



### Message from the Rabbi - Dear Friends,

As many of you are aware, the Presbyterian Church (PCUSA) has had a disturbing recent history of anti-Israel pronouncements and activity. At their upcoming convention, June 14 -21, the PCUSA's delegates will consider several resolutions that would have the Church divest from or boycott companies that do business with Israel, label Israel as an apartheid state, and rethink support for a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Recently, I signed a letter from American Jewish religious leaders (rabbis and cantors and students); as of yesterday, 1700 of us had done so. I would like to share the letter in its entirety with you. Resisting the forces of BDS (boycott, divestment and sanctions), anti-Zionism, anti-Semitism and outright lies is an ongoing challenge. You can go to the PCUSA website and read some responses to the letter from their own membership. I hope that the upcoming month will be one in which the forces of decency, honesty and justice will move ever closer to realization.

Rabbi Kim S. Geringer

A Letter of Shalom, from American Jewish Religious Leaders to Our Friends in the Presbyterian Church (USA) June 2014

Dear Friends:

With the blessing of shalom, we, religious leaders of millions of American Jews representing each of the denominational streams, reach out to you, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) commissioners, who will be considering multiple overtures during the June General Assembly in Detroit. Your

voices will be heard on many issues, including the challenging Israeli-Palestinian conflict. We want you to hear directly from us of our hopes and aspirations for the people of the Holy Land. We respect your opinions and commitments, and trust that you might want to hear from American Jews on these issues of grave concern to all of us who are dedicated to bringing peace to the region. We write as longstanding and deeply committed brothers and sisters in Presbyterian-Jewish interreligious relations.

We share with you a commitment to peace in the Middle East, particularly toward a resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Like you, we long for the leadership and courage that will bring the peoples of the Holy Land to a just two-state solution, when the State of Israel will dwell in peace and security alongside a Palestinian state. We can, no doubt, join together in prayer for a time when Christians, Muslims, Jews and others can fulfill their spiritual destiny in this holy place, each sitting "under his vine and under his fig tree, and none shall make them afraid." (Micah 4:4)

We applaud the efforts of our American government, under the leadership of Secretary of State John Kerry, to bring the parties to the conflict, Israelis and Palestinians, closer to a permanent solution or at least to a framework for getting there. It has not been easy and there are frayed nerves and sustained suspicions that need yet to be overcome. Our prayers are with the peacemakers who are working to bring the parties together for a brighter future for them and their descendants.

We appreciate the PCUSA's commitment to peacemaking, human rights, and the particular

Presbyterian concern for their fellow Christians whose spiritual aspirations include the establishment and sustenance of flourishing Christian communities in the Holy Land. The religious and other freedoms we cherish together in the United States should be inviolable for all the citizens of God's world.

We hope that we can agree on these fundamental principles. Nonetheless, there are areas of concern we need to share with you in the interest of our relationship. We are deeply concerned that the PCUSA is considering several overtures that would threaten the prospects for future peace. Oversimplifying a complex conflict and placing all the blame on one party, when both bear responsibility, increases conflict and division instead of promoting peace, reconciliation and mutual understanding.

The role of peacemaker is irreconcilable with positions that promote economic coercion through boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS), and consequently discourage, rather than encourage, constructive engagement. Every peace treaty signed between Israel and its Arab neighbors, and every peace plan proposed by the United States, the European Union, Russia, the Arab League and the United Nations, specifically calls for the normalization of relations between the Arab states, the Palestinians and Israel, including trade links. If we truly want to help both parties, we should encourage reconciliation, investment and a negotiated solution, instead of boycotts and divestments.

Additionally, we are deeply disturbed to see an overture calling for the PCUSA to reconsider the Church's commitment to a two-state solution. Adoption of that stance would be tragic. It is wrong to deny the Palestinian people their right to a state and it is also equally wrong to deny the Jewish people the right to a state. There are two competing claims to the same land and they should be answered by a two-state solution, something with which we have long agreed with the PCUSA. The Palestinian people, the PLO, the

Palestinian Authority, the Israeli government and people, the United States government, both major U.S. political parties, Russia, the European Union, and the Arab League all advocate for a two-state solution. Getting there is difficult, but that remains the goal of most Palestinians and Israelis, as well as the international community. Among the parties to the conflict, only Hamas and Hezbollah reject a two-state solution.

But what most reflects and magnifies our sadness is the promulgation of an explicitly anti-Zionist congregational study guide that remains for sale on the Church's website. Entitled *Zionism Unsettled*, it labels the national movement of the Jewish people, Zionism, and Israel, its expression, as "false theology," "heretical doctrine," "evil," "pathology," "racism," and "cultural genocide." Those characterizations are not only at wide variance with the facts, but are also extraordinarily hurtful and incendiary. No one truly committed to peace and reconciliation should use that kind of vocabulary to describe either side. Nothing, including the assertion that the Israel/Palestine Mission Network speaks "to" but not "for" the Presbyterian Church (USA), can justify the PCUSA leadership's silence on, and toleration of, *Zionism Unsettled* and the PCUSA's distribution of it.

We are concerned that despite our shared objectives, the Presbyterian-Jewish relationship in America is headed in the wrong direction. We need a new way forward. We are ready for a more constructive relationship. We invite you to join us and start by sending a message that when it comes to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Presbyterian peacemakers work for reconciliation, investment, and understanding of conflicting narratives rather than inciting further conflict. We are ready to join you in this new way. Are you ready to join us?

Shalom, shalom la-rachok v'la-karov (Isaiah 57:19). Peace, peace to the far and to the near.

L'shalom,

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope we all agree that a foremost component of any congregation is a successful Hebrew School. As is the case with other aspects of our temple, our Hebrew School is a small but vibrant institution. We have excellent teachers, a solid established curriculum and enthusiastic students. Although less than ten years in existence, we have a number of young adults who have graduated and successfully completed their Bar and Bat Mitzvahs. What we do not have, unfortunately, is large numbers.

Due to the small number of students, and consequently the amount of tuition we receive, we operate on a thin margin. We are cognizant of our obligation to be fiscally responsible to the congregation at large. One way we have always tried to cut costs is through the use of volunteers. For the coming school year we are very much in need of those willing to act as informal teaching assistants. These volunteers can offer their expertise by leading students in crafts, cooking and other projects, or just general supervision. Please consider giving of your time. I am sure you will find that you will benefit as much as the students.

If interested, please contact the School Director or myself.

Have a good month.

*Philip M. Miller, President*



**Yahrzeits**

בראבא ve yitkadash sh'mei יתגדל

June 5	David Crespy, Father of Jack Crespy, Hebrew date 7 Sivan
June 5	Gussie Wallach, Mother of Sheldon Wallerstein
June 7	Barbara Levine, Mother of Michael Levine
June 7	Earl Wallerstein, Brother of Sheldon Wallerstein
June 8	Samuel Kanowith, Father of Susan Shapiro, Hebrew date 10 Sivan
June 13	William Feather, Father of Leonard Feather, Hebrew date 15 Sivan
June 13	George Levin, Father of David Levin, Hebrew date 22 Sivan
June 23	Hilde Lewisohn, Mother of Barry Lewisohn
June 30	Harley Crespy, Wife of Jack Crespy, Hebrew date 2 Tamuz

**HELP GROW OUR MEMBERSHIP  
INVITE A FRIEND TO FRIDAY NITE**

**SERVICES****CONGREGATION SHA'AREY HA-YAM BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

<b>President</b>	Philip Miller	609-698-3933	pmmlegal@aol.com
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</b>	Philip Altland	609-492-2751	paltland@elliman.com
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	Charles Flum	732-228-7991	cflum1@comcast.net
<b>Past President</b>	Aaron Shapiro	609-242-2390	shap1010@comcast.net



**2013 - 2014 Temple Sha'arey  
Ha-Yam Schedule  
Services 7:30pm**

**Friday, June 13, 2014**

**Friday, June 27, 2014**



**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

- June 1, 1999 Rhonda & Gary Daley
- June 12, 1962 Joan & Terry Silverman
- June 12, 1966 Rose & Stan Jackson
- June 13, 1961 Susan & Aaron Shapiro



- June 3 Deanna Bovasso
- June 8 Ret Wallerstein
- June 10 Philip Miller
- June 12 Terry Silverman
- June 30 Patricia Barndt

**TEMPLE COMMITTEES**

**New Members Welcome**

Temple Committees	Chair/Members
Birthdays & Anniversaries	<u>Susan Shapiro</u>
Choir	<u>Philip Altland</u> Cyndy Friedland, Wendi Higgins, Pat Barndt, Madelyn Dunn, Robert Dunn, Syble Bleiweis, Rena Kreisler
Finance	Treasurer, Financial Secretary, President
Fundraising	<u>Dayna Otto</u> Pat Barndt, Syble Bleiweis, Bari Cohen, Madelyn Dunn, Cyndy Friedland, Wendi Higgins, Joan Silverman, Blanche Spiegel
Greeters	<u>Rose Jackson &amp; Judie Levin</u> Pat Barndt, Syble Bleiweis, Hope Gardiner, Wendi Higgins, Rhona Levy, Thelma Polon, Susan Shapiro
Hospital Visits	<u>Jack Crespy</u>
Membership	<u>Cyndy Friedland</u> Syble Bleiweis, Joan Silverman
Music	<u>Philip Altland</u> Stan Jackson
Newsletter	<u>Rose Jackson</u> Hope Gardiner
Oneg & Dinners	<u>Madelyn Dunn</u> Pat Barndt, Wendi Higgins
Publicity	<u>Cyndy Friedland</u>
Religious School	<u>Cyndy Friedland/ Phil Miller</u>
Ritual	<u>Charles Flum</u> Philip Altland, Stan Jackson, Alan Levy
Sunshine	<u>Syble Bleiweis</u> Ruth Schlyen, Phyllis Blum, Harriet Cohen
Tributes	<u>Syble Bleiweis</u>
Yahrzeits	<u>Harriet Cohen</u>



## TRIBUTE CARD SENT



To: Thelma and Murray Rosenthal  
Mazel Tov on your Granddaughter becoming a Bat Mitzvah  
From: Ruth and Gary

To: Danielle Jonas and David Jonas  
Congratulations on your graduation from Stockton College  
From: Dolly and Mike Weiss

## We NEED your support!

**Magic Car Wash** - We are selling tickets for the car wash in Manahawkin again. Tickets are the same as if you went there (\$6.50), however, 50% goes to our congregation.

**Amazon Smile** - When shopping at [www.SMILE.Amazon.com](http://www.SMILE.Amazon.com) you can designate **REFORM JEWISH COMMUNITY of BARNEGAT** (there no additional fees, the congregation makes a percentage). We have already received a check from this fundraiser :)

**ShopRite Cards** are always sold at services, but can be purchased anytime by contacting Dayna (609.709.9410) or Syble (609.978.4240)

**Tribute Cards** can be sent to anyone for any reason with a *minimum* donation of \$5.

**Dine-A-Round** - We have new letters for you to print out & approach your favorite restaurant. See if they will host a Dine-A-Round. (see letter Page 8, It doesn't hurt to ask ;)

## Shavuot 2014: Celebrating The Giving Of The Torah from Huffington Post

June 3 - June 5

### History

Shavuot is a Jewish holiday which celebrates God's giving of the Torah to the Jewish people at Mount Sinai. It is also known as the "[Feast of Weeks](#)." It has connections to an [ancient grain harvest festival](#) and is one of [three pilgrimage](#) holidays celebrated in ancient Israel.

### Dates

Shavuot is celebrated seven weeks after Passover, exactly fifty days after the first Seder. For this reason, some Jews refer to the holiday as Pentecost. It is a two-day holiday, though in Israel it is only celebrated for one day. [In the Jewish calendar](#), it begins at sundown on the 5th of the month of Sivan and lasts until night falls on the 7th of Sivan. [In 2014](#), Shavuot begins on June 3 and ends on June 5.

### Traditions

As Jewish kosher laws were part of the message included in the Torah, on Shavuot it is customary to eat dairy products. [No work](#) is done on this day. Holiday candles are lit, and some people [stay up all night](#) on the first evening reading the Torah. Before the destruction of the Temple in 70 CE, Jews would bake [two special loaves of bread](#) from their first grain harvest and present them to the Temple in Jerusalem.

### Reflection

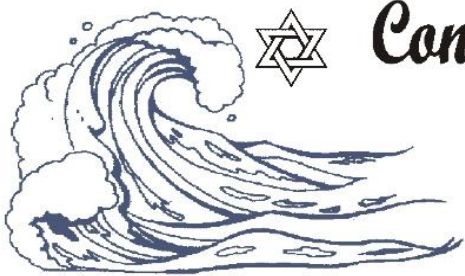
Rabbi Arthur Waskow, the founder and director of the Shalom Center, wrote a Shavuot reflection in [a blog for The Huffington Post](#) that relates the harvest of the grain to the spiritual rewards reaped by reading the Torah:

How can we unify the earth-Shavuot of wheat harvest with the word-Shavuot of Torah? One first vision of a tiny practice that could bring new power to Shavuot: Each household bakes two loaves of bread to bring to the communal reading of that Moment on the Mountain.

As we share the bread with each other, touching the loaves and touching the others who are touching the loaves, we share with each other, with our partner the Earth, and with our Highest Selves, the One:

*From Earth we receive,  
To the One we give:  
Together we share,  
And from this we live.*





# *Congregation Sha'arey Ha-Yam*

*Gates of the Sea*

P.O. Box 1268, Manahawkin, NJ 08050

Website: [www.shaareyhayam.org](http://www.shaareyhayam.org)

Dear Restaurant Owner/ Manager,

We are an active part of this community and would like to see your business be successful.

Our congregation would like to support your restaurant. Please pick a date(s) when you might be slower than another. We will publicize the date(s) and times for patrons to dine in your restaurant. In return, you agree to donate 15% - 25% of the designated time's proceeds to our non profit organization.

Thank you for your consideration.

Congregation Sha'arey Ha-Yam  
Gates of the Sea

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THE ONLY REFORM CONGREGATION IN SOUTHERN OCEAN COUNTY

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