



January 2018 *Tevet-Shevat* 5778 Volume 13, Number 5

SHABBAT SERVICES

Shabbat Services are usually held on the first Friday of the month, 7:30 PM at the Federated Church, Main Street, Orleans, followed by an *Oneg Shabbat*. However, this month the Ritual Committee has decided to have a *Shabbat* morning service instead on Saturday, January 6, at 10 AM. Please bring refreshments for the *Kiddush* which will follow the service. Wine, *challah*, and beverages are supplied by *Am HaYam*.

Services are led by members of the *Havurah* and each service is different depending on the leader's orientation. If you wish to lead *Shabbat* services, please contact Judy Keller at jkelle47@verizon.net.

Service leader for Saturday, January 6:
Sherrill Stott



This morning service will include a brief *Torah* reading and a sample of *Haftarah*.

If you see someone enter the service that you do not recognize, please introduce yourself and welcome him/her to services and to *Am HaYam*.

The Federated Church is fully handicap accessible with plenty of parking, with both regular and handicap spaces.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

For the thing (task) is too heavy for you, you will not be able do it alone. (Exodus 18:18 Robert Alter Translation)

Am HaYam Havurah has a unique place in the Jewish life of its many members. It is place of study, prayer and meeting, created, nourished, and enlarged by the volunteer efforts of its members who work together to create a sacred community. We are an egalitarian Jewish community led by membership and committed to provide an inclusive, rich, and varied Jewish experience.

Over the many years since its founding in 1987, *Am HaYam* has grown to include more than four hundred members including year-rounders, seasonal members, and vacationers. It continues to provide religious services in addition to educational programs such as the Women's Torah Study, *Rosh Chodesh* Women, the Play Reading Group, and Sunday Torah Study. Its Adult Education Committee provides educational and cultural programs with speakers and Jewish films covering a wide variety of topics and interests. All members are invited to take part in any of our programs and to join the committees that make them happen.

Volunteerism makes the community sustainable by ensuring that important services, programming, and governance are performed in a responsible and thoughtful manner. Jewish life grows strong when

volunteerism is a value that helps shape the nature of the community.

Volunteering is a *mitzvah*, rooted in the culture of *Am HaYam Havurah*. Whether you desire to lead Friday Night Services, be an usher at *Rosh Hashanah* and *Yom Kippur*, help members who are ill or grieving, serve on the Board or volunteer at the Lower Cape Lunch (LOCAL) there is a place for you.

Am HaYam is a very welcoming and inclusive community that not only values your membership, but also genuinely desires your commitment and participation. Volunteering at *Am HaYam* is easy and enjoyable, and you can make a real difference in the general welfare of our Jewish community.

By viewing the last page of this newsletter which lists all of the Committees and Interest Groups of the *Havurah*, you can find suggestions for volunteering either as an engaged participant or as a volunteer facilitator.

Are you ready, willing, and interested to give your time and talents to join with others to strengthen our *Am HaYam* community and allow us to continue to do all that we do for our community?

Ira Wolfson

**ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BREAKFAST
NAUSET INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION**

The annual MLK Breakfast will take place at the Church of the Holy Spirit in Orleans on Monday, January 15th from 8:30 am to 10:30 am. The keynote speaker will be Phillip Martin, a Harvard Fellow and investigative reporter for PBS in Boston (WGBH). He also appears on *Basic Black* and *Beat the Press* on PBS. The focus of his talk will be immigration and racism. A three person panel will dialogue with our speaker: Senator Julian Cyr, Police Chief Scott MacDonald of Orleans, and a representative of the immigrant/refugee community on Cape Cod. Discussion will include the Safe Communities Bill presently being considered by our State Legislature.

MARTIN
LUTHER
KING JR.
Day



Representatives of the Wampanoag community will provide music. The event is always at capacity so pre-registration is required. Please register with Fr. Ken Campbell at ksbcampbell@verizon.net (413-478-5719) and include a telephone number for yourself. The earlier the better! There is no admission charge but a donation would be much appreciated.

SOCIAL ACTION/TZEDAKAH

Every year the *Havurah* allocates 10% of all money donated to *Am HaYam* the previous year to support organizations on the lower and outer Cape. Based on donations for the FY ending August 2017, a total of \$3600 was allocated as follows:

LOCAL (Lower Cape Lunch)	\$500
Homeless Prevention Council	500
LCOC (Lower Cape Outreach Council	450
Children's Place	400
Jewish Federation of Cape Cod	200
Community Development Partnership	250
AIDS Support Group	200
Outer Cape Health Services	200
Independence House	200
Habit for Humanity of Cape Cod	100
Cape Cod Health Care Foundation: VNA	200
Sight Loss Service	100
Nauset Together We Can	100
Calmer Choice	100
Cape Abilities	100
TOTAL	\$3600

Judy Keller, Chair

MAJOR UPCOMING EVENTS

Purim Shpiel - always a lot of fun. Friday, March 2, 2018



Am HaYam Passover Seder (second night), Saturday, March 31.



Look for more information in the February newsletter.

SUNDAY TORAH STUDY WITH RABBI DEANNA DOUGLAS (2018)

Sunday Torah Study meets at the Brewster Ladies Library, 10:30 AM – 12 Noon:

January 7

February 4

March 4

April 8

May 6

June 3

Beverages are provided by *Am HaYam*. We appreciate your donations of pastries, fruit and baked goods. Please bring your Bible (not *Chumash*).

MEN'S TORAH STUDY

Men's Torah Study will resume in the Spring.

STUDY TORAH ON YOUR OWN

Interested in more Torah Study? The following links to the Conservative and Reform Movements will take you to weekly Torah commentary and more:

<http://conservativejudaism.org/articlenav.php?id=7>

<https://reformjudaism.org/learning/torah-study/va-ychi>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

There will be no Board of Directors meetings during the months of January and February 2018.

Next Board meeting will be held in March 2018.

Treasurer's reports will be emailed to Board Members.

Ritual Committee reports will also be emailed to Board Members.

Important and/or pressing issues will be decided through email discussions and votes.

MISHKAN HANEFESH FOR PURCHASE

A number of members have inquired about purchasing copies of the new *machzor* for their personal use. The easiest way to do that is to order on Amazon. It is the same price as ordering from the Reform movement's publishing division. The price is \$42.00 for regular size hard cover (two volumes), \$100 for large print paperback (three volumes*) and \$9.99 per volume for the kindle editions (total 19.98 for both volumes). *The Yom Kippur service is divided into two volumes.

GETTING TO KNOW MEMBERS OF THE AM HAYAM COMMUNITY

Member profile: Rebecca Holmes

By definition, a *havurah* is an amorphous organization. What gives ours structure is the newsletter. If you are a subscriber, you are a member. As editor, Rebecca Holmes writes our newsletter, provides weekend updates of activities, and sends out important notices. Without her skillful efforts, *Am HaYam* would have no way to stay connected as a *havurah*.

Rebecca grew up in a cohesive Jewish community in New Bedford, MA. Family life revolved around that community. Her parents celebrated the Jewish holidays, sent Rebecca and her younger brother to Jewish summer camps. She became a *Bat Mitzvah* at 13 and belonged to Young Judea. Her childhood was rich in Jewish tradition.

Rebecca graduated from public high school with honors and went on to earn a B.S. in Secondary Education at Simmons College in Boston. During her senior year, she married Michael Holmes, her *bashert* whom she had met at summer camp, Camp Marven in Wellfleet. Mike was in the Army, so Rebecca and then went out to join him ma, Washington. When he was moved to Seattle where Mike attended and Rebecca taught school. Important part of their life and while in Seattle they were founders of the Seattle Folklore Society. They also played bridge with people they met at the synagogue, an activity they would continue to enjoy in years to come.



In 1967, they moved back to the East Coast and after moving around for school and jobs, returned to New Bedford. Rebecca became Executive Director at the synagogue that she had attended with her family. She went on to serve as Executive Director at a synagogue in Nashville, TN for one year and then returned to New England where she held the same position at Temple Emunah in Lexington, MA, for nine years until her retirement in 2007.

Prior to their retirement while vacationing in Eastham, Mike and Rebecca attended a music program sponsored by *Am HaYam* and were so warmly greeted, they knew they had found the Jewish community they sought. Rebecca expresses her deep appreciation for the love and care extended to her and Mike throughout his final illness and subsequent death. *Am HaYam* is her religious and social home.

Rebecca has two children, Stacy, married to Marc, and Seth, married to Amanda. Seth and Amanda have three children, Aileen, age 4, and identical twin boys, Michael and Gerard who are 1. They are the light of her life.

Marsha DuBeau, Membership Committee

ROSH CHODESH WOMEN

Our next meeting of *Rosh Chodesh* will be on Thursday, January 18, 2-4 PM* at the Federated Church in Orleans.

Susan Rosenberg will be teaching several old and new Israeli folkdances. She will bring the CDs and CD player, as she did last year. Please bring shoes to dance in, energy, and plan to have a good time! NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

*Please note the time change. We will be meeting in the afternoon instead of in the evening.

If you plan to attend, RSVP to Bernice Simon-Wolfson at 508-362-5508 or bsim-wolf@comcast.net.

A note about the book we have chosen to read this year for our May 17th meeting. *All the Rivers* by Dorit Rabinyan is the story about a romance between a 27 year old Palestinian painter, Hilmi, who is from Ramallah, and Liat, a 29 year old Jewish linguistics student from Tel Aviv. Their relationship is a big secret, which Liat is hiding from her family and friends.

Read the book to find out what happens in this “Romeo and Juliet” story. This book was reviewed in the A-Section of the NYT, Thursday May 14th, 2017 and in the September, 2017 issue of *Hadassah Magazine*. This story will probably lead to a very riveting and emotional discussion.

Bernice Simon-Wolfson, Chair

2017-2018 SCHEDULE

DATE	TOPIC	HOST	FACILITATOR
JANUARY 18	Folk Dancing	Federated Church	Susan Rosenberg
FEBRUARY 15	Jewish Liturgical Music: Origins and Evolution	Judi Sitkin	Judi Sitkin Sherrill Stott
MARCH 15	Jewish Guilt	Elaine Karp Naomi Zack	Elaine Karp Arline Lowenthal
APRIL 19	Women of Hungary During the Holocaust	Sharon Leder	Sharon Leder
MAY 17	Book Discussion: <i>All the Rivers</i> by Dorit Rabinyan	Bernice Simon- Wolfson	Bernice Simon- Wolfson
JUNE 21	Discussion and Potluck based on recipes from <i>In Memories Kitchen: A Legacy From the Women of Terezin</i>	TBA	Elly Alford

THE PLAY READING GROUP

Our next meeting will be on Monday, January 8th, at 12:30 PM to *nosh* and *schmooze*. The official start of the reading of the play will be at 1:00 PM and will run until 3:00 PM(winter hours). Our host will be Arline Lowenthal, 40 Deb's Hill Road, Yarmouth Port.

We will read *Watch on the Rhine* by Lillian Hellman. The play is about an idealistic German who, with his American wife and two children, flees Hitler's Germany and finds sanctuary with his wife's family in the United States. He hopes for a respite from the dangerous work in which he has been involved, but his desire for personal safety soon comes into conflict with the deeply held beliefs that have made him an active anti-Nazi. In the end his conscience cannot be compromised, and he returns to Germany and the resistance movement. Told in compelling human terms, the play is an eloquent and stirring tribute to the brave men and women who, despite all odds, struggled early on to stem the tide of fascism which was soon to spread throughout Europe and the world.

The play was written in 1941. It was later produced in NYC by Herman Shumlin. Some other plays that Lillian Hellman has written are: *The Children's Hour*, *The Little Foxes* and *Toys in the Attic*.

ALL MEN AND WOMEN ARE WELCOME! NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY! Please check the Clams Library System for the play's availability or you can purchase the play inexpensively at amazon.com, abebooks.com or powell.com.

If you plan to attend, RSVP to Arline Lowenthal 508-760-6640 or alowenthal@aol.com

Bernice Simon-Wolfson, Chair

Play Reading Schedule 2017-2018			
Date	Play	Playwright	Host
1/8/2018	<i>Watch on the Rhine</i>	Lillian Hellman	Arline Lowenthal
2/5/2018	<i>Abie's Irish Rose</i>	Ann Nichols	Judi Sitkin
3/5/2018	<i>Counsellor at Law</i>	Elmer Rice	Bernice Simon
4/2/2018	<i>Conversations With My Father</i>	Herb Gardner	Arline Lowenthal
5/7/2018	<i>Jake's Women</i>	Neil Simon	Elaine Karp
6/4/2018	<i>A Memory of Two Mondays</i>	Arthur Miller	TBA

WOMEN'S TORAH STUDY

The Women's Torah Study group meets monthly year-round on the fourth Tuesday of each month, 2-4 PM, at members' homes. We are currently studying *Exodus*. Our goal is to study with more depth, using additional sources from various commentaries to podcasts and internet research. Our main source is *The Jewish Study Bible*, but any Jewish Bible in English may be used. Many of our members also bring commentaries of one sort or another.



Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 23, 2-4 PM at the home of Judi Sitkin in Harwich.

If you wish to be added to the WTS email list, contact me at rebecabholmes@comcast.net.

Rebecca B. Holmes, Facilitator

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday, January 1	NEW YEAR'S DAY	
Saturday, January 6	<i>Shabbat</i> Morning Service	10:00 AM
Sunday, January 7	Torah Study w/Rabbi Douglas	10:30 AM
Monday, January 8	Play Reading Group	12:30 PM
Friday, January 12	<i>Shabbat</i> in P-Town	6:30 PM
Monday, January 15	MARTIN L. KING JR. DAY	
	MLK Breakfast	8:30 AM
Thursday, January 18	<i>Rosh Chodesh</i> Women	*2:00 PM
Tuesday, January 23	Women's Torah Study	2:00 PM
Friday, January 26	<i>Shabbat</i> in P-Town	6:30 PM
Wednesday, January 31	<i>Tu B'Shevat</i>	

*Note change in time. Program is Israeli Dancing at the Federated Church.

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The Justice Committee of The Federated Church and *Am HaYam* met on November 16, 2017, and approved the following mission statement as a guide for its future activities. Some of the issues under consideration as a result of this statement are antisemitism, gun violence/control, the federal budget and tax proposals. We continue to address the Opioid Crisis, Refugee Support and the Coalition for Safe Communities. *Am HaYam* members of the Justice Committee are Sharon Leder, Gene Saklad, Ruth Shapiro, Judy Taylor and Renate Wasserman.

Justice Committee - Mission Statement

In keeping with the mandate of our faith traditions, the Interfaith Justice Committee was formed by members of the Federated Church of Orleans and *Am HaYam* Cape Cod *Havurah* in response to the Biblical call to do justice and love mercy.

Our purpose is to identify the local, national, and global concerns of individuals and groups whose needs we feel are not being adequately addressed and/or who are facing injustice. Our aim is to strengthen the awareness of, and response by members of our two faith communities to the inequalities in power, wealth, and resources that exist in our world, through acts of education and advocacy developed and identified by the Justice Committee.



Because human need and vulnerability inevitably have political dimensions, as people of faith we understand the connections between faith and political action. We will be guided by our traditions as we seek to engage political leaders and others in the public square. Both our education and advocacy activities reflect *tikkun olam*: acts of kindness performed to repair our broken and unjust world.

MEMBERSHIP

A member is anyone who participates in *Am HaYam* religious services, programs, and events or who wishes to be on the email mailing list. There are no membership dues. *Am HaYam* is solely dependent on the generous donations of those who attend our events or who make donations to mark special occasions or to remember loved ones. Mail donations to: Am HaYam, Box 1235, Brewster, MA 02631. If you wish to have a card sent announcing your donation, please include the name and address of the person for whom you are making the donation.

DONATIONS

Many of our *Shabbat* prayer books are still available for dedicatory bookplates, and virtually your entire donation supports the wonderful programs and services provided by *Am HaYam*. Please don't overlook this opportunity for performing a true *mitzva*h.

To mark celebratory events, honor or remember loved ones or friends with bookplates in our prayer books, please send a check for \$18 (per bookplate) payable to Am HaYam to: AHY, Box 1235, Brewster, MA 02631.

AM HAYAM DIRECTORY

The *Am HaYam* Directory has been updated for 2018. If you do not think you are in the Directory or need to update any of your information (name(s), address, telephone, email), please send the new information to Jessica Dill, jrdill1@comcast.net. The new Directories were emailed in early January. If you did not receive one, contact Jessica at the email above. The *Am HaYam* Directory is a convenience for members to locate people in your area and contact each other. It is not to be used for mass mailing or solicitations or any other commercial purposes.

HINENI OUTREACH GROUP

The meaning of *Hineni* is "Here I Am." The members of our group are here to help during times of sickness and bereavement. We want to reach out when someone needs help and wants help. If you are in need of assistance please "reach in" for our help. If you know someone in you might benefit from our help, let us know and will ask them if they would like some assistance.

Ruth Shapiro and Margi Eckhouse are coordinating the *Hineni* efforts. Please don't hesitate to call Ruth at 508-896-3573 or Margi at 508-694-7996 if you have any questions, wish to be a *Hineni* volunteer, or need help. We are here...*HINENI!*

Often people are reluctant to ask for assistance. If you know of someone who may be in need, please call Ruth or Margi. We want to help.

LOCAL (Lower Cape Lunch)

Am HaYam, as a member of the Nauset Interfaith Association, participates in LOCAL, which provides one free lunch and one free dinner weekly to neighbors in need of sustenance and social interaction. *AHY* provides volunteers on the second Tuesday and fourth Thursday of the month, and we could use more help. Please consider volunteering or serving as backup for one of these shifts, just 1 1/2 to 2 hours a month. No special cooking ability or heavy lifting is required. You work as part of a team with a coordinator on site. *Am HaYam* is the only Jewish organization in the Nauset Interfaith Association, and we are committed to participating fully. It's a *mitzvah* and each volunteer leaves with a good feeling for having given back to our wonderful community. Here are the options:

Second Tuesday Lunch

Cooking and Prep 9:30-11:30; Serving and Clean-up 11:30-1:00

Fourth Thursday Dinner

Cooking and Prep 3:30-5:30; Serving and Clean-up 5:30-7:00

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Jessica Dill at or 508-255-7771 or jrdill1@comcast.net.

RITUAL COMMITTEE - HELP WANTED

Am HaYam needs you! The Ritual Committee is looking for more members to lead *Shabbat* Services. Members of the committee will assist you with planning. We have guidelines for *Shabbat* services and ideas for alternative creative services to share with you. Services can be led by individuals or by groups. We have services in 2018 in need of leaders. Please email Judy Keller at jkelle47@verizon.net and reserve your date!!!

LOOKING AHEAD TO FEBRUARY:

- *Shabbat* Service, February 2
- Torah Study w/Rabbi Douglas, February 4
- Play Reading Group, February 5
- *Shabbat* in P-Town, February 9
- *Rosh Chodesh* Women, February 15
- Presidents' Day, February 19
- *Shabbat* in P-Town, February 23
- Women's Torah Study, February 27
- *Erev Purim*, February 28

MILESTONES

Refuah Shleimah to

Milton Teichman

Arlene Cohen

Bruce Wolf

Jay Bloom

DONATIONS

GENERAL FUND

In appreciation of Am HaYam

Liz & Manny Smith

Jeffrey Kellem

David Grunebaum

Howard Goldstein

Ellie Danker

Margaret Bleichman and Charlotte Craig

In honor of

B'not Mitzvah of Sandy Chernick, Jessica Dill, Linda Pearson, Carol Roth and Becca Sher

Roz Diamond and Michael Harnett

Elaine & Paul Biegelsen

Judy Keller

Elaine & Paul Biegelsen

Yahrzeits for

Beloved parents, Beatrice and William Wollison

Rebecca Holmes

In memory of

Sid Dockser, beloved husband of Cheryl Dockser

Elaine & Paul Biegelsen

Arkaline Silverio

Janet Silverio

“YELLOW PAGES” OF AM HAYAM

ADULT EDUCATION	Ira Wolfson	508-362-5508	iraone@comcast.net
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FOOD PANTRY DRIVE	Carol/Stephen Roth	508-255-5952	croth@primaryconnections.com
HH LOGISTICS	Steve Berrick	508-896-3897	vze2962j@verizon.net
HINENI	Ruth Shapiro Margi Eckhouse	508-896-3573 508-694-7996	ruthshapiro1@me.com marg_eck@hotmail.com
HOLOCAUST ME- MORIAL PROGRAM	Sharon Leder	508-896-2395	sharon@teichmangallery.com
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