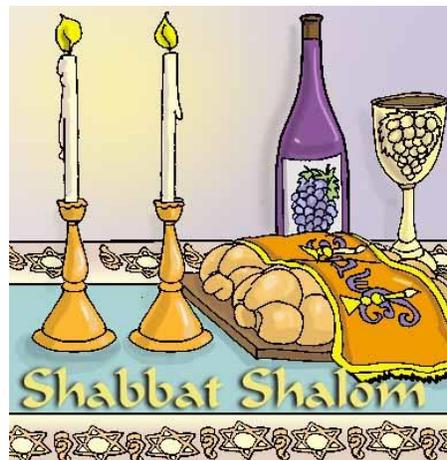


February 2020 *Shevat-Adar* 5780 Volume 15, Number 6

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, February 1, 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.

NOTE: For security purposes, the main entrance will be locked 15 minutes after services begin. If you arrive late, please come in through the kitchen entrance.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENTS

(Note from the editor: Sometimes it's fun to look back at a particularly joyful and fun time in our lives.)

Once again it's my time to say hello and wish you all a Happy New Year with good things and especially GOOD HEALTH. It is always difficult to find a good way to start this letter, but I think Dickens gave me a little hint and I hope I have it right. "It was the best of times and the worst of times..." Charles Dickens was right, however, he was telling the story of the French Revolution of the late 1780s. I am not going to elaborate on the evil or the worst of our time in this letter. We are hearing enough in the media to awaken us to the facts. This is some of the good things we are aware of including celebrating the holidays with our children and grandchildren and friends. This letter is concerning the Festival of *Hanukkah* and especially that lovely little round golden circle, the potato pancake or *latke*.

Why am I selecting only one special item of *Hanukkah*, because of all the frightening news surrounding us, I decided to write something light for this letter. It is almost February and I am looking back at our gathering of family which included about 21 members out of sometimes 30 members. Not all family members could make it. Everyone brings some kind of delicious type of food. Interesting note is that most of the cooks are my sons. Every year my son, Adam, makes his famous *latkes* and the smell of the oil and *latkes* permeate the house; and the kids and adults come for their large *latke* from Uncle Adam. These are the best and yes, Judy, we serve both sour cream and applesauce. Not only is he a good cook but he gave me permission to share his very funny recipe with you.

ADAM'S LATKE RECIPE

Ingredients and instructions to make the best *latkes* in the world!

Ingredients:

5 to 10 lbs. of russet potatoes (serves 10 to 20)

3 to 4 large sweet potatoes

3 lbs. of large yellow onions

6 to 10 eggs (enough to bind)

Salt/pepper to taste

Vegetable oil for frying (no olive oil)

Instructions:

Heads up. No science here. All gut and feel. Don't stress. Potatoes brown quickly. Peel and place potatoes in ice bath. Once all peeled, start hand grating or use food processor (I like to hand grate). Grate/process potatoes and onions and blend together in a large bowl, I like one sweet potato to every 3 to 4 russets. Get the water out. Grab large amount of potato/onion mix with two hands and squeeze the water out in another bowl and continue doing this for the entire batch. Don't clean out the starch from the bowl....this helps bind and now add eggs. Use

enough eggs so that it binds together, but don't make it too eggy (What does that mean? Don't know, but I know when I see it.) Add salt and pepper to taste

Cooking: This is where the magic happens:

- Get your veggie oil nice and hot
- I use large frying pans and fill with about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch of oil
- Get a good large forkful of *latke* mix, give it one last soft squeeze to get a bit of the moisture out before placing in the hot oil

Place in the pan and flatten the *latke*. I like mine about 3 to 4 inches in diameter and about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick. Fit 3-4 *latkes* in pan at one time. Don't flip too soon. Biggest mistake you can make. Be patient ...especially the first batch, you'll find that in the first batch the *latkes* will fall apart a bit. Don't know why this happens, but it most always does. Don't panic, be patient. Don't flip until golden brown, then flip. Once golden brown on the other side—extract. Place gently on three layers of paper towel and let the towels absorb the oil. Your next batch will be better. Over time, the batches will cook faster, and the *latkes* will get crispier. These are the best ones. We let our ravenous guest each have one as we make them. *Latkes* are always an appetizer in our family, they're best this way...hot off the pan. As you go through batches, you'll need to add more oil to keep the right quantity going. This is neither a quick nor clean process. It's an ugly greasy mess. You'll sweat like a pig and reek of veggie oil, but your family and friends will love you. Serve with sour cream and apple sauce. I like to eat them with both. Good Luck!!! Adam

I hope you enjoyed the change of pace. Needless to say the *latkes* were delicious and the odors lingered on until they were replaced by other delicious smells. We look forward to Adam's *latkes* but most of all I enjoy seeing the kids and seeing how much they have grown. Enjoy this month and the upcoming holidays of Purim and Passover.

Arlene Cohen, Co-President



MEMBERSHIP/SOCIAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Any and all help needed for recruitment of new members as our membership declines. Planning for social activities to attract and retain membership requires more participation than we currently have. Please consider joining this committee dedicated to the survival of *Am HaYam* during these challenging times. Contact Jane Dorval at [215-815-7466](tel:215-815-7466) or janedorval@comcast.net or Jessica Dill at [508-221-7451](tel:508-221-7451) or jrdill1@comcast.net. Thank you.

*Jane and Jessica
Co-Chairs*



ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

URGENT HELP NEEDED for planning this year's Adult Education/Speakers programs. Please join us at our first planning meeting on Friday, February 14 at 9:30AM. All ideas and networking contacts are welcome! If you are interested or have any questions, please call or email Deborah Cline 203-247-9974 or deborahcline00@gmail.com or Jane Dorval 215-815-7466 or janedorval@comcast.net. Thank you.

*Deb and Jane
Co-Chairs*



GETTING TO KNOW MEMBERS OF THE AM HAYAM COMMUNITY

Member profile: Len Solomon

“I really like your socks.” Len and Lyn chuckle that this pickup line brought them together at a party neither wanted to attend when Len was a graduate student in School Psychology at SUNY Oswego. Len earned a B.S. in Psychology from Union College. He got a job with the NYS Mental Health Dept. in a pilot program resettling clients in the community while Developmental Centers were closing.

Len grew up in Bellerose Terrace (NY) near Belmont racetrack in a dysfunctional family. At Floral Park H.S. he engaged in sports, excelling in wrestling. His family was not observant, but his father sent him to Hebrew school where he was both culturally and academically challenged; he was the oldest in his class and struggled to read Hebrew, though he made his *Bar Mitzvah*. This experience later helped him empathize with learning challenged children.

Len was close to his grandmother. She was born in 1881 and was one of a few women who graduated from Hunter College (as did his mother). He was 14 when his grandmother died. He went to the synagogue each morning to say *Kaddish* to honor and remember her.



Len's first School Psychologist job in was in Bath, NY near Corning. Lyn left for graduate school at U. of Florida in environmental science and then at OSHA in Rochester, NY. They married in 1978. A willow tree served as the *chuppah* and the ceremony incorporated both Christian and Jewish

traditions. In Dansville, between Bath and Rochester, they first participated the Rotary Club's musical *Music Man*. Len found he loved doing theater and over the next 40 years he has acted, sung and directed in over 60 shows.

Len then went on to work in a suburban school district counseling and doing curriculum development and testing. He also coached wrestling. Their family grew to include their two daughters, Sarah and Rachel. When the girls were 3 and 5, they moved to Millbrook, NY to be closer to extended family and Len worked in the school district there. Their next move was to Amenia, NY when he was appointed Assistant Headmaster and Principal of the Maplebrook School for developmentally disabled adolescents, until a new Headmaster “cleaned house” and brought in his own people. He worked in Corning until his retirement in 2007.

Lyn's grandmother had a house in Brewster which they visited many times; and they decided to retire to the Cape and bought a house in South Dennis in 2010. Len continued to be active in theater. He worked with Eventide, Chatham Drama Guild and CCCC Theatres. He has performed in 11 or 12 plays here on the Cape. His daughter, Rachel lives with her husband

Greg who is the curator of the Edward Gorey House in Yarmouth Port. Sarah lives in N. Carolina with Eric and grandchildren, Arianna and Zane (pictured with Len).

Len has volunteered with the Red Cross as a mental health specialist. Working at a shelter he was recognized by another volunteer. It was Cindy Fox, whose husband, Steve Berrick was a fraternity brother of Len's in college! Cindy told him about *Am HaYam* and encouraged him to join. He and Lyn are now valued members. They both sing in *Zamarei* and Len has served on the Board of Directors for two terms.

Marsha DuBeau

JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The Justice Committee of *Am HaYam* and Federated Church will be showing several short films related to questions regarding immigration. Mark Gabriele, the coordinator for the Safe Communities Group on the Cape, will speak and answer questions.

The event, which is free and requires no reservations, will be held at Federated on February 2, 2:30 PM - 4 PM. Light refreshments will be offered. All are invited.

(Even though the Pats aren't playing, you will be home in time for the Super Bowl).

Marcia Goffin

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.

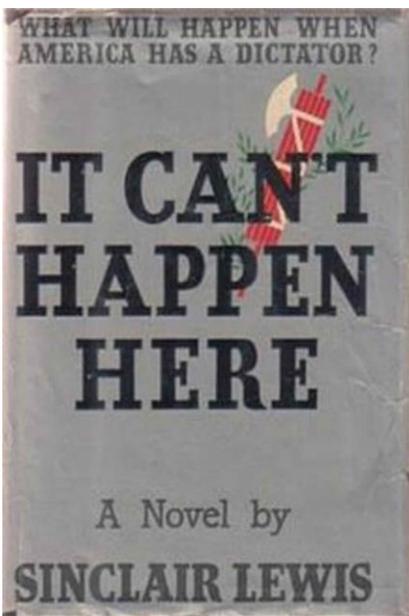
Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 25, 2-4 PM, at the clubhouse of Anne Katz-Jacobson in West Yarmouth. If you wish to be added to the WTS email list, please contact me at rebeccabolmes@comcast.net.

Rebecca B. Holmes, Facilitator

PLAY READING GROUP

The next meeting of The Play Reading Group will be on Monday, February 3, at the home of Elaine Skoler, 481 Buck Island Road, West Yarmouth, #15 E. We *Nosh and Schmooze* at 12:30 PM and begin reading at 1:00 and run until 3:00 (winter hours).

At the prior meeting we read the introduction to the novel *It Can't Happen Here* by Sinclair Lewis. At the February meeting we will read the play which was adapted 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 first 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 Elaine Skoler at 508-771-3449 or esskoler@gmail.com. Please carpool if possible. Thank you.

Bernice Simon-Wolfson, Chair

ROSH CHODESH WOMEN

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, February 20, 7:30 PM at the home of Judy Keller at 96 Tonset Road in Orleans.

The topic is "Comparative Judaism." This is the second part of the two part series of a discussion of the different branches of Judaism. For our January program we had discussions on Ultra and Modern Orthodoxy by Bernice Simon-Wolfson and Conservative Judaism by Rebecca Holmes. For February, we will have a discussion of Reconstructionism by Joan Saklad. This will be followed by Diane Greene and Naomi Axelrod who will discuss Reform Judaism and a discussion by Linda Pearson on Jewish Renewal.

We are looking forward to continuing our discussion of these various branches of Judaism. It will be enlightening, informative and educational. RSVP to Judy Keller at 508-255-7564 or jkelle47@verizon.net. Please carpool if possible. Thank you.

NOTE: Judi Sitkin is doing a program in March about the author Dara Horn and her book, *Eternal Life*. It would be helpful for participation in the program if we read this book ahead of time. More information will follow in the March Newsletter.

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. This 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
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			
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

CONCERT: Music in the Time of Anne Frank

March 1, 3 PM at the Federated Church, 320 Main Street, Hyannis, \$15

Cantor Elizabeth Anker recommends this concert which will be performed by pianist, Deborah Nemko. (See attached flyer for details) Deborah writes:

“I am inspired by the courage and wisdom of a child named Anne Frank. Her impassioned words: ‘How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world,’ are remarkable and her diary remains one of the most important narratives related to the difficulties faced by those living in hiding during the World War II. By performing and presenting the music by forbidden Dutch composers whose musical careers and, in some cases, lives were destroyed, I hope to promote an understanding not only of the difficulties they faced but also the monumental spirit of people whose voices would not be stifled, even in the darkest of times.

“This concert entitled ‘Music in the Time of Anne Frank’ will bring to the light works by Dutch composers who were suppressed by the Germans during World War II in the Netherlands. Many of these composers lost their lives in camps and their works are still not published. For this reason, the concert is a living testament to their art and vitality.”

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 Contact Jane Dorval at janedorval@comcast.net or Jessica Dill at jrdill1@comcast.net with questions and/or interest.

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.

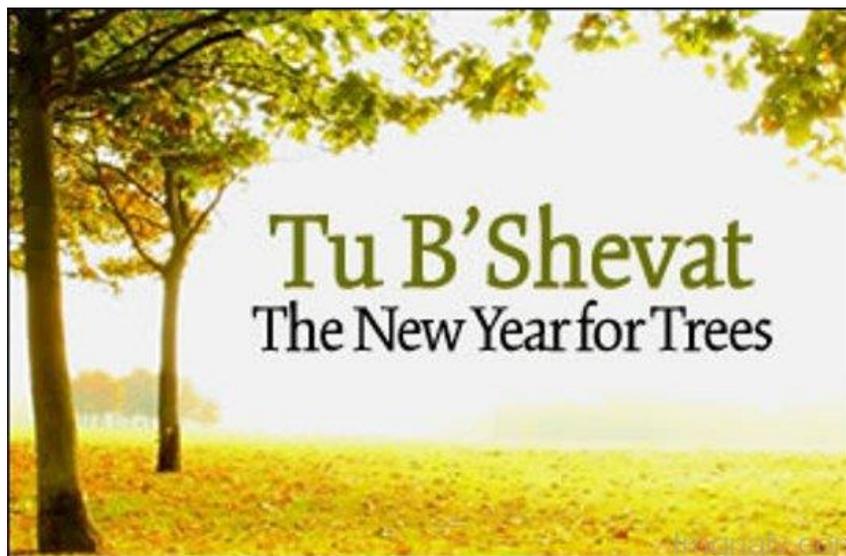
HINENI OUTREACH GROUP

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

Saturday, February 1	<i>Shabbat</i> Morning Service	10:00 AM
Sunday, February 2	Torah Study w/Rabbi Douglas	10:30 AM
	Immigration Film Forum	2:00 PM
Monday, February 3	Play Reading Group	12:30 PM
Monday, February 10	<i>Tu B'Shevat</i>	
	Ritual Committee	10:00 AM
Friday, February 14	<i>Shabbat</i> in P-Town	6:30 PM
Monday, February 17	PRESIDENTS' DAY	
Tuesday, February 18	Board of Directors	7:00 PM
Thursday, February 20	<i>Rosh Chodesh</i> Women	7:30 PM
Tuesday, February 25	Women's Torah Study	2:00 PM
Friday, February 28	<i>Shabbat</i> in P-Town	6:30 PM



FAITH COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK

Do you Feel the Energy?

There's been a noticeable shift in energy and interest in environmental and climate change issues lately. I first noticed it at our Faith Community Environmental Network (FCEN) meeting last week. We welcomed eight new faith communities to our group, including a Buddhist community, (Compassionate Action); Sandwich Quaker Meeting; West Falmouth Friends; *Laudato Sil* (Catholic) group; Nauset Interfaith, and four more churches. The meeting was electric with ideas and enthusiasm.

And it's not just on Cape Cod. At the public hearing on one of the two carbon pricing bills proposed in the MA legislature, (see links below), so many supporters showed up that they had to move the meeting into a larger room. The *Washington Post* published an article last week entitled, "In Australia, fires energize environmental movement." Those devastating fires, never before seen on such a massive scale, has inspired an angry outpouring about public policies that largely discount climate change as a problem worth addressing in the near term.

I'm very encouraged. It looks as though Cape Cod and the world are waking up to face the real threat of climate change.

An Act Combatting Climate Change

<https://malegislature.gov/Bills/189/Senate/S1747>

An Act to Protect Our Environment and Reduce the Carbon Footprint of the Commonwealth

<https://malegislature.gov/Bills/189/Senate/S1786>

Lyn Solomon, FECN Representative

LOOKING AHEAD TO MARCH:

- Concert: Music in the Time of Anne Frank, March 1
- Play Reading Group, March 2
- *Shabbat/Purim Shpiel*, March 6
- *Purim*, March 10
- *Shabbat* in P-Town, March 13
- Board of Directors, March 17
- *Rosh Chodesh* Women, March 19
- Women's Torah Study, March 24
- *Shabbat* in P-Town, March 27

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!!!

MILESTONES

Condolences to

Sheryl Wolf on the loss of her beloved husband, Bruce.

Refuah Shleimah to

Arlene Cohen
Arline Lowenthal
Marc Sitkin
Paul Schlansky
Bob Dubeau

DONATIONS

GENERAL FUND

In appreciation of
Am HaYam

Joan Saklad
Deborah and Dennis Mason
Rosalyn and Louis Weisz
Howard Goldstein

Yahrzeit for

My beloved parents, Beatrice and William Wollison

Rebecca B. Holmes

In memory of

Bruce Wolf, beloved husband of Sheryl Wolf

Rebecca B. Holmes
Judy Keller

"YELLOW PAGES" OF AM HAYAM

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HH LOGISTICS	Steve Berrick	508-896-3897	vze2962j@verizon.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.