

When in the Course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness...

Bereshit – The Class
A close text study with Rabbi Jan Uhrbach
Thursday evenings – 6:00pm
July and August

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**CSH Community Shabbat Dinner**  
**Friday, July 9**  
**Sponsored by**  
**Bonny Oglensky and Ira Schwarz**

**following Kabbalat Shabbat Service at 6:30pm**  
**at the home of Rabbi Jan Uhrbach**  
**258 Redwood Road (directions below)**

Jim Cardone, former pastor at The Old Whaler's Church, and his family will join us for Shabbat dinner to talk about Jim's recent 3 month trip to Israel.

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Seudah Shlishit (Shalosh Seudos),
Havdalah and
Sing-A-Long with Marcos
(Askenazi that is)
Shabbat evening July 10th ... 7:00 pm

An evening of pure fun...
258 Redwood Rd., Sag Harbor

Friday July 2, 2010 **Candle Lighting 8:08pm**
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 following Services

This week's Torah reading: Pinchas

Annual (Num. 25:10-30:1): Etz Hayim p. 918
Triennial (Num. 28:16-30:1): Etz Hayim p. 931
Haftarah (1 Kings 18:46-19:21): Etz Hayim p. 968

Musings on Pinchas ...

Was Pinchas a good role model? It appears so in that his violent killing of Zimri, the leader of the tribe of Shimon, and Kozbi, a Midianite woman, stopped both the nation's immoral behaviour and the consequential plague. God clearly rewarded Pinchas and said 'behold I give unto him my covenant of shalom (peace).' (Numbers 25:12)

However, if you look closely at a Sefer Torah you will find that, uniquely in the Torah, the 'vav' in the word 'shalom' has a break in the vertical line signifying that true peace cannot be brought about through violence and that the two concepts are incompatible.

<http://www.limmud.org/publications/tasteoflimmud/5766/Pinchas/>

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A number of commentators point out that Pinchas is the opposite of his grandfather Aaron in terms of personality. Aaron, heralded as ish shalom, "a man of peace," avoided confrontation to such an extent that he helped create the Golden Calf rather than fight with his fellow Israelites. Now, with another episode of idolatry, Pinchas is taking up the cry of "never again." What is most troubling about Pinchas is that his violent impulse may actually be learned behaviour. Scroll back through the Torah and you will see that he is only doing what the Levites did after the incident of the Golden Calf:

*Moses saw that the people were out of control — since Aaron had let them get out of control — so that they were a menace to any who might oppose them. Moses stood up in the gate of the camp and said, "Whoever is for the Lord, come here!" And all the Levites rallied to him. He said to them, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Each of you put sword on thigh, go back and forth from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay brother, neighbor, and kin." The Levites did as Moses had bidden; and some three thousand of the people fell that day. And Moses said, "Dedicate yourselves to the Lord this day — for each of you has been against son and brother — that He may bestow a blessing upon you today."*  
Exodus 32:25-29

Notice the last part: Moses said the priests would receive a blessing. Similarly, in our parasha Pinchas is rewarded. Here we have a priest with blood on his hands. Priests could not serve if they had a physical deformity (*Leviticus 21:17-21*), yet such a blatant character flaw is permissible? The very words of the Torah text are written in such a way that illustrates how violence, even necessary violence, diminishes the individual. In verse 11, the letter yod in Pinchas' name is written smaller than the other letters. The term brit shalom (covenant of peace) in verse 12 has a unique characteristic. In the word shalom there is a break in the vertical line that forms the letter vav.

When we commit violence, even if justifiable, the yod in us (standing for the name of God and for y'hudi, "Jew") is diminished thereby. In verse 12, the letter vav in shalom in the Torah scroll is written with a break in its stem. This is interpreted homiletically to suggest that the sort of peace one achieves by destroying one's opponent will inevitably be a flawed, incomplete peace.  
*Etz Hayim Commentary* p. 918

[http://blog.kolel.org/2009\\_07\\_01\\_archive.html](http://blog.kolel.org/2009_07_01_archive.html)

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### **On the Calendar**

#### **August 13th -14th**

Zvi Gitelman returns to CSH. Maybe he'll talk about the "Litvak-Galitsianer Wars" and/ or "the history of the Jews in Russia."

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### **Condolences to**

Josh Jablons and Cynthia Green, on the passing of Josh's beloved mother Beverly Jablons  
Wendy Schwarz, on the passing of her beloved father.

### **Quote of the Week**

There is a wonderful mythical law of nature that the three things we crave most in life - happiness, freedom and peace of mind - are always attained by giving them to someone else.

Peyton Conway March

**Shabbat shalom.**

**Wishing you a happy and safe Independence Day.**

Stacy

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Directions to  
Home of Rabbi Jan Uhrbach  
258 Redwood Road

*From East Hampton and points east (via Route 114)*

Take Route 114 north to Sag Harbor. Turn left on Union Street (there is a restaurant on the near left corner called Cilantro's). Turn left onto Main Street. Turn right onto Glover Street (directly

across the street from the Cove Delicatessen). Pass Long Island Avenue on your right, and turn left at the next stop sign onto Redwood Road. Pass the marina on your right, and take the first left onto Cove Road. As the road swings to the right, number 258 will be the second house on the left, the tan house with the red door.

*From Sagaponack or Wainscott (via Sagg-Main)*

Take either Sag Harbor Tpke or Sagg-Main Street into Sag Harbor. Turn left on Union Street. Take the first left onto Main Street. Turn right onto Glover Street (directly across the street from the Cove Delicatessen). Pass Long Island Avenue on your right, and turn left at the next stop sign onto Redwood Road. Pass the marina on your right, and take the first left onto Cove Road. As the road swings to the right, number 258 will be the second house on the left, the tan house with the red door.

*From Bridghampton (via Bridge-Sagg Pike)*

Take the Sag Harbor Tpke into Sag Harbor. Turn left onto Glover Street (just past Canio's Bookstore and directly across the street from the Cove Delicatessen). Pass Long Island Avenue on your right, and turn left at the next stop sign onto Redwood Road. Pass the marina on your right, and take the first left onto Cove Road. As the road swings to the right, number 258 will be the second house on the left, the tan house with the red door.

*From Watermill (via Scuttle Hole Road)*

From 27, turn left onto Scuttle Hole Road. Stay on Scuttle Hole Road until the end, then turn left onto the Sag Harbor Turnpike. Take the Sag Harbor Turnpike all the way into Sag Harbor, and turn left onto Glover Street (just past Canio's Bookstore and directly across the street from the Cove Delicatessen). Pass Long Island Avenue on your right, and turn left at the next stop sign onto Redwood Road. Pass the marina on your right, and take the first left onto Cove Road. As the road swings to the right, number 258 will be the second house on the left, the tan house with the red door.

*From Southampton, West Hampton, and points west*

Take 27 (Montauk Hwy) east. Turn left at the large green sign pointing toward Sag Harbor (just past East End Clambakes). This will be Sandy Hollow Road. Turn left at the first light onto North Sea Road. Take North Sea Road to Noyack Road – turn right onto Noyack Road, following the signs to Sag Harbor. Turn left onto Long Beach Hwy. Turn right onto South Ferry Road at the traffic circle (sign will say Route 114 South). Cross the bridge into Sag Harbor. Turn right onto Main Street (opposite the windmill and the wharf). Go straight along Main Street past the stores. Toward the end of the stores there is a fork in the road (at the monument and Allen Schneider realty); bear right to stay on Main Street. Turn right onto Glover Street (directly across the street from the Cove Delicatessen). Pass Long Island Avenue on your right, and turn left at the next stop sign onto Redwood Road. Pass the marina on your right, and take the first left onto Cove Road. As the road swings to the right, number 258 will be the second house on the left, the tan house with the red door.

*From Southampton, West Hampton, and points west - Alternate*

Take 27 (Montauk Hwy) east. Turn left at the large green sign pointing toward Sag Harbor (just past East End Clambakes). This will be Sandy Hollow Road. Turn left at the first light onto North Sea Road. Take North Sea Road for a very short distance, and make a right onto North Sea Mecox Road. Take that to the end, then turn left on Seven Ponds Road. At the end of Seven Ponds there is a stop sign, and fork in the road. Take the middle path (always a good idea anyway), onto Lower Seven Ponds Road. Make a left at the end of the road onto Head of the Pond Road, and bear right at the next fork, staying on Head of the Pond. Stay on Head of the Pond Road until the end (it will curve and turn a fair amount, then take a left turn on Scuttle Hole Road. Stay on Scuttle Hole Road until the end, and turn left onto the Sag Harbor Turnpike. Take the Sag Harbor Turnpike all the way into Sag Harbor, and turn left onto Glover Street (just past Canio's Bookstore and directly across the street from the Cove Delicatessen). Pass Long Island Avenue on your right, and turn left at the next stop sign onto Redwood Road. Pass the marina on

your right, and take the first left onto Cove Road. As the road swings to the right, number 258 will be the second house on the left, the tan house with the red door.

*PARKING*

You may park in the driveway, or on the street, but please be particularly careful of the neighbors' driveways. There is also a small public parking area on the right side of Redwood Road, just past the marina and directly opposite the left turn onto Cove Road. It is then a very short walk to the house.