



Gates of Peace



**Congregation
Sha'are Shalom
2024 Directory
*Public Edition***

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CONGREGATION SHA'ARE SHALOM DIRECTORY 2024



Gates of Peace

*A Reform Congregation Affiliated with the
Union for Reform Judaism*

**18 Henry Ford Circle
Waldorf, MD 20602-2787**

(301) 645-4606

shareshalom@gmail.com

<http://shareshalomsm.org>

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Window



Fish in Ribbon



Simchat Torah, October 2023

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We are proud of our reputation and we will earn your trust. In our office, you can trust that you will be treated with respect, integrity and genuine concern.

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Greetings from the Congregation's President

Sha'are Shalom Members and Supporters,

Another year has come and gone, including Hot and Cold Shabbats, celebrations of life events, dedications, Sunday School field trips—and a special shout out to Rich Gilpin for setting up the Chanukah candle lighting at the Shops at Waldorf Center.

The war between Israel and Hamas put us in an unusual security predicament. We have been working on securing the shul even further. We applied to the State of Maryland for a grant to pay for a Charles County Deputy to be present at most of our activities and are currently working on another grant from the State to bolster our physical security in and around the building.

Thank you to everyone who supported Sha'are Shalom through ad sales in this directory and Purim Baskets. I encourage everyone to shop at these local businesses. A special thank you to Mark Holt for again coordinating this year's directory.

Thanks also to all of those who volunteered to keep this community moving forward through your virtual and in-person efforts. (You'll see many of them listed on our "contact people" page.) As we move through 2024 and into 2025, I would ask that each of you continue to volunteer with our synagogue. And special thanks as well to Rabbis Gail and Jasha for their leadership and spiritual guidance and to Pat Myers for her continual efforts on setting up the religious services for the congregation.

I look forward to another year with all of you in 2024. If there is anything the board can do for you, please don't hesitate to let me know.

Shalom,

Marv Cohen,
President

Significant Events in the History of Sha'are Shalom

- 1990 Established bimonthly religious services and Sunday School
- 1991 Observed all major holidays, excluding the High Holy Days services
- 1992 Conducted our first High Holy Days services
- 1994 Purchased and dedicated our own Torah
- 1995 Affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ)
- 1996 Conducted our first community Seder
- 2007 Purchased land in Waldorf for our synagogue and engaged builder to design and construct the synagogue
- 2009 Synagogue completed with occupation and dedication of building on April 4th
- 2015 Celebrated 25th Anniversary and dedicated Founders Plaque
- 2019 Celebrated 10th Anniversary of our building



**Community
menorah
lighting cele-
bration, De-
cember 2023**

Congregation Contact People

Officers

President.....	Marv Cohen
Vice President	Michael Green
Treasurer	Jackie Schoch
Secretary	Suzanne Darby
Financial Secretary..... (Ceitidh)	Catherine Moffatt-Bush

Committee Chairs/Coordinators

Religious School Principal.....	Joshua Grossman
Religious School Activities Director.....	Melissa Ball
Women's Group	Jackie Schoch
Men's Group	Mark Holt
Past President.....	Liz Mildenstein
Golden Cards	Jackie Schoch
Yahrzeit/Mitzvah Boards	Suzanne Darby
Web Maven	Abby Richman
Saturday Service Coordinator.....	Pat Myers
Membership.....	Maryiha Lindsay
Facilities and Security.....	Rich Gilpin
Librarian.....	Joselle Gilpin

Email address: shareshalom@gmail.com

About the Congregation

The Beginning

Congregation Sha'are Shalom (Gates of Peace) was founded in 1990 as an independent organization to meet the religious and educational needs of a growing and diverse Jewish population in Charles, Calvert, Saint Mary's, and southern Prince George's counties. The organization was also to provide a way to share our cultural and social identity.

With Charles County being the focal point for the significant growth in this area, the Congregation established its presence in Waldorf.

Our Growth

One person's idea to provide a Jewish presence in southern Maryland has evolved into a Reform Congregation, providing a full range of religious and social events for our membership and the Jewish population in the community at large:

- Shabbat Services: second Saturday and fourth Friday of each month
- Religious School: Sunday mornings during the school year
- Confirmation Class
- Adult Education
- Holiday Observances
- Social Events

Our Objective

To provide the opportunity for all Jewish families to perpetuate their heritage and share a sense of belonging. We welcome all people who share our interests.



Religious school students receive a blessing at Simchat Torah, October 2023

Religious School

The Sha'are Shalom Religious School was established to teach the young people of the congregation about Jewish traditions, holidays, culture and values, as well as Hebrew for religious services. It is a place where Jewish children can gather with others with similar backgrounds. This is particularly important in an area such as Southern Maryland where Jews are widely dispersed.

Classes are currently available for students ages 3 through 13. Parent volunteers conduct classes.

Shabbat Service: Each Religious School session starts at 9:30 AM with a service for students. This service familiarizes students with regular Shabbat services and gives them a chance to practice their Hebrew skills in a friendly setting. A child's version of each week's Torah portion is read and discussed.

Pre-K & Kindergarten: These classes emphasize fun activities such as crafts, songs, games, and videos. The activities are designed to introduce students to the Hebrew alphabet, holiday traditions, Bible stories and Jewish culture, and to reinforce positive values.

Primary I: Students in this class learn to read and write the letters in the Hebrew alphabet. They begin to read basic Hebrew words. The students continue to learn about Jewish holidays, culture, and Israel. They sing songs, make Jewish-themed crafts, and read and discuss Bible stories.

Primary II: This class continues to learn how to read Hebrew. Time is also spent on other activities such as learning about events in the life of a Jewish person. Jewish holidays and traditions are also discussed.

Secondary I: This class continues to learn how to read Hebrew. Time is also spent learning about mitzvot, community service, and studying the Mensch Handbook.

Secondary II: At this age, students begin to focus more intensively on preparations for their Bar and Bat Mitzvahs and on their future adult roles in religious services. Students have the opportunity to plan and lead the Sunday School family service.



Religious school students participate in Hot Shabbat, June 2023

About Our Rabbis

Rabbi Jasha Levenson

Jasha Levenson became Rabbi of Congregation Sha'are Shalom in 2020, after many years as a volunteer service leader, Hebrew school teacher, and wedding, funeral, and life cycle officiant. He was ordained in June 2020 by the Jewish Spiritual Leaders Institute, a program for Jewish professionals leading to rabbinic ordination.

Jasha is a full-time web developer and federal contractor and also acts as CEO and managing partner of Hullo Pillow, an all natural pillow company. When he's not working or performing rabbinical duties, Jasha enjoys spending time outdoors with his family and making music in his home studio.

Jasha's goal is to enlighten others to the wonders of nature that surround us, to embrace our traditions with respect to those who observe other traditions, and learn to raise each other up as a global community while working within our own community.



Rabbi Gail Fisher



Gail Fisher was a CPA who specialized in taxes and business advising. Upon retirement, she fulfilled a lifelong dream by attending rabbinic school at the Jewish Spiritual Leaders Institute and being ordained by them in June 2018. She finds dealing with human concerns and spiritual matters vastly more fulfilling than putting little numbers into little boxes.

When she is not leading services and other programming at Congregation Sha'are Shalom, she might be volunteering at a retirement community or teaching classes on various Jewish topics. And most of the spare moments in between these activities are filled with studying--taking classes or reading on her own. This is not how she envisioned retirement, but she is thriving on doing what she believes in so profoundly.

Gail is the proud mother of two children (both attorneys) and grandmother of five exceptionally beautiful and brilliant children. Her pleasures include needlework, music, and being out in nature.

Rabbi Emeritus Arnold Saltzman

Rabbi Arnold Saltzman was the Rabbi of Sha'are Shalom from 2011-2016. In recognition of his years of service and the special relationship he built with the congregation, he was named Rabbi Emeritus of Sha'are Shalom in August 2016.

He is a well-known composer of Jewish-themed works. His most recent opera, "Geniza: Hidden Fragments," centers on the discovery of historic documents that revealed details about Medieval Jewish life in Egypt.



Congregation Library

Sha'are Shalom has a vibrant library, located adjacent to the lobby foyer. Books that are available include volumes on:

- Jewish Practices
- Jewish Holidays
- Jewish History
- Important Historical Figures
- Jewish Heritage
- Israel – history, current events, photos, historical sites, living etc.
- Jewish Life in the USA, Israel, and around the world
- Jewish Women
- Philosophy
- Ethics
- Talmud, Torah, Haftorah, and Commentaries
- Comparative Religions
- Raising a Jewish Child/ Children's Books
- The Holocaust
- Fiction with Jewish content and/ or by Jewish authors

For more information, contact Congregation Librarian Joselle Gilpin, (301) 752-4229, joselle_gilpin@yahoo.com.

Men's and Women's Groups

The Men's and Women's groups provide additional opportunities for fellowship and service for adult members of the congregation. The primary social activity of the two groups is to convene dinners at a wide variety of restaurants in the area to enjoy good food and conversation. If a new restaurant opens up, the Men's and Women's groups are usually among the first to check it out! The two groups also organize joint dinners where all adults are welcome.

For service activities, the Women's and Men's groups each organize and lead special Friday evening Shabbat services each year. The Men's and Women's groups also take the lead in organizing other congregation activities throughout the year, such as the annual picnic, theater outings, and special celebrations.

Other social activities organized by the Men's and Women's groups include campouts, hikes, and bike rides. If someone has an idea for an activity, there is usually a way to make it happen!

The Men's and Women's groups provide many opportunities for adult members of Sha'are Shalom to get to know one another and work together for the benefit of the entire Southern Maryland Jewish community.

For more information, contact Men's Group Chairperson Mark Holt at mark.edward.holt@gmail.com or 202-695-9942, and Women's group Group Chairperson Jackie Schoch at grammysglassgarden@gmail.com or 301-437-5045.

JEWISH APPLE CAKE

2 c sugar	2 ½ tsp vanilla
1 c oil	1 c chopped nuts
4 eggs	3 tsp baking powder
3 c flour	4 c thinly sliced apples
½ tsp salt	3 tsp sugar, mixed with
¼ c orange juice	1 tsp cinnamon

Beat eggs, sugar, oil, juice, vanilla on high for 10 min.

Blend in dry ingredients. Fold in nuts (you could toast them before chopping if you like!).

Grease and SUGAR (not flour) bundt pan.

Pour 1/3 of batter in pan. Place 2 c apples on top; sprinkle with half of sugar/cinnamon mix. Pour another 1/3 batter, rest of apples, rest of sugar and cinnamon.

Cover with last 1/3 batter.

Bake in preheated 350F oven for 1½ hours.

Rabbi Gail Fisher

Member, Washington Board of Rabbis

Union of Jewish Universalist Communities

www.RabbiGail.com



In loving memory of
Gerd & Arlene Kaluski

parents of Elaine McVinney



Arlene Haber Kaluski

Nov 7, 1934 - Jan 27, 2023 (5 Shvat 5783)

Gerd Kaluski

Oct 8, 1931 - Sep 14, 2023 (28 Elul 5783)

Their memories will always be a blessing



Kugel a la Dorothy Engel

*½ lbs. wide egg noodles
16 oz cottage cheese
8 oz sour cream
1 stick of butter, melted*

*Cook noodles, drain but do not rinse.
Mix all the ingredients above together and put into casserole
dish.*

*Beat together:
2 cups milk
¾ cup sugar
1 tsp. Vanilla
3 eggs
Raisins *
* optional*

*Pour liquid over noodle mixture,
Cook for 1½ hours at 375 degrees.*

*Enjoy – from the Darby Family. Suzanne, Don,
Libby, Daniel, Nathan, Evelyn, and Frank*

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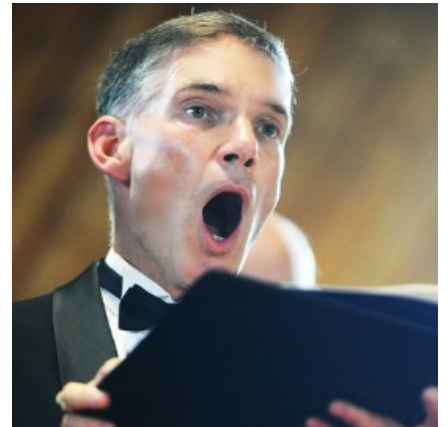
SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024

4PM

MOUNT CALVARY CATHOLIC CHURCH
6700 MARLBORO PIKE
FORESTVILLE, MD 20747

Join MCS, full orchestra, and soloists as we celebrate Artistic Director Dr. Douglas Buchanan's farewell concert featuring his original composition *Altus Prosator* and selections from Haydn's *Creation*.

Maryland Choral Society members consist of auditioned and dedicated volunteer choral music enthusiasts from the Washington, DC, metropolitan area. We actively seek out experienced choral musicians through the year.



The Maryland Choral Society rehearses on Monday evenings from 7:15 to 9:30 p.m. at Bethany Christian Church, 7128 Allentown Road, Fort Washington, MD 2074. For more information, contact Sha'are Shalom member Pat Myers at myerspat@gmail.com, or click "Join MCS" at marylandchoralsociety.org.



Rosh Hashanah, September 2023

Waldorf, MD 20603-3903
(301) 638-1779

a☆ Cohen, Joel

About Our Building

Congregation Sha'are Shalom dedicated its building at 18 Henry Ford Circle in Waldorf on April 4, 2009. The dedication ceremony was the culmination of years of fundraising, planning, and hard work, especially by former Congregation President Lee Weinberger.

Sha'are Shalom's synagogue building hosts the congregation's religious services, religious school, holiday celebrations, bar and bat mitzvahs, and social activities. It has a multipurpose room with a full-service kitchen and sanctuary that can be separated by a moveable wall. There are three separate classrooms, as well as a library and office. The landscaped grounds around the building, including a playground, are used for picnics and other outdoor events.

When the building is not being used for congregation activities, members may reserve it for their own events, such as birthday parties, weddings, and other celebrations. Congregation members wishing to reserve the building should fill out the Building Use Agreement that is posted in the Member Area of the Sha'are Shalom web site, [https:// shareshalomsm.org/member-area](https://shareshalomsm.org/member-area).

Building maintenance and repair is overseen (and often directly carried out) by the Building Committee. To volunteer for the Building Committee or to help with repair and maintenance projects, contact the Board of Directors at shareshalom@gmail.com.

7033 N. Kedzie Ave., Apt. 1202

Ellen Cohen
extends her best wishes
to
Congregation Sha'are Shalom



In Loving Memory of:

Husband Alvin Cohen

Parents:

Hermann and Jettchen Kaufmann

Jack and Sarah Cohen

Brother-in-law: Robert Cohen

Sisters-in-law:

Natalie Cohen

Phyllis Kirson

&

Nephew: Ronald Cohen

Happy New Year Congregation Sha'are Shalom

From

St. Columba Masonic Lodge #150
100 East Hawthorne Drive
LaPlata, MD 20646-4281
info@stcolumba150.org

RANDALL A. SCHOCH, CHAPLAIN

Congregation Sha'are Shalom

In Memory of Randy's Family

Adolph Schoch - Father

Ruth Mikel Schoch - Mother

Joan Schoch Ronan - Sister

Jared Randall Martin - Grandson

Mary "Tommie" Koch - Cousin

Jack & Justin Koch - Cousins

In Memory of Jackie's Family

John Dries - Father

Lillie W. Pumphrey - Grandmother

May they all rest in peace.

Randy and Jackie



Men's Dinner at Szechuan Garden, January 2024



In Fond Memory of

ALVIN COHEN, BOB

LOCKE &

MERLE & ANNETTE WHITT

Who did so much for our synagogue

May they rest in peace

Madelene Weinberger



Congregation
Sha'are Shalom

In Loving Memory of:

My husband

Noah Leon Weinberger

His parents

Harry & Beatrice Weinberger

His brother

Morton Weinberger

My parents

Roy & Lee Ester Osborne

And my sister-in-law

Barbara Osborne

May they rest in peace

Madelene Weinberger

Congregation Sha'are Shalom Is Affiliated With the Union for Reform Judaism



The Reform Jewish Movement believes there is more than one authentic way to be Jewish and that Judaism must change and adapt to the needs of the day to survive. We can unite thousands of years of tradition with modern experience to strengthen Judaism today and for generations to come.

Union for Reform Judaism

633 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017 <https://urj.org>

Support Sha'are Shalom With a Directory Ad

The annual Sha'are Shalom Directory is not only a very useful address book that most of us keep by the telephone or computer but is also a major fundraiser for our synagogue.

Personal Ads. Placing a personal greeting in the Directory is a great way to wish everyone a happy New Year or to remember a loved one. The prices for personal ads are:

Inside front cover - \$200
Back cover - \$200
Full page (8" x 5") - \$150
Half page (4" x 5") - \$75
Quarter page (2" x 5") - \$50
1/8 page (2" x 2 ½") - \$25

Business ads. Anyone can ask local business people to place an ad in our directory, used by dozens of area families. The prices for business ads are:

Inside front cover - \$250
Back cover - \$250
Full page (8" x 5") - \$220
Half page (4" x 5") - \$120
Quarter page (2" x 5") - \$75
1/8 page (2" x 2 ½") - \$50

For the 2025 Edition: Send ad copy to Mark Holt by January 15, 2025, at 13413 Kris Ran Court, Fort Washington, MD 20744, mark.edward.holt@gmail.com. Checks should be made out to Congregation Sha'are Shalom.

Observances and Holidays 2024 (5784-5785)



Tu B'Shevat	January 24	15 Shevat
Purim	March 23	14 Adar II
Passover	April 22-April 30	15-22 Nisan
Yom HaShoah	May 5	28 Nisan
Yom Ha'Atzmaut	May 13	6 Iyar
Lag B'Omer	May 25	18 Iyar
Shavuot	June 11-12	6-7 Sivan
Tisha B'Av	August 12	9 Av
Rosh Hashanah	October 2	1 Tishrei
Yom Kippur	October 11	10 Tishrei
Sukkot	Oct 16-Oct 23	15-21 Tishrei
Shemini Atzeret	October 23	22 Tishrei
Simchat Torah	October 24	23 Tishrei
Hanukah	Dec 25-Jan 15	25 Kislev-2 Tevet

*Holidays begin at sundown. For more information,
visit <https://www.hebc.com/holidays/2024-2025>*

Congregation events are added throughout the year.

Visit our website for up-to-date information:

shareshalomd.org

or see our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/shalomwaldorf