

December 2019 *Kislev-Tevet* 5780 Volume 15, Number 4

### SHABBAT SERVICES

*Shabbat* services usually are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month, followed by an *Oneg Shabbat*. Please bring refreshments, such as baked goods and fruit, for the *Oneg Shabbat* 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](mailto:jkelle47@verizon.net).

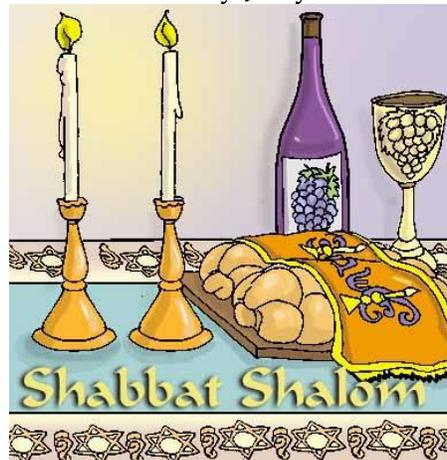
### SHABBAT SERVICES

Friday, December 6, 7:30 PM led by Tova Soyt

Friday, December 20

*Hanukkah* Potluck Supper, 5:30 PM

*Shabbat* Service led by Judy Keller, 7:00 PM



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

Have you ever twisted, turned or tried to grab a hold of your chair during a Friday evening service and as you tried to stand up. Well I have and usually unsuccessfully. Anyone who has had an injury or surgery, or just aging in place, may have had this dilemma. What we all have in common is that we enjoy attending services. Many of us have gone to services for most of our lives and standing and sitting at the appropriate times have become second nature. The standing and sitting makes us feel part of the service, and we enjoy it.

I personally have had this experience and feel guilty that I am unable to stand when necessary; especially during the end of the service when we say *Kaddish* for those members of our family members who have passed away. I try to stand; I twist and turn and try to grab something to hold onto and stand; but alas it is a motion of futility. People try to assist me. I thank them turnabout and sit. I feel that I do not want to interfere with their service.

I look around at my friends who have similar problems and guess what--some are standing. I say to myself what is wrong with me? Then I see others and they are like myself, sitting just like me. It is easier for me to stand if I have a solid seat in front to grab a hold of and stand. I am not upset; I just feel silly sitting through the service.

During the High Holy Day service this year, I found an article in our *Rosh Hashana Machzor* called *FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT RISE*. Then while others were reading silently, I read my own article.

### FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT RISE

#### Inspired by the teaching of Rabbi Abraham Kook (1865-1935)

It is written in your blessings: "Your great power lifts up the fallen"

But what of those who cannot stand up?

The Hebrew letter *vav* appears in the word *zokeif* (lifts up).

*Vav* is also a connection-word, meaning "and"

It signifies the link between Heaven and Earth, between human and divine.

Those who stand up straight align themselves with Heaven,

Signifying their aspiration to stretch upward and fulfill their highest potential.

Yet the letter *vav* appears also in the word *k'fufim* (the fallen, the bent)

Those whose bodies cannot rise possess the same divine essence, the same potential.

Despite their physical limitations, they can rise within – their heart and in their minds.

If you or a family member has a problem like me; I hope you enjoyed this teaching by Rabbi Kook. It inspired me to write this letter, along with Rabbi Kook's teaching.

All my best and have a good month. Happy *Hanukkah*.

*Arlene Cohen Co-President*

## 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, December 17, 2-4 PM, at the home of Shira Sands in Wellfleet. If you wish to be added to the WTS email list, please contact me at [rebeccabholmes@comcast.net](mailto:rebeccabholmes@comcast.net).

Rebecca B. Holmes, Facilitator

## HANUKKAH POTLUCK SUPPER AND SHABBAT SERVICE

On Friday, December 20, *Am HaYam* will celebrate *Hanukkah* with a *Latke* Potluck Supper and *Shabbat* Service at Federated Church. The potluck will begin at 5:30 PM and services will start at approximately 7 PM. Please bring a main dish or side (vegetable, salad, etc.) for dinner. *Am HaYam* will provide the *latkes*, applesauce, sour cream, beverages and jelly donuts for dessert. The evening will include a retelling of the *Hanukkah* story, a sharing of holiday stories and traditions and songs. Everyone is encouraged to bring their own *Hanukkah* (*Hanukkah Menorah*). Make your reservation for the potluck with Marsha DuBeau by December 10 at 508-349-9545 or [Mdubeau300@aol.com](mailto:Mdubeau300@aol.com).



## SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES

In January and February, we will conduct *Shabbat* Morning services instead of Friday nights. The dates will be Saturday, January 7 and Saturday, February 1. If you would like to participate as a Torah Reader, please contact Shira Sands at [shira77@bc.edu](mailto:shira77@bc.edu).



*Shira Sands, Gail Melson and Cantor Malin reading Torah*

## SUNDAY TORAH STUDY WITH RABBI DEANNA DOUGLAS

Sunday Torah Study resumes on Sunday, December 8, 10:30 AM – 12 Noon at the Brewster Ladies Library.

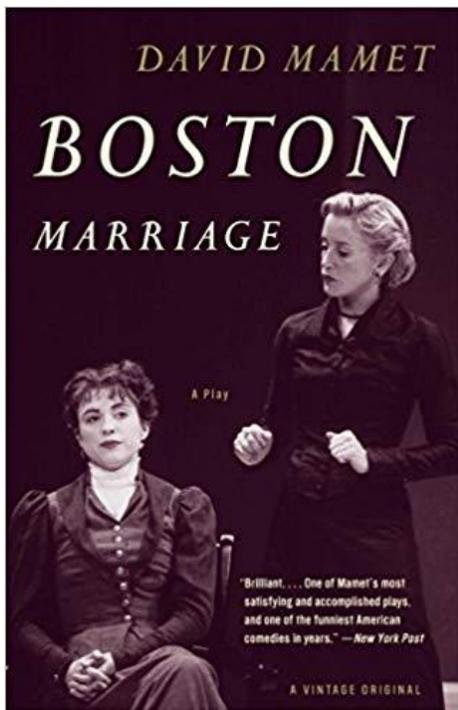
These are the dates for 2019-2020:

12/8, 1/5, 2/2, No March, 4/12, 5/3, 6/14

## PLAY READING GROUP

The next meeting of The Play Reading Group will be on Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, at the home of Deborah Cline, 145 Clearwater Drive in East Harwich. We *Nosh and Schmooze* at 12:30 and begin reading at 1:00 and run until 3:00 (winter hours).

We will read *Boston Marriage* by David Mamet.\* This is a comedy of errors set in a Victorian drawing room. Anna and Claire are two bantering women, scheming “women of fashion” who have long lived together on the fringes of upper class society. Anna has just become the mistress of a wealthy man and Claire, meanwhile, is infatuated with a respectable young lady. This is a wickedly funny comedy with tart dialogue and impeccable plotting and wit.



*Boston Marriage* was originally produced on the stage by the American Repertory Theater in Cambridge, Massachusetts and opened on June 4, 1999.

Please come and see how this play develops and how the “actors” make it come alive with their enthusiasm. ALL MEN AND WOMEN ARE WELCOME! NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY! YOU CAN COME ON EITHER SIDE OF THE CURTAIN!

Please check with the Clams Library System for the availability of the play, or purchase it inexpensively at [amazon.com](http://amazon.com), [abebooks.com](http://abebooks.com) or [powell.com](http://powell.com).

\*According to our schedule we were supposed to read this play in November. But the play for October was carried over two sessions which happens occasionally.

RSVP to Deborah Cline at [deborahcline00@gmail.com](mailto:deborahcline00@gmail.com) or 203-247-9974.

Please carpool if possible. Thank you.

*Bernice Simon-Wolfson, Chair*

## ROSH CHODESH WOMEN

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 PM at the home of Deborah Cline, 145 Clearwater Drive, East Harwich.

Topic: The Christmas/Chanukah Dilemma: A Discussion of Interfaith Marriages and the Loss of a Jewish Population

- Will our grandchildren be Jewish?
- What is the future for Jews?
- What will the Jewish world look like?
- Does it matter?

Please come prepared to share your thoughts and your stories. This program will be an interactive discussion led by Bernice Simon-Wolfson.

RSVP to Deborah at [deborahcline00@gmail.com](mailto:deborahcline00@gmail.com) or 203-247-9974. Please carpool if possible.

*Bernice Simon-Wolfson, Chair*

### TENTATIVE 2019-2020 SCHEDULE

DATE	TOPIC	HOST	FACILITATOR
DECEMBER 19	The Christmas/ <i>Hanukkah</i> Dilemma: Will the next generation be Jewish	Deb Cline	Open Discussion
JANUARY 16	Comparative Judaism Part 1: A Discussion of ultra and modern Orthodoxy and the Conservative branch 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
SEPTEMBER 17	Planning Meeting	Bernice Simon-Wolfson	Bernice Simon-Wolfson

## 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

Monday, December 2	Play Reading Group	12:30 PM
Friday, December 6	Shabbat Service	7:30 PM
Sunday, December 8	Torah Study	10:30 AM
	400 <sup>th</sup> Commemoration of First Encounter	1:00 PM
Monday, December 9	Ritual Committee	10:00 AM
Friday, December 13	Shabbat in P-Town	6:30 PM
Tuesday, December 17	Women's Torah Study	2:00 PM
	Board of Directors	7:00 PM
Thursday, December 19	Rosh Chodesh Women	7:30 PM
Friday, December 20	Federated Holiday Luncheon	11:30 AM
	Hanukkah Potluck Dinner	5:30 PM
	Shabbat Service	7:00 PM
Wednesday, December 25	LEGAL HOLIDAY	
Friday, December 27	Shabbat in P-Town	6:30 PM
Tuesday, December 31	NEW YEAR'S EVE	



## FAITH COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK

### Cleaning Up the Cape

This month I attended the “Clean Cape and Islands Summit” sponsored by Care for the Cape and Islands ([careforthecapeandislandsd.org](http://careforthecapeandislandsd.org)). I learned about several important state initiatives to reduce litter happening here.

Randy Hunt, MA State Representative from the 5<sup>th</sup> Barnstable District, is sponsoring two bills to help clean up our roadways and beaches:

- H3717 seeks to reduce litter by amending a current by-law to increase maximum fines for uncovered trash or debris haulers on roadways from \$200 to \$1,000. Often truck bed tarps or other covers are not fully secured allowing debris to fly out.
- H2881 seeks to add a 5 cent returnable deposit on the sale of miniature bottled beverages (nip bottles).

Also, in light of the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pilgrims landing on Cape Cod, look for an initiative entitled “Think Like It’s 1620” from <https://www.takecarecapecod.org>. Look for a button on the top of the home page for *Think Like It’s 1620*. In an effort to move the Cape back to its pristine conditions of 1620, you can take a pledge to either spend 16 minutes a month cleaning roadways trails or beaches or donate \$16.20 a month to support the initiative. The program will be running from November 11, 2019 to November 12, 2020 in time for the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations.

*Lyn Solomon, FECN Representative*

## NAUSET INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION

On December 8, there will be a commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the First Encounter between indigenous Nauset people (Wampanoag - people of the first light) and the English Separatists at First Encounter Beach in Eastham. Clergy and members of the congregations are invited to speak. Sunrise service at First Encounter Beach at 7 AM.

- At 1 PM: Official opening of the 400th year commemoration at Eastham Library/Chapel in the Pines.
- At 4 PM: Drumming and Chanting ceremony at Indian Rock, Fort Hill, Eastham.

All are welcome to these free events.

[http://chathamcapecodchronicle.ma.newsmemory.com/?publink=2b7f330bf\\_13411a7&fbclid=IwAR3MdR1LfYhLXFZIGfZfXPk35ao8cqc4zKV4sNVI4GftLabmnb5CIYOKBc](http://chathamcapecodchronicle.ma.newsmemory.com/?publink=2b7f330bf_13411a7&fbclid=IwAR3MdR1LfYhLXFZIGfZfXPk35ao8cqc4zKV4sNVI4GftLabmnb5CIYOKBc)

Marcia Goffin

## GETTING TO KNOW MEMBERS OF THE AM HAYAM COMMUNITY

Member profile: Marilyn Schlansky

It boggles the mind that a voice student would be accepted at the prestigious New York High School of Music and Art who could not read music. Marilyn could not, but when she was challenged by a classmate to apply to the school (which she had never heard of before), she took the audition, met the stringent academic standards, and was accepted. She was given a music tutor and quickly caught up to her classmates, many of whom had been reading and studying music seriously for many years.

Marilyn grew up in Brooklyn's Crown Heights, a predominantly Jewish neighborhood. She was an only child, and her father died when she was just five and a half years old. Her mother was a first generation American who had grown up on the Lower East Side in a tenement where six children shared two rooms with their parents and a boarder slept on a board between two chairs in the kitchen. After her husband died, Marilyn's mother took a job at the cosmetic counter in a local pharmacy. The pay was meager and she and her daughter were quite poor. Marilyn spent some time with her grandmother, but she was often home alone while her mother was at work. But there were the Brooklyn Botanic Gardens, the Brooklyn Museum and the public library in the neighborhood; and Marilyn still remembers the thrill when she reached seventh grade and was permitted to borrow books from the adult section of the library.

In junior high school, she was chosen for the SP, or Special Progress program. It allowed students to take a foreign language and skip eighth grade. She spent many summers at Camp Sussex, a Jewish summer camp in New Jersey for poor children from the city. There had never been enough money to send her to Hebrew school, but the camp was an immersion in Jewish culture and learning. She later became a counselor at the camp. Her high school years at Music and Art still resonate in her life and she is still in touch with friends she met there. However, like many Jewish girls of her generation, when she went on to Brooklyn College, she majored in English and Elementary Education to prepare to be a teacher.

Marilyn met her husband, Paul, before their junior year of college, when they were camp counselors. They married the weekend of the big New York City teachers' strike. He was in a teacher training program and she got a job teaching first grade in Queens. Her students came from very diverse backgrounds, a real United Nations. When she went with Paul to visit former professors in Vermont, one of them told her about a job opening in a one room schoolhouse and told Paul about a job opening in the college library. The job for Paul did not work out, but Marilyn was hired to teach grades one through six. They bought an old farmhouse with no water, no electricity and no heat. The one room schoolhouse was not a good fit for the city girl, and when she became pregnant with their first child, they moved back to the city. Paul got a job with the New York City Department of Environmental Protection where he worked until his retirement.

Paul and Marilyn settled in Stormville, New York, where they raised their two children. Marilyn has always been involved in some way with music and children. She has sung in choruses since high school; and in Stormville she was a Girl Scout leader and led story times at the local library. It was suggested that she apply for the job as Director of a small library in nearby Patterson, NY. When she went to work there, the library was open just fourteen hours a week. By the time she left they were doing lots of children's programming and were open for thirty-eight hours a week. She went on to head the library in Carmel, NY which was much larger and had a bigger staff. Along the way she studied for her Masters in Library Science and, by the time she retired, she had overseen the automation of the library. There she and Paul also got bitten by the travel bug and have currently traveled to over 100 countries, with India being their favorite.

Paul's job was to oversee safety and training in NYC's water treatment plants and help train the police and firemen who guarded the city's water supply. He was among the first responders at the World Trade Center. His work was considered a high stress level job and so he was able to retire at the age of fifty-five. Marilyn retired a year later. Paul wanted to move, but she was reluctant to leave the she had made over the look around for a place to Florida first as both her lived there, and Marilyn there every six weeks to mother. They had come to with their children and Cape locations, finally se- wich which had room for 11,000 volumes. They had determined to find activi- them, and she introduced who sang with the Chat- member of *Am HaYam*. longed to a synagogue and student of Buddhism for troduced her to the people Torah Study became her the evident love of learning and study, plus the gossip, recipes, and camaraderie as a bonus.



community and friends years. They started to retire. They looked at mother and daughter had been going down spend time with her Cape Cod to vacation spent a year looking at lecting a home in Har- Paul's book collection of a great realtor who was ties that would interest Marilyn to Mim Selig ham Chorale and was a Marilyn had never be- had been, and still is, a over fifty years. Mim in- in *AHY* and Women's special love because of

Marilyn's beautiful voice and her musical knowledge have been a gift to *Zamerai* and to all the members of the *Havurah*. She is steadfast in her support and can always be counted on to help with programs and activities. It's a good thing we got her and Florida didn't.

*Marsha DuBeau*

## 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](mailto:jkelle47@verizon.net) and reserve your date!!!

## LOOKING AHEAD TO JANUARY:

- New Year's Day, January 1
- *Shabbat* Service, January 4
- Torah Study w/Rabbi Douglas, January 5
- Play Reading Group, January 6
- *Shabbat* in P-Town, January 10
- *Rosh Chodesh* Women, January 16
- Board of Directors, January 21
- *Shabbat* in P-Town, January 24
- Women's Torah Study, January 28



*Shira Sands & Cantor Malin reading Torah for Simhat Torah*

## **AM HAYAM DIRECTORY**

The 2020 edition of the *Am HaYam* Directory will be emailed to participants during December and January. 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](mailto: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](mailto:janedorval@comcast.net) or Jessica Dill at [jrdill1@comcast.net](mailto: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*

Bernice Simon-Wolfson and Elly Alford on their 80<sup>th</sup> birthdays

*Condolences to*

Annette Cremisi and family on the loss of their beloved husband and father, Julius Cremisi

The family of Marlene Karp on the loss of their beloved mother

Robert Pavone and family on the loss of his beloved mother, Elda Pavone.

*Refuah Shleimah to*

Rabbi Deanna Douglas

Arline Lowenthal

Marc Sitkin

Paul Schlansky

Bruce Wolf

Bob Dubeau

**DONATIONS  
GENERAL FUND**

*In appreciation of  
Am HaYam*

Amy Wolf and Kevin Coakley  
Elaine Karp  
James and Leona Gaita  
Barbara Grindell and Sherryl Drasin  
David Chapin  
Phyllis and Mark Bernstein  
Florence and Ira Seldin  
Don Bachman and Karen Back  
Nancy and Steven Krintzman  
Beryl Darrer  
Kathryn Rosenblum and Christopher Senie  
Karen and Paul Bibo  
Liz and Manny Smith  
Harold Schwartz  
Ronna Horwitz  
Mel Scott  
David Daniel and Barbara Klipper  
David Silberberg and Skipper Silberberg-Edwards

*In honor of*  
Rabbi Deanna Douglas

Ruth Shapiro

*In memory of*  
Harry and Bella Rosenthal

Michael and Nancy Rosenthal  
Jake Vandercar, beloved grandson of Mark and Sandy Vandercar  
Sherryl Drasin and Barbara Grindell

Sam and Esther Friedman

Dr. and Mrs. Marvin Friedman

Elda Pavone, beloved mother of Robert Pavone

Deb & Jon Cline

*Get well to*  
Arline Lowenthal

Elaine Skoler

**"YELLOW PAGES" OF AM HAYAM**

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