

# CONGREGATION SONS OF ZION

Volume 4 | Issue 10 | June 2019 | Iyar/Sivan 5779

## Congregation Sons of Zion

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## Inside This Issue:

From the Rabbi	2-4
Challah Havurah/Sponsor a Shabbat	5
June Calendar	6
Dates to Remember	7
Poem in Honor of Rhoda and Jerry Cohen	8
Shabbat Potluck Flyer	9
Tikkun Leil Shavuot Flyer	10
115th Annual Meeting Flyer	11
Jewish Family Camping Opportunity	12
Sustaining Members	13
Donations	14
Yahrzeits	15
Cemetery Rules/Rescue Our Minyan	16
Safety and Security Grants	17
Lesléa Newman: Gittel's Journey Photos	18-19
LGBTQ Pride March/	
How to Watch Shabbat	20
Ads from our Sponsors	21
Services on YouTube	22



## About the Month of Sivan

In the month of Sivan, we celebrate the holiday of Shavuot, when the Torah was given by G-d to the Jewish people on Mount Sinai more than 3,300 years ago. Every year on the holiday of Shavuot, we renew our acceptance of G-d's gift, and G-d "re-gives" the Torah.

The holiday of Shavuot is a two-day holiday, beginning at sundown of the fifth of Sivan and lasting until nightfall of the seventh of Sivan. (In Israel it is a one-day holiday, ending at nightfall of the sixth of Sivan.)





## From the Rabbi

### The Newest Jewish Holiday

As we were about to begin singing after lunch last Shabbat, May 25, I asked people to name the next Jewish holiday. Some said Lag B'Omer, which had just passed. Some said Shavuot, which was about two weeks ahead. But no one said Yom Yerushalayim – Jerusalem Day, which this year falls on June 2.

So I'd like to focus this article on the subject of this newest of Jewish holidays celebrating one of the oldest cities in the world.

First a little background...

In 1947 the United Nations passed the Partition Plan that divided most of the territory of Palestine into two states: one Jewish and one Arab. But Jerusalem was to become an international city under UN jurisdiction. In theory this would guarantee free access to the Jerusalem holy sites of the three monotheistic religions.

Israel accepted the Partition Plan and declared independence in 1948 on the area allotted to it. The neighboring Arab states rejected the Partition Plan even though it called for a Palestinian Arab state alongside Israel. Instead they attacked the nascent state of Israel.

When the fighting ended, much of the new city of Jerusalem was captured by Israel.

All of the Old City of Jerusalem was captured by Jordan. The Old City included the site of the two ancient Temples, the Western Wall of the Temple Mount, and many synagogues. Just outside the Old City walls was the ancient Jewish cemetery on Har Hazeitim, the Mount of Olives. All of that fell into Jordanian hands.

Despite the UN Partition Plan's intention to guarantee free access to Jewish, Muslim, and Christian holy sites, Jews were not allowed access to the Old City, including what had been known as the Jewish Quarter, as well as the Western Wall. Instead synagogues in the Jewish Quarter were destroyed or desecrated, a road was built over graves in the middle of the Mount of Olives cemetery, and some gravestones were even used for latrines.

When the 1967 Six Day War broke out, Israel urged Jordan not to join the war along with its Egyptian and Syrian allies, but Jordan opened up a third front against Israel by shelling Israeli-held sections of Jerusalem. Israel responded, and captured all of the Jewish holy sites in Jerusalem and more. For the first time in 19 years, Jews were again able to pray at the



## From the Rabbi (continued)

Western Wall, visit the 3,000 year old Jewish cemetery on the Mount of Olives, and return to the Jewish Quarter in the Old City of Jerusalem.

Yom Yerushalayim, Jerusalem Day, was established as a holiday by Israel to mark the renewal of Jewish control over Jerusalem and Jewish access to our holy sites and to where King David established Jerusalem as the capital of the first Jewish commonwealth some 3,000 years ago.

For many of us who are old enough to remember the anxiety-filled days leading up to the 1967 Six Day War, and the huge relief that ensued when Israel emerged victorious, this was not history learned from books but intensively experienced in our lives.

I remember it vividly. Less than two months after the Six Day War, I arrived in Israel to spend my junior year of college at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. I saw how the Mount of Olives cemetery had been desecrated. As I have written in an earlier newsletter, I was at the Western Wall on Simchat Torah dancing in celebration with tens of thousands of Jews who were able to do so for the first time in 19 years. I loved walking through every nook and cranny of Jerusalem. I remember experiencing how shops closed early on Friday afternoons and busses stopped running as the whole atmosphere of Jewish neighborhoods in Jerusalem became infused with the spirit of Shabbat. I encountered Jews from all over the world brought together by the magic of Jerusalem. And I felt the full awesomeness of Yom Kippur in Jerusalem, not only in synagogues, but also in the quiet streets where both religious and secular Jews respected the sanctity of the day by not driving.

Twenty years later I returned to spend another year in Jerusalem, this time with my wife Shoshana and our two kids. It is hard to explain, but life seemed more intense in Jerusalem. Whether it was getting tear gassed for the first and only time in my life (that's a longer story...) or collecting palm fronds that were distributed around the city to provide schach to cover the tops of succot, like the makeshift succah we built in our shared courtyard with the help of our neighbors, or the kindly, elderly Holocaust-survivor couple, Yoel and Yoela, who gave our kids sweets when we stopped in their tiny market near our apartment – so much in Jerusalem took on a larger than life significance. Although it did not work out, Jerusalem became such a part of us that Shoshana and I seriously explored job possibilities there before we left to return to the States.

There is something in Jerusalem that touches the Jewish soul. We pray for the rebuilding of Jerusalem in the daily Amidah prayers. We pray facing Jerusalem. It would not surprise me if Jerusalem has more songs and poems written to and about it than any other city in the world.



## From the Rabbi (continued)

And we end two of the most observed Jewish holy days – Yom Kippur and Passover – with reciting L'Shana Haba'ah B'Yirushalayim: Next Year in Jerusalem.

If this article reaches you in time for Yom Yerushalayim – which falls on Sunday, June 2 this year – I invite you to take a moment on that day to think about the significance of Jerusalem in your life and in the life of our people.

And if you have never been to Jerusalem or if you would like to renew your connection with this city that touches the human soul -- being holy not only to Jews but to Christians and Muslims as well – then you might consider going to Jerusalem and Israel with Sons of Zion. In response to members' requests, we are seriously exploring the possibility of a congregational trip to Israel next spring. A portion of the annual meeting on Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, will be devoted to discussing what kind of trip we might offer. Please bring your ideas and input. Together we just might be able to make Next Year in Jerusalem a reality for Sons of Zion!

*Rabbi Saul Perlmutter*





# **CHALLAH HAVURAH**

## **FRIDAY, JUNE 14TH AT 9AM**

**WE KNEAD YOU!!!!**

**CONGREGATION SONS OF ZION  
378 MAPLE STREET  
HOLYOKE, MA 01040**

**RESEARCH AND LEARN HALLAH RECIPIES  
FROM AROUND THE WORLD**



**FOR MORE INFORMATION  
CONTACT: MAGGIE GRUSZECKI  
(413)883-2307**



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## **A SHABBAT KIDDUSH**

**CELEBRATE A BIRTHDAY, HONOR A LOVED ONE, MARK A SPECIAL  
EVENT OR ACHIEVEMENT, AND SHARE IT WITH YOUR SONS OF ZION  
FAMILY!**

### **Two Sponsorship Levels:**

#### **Sosvin Basic:**

Our usual Kiddush, which includes lettuce, vegetables, tuna salad, herring, gefilte fish, coffee, juice, and small desserts - \$50



#### **Kishuti "Fancy":**

Everything in the Sosvin Kiddush, plus lox, kugel, and fancier dessert if desired - \$75



# IYAR/SIVAN 5779

## June 2019

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
26 21 Iyar	27 22 Iyar	28 23 Iyar	29 24 Iyar	30 25 Iyar 8am Minyan	31 26 Iyar	1 27 Iyar Shabbat Service, 10am  Be-Chukkotai
2 28 Iyar  YOM YERUSHALAYIM	3 29 Iyar 8am Minyan Security Training, 5pm light dinner 5:30-9:30pm training	4 1 Sivan Security Training, 5pm light dinner 5:30-9:30pm training	5 2 Sivan	6 3 Sivan 8am Minyan	7 4 Sivan Shabbat Potluck at Saltman's, 6pm	8 5 Sivan Shabbat Service, 10am EREV SHAVUOT  Be-Midbar
9 6 Sivan Tikkun Leil Shavuot, 7:30pm (Shavuot Study) Ice Cream	10 7 Sivan 8am Shavuot Service including Yizkor Kiddush	11 8 Sivan	12 9 Sivan Board of Director's Meeting, 7:30pm	13 10 Sivan 8am Minyan	14 11 Sivan Challah Havurah, 9am	15 12 Sivan Shabbat Service, 10am  Nasso
16 13 Sivan  FATHER'S DAY	17 14 Sivan 8am Minyan	18 15 Sivan	19 16 Sivan	20 17 Sivan 8am Minyan	21 18 Sivan	22 19 Sivan Shabbat Service, 10am  Be-Ha'alotcha
23 20 Sivan Tikkun Olam at Kate's Kitchen 11:45am-2pm	24 21 Sivan 8am Minyan	25 22 Sivan	26 23 Sivan	27 24 Sivan 8am Minyan  115 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, 6pm – 8:15pm	28 24 Sivan	29 25 Sivan Shabbat Service, 10am  Shelach
30 26 Sivan						



# DATES TO REMEMBER

## Saturday, June 1, 2019

Shabbat Service, 10am

## June 2, 2019

Yom Yerushalayim

## Monday, June 3, 2019

Security Training, 5:30pm to 9:30pm - Reservation Required  
Light dinner at 5pm

## Tuesday, June 4, 2019

Security Training, 5:30pm to 9:30pm - Reservation Required  
Light dinner at 5pm

## Friday, June 7, 2019

Shabbat Potluck at the Saltman's, 6pm

## Saturday, June 8, 2019

Shabbat Service, 10am  
Erev Shavuot

## Sunday, June 9, 2019

Tikkun Leil Shavuot, 7:30pm  
Shavuot study and ice cream

## Monday, June 10, 2019

Shavuot Service including Yizkor, 8am

## Wednesday, June 12, 2019

SOZ Board Meeting, 7:30pm

## Friday, June 14, 2019

Challah Havurah, 9am

## Saturday, June 15, 2019

Shabbat Service, 10am

## Sunday, June 16, 2019

Father's Day

## Saturday, June 22, 2019

Shabbat Service, 10am

## Sunday, June 23, 2019

Tikkun Olam at Kate's Kitchen, 11:45am

## Thursday, June 27, 2019

115th Annual Meeting, 6pm-8:15pm

## Saturday, June 29, 2019

Shabbat Services, 10am



## Poem in Honor of Rhoda and Jerry Cohen

Arlene Fox, Paul Triber, Andrea Fox and Ina Hemphill attended and sponsored a very special "dual simcha Kiddush" at Sons of Zion on May 11th honoring their close cousins Rhoda and Jerry Cohen. The double simchas are Rhoda's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday and Rhoda's and Jerry's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!!! Although Rhoda and Jerry were unable to make the trip to Holyoke, they were very present in spirit. Inspired by the joyful cousins' presence, everyone enjoyed a happy celebration!!! The following poem, authored by Arlene Fox, was a highlight. Thank you to the mischpacha (family) for choosing to celebrate at SOZ!!

Hooray....Hooray....  
Celebration is the word of the day.

And as we look around and see,  
The best of friends and family.

We are here to celebrate Rhoda and Jerry  
And remember the good times,  
Of which there are many.

Their life's Theme is Love and Caring,  
Full of Kindness and lots of Sharing.

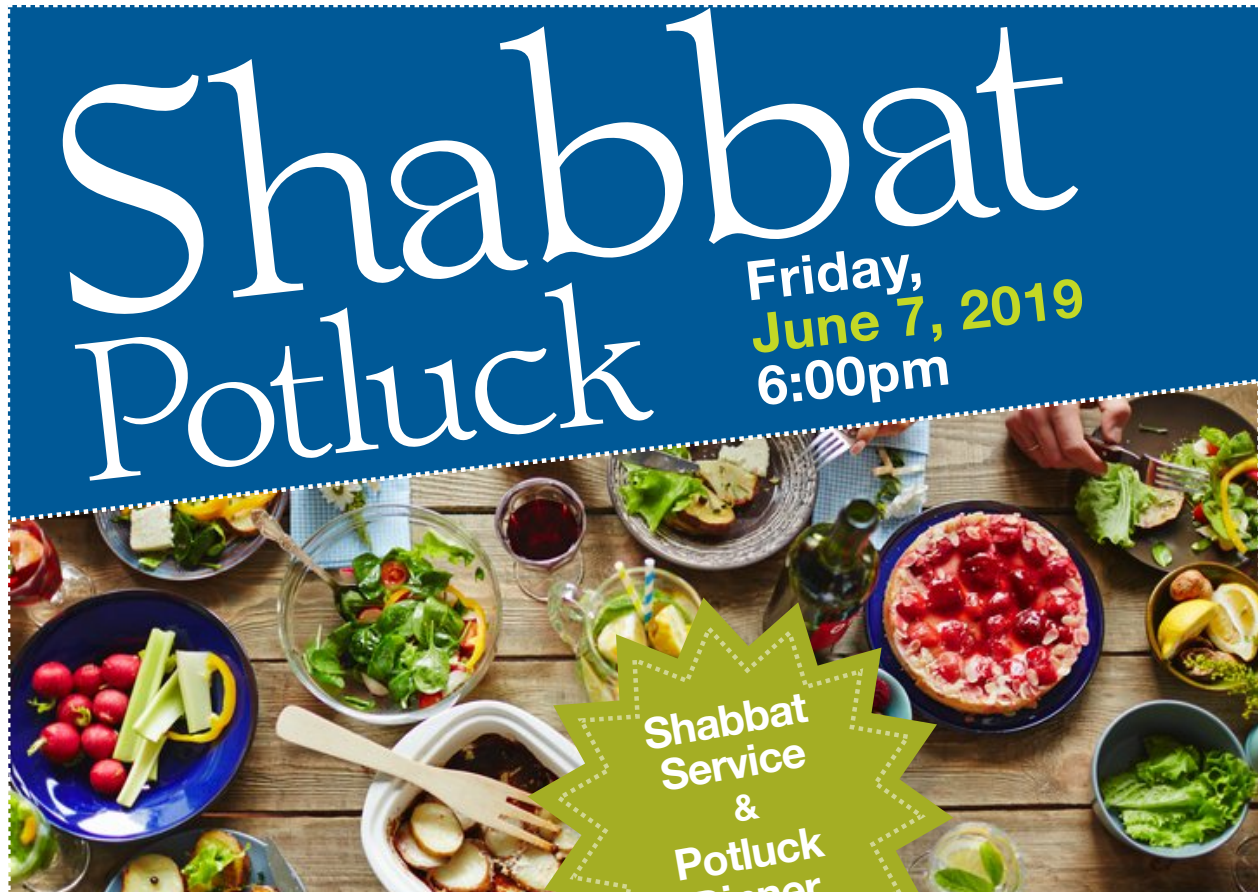
Dependable, Sincere, Multi-talented and Sweet,  
No wonder everyone they encountered  
Was swept off their feet

How blessed I am to have You  
As my cousins all these years,  
We've had good times and laughter  
And even shed tears.

But now, on this wonderful occasion  
There are so many good wishes from all...galore  
So...here's to "Naches", and "Gezunt",  
And more happy times to be in store.

Mazel Tov and Much Love





## HOSTED BY JOANNE & BILL SALTMAN

Joanne and Bill's property lends itself well to a joyful and contemplative Shabbat evening service led by Rabbi Perlmutter. Afterwards, we'll share a potluck dinner that always features something from everyone.

Please RSVP to (413) 575-0526  
or [js24saltman@gmail.com](mailto:js24saltman@gmail.com).

Please let us know what you are bringing.

55 Juckett Hill Drive  
Belchertown, MA

**A-H Main dish**

**I-P Side dish or salad**

**Q-Z Dessert**

Potluck items should be  
kosher or dairy only

We hope you can join us!



# Tikkun Leil Shavuot

Celebrate Receiving the Torah  
by studying with us!



**Sunday, June 9, 2019 at 7:30pm**

- Choose a section of Tanach (the Bible), Mishna, Talmud or any other sacred text and tell us how the section relates to you
- Choose a couple of sentences to a whole book
- Copies of the Tanach are available in the office to borrow or purchase
- We will help if you want to explore other texts. Expand your world!

**Or.....simply come and enjoy the discussion!!**

**Everyone is welcome!!**

**Followed by...Make your own ice cream sundae**

To reserve your passage, contact the office at  
office@sonsofzionholyoke.org or (413)534-3369.



## Shavuot Service

**Monday, June 10, 2019 at 8am**

Includes Yizkor followed by Kiddush  
Yossi - Meir (Paul) Charette, ServiceLeader

**CONGREGATION SONS OF ZION  
378 MAPLE STREET  
HOLYOKE, MA 01040**

**\*PLEASE USE THE ACCESSIBLE  
CABOT STREET ENTRANCE**



# Congregation Sons of Zion

## 115<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting



**Thursday, June 27, 2019**  
**6pm to 8:15pm**

**Everyone is welcome!!!!**  
**Members in good standing may vote!!!!\***

### AGENDA:

Light Refreshments  
Committee Reports

Election of 2019-2020 Board Members  
Board Retires to Elect Officers

DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE SOZ ISRAEL TRIP

\* You are a voting member if you have paid or you are paying your dues pledge since 2018. Please contact Joanne ([js24saltman@gmail.com](mailto:js24saltman@gmail.com)) or the office ([office@sonsofzionholyoke.org](mailto:office@sonsofzionholyoke.org) or 413-685-5134) if you need a payment plan or if you have any questions.



## Jewish Family Camping Opportunity

The Grinspoon Foundation wants everyone to know that there is still Jewish family grant funding available for this summer. Check <https://hgf.org/grants-awards/jewish-family-camps> for grant information and the flyer below is described as "a great family camp". Check it out!!!

### **Ruach Ha'Aretz July 8 - 14, 2019 Stony Point Center, New York A Jewish Renewal Village**



**A family experience with something for everyone.**

**Learn about Ruach Ha'Aretz and register:  
[yerusha.org/ruach-haaretz](http://yerusha.org/ruach-haaretz)**



Building a legacy for future generations





## **A Special Thank you to Our Sustaining Members**

Andrew Barowsky

Ned and Cindy Barowsky

Richard and Ellen Freyman

Barbara Goldberg (z"l)

Steve and Lois Levin

Steve and Joan Levine

Sidney Paul (z"l)

Buddy and Margie Resnic

Michael and Joan Rosner

Bill and Joanne Saltman

*Please consider joining our generous Sustaining  
Members...at any time!*



# Donations: Thank you!

## General Fund

- ♦ Gary Bernstein: In memory of his mother, Shorrie Bernstein
- ♦ Adelaide Firestone: In memory of her father-in-law, Saul Firestone
- ♦ Joan and Michael Rosner: To Simon Sibelman in deep appreciation for the Anti-semitism lecture and the entire lecture series
- ♦ Joan and Michael Rosner: Wishing Bill Saltman a comfortable and quick recovery
- ♦ Ken and Marion Stein: In memory of Ken's brother, Lloyd Everett Stein
- ♦ Ken and Marion Stein: In memory of Marion's father, Harry Pincus

## Cemetery Fund

- ♦ Amy Bernstein: In memory of her mother, Shorrie Bernstein
- ♦ Adelaide Firestone: In memory of her son, Alan Firestone
- ♦ Michael Karukin: In memory of Michael's mother, Frances Marshall Karukin
- ♦ Carol Halpern Wernick and Richard Halpern: In memory of their beloved mother, Sheila G. Halpern

## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- ♦ Rich Wilson: In memory of his mother, Teresa S. Wilson
- ♦ Rich Wilson: In memory of his father, Benjamin J. Wilson
- ♦ Harry Wolfe: In memory of his mother-in-law, Anna Goodman Samel

## Shabbat Shalom

- ♦ Jordan Marks: In memory of Jordan's mother, Sue Marks



"Toda" Thank You



## June Yahrzeits

### **May 26 – June 1: Ira Laby**

May 26 William Shirley  
 May 27 \*Sheila Halpern  
 Anna Goodman Samel  
 May 28 \*Rachel Saltman  
 May 29 \*Lloyd Everett Stein  
 May 30 \*Harold Haley  
 June 1 Russell Bernstein

### **June 2 - June 8: Lois Levin**

June 4 Jacob Orlen  
 June 5 \*Annie Welson

### **June 9 - June 15: Steve Levin**

June 10 Theodore Freyman  
 \*Harry Hirsch  
 Nathan Kahan  
 \*Louis Marks  
 June 12 Leo Halpern  
 June 13 \*Sophie Mekler  
 June 15 \*Etta Goldberg

### **June 16 - June 22: Laura Marks**

June 23 Harold David Fox  
 June 24 \*James Samuel Hirschon  
 Sadie Rothchild  
 \*Stanley G. Weiss  
 June 26 \*Milton Bernstein  
 June 27 Louis Weiner  
 \*Sidney Radner  
 June 28 \*Solomon Harmetz  
 \*Fannie Weiss

### **June 30 - July 6: Buddy Resnic**

June 30 Morris Levine  
 July 1 \*Sarah Bialer  
 David Karukin  
 July 2 \*Irving Carmen  
 \*Eva Yecheved Falk  
 \*Robert Lasher  
 \*Dr. David Saltman  
 Miriam Waxler  
 July 3 David Lieban  
 \*Emil S. Schwartzwald  
 Samuel Leitzen  
 July 4 \*David Judelson  
 Lokel Rosenbloom  
 July 5 \*Fannie Wolkovsky





## SOZ Cemetery Rules

### Cemetery Guidelines

1. Synagogue member in good standing for at least 5 years prior to death are entitled to a free plot
2. Plot fee for non-members is \$4,500. Plot for a spouse on a double lot is \$2,250.
3. Opening and closing of grave is \$800
4. Perpetual care is \$1,500.
5. Cremated remains are permitted. Digging of hole for urn or ashes is \$100 in addition to the plot fee (instead of a grave fee).

Non-Jewish spouses or family members will be buried in a separate plot (no non-Jewish religious symbols are allowed).

No concrete vaults are allowed. Simple unfinished wood caskets only.

Taharah-ritual Jewish washing and shroud are required, but a shower or watch person is optional.

A particular plot may be reserved for \$100. There are several plots in the new section that were previously reserved and are now unused. Please call for more details.

Contact Joanne Saltman with any questions at:

(413)575-0526 or js24saltman@gmail.com

### **6 PEOPLE COULD RESCUE OUR MINYAN!!!** **3 PEOPLE ON MONDAY      3 PEOPLE ON THURSDAY**

**Our minyan numbers are down. Before we consider more drastic suggestions, we're asking for people to join a minyan.**

**Minyan begins at 8:00am and ends about 8:40am. Optional breakfast and fun conversations follow for as long as you want to stay.**

**Minyans offer the community an opportunity to say Kaddish. Sometimes we welcome new faces and offer comfort for mourners, making new friends.**

**Start your day with a Mitzvah!!! Contact the office and sign up for minyan!!!**

**(Once a week too much? Every other week could work if enough people participate. Let us know what will work and we'll try to find a way. Would different times make a difference? Let us know!)**



## Safety and Security Grants

### Safety and Security Grants

After a number of years of dedication to working on security issues, Congregation Sons of Zion's is pleased to announce we are the recipients of a \$3,700 security grant from the Jewish Federation of Western Mass, an additional smaller grant to provide dinner at trainings in June, and a \$50,000 Homeland Security Grant to be used to enhance safety to our building and our members and visitors. The larger grant has five components that were identified in the report provided to us by James McGinnis, Safety and Threat consultant, originally hired by the Jewish Federation of Western Mass. The five components that were funded are:

1. Training by a safety and threat expert designed specifically for us based on the layout of our building and the demographic of our membership on safety awareness and how to respond to an Active Shooter incident.
2. Improvements and additions to our existing security alarm and camera system.
3. Reinforcement of our exterior doors and replacement of the Cabot Street door. Installation of new solid core doors between the funeral vestibule and the main hallways leading to the sanctuaries.
4. Reinforcement and adding a protection the stained glass windows.
5. Addition of custom metal grating on the ground level windows that can be opened from the inside in case of emergency.

The deadline for both grants work to be completed is June 30, 2019.

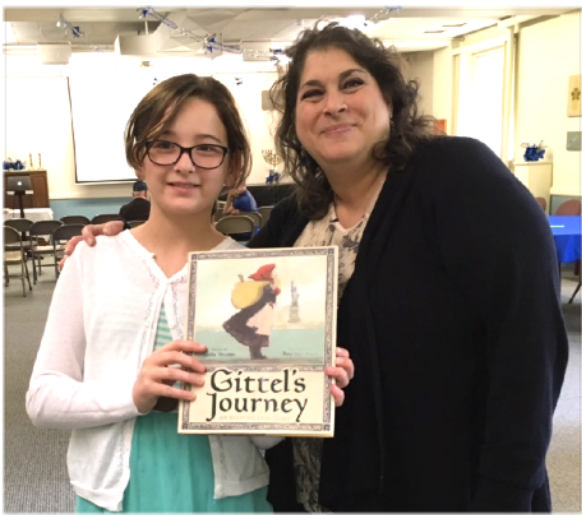
We would like to thank the steadfast work of Andrea Fox, Joan Rosner, and James McGinnis, the consultant who has generously remained working with us to guide and advise through the grant installation and implementation process.

If anyone has any questions or concerns, or if you would like to volunteer to be more involved with these efforts please contact the office.

In the wake of the most recent attack on Synagogue members in CA, where quick thinking action of congregants served to minimize the death toll, we remind each of you , the words of Homeland Security: **If you See Something, Say Something!**



## Lesléa Newman: Gittel's Journey





## Lesléa Newman: Gittel's Journey





## LBGTQ Pride March

Each year the LBGTQ Pride March season is kicked off in Northampton on the first weekend in May. In the spirit of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, members of Congregation Sons of Zion in Holyoke join many faith-based groups in the area to "pray with their feet" on this special day. It's noteworthy that 2019 marks the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising.



### How to Watch SOZ's Shabbat Services on YouTube:

Turn on your computer and speakers.

1. Run an internet browser (Internet Explorer or Chrome, for example)
2. Type [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) in the navigation bar and press enter.
3. In YouTube, type **Congregation Sons of Zion** (not just "Sons of Zion") in the box that says Search and then click on the magnifying glass or press enter.
4. Click on the video that has a red **"Live"** button on the bottom right corner. It may take up to 45 seconds for the video to load.

***Services start at 10am. Shabbat Shalom!***



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synagogue office at (413) 534-3369 OR  
office@sonsofzionholyokey.org**

There is always room for more!!!



**CONGREGATION SONS OF ZION**

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