

The First Hebrew Congregation



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Spring's arrival could not come soon enough. It has been a long and tough winter but we have been busy making plans for the upcoming year. Work will soon start remodeling the bathrooms with a fresh look that maintains the Shul's early 20th century style. Also, removal of the old boiler, radiators and associated plumbing and the installation of new HVAC system are in progress. This will create some mess in the social hall: however, we have negotiated a deal that will result in the renovation of our social hall. Details of this contract will be announced in a later issue of

the Bulletin. When complete, the Shul will be in sound condition, inside and out, for the next generation of Jewish families in the South Haven area, and the historic families who still call South Haven their home.

We now have 54 paid members and that figure should grow with the arrival of our summer residents. The \$300.00 membership includes involvement in all functions and seats at the High Holiday Services, led by our new Rabbi, Alan Cohen. Our congregation is small but mighty!

Lawn Boys will be doing all the plantings and much yard work for the upcoming season. Thanks also to Shelley Sommerfeld and Karen Tolen for 'fine tuning' our garden. What a wonderful job they all did last year. It was a pleasure walking up to the Shul and seeing the lovely reading garden and benches coupled with a pristine lawn.

Purim Party

The Purim party was great! Lou Price read the Megilla and we had plenty of grogger noise from the spirited crowd. Thanks are offered to Chabad of Grand Rapids for the lovely gifts and a lecture on the meaning of Purim. Steve and Barry made wonderful hamantashen and cheese blintzes.

Restoration

FHC board voted to front up to \$50,000 from reserves for the HVAC and the first floor renovations, in anticipation of gifts that will defray these costs. Also, at the last Board meeting, the Board voted to work with the South Haven Center for the Arts on a display of Chagall lithographs during the summer of 2015.

Passover

Passover begins the evening of April 14 and ends about sundown, April 22. We wish all a happy Passover. Because many members are out of town or have other commitments during this period, our annual seder event is being cancelled. We will work to find a date for next year that will include most everyone.

Saturday Morning Services

The Orthodox Shabbat services and following Kiddush will start on Saturday, June 28 at 10 am. We miss the Steinfelds, who are our summer Saturday Shabbat host and hostess. Let's encourage them to retire and move to South Haven full time! Winter is a long time to be apart.

Thank You

Thank you to Mike Slotnick for bringing kitchen supplies and to Joyce Berman for bringing matzos.

We Care

Our condolences go to the Ehrlich family on the passing of Deb's father Al Komar. May he rest in peace. Get well to Shelly Warshawsky who is recovering in Florida. Hy and Shelly, our prayers for a speedy recovery are with you.

Kim Lynch, our thoughts are with you, and we hope for a full recovery.

Barb Adler, we hope your summer return to South Haven will find you in good health.