

The Messenger

Congregation Shalom Bayit



MARCH 2016

Adar I – Adar II 5776

congregationshalombayit.com

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Open Position

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Come celebrate **PURIM** in the month of March with us,
Queen Esther, Haman, and all of the other past
relatives – some good, some bad.

Havdalah March 5 Catered

Catered by Russo's.

Please call Carol at 951-7697514
by March 1.

Let her know your preference
- pot roast or chicken.

Member \$18.50/Guest \$21.50

Havdalah is sponsored by
Ilene Kaplan & Carol Sherman

Oneg March 18

is sponsored by Kay Ross, Ilene Kaplan, & Carol Sherman



President's Message



Dear Members:

Anne Savy, Claudia Schwartz and Art Sobel did a great job as members of the Nominating Committee. They are working on a slate of officers that I'm sure will make you all proud. If you said no at first, but now have decided to actively join the force that makes your Temple thrive, please call me at 951-769-3678 prior to February 29 (the final Nominating Committee meeting).

NOW, all you have to do is REMEMBER THIS DATE, Saturday, June 4, 2016, for the Congregational Meeting held prior to the Havdalah service. We will elect officers who will serve for two years, approve the proposed budget, and conduct any other business you wish to discuss. Time will be around 4:45, but that will be announced in a future "Messenger."

Tzedakah; A Way of Life: Hundreds of people rely on the various food banks in town. Torah tells us to leave the four corners of our fields for those in need. Today, this could be translated to mean the 4 corners of our shopping carts! I urge everyone to bring a little something to Temple to place in the Our Savior's Food Bank. They feed a large number of needy folks who knock on their door every Monday.

Hannah

From the Rabbi

March 2016



Shalom Chaverim,

Earlier this year, during a ceremony held on International Holocaust Remembrance Day, President Obama and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum honored Master Sergeant Roddie Edmonds as a Righteous Gentile. Master Sergeant Edmonds was taken prisoner by the Nazis at the Battle of the Bulge. While in captivity, the Nazis ordered the Jewish POWs to step forward and identify themselves. Edmonds, the highest ranking American non-commissioned officer ordered all the US soldiers to stand together, and he announced to the German officer, "We are all Jews." The German officer gave up trying to identify just the Jews and the Jewish soldiers' lives were saved.

The words of Master Sergeant Edmonds echoed across the decades and was repeated loudly and proudly by Daniel Pearl in 2002, the Wall Street Journal reporter whose last words were "I am a Jew," just before he was killed by Pakistani terrorists.

These two modern-day examples of Jewish identification are reminiscent of yet another dramatic scene in Jewish history: that moment when Queen Esther reveals her own Jewish identity to King Ahashueras in a last-ditch attempt to save her people from Haman's evil decree. That moment, Esther's brave actions taken at great personal risk, and the fact that the Jews of Shushan were saved are what we celebrate this month on the holiday of Purim. Because we have a lot of fun, act silly, tell lots of jokes, and make light of what was a very serious situation, we often lose sight of the importance and impact of Esther's moment of revelation. Yes, Esther is our hero, but we sometimes forget why she is our hero.

It is painful and difficult to imagine being put in a similar situation as Esther, Roddie Edmonds, or Daniel Pearl. It is equally difficult to imagine what our own response and actions would be. Could we show the same bravery? Could we muster the same intestinal fortitude? Could we equally and proudly proclaim our own Jewish identity in similar circumstances?

We honor Master Sergeant Edmonds, Daniel Pearl, and Queen Esther particularly because we have doubts about ourselves. Their actions are heroic – a label applied today far too often and most of the time inappropriately – because they inspire others to greatness and to challenge and question one's own life and actions. We celebrate their lives not just for what they did but also for what they teach us about ourselves.

The holiday of Purim is much more than fun, merry-making, and biting satire. Purim is really about Jewish identity and a challenge across the centuries to all Jews to remain strong and vibrant individually and collectively. More than once have the likes of Haman tried to rise up against us. There have been others and there will continue to be others. Yet, we Jews have much to teach the world. We Jews have much to contribute to this world. We Jews have much to gain from this world. So, let's all be proud to say under any and all circumstances "I am a Jew" and "We are all Jews."

Speaking of Purim, our March 5th Havdallah program will be our annual Purim celebration with traditional songs and silliness. I hope you will be there to honor and recall Esther's brave actions and to commemorate her proud proclamation of Jewish identity.

Lech L'shalom – May you go in peace,
Rabbi Kenneth Milhander



Sisterhood

Sisterhood met February 23. Our next meeting is March 22 at Sun Lakes Country Club Atrium. Typically, we have 5-7 ladies who attend. Recent meetings have included Sandy Zwick and Nancy Darling. It was wonderful to see them both and able to enjoy our meeting. Nancy has very graciously donated to Sisterhood the proceeds of the sale of beautiful hand-knit scarves, which she modeled at our January meeting. They are only \$10 and are works of art. Thank you Nancy. Our business meeting is extremely brief and is followed by a nice lunch with a lively discussion of a variety of issues. If you would like to attend but don't have a ride please call Cathy Colt at 951-392-5380 and she will arrange for transportation. If you would like to order a leaf for the Tree of Life (either a memorial or an honor) please contact Cathy Colt. They are \$18 for temple members and \$25 for non-members.

Cathy Colt
Sisterhood President

Yahrzeits

Sam Gerstein	Father of	Shirley Barsh
Audrey Bernstein	Mother of	Leslie Diamond
Nesta Noll	Aunt of	Adele Kiefer
Hinda Waldman	Friend of	Adele Kiefer
Sidney Ralph Levine	Father of	Diana Newman
Sidney Roth	Father of	Fran Rayner
Hyman Chamowitz	Grandfather of	Carol Sherman
Joseph Logan	Father of	Sandra Shulkiin
Clyde Geisler	Father of	Sandy Zwick
Marcella Geisler	Mother of	Sandy Zwick

Birthdays

Ilene Kaplan	Mar. 1
Martha Benoff	Mar. 12
Carol Sherman	Mar. 21

Please note the purpose of your donations on your checks to the temple.

Tribute Donations Shalom Bayit offers all of us the ability to memorialize or honor friends and loved ones. Tribute donations can be made in honor of a bar/bat mitzvah, the birth of a baby, a birthday, an anniversary, a graduation, a wedding, or any special occasion. Donations in memory of loved ones help us remember that person in a special and meaningful way. Also, tribute donations are a thoughtful way to say "thank you." Your donation should be sent to the address on the back of the *Messenger* to the attention of "Treasurer" and will be acknowledged with a card to the recipient of this tribute. It will also be listed in the *Messenger*, unless you request otherwise.

Yahrzeit Donations

Hal & Shirley Barsh in memory of Shirley's mother Molly Gerstein
 Anne Savy in memory of her mother Ruth Smith
 Joan Frost in memory of her mother Margaret Watkins
 Joan Frost in memory of her brother Philip Watkins
 Ilene Kaplan in memory of her mother Clarice Kaplan
 Ilene Kaplan in memory of her father Ben Kaplan
 Ilene Kaplan in memory of her uncle David Globe
 Ilene Kaplan in memory of her aunt Harriette Nathan
 Carol Sherman in memory of her grandmother Clara Sattinger
 Carol Sherman in memory of her son-in-law Glen Shapiro
 Leslie Diamond in memory of father Leo Bernstein

RECYCLING. Please bring your separated cans and plastic bottles (with caps included but unscrewed from bottles) to temple events. You can also write a check in lieu of your recycling. If you call Joan Frost (951-845-9757), she can arrange to have your recycling picked up if you can't bring them to temple.

Oneg and Havdalah Sponsors

Havdalah

We need sponsors for May, June, July, and August.

Oneg

We need sponsors for May, August, and December.

Celebrate a Birthday, Anniversary, or other special occasion.
Remember someone who is gone -- honor them by sponsoring an
Oneg or Havdalah.

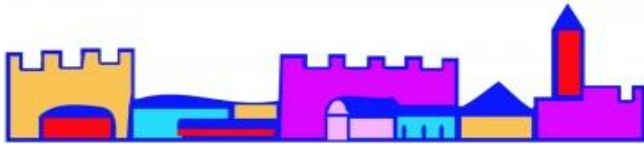
Sign up at a service or Call Carol at 951-769-7514.

Thanks to all of you who stay to help clean up after services.
And a special thanks to Cathy Colt and Joan Frost who come at noon to set up before every Havdalah.

BOARD MEETINGS are open to all temple members. You are encouraged to attend. The more participation the better.

March 2016

MONDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
					10:30 – Board Mtg.	5:30 – Havdalah – (Catered)
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
					7:00 - Shabbat	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
		11:30 – Sisterhood				
27	28	29	30	31		



Congregation Shalom Bayit

1320 West Williams Street
Banning, CA 92220

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½ page: \$75
Full page: \$150

Messenger submissions are due by
the 5th of the preceding month.

Join Us!