

שְׁעָרֵי שְׁלוֹם ק"ק

CENTERPOST

South Baldwin Jewish Center—Shaarei Shalom

April
2025

ניסן-אייר 5785
תשפ"ה

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Passover 2025

First Seder April 12th











April 2025 Nissan—Iyar 5785

Candle lighting times come from the Chabad website and are calculated for Baldwin
Check with office to confirm mid-week events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
6 8 Nissan	7 9 Nissan Nat's Group 2 pm Board Meeting	8 10 Nissan Mahjong 6 pm	9 11 Nissan Folk Dancing 10:30 am Canasta 1 pm	10 12 Nissan Rabbi's Class 7:30 pm Library and Zoom	11 13 Nissan Shabbat Services 8:00 pm Candle lighting 7:12 pm	12 14 Nissan Services 9:30 at Parshat Tzav Shabbat HaGadol Erev Pesach 1st Seder Candle lighting 8:13 pm
13 15 Nissan Day 1 Pesach 2nd Seder Candle lighting 8:14 pm Count Omer 1	14 16 Nissan Day 2 Pesach Holiday ends 8:15 pm Count Omer 2	15 17 Nissan Chol Hamoed Pesach Mahjong 6 pm Count Omer 3	16 18 Nissan Chol Hamoed Pesach Folk Dancing 10:30 am Canasta 1 pm Count Omer ,	17 19 Nissan Chol Hamoed Pesach Rabbi's Class 7:30 pm Library and Zoom Count Omer 5	18 20 Nissan Chol Hamoed Pesach Shabbat Services 8:00 pm Candle lighting 7:19 pm Count Omer 6	19 21 Nissan 7th day Pesach Services 9:30 am Candle Lighting 8:21 pm Count Omer 7
20 22 Nissan 8th day Pesach Services 9:30 am Yizkor Holiday ends 8:22 pm Count Omer 8	21 23 Nissan Nat's Group 2 pm Count Omer 9	22 24 Nissan Mahjong 6 pm Count Omer 10	23 25 Nissan Folk dancing 10:30 am Canasta 1 pm Yom Hashoah begins tonight Count Omer 11	24 26 Nissan Yom Hashoah Count Omer 12	25 27 Nissan Shabbat Services 8 pm Candle lighting 7:27 pm Count Omer 13	26 28 Nissan Services 9:30 am Parshat Sherini Birkat Hachodesh Shabbat ends 8:30 pm Count Omer 14
27 29 Nissan Count Omer 15	28 30 Nissan Rosh Chodesh Nat's Group Count Omer 16	29 1 Iyar Rosh Chodesh Mahjong 6 pm Yom Hazikaron begins tonight Count Omer 17	30 2 Iyar Yom Hazikaron Folk Dancing 10:30 am Canasta 1 pm Count Omer 18			

May 2025 Iyar—Sivan 5785

Candle lighting times come from the Chabad website and are calculated for Baldwin
Check with office to confirm mid-week events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 5 Iyar Yom Haatzmunt Rabbi's Class 7:30 pm Library and Zoom- Count Omer 19 	2 6 Iyar Simchat Shabbat Services 8 pm Candle lighting 7:34 pm Count Omer 20 	3 7 Iyar Services 9:30 am Parshat Tazria-Metzora Shabbat ends 8:38 pm Count Omer 21
4 6 Iyar Count Omer 22	5 7 Iyar Nat's Group 2 pm Board Meeting Count Omer 23	6 8 Iyar Mahjong 6 pm Count Omer 24	7 9 Iyar Folk Dancing 10:30 am Canasta 1 pm Count Omer 25	8 10 Iyar Rabbi's Class 7:30 pm Library and Zoom Count Omer 26	9 11 Iyar Shabbat Services 8:00 pm Candle lighting 7:41 pm Count Omer 27 	10 12 Iyar Services 9:30 am Parshat Acharei Mot/ Kedoshim Shabbat ends 8:46 pm Count Omer 28
11 13 Iyar Mother's Day Count Omer 29 	12 14 Iyar Nat's Group 2 pm Pesach Sheini Count Omer 30	13 15 Iyar Mahjong 6 pm Count Omer 31	14 16 Iyar Folk Dancing 10:30 am Canasta 1 pm Count Omer 32	15 17 Iyar Lag B'Omer (Erev) Rabbi's Class 7:30 pm Library and Zoom Count Omer 33	16 18 Iyar Lag B'Omer Shabbat Services 8 pm Candle lighting 7:49 pm Count Omer 34  	17 19 Iyar Services 9:30 am Parshat Emor Shabbat ends 8:54 pm Count Omer 35
18 20 Iyar Count Omer 36	19 21 Iyar Nat's Group Count Omer 37	20 22 Iyar Mahjong 6 pm Count Omer 38	21 23 Iyar Folk Dancing 10:30 am Canasta 1 pm Count Omer 39	22 24 Iyar Rabbi's Class 7:30 pm Library and Zoom Count Omer 40	23 25 Iyar Shabbat Services 8 pm Candle lighting 7:54 pm Count Omer 41 	24 26 Iyar Services 9:30 am Parshat Behar/ Bechukotai Shabbat ends 9:01 pm Count Omer 42
25 27 Iyar Count Omer 43	26 28 Iyar Yom Yerushalayim Memorial Day Count Omer 44  	27 29 Iyar Mahjong 6 pm Count Omer 45	28 1 Sivan Rosh Chodesh Folk Dancing 10:30 am Canasta 1 pm Count Omer 46	29 2 Sivan Rabbi's Class 7:30 pm Library and Zoom Count Omer 47	30 3 Sivan Shabbat Services 8 pm Candle lighting 8 pm Count Omer 48 	31 4 Sivan Services 9:30 am Parshat Bamidbar Shabbat ends 9:08 pm Count Omer 19

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

Rabbi Jacob Rosner



Mitzvah of the Month

Technically, the hametz forbidden on Passover is any food made with one of five grains: wheat, barley, oats, rye or spelt. Ironically, the Matzah required to fulfill the mitzvah must be made from one of those very grains. The difference being this: if the flour was allowed to ferment (in rabbinic language sour) it is hametz and forbidden, if not, it is matzah and a mitzvah.

Strange, the very same food can have either a positive or negative status.

It is often alleged that religion has brought much harm into the world. Religious wars, terrorism, bigotry and fanaticism are but a few of the evils charged against religion. The reality is that many powerful forces for good can be turned into evil when misused (allowed to sour). Science can bring us healing of once deadly diseases or can bring us Nagasaki or Hiroshima. We can fly to the moon or we can build weapons of mass destruction. I have never heard anyone say they do not believe in medicine because they heard of a doctor who abused his patients; nor have I heard of anyone who disavowed all science because of the evil science sometimes produces. But I have heard people argue that religion is harmful.

All powerful forces can be misused. But religious faith has brought hope into the souls of millions. True religion, used properly, has taught millions to love their neighbors, to act with charity and compassion, and to deal justly with one another. As we rid our lives of hametz, let us also rid ourselves of those aspects of our faith that sometimes lead us to arrogance and bigotry and may we learn that truly understanding G-d's will is to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Continued

A Few Thoughts About Our Seders...

Choose Your Haggadah Carefully

Most of us spend lavishly when we make our Seder. The food is plentiful, the wine flows freely, the table is set beautifully. Yet, when we open the Haggadah that tells the Passover story, more than likely, we have before us a worn, tattered, wine-stained book that cost a quarter when it was purchased in the 1950s and has pages missing. Here is a hint – Maxwell House makes a heavenly coffee and Manischewitz makes an okay gefilte fish (Real gefilte fish is never bought.) but neither of them are expert Haggadah makers. It would be wise to make a one-time investment in a suitable Haggadah that offers explanations, beautiful art, and a good translation. Each of the major Jewish Movements has created a wonderful Haggadah.

Prepare the Seder

We spend so much time preparing the menu and guest list. We are concerned with timing, having the correct food groups, sitting the right people next to each other, etc. How much time do we spend to make sure that the ritual of the Seder is meaningful to those participating? If your Seder consists of Zeyda sitting at the head of the table saying something like “Bzzzzzzz, Bzzzzzzz, Bzzzzzzz, mumble, mumble, mumble,” while Uncle Morris keeps interrupting to ask, “Can we eat already?” and Scott chases Melanie under the table, then you are all missing the point. If you are not going to say the entire Haggadah, take the time beforehand to decide what is important and what can be skipped. Ask any guest you may invite to come prepared with an explanation or a song that they remember from their Seders. It will make your guests feel at home and it will enhance your Seder as well.

Invite Guests

In the beginning of the Seder, we proclaim, “Let all who are hungry come, and all who are needy come and celebrate Passover with us.” Can you imagine the pain in the heart of the senior citizen who contemplates the holy day without a spouse with whom so many Passovers were shared? No Jew should be alone on Passover. We are commanded to invite all who are hungry. That commandment

includes Gay or Lesbian Jews who may feel alienated from the community. It includes university students who are far away from home. It is a great mitzvah to invite those who would otherwise be alone.

Explain the Rituals

The Haggadah means “the telling” because it serves as a spiritual tool to fulfill the four-time repeated biblical commandment to tell the exodus story to our children. It is important to relate the story of the suffering of our people throughout the ages to the suffering of others today. Perhaps we can use the Seder as a starting point for a discussion of the plight of Ukraine in our country or the struggle for freedom for all of the Middle East. Or perhaps we can dedicate this special meal to all the Israeli hostages who are unable whether they are being held or have passed and can't have and don't have the ability to celebrate Passover.

Sing a Lot

Make the Seder a joyous occasion. Be sure that every child present, who is capable, gets to recite the four questions the accompanying nahas of the parents. Each child should be rewarded for finding the afikomen, not just the actual finder. In traditional circles it is during Pesach not during Chanukah when major gifts are given.

Wishing you joyful and meaningful Seders.



FROGS

By Jacob Rosner



When I was a Rabbi of a younger congregation, I wrote children's stories (for the child in each of us). Here is one you can tell at your seder.

I never understood the plague of frogs! I mean, what's the big deal?

This is how it was explained to me. There were exactly seventeen gazillion, seven trillion, fourteen billion, and three frogs all over Egypt. People would wake up in the morning and turn on their faucets and out would come frogs. Instead of corn flakes, when you poured out your cereal box... frogs. You put on your shoes in the morning and either you would hear a squishy sound or a loud "RIBBIT. Hey, I'm here!"

Let me tell you why I didn't understand the plague of frogs.

When I was a boy each summer we would go to the "country." Now for some of you the "country" means America or Israel or Transylvania. But for us the "country" meant something very different. We would pack up some of our stuff and leave our big apartment in the city to live in a smaller place with less stuff. That was called a vacation.

In the "country" there were no tall buildings and no honking cars and you didn't have to drive a long way to visit the tree that grows in Brooklyn. In the "country" there were lots of FROGS! There were BIG GREEN frogs that would lumber along and there were tiny brown ones that jumped really high. There were yellow ones and spotted ones. And we would go out and collect them and put them in jars and feed them grass. The next morning, they would be gone because our moms would release them, but we would catch them all over again!

I am convinced that the “country” was a summer thing, and after the summer God would fold the “country” up and put it in a box and put the box in the freezer to keep it fresh for the next summer.

When we got home...no more frogs... we could only WISH for a plague of frogs.

And also, there was Kermit!!



There is another version of the plague of frogs. There is a midrash that IT wasn't seventeen gazillion frogs, it was ONE BIG FROG!

In my version of the midrash, that one big gigantic humongous frog had a special gift from G-d. He had a magic RIBBIT. When a Hebrew slave was put in jail because he didn't like being a slave, Freilech, the frog would just go to the jail house and say “RIBBIT” and the walls would come tumbling down. When the bad master would make the Hebrews build palaces, Freilech, the frog would wait until it was empty and say “RIBBIT” and not only would the walls fall down but the bricks would fly away fourteen and one-half miles so they couldn't be forced to start over again.

I can understand why THAT was a plague!

Eight plagues later the Hebrews were freed, but they forgot about Freilach the frog and how he helped them.

Now, even then, not everybody kept the kosher laws. And Freilech the frog was afraid to come too close to the Israelites. He was afraid that when they were complaining about the lack of food and water that Dathan (aka Edward G Robinson, from the movie The Ten Commandments) would point to the giant Freilach and say, “Hey look here's plenty of food, just one fog leg could feed our entire people for at least 40 years!” And Freilech needed both his legs to continue to secretly follow the Hebrews he loved.

Forty years later they arrived in the promised land and faced the walls of Jericho. Their leader was Joshua. And God told Joshua to march around the walls of Jericho for seven days and on the seventh day to sound the ram's horn.

And they did. The people in Jericho were puzzled...instead of war hoops and ladders and battering rams they were playing music.

But, when the shofar sounded the walls started to shake. The shofar sounded again and the walls moved 1/17th of an inch. The shofar sounded again and the walls remained standing...until Freilech the Frog uttered, "RIBBIT," and the walls came crumbling down!

The End

(While the Torah tells us of the plague of many frogs, one verse (Exodus 8:2) translated literally "and the frog (singular) covered the land of Egypt." Hence the midrash of a single frog!)



Wishing you a Happy Pesach!



Co-Presidents Message

We are going to keep this short and sweet. Thank you to all that help keep SBJC viable and thanks to all of you that donate in honor or in memory or congratulations. Thanks to the many congregants that have sponsored kidush, especially Eleanor Epstein in memory of our beloved Irving. Thank you to Sisterhood for all you do and to Men's Club. Looking Forward to seeing many of you in shul for the upcoming Passover services. Please make an effort to attend and please look thru this Centerpost for all the important information it contains. A last thank you to Betty Artz for all the hard work putting this Centerpost together.

Chag Pesach Sameach,

Evelyn & Jeff





Notes From Sisterhood

Betty Arzt, Carol Burkner

As we navigate through our Haggadot during our Pesach Seder, we reflect on the journey that our ancestors took so many years ago. It was not an easy voyage, yet an aura of hope inspired the people.

We also tend to think about our own journeys. How did we get to the place where we are today? Who has touched our lives? Who has influenced us? How will we handle those "bridges" we have yet to travel?

Every day promises to be a journey. How will we journey through our day? There are some things that "happen." Yet our "self directing" selves motivate us. When we awake each morning, we have the opportunity to learn and to grow. Each day provides us with possibilities to be kind and thoughtful. Each day there are moments when we can inspire someone or make someone smile. How can we make a positive difference?

We heard the phrase "empathetic humility." What does that suggest to you? Are we allowing the people with whom we are engaging to feel valued? Do we welcome people? Do we listen to people? Are we recognizing the needs of others?

Those who came before us left seeds for us to till. It's up to us to cultivate those seeds and work to make our journeys meaningful. It's up to us, indeed our responsibility, to germinate those seeds for the next generation.

Reflections:

Thank you to our congregants who supported our effort to provide Purim shalach manot bags for all the congregants in our shul. Additionally, we were able to provide treats for Hatzilu families. This would not be possible without the generosity of our congregants. Sincere gratitude to Carol Burkner, Rachel Rudich, and Susan Lifshitz for doing the shopping for the "goodies" for the bags and for "filling" the bags. We appreciate their diligence and commitment to fulfill this mitzvah.

Do you know that we send **Leagrams** to members who experience joyous and sad occasions? A Leagram is a "special" note that is mailed out at those times. Do you know that Gloria Okin is the person who writes them? Gloria seems to know the "right thing" to say for each event. Thank you, Gloria, for your dedication and thoughtfulness. These messages are appreciated by the recipients.

Looking Ahead:

Don't miss the **Pesach Program on Shabbat April 5**, after the service. This is a wonderful opportunity to learn and be inspired. We title our program: **It's Not Your Grandpa's Seder, or Is It**. We are happy to provide a lovely kiddish/lunch. We ask that you call the office to confirm your attendance.

On Sunday morning, May 4, we will enjoy a **Torah Fund Study Day**. Breakfast will be provided. Please save the date and watch for details.

The next Rosh Hodesh Study Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 27.

The **Book Club** has selected the next book to review. We will be reviewing **The Matchmaker's Gift by Lynda Cohen Loigman**. We will be meeting on May 6, via **Zoom**. The Zoom link will be provided prior to the meeting. As always, we thank Cindy Gunther for her preparation and for facilitating the meeting.

Join us for **Canasta on Wednesday afternoons at 1:00** and for **Mah Jongg on Tuesday evenings at 6:30** in the synagogue. New attendees are welcome.

Torah Fund Cards are available for all occasions. Thank you to Rowena Weinstein for her dedication to Torah Fund.

Remember to visit the gift shop for your personal and gift giving needs. We thank our gift shop managers Carol Burkner, Susan Lifshitz, and Rachel Rudich.

Wishing you and yours a sweet and joyous Pesach!

As we celebrate Pesach this year,
we'll reflect on the strength of our ancestors,
be thankful for what we have today,
and look forward to joyous tomorrows.



Love the stranger,
for you were once strangers in the land
of Egypt.

Deuteronomy 10:19

MEN'S CLUB PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Arnie Gewirtz



Dear Congregants:

My message for April is transformational...are you interested in maximizing your genius and activating high success in these messy times? Do you want dramatic results and love every second while being engaged in thought provoking programs? My suggestion works like magic and will give you successful results quite quickly!

So where am I headed with this "marketing ploy?" Join your fellow SBJC Congregants with our Rabbi Jacob as your mentor on a Thursday evening Adult-Ed session. You'll find out how to make your goals and dreams come true. If you could complete the sentence "this time next year I want to be...". You can make 2025 a great year of your life.

Rabbi Jacob wears many hats and has numerous roles to play in our South Baldwin community. He is not just a teacher of Torah, but instills extensive education and plays a pivotal role in our religious life. Just come and listen to his talks and witness his ability to direct, inspire and galvanize milestones in our lives...Seeya in the Shul House

Be well.

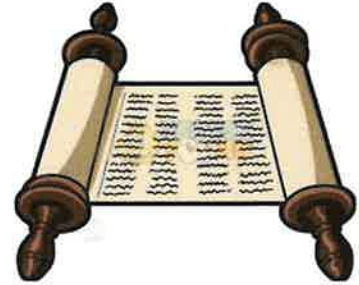
You are invited to sponsor a kiddush or an oneg on Shabbat

If you would like to acknowledge a special occasion or observe a yahrzeit, you may want to consider sponsoring a kiddush on Saturday or an oneg on Friday evening.

Sincere "thank you" to our congregants who have sponsored a kiddush. We invite a few families to join together to help defray the cost.



Shalom From The Ritual Committee.



A few thoughts: the world seems to be in turmoil; our beloved Israel continues to be at war; hostages remain in captivity; antisemitism is pushing through the door; conflicts between countries persist; our democracy is suffering...each of us could surely create our own list of issues.

Yet, we must recognize joy and blessing in our lives. Each of us, in our own way, will find our way to make the world a better place.

Here we are. In our SBJC cocoon. We are a community. Our synagogue is a place where people feel safe and comfortable. As a body, we share common interests and goals. We find ways to bring people together and allow people to feel secure.

A few weeks ago, in contrast to the tragedies happening in the world, we celebrated Purim. People joined together to observe and enjoy the holiday. Gathering to listen to the Magillah and to participate in a silly Purim rhyme was inspiring. Seeing smiles on faces and hearing some giggles was uplifting.

A group of us prepared Shalach Manot bags for the congregation and for Hatzilu clients. This was done with pleasure and dedication. Members contributed so that we could provide these bags. Here, again, congregants recognized the importance of community, the importance of working together, and sharing thoughts. It was satisfying to witness the gratitude on faces when these bags were distributed.

This is what community is about: making plans together, listening to each other, respecting the thoughts of other people, engaging in unity of purpose, and foreseeing an objective.

Our synagogue is an “oasis in the desert.” We feel very much at home here. What each of us does, matters. Each of us can make a difference.

Pesach Services Schedule



Saturday, 4/12...Shabbat morning service begins at 9:30am. Enjoy first seder at home with family and friends.

Sunday, 4/13...Pesach morning service begins at 9:30am. Evening service and Community Seder at the synagogue. Reservations are required for the seder.

Monday, 4/14...Pesach morning service begins at 9:30am.

Friday, 4/18....Shabbat/Pesach evening service begins at 8:00pm.

Saturday, 4/19...Shabbat/Pesach morning service begins at 9:30am.

Sunday, 4/20... Pesach morning service begins at 9:30am.

(There is no evening service scheduled for Saturday evening, 4/19)

Please watch for possible changes.

“The Yoms”

Yom HaShoah/Holocaust Remembrance day: Thursday, April 24. A program is planned for that evening. Please watch for detailed information.

Yom HaZikaron/Israel’s Memorial Day: Wednesday, April 30.

Yom Ha’Atzmaut/Israeli Independence Day: Thursday, May 1. Israeli food at kiddish on Shabbat.

Yom Yerushalayim: May 26.

Lag B’Omer: Friday, May 16.

Don’t separate yourself from the community!

WOMEN IN THE PASSOVER STORY

Adapted from NCJW

Five Jewish heroines each took significant risks to save lives during the Exodus story, and each of them played a critical role in the work for liberation. May their courage inspire us today to speak out against all forms of misogyny, tyranny, and oppression, and to work for a more just world.

Shifra and Puah were the midwives who refused Pharaoh's orders to kill any boys born to an Israelite family. When confronted by Pharaoh, they lied and claimed that they simply couldn't get there before the babies were born. These midwives risked their own lives to help save the Israelites from destruction and genocide. They practiced civil disobedience from their unique position of influence and refused to "just follow orders" when those orders were unjust. We honor their resistance.

Yocheved was the mother of Moses, Miriam, and Aaron. When Moses was born, she hid him from the Egyptians and their genocidal orders for as long as she could. When she could hide his cries no longer, she placed him in a basket to send him down the Nile, putting his fate in G-d's hands. Yocheved made the impossible choice to do whatever might be necessary to give her child a chance at life. She shows us what resistance to oppression can demand, and what it can cost. We honor her agency and her pain.

Pharaoh's daughter, known in our tradition as Batya, was bathing in the river when she noticed the basket holding the infant Moses. She understood that he was an Israelite baby whose life was in danger. She resolved to adopt him, despite the risk it might carry if her father learned of Moses' origins. Batya used her privilege and position to have the impact that she could; she teaches us to look beyond our own comfort, to take risks with the privilege we do have, and to allow our empathy and compassion to drive us towards righteous action. We honor her commitment.

Miriam, daughter of Yocheved and sister of Moses and Aaron, played many parts in the story of Exodus. One midrash (traditional legend) credits her for convincing her parents—exhausted and traumatized by slavery—to conceive Moses, a hero of the Jewish people. She was also brave enough to risk asking the daughter of Pharaoh if Yocheved could serve as a wet-nurse for the baby. Her bravery and charm thus enabled the family to stay together and earn wages. Miriam later led the women and children—the backbone of Jewish life—safely to shore across the Red Sea, dancing and singing. The Torah teaches that she was a prophet; she reminds us caring for women, children and families is a critical part of our connection to the holy. We honor her tenacity.

The five women of the Exodus story teach us that we all have the ability to act and to stand up to injustice. Women who work together accomplish more, and we must rely on and stand in solidarity with our sisters in working towards a better world. We must use our privileges to fight for justice and honor the painful choices we must sometimes make. These women's stories teach us that we all have the power to resist oppression wherever it may be.

The Talmud (Sotah 11b) teaches that “the Jewish people were redeemed from Egypt because of the merit of the righteous women of that generation.” Some people place a Miriam's Cup (Kos Miriam) on the table alongside Elijah's Cup. This additional cup, filled with water, honors Miriam, The Prophet and all the ways she is associated with this essential element: Her presence at the Nile saving her brother; her role leading women and children across the Red Sea to safety; and the well of water that, midrash (traditional legend) teaches, followed her in the desert throughout the Israelites forty years of wandering.

“This is the Cup of Miriam, the cup of living waters. Let us remember the Exodus from Egypt. These are the living waters, G-d's gift to Miriam, which gave new life to Israel as we struggled with ourselves in the wilderness. Blessed are You G-d, Who brings us from the narrows into the wilderness, sustains us with endless possibilities, and enables us to reach a new place.”

Kos Miriam prayer by Kol Ishah

Miriam's Cup

A Ritual for All

The Passover haggadah is one of the most widely dispersed and read of all Jewish texts. The story leading up to the exodus from Egypt contains one of the most female-rich narratives in the entire Bible, yet as told in the haggadah, it is totally devoid of female personalities. Neither Jocheved, nor Miriam, Shifra, Puah or Pharaoh's daughter appears.



To provide women with a place in the Passover ritual, many families place a kos Miryam, Miriam's cup, on the seder table beside the cup of Elijah. The very portable cup hearkens back to the midrashic tale of Miriam's well, a miraculous source of water for the Israelites as they wandered in the desert. As a symbol of women's presence at the exodus, the kos Miryam reflects the contemporary desire for inclusion of all Jews at the seder table.

As an evolving ritual, Miriam's cup is used in various ways. Some fill it at the beginning of the seder, others after the Ten Plagues and before Dayenu. Others use it in conjunction with Elijah's cup at the end of the seder. Some pass it around for everyone to pour water from individual cups. Whatever your custom, Miriam's cup enhances the celebration of a historic event in our people's history.

The legend of Miriam's well is told in a number of midrashic stories. The rabbis juxtaposed the story of Miriam's death in Numbers 20:1 with the account of the waters of Meribah that follows immediately after. Because the stories are consecutive, the rabbis surmise that Miriam's death resulted in the dearth of water, and they credit her with the well that provided the Israelites with their drinking water.



Pesah Guide

As members of the United Synagogue for Conservative Judaism, a Passover Guide is available to us. Please feel free to download the document.

This Rabbinical Assembly Pesah guide is a brief outline of the policies and procedures relevant to the preparation of a kosher for Pesah home. This guide is intended to help families maintain a kosher for Pesah home in accordance with the principles of Conservative Judaism and its understanding of Jewish Law.

Download the Pesah Guide

Feel free to use the following url:

www.rabbinicalassembly.org/pesah-guide



Counting the Omer

What is the counting of the Omer?

Beginning on the second night of Passover, we count 50 days until Shavuot.

“From the day after you bring the sheaf (omer) as a wave offering [the second day of Pesah], you shall keep count until seven full weeks have elapsed: you shall count fifty days, until the day after the seventh week” (Leviticus 23:15).

Passover celebrates the liberation from Egypt and Shavuot celebrates the receiving of Torah at Sinai. By counting the Omer, we symbolically mark the time between liberation to the assumption of responsibility in the acceptance of law, making a collective commitment to living an ethical, rule-governed life of divine purpose.

A few reminders...

Each Thursday evening, at 7:30, Rabbi Rosner facilitates a study session. Topics are relevant and discussion is encouraged.

Every Shabbat morning, after the kiddish, congregants and the rabbi engage in Torah Study.

Congregants are invited to participate in **Friday evening services on Zoom** if they are unable to attend in the shul.

Don't separate yourself from the community.

- 4/5/25: Mike Eisman will chant the Haftarah
- 4/12/25: Rabbi Rosner will chant the Haftarah
- 4/13/25: Nat Greenfeld will chant the Haftarah
- 4/14/25: Ellen Shriki will chant the Haftarah
- 4/19/25: Cheryl Cheron will chant the Haftarah
- 4/20/25: Cheryl Cheron will chant the Haftarah
- 4/26/25: Ellen Shriki will chant the Haftarah

Mondays at Two

A group of us meets in the SBJC Library on Mondays at 2 o'clock to share thoughts and ideas about contemporary issues. Topics tackled emerge from the interests of the attendees. Discussions are lively and interactive.

Kudos to Nat Greenfeld who initiated the concept of the program. He prepares materials to enhance the talks and facilitates the conversation.

We welcome you to join us on Mondays at Two.

Authorization To Sell Chametz

Please complete the form and return to SBJC Office before April 7, 2025.

I permit Rabbi Rosner to sell all chametz possessed by me, knowingly or unknowingly. This transaction will be in effect for the duration of Pesach.

Name _____

Address _____

Should you wish to add to the Mitzvah by helping others celebrate Pesach, you may want to make a donation to SBJC Rabbi's Discretionary Fund or to Hatzilu.



I have made my donation payable to:
SBJC Rabbi's Discretionary Fund _____
Hatzilu _____

Selling Chametz

What Is the Sale of Chametz and Why Do We Do It?

On the holiday of Passover, we are commanded to not to have any chametz in our possession. Any food that is made out of grain that has been allowed to rise (ferment) is chametz. Common chametz items include bread, cakes, breakfast cereals, pastas, many liquors and more. Any chametz that is in the possession of a Jew during Passover is forbidden to use, even after Passover ends. This applies even if the chametz is locked up and out of sight.

So what does one do if he or she is not able to consume all of the chametz that remains in cupboards and freezers?

The solution is the "Sale of Chametz," in which the food is sold to a non-Jew before Passover. After the holiday, the non-Jew sells it back and it can once again be enjoyed.

SBJC Sisterhood

Invites You to Explore Ways to Enhance Your Seder

It's Not Your Grandpa's Seder Or Is It?

Come prepared to learn and share.

Shabbat, April 5

Join us for the service, lunch, and inspiration.

Each year, as we gather around the Seder table, we follow a structure that has remained remarkably consistent for generations.

The Haggadah guides us through familiar rituals, songs, and stories, anchoring us in tradition. And yet, no two seders are ever truly the same. The world changes, we change, and each year we bring new questions, experiences, and insights that shape our engagement with the story of Yetziat Mitzrayim—the Exodus from Egypt.

As we gather around the seder table, we retell our foundational story of redemption, finding new meaning in its timeless themes. Let's search for inspiring reflections and interpretations that invite deeper intellectual and spiritual engagement. *Adapted from a statement by Dr. Shuly Schwartz*

Yes, I/we will attend on Saturday, April 5. Name _____

COME RELIVE THE ADVENTURE
 AND THOU SHALT TELL
 THY SON IN THAT DAY, SAYING:
 "IT IS BECAUSE OF THAT WHICH THE L-RD
 DID FOR ME WHEN I CAME FORTH OUT OF EGYPT"

THE SECOND NIGHT OF PASSOVER
 SOUTH BALDWIN JEWISH CENTER WILL BE
 CELEBRATING WITH OUR ANNUAL
 COMMUNITY SEDER

**SUNDAY, APRIL 13TH, 2025 @ 7:00
 PM**



The evening will combine an inspiring service led by Rabbi Jacob Rossner as well as a delicious seder meal featuring many Passover favorites. Please send in the Reservation Form with your check below to hold your place. Spend one Pesach evening this year not only with *your* family but with *your* extended SBJC family as well.

RESERVATIONS MUST BE PAID IN FULL BY Thursday, April 3rd, 2025.

	Members	Non-Members
Adults.....	\$50.00	\$58.00
Students (13-18 years).....	\$40.00	\$48.00
Children (5-12 years).....	\$30.00	\$38.00
Children under 5 years.....	\$15.00	\$15.00

**(SBJC Members: pay for 2 adults and 2 children, get additional children FREE!
 Immediate family only.)**

Passover Seder Reservation Form

Congregant Name _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Number of Guests: _____ Adults (SBJC members) @ \$48.00..... _____
 _____ Adults (non-SBJC members) @ \$58.00 _____
 _____ Students (13-18, SBJC members) @ 38.00 _____
 _____ Students (13-18, non-SBJC members) @ \$48.00 .. _____
 _____ Children (5-12, SBJC members) @ \$33.00 _____
 _____ Children (5-12, non-SBJC members) @ \$38.00 ... _____
 _____ Children (Under 5, SBJC members) @ \$18.00. _____
 _____ children (Under 5, non-SBJC members @ \$18.00. . _____

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO SBJC. ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE PAID IN FULL BY APRIL 3RD, 2025

Torah Fund Celebration

Sunday Morning, May 4, 2025

at 10:00

Join us for a lovely community breakfast



As in the past, this event promises to be an inspiring experience. We've invited guest speakers. We're asking for an \$18.00 donation in support of Torah Fund. Please make checks payable to: **Sisterhood SBJC**. Sisterhood will send one check to Torah Fund.

The Torah Fund Campaign of Women's League for Conservative Judaism is the dedicated philanthropy of Women's League, its members, and its affiliated sisterhoods in Conservative congregations across North America. Torah Fund strengthens Jewish education by supporting scholarships and programming at these Conservative/Masorti institutes of higher Jewish learning:

- Jewish Theological Seminary (New York)
- Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies (Los Angeles)
- Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies (Jerusalem)
- Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano (Buenos Aires)
- Zacharias Frankel College (Germany)

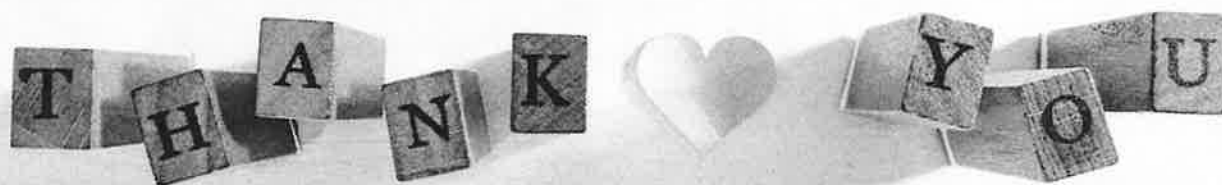
Everyone has the opportunity to participate in preserving, promoting and perpetuating Conservative/Masorti Judaism through active giving to the Torah Fund Campaign of Women's League.



DONATIONS MARCH, 2025

Arnie & Clara Gewirtz	in memory of	Rick Mandel
Arnie & Clara Gewirtz	in memory of	Tia Dora
Carol Burkner	Happy Birthday	Dona Schwab
Carol Burkner	Happy Birthday	Evelyn Estrine
Deborah Kirtzberg	in memory of	Harold Kurtzberg
Deborah Kurtzberg	in memory of	Miriam Kurtzberg
Deborah Kurtzberg	in memory of	Sherman Kurtzberg
Deborah Kurtzberg	in memory of	Dora Teitelbaum
Judith Wechsler	in memory of	George D. Wechsler
Nathan Greenfeld	in memory of	Esther Borack
Michael & Phyllis Eisman	in memory of	Esther Borack
Nathan Greenfeld	Happy Birthday	Evelyn Estrine
Nathan Greenfeld	Happy Birthday	Dona Schwab
Benjamin Leaderman	in memory of	Saul Leaderman
Benjamin Leaderman	in memory of	Bessie Leaderman
Suzanne Aronowitz	in memory of	Dr. Phillip Aronowitz
Martha Pinnola	in memory of	Stanley Immerman
Marilyn & Marc Cohen	Mazal Tov	Daniel's Marriage
The Weston Family	in memory of	Stew Kalmanowitz
Eleanor Epstein	in memory of	Irving Epstein
Mike Eisman	Mazal Tov	Daniel's Wedding
Barbara Harris	in memory of	Bertha Bialow
Barbara Harris	in memory of	Yvette Fields
Barbara Harris	in memory of	Jacqueline Duris

Gloria Hendler	in memory of	Arthur Hendler
Noryne Galantai	in memory of	Jack Galantai
Cynthia & Robert Gunther	in memory of	Scott Ostrager
Martin Sider	in memory of	Beatrice Sider
Martin Sider	in memory of	Jack Sider
Rowena Weinstein	in memory of	Stanley Weinstein
Rowena Weinstein	in memory of	Solomon Drescher
Gloria Okin	For Your Friendship	Phyllis Eisman
Galina Lamin	in memory of	Pavel Lamin
Cheryl Cheron	in memory of	Ruth Cohen
Marilyn & Marc Cohen	in honor of	Birth of Great Grandson of Harriet Skopp



APRIL & MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Jay Rosenwasser, Birthday, April 1
Clara Gewirtz, Birthday, April 4
Phyllis Eisman, Birthday, April 8
Clara & Arnie Gewirtz, Anniversary, April 11
Joan Finkelman, Birthday, April 20
Barbara Sterler, Birthday, April 22
Yevette Boikess, Birthday, April 23
Yaaov & Ellen Shriki, Anniversary, April 29



Sherry Ascher, Birthday, May 4
Joan Feldman, Birthday, May 5
Eleanor Epstein, Birthday, May 8
Corinne Lyon, Birthday, May 10
Irwin Leibowitz, Birthday, May 14
Asta Volkmann, Birthday, May 15
Cece Sherman, Birthday, May 18
Debbie Kamins, Birthday, May 18
Barry Ascher, Birthday, May 19
Carolyn Hecht, Birthday, May 27

מזל טוב

Please join us: Simcha Shabbat

On the first Friday evening service
of each month we celebrate
birthdays, anniversaries and
joyous occasions



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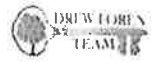
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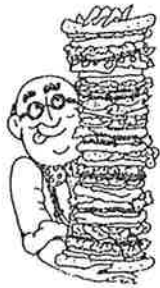
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