

ק"ק שערי שלום

CENTERPOST

South Baldwin Jewish Center—Shaarei Shalom

April
2026

ניסן-א"ת
5786
חשפ"ו

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PASSOVER 2026





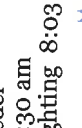


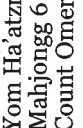
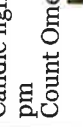

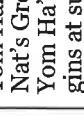




FIRST SEDER APRIL 1

*Wishing you and your loved ones a joyous
Passover filled with peace, health, and
cherished traditions.*

חג פסח שמח









April 2026 Nissan-Iyar 5786

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
5 13 Nissan Chol Hamoed Pesach Count Omer 4 	6 19 Nissan Chol Hamoed Peach Nat's Group 2 pm Board Meeting Count Omer 5 	7 20 Nissan Chol Hamoed Pesach Candle Lighting 7:09 pm Count Omer 6 	1 14 Nissan Ta'anit Bechorot Erev Pesach First Seder Candle lighting 7:03 pm 	2 15 Nissan First Day Pesach Second Seder Service 9:30 am Candle lighting 8:03 pm Count 1 Omer 	3 16 Nissan Second Day Pesach Service 9:30 am Shabbat service 8:00 Candle lighting 7:05 pm Count Omer 2 	4 17 Nissan Chol Hamoed Pesach Shabbat Service 9:30 am Shabbat ends 8:05 pm Count Omer 3 
12 25 Nissan Yom Hashoah begins at sundown Count Omer 11	13 26 Nissan Nat's Group 2 pm Yom Hashoah Count Omer 12 	14 27 Nissan Mahjongg 6 pm Count Omer 13	15 28 Nissan Canasta 1 pm Count Omer 14 	9 22 Nissan Eight day Pesach Service 9:30 am Holiday ends 8:11 pm Count Omer 8	10 23 Nissan Shabbat service 8:00 pm Candle lighting 7:12 pm Count Omer 9 	11 24 Nissan Shabbat service 9:30 am Parshat Shemini Birkat Hachodesh Shabbat ends 8:13 pm Count Omer 10
19 2 Iyar Yom Hazikaron be- gins at sundown Count Omer 18	20 3 Iyar Yom Hazikaron Nat's Group 2 pm Yom Ha'atzmaut be- gins at sundown Count Omer 19 	21 4 Iyar Yom Ha'atzmaut Mahjongg 6 pm Count Omer 20 	22 5 Iyar Canasta 1 pm Count Omer 21	16 29 Nissan Rabbi's class Library & Zoom 7:30 pm Count Omer 15	17 30 Nissan Rosh Chodesh Shabbat service 8:00 pm Candle lighting 7:19 pm Count Omer 16 	18 1 Iyar Shabbat service 9:30 am Parshat Tazria- Metzora: Shabbat ends pm Count Omer 17
26 Iyar 9 Iyar Count Omer 25	27 10 Iyar Nat's Group 2 pm Count Omer 26	28 11 Iyar Mahjongg 6 pm Count Omer 27 	29 12 Iyar Canasta 1 pm Count Omer 28	23 6 Iyar Rabbi's class Library & Zoom 7:30 pm Count Omer 22	24 7 Iyar Shabbat service 8 pm Candle lighting 7:27 pm Count Omer 23 	25 8 Iyar Shabbat service 9:30 am Parshat Acharei- Kedoshim Shabbat ends 8:30 pm Count Omer 24
30 13 Iyar Rabbi's class Library & Zoom 7:30 pm Count Omer 29						

May 2026 Iyar-Sivan 5786^c

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 Check with office to confirm mid-week events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 16 Iyar Count Omer 32	4 17 Iyar Nat's Group 2 pm Board Meeting Count Omer 33	5 18 Iyar Lag B'Omer Mahjongg 6 pm Count Omer 34 	6 19 Iyar Canasta 1 pm Count Omer 35	7 20 Iyar Rabbi's class Library & Zoom 7:30 pm Count Omer 36	1 14 Iyar Pesach Sheini Simchat Shabbat services 8 pm Candle lighting 7:34 pm Count Omer 30 	2 15 Iyar Services 9:30 am Parshat Emor Shabbat ends 8:38 pm Count Omer 31
10 23 Iyar Mother's Day Count Omer 39	11 24 Iyar Nat's Group Count Omer 40	12 25 Iyar Mahjongg 6 pm Count Omer 41	13 26 Iyar Canasta 1 pm Count Omer 42	14 27 Iyar Rabbi's Class Library & Zoom 7:30 pm Count Omer 43	8 21 Iyar Shabbat Service 8 pm Candle lighting 7:41 pm Count Omer 37 	9 22 Iyar Services 9:30 am Parshat Behar-Bechukotai Shabbat ends 8:46 pm Count Omer 38
17 1 Sivan Rosh Chodesh Count Omer 46	18 2 Sivan Nat's Group 2 pm Count Omer 47	19 3 Sivan Mahjongg 6 pm Count Omer 48	20 4 Sivan Canasta 1 pm Count Omer 49	21 5 Sivan Erev Shavuot Services 8 pm Candle lighting 7:54 pm 	15 28 Iyar Yom Yerushalayim Shabbat Service 8 pm Candle lighting 7:48 pm Count Omer 44 	16 29 Iyar Services 9:30 am Parshat Bamidbar Birkat Hachodesh Shabbat ends 8:54 pm Count Omer 45
24 8 Sivan	25 9 Sivan Memorial Day 	26 10 Sivan Mahjongg 6 pm	27 11 Sivan Canasta 1 pm	28 12 Sivan Rabbi's class Library & Zoom 7:30 pm	22 6 Sivan 1st Day Shavuot Services Candle lighting 7:55 pm 	23 7 Sivan Services 9:30 am 2nd Day Shavuot Yizkor Shabbat/Holiday ends 9:02 pm
31 15 Sivan					29 13 Sivan Shabbat service 8 pm Candle lighting 8:01 pm 	30 14 Sivan Services 9:30 am Parshat Naso Shabbat ends 9:09 pm

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

Rabbi Jacob Rosner



As we gather around our Seder tables this year, we do so with hearts that are not entirely at ease. Passover is the festival of liberation, of God's mighty hand bringing the Israelites out from oppression into freedom. It is a story of hope, justice, and redemption. And yet, it is also a story that reminds us—quietly but persistently—that even just victories come at a human cost.

This year, those tensions feel especially present as we witness the ongoing war involving Iran. Many in our community feel a deep and justified sense of support for Israel in its mission to neutralize existential threats—specifically, to dismantle Iran's capacity to develop nuclear weapons and to eliminate missile sites aimed at its population centers. The imperative to protect life, *pikuach nefesh*, is paramount in Jewish tradition. A nation under threat has not only the right, but the obligation, to defend its people.

And yet, Passover asks something more of us.

Our tradition preserves a striking teaching about the moment of triumph at the Sea of Reeds. As the Egyptians drowned, the ministering angels began to sing songs of praise. But God rebuked them: "My creatures are drowning in the sea, and you would sing before Me?" Even at the moment of deliverance, there is no unqualified joy. The suffering of the enemy tempers our celebration.

This idea is ritualized in one of the most familiar moments of the Seder. As we recite the Ten Plagues, we spill drops of wine from our cups—diminishing our joy. Each drop acknowledges that our freedom came through the suffering of others. Even when the cause is just, even when liberation is necessary, we do not celebrate destruction itself.

So too in our present moment.

Supporting Israel's efforts to remove grave and immediate threats does not require us to harden our hearts toward innocent life. Quite the opposite: our tradition demands that we hold both truths at once. We can affirm the necessity of defending against those who seek harm, while also recognizing the tragedy that innocent civilians—men, women, and children in Iran—are caught in the consequences of war.

Indeed, part of the broader context of this conflict includes the suffering of the Iranian people themselves. Reports have described mass killings of protesters, with some estimates reaching as high as 30,000 lives lost. These, too, are human beings created *b'tzelem Elohim*, in the image of God. Their suffering calls out to heaven—and to us.

Passover is not a celebration of vengeance. It is a celebration of freedom guided by moral responsibility. It teaches us that power must be tempered by compassion, and that justice must never become cruelty.

This year, as we lift our cups and tell the ancient story, let us also offer our prayers: for the safety of Israel, for the wisdom of its leaders, and for the day when threats of annihilation are no more. And at the same time, let us pray for the innocent—wherever they may be—whose lives are upended by violence, whose futures are uncertain, and whose suffering we dare not ignore.

In doing so, we remain faithful to the deepest truths of our tradition: that we are called not only to survive, but to do so with humanity intact.

May this Passover bring us closer to a world redeemed—not only from oppression, but from hatred and bloodshed as well.





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Evelyn Estrine
Jeff Barkan

Co-Presidents Message

*We are going to keep this short and sweet.
May all of our troops be safe and we look forward to peace
as soon as possible.
Wishing you and your family a happy and healthy
Passover.*

Evelyn & Jeff





Notes From Sisterhood

Betty Arzt, Carol Burkner

Footprints! We can leave footprints wherever we are.

The footprints we leave with our bare feet on wet sand or with our wet shoes after it rains are clearly visible. The footprints we leave on the sand will wash away. Those we leave with our wet shoes will dry.

There are some footprints that we leave that may last forever and have long lasting effects. Some of the footprints that we leave become memories. What we do and what we say become footprints. We can be in a place for ten minutes, ten hours, ten days or ten years. We always leave footprints on the minds of those around us.

What footprints do we want to leave? What impressions do we want to give rise to? What feelings do we want to generate? What impact do we want to make? What effect do we want to create?

We all have memories of a person saying or doing something hurtful or harmful. This could have happened days ago or years ago. We also have memories of acts of kindness. Memories don't go away. The good memories brighten our day. The harmful ones fester.

As we plan our days, let's think about the footprints we leave. Are we brightening someone's day or are we giving rise to ill feeling? What is our purpose? Are we trying to be helpful or hurtful? As we journey through our days, let's reflect about the footprints we leave. What we do and what we say matter, more than we can imagine.

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.

Thank you to all who attended our **Chocolate Seder**. This was a joyful preparation for the upcoming holiday. Appreciation to Carol, Rachel, and Susan for preparing the seder plates and lovely kiddish/lunch for the celebration.

The **Carole King Program** was enjoyed by those who attended. Thank you to Marilyn and Marc Cohen for helping to make this happen.

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:

On Sunday morning, April 12, we will enjoy a **Torah Fund Study Day**. Breakfast will be provided. We are asking for a minimum donation of \$18.00 to support Torah Fund. Please find the details elsewhere in this Centerpost. Thank you to Rowena Weinstein for her dedication to Torah Fund.

The next **Rosh Hodesh Study Meeting** is scheduled for Sunday, April 19, at 10:30.

The **Book Club** has selected the next book to review. We will be reviewing **Jackpot Summer** by Elyssa Friedland. We will be meeting on Wednesday, April 29th, at

10:30 AM. in the shul library. For those who are unable to attend, a Zoom link will be provided. 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.

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.**



In Pirkei Avot we learn:

“Receive every human being with a cheerful and pleasant countenance.”

MEN'S CLUB PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Arnie Gewirtz



Permit me to share some of my daily practices after Tefillin, some being positive, some negative.

I awake reactive, without rushing through the morning. I do not overcheck my phone, overwork or "push too hard." So that by the end of the day, I am not depleted or stressed.

I developed a No Phone First Hour Protocol, using an old fashioned notebook to enter my current events...I'm happier that way.

If you desire rhythm instead of chaos each day, try a visit with our Rabbi Jacob, right here at the SBJC. You will learn to be far more optimistic, focused, grounded and happy.

Warmest regards to my fellow Congregants.

Be well.

Arnie Gewirtz, President, SBJC Men's Club

Would you like 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 afternoon or an oneg on Friday evening.



We invite a few families to join together to help defray the cost.

Shalom From The Ritual Committee.

As we celebrate Pesah this year, we reflect on sadness and hope. We are distressed about the tragedies and destruction that are happening in our world. The state that our country is in is unsettling. Yet, we hope for good health and a peaceful world for ourselves and our children.



On our seder plate we have the maror and the haroset, the bitter and the sweet.

There are four different names for Pesah: Hag Hapesah reminds us of the miracle of the tenth plague, when G-d passed over the houses of the Israelites; Hag Hamatzot focuses on the matzoh, the bread of affliction; Hag He'aviv, the Festival of Spring; Zeman Herutenu, the Time of Our Liberation, leaves the bitter, harsh conditions behind, instead focusing on hope and salvation. It is this focus that has provided hope and inspiration not only for Jews but for oppressed peoples everywhere over the centuries.

We retell the Passover story not only to viscerally relive the experience of slavery and liberation annually, but also because we are different each year and can draw new insight and meaning each time.

May our seders be delightful and fulfilling! May Pesah be joyful!

This reflection was adapted from the writings of Dr. Shuly Rubin Schwartz.



Pesach Services Schedule



Wednesday, 4/1...Erev Pesach. Enjoy the first seder at home with family and friends.

Thursday, 4/2...Pesach morning service begins at 9:30am. Evening service and Community Seder at the synagogue. Reservations are required for the seder.

Friday, 4/3...Pesach morning service at 9:30. Friday evening service at 8:00pm

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

Wednesday, 4/8,...Pesach morning service begins at 9:30am.

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

Please watch for possible changes.

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 Pesach], 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.

In case you missed it...

In case you missed it... on Monday evening, March 2, erev Purim, we gathered to celebrate the holiday.

We enjoyed a Chinese buffet supper. Thank you to Evelyn Estrine and Mike Eisman who arranged the dinner, heated the food, served the meal, and did a massive clean up. We appreciate their efforts to make this happen.

One of the mitzvot of Purim is to listen to the reading of the Megillah. Interspersed with Rabbi Jacob's reading of the Megillah, our Purim players read "comical" verses that told the story of Queen Esther, Mordechai, King Achashveros, and Haman. We thank Rabbi Jacob and the players. Their "good spirits" and positive attitudes shone through.

In case you missed it... thanks to the generosity of our members, we were able to provide Shalach Manot bags for every member of our synagogue.

We appreciate everyone's participation.

Don't separate yourself from the community.

Gift Shop

Visit the Sisterhood Gift Shop for
your Passover needs.



Our goal is to provide you with beautiful
and meaningful items for gift giving and for
your personal use.

Torah Fund Celebration

Sunday Morning, April 12, 2026

at 9:45

Join us for a lovely community breakfast.



As in the past, this event promises to be an inspiring experience. We're asking for an \$18.00 donation in support of Torah Fund. Please make checks payable to: SBJCSisterhood. Sisterhood will send one check to Torah Fund. Please respond by April 6.

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)
- Abraham J. Heschel Seminary (Potsdam)

Guest Speaker: Sheila Jasper, Family and Children's Association

_____ Yes, I/we are looking forward to attending the celebration of Torah Fund.

A check for _____ for each attendee, payable to SBJC Sisterhood, is attached.

Name _____

“The Yoms”

Looking ahead....

Yom HaShoah/Holocaust Remembrance day: Tuesday, April 14. Please watch for detailed information.

Yom HaZikaron/Israel’s Memorial Day: Tuesday, April 21.

Yom HaAtzmaut/Israeli Independence Day: Wednesday, April, 22. Israeli food at kiddish on Shabbat. Please watch for details.

Yom Yerushalayim: May 15.

Mondays at Two

Where will you be on Mondays at 2 o’clock?

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.

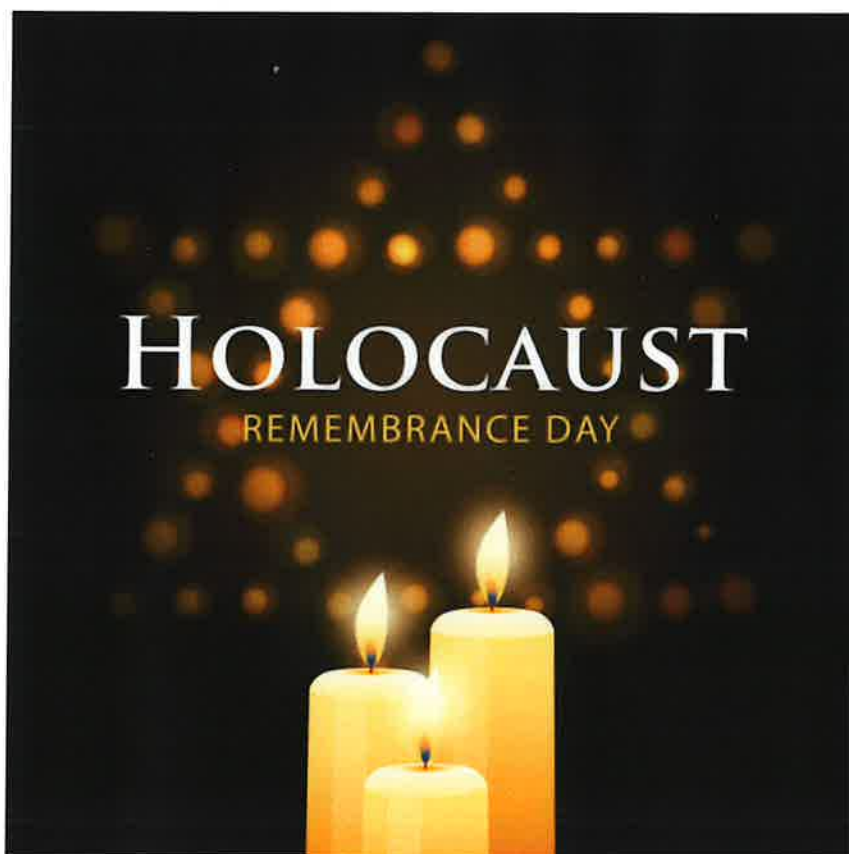
“Donations” will appear in the May Centerpost.

South Baldwin Jewish Center

Yom HaShoah

Holocaust Remembrance Day Commemoration

Tuesday, April 14, 2026 at 7:00 PM



We will join together to pay tribute to the survivors who bore witness to this horrific time and to the victims who were robbed of their lives.

Don't separate yourself from the community.



Reading the Megillah

Purim at SBJC

Kudos to our Purim shpeil players!





APRIL & MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Jay Rosenwasser, Birthday, April 1
Clara Gewirtz, Birthday, April 4
Phyllis Eisman, Birthdays, April 8
Clara & Arnie Gewirtz, Anniversary, April 11
Joan Finkelman, Birthday, April 11
Barbara Sterler, Birthday, April 22
Yevette Boikess, Birthday, April 23
Yaacov & 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
Asta Volkmann, Birthday, May 15
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



Ben's Is Proud To Support...
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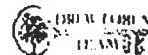
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