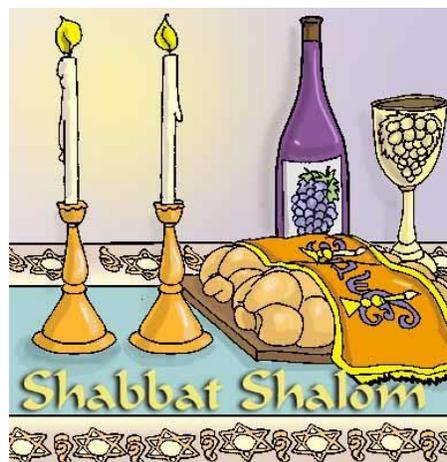


January 2020 *Tevet-Shevat* 5780 Volume 15, Number 5

SHABBAT SERVICES

In January and February, Shabbat Services will be held on the first Saturday mornings at 10:00 AM. I light kiddush will follow the service. Sherrill Stott will lead both services and each service will include Torah readings. If you wish to lead a Friday *Shabbat* service in the future, please contact Judy Keller at jkelle47@verizon.net.

SHABBAT SERVICES
Saturday, January 4, 10 AM
Led by Sherrill Stott



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.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENTS

Back in August 2001 before 9/11 and before this country and the world as we knew it then changed forever, AHY celebrated the *B'Not Mitzvah* of 2 13 year old girls, Arielle Berrick and Mariel Reed, and me. Our Torah portion was *Re'eh*. Our tutor, Gary Reinhardt, asked us to choose the sections most meaningful to us for our *D'var Torah*. Little did I know how prophetic the words I chose would be for me today,

The *parashat* opens with Moses, in his last speech to the Israelites, warning them: "If you follow God's laws, you will be blessed...However if you worship false idols and ignore the other commandments, then you shall be cursed and perish." The opening lines of my *D'var Torah* were: "When in a settlement in a land that God is giving you, if any of your brothers is poor, do not harden your heart or shut your hand against your needy brother." Throughout the Torah we are admonished to care for the immigrant and the stranger for we were once strangers in Egypt.

In 2001 I heard these words as a call to give back to my community (Cape Cod) by volunteering for local organizations that helped those less fortunate, which I and many of my friends and neighbors did. But today I feel as if we must act to save this country and this planet. Which brings me to the intersection of religion and politics.

I have just read and highly recommend to you a book called *Moral Resistance and Spiritual Authority, Our Jewish Obligation to Social Justice*, edited by Rabbis Seth M. Limmer and Jonah Dov Pesner. It is a collection of essays by rabbis from all over this coun-

try addressing the major social issues of our time. They analyze and interpret Jewish verse and law and relate them to the political issues of this day. It reminds me of our ancient obligation to bring justice to the world, *Tikkun Olam*. Among the topics covered are immigration, health care, women's health, racial justice, the social safety net, community organizing and much more. Anyone want to borrow my copy? Let me know.

AHY is a 501 (c) (3) exempt organization and is prohibited from endorsing or opposing any candidate for political office, but there are no restrictions on educating ourselves and the community on election year issues and promoting discussions of public policy. One example is the upcoming interactive program on Feb. 2, 2020 highlighting urgent immigration concerns sponsored by our Interfaith Justice Committee. See details elsewhere in this newsletter. Another is the MLK Breakfast (1/16/2020) sponsored by the Nauset Interfaith Association focusing on the need to reform our incarceration system. Also see details elsewhere in this issue.

And then there is the topic of Climate Change. In last month's newsletter our representative to the Faith Communities Environmental Network, Lyn Solomon, highlighted an issue entitled "Think like it's 1620," an effort to move the Cape back to its pristine conditions of 1620. The program will run until November 2020. You can find out more about it at <http://www.takecareofcapecod.org>. There is a lot to think about and a lot to be done as we enter this election year of 2020,

a new decade, which will decide what kind of country and what kind of planet we are leaving for our children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

With these thoughts Arlene and I wish all our AHY family a happy, healthy and peaceful Year 2020.

Renate Wasserman, Co-President

INTERFAITH JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Immigration Films Forum - Toward Greater Engagement

A program of short films and discussion will be hosted by the Interfaith Justice Committee at the Federated Church of Orleans on Sunday, February 2, from 2:00-3:30. Mark Gabriele of the Cape Cod Coalition for Safe Communities, will lead this interactive program, highlighting urgent immigration concerns and offering pathways to action. Explore border policies, ICE detentions and deportation, and more. There is no charge; refreshments will be available. And you will be home in plenty of time for the Super Bowl! (See attached flyer)

SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES

In January and February, we will conduct *Shabbat* Morning services instead of Friday nights. The dates will be Saturday, January 4 and Saturday, February 1. If you would like to participate as a Torah Reader, please contact Shira Sands at shira77@bc.edu.

SUNDAY TORAH STUDY WITH RABBI DEANNA DOUGLAS

Sunday Torah Study on Sunday, January 5, 10:30 AM - 12 Noon at the Brewster Ladies Library. We will be reading from the *Book of Judith*. This is not exactly Torah because the *Book of Judith* is in the *Apocrypha* (a collection of books that didn't make it in!) It is in Catholic bibles but not Jewish or Protestant ones. I had hoped to study *Judith* for *Hanukkah* but it will be a post-*Hanukkah* treat (only by a week!).

These are the dates for 2020:

2/2, No March, 4/12, 5/3, 6/14

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 now studying the Book of Numbers, *Bemidbar*. 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 28, 2-4 PM, at the home of Esther Elkin in Wellfleet. If you wish to be added to the WTS email list, please contact me at rebeccabholmes@comcast.net.

Rebecca B. Holmes, Facilitator

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. This year a total of \$4,500 will be donated. The allocation of the Tzedakah money for 2019 will be as follows:

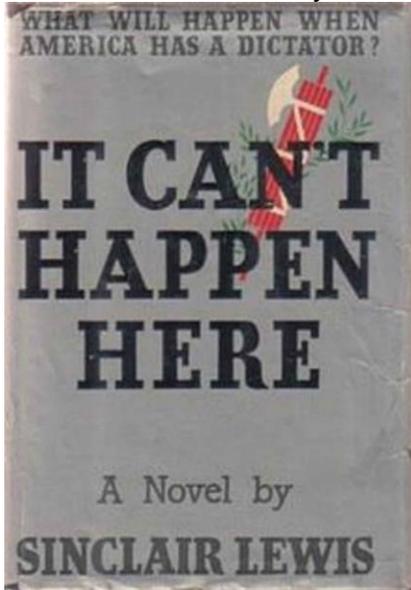
LOCAL (Lower Cape Lunch)	\$500
Homeless Prevention Council	500
LCOC (Lower Cape Outreach Council)	500
Children's Place	400
Community Development Partnership	300
Jewish Federation of Cape Cod	200
AIDS Support Group of Cape Cod	200
Outer Cape Health Services	200
Independence House	200
Cape Health Care Foundation: VNA Services	200
The Alzheimer's Family Support Center of Cape Cod	200
Cape Cod Museum of Art: Creative Outlets	200
Cape Abilities	200
Mass Appeal	200
NIA-Pearl Fund	200
Habitat for Humanity of Cape Cod	100
Sight Loss Service	100
Calmer Choice	100
TOTAL	\$4500

Judy Keller, Chair

PLAY READING GROUP

The next meeting of The Play Reading Group will be on Monday, January 6, at the home of Bernice Simon-Wolfson, 32 Wadsworth Lane, Yarmouth Port. We *Nosh and Schmooze* at 12:30 and begin reading at 1:00 and run until 3:00 (winter hours).

We will read *It Can't Happen Here* which was originally a novel by Sinclair Lewis (1935) and adapted into play by Tony Taccone and Bennett Cohen. Even when taking liberties with both content and form, they have tried to retain the intent and ambition of the original text. It was originally produced by the Berkeley Repertory Theater in September 2016.



This is a cautionary dark satire about the fragility of democracy and how fascism can take hold even in the land of liberty. *It Can't Happen Here* follows the ascent of a demagogue who becomes president of the United States by promising to return the country to greatness. Witnessing the new president's tyranny from the sidelines is a liberal, middle-class newspaper editor from Vermont who trusts the system will fix itself, until he ends up in a prison camp.

Sinclair Lewis's eerily prescient 1935 novel gets a fresh update in this adaptation that examines what brings a citizenry to the point of sacrificing its own freedom and how a courageous few can prevail to overcome the fall. This play is EXTREMELY timely and lends itself to a very emotional and riveting discussion!

ALL MEN AND WOMEN ARE WELCOME! NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY! YOU CAN COME ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CURTAIN!

Please check with the Claims Library System or purchase the play inexpensively at: amazon.com, abebooks.com, powell.com or at Dramatists Play Service Inc.

RSVP to Bernice Simon-Wolfson at 508-362-5508 or bsimwolf@comcast.net.

Please carpool if possible. Thank you.

Bernice Simon-Wolfson, Chair

ROSH CHODESH WOMEN

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, January 16, 7:30 PM at the home of Bernice Simon-Wolfson at 32 Wadsworth Lane in Yarmouth Port.

TOPIC: "Comparative Judaism": This will be a two part series where we will be discussing the different branches of Judaism. For a discussion in January: Ultra and Modern Orthodoxy and Conservatism; For February: Reconstructionism, Reform Judaism and Jewish Renewal

We are looking forward to having these discussions. They should be enlightening , informative and educational. If you have not been assigned to a particular sub-topic, we hope that you will participate and add to the discussion.

RSVP to Bernice Simon-Wolfson at 508-362-5508 or bsimwolf@comcast.net. Please carpool if possible. Thank you.

Just a note about a book Rosh Chodesh has chosen for a discussion at our June meeting. *A River Could Be A Tree* is a memoir by Angela Himsel. It tells the strange but true life story of Angela Himsel, the seventh of eleven children from a family that belonged to an evangelical branch of Christianity, the Worldwide Church of God. Questioning her religion and her connection to God, she wound up in the most unexpected place: a *mikvah* on Manhattan's Upper West Side. his memoir traces a seemingly impossible journey of faith, family and friendship. It certainly makes for good winter reading!

Bernice Simon-Wolfson, Chair

TENTATIVE 2019-2020 SCHEDULE

DATE	TOPIC	HOST	FACILITATOR
JANUARY 16	Comparative Judaism Part 1: A Discussion of ultra and modern Orthodoxy and the Conservative branches of Judaism	Bernice Simon-Wolfson	Bernice Simon Wolfson, Carol Roth, and Rebecca Holmes
FEBRUARY 20	Comparative Judaism Part 2: A Discussion of Reconstruction, Reform and Jewish Renewal	Judy Keller	Joan Saklad, Naomi Axelrod, Diane Green, and Linda Pearson
MARCH 19	Discussion about Author Dara Horn and her book: <i>Eternal Life</i> .	Judi Sitkin	Judi Sitkin
APRIL 23	Israeli Consulate Speaker	TBD	Carol Roth
MAY 21	Movie: <i>To Fill a Void</i>	Bernice Simon-Wolfson	Sharon Leder
JUNE 18	Book: <i>A River Could be a Tree</i> by Angela Himsel	Arline Lowenthal	Arline Lowenthal

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 need of assistance, please “reach in” for our help. If you know someone who might benefit from our help, let us know and we will ask them if they would like some assistance.

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

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday, January 1	NEW YEAR’S DAY	
Saturday, January 4	<i>Shabbat</i> Service	10:00 AM
Sunday, January 5	Torah Study w/Rabbi Douglas	10:30 AM
Monday, January 6	Play Reading Group	12:30 PM
Friday, January 10	<i>Shabbat</i> in P-Town	6:30 PM
Thursday, January 16	<i>Rosh Chodesh</i> Women	7:30 PM
Monday, January 20	MARTIN L. KING, JR DAY	
	MLK, Jr. Breakfast	8:30 AM
Tuesday, January 21	Board of Directors	7:00 PM
Friday, January 24	<i>Shabbat</i> in P-Town	6:30 PM
Tuesday, January 28	Women’s Torah Study	2:00 PM

AHY FOOD DRIVE CONTINUES

Based on Lower Cape Outreach’s request, Jon Cline purchased \$1161 worth of food in December and delivered it to the LCOC pantry. This included 127 cans of beef ravioli, 101 cans of beef stew, and 126 jars of mayonnaise.

Thanks to the generosity of AHY members and High Holy Day guests, there is still a balance of \$1726.88 to spend on food for LCOC later this winter. This is all in addition to the large High Holy Day food donation already made by AHY right after *Yom Kippur*. LCOC greatly appreciates AHY’s ability to continue to fill in food over the winter months as needed.

FAITH COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK

How About a New Year's Resolution that Saves Money and Helps our Planet?

The Cape Cod Light Compact offers several ways to reduce our use of fossil fuels and save us money at the same time. You can call them and set up an appointment for a FREE energy audit of your home. They will come equipped with energy-saving light bulbs to switch out with your current bulbs. (free again). They will seal energy-leaking places they find. They will leave you with a detailed report on ways that you can increase insulation in your home and will pay most or all of the cost using current state rebates and incentives. Len and I had an audit in 2015, and the insulation added to our attic has saved us hundreds in yearly fuel costs. They can recommend window replacement options and rebates, as well as rebates on ductless air conditioning. For certain low-income homeowners they will replace old refrigerators and heating systems at no cost. Others may qualify for rebates up to \$2300 for replacing oil or propane heaters.

So please give them a call and begin your New Year right: 1-800-797-6699.

Lyn Solomon, FECN Representative

NAUSET INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION

Please join us for the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast on Monday, January 20, 8:30 AM at Church of the Holy Spirit in Orleans. The focus will be on the need to reform our incarceration system. The speaker will be Federal Judge, Donald Cabral. Pre-registration is required. Email to ksbcampbell5050@gmail.com.

Of special interest to *Am HaYam*, at the December 10th meeting, the NIA voted to donate \$500 to the National Religious Campaign Against Torture. This was a cause dear to the heart of Gene Saklad, who was our representative to the NIA for many years. It was decided to make the donation in Gene's memory.

Judy Taylor
Am HaYam Representative to NIA

Am HaYam's Adult Education Committee is looking for members to join the committee to help plan our annual speaker program. If you are interested, contact Jane Dorval at 215-815-7466 or janedorval@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 need of leaders. Please email Judy Keller at jkelle47@verizon.net and reserve your date!!!

LOOKING AHEAD TO FEBRUARY:

- *Shabbat* Service, February 1
- Torah Study, February 2
- Immigration Film Forum, February 2
- Play Reading Group, February 3
- *Tu B'Shevat*, February 10
- Ritual Committee, February 10
- *Shabbat* in P-Town, February 14
- Presidents' Day, February 17
- Board of Directors, February 18
- *Rosh Chodesh* Women, February 20
- Women's Torah Study, February 25
- *Shabbat* in P-Town, February 28

AM HAYAM DIRECTORY

The 2020 edition of the *Am HaYam* Directory has been emailed to participants. If your information needs to be updated or you would like to be included, please send Name, Address, Phone, and Email information to Jessica Dill, jrdill1@comcast.net.

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.

MEMBERSHIP

The Membership/Social Committee is seeking new members. The Committee is responsible for getting the word out about *Am HaYam* and creating programs that attract new members and provide opportunities for all members to enjoy socializing together. We are open to new ideas and people willing to roll up their sleeve to make them happen. So come join us. Contact Jane Dorval at janedorval@comcast.net or Jessica Dill at jrdill1@comcast.net with questions and/or interest.

DONATIONS

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.

MILESTONES

Mazel tov to

Fran and Rob Pavone on the birth of their granddaughter, Charlie Nina, daughter of Jessica Pavone and Jeremy Berlin.

Yvonne and Steve Gunzburger on the birth of their grandson, Ian Gunzburger, son of David and Devin Gunzburger.

Refuah Shleimah to

Rabbi Deanna Douglas

Arline Lowenthal

Marc Sitkin

Paul Schlansky

Bruce Wolf

Bob Dubeau

**DONATIONS
GENERAL FUND**

*In appreciation of
Am HaYam*

Roy and Michelle Proujansky
Adam and Jamie Hirsch
Linda Kastan
Jill Putnam
Arline Lowenthal
Anita Caruso
Sharon Leder
Milton Teichman
Michael Horn and Susan Storb
Anita Young
Linda Sorkin
Elaine and Paul Biegelsen

In honor of
The birth of her grandson, Ian Gunzburger

Judy Keller

Rebecca Holmes

Yvonne Gunzburger

Elaine & Paul Biegelsen

Judy Keller

In memory of
Jake Vandercar

Jonathan Grindell

George Wasserman

Elaine & Paul Biegelsen

Elaine & Paul Biegelsen

Renate Wasserman

"YELLOW PAGES" OF AM HAYAM

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HH LOGISTICS	Steve Berrick	508-896-3897	vze2962j@verizon.net
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HOLOCAUST ME- MORIAL PROGRAM	Sharon Leder	508-896-2395	sharon@teichmangallery.com
JEWISH FEDERA- TION	Terry Smily	508-360-2885	tsmily@comcast.net
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This newsletter is distributed electronically only and is also available on line at the *Am HaYam* website: www.ahycc.org. Check website for last minute information and changes in programs and dates.