

koleynu

Chai Shabbat

Second Night Community Seder

(page 9)

(page 5)





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Inside

Ads	16-18
Anniversaries	15
Birthdays	15
Calendar	19
Contributions	14
Presidents Message	3
The Mussar Moment	

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From the Co-Presidents

Judy Shuster and Elaine Feldmesser

Pesach

Picture this.... It's Post-Passover 2018 and the Executive Committee of Temple Israel is meeting to discuss or rather dissect the elements of the 2nd Night Community *Seder* we had just held. Why? Well, to be honest the Executive Committee always struggles and strives to have Temple Israel be the best version of itself that it can be. Why focus on the 2nd Night Community *Seder*? Believe it or not, Passover is the single most celebrated holiday (festival) amongst Jews today. That's right... more Jews attend a Passover *Seder* than attend High Holy Day Services.

So, we talked about the food and its service, the wine and its quality, the beauty of the table linen and flowers and the presentation of the story of Freedom. We left no stone unturned. Though some were served their food late and others hated the wine, that *Seder* was a success for Temple Israel because 50% of those in attendance were non-members when they walked in the door that night and the next time they came through our doors, two of those non-member families had become member families – because of how wonderful our *Seder* was for them.

As we approach the 2019 version of our 2nd Night Community *Seder*, and though the food, the wine and the presentation of the story of Freedom may be a little different than last year, it is especially comforting to know the basic elements of this holiday, celebrated by more Jews than any other holiday, will repeat themselves again this year. Looking at our almost 100 Years as a Congregation we all know the best part of Temple Israel is its people and we hope you'll be one with us on April 20th as we celebrate Temple Israel's 2nd Night Community *Seder*.

Seder, a festive holiday meal, actually means "order" because the meal is done in an order which takes us from slavery to freedom. *Haggadah* means "the telling" and is the book we use to tell the highlights of our Exodus story. It explains the foods on the *seder* plate and includes songs, prays, questions and vignettes.

Seders are meant to be low-key and fun. Questions are welcome and a lighthearted spirit is in order. After all, we are celebrating that we are no longer slaves. At the *seder* we rejoice, take our time, and ponder the questions of freedom and service to God. Many people recline to celebrate being free. Because of the Exodus, the idea of enslavement formed a permanent impression on our collective consciousness. This, coupled with continuing admonitions in the Bible to take care of the less fortunate, has led us to be a people perennially concerned with world injustices and the disenfranchised.

The Exodus is our archetypal story of God as Deliverer and Redeemer. Here we learn that injustices can be fought and that we can draw strength from God. With this expulsion from Egypt we became a people (no longer just a family group) on a symbolic as well as a physical journey. Here we start our journey to *Sinai* where we will receive the Ten Commandments. We leave Egypt to serve God and to head toward the Promised Land.

The *seder* plate has on it the symbolic foods, and three *matzot* wrapped up together. The simplest explanation is that two *matzot* are reminders of the double amount of manna that Jews in the desert collected on *Shabbat* and holidays, and the third *matzah* is used for the breaking of the *matzah* during the *seder*.

There will be a cup of wine that is filled for Elijah the prophet. There is a tradition that says Elijah visits every Jewish home on Passover to witness the celebration, and perhaps to bring us this time into a Messianic age (a time of peace and freedom for all). Two more recent customs can include putting a cup of water on the table to remind us of Miriam's well that traveled with the Israelites in the desert and putting an orange on the seder plate to symbolize inclusion for all those who are marginalized within the Jewish community.

Usually there is one person who is the leader of the *Seder*. Typically they'll ask people to read various parts of the *Haggadah*. The good news is that the *Haggadah* is written to take us through the *seder* in the proper order. You don't have to memorize anything ahead of time. Remember that four cups of wine (or grape juice) will be drunk to remind us of the four promises of redemption in Exodus 6:6-7. You can drink just a little each time!



From the Rabbi Rabbi Cookie Lea Olshein

Is Matzah Meaningful to You?

Between *matzah* and *challah*, I would guess that most of us would say that *challah* is our favorite, especially when it is fresh-baked, straight out of the oven. However, when asked which is more meaningful, I hope that more than a few of us would choose *matzah*.

Each year at Passover (which begins on the night of Friday, April 19th), we are reminded not only of our sacred story of the bread on our backs being baked into *matzah* when we fled Egypt on our way to freedom, but also about those in this world who are still enslaved and seeking their own redemption. Whether we think about those who are communally enslaved through human trafficking or child marriage or forced labor, or those who are enslaved by illness, physical or mental, or through poverty, each of us is asked to put ourselves in the shoes of those who have come through the darkness of slavery.

We are asked to do this every year so that we do not forget what it felt like to be enslaved. This annual reminder requires us to at least try to build our "empathy muscles," meaning that practicing empathy requires just that – practice.

But why must we practice empathy? Exodus 22:20-26 teaches us: "You shall not wrong a stranger or oppress him, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. You shall not ill-treat any widow or orphan. If you do mistreat them, I will heed their outcry as soon as they cry out to Me... If you lend money to My people, to the poor among you, do not act toward them as a creditor... If you take your neighbor's garment in pledge, you must return it to him before the sun sets; it is his only clothing... In what else shall he sleep? Therefore, if he cries out to Me, I will pay heed, for I am compassionate." As we are taught to emulate God's compassion, so must we learn to think about the way "the other" feels, meaning, we must try to feel their pain.

Justin Bariso, author of "EQ Applied: The Real-World Guide to Emotional Intelligence," teaches that there are three kinds of empathy: (1) Cognitive empathy: the ability to understand how a person feels and what they might be thinking. This makes us better communicators, because it helps us relay information in a way that best reaches the other person. (2) Emotional or affective empathy: the ability to share the feelings of another person, sometimes described as "your pain in my heart." This type of empathy helps you build emotional connections with others. (3) Compassionate empathy or empathetic concern – this goes beyond simply understanding others and sharing their feelings: it actually moves us to take action, to help however we can.

This year at Passover as we celebrate our people's journey from slavery to freedom, let us all work on practicing all three kinds of empathy, and perhaps focus on moving towards the third kind which leads us to act. My blessing for you this month is that each of us be cognizant of the need for more empathy in this world and we take steps to lessen the things which create the need to do so.

As always, my door is always open – please let me know how I can assist you on your Jewish journey.





Rabbi Olshein was honored at the Israel Bonds event



Sisterhood and Brotherhood Dues

To better streamline our bookkeeping and to better serve our congregation, all Sisterhood and Brotherhood Dues (\$36) are to be directly paid to Temple Israel. Please call the Temple Office if you would like to make a payment or have any questions.

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Membership Committee News

Carol Safran and Amy Jonas, Membership Co-Chairs

Volunteers for TI's Greeting Corps had a great time at Sips, Snacks and Socializing on March 10th. The event was organized by Greeting Corps chairs Debbie Hirsch, Hugo Ottolenghi, and Mark Simkowitz and hosted by Amy and Michael Jonas. After everyone had a chance to catch up with old friends and make new ones, Mark spoke to the group about the new 2.0 version for our Greeting Corps and the tremendous impact that our Greeters can have on the growth of the Temple's membership. Mark also shared tips on "How to be a Great Greeter".

All TI members are welcome to join the new Greeting Corps! For more information, contact: Mark Simkowitz at mgoose54@aol.com or (C) 561-762-7947, or Hugo Ottolenghi at hugoott@aol.com or (C) 561-818-2946.

Over the past few months, the Membership Committee has also been busy working to enhance the first-year experience for our Temple members. A Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) has been created along with a checklist of what and when things should be done. This checklist will help the Temple more effectively welcome and engage our new members. Among the things being instituted is a "home visit" by someone from the Membership Committee to take place sometime within the first two months of the member joining.

During the first two months, the new member will also be paired with a Temple Ambassador whose goal will be to help the new member better navigate TI and all it has to offer, as well as, to help foster friendships with other TI members. In February, a training session for our TI Ambassadors was hosted by Barry and Nancy Horowitz. This month, we will actually begin making matches with those members who joined after January 2018.

Increasing our Temple family is one of two goals of the Membership Committee. The other is the continued engagement of our existing members. Shabbat Services on April 5^{th.} will be designated Chai Shabbat. That evening there will be a special service recognizing those members who have been part of the Temple Israel family for 18 years or longer. We hope that everyone will be able to join us. If you are one of our TI's Chai members, we ask that you let the office know if you plan to attend and whether you would like the opportunity to do a reading and participate in the service.

Lastly but definitely not least, we are very happy to welcome into our Temple family TI's newest members as of mid-February:

Mia Braymes from New Jersey, Colby Stern from New York and Palm Beach County State Attorney, David Aronberg.



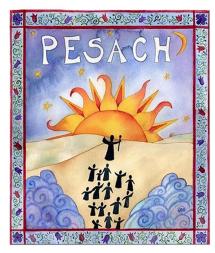




Temple Israel's Charoset Make & Matzah Bake

Make Charoset & Matzah With Rabbi Olshein at Temple Israel

April 17th • 7 pm



Want to Share a Special Charoset Recipe?
Or Just Want to Share in the Fun?

Temple will provide the Apples -Nuts - Wine - Cinnamon - Sugar

Please bring enough special ingredients for 15 servings.

All recipes will be featured at Temple Israel's 2nd Night Community Seder on April 20th and in a Recipe Book.

Submit Your Recipe & Your RSVP to the Temple Office by April 3rd

561-833-8421

FREE & OPEN TO ALL IN THE COMMUNITY
Donations Gratefully Accepted

Temple Israel's Second Night Community Seder

with your Temple Israel family & friends
Saturday, April 20, 2019 — 6:00 p.m.

Join Rabbi Cookie Lea Olshein and Cantor Michael Kruk in our David and Pauline Carter Ballroom

Michell & Carlos Escobar and Jennifer & Michael Strauss
Chairpersons

RSVP by April 12th

(Please return bottom half to the Temple Office)

The cost for the attendance of all children registered in our Religious School will be underwritten by our Brotherhood & Sisterhood.



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Komen Race for the Cure

Sherri Gilbert, Tata Society Race Chair

Although we have been the top team in the religious category for many years, our Race for the Cure team, the Temple Israel Tata Society, was one of the top teams *overall* for the 2019 event for both fundraising and number of team members. Additionally, several TI team members placed high individually among ALL participants: Karen List led the way at #11, Sherri Gilbert #35, Patti Abramson #36, Lori Ackerman #46, and Barbara Hatzfield #70. (Lynn Levy, a TI member who participates on the Cypress Lakes team, came in at 63rd place.) Much appreciation to everyone who registered for and/or donated to the TI team! Thanks to you, we far exceeded our previous totals, raising \$8,315.20 that will go a long way to the good work being done by the local Komen affiliate.











The *Mussar* Moment

Rabbi Emeritus Howard Shapiro

We are moving. It is just one zip code away; an eight turns into a zero. It is in the same city but nonetheless we are working our --- "tushies" off and it is hard physically and emotionally. We are very excited about our new place; it will be easier to take care of; it will be beautiful and it is smaller.

So, we have had to get rid of a lot of "stuff". Not just extra dishes but things that have been sitting in the storage closet or garage since we have been here and boxes and boxes of pictures from all stages of our lives. (Yes, I know about all those scanning services.) The term we are using is "downsizing". But, when I put on my spiritual hat and my *Mussar* training kicks in the attribute biting at my heels is "histapkut", simplicity or contentment.

Our teachers are not advocating asceticism. You have to look far and wide to find ascetic practices within our tradition. They are suggesting a different approach: being content with what you have. The 12th century poet and philosopher Ibn Gabirol taught: "Who seeks more than they need are hindered from enjoying what they have. Seek what you need and give up what you need not. For in giving up what you don't need, you will learn what you really do need."

It's a challenge and it's complicated. So many memories attached to everything we needed to bring back from wherever we visited. There are so many associations with this plate, this picture, this gift from Aunt Sophie or Aunt Laura. And the books - don't ask! I am challenging myself to remember that Passover is coming and I am leaving Egypt. We are told that the Israelite slaves had to rid themselves of even their meager possessions in order to begin the journey to freedom. We will relive that every time we take a bite of *matzah* during the *Seder* and week of *Pesach*.

Happiness and contentment are not determined by our possessions. They sit in the realm of attitude and a spiritual approach to the material world. Ben Zoma: "Who is wealthy? The one who is happy with his/her lot." So, I am cultivating a minimalists' joy. I am letting go of things and finding freedom in freshness. I am trying to bless the day and the moment, the memories and associations. For truly I have everything I need.

A story:

An American visitor was passing through the Polish town of Radin and stopped in to visit the Chafetz Chaim. Entering the great sage's simple apartment, he was struck by how sparsely it was furnished. "Where is your furniture?" the man asked. "Where is yours?" replied the Chafetz Chaim. "Oh, I am only passing through," answered the man. "I, too, am only passing through," was the Chafetz Chaim's reply.

Chafetz Chayim (1839-1933, Belarus, Russia)





Play Cards at Temple Israel

Do you play cards? Canasta? Mahjong? Need a meeting place? Get a group together and set-up a game at Temple Israel. We have plenty of space to accommodate a game.



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April Birthdays

- 1 Barbara Gray
- 1 J. D. Small
- 1 Marcia Sue Stiles
- 4 Rex Bone
- 4 S. Lawrence Schlager
- 5 Liam Matias
- 6 Selma Horowitz
- 6 Susan Sachs
- 6 Diane Trust
- 7 Audrey Green
- 7 Richard Rieser
- 9 Donald Carter
- 9 Jacob Green
- 9 Deborah Haft
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- 18 Magnolia Douglas
- 18 Sy Douglas
- 18 Morgan Kornblum
- 18 Sheila Lutin
- 19 Tali Green
- 20 Kate List
- 21 Madeline Hackman
- 22 Nancy Horowitz
- 23 Ludmilla Goldberg
- 25 Isaiah Torres-Nussbaum
- 26 Ruth Abramson
- 26 Valerie Eaton
- 26 Alexa Hartley
- 27 Brett Golov
- 28 Mark Cohen
- 28 Georgia Newman
- 29 Pamela Wiener
- 30 Karen Davis
- 30 Ashley Devore
- 30 Hugo Ottolenghi
- 30 Judy Preefer

April Anniversaries

- 8 Michael & Jill Botnick
- 11 Jeff & Amy Devore
- 12 Neal & MJ Rothschild
- 24 Eric Lieberman & Diane Buhler

Mazel Tov

Congratulations to Don Carter. His daughter, Lauren Eve Carter, will be married to Suprotik Basu on October 6, 2019.



Nathan Eisenberg, son of TI members, Jim & Gee Gee Eisenberg, is engaged to Katie Gaspari.



The URJ Biennial December 11-15, 2019, will be held in Chicago, IL.

Join with thousands of Jews from across North America and around the world to learn, pray, share ideas, dance and sing, hear from inspiring speakers and the leaders of our Movement; reunite with old friends, create new connections, and make decisions about the policies of the Reform Movement.

To learn more, please visit urj.org/urj-biennial.

Michael Twitty Recipe: "Cornbread Kush"

Michael's notes about the recipe:

- 1. Kush is the forefather of Southern cornbread dressing (stuffing if you are North.)
- 2. Or you can use pareve margarine and a small amount of vegetable stock to keep them moist after the onions become translucent. I prefer a mixture of yellow onions and scallions.
- 3. Kush should be moist dense and crumbly. It should not be dry or soupy. At all.
- 4. This is country food not high level French technique. Red pepper, dried rubbed sage, kitchen pepper and kosher salt are key ingredients. Poultry seasoning goes a long way too. NONE of these flavors should overwhelm the kush.

Ingredients:

- 2 white or yellow onions, roughly chopped
- 3 bunches finely chopped scallions
- 4 tablespoons of pareve margarine
- 1 teaspoon of kosher salt
- 1 teaspoon of red pepper flakes
- 1 teaspoon kitchen pepper=2 part blk pepper, 1 part mace, cinnamon, nutmeg, allspice, cloves. dried herbs to taste (sage, bits of rosemary, thyme) and poultry seasoning to taste
- 1 medium pan of yellow cornbread (cooled, slightly dry, and crumbled)
- 1/2 cup of vegetable stock (you may choose to use the pot liquor from greens as your stock) use more if necessary

Directions:

- 1. Put margarine in a large skillet.
- 2. Saute the onions until they are translucent. Add half of the salt and half of the red pepper flakes, and some of the herbs.
- 3. As the onions begin to turn clear, add the meat (if using), and add the rest of the oil to the pan. Slowly stir the crumbled cornbread into the skillet until all of it is completely incorporated.
- 4. Add the rest of the red pepper, herbs, and salt. Add more stock to moisten. Cook over a low heat and stir frequently until the stock has been fully absorbed. Do not allow the kush to burn.
- 5. Serves 11







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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Executive Committee Meeting 6:00 pm	3 Yoga 10:30 am Hebrew School 4:15 pm	4	S Chai Shabbat 6:00 pm - Proneg 6:30 pm - Service	6 Torah Study 9:30 am Prayer 101 11:00 am
Religious School 9:00 am Religious School Challah & Matzah Baking 12:00 pm	∞	6	10 Yoga 10:30 am Hebrew School 4:15 pm	Prayerful Jewish Meditation. 2:00 pm Brotherhood Board Meeting. 6:30 pm	12 Erev Shabbat 6:30 pm - Proneg 6:30 pm - Service	Torah Study 9:30 am Out-of-the-Box Shabbat - Family Edition 11:00 am
14	15	16 Board of Directors Meeting 7:00 pm	Yoga 10:30 am Hebrew School 4:15 pm Charoset Make & Matzah Bake 7:00 pm	18	19 Shortened <i>Erev Shabbat</i> 4:30 pm - Service	Torah Study 9:30 am Annual 2 nd Night Seder Must RSVP by 4/12 6:00 pm
21	22	23	24 Yoga 10:30 am	25	26 Office Closed Yizkor 11:45 Erev Shabbat Acknowledging Yom HaShoah 6:00 pm - Proneg 6:30 pm - Service	Torah Study 9:30 am Prayer 101 Series 11:30 am
Religious School 9:00 pm TI Film Club 2:00 pm "Everything is Illuminated"	29	30	May 1 Yoga 10:30 am Hebrew School 4:15 pm	May 2	May 3 Acknowledging Yom Hazikaron & Yom Ha'atzmaut 6:00 pm - Proneg 6:30 pm - Service	May 4



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Please consider our Sisterhood Gift Shop as your first stop when shopping for Judaica. We are open before and after some Friday night services, as well as by appointment during the week. Call the Office to see if we might have what you are looking for ... or if you just want to browse!

Please contact Lynn Levy at (561) 632-1877 if you would like to assist in the Gift Shop.

