We recently chose “Transcend the Ordinary” as a tagline for our congregation. As a Jewish community that affirms the sacred in each of us—while serving as a home for our diverse expressions of Judaism and spirituality—it is our norm to think differently and to go beyond what you might experience in your parent’s shul.

We come together at this time of year for our annual ritual of t’shuvah. This time of year became even more meaningful for me when I read an extraordinary guide to the experience of the High Holy Days, by Rabbi Alan Lew z”l, This is Real and You are Completely Unprepared. To bring us into the drama of this experience, Rabbi Lew writes of the start of the holidays, “the great horn sounds in earnest one hundred times. The time of transformation is upon you. The gate between heaven and earth creaks open.” This experience is at once familiar to us and, for each of us, each year, a bit different. So too, each year our observances of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur at Sha’ar Zahav maintain continuity, and are also different.

We recently chose “Transcend the Ordinary” as a tagline for our congregation. As a Jewish community that affirms the sacred in each of us—while serving as a home for our diverse expressions of Judaism and spirituality—it is our norm to think differently and to go beyond what you might experience in your parent’s shul.

“This year we will pray with the contemporary liturgy of Mishkan Hanefesh, the new Reform prayer books for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.”

- President Michael Chertok

This year, we are even more consciously transcending our own ordinary to create a unique High Holy Days experience. Our goal is to make you feel more welcome, and to create a special setting to pray, reflect, and to be together in community. We start by returning to a newly renovated Herbst Theater. We decided to return to this special space to ensure that our High Holy Days experience would be accessible to all of our members and guests. In addition to the beautifully reconditioned theater, there are lovely new rooms for our breakout sessions, all in the same area. (continued on pg. 14)
Emet: Acknowledging The Truth(s)
by Rabbi Ted Riter

I have my story. You have your story. And, common convention says that the “real” story is somewhere in between.

Many of us use this paradigm when listening to accounts from two other people. We listen with a bit of skepticism, perhaps also compassion, recognizing that each person sees the world through their own lens. I purposefully use the third person “their,” since we do not often acknowledge our own vision might be clouded. After all, I was there! I know what happened! There is only one truth!

When meeting with couples, colleagues, and students struggling with conflicting stories, I often think about the “somewhere in between” theory. Over the past few years, however, I’ve come to my own conclusion that this approach often creates its own stumbling blocks. If I have my story and you have your story, it’s going to be tough for someone else to convince us we are both misconstruing what happened. In fact, when challenged we might stop listening and hold even tighter to what we hold to be true. Certainly, there are some absolutes. An event happened or it did not happen. The numbers add up or they do not. And yet...and yet... THE truth is often disputed. We’ve seen disputes taking center stage in the political world this year. As politicians stump or debate, fact checkers are busy in real time grading the remarks for accuracy. Though I understand an occasional misspeak, I find it saddening and maddening that inaccuracies are purposefully repeated over and over again, and in the process become true for some listeners.

Regardless of the outcome of the November elections, I believe we are going to come out of this process with at least two stories, two truths, and a nation of polarities with people often refusing to listen to each other.

The answer for me is the word “truth” or in Hebrew “emet.” Emet is spelled aleph, mem, tav – respectively the first, middle and last letters of the Hebrew alphabet. Our Sages have taught that because these particular letters are used for this word, “truth” is the beginning, middle and end of everything. Most importantly for me, the word begins with the aleph; a silent letter identifying that (continued on pg. 4)
As you read this, we are on the cusp of Rosh Hashanah. The High Holy Days. On the bank, ready to enter, with foot extended, like Nachshon at the Red Sea.

The High Holy Days are only one of many (in fact, daily) Jewish contexts in which we have the opportunity for self-examination and change. But the High Holy Days are the time in which we deal particularly in depth with ourselves, in which our rituals, prayers, poems, and customs are specifically directed toward that which we call t’shuvah.

T’shuvah (like many Hebrew words) is full of meanings. Coming from the root shuv, meaning “to return” or “again”, t’shuvah is usually translated as “returning” or “repentance.” In the Torah, shuv is used in many ways: to indicate a return, to turn back, turn away, retreat, or to come home.

It can also mean a change of approach, condition, or course of action; or to be restored, to put something back into place, to bring back to mind, to take into consideration.

I often see t’shuvah as an act of contemplation, a point at which we stop, take stock, and consider: who we are, what we do, what we have done, and where we want to go. In a religious context, t’shuvah is about returning to our beliefs, to God, to practice.

In a personal context, I see it as stripping ourselves down to the core being that we are. Given that we are all b’tzelem Elohim, created in the image of God, one can see the two as the same. Being, finding, or returning to the person we most are is the same as turning to or returning to God.

The thing is that we don’t do this just once. It’s an ongoing process, this turning and returning. That’s where it starts to get exciting, where it’s not just High Holy Days again, but a whole new adventure each time, a path of discovery into who we have been and where we are going. I am so looking forward to traveling there together with all of you.

Wishing everyone Shanah Tovah Um’tukah, much sweetness, health, and happiness throughout the year.
An Advocate For Helping People In Need
by SHAI GARRETT GARCIA-GOLDBERG

Shai Garrett Garcia-Goldberg will be called as a bar mitzvah on October 29 to read Parsha Bereshit from the Torah and to share a teaching on the Creation story with his family, classmates and friends. The Creation story is a good fit for Shai, who loves to express his personal creative spark through his artwork, drawing and interpreting the world around him.

Shai attends 8th grade at Everett Middle School and his interests range from playing soccer and football to video games, Instagramming, texting, and his favorite school subjects, science and history. Shai has always been a strong advocate for helping people in need, particularly the homeless, as well as children and seniors living in poverty. He said, “Parsha Bereshit makes you think about how in the beginning the earth was created with abundant resources available to everyone, but today the distribution of resources is way too complicated. So, for my mitzvah project, I have selected The One Warm Coat organization in San Francisco.

They provide the homeless and those living within very fixed means to have a basic human need met...to be kept warm during cold weather.” Details on how you can participate in Shai’s Coat Drive and fundraising effort will be posted in the CSZ lobby and on Shai’s bar mitzvah website: www.shaisbarmitzvah.com

Just look for the link to One Warm Coat.

(continued from pg. 2)

the truth begins with silence, with listening. For me, it’s not that I have a story, you have a story, and the truth lies somewhere in between. But rather, I have a story and you have a story.

Only when we listen to each other and I acknowledge that your story is true for you and you acknowledge that my story is true for me will we be able to sit down in dialogue. I might not like your story. I might have a bucket full of reasons why you are wrong. But ultimately, until I am ready to listen to you and acknowledge that your truth is your truth, that we might have multiple and even contradictory truths, we cannot move forward.

As a nation, we need to move forward. My goal during the next few months is to listen to those with different truths, to listen to the stories that underlie their convictions, and to hopefully find that place of understanding and peace.

I hope you will join me on this journey. Being willing to listen to others’ truths can be saddening and maddening. May it also bring us blessings for the new year.
A Passport To The Jewish Civilization
by Leo Hill

I never sought out a Jewish path let alone a Jewish journey. I did not have a good opinion of religion in general because religion appeared to do just as much harm as good in the world. But in 2006 I read about a trans guy like me serving as a rabbinic intern at Sha’ar Zahav. I became curious about a religion that could create space for a person with a trans history. Unknown to me, my Jewish journey was to begin: I decided to attend a Friday night service and view Judaism up close.

Not only did I get a view but I got an embrace. The service was unfamiliar, but the sensation I felt during service was familiar. I felt grounded as though I was standing directly on earth with the stars above. I was intrigued by my positive response to the service so I returned for more services and Torah study. I decided to investigate The Book that has been used to support discrimination and oppression.

In retrospect, I compare my first encounter with Judaism to be like a great blind date. But I felt slightly bewildered to enjoy Judaism. It’s a religion like all the others, isn’t it? But the wonders of Jewish thought and action for the improvement of the world held an incredible attraction for me. The “wow” moments that occurred were awesome and frequent. For years, I practiced and celebrated, feasted and fasted in Jewish community. If asked about conversion

I said, “What for?” Around 2010 I answered the question for myself. I realized that I could not imagine life without Judaism. I wanted my passport, so to speak, to the Jewish civilization. I made an appointment with Rabbi Angel, and she advised me that maybe 80% of the Jewish World would consider me Jewish. I said 80% is enough; I wanted to make my relationship official! I did not originally seek to be Jewish, but Judaism speaks to me like nothing else can about love, peace, justice and the wonders of the heart.

Journey to Judaism: A Discussion Group
Facilitated by Ora Prochovnik and Rose Katz. This discussion group will explore issues that arise for people who are considering, are in the process of, or have recently completed converting to Judaism. Those with a Jewish parent (or parents), but raised with little or no Jewish experience and are interested in exploring their connection to Judaism are also welcome to attend.

Six Mondays (the second Monday of each month) 7 pm – 9 pm at CSZ: November 14, December 12, January 9, February 13, March 13 & April 17

There is no charge for this group, but pre-registration is required. For further information, or to register, please contact: Rose Katz at 415-567-3327 ext. 706 (rkatz@jewishlearningworks.org), or the synagogue office at 415-861-6932 (carrie@shaarzahav.org).
Most of us are familiar with the traditional white mantles that dress our torahs for the High Holidays. Fewer members and guests are aware of the beautiful mantles that adorn them for the rest of the year or know the history behind them.

Eleven years ago, our ritual committee decided to replace the worn garments that were in use at the time. In true CSZ fashion, it was decided to search for something that would express our uniqueness and history.

Fortuitously, we had a member, Avi Goldberg, who was an employee of Levi Strauss & Co. Avi reminded us of the positive relations the founder, Levi Strauss and his descendants have had with the local Jewish and LGBT communities.

With little prodding, a team at the Company went to work on the project, creating a special design to be used for the mantles. Durable blue denim fabric was obtained from the company’s supplier and lined with gold satin.

Stitching to represent rays of light was inspired by a design on a historic torah cover from Bavaria, the birthplace of Levi Strauss. Symbols such as a dove, olive branch and rainbow were adopted from the story of Noah and added to provide a hopeful message.

Some of the decorative elements were reclaimed from a vintage pair of jeans that dated from the time Congregation Sha’ar Zahav was founded.

After much effort, the first of the garments was ready for the Simchat Torah celebration of 2006 and the remaining two soon followed.

Our torahs are proudly paraded on shabbats when they are read. Be sure to inspect and admire them at your next opportunity.

“Stitching to represent rays of light was inspired by a design on a historic torah cover from Bavaria.”

- Philip Charney
CSZ Annual Meeting Report

By MARC LIPSCHUTZ

On May 25 we convened for an enthusiastic Annual Meeting, filled with optimism for our bright future.

• Outgoing president Laura Lowe reviewed our fiscal health and thanked Cantor Sharon Bernstein and Office Manager Carrie Kwong for providing stability during a year of high staff turnover.

• Rabbi Riter and Cantor Bernstein each reviewed their work over the past year.

• Assistant treasurer Alice Harron stated that our income from last year was above budget. Our fiscal year 2017 budget was unanimously approved.

• Beth Ross spoke on behalf of the Building and Grounds Committee and announced their plans to buy chairs for our sanctuary.

• President-elect Michael Chertok talked about his plans for the future. He also announced that our Rainbow Campaign was highly successful, with $165,000 in pledges, and that we had received a generous $250,000 bequest from Jerry Rosenstein, to be applied toward our mortgage and Chai Campaign.

• The new Va’ad officers and members were elected: Michael Chertok, President; Larry Best, Diana Buchbinder, and Nancy Levin, Vice Presidents; Laura Lowe, Immediate Past President; Alice Harron, Treasurer; Marc Lipschutz, Recorder; Don Fischer, Laurie Trupin, Martin Rawlings-Fein, and Tom Lakritz at-large Va’ad members; Michael Rice, Martin Tannenbaum, Andy Williamson, Judith Wolfe, and Larry Wexler will continue in at-large positions.

• Laura thanked the Food Chavurah and the Building & Grounds Committee for their work over the past year. She also thanked James Carlson, Immediate Past President, Mark Pressler, Vice President, Tiela Chalmers, Treasurer, and Eve Meyer, at-large member, as they ended their time on the Va’ad.

• Martin Tannenbaum dedicated an Azkarah (Remembrance) to Jerry Rosenstein, describing his life, survival of the Holocaust, and active and generous support of CSZ and Jewish Family and Children’s Services.

“Transcend” Retreat

By MARC LIPSCHUTZ

On Sunday, July 17, the Va’ad, along with Rabbi Ted Riter and Rabbi Jan Offel of the Union of Reform Judaism met for a retreat which we called “Transcend,” based on Sha’ar Zahav’s new tagline, Transcend the Ordinary. Here are few highlights from the retreat:

• Rabbi Offel, who specializes in working with congregations in transition, facilitated a discussion about our role as members of the Va’ad and about the covenant of leadership.

We then completed an exercise which taught us to identify assumptions and needs, and to work collaboratively and with innovation.

• There were presentations about the work of various Sha’ar Zahav committees.

• Rabbi Riter updated us regarding the hiring process for our Director of Engagement and Director of Family & Children’s Education, as well as about other work he is doing.
Basking In The Joy Of A Good Deed

By RAY BERNSTEIN

I’m so privileged to be able to live in San Francisco. I have a beautiful flat, in a building purchased with strangers after 9/11, when the market wasn’t sure there would be a tomorrow. There are times when I think I should give up my home, because I don’t deserve such a great place. Surely refugees could use it better! But where would I go then? I never think this all the way through.

Sha’ar Zahav provided me with a solution: After I’m gone, the congregation can have my house. This plan offers multiple advantages. First, there’s no need for me to exit the house now to achieve a righteous outcome. Second, I’m secure in the knowledge that experts in the congregation will know how to sell the flat. Third, I am confident that the proceeds will fund important community services at CSZ.

Fourth, I’ve reduced the burden on my executors, which is a good thing, because they will already be knee-deep in books, art, supplies, and miscellaneous junk.

The process was extrememly simple. I signed a very simple form and gave it to the congregational representative for the Legacy Campaign. Then I had a chat with an attorney about my wishes. (Alternatively, I could have followed instructions from Nolo Press about making a will for myself.) Then I basked in the joy of a good deed.

You’ll have your own reasons for leaving something for the future of our congregation. Maybe it’s an important life-cycle occasion, when CSZ was a particularly important part of your life. Maybe it’s the day-to-day constancy of a congregation being there for all of us. Maybe it’s a recognition of the difficulty of leaving any meaningful mark behind.

Consider letting CSZ use your resources after you don’t need them. May our memories be for a blessing.

“Tzedakah and acts of kindness are the equivalent of all the mitzvot of the Torah”
– Jerusalem Talmud, Pe’ah 1:1.
My Legacy Gift To CSZ
By MIKE ZIMMERMAN

A gift to CSZ is part of my estate plan. I’ve been asked to explain why. To be honest, when I made my list of the four to five candidates for charitable bequests, there never was any doubt that CSZ would be on that list.

Forty-seven years ago, when I came to California, I joined a Conservative synagogue. I thought it would be more authentically “Jewish.” The rabbi was young, articulate and welcoming, but he would not allow women to read from the Torah. That bothered me. The first time I saw a woman read from the Torah, I was thrilled. That was my first big CSZ moment. Fast forward to last year. I am at my daughter’s temple in Albuquerque for Rosh Hashanah. The congregation was using Mishkan Hanefesh, the Union for Reform Judaism’s new prayer books for the High Holy Days which CSZ recently adopted. I thumbed through the book. It had commentaries, short teachings, footnotes! I immediately thought of our Siddur Sha’ar Zahav. Once again, CSZ seemed to have provided a model and led the way. Another CSZ moment!

Of course I have benefited from my years of membership, but my gift is about more than expressing gratitude. I admire CSZ’s adventurous spirit, committed leaders, deep lay involvement, unconventional style, and problem-solving skills.

My gift may not be large enough to merit a memorial bookshelf or even a closet. That’s not the point. My gift is an expression of support for the belief that CSZ must and will continue to play a leadership role on the cutting edge of where Judaism needs to be.

“my gift is about more than expressing gratitude.”
- Mike Zimmerman

Our Legacy Community is the vehicle for remembering Sha’ar Zahav in your estate or trust planning. More than 20% of our members have responded to the launch of the Legacy campaign by signing and submitting a “Letter of Intent”.

If you are ready to join this commitment for the future of our community or have questions, please contact:

Irene Ogus at irene.ogus@gmail.com
High Holy Days Pledges 5776
Ed Leddy
Andy Fyne
Jo Ellen Kaiser & Zoe Kaiser
Lisa Katz
Cynthia Navarro & Kathryn McHenry
Mark Leno
Ilana Strubel
Cindy Icke
Joan Goldman
Larry Best

High Holy Days Sponsors 5777
Michael & Jane Rice
Julia Weber & Charles Fineberg
Beth Ross & Laura Trupin
Ilona Turner
Paul Peninger
James Carlson

Rainbow 2014
Erika Katski & Reuben Zellman
Jonathan Zingman & Ann Daniels

Rainbow 2015
Irene Tannenbaum
Patty Caplan & Jonathan Simonoff

Rainbow 2016
Isaac Guttman
  in memory of Florence Guttman & Simon Engelhardt
Deborah Udin & Lucy Cefalu
Jeff Weil
Rose Katz
Jan Half
Bernard Schertzer
Avi Goldberg & William Garcia
Carolyn Reiser & Karren Shorofsky
Ellen Press
Michael Zimmerman
Yo Schneeman
Joan Goldman

Andy Fyne
Andrew & Michelle Williamson
Jo Ellen Kaiser & Zoe Kaiser
Harriet Rafter
Katherine Simon
Nancy Levin
Samual Walters
Lynn Eden & Ruth Schoenbach
Lisa Katz
Elli Cohen
Jeffrey Auman
Michael & Jane Rice
Nancy Meyer
Drew Parker-Rose & Flavio Epstein
Jerry Rosenstein Trust
Brad Post & Susan Leff
Jeffrey Lilly
Nina Raff & Annie Winters
Hilary Zaid & Lauren Augusta
Diane Buchbinder & Jeane Redsecker
Larry Wexler
Alan Gordon & Steve Schumacher
Rose Katz
Arthur Slepiant & Gerry Llamado
Ruth Bernstein & Matthew Patchell
Steve Wiesner
Michael Zimmerman
Ann Bauman & Kelly Thiemann
Beth Ross & Laura Trupin
Ruth Schoenbach & Lynn Eden
Irene Ogus
Ilana Bernstein & Diane Desmond
Shoshana Levenberg & Andrea Guerra
Helen Bruno & Kevin Stein
Yo Schneeman
Andrew & Michelle Williamson
Mark Mackler
Kathleen & Ernest Friedlander
Martin & Meagan Fox
Laura Lowe
Irene Tannenbaum
Jonathan Funk
Virginia Donahue & Mark Klaiman
Grossberg-Abrams Foundation
Tamara Abrams
General Fund
Ron Lezell
in memory of Sophie Lezell
Mark Lipsitz
in honor of Ray Bernstein
Aleta Dupree
Ora Prochovnick & Rena Frantz
Ruth Schoenbach & Lynn Eden
Florence & Steven Nacamulli
in honor of Laura Lowe
Rosalie Gellman
in memory of the tragedy in Orlando
James Carlson
in memory of Kenneth Carlson
Rose Katz
in memory of Sadie Katz
Jeffrey Smith
in memory of Jerry Rosenstein
Colleen McKee
Marc & Rebecca Dembling
Jonathan Zingman & Ann Daniels
in honor of Cantor Bernstein & Paul Cohen for their support of Zingman-Daniels family during their bereavement.

Avraham Giannini
in memory of Georgette Beainy
Steve Polsky & Mark Oliver
in honor of Jonathan Funk, Steve Weitz & Kipp Leyser (Naked Voices), for lending your beautiful voices at Gabriel’s bar mitzvah.

BSPM Fund
Steve Polsky & Mark Oliver
in honor of Marc Lipschutz for being a wonderful bar mitzvah mentor to Gabriel.

Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund
Allan Berenstein
in memory of Jay Feinstein
Avraham Giannini
in honor of Ron Edelman’s Saturday services

Memorial Plaques & Bookplates
Ron Lezell
in honor of Laura Lowe
Allan Berenstein
in honor of Michael Chertok’s election, Elijah Lezell Jatovsky’s graduation, and in memory of David Kotch, Hal Podgur, John Golebowski, Perel Berenstein, and his former wife, Marsha Nohl.

Music in the Mishkan
Florence & Steven Nacamulli
in honor of Nancy Levin’s birthday

Chai Fund (Cantor)
Gerald B. Rosenstein Estate

Chai Fund (Building)
Gerald B. Rosenstein Estate

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.
SHA’AR ZAHAV  MAZEL TOV

Nachas:

• The National Association of LGBTQ Journalists has announced that Ina Turpen Fried will be inducted into their Hall of Fame at their meeting in Miami Beach in September.

SHA’AR ZAHAV  SPONSORSHIPS

Thank You to all our sponsors.

June 10-11
Flowers: Oliver-Polsky family
  in memory of Gabriel’s grammy.
Saturday Kiddush: Oliver-Polsky family
  in honor of Gabriel’s bar mitzvah

June 24-25
Flowers: Martin & Alex
  in honor of “our CSZ community that transcends the ordinary!”

July 1-2
Oneg: Jonathan Funk & John Arnold
  in memory of Rabbi Julius & Pearl Funk
  & of Rabbi Funk’s 10th yahrzeit.

July 15-16
Flowers: CSZ’s past presidents
  in honor of Laura Lowe
Oneg: CSZ’s past presidents
  in honor of Michael Chertok
  & the new Va’ad

August 12-13
Flowers: James Carlson
  in memory of Jan Tuzzolino

August 19-20
Oneg: Alan Ferarra
  in honor of Allan Gold’s 70th birthday

August 26-27
Flowers: Judith Huerta & Marjorie Hilsenrad
  in memory of Judith’s mother, Mariol Knapp

SHA’AR ZAHAV  CONDOLENCES

May Their Memories Be For A Blessing:

Lee Marks,
great aunt of Brad Post

Rebecca Daarud,
birth-mother of Shai Garcia-Goldberg

Sammy Szer,
brother of Lisa Szer

Mariol Knapp,
mother of Judith Huerta

Damir Augusta,
nephew of Lauren Augusta & Hilary Zaid
  & cousin of Ro’e & Gil’l Zaid

Patricia Daniels,
mother of Ann Daniels,
  mother-in-law of Jonathan Zingman
  & grandmother of Naomi
  & Shira Zingman-Daniels
During the June 2016 Va’ad meeting we:

- Were taught by Eve Meyer that we are all fragments of HaShem’s rainbow light, created in G-d’s image, with souls on temporary library loans to complete designated tasks.

- Assessed our budget, which at 92% through our fiscal year reflects both overall terrific and mildly cautious news.

- Resolved to ask Ritual Committee to review our current bimah attire policy and consider alternatives for a revised code.

- Committed to reconstitute the Social Action Committee, which will decide issues to pursue, with a special emphasis to consider gun control and immigration.

- Reviewed progress in hiring a Beit Sefer Phyllis Mintzer Education Director and a Program and Engagement staff person.

- Recapped our 2015 – 2016 year to date, with $166,663 in Rainbow pledges, and $250,000 received from the estate of Jerry Rosenstein, z”l, with $200,000 designated for mortgage and $50,000 per Chai Campaign, per Jerry’s instructions.

- Michael Chertok will begin sending a monthly presidential email, and in November or December we’ll have a congregational meeting to vote on a new Interfaith Bylaw.

- Examined our work with Lightbox, along with our design to communicate our messages and promote High Holidays 5777 and our return to the Herbst Theater, and planned the launch of our new website.

- We thanked Laura Lowe for her incredible work throughout her two years as CSZ President. With Laura’s huge heart, enormous efforts, and countless hours of time invested, we moved from a challenging time of transition and are emerging most successfully and strong. Yasher koach and todah rabah (strength and thanks to you) Laura!

During the August Va’ad meeting we:

- Discussed candidates for our Director of Education and Director of Engagement positions.

- Signed Covenant of Leadership agreements, pledging to be dedicated, ethical and proactive stewards of Congregation Sha’ar Zahav.

- Planned for High Holidays 5777 at the Herbst Theater, with new machzorim (prayer books), new children’s programming, additional music, email notification, and electronic ticketing.

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

Our New Website

By KAREN SCHILLER

Fireman Creative, a website design firm based in Pittsburgh, PA has won our contract to design a new and exciting website, including a new logo which captures us - “transcend the ordinary”. Many congregants participated in the survey looking at a number of logo possibilities. The new website is scheduled to be live by October 31st. We hope you will check it out and give us your feedback.
which we believe will keep us more connected as a community. Our High Holy Days experience this year started online. You should have received ticket information by email and registered online. If you haven’t, please check your email and follow the simple registration process. You may print out a paper copy of your ticket or link to it on your mobile phone. Of course, if neither option works, our staff and volunteers will gladly assist you.

As part of our ticketing process, we ask you to consider making a financial contribution to the congregation before the holiday. Please consider making a generous gift from your heart. This will help ensure that we have sufficient resources to cover all the costs of our holiday celebration, and that we won’t need to demonstrate during services how to fold down the tabs of a pledge form!

This year we will pray with the contemporary liturgy of Mishkan Hanefesh, the new Reform prayer books for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. We’re excited to embrace the relevant and meaningful language, while also holding onto prayers that are familiar and sacred to our community, such as our Communal Prayer of Remembrance. And we’ll only need to balance one book in our laps!

Finally, we are making the holidays a special experience for the children in our community. In addition to childcare and Children’s Services, we will have innovative music and art activities for youth in three different age groups. Rabbi Lew’s description of the Holy Day experience continues on to the end of the holidays, “The gate clangs shut, the great horn sounds one last time. You feel curiously light-hearted and clean.”

I hope that your High Holy Days experience at Sha’ar Zahav this year is reflective, deeply moving, connecting, and brings you to a similar place.
October

2 William Korthof
3 Rabbi Benjamin Marcus
6 Jeffrey Miller
8 Duane Kearns Puryear
12 Andrew Zysman
13 Harry Clint Bigglestone
18 Henry Mautner
24 Glenn Murray Miller
29 Michael Mohr

December

4 Marilyn O’Keefe
9 Isa Leah Cymrot-Wu
9 Nicholas Papadoponlos
18 David Glassberg
20 Norman D. Kramer
21 Walter Palmer
22 Elijah M Silverrod MacLachlan
28 Phyllis Mintzer
29 Allan Craig

November

3 Forrest Kincade
7 Donald Albert
11 Bruce Apter
11 Matthew Rostoker
12 Dr. Richard Wright
13 Harvey Levine
16 Chuck Norton
18 William David Holt II
22 Tristano Palermino
27 Harvey Milk

Hills of Eternity
Memorial Park

Home of Peace
Cemetery

Salem Memorial Park

Serving Northern California’s
Jewish Community Since 1850

- Dedicated section for congregants
- In-Ground Burial Plots
- Indoor and Garden Mausoleum Crypts
- Niche and In-Ground Urn Gardens
- Convenient Payment Plans

For an appointment,
please call 650.755.4700

James Carlson, Executive Director
and Sha’ar Zahav member
Benjamin J. Ruhs, Director of Sales

1299 El Camino Real
Colma, CA 94014-3238

www.jewishcemeteries-sf.org

SAN DIEGO

Sinai Memorial Park

Serving Jewish Community Since 1862

- In-Ground and Niche Crypts
- In-Ground and Garden Mausoleums
- Indoor Mausoleum
- Niche Urn Gardens
- Burial at Home of Peace

10663 North Torrey Pines Road
La Jolla, CA 92037

www.sinaichapels.com

Charles Spiegel Law

REAL ESTATE
DIVORCE AND CUSTODY
ADOPTION AND
SURROGACY
PRE AND POST NUPTIAL
AGREEMENTS

Charles Spiegel, Esq.,
CSZ Member
Attorney and Mediator
CharlesSpiegelLaw@gmail.com
www.charlesspiegelaw.com
(415) 644-4555

SINAI

MEMORIAL CHAPEL
CHEVRA KADISHA

San Francisco (FD 262)
(415) 921-3636

East Bay (FD 1523)
(925) 962-3636

Peninsula (FD 1830)
(650) 369-3636

- Advance planning counseling
- At need arrangements
- Bereavement support services
- Burial at all Jewish Cemeteries
Locally & Worldwide

www.sinaichapel.org

Nourish your values
with your investments

- Holistic personal financial planning aligned with your progressive values
- Fee-only CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER practitioner specializing in Socially Responsible Investments
- Small business retirement plans and consulting
- Free initial consultation

Jim Frazin, CFP®, AIF®
415.337.4566 x 101
jim@CommunitasFinancial.com

Jim Frazin, is an Investment Advisory Representative of Communitas Financial Planning Inc, an independent investment advisory firm registered in California.

Please note: Advertising deadline for our next issue is November 15th!

Jewish Gaily Forward October - December 2016

15
Friday, December 2, 2016, 7:30 PM
at Congregation Sha’ar Zahav

JUMP...DANCE...SING...

JOIN us for Klezmer Shabbat - a night of singing, dancing, davening (praying), and eating.

We’ll be blessed with Cantor Sharon Bernstein on vocals and piano, Stuart Brotman on bass, Sheldon Brown on clarinet, Ilana Sherer on violin, and Bruce Bierman on feet.

This evening is in memory of Larry Tannenbaum, z”l - who never missed an opportunity for great food and drink, ruach (spirit) and community.