



The Torch

November 30, 2016 • 29 Cheshvan 5777



This Week

Friday, 12/2

6:30 pm
Family Shabbat with Dalet class participation

Saturday, 12/3

9 am
Hevrah Torah

5 pm
[Bat Mitzvah of Lucy Kahan](#)

Zichronam Livrachah



Sylvia Leff, mother of Holly (Barry) Leff-Pressman

Gift Card Challenge 2016



St. Joseph Center's mission is to provide working poor families, as well as homeless men, women, and children of all ages, with the inner resources and tools to become productive, stable and self-supporting members of the community. We have set a goal to provide their clientele with 360 gift cards for the Holidays. We have made this simple. Go to the [link**](#) and with just a click you will be able to make someone's holiday brighter.

****For the Safeway gift card, we encourage you to purchase as many gift cards as you are able to, but please make sure each Safeway gift card is no more than \$25 each. The recipient email is EGoldfarb@stjosephctr.org.**

COOK WITH US & MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN PEOPLES' LIVES "LIFE SKILLS COOKING WORKSHOPS" WITH OPCC & LAMP COMMUNITY

"Giving Tuesday" Can Happen All Year

Lisabeth Lobenthal
Executive Director



As I write this, today is "Giving Tuesday," a 4 year old tradition in the United States that comes around just after Thanksgiving. The concept is not only about financial support, but also donating time and expertise by volunteering for social causes. I applaud the concept. It is especially nice this time of year to pull folks away from the malls and cyber shopping to think about giving back.

As Jews, we are asked all year to give, not only the Tuesday after Thanksgiving, but also throughout the year. As Hanukkah approaches you will soon receive a letter asking you to stretch just a little more to help support the vital programs and services provided by University Synagogue. Your tzedakah makes all the difference.

But we also want your precious hours! This year, we are pushing especially hard to connect and engage our members. There are so many meaningful opportunities here. Whether it is helping to plan our Gala, pitching in for our Purim Carnival, or helping with our wonderful Tikkun Olam efforts, your time is wanted and needed. I assure you, it will help you discover the incredible people of your Unisyn Family. It will enrich you just as much as it will assist us and those in need in our community.

Fill out those interest cards, send me an email, give me a call. I'll get you connected to the area you find most meaningful. Here at University Synagogue, every day can be "Giving Tuesday." I look forward to hearing from you.

THANK YOU FOR THE HIGH HOLY DAYS

The warm feelings created during our High Holy Days come from all who greet others with a smile, who grace our pulpit with their presence, who chant Torah or Haftarah, who offer personal vignettes or lead blessings, who visit our shut-ins, who welcome guests and out of town families, who sound Shofar and who graciously give of themselves. We also want to acknowledge as a congregation the efforts of our Administrative Staff, Security team, and Maintenance Team, without whom our Synagogue would not function. We thank all our congregants listed below for their efforts on behalf of University Synagogue which are so deeply appreciated.

[Click here to view all involved or see below.](#)

Bat Mitzvah Spotlight: Lucy Kahan

Lucy is the daughter of **Susie and Alejandro Kahan**.

School:
Crossroads School

Spiritual Highlight:
Being Bat Mitzvah represents a milestone for me in my life and as a Jewish young woman. It will be a moment of joy.

Tzedakah Project:
I am going to donate a percentage of the money I receive to cancer awareness and research.





EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT THE COOKING WORKSHOPS AT OPCC! COOK WITH US & MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN PEOPLES' LIVES

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. Our LIFE SKILLS COOKING WORKSHOPS have been incredibly fun and rewarding for everyone who has participated including families and havurot. We are now booking for these dates: **JANUARY 11, JANUARY 25, FEBRUARY 8 & FEBRUARY 22!** The Cooking Workshop meets from **5:30pm to 7:30pm**, at OPCC's Cloverfield Services Center in Santa Monica. Our theme is "**5 Ingredients for \$5 Dollars of Less**" and the meals have been delicious. Our Cooking Workshops have become the favorite Life Skills Class at The People Concern. We are preparing, cooking, and eating together. We are building community, and making a difference in peoples' lives. Please email Co-Chairs Susan Corwin (susan@sjclaw.com), or Ellen Dorros (ellendorros@gmail.com)



Towels and Toiletries Drive

As we have done in the past, we are asking our University Synagogue families to please donate a set or two of towels (wash cloth, face towel, bath towel) to the ladies of OPCC as a holiday gift that will be given to them on **December 24th**. If you can please put them in a decorative gift bag that would be wonderful. Other toiletries being collected include travel size lotions, tooth paste, makeup, soaps, shampoos, etc. Towels can be dropped off at the Synagogue office from now until December 20th. Then, join us at the Annual Holiday Party at the Cloverfield Service Center on December 24 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm.

Community Calendar

Thursday, December 8, 7:00 pm

Mizrahi Commemoration Event

SAVE THE DATE: An Untold Story: Honoring the official day of commemoration of Jewish Refugees from Arab countries and Iran. With special exhibit, guest speakers, and musical performance. [Click here for more information.](#)
Location: Sephardic Temple

Sunday, December 11

The Jewish Federation Community Service Day

Bring joy and do good this holiday season with a meaningful day of volunteering with the Federation on Sunday, December 11th! Join the community in giving back through any one of these four impactful opportunities: Hollywood Community Housing Corporation, Project Angel Food, Shemesh Organic Farm, and the Westside JCC 5K Run/Walk. [Click here to volunteer.](#)



The Jewish Federations OF NORTH AMERICA

Jewish Federations are collecting funds to help address the impact of an unprecedented 480 fires that raged across Israel, displacing nearly 100,000 people and ravaging thousands of acres of land.

The impact of the devastation on Israelis will be long-lasting.

People must now return to their damaged homes, schools and neighborhoods. Thousands have no homes

Silver Generation presents:
Did Jesus Spin the Dreidel?
with Rabbi Feinstein

December 28 from 12 - 1:30 pm*

*followed by latkas and schmoozing



[Click here to sign up!](#)

Sisterhood Hanukkah Dinner



Thursday, December 15, 6:00 pm
Klein Hall

Join us for latkes and belly dancing as we celebrate together the festival of lights.

Free for Sisterhood members.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Alluring Appetizers & Wine
Sumptuous Salad
Luscious Latkes
Delectable Desserts

Sisterhood Members: Free!
Other Adults (men and women): \$25
Children 10 and under: \$15

Reservations are required before December 9.

[Click here to register!](#)

LUNCH MAKING FOR DAYBREAK WOMEN'S HOMELESS SHELTER
OPCC

"One good cause countless good effects"



Lunch making for Daybreak Women's Homeless Shelter OPCC in Santa Monica continues **on Sundays once a month at 9:00am**. 50 Sack lunches are prepared by our Synagogue Volunteers, hopefully YOU, and delivered to Daybreak.

Please [contact Suzy](#) if you are interested in this Tikkun Olam activity.

UPCOMING DATE:

December 11: University Synagogue Kitchen

CPR Training for Parents
Thursday, December 8th
9:00-11:00AM
Klein Hall

CPR Certification is a lifesaving and important action we can all take ensure our community and children are safe. For \$36, ECLC is offering a 2-hour CPR certification. Please RSVP to alevitt@unisyn.org if you'd like to join. Payment can be collected on the day-of, or you can submit payment to Alana in the ECLC office. [Click here to access the sign-up form.](#)

to return to at all. Many community institutions that provide vital programs and services have been hit hard. They will be struggling to rebuild just when they are needed most.

The Government of Israel is supporting those impacted by the fires primarily through local municipalities. Jewish Federations are working with our local partners and the National Emergency Authority to assess urgent and emerging needs.

[Please consider donating by clicking here.](#)

Free for University Synagogue Members!
[Click here to register.](#)



Shalom Hartman Institute of North America presents

VISIONS FOR A SHARED SOCIETY: THE "TRIBES" OF ISRAEL

SYNAGOGUE COLLABORATIVE LECTURE SERIES

What are the core values of some of the "tribes" that comprise Israel today?

How does a divided people build a shared society?

What are the challenges and the possibilities for building a Jewish and Democratic Israel?

November 13, 2016 Sunday, 4 pm Leo Baeck Temple	December 11, 2016 Sunday, 4 pm Stephen S. Wise Temple	January 22, 2017 Sunday, 3 pm Valley Beth Shalom	March 5, 2017 Sunday, 4 pm Temple Beth Am
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All lectures are free for members of sponsoring organizations

Non-members: Series pass \$75 / Individual lectures \$20

New!

Post-lecture dinner and discussion available on the following dates,
 by RSVP only:

- November 13, 2016
- December 11, 2016
- March 5, 2017

All three dinners \$100 / individual dinners \$36

[Click here to register for lectures and dinners](#)

Generously funded by the Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles



Adat Ari El Synagogue • Ahavat Torah Congregation • Beit Kulam • Beth Shir Shalom • B'nai David
 Judea • Ikar • Kehillat Israel • Leo Baeck Temple • Malibu Jewish Center & Synagogue • Mishkon
 Tefhilo • Nachshon Minyan • Shomrei Torah Synagogue • Stephen S. Wise Temple • Temple Ahavat
 Shalom • Temple Aliyah • Temple Beth Am • Temple Beth Hillel • Temple Emanuel of Beverly Hills
 • Temple Isaiah • Temple Judea • Temple Kol Tikvah • University Synagogue • Valley Beth Shalom



Los Angeles Collaborative Series: Tal Becker on Dec. 11

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| Allie Abemayor
Emilie Badener
Julie Bank
Asher Bank
Reuben Bank
Steve Bank
Herman Barnathan
John Benfield
Bob Berglass
Judy Berglass
Gail Berman-Masters
Alicia Blanc
Barbara Braunstein
Jonathan Carson
Stephanie Carson
Angel Castillo
Michael Chaskes
Mira Chaskes
Allen Chozen
Jill Chozen
Jeff Cohen
Lisa Cohen
Joy Cohen
Susan Corwin
Resa Davids
Joe Ebin
Mara Fein
Rabbi Morley Feinstein
Margarete Feinstein
Eliana Feinstein
Renata Feinstein
Margarete Feinstein
Laura Flanagan
Tanya Flanzbaum
Cantor Jay Fraulich
Gia Friedberg
Enid Friedman
Suzy Giambattista
Emily Glenn
Allan Golad
Bennett Golad
Bonnie Goldman
Hannah Goldsobel
Lucas Goldsobel
Ira Gottfried
Steve Greenberg
Berta Greenberg
Sheila Greenberg
Stanley Greenberg
Jennifer Haarmann | Cole Heine
Abbi Hertz
Rabbinic Intern Lenette Herzog
Bob Israel
Gail Israel
Zach Jacobs
Ivan Kallick
Deborah Kallick
Donald Kaplan
Chloe Kaufman
Effie Katz
Shuli Katz
Arnold Kopelson
Anne Kopelson
David Krauss
Ezra Krieger
Carrie Larson
Brian Lazarus
Cindy Lederer
Jerry Lederer
Maggie Lena
Barbara Levin
Harlan Levine
Tracy Levine
Zane Levine
Hannah Levine
Alana Levitt
Lisabeth Lobenthal
Diane Mandell
Bill Masters
Josie McGibbon
Martha Melvoin
Jeff Melvoin
Mona Miller
Jeanette Mills
Ruth Mills
Rick Mills
Steve Mindel
Neil Morganbesser
Julie Munjack
Roslyn Natker
Kevin Nikkhoo
Terry Nikkhoo
Lucas Goldsobel
Damon Pizzuto
Deborah Price
Daphne Radfar
Sam Radfar
Anne Richards
Susan Rosenstein | Bill Sanders
Bonnie Sanders
Gary Schoenfeld
Allen Schultz
Allison Schwartz
Matt Schwartz
Loren Scott
Allison Schwartz
Jessica Shamout
Karen Shanbrom
Donna Shapiro
Jake Shapiro
Karen Sillas
Barry Silverman
Jocelyn Silverman
Rabbi Joel Simonds
Joanne Sinaiko
Caren Sokol
Scott Spencer
Cantor Kerith Spencer-Shapiro
Zev Spencer-Shapiro
Dina Spevack-Weiss
Nancy Stark
Vicki Tashman
Rich Tashman
Fern Topas Salka
Bennett Tramer
Jordan Tuchin
Michael Tuchin
Meryl Tuchin
Jessica Tuchin
Ben Turkel
Lynn Wagmeister
Karlene Weg
Howard Weg
Joe Weiner
Julia Weinstein
Roz Weisman
Rachael Weiss
Susan Weiss
Marilyn Weitz
Lynne Wertheimer
Jacques Wertheimer
Josh Wieder |
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For more information and updates on what's happening at University Synagogue, "[like](#)" us on [Facebook](#)!



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