



UNIVERSITY
SYNAGOGUE
Connect. Engage. Discover.

The Torch

February 1, 2017 • 5 Sh'vat 5777



This Week

Friday, 2/3

6:30 pm
Family Shabbat with Mechinah class

Saturday, 2/4

9 am
Hevrah Torah

10:30 am
[Bar Mitzvah of Damon Pizzuto](#)

5:00 pm
[Bat Mitzvah of Abigail Harooni](#)



Faithfully Yours: Rabbi Morley T. Feinstein

When All Four Branches of Judaism Agree: Pay Attention!

We Jews don't always agree. We have argued since the beginning of our faith's journey. But we always cherished both the debate and the civility of the process.

Now we come to a time in our nation's history where there is no division of opinion: all the main branches of Judaism agree that the decision regarding refugees and immigration - announced on the international Day of Remembrance of the Holocaust- is wrong. Read below the statements from every branch of American Judaism in opposition to the President's Executive Order titled "Protecting the Nation From Foreign Terrorist Entry Into the United States"



This is not a time for us to leave our Torah in the Ark. It is our time to bring the Torah of our history and the Torah of our ethics into our lives. Remember: "When a stranger resides with you in your land, you shall not wrong him. The stranger who resides with you shall be to you as one of your citizens; you shall love him as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt." (Leviticus 19:33-34)"

[Reform Movement](#)

[Conservative Movement](#)

[Orthodox Movement](#)

[Reconstructionist Movement](#)

COOK WITH US & MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN PEOPLES' LIVES



LOOKING FOR A GREAT TIKKUN OLAM PROJECT FOR YOUR FAMILY, HAVURAH OR TEENAGER?

You don't have to be a master chef or even a good cook - just someone looking for a great way to help our fellow community residents at OPCC/The People Concern. Our **LIFE SKILLS COOKING WORKSHOPS** are incredibly fun and rewarding. We are now booking for this upcoming date: **FEBRUARY 22nd**.

The Cooking Workshop meets from **5:30 pm to 7:30 pm**, at the Cloverfield Services Center in Santa Monica. Our theme is "5 *Ingredients for \$5 Dollars Or Less*", and the meals have been delicious. We are preparing, cooking and eating together. We are building community, and making a difference in people's lives. Please email Susan Corwin (susan@sjclaw.com) or Ellen Dorros (ellendorros@gmail.com), for more information and to secure a date.

Join us on February 10th as we unite with five other Los Angeles congregations for a rare adventure in Jewish Music



Community Calendar

Wednesday, February 8, 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

UCLA Y&S Nazarian Center for Israel Studies:

Law, Culture and Collective Identity: Palestinian-Arabs and Jews in Israeli Law and Society

University of Haifa Professor Gad Barzilai will discuss the interactions between Jewish and Palestinian identities and the heated debates on law and society within the global context.

[Click here to RSVP](#)

Location: UCLA School of Law, Room TBD

Sunday, February 26

Jewish Federation Volunteer Day

Make a difference in our community in five meaningful ways and at locations throughout Los Angeles when you volunteer as a part of the Jewish Federation's Community Service Day. Choose from several ways to give back. [Click here to RSVP.](#)

Wednesday nights, March 1, 7-8:30 pm

New Bereishit Session: Creating Jewish Marriages From the Beginning

For newly engaged or married couples to explore the ways to integrate aspects of Judaism, Jewish values and traditions into their marriages, while socializing with other couples. This program is open to ALL couples looking to infuse Judaism into their marriage! Questions? Email Rabbi Ashley [here](#).

For more information, go to

www.bereishitjewishmarriage.com

Location: Temple Isaiah

March 17 - 19

West Coast Party Jr.

6th-8th Graders are invited to the best party in the West! For a two night retreat, these kids will get to reunite and meet new friends, dream about how to make the world a better place, play sports and create art, enjoy a magical camp Shabbat, and discover the fun of Jewish camping and NFTY678 - teen-powered regional youth groups. Registration begins Monday, February 6th at 9 a.m. Cost: \$250 (earlybird) | \$300 (ends 3/10) [Click here for more info.](#)

by Michael Isaacson

Ladorot Habaim - For Generations To Come - contains twenty-three newly composed settings that, like *L'Maasei V'reisheet*, the service composed for the new millennium, are realized with musical instrumental synthesis, along with solo acoustic instruments and percussion and meant to be performed to a standardized prerecorded accompaniment track that compliments live singing voices. Each participating congregation received the score and accompaniment tracks as well as one hundred fully produced performance CDs to aid in the teaching of the service and to fully recoup the buy-in cost. This service differs from the previous one by adult participation, the sophistication of its vocabulary - Quartal harmony, four tonic writing and other extensions, and stylistic resonances of popular forms previously not called upon. Its compositional engine is having the words dictate the rhythm, prosody, and treatment of each musical setting. Finally, following the advice of my book *Music as Midrash - What Makes Music Jewish?* I try to offer a fresh musical midrash to each section of the liturgy through its unique musical setting. As in previous services, I choose to interweave easily remembered melodies side-by-side more through-composed approaches. Informed eclecticism marks the prevailing musical style of our time and of this work.

I'm so excited that Cantor Shapiro and the University Synagogue musical forces conducted by Susan Rosenstein will be performing with over 100 combined choral singers from Stephen Wise Temple, Leo Baeck Temple, Temple Judea, and Temple Emanuel of Beverly Hills at Stephen Wise Temple at 7:30. Please come join us. It will be an experience of a lifetime that you'll long remember....and please come over afterwards and let us know how you enjoyed it. See you at **Stephen Wise Temple on Friday, February 10, at 7:30 pm.**

To read Michael Isaacson's full reflection, [click here](#).

Bar Mitzvah Spotlight: Damon Pizzuto

Damon is the son of Anne and Michael Pizzuto.

School:

Lincoln Middle School

Spiritual Highlight:

Sharing all the amazing, fun and meaningful experiences with my friends and classmates while studying and preparing for this day. I see this as a major accomplishment in my life, which has connected me more to my Jewish roots.



Tzedakah Project:

I volunteered and participated in the Jewish War Veterans Project called Give A Gift To A Yank on the first morning of Hanukkah, where my family, friends and I distributed gifts to war veterans who were sick and bed ridden and did not have any family to share the holidays with. I felt good speaking to these people and putting smiles on their faces. It also made me feel fortunate to have my health and the love and care I get from my family.

Bat Mitzvah Spotlight: Abigail Harooni

Abbie is the daughter of Julie Harooni and David Harooni

School:

Paul Revere Middle School

Spiritual Highlight:

I have had a lot of fun at Hebrew School with all my friends. I liked learning all the prayers for my bat mitzvah and now I will also know them for the future.

Tzedakah Project:

I helped at the Much Love Animal Rescue and I really enjoyed getting to meet all the adorable dogs and kittens.

Location: Camp Newman in Santa Rosa



Photos of the Week:

Everyone counts. No matter where they live. Thank you to all who volunteered for the 2017 Los Angeles Homeless Count. To see more photos, please go to our Facebook page.



Chapter 2 enjoys an evening of Drag Queen Bingo.



For more information and updates on what's happening at University Synagogue, "[like](#)" us on [Facebook](#)!



University Synagogue | torch@unisyn.org | <http://www.unisyn.org>
11960 Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90049
(310) 472-1255