

Joyful Judaism!
Weekly E-Newsletter
October 18-25, 2018



Pleasantville Community Synagogue

219 Bedford Road, Pleasantville, NY

www.shalompcs.com 914-769-2672 info@shalompcs.com

Community Synagogue is a welcoming Jewish community with people of diverse

From the Rabbi



Know the Heart of a Stranger

Shalom! I'm back blogging after a post-holiday travel to California. I'm very excited to share my trip, but first feel it's important to post about some of national and world issues that I find reflective of this week's and last week's Torah portion.

I'll start with this week, Parashat Lech Lecha.

HIAS (the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society), has many congregations around the country to mark a special Shabbat, and PCS will be among them. As we read in this Torah portion about how our earliest ancestors were Hebrew, literally one who crossed over "from someplace else," it's a good time to recall the long history of preoccupation with the well-being of the stranger and refugee.

We also remember the long Jewish history of welcoming immigrants and sometimes outcasts, including during the darkest hour of the Holocaust, when even good countries like the USA turned away Jewish refugees from the Nazis. Today there are some 65 million refugees and displaced persons worldwide, and our country could do so much more to alleviate their suffering, but in fact we are going the opposite direction by raising the barriers. On Yom Kippur we heard from Evan Kingsley how our local organization, Pleasantville Community Synagogue, is helping to resettle refugee families, individuals who have

and backgrounds who want to share a joyous spiritual and cultural home.

Shabbat Services

ight

Tot Shabbat

Shabbat dinner with all the fixings FOR ALL AGES.

[Click here](#) to RSVP!

Family-friendly service led by PCS' 3rd/4th graders.

Family morning

Family Education Shabbat service* followed by
lunch and Torah study at 12:30.

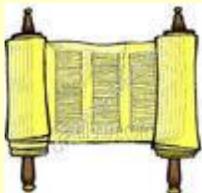
*Part of National Refugee Shabbat, sponsored by HIAS
(Immigrant Aid Society), our Family Education Shabbat
service will focus on Torah teachings related to*

*Shabbat Orchim, the mitzvah of welcoming the stranger. We
will learn more about the work of HIAS and PART One, our
organization through which members of our own community
have helped to welcome two refugee families.*

~

What is Lech Lecha?

Lech Lecha, or Torah portion, of the week. Click [here](#) to check it out in a clever
animation telling the story that everyone can enjoy!



Coming up for PCS

**Friday night, Oct. 18, 7 pm - 7th grade B'nei Mitzvah
meeting.**

United States during wars abroad in their own
and now seek safety with us.

On the broader subject of immigration, this
Tuesday night I participated with several other
rabbis in offering a prayer at a vigil on the steps of
Congregation Bet Torah in Mt. Kisco. A couple
hundred people had gathered to light candles
up, and pray for the return home of Armando,
Mexican immigrant who has lived in the USA for
years and worked as custodian of the synagogue
much of that. Armando is not a refugee and
cannot come into the USA without documentation,
17 year old leaving a dangerous environment where
family members had been murdered. After 30 years
as an exemplary member of the community, with
two sons who are American citizens, he has
been separated from his family and faces possible
deportation. (Read more details in a [letter](#) from
Aaron Brusso).

*Please click [here](#) to continue reading
"The Heart of a Stranger," or visit
<http://www.shalompcs.com/rabbis>*

Please join us for another joyous

Tot Shabbat and Family Dinner and Service

THIS Friday, October 18

Friday, Oct. 19 - Tot Shabbat (5:30 pm); Family Shabbat dinner for ALL AGES (6 pm); Hebrew School Shabbat service led by 3rd/4th graders (6:45 pm).

Saturday, Oct. 20 - Sunset Kirtan chanting concert with the "Rabbi" Andrew Hahn, at Surprise Lake in Cold Spring, Car pool at 4 pm from PCS.

Sunday, Oct. 21, 10 am to noon - Teen Hike at 13 Bridges in Rockefeller State Park Preserve, led by Rabbi Julie and Rabbi Rhodes.

Monday, Oct. 21, 12:30 pm - Picnic and personalized tour for members and friends at Surprise Lake Camp.

Wednesday, Oct. 26, 7:30 pm - Services and a special oneg with active-duty Israeli soldiers. All are welcome!

The Mountains Call ...

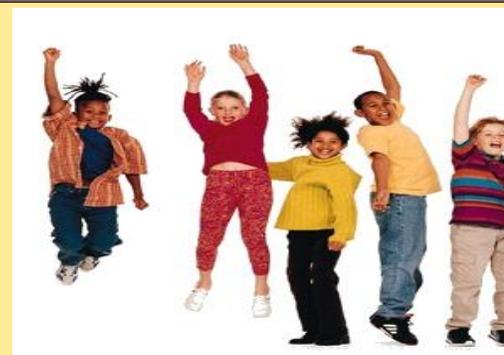
Sunset Concert with Andrew Hahn, the Kirtan Rabbi

**Saturday, October 20, 2018, 5 pm
Surprise Lake, Cold Spring**

Members for this very special event: a sunset Hebrew Kirtan sponsored by the Beacon Hebrew Alliance. We will meet at PCS at 4 pm on Friday, Oct. 20, to drive to Cold Spring together -- or feel free to carpool here and just let us know you're coming...! After the sunset concert, we'll have a nosh together in Cold Spring.



For more info, contact Marcy Gray, 769-2672, mgray@shalompcs.com and click [here](#) for more info and to pay (early registration is \$24/ticket).



19

5:30 pm: Tot Shabbat service

6 pm: Shabbat dinner FOR ALL AGES

6:45 pm: Family-friendly service

led by 3rd and 4th graders

***To help offset the cost of the dinner, the suggested donation of \$18/adult, \$9/child, \$5/under.**

Click [here](#) for easy on-line payment and download
Or copy and paste:

<https://tot-shabbat-and-dinner-with-hebrew-school.cheddarup.com>

Or e-mail Marcy Gray to RSVP at mgray@shalompcs.com

or call 769-2672.

Joyful Judaism

**13 Bridges Teen Hike
Rockefeller State Park Preserve**

tan is participatory chanting where short, sacred phrases from the
dition are treated as powerful, universal meditations. It is at once
tive, ecstatic, and mind-expanding fun! Come enjoy a very special
cred call-and-response singing and devotional learning in an open-air
amphitheater in the gorgeous Hudson Highlands.



Surprise Lake Camp Tour!

**Special for PCS!
Sunday, Oct. 21**

are invited for a special, personalized tour for PCS friends
and members at Surprise Lake in

on Saturday, October 21. We'll start off at 12:30 pm with a picnic on
the camp's beautiful grounds, followed by the tour.

re kids ages 7-15 or know anyone that does, please RSVP asap to
Marcy Gray, 769-2672, mgray@shalompcs.com.
Click [here](#) for more info.

Sunday, October 21

10 am to noon

Weather permitting



Meet-up and pick-up at the main entrance
Rockefeller State Park Preserve: 125 Pleasantville Rd.
Pleasantville (off 117)

<https://parks.ny.gov/parks/59>

13 represents a rite of passage in
Each bridge brings a question
chance to know one another better
build community.

Led by Rabbi Julie with Michael R

Dress comfortably for the weather and make sure to
wear good hiking or walking shoes

Bring water and a snack if desired

Please RSVP to Rabbi Julie
pcsrabbi@gmail.com

TZAHAL SHALOM of NORTHERN WESTCHESTER



CALLING ALL MIDDLE SCHOOLERS
 SHARE AN AFTERNOON WITH ISRAELI IDF RESERVISTS

It's a chance for 5-8th graders to experience an intimate afternoon with IDF reservists learning about life as an Israeli citizen and soldier!

Tuesday, Oct 23rd, 2018
4-6pm, \$10*

* Cost includes a Tzahal Shalom T-Shirt or String Bag and snacks

To be held at Congregation Sons of Israel
 1666 Pleasantville Rd, Briarcliff Manor, NY

You must RSVP to attend: Tzahalshalom@gmail.com

Click [here](#) to print out flyer.

In the Area

Oct. 29, 9 am - 9 pm - Community All-Day Blood Drive at Pleasantville High School.

For questions regarding **eligibility**, call **(800) 688-0900**.

To schedule an **appointment** to donate, call **(800) 933-2566**.
 Register on-line, go to www.nybloodcenter.org.

Donations are always accepted.

Proud partnership with PJ Library. Sign up here to get FREE books and music for your child from 6 months to 11 years!
<https://pjlibrary.org/home>



Spend a Friday night with Israeli soldier!

Friday, 7:30 pm, October 26 at PCS



PCS invites

to spend a very special Friday evening with one or more active-duty soldiers from the Israel Defense Forces.

Please join us for **services on October 26 at 7:30 pm**, followed by a delicious meal to welcome IDF officers to Pleasantville Community Synagogue **for singing, learning, praying and celebrating!**

For more information or to RSVP, e-mail Marcy Gray at mgray@shalompcs.com or call 769-2672.

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Lunch with Rabbi Julie will resume Thursday, October 25, at 12:30 pm



The PCS office is closed on Mondays. Please leave a message or send an [email](#) and someone will respond as soon as possible.

For pastoral emergencies outside of regular office hours, please contact Rabbi Julie, rabbi@shalompcs.com at 914-495-3843.

Pleasantville Community Synagogue, 219 Bedford Road,
PO Box 148, Pleasantville, NY 10570

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