

✓ **Have you...
Returned your High Holy Days
reservation form to CSH**

CSH members ...CSH friends ... CSH guests ... CSH relatives ...

**Please let us know if you will be spending the High Holy Days at CSH.
Don't assume we know. Fill out the form and send it in.**

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**August 27<sup>th</sup>**

CSH community Dinner  
Sponsored by

**Kim, Arthur, and Elias Birnbaum**

RSVP by Tuesday August 24th

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August 21st

CSH welcomes

Ruth W. Messinger

the president of American Jewish World Service (**AJWS**), a faith-based international human rights organization that works to alleviate poverty, hunger and disease in the developing world will join with CSH on Shabbat morning when she will talk about

Fighting Hunger in a World of Plenty

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**August 22<sup>nd</sup>**

General Membership Meeting

10:00am at 258 Redwood Road

Our traditional French Toast brunch following the meeting

Friday August 20, 2010     **Candle Lighting 7:25pm**

**Kabbalat Shabbat Service at 6:30pm**

at the home of Rabbi Jan Uhrbach  
258 Redwood Road (directions below)

**Shabbat Morning 9:30**

Old Whalers Church  
Union Street, Sag Harbor  
Kiddush sponsored by Ron and Amy Gutman

This week's Torah reading: **Ki Tetze**  
Annual (Deut. 21:10-25:19): Etz Hayim p. 1112  
Triennial (Deut. 24:14-25:19): Etz Hayim p. 1130  
Haftarah (Isaiah 54:1-10): Etz Hayim p. 1138

**Musings on Ki Tetze --** *Ki Tetze* is a diverse collection of social, ethical, legal, and ritual laws. Through these *mitzvot* it is possible to cultivate the qualities of clarity, stability, wholeness, kindness, compassion, generosity, honesty, and justice. The blessing comes through us when we integrate those qualities and begin expressing them through our every word, thought and interaction. But first we must receive the deeper meaning and power of a mitzvah, take it personally and learn to apply its principles to our real, everyday lives.

<http://www.rabbishefagold.com/KiTetze.html>



The Torah is not interested in teaching you to feel compassion, but rather how to live compassionately. Feelings are situational, subjective, personal, and contingent upon individual whims and judgments. Moreover, we don't need divine revelation to instruct us to feel what we are naturally inclined to feel. What we do need divine revelation to teach us is how to draw upon our feelings and apply them beyond our subjective selves toward a higher calling, in response to a higher will. That is the mixed message of our Torah. Can you act with severity when necessary without losing your compassion? Can you flog someone who has been sentenced to be flogged, without losing sight of his dignity? (Devarim 25:3). Can you execute a murderer and act compassionately toward his corpse (Devarim 21:23)? Can you stigmatize compassionately? The ancient rabbis modeled this when they taught that the order of calling people up to the Torah during worship, is: "Ko'hain, Levite, Israelite. But if the choice is an ignorant Ko'hain or a learned *mamzer*, the learned *mamzer* takes precedence!" (Talmud Bavli, Ho'ra'yot 13a). Can you hold both, the disqualification and the virtue? Can you act with severity while maintaining your compassion? And vice-versa? Can you love your child and say No? As the 2nd-century Rabbi El'azar warned: "One who acts compassionately in a situation requiring severity will in the end act with severity in a situation deserving of compassion" (Midrash Tanchuma, Metso'ra, Ch. 1).

<http://www.limmud.org/publications/tasteoflimmud/5768/Ki%20Teitze/>



May we be blessed with the ability to tap into the powers of the month of Elul, recognize and reveal our ability to both learn and teach, and through that, come face to face within ourselves, with our loved ones, and with our Creator, as we are taught through the Jewish heart

[http://www.chabad.org/theJewishWoman/article\\_cdo/aid/424441/jewish/The-Jewish-Heart.htm](http://www.chabad.org/theJewishWoman/article_cdo/aid/424441/jewish/The-Jewish-Heart.htm)



## Musings on The Shofar --

**A story.** It takes place during the time of the Inquisition, and it's called The Shofar of Don Fernando Aguilar. Each year at the Jewish New Year, many *Conversos* (Spanish Jews who officially converted to Christianity but many of whom secretly held on to Jewish practices) yearned to hear the sound of the *Shofar*. Throughout the centuries, the Shofar had come to be the quintessential symbol of Judaism and the Jewish people, so this yearning was not surprising. Such was the case for Don Fernando Aguilar, a conductor of the Royal Orchestra in Barcelona. But how could one sound the Shofar without provoking the ire of the Inquisition? Don Fernando devised a risky plan: Before *Rosh HaShanah*, he announced a public concert that would present the instrumental music of diverse cultures, to be held on a certain day (*Rosh HaShanah* happened to fall on that day). The concert featured various compositions, among them the Shofar was "played", complete with *teki'ah*, *shvarim-teru'ah*, *teru'ah*, and *teki'ah gdolah*. The clergy and the inquisition authorities, who were sitting in the audience, didn't suspect a thing. But many conversos got to hear the Shofar thanks to Don Fernando's subterfuge.

[http://www.lindahirschhorn.com/writings/the\\_shofar\\_calls.html](http://www.lindahirschhorn.com/writings/the_shofar_calls.html)



## Of Concern

The Old Whaler's Church, like many older historical buildings, is in need of financial assistance.

On Saturday, August 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm there is a fundraising dinner to help shore up the hemorrhaging finances of the Whaler's church at 590 Sagg Main Street, Sagaponack (two houses south of the general store)

The suggested minimum donation is \$1000 per person. But please know, any contribution is important, no matter how small.

Checks are to be made out to "Whaler's Church Community House Fund"

These donations are tax-deductible as they are given to the Whaler's Church and the distinction of how they spend it (community activities only) is not pertinent to the IRS.

Please contact Josh Lehrer at [www.joshlehrer.com](http://www.joshlehrer.com) or 212-877-1256 office 917-602-5520 mobile if you wish to attend the dinner or to find out where to send donations.



## Yom Huledet Sameach -- Jeffrey Schwarz and Ed Gotbetter

### Quote of the Week

I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community and as long as I live it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can. *George Bernard Shaw*

**Shabbat shalom.**

Stacy

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