



Congregation Sha'arey Ha-Yam

Gates of the Sea

THE BULLETIN

P.O. Box 1268, Manahawkin, NJ 08050 • (609)-698-4459

Website: reformjewishcommunity.org

Items to Note:

- May 6: Services
- May 9: Yom
HaZikron Israel
Memorial Day
- May 10: Yom
HaAtzma'ut Israel
Independence Day
- May 14: Gift
Auction
- May 19: Dine-A-
Round Callaway's
Restaurant
- May 20: Services

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Message From the Rabbi:

Dear Friends,

I was intrigued and a bit bemused by a news headline that popped up recently on my computer. From MSNBC.com it read, "Bible Edits Leave Some Feeling Cross: New Versions Reflect Modern Scholarship But Revive Some Reservations." The article went on to explain that at this Easter season both American Catholics and Protestants will receive new translations of the venerable King James Bible, on this the 400th anniversary of the printing of this Christian text. "While the changes may seem small," writes the article's author, "they are resounding throughout Christianity, whose many denominations formed or broke off from others over clashing interpretations of God's word." Translators of both new versions said that their efforts grew out of an increasing need to resolve the tension between a faithful reading of the ancient Hebrew and Greek texts on the hand, and the needs and sensibilities of the 21st-century worshiper on the other.

Of course part of the challenge is that those who produce holy texts are always working from the original Hebrew, not from English! Said one of the Christian scholars quoted in the article, "It's not rewriting. It's retranslating." Translation by definition is always interpretation. All contemporary languages are constantly changing and growing. From one generation to the next words take on different meanings, sometimes obvious, at other time subtle. As an example, the New American Bible published by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has changed the word "booty" in an earlier translation to "plunder" or "spoils of war," because, as they said, "'Booty' has a different, decidedly un-biblical meaning nowadays.

So I was intrigued just because I'm usually intrigued when matters of faith and religion pop up in the popular press. And I was bemused when I read further and learned that some of the major contentious issues in the new translations have to do with the use of gender language because this is something our Reform Movement began wrestling with way back in 1975 at the time of the publication of *The Gates of Prayer*, the *siddur* that replaced *The Union Prayerbook*. An oft-quoted phrase from the Book of Ecclesiastes sums this up nicely: "*Ain chadash tachat ha shemesh*," which means "There's nothing new under the sun." Just as we Reform Jews (in the Conservative and Reconstructionist Movements too) have struggled with the language of our liturgy and our Bible, now many of our Christian friends do too. The gender issues have to do with how both God and people are described. For instance, in the Christian Bible Mark 1:17 was traditionally translated to read, "'Come, follow me,' Jesus said, 'and I will send you out to fish for men.'" The new version changes "men" to "people"; in other places, "forefathers" are now called "ancestors." The word "mankind" is out, replaced by more gender-neutral language such as "humanity" or "human beings." "He," "him" and "his" are no longer the default references. These sorts of changes in referring to people were made in *The Gates of Prayer* (1975), but it was not until "Gates" was revised in 1994 that gendered references to God as "He," "Him," and "His"

were also eliminated.

Why does all this matter? Because the words that we read, hear and say powerfully affect our understanding of such key concepts as God and humanity. If we always hear God referred to in masculine language, how can we avoid thinking of God as a man? When human beings are always referred to as “men,” how do we remember and find a place for the women of our tradition – past, present and future? If language reflects how a community defines itself and its members, then it becomes highly problematic when holiness and sanctification become linguistically associated with men and maleness. Yet the old language can be comforting too when it reminds us of people and times and places now gone. I like to describe progressive Jews as those who refuse to check their brains at the sanctuary doors. Yet even we progressives are human beings who operate from both our right and our left brains – our intellect and our emotions. So I smile in empathy and fellowship with those Christians trying every bit as hard as we do to create liturgy, sacred text and worship which honors the past and engages in the present. I wish them – and us – *savlanut* – patience and *hatzlachah* – much success.

Have a good month.

Rabbi Kim S. Geringer

Message from the President:

We will hold our annual Congregational meeting on Sunday, June 5th at LCHS at 7 PM. This will be the official notification to our Membership regarding this meeting. At this time the Board will present a proposed budget for the year and proposed Slate of Officers. Our Nominating Committee has given us a proposed Board of Trustees for our next term of office for 2011 to 2013. These members are as follows:

President	Aaron Shapiro
1 st Vice President	Philip Miller
2 nd Vice President	Dayna Otto
Treasurer	Ernest Bleiweis
Financial Secretary	Mark Kreisler
Secretary	Thelma Polon
Trustees:	Philip Altland
	Rose Jackson
	To Be Announced

I would like to thank Fran Breese, Rosalie Donadio, Stan Jackson and Hal Polon for their time and dedication in selecting our proposed Slate of Officers.

Our Second Night Seder was a wonderful event with 89 in attendance! Rabbi Geringer did a lovely presentation of our ancestor's struggles bringing us to present times with current situations we are dealing with. The youngsters joined Rabbi in doing the Four Questions and scrambled to find the Afikomon! Fran and Joe Breese' grandson Matt was the winner of that prize. The Captain's Inn did an excellent dinner for us that was enjoyed by all. Our special thanks to Madelyn Dunn for coordinating the Seder from reservations to Seder Plates! Please check our website, www.congregationshaareyaham.org to see pictures of the Seder.

Cyndy Friedland, President

Annual Congregational Meeting — Sunday, June 5th - 7 PM
The Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit

Family News:

Yahrzeit May 2011

April 18 ^t	Fran Miller Wife of Dave Miller
May 5	Theodore Cohen Father of Phil Cohen
May 9	Louis Platman Father of Thelma Polon
May 14	Terry Levin Mother of David Levin
May 14	Annie Gordon Sister of Maralyn Ricciardi
May 24	Edith Florence Sendach Mother of Joyce Scranton
May 29	Pauline Gold Mother of Rita Gold

***(Please forward any new Yahrzeit dates
for updating files to Phyllis at
bbbanner@aol.com. Thank you.)***

May Birthdays

Levin, Judie 3
Majewski, Debbie 9
Ricciardi, Maralyn 25

May Anniveraries

Cohen, Craig and Gina 22/2010
Belitz, Mr. and Mrs. Carey 27/1995

***Please forward ALL birthday and anniversary dates
to Fran at nanny1141@comcast.net as our
files must be re-done. Thank you.***

Donations

On May 6th our Oneg is being sponsored by Dave Miller in honor of his recent Conversion to Judaism.
Mazel Tov!!

Gina and Craig Cohen have planted a Ring of Trees in Israel in honor of their first wedding anniversary.
Mozel Tov!!

Susan and Aaron Shapiro have donated a Ring of Trees in Israel in memory of Mr. Nathan Slovin.

Yahrzeit donations were made this month:

Fran and Joe Breese in memory of Fran's mother, Yetta Grossman
Joan and Terry Silverman in memory of Terry's father Jack Silverman.
Dave Miller in memory of his wife Fran Miller.

Jewish Tidbits

Rewards of Gratitude

"48 Ways to Wisdom" is in the merit of Rabbi Noah Weinberg, the beloved founder and dean of Aish Ha-Torah—Yisrael Noach ben Yitzhak Mattisyahu.

Gratitude to the Almighty

More than all, give credit to the Almighty. He gave us a brain to understand and appreciate wisdom. Other teachers enlighten us, but the original teacher is God. He implanted within us the intuition to discover all there is to know about living.

God is showering us with gifts all the time. Food, air, eyes, teeth. Life itself. He programmed us with an antenna for wisdom. Nothing is possible without God.

The problem is that we don't want to be indebted to Him, so we deny the gifts. We refuse to believe that He loves us.

It's like the son who doesn't want to acknowledge the gift of a new Porsche. He's going to say it's the wrong color, it has a dent, it guzzles gas. He'll find something wrong with it because he doesn't want to acknowledge the debt.

In order to connect with God, you have to learn to appreciate all the good He has done for you. That means giving up the illusion that you alone are responsible for your achievements. It's all a gift from God. Just as every stroke of Picasso's brush has his signature on it, everything in this world has God's signature on it. We have to learn to appreciate it. If you make the effort to appreciate the gifts God has bestowed upon you, then you'll have such a keen awareness of God's presence that everything you do is accompanied by a sense of His love and guidance. You'll be overwhelmed above and beyond any other pleasure possible.

That's why gratitude is the ultimate appreciation,

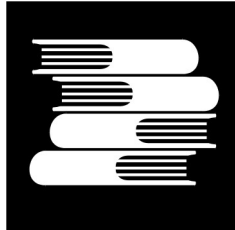
the 50th Way to Wisdom. This is the step that unifies all the others. So start loving God. Acknowledge His great and many gifts.

From: JUDAISM ONLINE

www.simpletoremember.com

BOOK CORNER:

by Rosalie Donadio



In My Brother's Image: Twin Brothers Separated by Faith after the Holocaust *by Eugene Pogeny*

This is an eloquent memoir of a family ripped apart by the Holocaust. Born into a Jewish family, Pogeny's grandfather, Bela, converted to Roman Catholicism before WWI so he could work in the Hungarian civil service. A few years later, his wife, Gabriella, and their six-year-old twin sons, Miklos (the author's father) and Gyuri, were also baptized as Catholics. Gabriella took her new religion more seriously than her husband and was delighted when Gyuri became a priest.* At the outbreak of WWII, he was in Italy living with Padre Pio, a noted Catholic mystic, and he remained there for the duration of the war. Initially, their status as converts protected Gabriella and Miklos from the Nazis, but not for long. Miklos was interned in Bergen-Belsen and Gabriella died at Auschwitz in 1943. After the war, Miklos settled with his wife in the U.S., where, revolted by the passivity of Christians during the Holocaust, he returned to Judaism*. A few years later, his brother also arrived in the U.S. and became a parish priest in New Jersey. But as Pogeny, a clinical psychologist, movingly explains, the war created an unbridgeable emotional gulf between the brothers: Miklos couldn't forgive Gyuri, who could not, or would not, acknowledge the savagery of the persecution of the Jews, not only by the Nazis, but by Hungarian Christians as well. Gyuri, in turn, considered Miklos's return to Judaism to be a betrayal.* Pogeny deftly conveys the power of the brothers' feelings as he relates this tragic story. *From Publishers Weekly*

* At Gyuri's ordination, a great many Jewish members of this Budapest family proudly attended and participated in the

celebration as Jews. Assimilation was not uncommon among middle class Jews of Budapest.

**Eugene Pogeny's father actually "returned" to Judaism when he fell in love with his cousin, in Budapest during the war years. Despite the law forbidding marriage between a gentile and a Jew, Pogeny's father (a baptized Catholic) was not considered a Christian by the authorities and Pogeny's mother would only marry him in a Jewish ceremony. It is inconceivable that the reviewer missed this point as it altered the course of history for this family (who survived against great odds – Hungary sent the majority of its Jews to the death camps in 1944; that is a chilling fact).*

**The uncle, the priest, was accepted and cared for by his brother's family and retained his displeasure that they returned to Judaism to the very end of his life.*

(It has always been my conviction that we inherit our ethnicity, but elect our culture. R. Donadio)

Jewish Heritage Night

Jewish Heritage Night at the
Lakewood Blue Claws is
Wednesday, June 15th.

It is a 7:00 p.m. game.

We would like to get a group
together to go and
represent our congregation again this year.

Tickets are: \$9.00 adult;
\$7.00 juniors (5-12) and seniors: 60 & up.
Madelyn will take reservations *starting*
now.

660-1614.

Call right away - don't delay,
preferably by May 15th.

Fundraising News

Dine A Round - May 19th we will be dining at Calloway's please bring attached flyer. Hope to see you there!

Sahara Sam's - Tickets still available for the low rate of \$20 each. The indoor water park is a great way to spend time with family!

Gift Auction - May 14th, 7 - 11p.m. at the Manahawkin Elks. Tickets are on sale now for \$25 each. This includes coffee, tea, dessert and auction tickets. Please make checks out to RJCB. We are still in need of more donations (attached is a donation request letter). Please do all you can to be a part of our biggest fund raiser of the year!

Raffle Tickets - Our hopes are that you will not only sell or buy the two books you receive, but you will be needing more to sell! 1st prize is \$500 Visa Cash card, 2nd is a \$250 Visa Cash card and 3rd \$150 Visa Cash card. The drawing will be on Oct. 8th (2nd Night Seder). This should give us plenty of time to sell, sell, sell!

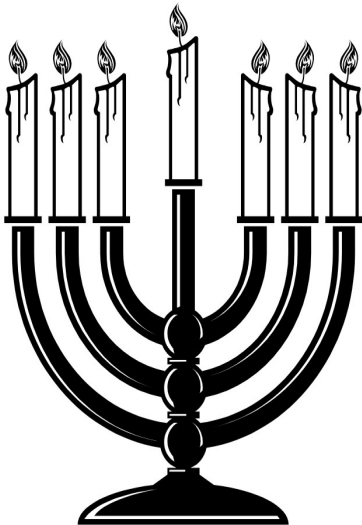
The Fund Raising Committee is committed to the future of our congregation. If you would like to be a part, have any questions or would like to come to our next meeting, please contact Dayna at 609-978-6581.

Oneg Sponsorship: Do you or your family have a simcha to share with our congregation? What better way to celebrate than sponsoring an Oneg! We offer several levels that can be sponsored. \$50, \$75, and \$100. Our Onegs include wine, juice, challah and other desserts. The upper levels include fruit and extras to enhance the Oneg. Kindly contact Maralyn Ricciardi at 609-660-0935 or Madelyn Dunn at 609-660-1614 to reserve your date.

Help Wanted!

Congregation Sha'arey Ha-Yam has beautiful logo T-shirts available in all sizes for only \$10.00 apiece.

"Recipes to Remember" our very own cookbook is a 3-ring binder with an included easel for free-standing on a countertop. Each cookbook is filled with over 180 recipes with lots of tips, hints and suggestions. The cookbook sells for \$18.00 and makes an excellent gift for friends or family, and is a wonderful keepsake as well. T-shirts and cookbooks are always available at services.



2011 SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

May 6

May 20

June 10

June 24

Important Meeting Notice

**Annual
Congregational Meeting
Sunday, June 5th - 7 PM
The Lutheran Church of
the Holy Spirit**

Thursday, May 19th, 2011

“Congregation Sha’Arey Ha’Yam”

**Invites you to their day at
CALLOWAY’S Restaurant!**

**Have lunch and/or dinner at
CALLOWAY’S
on Thursday, May 19th, 2011
and 20% of everything you
spend will be donated to**

“Congregation Sha’Arey Ha’Yam”

when you present the voucher.

VOUCHER

“Congregation Sha’Arey Ha’Yam”

CALLOWAY’S DAY

**Thursday, May 19th, 2011
609-978-0220 (Calloway’s Phone)**

597 Route 9

Eagleswood Township

Staffordville, NJ

2.5 Miles South of Route 72

**Please cut this voucher off and
present it when paying your check at**

CALLOWAY’S on

Thursday, May 19th, 2011

to earn \$\$\$ for the

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Website: reformjewishcommunity.org

Rabbi Kim Geringer
Cyndy Friedland, *President*
Aaron Shapiro, *First Vice President*
Dayna Otto, *Second Vice President*
Phyllis Feather, *Secretary*

Robert Dunn, *Treasurer*
Ernest Bleiweis, *Financial Secretary*
Jack Crespy, *Trustee*
Gary Daley, *Trustee*
Philip Miller, *Trustee*

Dear Friends and Business Owners,

Congregation Sha'arey Ha-Yam, a Reform Jewish Community is currently seeking donations for our third annual Gift Auction scheduled for May 14, 2011. It will be taking place at the Elks Lodge in Manahawkin, N.J.

This is a major fundraiser for our congregation. All proceeds from this event will be used to toward our growing Jewish community where we can worship, celebrate and educate our children in Jewish history and traditions.

We hope that you will consider making a charitable contribution for this event. The contribution can be in the form of merchandise, gift certificates, a monetary donation, or any appropriate gift of your choosing. All contributions are tax deductible. Tax ID #208 925 891/000. Please send to 306 Winding Oak Trail, Manahawkin, NJ 08050.

In gratitude, your business will be listed in our evening's program as a benefactor for the event and we will be making a gift bag for attendees. Please include 50 marketing pieces.

Thank you in advance for your support. It is greatly appreciated and invaluable to our community. If you have any questions or require any additional information, kindly contact Dayna at YoursDayna@comcast.net or call 609-978-6581.

Sincerely,
The Fundraising Committee

THE ONLY REFORM CONGREGATION IN SOUTHERN OCEAN COUNTY