



HAR SHALOM

הר שלום

Congregation Har Shalom  
March / April 2024

Volume 57 - Issue 2  
Adar II / Nissan 5784

[www.HarShalom.org/TheTablet](http://www.HarShalom.org/TheTablet)

# THE TABLET

## Purim *With* Har Shalom

MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND JOIN US!  
**MARCH 23 & 24**

*Learn More & Register*

**WWW.HARSHALOM.ORG/PURIM**

**MARCH 17:** MEN'S CLUB PURIM CARNIVAL & SISTERHOOD MISHLOACH MANOT ASSEMBLY

**MARCH 19:** VASHTI'S BANQUET

**MARCH 23:** TRADITIONAL MEGILLAH READING & MASQUERADE MADNESS PARTY BROUGHT TO YOU BY  
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

**MARCH 24:** SHACHARIT / MEGILLAH READING & DIY HAMANTASHEN MAKING



MAKING IT HAPPEN!

## PESACH 2024/5784 HANDBOOK

*Kashering Your Kitchen, Hametz  
Agreement Form, Passover  
Schedule, FAQ and more*

**[www.HarShalom.org/Pesach2024](http://www.HarShalom.org/Pesach2024)**



**Purim with  
Har Shalom**

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# Highlighted In This Issue ...

March / April 2024

**Introducing  
*Nichum  
Aveilim:*  
Comforting  
Mourners**

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**Sisterhood's Jewish Sleep  
Away Camp Scholarships**

*Deadline: April 20*

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Committee  
Update**

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT [WWW.HARSHALOM.ORG/CALENDAR](http://WWW.HARSHALOM.ORG/CALENDAR)

# CLERGY CORNER



**Rachel Simmons**

*Rabbi*

301-299-7087 ext. 1

[rabbisimmons@harshalom.org](mailto:rabbisimmons@harshalom.org)

When people share with me that they would like to deepen their personal connection to Judaism, one of the first things I recommend is that they commit to a full year of truly embracing all of the observances of the Jewish calendar, from Simchat Torah to Tisha B'av to counting the Omer.

"For everything there is a season", teaches Ecclesiastes, "And a time and purpose under Heaven." Our calendar takes this charge to heart, including days dedicated to joy, to sorrow, to prayer, and to the natural world around us.

Especially right now, in the Winter months, the constant thrum of Jewish observance and celebration that accompanies us through the coldest and darkest months of the year is a true gift from our heritage. Consider the following:

In late November and December, as the first real cold temperatures set in and the longest nights of the year seem interminable, we Jews celebrated Hanukkah. We lit candles that cast dancing shadows on the walls, we sang songs and played dreidel, and we ate rich foods like donuts and latkes. The Festival of Lights helps remind us each year to reaffirm for ourselves and each other that no matter how dark the world might seem, there is always metaphorical light to be found if we are committed to embracing its warmth and energy.

Then, in January or February when the days have slowly started to get longer but the chill has set deep into our bones, we got to observe Tu B'shevat, the "Birthday of the Trees". In the Sherman ECC, the kids celebrated by planting parsley seeds to nurture until Pesach, when the fragrant green leaves will be dipped in salt water. We talked about how under the snow outside, there were hidden plants just waiting to spring forth and flourish as long as we were patient. Tu B'shevat reminds us that life is there, ready to burst out when the snow recedes, and offers us a beautiful metaphor for keeping faith and hope in unseen blessings through tough times.

Now, with Spring tantalizingly close, we are gearing up for the next holiday: Purim. Planning for Purim encourages us, on the one hand, to embrace silliness and communal joy. Yes, our tradition teaches us, we do indeed have to show up for each other in difficult moments of sickness and mourning; however, it's also incredibly important to laugh and dance together, to express love for each other with *mishloach manot*, and to serve the less fortunate together with *matanot*

*l'evyonim*. Purim gives us the perfect opportunity to live out the values of gratitude, humility, and shared responsibility for one another.

At the same time, Purim challenges us to also ask ourselves difficult questions, like: are we truly standing up in the face of injustice, like Esther and Mordechai? Are we plowing ahead selfishly at the expense of others, like Haman? Or are we bystanders, like most of the courtiers, preferring the comfortable path instead of a path of justice?

One of the strengths of framing these deep and difficult questions through the lens of a familiar story is that it allows us to engage with painful topics safely. This makes Purim, like Passover after it, an excellent opportunity for all ages to start talking about the role each of us can--and must--play in making this world a better place, and how we are obligated as people and as Jews to do our part.

The Jewish calendar was outlined in the Torah, expounded upon in the Mishnah and Talmud, and has been added to for generations-- but it also belongs to each of us. If you or your family have been toying with the idea of finding new ways to strengthen your connection to Judaism, 5784 is the perfect year to dive deeper.

Each upcoming holiday has the potential to encourage growth and introspection, and your Har Shalom community is here to support you, celebrate with you, and wrestle with difficult questions together-- and to eat lots of yummy hamentaschen. Chag Purim Sameach!

Always,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Rachel Simmons".

Rabbi Simmons

***Mazal Tov to Rabbi Raskin for being featured on the cover of the WJW on the occasion of your Bar Mitzvah year at Har Shalom!***



# FROM THE PRESIDENT



**Aimee Segal**  
President

[president@harshalom.org](mailto:president@harshalom.org)

FOR ALL YOU DO TO CREATE COMMUNITY - THANK YOU!

If you stay up late enough to watch Jimmy Fallon, you know that he sets aside time each week to write thank you notes. For this column, I am sending “thank you’s” to the generous volunteers and donors that make Har Shalom a vibrant and welcoming community.

One thing I have come to appreciate during my term as President is that Har Shalom is so much more than a synagogue. We are a family that takes celebrating our simchot just as seriously as caring for one another during moments of personal set-backs, sickness and loss.

Everywhere I turn, volunteers are contributing their talents and time so we can learn together, cook together, nosh together, and, of course, daven together. Our full calendar, our creative use of every space, and our growing budget perfectly illustrate that Har Shalom members want to work together on committees and projects to make our community feel like home.

This is also a community of generous and compassionate donors. In our last Tablet, we shared that 49 new supporters contributed to our High Holy Days campaign in 2023 – and donations jumped by 25% compared to 2022. This is one of the revenue streams we depend on for our staff, programming, and some of our capital improvements.

Now, I am humbled and thrilled to share the results of our Share Your Blessings Campaign - the appeal to ensure that our home is open to any family or individual who wants to join Har Shalom, regardless of their ability to pay membership dues.

Compared to 2022-23, Share Your Blessings support increased by 18%. In total, you contributed \$124,817 to

ensure that we never turn away anyone who wants to be an active member of a Jewish community at Har Shalom.

Why is this important for our community? If each of our membership units paid full dues, we would collect approximately \$1.7 million. In reality, our members pay approximately \$1.35 million in dues. This \$350,000 gap is a result of important policies that provide for introductory-priced memberships for our newest members, complimentary memberships for our staff, and complimentary memberships for congregants in assisted living facilities. And - importantly, to honor our commitment to keeping our doors open to all, we offer dues adjustments for families and individuals experiencing financial hardship or who cannot afford full membership – accounting for approximately \$100,000. Share Your Blessings is a critically important funding source that allows us to accommodate our members in need of temporary dues adjustments.

By donating funds and giving your time to Har Shalom, you are living the ideals in Parshat Kedoshim - loving the stranger as ourselves and removing stumbling blocks for the blind.

At a time when so many of us are finding comfort and community at Har Shalom, I am grateful for the commitment that so many of our members make to ensure the strength of our family and longevity of our shul.

## Share Your Blessings Contributions vs. Annual Dues Abatement



# PURIM 5783 WITH HAR SHALOM

## Purim With Har Shalom

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*Learn More & Register*

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*Planning to attend the Congregational Programs and/or Megillah Readings?!*  
*Instead of a grogger, bring a box of rice or container of beans to use as your noisemaker.*  
*Food items will then be donated to those in need after the service!*

## WE LOOK FORWARD TO CELEBRATING TOGETHER!

### Sunday, March 17:

**11:15AM - 12:00PM** | Fun and Games for families with children aged preschool and younger  
**12:00PM** | **Purim Carnival (free entry)** The community is invited to enjoy games, inflatables, and food for purchase! Please register online so we can plan accordingly (*sponsored by Men's Club*)

### Tuesday, March 19

**7:30PM** | **Vashti's Banquet** - Advanced Registration Required by March 14: [www.HarShalom.org/Vashti](http://www.HarShalom.org/Vashti)

### Saturday, March 23:

**8:00PM** | Traditional Megillah Reading  
**approx. 8:40PM** | Masquerade Madness

### Sunday, March 24:

**9:00AM** | Shacharit Traditional & Megillah Reading  
**approx. 9:45AM** | DIY Hamantaschen Making



**MASQUERADE  
MADNESS**

**PARTY LIKE IT'S THE 15TH OF ADAR**

**SATURDAY, MARCH 23**  
*Immediately following the Megillah Reading (8:40 pm)*

Join the Purim madness  
with your Har Shalom friends  
Dance the night away with a DJ

**DESSERTS AND COCKTAILS**

**MASKS OR COSTUMES ENCOURAGED**  
*Prizes will be awarded for Best Mask and Best Costume*

**FREE FOR MEMBERS | \$18 FOR NON-MEMBERS**

[www.HarShalom.org/MMPurim](http://www.HarShalom.org/MMPurim)

**JOIN US FOR IN PERSON MINYAN!**  
**MORNINGS** | Sunday: 9:00AM & Monday-Friday: 8:00AM  
**EVENINGS** | Monday-Thursday: 7:30PM  
**KABBALAT SHABBAT** | 6:00PM (EST) / 6:30PM (DST)  
**SHABBAT MORNING** | 9:30AM, followed by Kiddush lunch  
**VIRTUAL SERVICES:** Sunday Evening | 7:30PM (Zoom Only)  
 Zoom available for non-Shabbat & non-holiday | LiveStream available for Shabbat & holiday

More information and virtual links: [www.HarShalom.org/Services](http://www.HarShalom.org/Services)

**MINYAN ASSIGNMENTS:** *Last names that begin with*

March 3 - 9: EDE thru ETM  
 March 10 - 16: FAE thru FRE  
 March 17 - 23: FRI thru GOL  
 March 24 - 30: GOO thru HER  
 March 31 - April 6: HIR thru JOS  
 April 7 - 13: KAB thru KIT  
 April 14 - 20: KLE thru LEV  
 April 21 - 27: LEW thru MAM  
 April 28 - May 4: MAN thru MIL

*Text message reminder before your assigned week will come from 301-720-0796*

Our minyan needs leaders, and the next one could be you! If you are interested in learning how to lead morning and/or evening minyan, contact Rabbi Simmons at [rabbisimmons@harshalom.org](mailto:rabbisimmons@harshalom.org).

# HAR SHALOM

## KIDDUSH CUP

Join us for a fun outing to support the Har Shalom Community! Sign-up as a single, a foursome, or a sponsor - there's something for everyone! Participants enjoy a delicious lunch before teeing off and dinner after play. Volunteers are needed throughout the day as well.

Learn more & register:  
[www.HarShalom.org/KiddushCup2024](http://www.HarShalom.org/KiddushCup2024)



You're Invited...

CONGREGATION *The* HAR SHALOM  
**KIDDUSH CUP**

Monday, May 20, 2024

**LEARN MORE & REGISTER!**  
[www.HarShalom.org/KiddushCup2024](http://www.HarShalom.org/KiddushCup2024)

# HAR SHALOM SUPPORTS ISRAEL

On Friday, February 9, Har Shalom volunteered to set up an Empty Shabbat Table on the National Mall to remind DC about the hostages being held in Gaza. Volunteers and donations are needed to keep this initiative going. *Kol HaKavod!*



## HAR SHALOM PROGRAM RECAP

Thank you to Har Shalom congregants Ian Weston and Herbie Epstein, for joining us February 4th to lead a special session for congregants to learn about Har Shalom's security measures and valuable "Stop the Bleed" first aid and care skills.



## FROM THE HAR SHALOM PLAYERS

**\*\*Save the Date\*\***

Annual Har Shalom Players Broadway Cabaret  
**Sunday, June 9 at 7:00 PM**  
*A Tribute to Andrew Lloyd Webber*

# FROM THE SHERMAN ECC



**Beth Hoch**  
Director of Early  
Childhood Education

301-299-7087, ext. 235  
bhoch@harshalom.org

We are starting to plan for the summer and invite pre-teens and teens to apply to be a volunteer in our summer program, which will be from June 17th August 16th. We are an approved SSL site. Volunteers should have experience with young children and the desire to spend extended time in a classroom with a group of children playing, assisting the teachers and helping out with classroom materials. We ask for at least a two week consecutive commitment to provide continuity and consistency for the class. If your child is interested in applying, they should fill out this Google Form with their information.

<https://forms.gle/Ds3jw3jt6baXxik6A>

We enjoyed a Chinese Lunar New Year celebration last month. It was a wonderful opportunity for our Chinese families to share their culture with us. Bill Jenkins brought us Chinese music and musical instruments from his collection of travels to China. We listened to him play a Chinese flute and horn. The children got the opportunity to touch the Zither, a guitar like instrument, before diving into the cymbals, bells, wood blocks, gongs and drums. It was truly a hand-on exploration of sound! The Jewish calendar and the Chinese Lunar calendar align for the new month. The older children talked about the similarities and differences in the two calendars and celebrations.

We are gearing up for Purim and Passover and all the joy that comes alive in the rich holiday experiences. We will be baking hamantashen with grandparents and welcoming all of our families to join us for a special Passover program.

Wishing you a joyous Purim!

*Beth Hoch*



## SHABBAT CHAVERIM



Shabbat programs for children & families  
1st & 3rd Saturdays @ 10:30 AM

Join us for an alternative to the main Shabbat Service, socializing,  
and then stay for a delicious Kiddush Lunch with the congregation!

**Babies - 4 years**  
Front of Cahan Sanctuary

Fun and engaging service geared toward  
young families; siblings welcome.

**Family Service**  
Stein Family Chapel

Traditional, interactive service for  
school-aged families; students Grades 3  
and younger must be accompanied  
by a parent/guardian

[WWW.HARSHALOM.ORG/SHABBATCHAVERIM](http://WWW.HARSHALOM.ORG/SHABBATCHAVERIM)



# FROM THE EDUCATION & YOUTH DEPT.



**AJ McCormick**  
Director of Youth Programming  
and Engagement  
301-299-7087, ext. 236  
aj@harshalom.org

It may be snowing outside, but we are looking forward to some exciting Spring programs! Our 8th and 9th Graders are invited to join us for Tichon Har Shalom on Tuesdays from 6:30pm - 8:00pm (*full schedule below*). **Calling all 7th Graders - join us for a special "Taste of Tichon" on April 2.**

I also can't wait to see our 3rd - 5th Graders for a **\*NEW\* Shababt Book Club** in the Hospitality Suite after Shabbat Chaverim Services.

Reminder, our 7th-10th Graders are invited to volunteer at this year's Purim Carnival on March 17 - please contact me for more details.

Hope to see you around soon!

AJ

- March 5: Film Screening & Discussion - #NOVA Film (Note: pickup at 8:30pm)
- March 12: Is Teshuvah Possible? Is All Fair in War? The Ethics of Interrogation and Punishment
- March 19: Unbirthday Party
- April 2: World Record Challenge – Open to 7th graders
- April 9: Judaism, hell, and the afterlife
- April 16: Minute to Win it
- May 7: Can We Make Ourselves Better Than Well? We All Belong: Creating Inclusive Communities
- May 14: Field Day
- May 21: Jewish Ethics: Should I Donate to Jewish, National, or Global Causes?
- May 28: Summer Send Off





SUNDAY YOUTH PROGRAM

# PETTING ZOO

**Sunday, April 14  
12:15PM - 2:00PM**

**Join us at Har Shalom for  
an afternoon filled with fun!**

Questions? Email AJ at [aj@harshalom.org](mailto:aj@harshalom.org)

**Learn More & Register:**  
[www.HarShalom.org/SYPFall23](http://www.HarShalom.org/SYPFall23)

## K & 1st Grade SHABBAT

Shabbat Shalom שבת שלום

### FRIDAY, MARCH 8

Families with students in K & 1st Grades are invited to join us for Kabbalat Shabbat Services followed by a delicious dinner and socializing with your Har Shalom community.

**RSVP by March 3**  
[www.HarShalom.org/GradeShabbat](http://www.HarShalom.org/GradeShabbat)

JOIN US AS FOR A...

## TEEN-LED SERVICE

**SATURDAY, APRIL 20  
9:30AM  
BURKE SANCTUARY**

Shabbat Morning Service led by our Har Shalom teens. Sign-up to share your favorite melody, or try something new - there are opportunities for everyone to participate!

Learn more and sign-up at [www.HarShalom.org/TeenService](http://www.HarShalom.org/TeenService)  
Questions? Contact [AJ@harshalom.org](mailto:AJ@harshalom.org)

## 2nd & 3rd Grade SHABBAT

Shabbat Shalom שבת שלום

### FRIDAY, APRIL 12

Families with students in 2nd & 3rd Grades are invited to join us for Kabbalat Shabbat Services followed by a delicious dinner and socializing with your Har Shalom community.

**RSVP by April 7**  
[www.HarShalom.org/GradeShabbat](http://www.HarShalom.org/GradeShabbat)

# PESACH WITH HAR SHALOM

Visit [www.HarShalom.org/Pesach2024](http://www.HarShalom.org/Pesach2024) for Services Schedule with links for virtual participation and Candle Lighting times.

## Monday, April 22 - Fast of First Born

Fast begins 4:50 AM  
Minyan, followed by *Siyyum* & Breakfast, 8:00 AM  
*Chametz* may not be eaten after 10:49 AM  
Candle Lighting 7:35 PM (*Yom Tov* candles and long burning/*Yizkor* candle)  
No *Ma'ariv* service at Har Shalom  
**First Seder**

## Tuesday, April 23, *Yom Tov*, First Day of Pesach

*Shacharit*, 9:30 AM (in-person, livestream)  
Candle lighting after 7:35 (from existing flame of long burning/*Yizkor* candle)  
No *Ma'ariv* service at Har Shalom  
**Second Seder - Community Seder details forthcoming!**

## Wednesday, April 24, *Yom Tov*, Second Day Pesach

*Shacharit*, 9:30 AM (in-person, livestream)  
*Yom Tov* ends, 8:38 PM

## Thursday, April 25, *Chol Ha'Moed* Pesach 1

*Shacharit* 8:00 AM (in-person, zoom)  
*Ma'ariv* 7:30 PM (in-person, zoom)

## Friday, April 26, *Chol Ha'Moed* Pesach 2

*Shacharit* 8:00 AM (in-person, zoom)  
*Kabbalat Shabbat* & *Ma'ariv* 6:30 PM (in-person, livestream)  
Candle Lighting 7:39 PM

## Saturday, April 27, Shabbat *Chol Ha'Moed* Pesach

*Shacharit* 9:30 AM (in-person, livestream)  
Shabbat ends 8:41 PM

## Sunday, April 28, *Chol Ha'Moed* Pesach 4, *Erev Yom Tov*

*Shacharit* 9:00 AM (in-person, zoom)  
*Ma'ariv* 7:30 PM (in-person only)  
Candle lighting 7:41 PM (*Yom Tov* candles and long burning/*Yizkor* candle)

## Monday, April 29, *Yom Tov*, Seventh Day Pesach

*Shacharit* 9:30 AM (in-person, livestream)  
*Ma'ariv* 7:30 PM (in-person only)  
Candle lighting after 8:41 PM (from existing flame of long burning/*Yizkor* candle)

## Tuesday, April 30, *Yom Tov*, Eighth Day Pesach

*Shacharit* & *Yizkor* 9:30 AM (in-person, livestream)  
*Ma'ariv* 7:30 PM (in-person only)  
Pesach ends 8:44 PM

## HOW TO KASHER YOUR KITCHEN FOR PESACH

Some utensils and cookware that are used throughout the year may be kashered for Passover. If you have any questions that are not answered here, please contact Rabbi Raskin: [rabbiraskin@harshalom.org](mailto:rabbiraskin@harshalom.org) or 240-687-7218.

1

### EARTHWARE

such as china or pottery cannot be kashered for Passover.

2

### METAL POTS, PANS & COOKWARE

that are wholly metal and used in fire (e.g. the broiler) must be scrubbed and cleaned and made red hot. Fill up pots and boil water so that it overflows their rims. Silverware, after having been washed with soap and water, should be set aside for 24 hours then immersed completely in boiling water.

3

### OVEN RANGES

that come into direct contact with food should be cleaned thoroughly. The oven should then be heated on the highest possible temperature for 30 minutes, or programmed to self-clean. A microwave, after being cleaned, must have a cup of water placed inside the chamber and turned on until the water disappears. If the microwave has a browning element, it may not be kashered for Passover.

4

### GLASSWARE

such as drinking glasses (not Pyrex), should be washed thoroughly with soap and water or put through the dishwasher.

5

### ELECTRIC APPLIANCES

with removable parts should be kashered appropriately (e.g. for metal parts, follow #2 above). If the parts are not removable and they come into direct contact with food, the appliance may not be kashered for Passover.

6

### TABLES, CABINETS & COUNTERS

that come into contact with hametz should be thoroughly cleaned and covered. Granite countertops do not have to be covered after kashering.

7

### KITCHEN SINKS

that are metal may be kashered by pouring boiling water over the surfaces. Porcelain sinks must be well cleaned and a new sink rack or basin should be used during Passover.

8

### REFRIGERATORS & FREEZERS

should be washed well with soap and water. All hametz should be removed or sealed in a closed box or bag (and sold with other hametz).

9

### KITCHENWARE

that is not kosher for Passover should be separated and either covered or closed in a separate part of the kitchen.





# *Mekhirat Hametz Agreement*

## *Pesach 5784/2024*

Please complete this *Mekhirat Hametz* Agreement form, and return it to Har Shalom no later than 11:00 AM on Monday, April 22nd.

- Complete this form online: [www.harshalom.org/hametz](http://www.harshalom.org/hametz)
- Mail to: Rabbi Adam Raskin  
Congregation Har Shalom  
11510 Falls Road  
Potomac, MD 20854
- Fax to: 301-299-2247
- Email to: [rabbiraskin@harshalom.org](mailto:rabbiraskin@harshalom.org)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional addresses where hametz might be found:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I hereby designate Rabbi Adam J. Raskin to act on my behalf in selling the hametz in my possession. I understand that hametz will return to my possession after 8:45 PM on Tuesday, April 30th.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Attached please find my donation to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund for \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(if returning the form by mail)

### **Let all who are hungry, come and eat. -Haggadah**

Do you have an extra place at your Seder table? Do you need a place at a Seder table? *Pesach* hospitality is an important *mitzvah*. Complete the form at [www.HarShalom.org/Seder2](http://www.HarShalom.org/Seder2) so Har Shalom can help make a *shidduh* (match)! \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Friends,

It is with joy and anticipation that we prepare as a synagogue community for the festival of Passover. Through festive meals, retelling the story of our liberation, singing, and celebrating, this holiday comes alive for us and our families. In order to prepare your home and heart for Passover, please consult this guide. For more detailed information, please see the Rabbinical Assembly's Passover Guide at: <https://www.rabbinicalassembly.org/pesah-guide-5784>

The Rabbinical Assembly has tons of resources on their website to enrich your Passover preparations, prayers, and seder: <https://www.exploringjudaism.org/holidays/passover/>

I am also available for any questions that may arise during your Passover cleaning, preparation, and shopping. You may call me at any time at 240-687-7218. Wishing you and your loved ones a *hag kasher ve'sameah*, a kosher and joyful Passover...



Rabbi Adam Raskin

## View and Print the Hametz Agreement Form: [www.HarShalom.org/Hametz](http://www.HarShalom.org/Hametz)

### FAQs

*What is hametz?*

The word חָמֵץ is translated as "leavened bread." This refers to foods prepared from any of five different types of grain (wheat, barley, oats, spelt, rye) that has been allowed to rise. Ashkenazic custom adds rice, millet, corn, and legumes (referred to as '*kitniyot*') to this list. In November 2015, the Rabbinical Assembly's committee on Jewish law and standards voted that the prohibition on *kitniyot* for Ashkenazic Jews is no longer necessary. Please note that not all Ashkenazic Jews or Conservative Jews have adapted this standard.

*Why must we do such extensive cleaning in preparation for Passover?*

The Torah prohibits Jews from consuming, owning, or deriving benefit from *hametz*. Before Passover begins, we engage in a thorough cleaning of our homes, offices, and cars to remove any traces of *hametz*. While it is preferable to consume or donate excess *hametz* foods prior to Passover, this is not always possible or economically feasible. In response, Rabbi Raskin will arrange a sale of *hametz* products to a non-Jew in the community, who will "own" these items throughout the duration of Passover. All *hametz* products, dishes, silverware, and pots that will remain in your home during Passover must be placed in cabinets or closets that remain closed and sealed throughout the week of Passover.

*What is the Siyyum Ha'Bekhorim?*

It is a *mitzvah* for firstborn Jews to fast on the day before Passover in remembrance of being spared the fate of the firstborn Egyptians. However, firstborns may be exempt from this fast if they participate in the celebration of a *siyyum* (the completion of a significant amount of Torah study). Every week, a dedicated group has been studying a complete tractate of the *Mishnah* in preparation for the *siyyum*. Even if you have not participated in this study group previously, you are encouraged to join us for morning minyan at 8:00 AM on Monday, April 22nd, followed by the Siyyum and breakfast.

*What foods require Rabbinic certification during Passover?*

Matzah, noodles, candies, cakes, beverages, canned and processed foods, processed cheeses, jam, jelly, relishes, wines, liquors, salad oils/dressings, vegetable gelatin, shortenings, vinegar.

*Are there foods that do not require special labeling?*

If unopened and purchased before Passover begins, the following products require no special certification: pure natural coffee, sugar (not confectioners or powdered), pure brown sugar, saccharin, tea, salt, pepper, frozen vegetables (without additives), frozen fruit juices (without additives), vegetables, honey, 100% pure safflower or soy bean oil, nuts (except legumes if you do not eat *kitniyot*), baking soda, detergents and scouring powders.

If purchased before or during Passover, the following products require no special certification: fresh fruits and vegetables, eggs, fresh fish and meat.

If purchased during Passover, the following products require certification: all processed foods (canned, frozen, or bottled dairy products, juices).

*Can any dishes or utensils be used during Passover?*

It is preferable to have special dishes and cookware reserved exclusively for Passover use. Certain items, however, can be *kashered* for use during Passover. Earthenware, enamelware, or porcelain utensils used during the rest of the year may not be *kashered* or used during Passover.

*What is Bedikat Hametz?*

After our homes have been thoroughly cleaned for Passover, and *hametz* items are stored away, it is traditional to perform a 'search' by candle light, feather, and spoon symbolizing that all visible *hametz* has been removed. **Note:** this is a fun, memorable ritual for children to participate in; it is traditional to place a few crumbs to be 'found' during the search. On the night before Passover, following the search, we recite the following formula renouncing our connection to any *hametz*:

כָּל חֲמֵצָא וְחֲמִיעָא דְאֶפֶס בְּרִשְׁוֹתֵי דְחֲמִתָּהּ דְּבִעֲרִיתָהּ וּדְלָא בִעֲרִיתָהּ לְבָטִיל  
וְלֵהוִי הֶפְקֵר כְּעֶפְרָא דְאַרְעָא.

*Kol hamirah va-hami'ah d'ika vir'shuti da-hamitei d'vi-artei u'd-la vi-artei  
liv'til v'lehevei hefker ke-afra de-ar'ah.*

All manner of leaven in my possession which I have not  
seen or not removed is hereby annulled  
and considered as the dust of the earth.

*What is Biyyur Hametz?*

On the morning before Passover we burn the *hametz* found during the search on the previous night. Chametz must be burned or sold before 11:59 AM on Monday, April 22nd. The latest time to consume *hametz* on Monday, April 22nd is 10:49 AM.

## LOOKING TO HOST-OR- JOIN A SEDER?

Do you have an extra place at your Seder table? Do you need a place at a Seder table? Pesach hospitality is an important mitzvah! Har Shalom wants to help make a shidduch (match) for your seder. Complete the online form and someone from the Clergy Office will be in touch with more details.

**[WWW.HARSHALOM.ORG/SEDER2](http://WWW.HARSHALOM.ORG/SEDER2)**

# FROM THE HESED COMMITTEE



**WE'VE GOT SOUP!** Is there anything more comforting to both body and soul than a bowl of homemade soup? We all have experienced the power of soup, especially when we are not feeling well. That's why Hesed started our new soup program—to bring comfort and community to any congregant who needs it. By the time this issue of the Tablet lands in your mailbox, Hesed volunteers will have made our first batch of soup, and it will be packed, labeled, and ready to be delivered to anyone who needs it. If you or anybody you know needs soup, please email [hesed@harshalom.org](mailto:hesed@harshalom.org) and let us know.

**WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO . . .** Our committee is busy working to create a strong, connected Har Shalom community. We had our first meeting in early December. We've made calls and even delivered food to congregants who've been ill. And soon, we'll be sending condolence cards to congregants after the shloshim period. We're also working on a learning opportunity, so keep an eye out for that.

**WE NEED YOU!** Hesed has an ongoing need for volunteers to:

- Make phone calls (or visits) to check in with people who have been ill
- Send condolence cards
- Provide meals to people recuperating from surgery
- Give rides to/from medical appointments




If you are interested in volunteering, please send us an email with your name, contact information, and area of interest to [hesed@harshalom.org](mailto:hesed@harshalom.org).

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers!  
Fran Elson & Deborah Brody, Co-Chairs

## ADULT EDUCATION

For a full list of upcoming Adult Education, visit [www.HarShalom.org/Adult-Ed](http://www.HarShalom.org/Adult-Ed)

### INTERFAITH Bible Study




Come together monthly to learn and build connections with our neighbors in faith as we start the next generation of this text study between Emmanuel Lutheran Church and Congregation Har Shalom, with the addition of the German Lutheran Church.

**THURSDAYS, 7PM - 9PM**  
**MARCH 14**

CONGREGATION HAR SHALOM, 11510 FALLS RD., POTOMAC  
EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, 7730 BRADLEY BLVD., BETHESDA

[www.HarShalom.org/InterfaithStudy](http://www.HarShalom.org/InterfaithStudy)



**OCTOBER 7 NEVER AGAIN**

SCREENING OF THE #NOVA FESTIVAL FILM, DAN PE'ER'S DOCUMENTARY DEPICTING THE MUSIC FESTIVAL TRAGEDY, FOLLOWED BY A LIVE TESTIMONY BY LEE SASI, A SURVIVOR OF THE MASSACRE.

**TUESDAY, MAR. 5 | 7PM**  
POTOMAC | \$10

**IMPORTANT:** The film and testimony contain material that could be difficult to listen to or see. Parental discretion is advised for younger audiences.

[IAC360.ORG/IAC-EVENTS/NOVADC](http://IAC360.ORG/IAC-EVENTS/NOVADC)

#BRINGTHEMHOME

# INTRODUCING NICHUM AVEILIM: COMFORTING MOURNERS

For many years, Har Shalom's *Hevra Kadisha* Committee has performed the mitzvah of *nichum aveilim* (ניחום אבלים), which means comforting mourners. Congregants have done so — not only for friends and relatives, but also for members of our community whom they may not know personally. Depending on the family's wishes and needs, those efforts may include helping to prepare the *shiva* home during the funeral, assisting at the service if it is held at Har Shalom, arranging for the meal of condolence after the funeral, delivering prayerbooks, *kippot*, and mourners' chairs to the *shiva* house, and arranging for *shiva minyan* leaders. All of these Jewish actions of comfort and support hopefully help the mourners begin the healing process.

Traditionally, the term *Hevra Kadisha*, or holy society, describes a volunteer group that prepares the body of a Jew who has passed away for burial. Because our committee has a different role — comforting and supporting mourners — we have renamed our group the *Nichum Aveilim* Committee. Both such groups engage in uniquely Jewish sacred practices, and it is an honor to undertake those *mitzvot*.

If you would like to participate in the congregation's *nichum aveilim* efforts and occasionally share a few hours of your time doing a *mitzvah* for your fellow congregants, please contact one of the co-chairs, Ruth Newburger ([ruthnewburger@gmail.com](mailto:ruthnewburger@gmail.com)) or Bob Sunshine ([bob\\_laurie\\_sunshine@verizon.net](mailto:bob_laurie_sunshine@verizon.net)).

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## Daytimers Jewish Film Festival



Join us at noon to visit and chat. Bring a dairy or pareve lunch. Dessert is on us. These educational programs are free and begin promptly at 12:30 p.m.

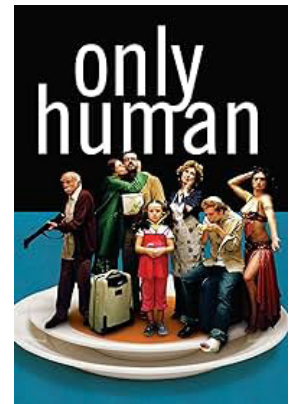
### March 20: **THOSE WHO REMAINED** | Hungary –2019–83 minutes

A solemn male doctor and an impetuous teenage girl find a hopeful bond, and a way back from loss, in this patient, tender Hungarian period drama set in the end of the Stalin era. Sensitively pitched to hold equal levels of hurt and promise, even as it addresses images that are hard to ignore, this superbly acted film exudes a faith in human connection as relevant today as such relationships needed to be in the years after World War II for survivors of unimaginable trauma.



### April 17, 2024: **ONLY HUMAN** | Spain –2004–86 minutes

This irreverent family comedy reworks the age-old story of meeting the parents with a modern twist. When Leni introduces her fiancé, Rafi, to her idiosyncratic Jewish family, everything goes well until it is revealed that Rafi is Palestinian. During the ensuing hysteria, a frozen soup falls out the window, the blind grandfather tries to shoot Rafi, the newly Orthodox son examines the food, the father is suspected of infidelity – and that's just for starters. Bring a hankie to blot your tears of laughter.



# FROM SOCIAL ACTION AND TIKKUN OLAM

**Our Mission:** The purpose of SATO is to put our faith into action by reaching out to others through active participation in a variety of projects available across the age spectrum of our community.

**Want more information on SATO about getting involved or being an active member of the committee? Contact John Friedson, Chair at [sato@harshalom.org](mailto:sato@harshalom.org).**

**“Adopt A Shelter” Program** (box art with sign up link for March 13 included Shelter: Cordell Place—MOCO Coalition for Homeless in downtown Bethesda at Wisconsin and Cordell Ave. Time: 5:15-6:30 PM Dates: March 13, April 18, May 16 (Sign Up Genius will be posted on website calendar and elsewhere 2-3 weeks prior) Ages 6+ so make into a family event—SSL credits available (bring form)

**Passover basket delivery** — April 14 meet at Har Shalom at 9:30AM. Contact: Louis Leibowitz [louis@leibowitz-law.com](mailto:louis@leibowitz-law.com)

**Grocery Delivery** — ALL NEW!! -- Once a month deliver a grocery a prepared box to food compromised person. A JSSA program. Contact: Stew Remer: [sremer@verizon.net](mailto:sremer@verizon.net)

**Meals on Wheels:** Volunteer Drivers needed. Contact Stew Remer at [sremer@verizon.net](mailto:sremer@verizon.net)

**Tutoring: SELA DC Public Charter School** (Hebrew Immersion School) - via Zoom only. Volunteers needed to read to K-2nd grades one per week. Contact Shelley Remer at [shelley.remer@verizon.net](mailto:shelley.remer@verizon.net)

## **SOCIAL JUSTICE:**

Look out for announcements of exciting new endeavors that are currently in the planning process.

## **Har Shalom & St. Francis Episcopal Continue Support for Resettled Afghan Families**

Volunteers from Har Shalom and St Francis Episcopal Church are continuing their collaborative aid efforts in support of two newly-arrived Afghan refugee families. Mansoor Sangeen his wife Balqis, and 13 mo old son Mohabat arrived in the US in December and moved into their White Oak apartment in January. They are from the Kunar Province in Afghanistan. Mansoor has a college degree in Literature but most recently was an instructor teaching pilots basic sciences and avionics. He is anxious to take on entry level jobs here in the US while he determines longer term employment strategies. Balqis wants to make learning English a top priority while perhaps taking in some sewing jobs for the many local Afghan families.

Riaz Jahangiri and wife Waheeda have a three-year-old daughter, Kayenat. They arrived about the same time as the Sangeens and wound up in the same apartment complex in White Oak. They both have university degrees and some experience in the legal field. Riaz wants to find a temporary entry level job while they both prepare to become paralegals.

Riaz worked in Afghanistan for US contractors involved with overseeing the judiciary system, and that's how he met Aرسالah Wahdat and his family, the first Afghan refugee family that Har Shalom and St. Francis helped. Monsoor's brother was an acquaintance of Aرسالah back in Afghanistan. They both have large families that remain back home.

For information about how you can help to welcome and support these families with immediate needs to include furniture, household goods and potential job opportunities, please contact Har Shalom members, Joan and David Weiss at [weissdj@comcast.net](mailto:weissdj@comcast.net).

## **SATO @ CORDELL PLACE**

*Sign-up to bring and serve dinner at  
Cordell Place, an MCCH Shelter*

**Feb. 21 | March 13 | April 18 | May 16**

**5:15PM - 6:30PM**

**Cordell Avenue in Bethesda**



*Project is family friendly and open to volunteers age 6+  
(all under 18 must be accompanied by parent/guardian)*

**REGISTER: [WWW.HARSHALOM.ORG/SATO-CORDELL](http://WWW.HARSHALOM.ORG/SATO-CORDELL)**



montgomery county  
coalition for the homeless



*Thank you to all volunteers who brought food items and served residents at our adopted shelter--Cordell Place in Bethesda on MLK Birthday Monday*



## ONGOING TIKKUN OLAM: COLLECTIONS & ACTIVITIES

A Wider Circle, the National Center for Children and Families (Greentree), and Cordell Place; bras and feminine hygiene products to I Support the Girls; and pet supplies and food to the Montgomery County Humane Society.

**Our MARCH / APRIL collection is Hametz!** Bring macaroni groggers to Purim services and leave them at Har Shalom for donation to Manna. And as you clean your pantry for Passover, don't forget to bring unopened hametz to Har Shalom.

**NEW ACTIVITY -- KindSoups for STUDENTS!** After 3+ years of cooking soup for the food insecure, KindWorks created a similar program just for students. Students get together on line from their own kitchens to zoom cook on the first Sunday of each month (March 3, April 7) from 5-6 pm. Check out the recipe and details at <https://dokindworks.org/get-involved/kindsoup/>.

Students earn 1 SSL hour for every 3 quarts of frozen soup made with the group and donated to others. A maximum of 3 SSL hours (for 9 quarts) can be earned during any session.

**KindSoups** continues and in January and February Har Shalom chefs donated over 100 quarts of soup to the MoCo Upcounty Hub! Join us from 4-5 pm on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month as we Zoom cook from our own kitchens. Upcoming dates are March 10 and 24 and April 14. Check the web site [www.HarShalom.org/KindSoup](http://www.HarShalom.org/KindSoup) for recipes. Do you have a favorite soup recipe? Let's add it to our rotation.

**Comfort Cases -- NEW blankets and afghans** are needed throughout the year for children in foster care. Comfort Cases, a locally-based non-profit, serves foster children locally and nationally, providing personal items to as many foster children as possible as they enter new housing. For more information, visit their web site [comfortcases.org](http://comfortcases.org).

**I Support the Girls** accepts new and gently used bras of all sizes and types, new underwear, and feminine hygiene products throughout the year. Donations go to girls and women experiencing homelessness, victims of domestic violence and sex trafficking, and refugees and evacuees affected by natural disasters.

**Medical Supplies** are always accepted by Har Shalom including health care supplies and equipment, prescription and non-prescription medications (open and even expired are accepted), bandages, and infant and hygiene products. Before disposing of these items, please remember those in need.

Please label donations and put them in the coat closet next to the front desk. For more information on any of these activities, contact Marj Klein at [msklein424@aol.com](mailto:msklein424@aol.com).

HAR SHALOM SISTERHOOD AND KINDWORKS PRESENT

## KINDSOUP FOR THE SOUL

**WHAT:** Come together, on Zoom from your own kitchen, for some fun and to create a community of healthy meal donors. We'll be cooking enough to feed our own families PLUS to pack up containers to freeze and deliver to those in need!

**WHEN:** Every 2nd & 4th Sunday from 4:00 - 5:00 PM

**MORE INFORMATION:**  
[www.HarShalom.org/kindsoup](http://www.HarShalom.org/kindsoup)

# CATCH UP WITH THE SISTERHOOD

## Sisterhood Mishloach Manot Project (Purim Baskets):

### MISHLOACH MANOT PROJECT IS UNDERWAY

Sisterhood's traditional project of Mishloach Manot - sending gifts of baked goods, sweets and fruits to family, friends and neighbors on Purim, has begun. It's almost time to start packing the baskets, and we really need your help. Purim arrives this year on March 24.

If you enjoyed the opportunity to be part of the group that helped, you can join us again. The Purim Basket Committee is looking for able volunteers to assist in filling the baskets with goodies and to deliver them locally. We will be packing the baskets on Sunday morning, March 17, with lunch served to our loyal and hardworking volunteers. The baskets will be ready for pickup by our drivers on Sunday, March 17 between 12:30-2:00 p.m. If you ordered any pickup baskets, they will also be available during the same timeframe on March 17. Look for your basket to arrive at your home by Sunday, March 24.

The Purim Basket project is our most successful and fun fundraisers. Just contact Sisterhood, and share your email address, to tell us when you can help.

Questions? Email Susan at [susanrabkin@verizon.net](mailto:susanrabkin@verizon.net).

## Sisterhood Book Club

**Please join us on the first Wednesday of each month at 1pm for our Sisterhood Book Club discussions.**

All members of Sisterhood are welcome. Email us at [sisterhoodbookclub@harshalom.org](mailto:sisterhoodbookclub@harshalom.org) so we can provide updates and links to our virtual meetings.

**March 6** | One Hundred Saturdays: Stella Levi and the Search for a Lost World by Michael Frank

**April 3** | Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow by Gabriel Zevin

**May 1** | Kantika by Elizabeth Graver

**June 5** | Book Selection Meeting

## \*\*SAVE THE DATE\*\*

**New To You Rummage Sale - Sunday, June 30**

Start saving your unwanted clothing, collectibles, and household items for our big sale. Volunteers needed June 23 - 30. Help us make this sale a big success!

## Don't be Skittish, Volunteer to Captain Sisterhood Kiddush!

There are many benefits to working in the Saturday morning Kiddush. It is a wonderful opportunity to kibbitz with friends, walk 5,000 steps and burn a lot of calories, enforce Sisterhood foundational participation in impactful engagement, and most importantly, have this extraordinary communal event supported by volunteers who love our synagogue.

**The dates our Sisterhood is responsible for staffing Kiddushes across the next few months are: March 23, 2024 | April 6, 2024 | May 4, 2024**

Please let us know if you would like more information or are ready to make this commitment.

Thank you!

Sisterhood Kiddush Committee Liaisons:

Becki Segal - [beckis1230@verizon.net](mailto:beckis1230@verizon.net)

Paula Cohen - [Phcohen@verizon.net](mailto:Phcohen@verizon.net)

## From the Nominating Committee

Have you considered getting more involved in Sisterhood at Har Shalom? Do you know someone else who might be interested?

The Sisterhood Steering Committee has a fabulous group of committed women who would welcome you to join them in planning more great activities. Events, such as Paid Up Membership and Volunteer Appreciation dinners, Mishloach Minot (Purim) baskets, and the New To You Sale, couldn't be done without our committed team of volunteers. If you are interested in joining the steering committee, or even just giving a small amount of time helping with one event, please email Susan Grant at [susandarryl@hotmail.com](mailto:susandarryl@hotmail.com) so that we can get in touch with you.

The Sisterhood Nominating Committee:

Susan Grant, Chair

Beth Ann Katz, Sisterhood President

Linda Brill

Susan Rabkin

Laura Rich

Margie Ritter

Melanie Shauer

Eileen Sherr

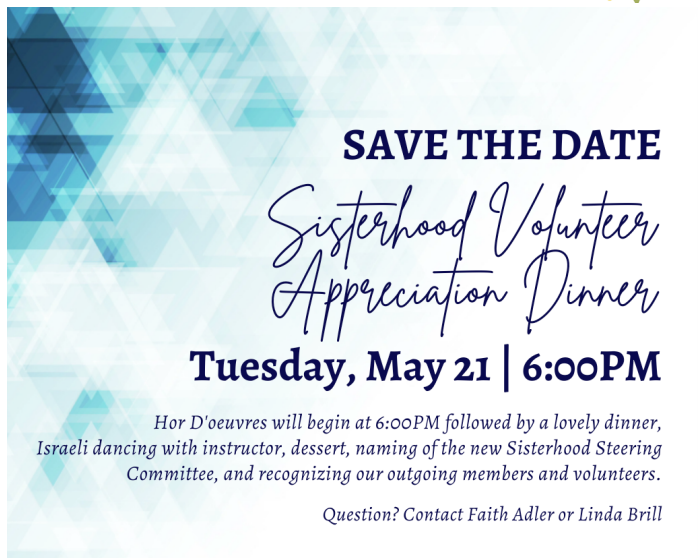



Please Join Us for  
Sisterhood Shabbat

**SATURDAY, MARCH 16**

The service will be led by  
the women of Har Shalom's  
Sisterhood. Join us for prayer,  
ruach, and a special Kiddush.

*If you would like to participate, email  
Alyse Steinborn at [bouvsrus@me.com](mailto:bouvsrus@me.com)*

**SAVE THE DATE**

*Sisterhood Volunteer  
Appreciation Dinner*

**Tuesday, May 21 | 6:00PM**

*Hor D'oeuvres will begin at 6:00PM followed by a lovely dinner,  
Israeli dancing with instructor, dessert, naming of the new Sisterhood Steering  
Committee, and recognizing our outgoing members and volunteers.*

*Question? Contact Faith Adler or Linda Brill*




**Vashti's Banquet**

**March 19, 2024 | 7:30PM | \$18/guest**

**RSVP by March 14**

**[www.HarShalom.org/Vashti](http://www.HarShalom.org/Vashti)**

# TORAH FUND UPDATE

*Kol Yisrael Arevim Ze BaZeh*  
*All of Israel are responsible for one another*



## TAKE A JOURNEY WITH TORAH FUND

Torah Fund will embark on a journey on Thursday, April 4, 2024! Join us as we explore our seminaries from Buenos Aires, Argentina to Potsdam, Germany, to New York City. We are very excited to present a glimpse into the Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano in Buenos Aires, the Zacharias Frankel College in Potsdam, Germany and The Jewish Theological Seminary, New York. In each of these exciting institutions that are benefitting from your donations to the Women's League Torah Fund Campaign, you will gain insight of how important your support is to the students who are striving to become Conservative/Masorti clergy throughout North America, Europe and South America. From New York, you will hear live testimony from a current student in one of the five schools that we support at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

Along with this exciting program, we will experience the exotic tastes that are indigenous to each region, along with a chance to socialize and catch up with friends and colleagues. But most of all, your donations of \$36.00 and higher to Torah Fund will help us to reach our goal of supporting each of the students attending one of our five Conservative institutions of higher learning.

So, look for your invitation soon and plan to join us on April 4th for a wonderful evening of fun, learning, great food and, most of all, support for the 2023 Torah Fund Campaign!

On behalf of your Har Shalom Sisterhood Torah Fund Committee, we thank you and look forward to seeing you there!

*Todah Rabbah,*  
Rita Wertlieb  
Har Shalom Sisterhood Torah Fund Chair

Torah Fund Committee: Ellen Bresnick, Toby Holtzman, Hanna Lee Pomerantz, Shelley Remer, Michelle Tow

## TORAH FUND GIVING LEVELS

Keter Kavod	\$5000
Scholarship Patron	\$2500
Patron	\$1200
Associate Patron	\$600
Guardian	\$300
Benefactor	\$180

**TORAH FUND SUPPORTS:** The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, New York | The Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies, Los Angeles | The Schechter Institutes of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem | The Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano, Buenos Aires | The Zacharias Frankel College, Potsdam, Germany



## Jewish Sleep Away Camp Scholarships From Har Shalom Sisterhood!



Jewish Sleep Away camp is an important part of a child's Jewish identity and Sisterhood wants to help support sending Har Shalom's children to Jewish camps!

Children applying for the scholarship will need to submit the application below and arrange a time to Zoom with Sisterhood's Camp Scholarship Chair Melanie Shauer for a brief interview. Scholarships are not need based and everyone should apply. However, awards will be scaled based on the family's support of Sisterhood fundraising and activities, interview, and essay.

To apply, complete this form and return it by April 20th to:

Congregation Har Shalom Sisterhood: Scholarship  
11510 Falls Road Potomac, MD 20854 or  
email [sisterhood@harshalom.org](mailto:sisterhood@harshalom.org)

Questions? Or More Information? Call 301-299-7087, ext 410 or  
Email [sisterhood@harshalom.org](mailto:sisterhood@harshalom.org)

Camper's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name and Length of Camp Program: \_\_\_\_\_

Please write a short essay on why you want to go on this program:

We ask scholarship recipients to send a thank you letter about their time at camp to be shared with the Sisterhood Steering Committee. All requests will be considered by Sisterhood at the May meeting, and email notifications will be sent when decisions and amounts are determined and checks mailed to the families by the end of May.

# FROM THE MEN'S CLUB

## Men's Club PURIM CARNIVAL

As of the February 2nd Tablet deadline for this issue, our planning committee is working hard on planning details for the event to be held on Sunday, March 17th. Mark your calendar so you can plan to join in the fun following HSRS dismissal at noon. Please confirm the times and details on the CHS website as we get closer to Purim.



11:15AM – 12:00PM | Fun and Games for families with children aged 5 and younger.

12:00 – 1:45PM | PURIM CARNIVAL (free entry) - the community is invited to enjoy games, inflatables, and food for purchase! Please register on the Har Shalom website and confirm the times. Programs and attractions are free. Food will be available for purchase. (**sponsored by Men's Club**)

- Carnival Attractions
- Moon Bounce
- Midway Games
- Prizes
- Raffles
- Free Hamantaschen
- Food to be sold - A La Carte
- Esther's Alley - Carnival Area (Kids under 5)

Plan to also attend the Har Shalom Megillah Reading & Masquerade celebration at 8:00pm on Mar 21st.

## Men's Club Brunch

**Sunday, April 7**, at 9:30am for Food & 10:00am for Speaker. This is a free event sponsored by Men's Club and RSVP is no longer required. Minyon attendance at 9:00am is encouraged.

Our April Men's Club Brunch features **Lawrence M. Noble, J.D.** Larry Noble currently teaches at American University Washington College of Law and is in private practice where he advises clients on matters related to the regulation of political activity. He will enlighten us on the many controversial activities surrounding the elections in 2024.

Until recently, voting for a candidate in a general election seemed simple. Just go to your assigned voting location, fill out a ballot and turn it in to one of the voting officials present. If you knew you couldn't make it, apply for an absentee ballot, and follow instructions. Now there seems to be controversy at every stage. Terms such as **election integrity, voter rights, rigging elections and voter suppression** fill the airwaves as we head toward the general election in November. We will talk about them and have a Q&A at the end.

The event is free and in-person only (no Zoom or hybrid). Consult with the Har Shalom web/events page or Men's Club and Synagogue E-Mails for updates.

## Men's Club Save the Dates

**Board Meetings:** Open to all MC members, March 6, April 10, May 8, and June 5. 8:00pm in Paul Social Hall

**Brunches:** May 8, and June 5. 9:30am in Paul Social Hall

**Purim Carnival:** March 17 starting approximately 11:00am (for PreK) and approximately Noon (following HSRS dismissal). Food will be available for sale and festivities conclude by 2:00pm.

**Seaboard Region, FJMC Blue Yarmulke Person of the Year:** Sunday, April 14, 12:00-4:00pm held at B'nai Shalom of Olney. Har Shalom will have an honoree.

**Men's Club Shabbat:** May 11

**MC Dine Out Nights:** Usually 6:30pm on last Thursday of the Month. Locations vary, so consult MC emails.

**MC Golf:** Twice weekly, all year, weather permitting.

HAR SHALOM

## Men's Club Brunch

Sunday,  
**April 7**

Minyan 9:00 am  
Brunch 9:30 am  
Speaker 10:00 am



**Lawrence M. Noble, J.D.**

**Federal Elections Specialist**

**Professor, Legal & Campaign Reform Expert**

He will enlighten us on the many controversial activities surrounding the elections in 2024.

After serving the Federal Elections Commission for over 20 years, he now teaches and advises clients on the regulation of political activity. Past experience has included heading up both the Center for Responsive Politics and Americans for Campaign Reform.

Visit CHS website/Events for updates. This is a free, **in-person brunch**.

## World Wide Wrap on Feb. 11

We had a great program - 42 students, 9 teachers, 12 Men's Clubbers wrapped, along with event chair Mickey Burstein and all clergy. An amazing and inspiring instruction was led by Rabbi Rachel Simmons.



## FAMILY NEWS

### B'NAI MITZVAH



**Becca Loving**

**March 10**

Daughter of Rachel & Ben Loving



**Josie Barrer**

**March 23**

Daughter of Amy & Adam Barrer



**Yahel Cohn**

**March 30**

DSon of Tammy & Gil Cohn



**Alexis Rosenblatt**

**April 6**

Daughter of Randi & Matthew Rosenblatt



**Mackenzie Fox**

**April 13**

Daughter of Rime Adler & Gary Fox



**CONSIDER A DONATION  
TO HAR SHALOM  
IN HONOR OF YOUR SIMHA!**

**Use the online donation form  
for a seamless process!**

**[www.HarShalom.org/donate](http://www.HarShalom.org/donate)**

## MAZAL Tov!

November 15 - January 15

Gerry & Beth Hoch on their 23rd wedding anniversary!

Joanna Rubin in honor of her successful completion of the Emergency Management Institute - National Preparedness Directorate's course in Fundamentals of Grants Management!

Bryan, Jackie, Ellie & Sophie Blanken and grandparents Bob & Wendy Rosenblatt on Simon becoming a Bar Mitzvah!

Daniel & Stacey Shapiro on their 10th wedding anniversary!

Grandparents Alyse and Steven Steinborn and great grandmother Annette Steinborn on the birth of Noah Osher Haskin. The proud parents are Kayla and Dan Haskin.

Abby Elson, University of Maryland, on her induction into Omicron Delta Kappa National Leadership Honor Society.

Andrew Friedson (John & Leslie) on his election as President of the Montgomery County Council .

Jane and Simon Babil on the birth and brit milah in Israel of their great grandson Yehoshua Nahari, son of Meira and Harel Nahari and grandson of Ellen and Amos Levi.

Wendy & David Epstein on their granddaughter Rian Joy Brandy becoming a Bat Mitzvah on Shabbat.

Fran Elson on her special birthday.

David and Ellen Kaminow on their 30th anniversary.

Liv Malet in honor of her Bat Mitzvah. Proud parent is Michelle Ellis.

Eric Dunner on being named managing Partner of Glassman Wealth Services.

Maya Erd (daughter of Steve Erd), on obtaining an internship at Congressman Jamie Raskin's office.

Allison Rosenstock on receiving her Master Degree in Public Administration from American University.

Jerry & Harriet Breslow in honor of Jerry's 90th birthday!  
Hilary & Mark Weiss in honor of their 25th anniversary!

Avi Block for his promotion to the next rank in the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program.

## CONDOLENCES:

November 15 - January 15

Al Bauman on the passing of his daughter, Deborah Bauman Maytin.

Sandy Ressler & Faye Taxman on the passing of their cousin, Na'aran Eshhar.

Susan & Randolph Klueger, Amanda & Dan Klueger and family, and Jacklyn & Andrew Stief and family on the passing of their mother and grandmother, Racine Ellis Murdock.

Mel & Millie Rumerman on the passing of their aunt, Helen Zemser, and on the passing of Millie's cousin Rhoda Schmulowitz.

Seth (Frances) Levita, Chana & Esther on the passing of their mother and grandmother Jacqueline Levine

Darryl (Susan) Grant and Stephanie (Gary) Knauer on the passing of their father Dr. Murray Grant.

Sandy (David) Freeman, Hannah and Daniels on the passing her mother and grandmother Helene Gordon.

Pam Kalen (Marc Toplin) on the passing of her mother Lenore Kalen.

Jill, Faye and Cora Kronisch on the passing of their husband and father Nathaniel Kronisch

Barbara (Stephen) Lustgarten on the passing of her mother Jeanette Ross.

The Family of Flora Jacobson.

Arthur Bennett on the passing of his wife Rhoda Bennett.

Ellen Bravman on the passing of her mother Naomi Abramowitz.

Allen (Aimee) Segal, Sam & Lila on the passing of his father and their grandfather Jacob Segal.

Mark (Jeanette) Binstock on the passing of his mother Shirley Berger.

# DONATIONS

November 15 – January 15

## **Abram Blum Library Fund**

### ***In Memory Of***

Rhoda Bennett  
Ferne Walpert  
William Hoffman  
Richard & Lois Neuman

## **Alan B. Levenson Fund**

### ***In Memory Of***

August Spector  
Joan Levenson  
Lila Klein  
Joan Levenson

## **Ashin-Zitomer Dor L'Dor Fund**

### ***In Memory Of***

Jacob Segal  
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Nathaniel Kronish  
Mikki & Jeff Ashin

## **Bar/Bat/Brit Mitzvah Scholarship**

### ***In Memory Of***

David Kenton  
Non Member Misc  
Rhoda G. Bennett  
David and Dannette Menaker

## **Community of Caring**

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Andrew Friedson  
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David B. Feder  
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## **Etz Hayim Humash Fund**

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Dr. Michael and Mrs. Carol Leibowitz  
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### **Har Shalom Religious School Fund**

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### **Harvey Forest Fund**

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