor’s Discretionary Fund
Sharyn Saslafsky
in memory of Natalie Fried
and Jean Chalmers

Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund
Paul Cohen & Bob Gutterman
in honor of Rob Tat’s 70th birthday
Paul Cohen and Bob Gutterman
in memory of Jean Chalmers
Claire Axelrad and Mark Pehlavan
Andy Fyne & Richard Mikles
with sincere appreciation for condolences
given to Richard and me by members
and clergy of this congregation on the
passing of my mother
Machzor Bookplates

Mark Leno
in honor of Manny Leno, Janet Leno
and Jamie Leno, Zimron
and in memory of Esther Rothman Leno
and Douglas Jackson

Marianne Balin
in memory of Doris Balin

Andy Fyne
in memory of Harold and Mollie Fyne

Allan Gold and Alan Ferrara,
in memory of Benjamin and Dorothy Gold

Howard Hahn
in memory of Fred Hahn, Helga Hahn,
Hedwig Plaut and Claire Plaut

Rabbi Ted Ritter
in honor of Michael Chertok, Laura Lowe,
Martin Tannenbaum & Alex Ingersoll

Robert Katz
in memory of Mario Luna

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in honor of Hazel Olson-Dorf,
Gavrielle Kinney Sonntag, Paul Cohen,
and Sylvie Olson-Dorf

Yo Schneeman
in honor of Paul Cohen

Rob Mabe
in honor of Violet Bradford

Donna Fein
in memory of Ruth and Edwin Sutton

Alan Berenstein
in memory of Sonna, Albert
and Richard Radetsky

Laura Lowe
19 bookplates in honor of Building Committee, out-going Va’ad officers
and Food Chavarah

Phil Charney
in memory of Barbara Charney Frank, his sister
and Rose & Louis Charney, his parents

Donald Abrams
in memory of Sidney Abrams,
Bernice Abrams, Rosalie Lavin, Sanford Lavin

Donald Abrams and Clint Werner
in memory of Joseph Satten, Norma Satten
and Samuel C. Hughes

Avraham Giannini
in honor of Mike Rankin, M.D.,
CSZ Past President and friend

Stan Adler
in memory of Dorothy & Nathan
Adler, his parents

Jan Half
in honor of Sharyn Saslafsky’s birthday

Elliot Block
in memory of Jeffrey Lee Block,
Herman Pip Block, and Lillian Mildred Block

Robert Tat
in memory of Carol & Russel Tat, his parents
and in memory of Irene & Albert Sherwin,
and Rose & Max Tat, his grandparents

Rose Katz
in memory of Marvin J. & Sadie Katz

Sharyn Saslafsky
in honor of Jan Half
and in memory of Esther & Marvin Saslafsky,
her parents

Howard M. Steiermann
in memory of Walter M. Steierman

Howard M. Steiermann
in honor of Alan Gordon’s amazing
service leading and mentoring,
Paul Cohen, for being a mensch par excellence,
and Cantor Sharon Bernstein with
whom he loved sharing the bimah

Howard M. Steiermann
in honor of the best Mahjong Group
Alan, Howie, Jeff, Marty, and Steven

Friends of Inessa Miranski
in memory of Inessa Miranski

Daniel Chesir
in memory of Frank Chesir, Evelyn Chesir,
and Bayla Chesir Schnaidman

Anne Friedman
in honor of Susan Unger & Pam Erwin

Karen Schiller
in honor of Larry Wexler
and the Va’ad
and in memory of Jay Schiller

David Lowe
in memory of Daniel McGoldrick

Tom Holt
in honor of Steve Elman

Jonathan Funk
in memory of Rabbi Julius & Pearl Funk

Ora Prochovnick & Rena Frantz
in memory of Ammiel Prochovnick

Andrew and Michele Williamson
in memory of David Weinstein

Deborah Cohler
in memory of William “Uncle Billy” Cohler

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in memory of Ralph L. Selleck

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in memory of Sonna Radetsky
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Jan Half
in honor of Sharyn Saslafsky's birthday

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**SHA’AR ZAHAV SPONSORSHIPS**

Anonymous donated Kiddush for ten Shabbat mornings, September 2016 - 2017

**Sept 2-3**
Oneg by Bradley Neuberg & Abby Volk
in memory of grandma Helen Neuberg

**Sept 9-10**
Oneg by Jeffrey Auman
in honor of Nathan Kling
Flowers by Alice Harron
in memory of her mother Bernice Kahn Harron

**Sept 16-17**
Oneg by David Lowe
in memory of his beloved husband Daniel McGoldrick

**Sept 23-24**
Oneg by Marius Greenspan
in memory of his father Earl Greenspan

**Oct 7-8**
Kiddush by anonymous

**Oct 14-15**
Oneg by James Carlson
in memory of his grandfathers, Arthur Carlson and Filippo Tuzzolino
Flowers by Joan Goldman
in memory of Abraham & Ruth Goldman

**Oct 21-22**
Oneg by Yvette & Pierre Adida
in memory of their sister-in-law Jeanne Kamra Pigeard

**Oct 28-29**
Kiddush by Jeffrey Auman
in honor of Sharon Heath

**Oct 28-29**
Flowers by Boaz Garcia-Goldberg
in loving memory of Shai’s birthmother Rebbecca Daarud and his birth-grandfather Mike Daarud
Oneg by Lisa Katz
in memory of Norm Katz, her father
Kiddush by Garcia-Goldberg family
in honor of Shai Garrett Garcia-Goldberg becoming a bar mitzvah

**Nov 4-5**
Oneg by Jeanne Redseker & Diana Buchbinder
in memory of Helen Buchbinder
Kiddush by anonymous

**Nov 18-19**
Oneg by Mark Mackler & Wendell Choo
in memory of Mark’s mother Phyllis Mackler
Flowers by Karen Schiller
in memory of her father, Jay Leon Schiller on the 50th anniversary of his death

**Dec 2-3**
Klezmer Shabbat sponsored by Alex Ingersoll & Martin Tannenbaum
in memory of Larry Tannenbaum

**Dec 9-10**
Flowers by Patty Caplan
in memory of her father David Ralph Caplan

**Dec 16-17**
Oneg by Ellen Press
in memory of Marvin Press, her father

**Dec 23-24**
Oneg by Wayne Bender
in memory of Herman Bender, his father

Your contributions help us realize our commitment to building and maintaining a vibrant, living community for Congregation Sha’ar Zahav. A donation can be a meaningful way to honor friends or family, engagements, anniversaries, graduations, for special thanks, or to memorialize a loved one. Collectively, with your financial support, we continue to prosper, grow, and celebrate our future.
acts of kindness we do to repair the world. Members of our community have found so many ways to make this commitment in their own lives. Many of us are employed in nonprofit, educational and government institutions in which this is our full-time job. Others (and sometimes the same ones!) have made deep commitments of their time as volunteers for a variety of causes. And members of our community have been extraordinarily generous in donating money.

Over the years, we’ve engaged as a community in a variety of ways. Sometimes we’ve acted in direct volunteer service to others, such as organizing brunches for AIDS patients at Kaiser and delivering meals with Project Open Hand. We’ve also done advocacy work with the sanctuary movement and the Healthy SF initiative. We may be drawn to one or other approach at different points in our lives; both are essential ways to raise our voices and make a difference.

Now is our time to once again engage in social justice work as a community! Whether you’re already involved or would like to start to engage in this work, I invite you to join with our Sha’ar Zahav community. Please share with us the organizations and movements that you’re involved with and care deeply about. Invite us to come with you to volunteer. In the year ahead and beyond, our community needs you, and perhaps you need us too.

Please join us in creating opportunities for meaningful social change. Together we can build on our legacy of commitment to social justice and our experience of how to be most effective in this work. Together we can gather holy sparks of light and make a difference in the Bay Area, our nation and the world.

Michael can be reached at president@shaarzahav.org
### January

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Aaron Nacamulli</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<td>Nathan Eli Weinstein</td>
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### February

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<td>1</td>
<td>Steven Richter</td>
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<td>Rabbi Jason Gaber</td>
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<td>Leland Vogel</td>
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<td>Evelyn Slenker</td>
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### March

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<td>Pearl Lewin</td>
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<td>James Harris Freedgood</td>
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<td>Marvin Steele</td>
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The concert begins at 4:00 p.m., followed by a celebration and reception. You can order tickets by calling the office at (415) 861-6932, or by finding the link on the CSZ website (www.shaarzahav.org).

The full program is listed below.

**Sunday, March 5: A Musical Extravaganza!**

- **String Quintet C Major, K. 515—W.A. Mozart**
- **Yiddish Songs—various composers**
- **Piano Quartet in G minor, Op. 25—Johannes Brahms**

*See you in March for this wonderful celebration!*