



Shalom from Rabbi Chalom **Are We Pluralistic?**

Pluralism is a positive value, especially among non-Orthodox Jews. It means that we accept multiple options in Jewish life as valid and meaningful for their adherents, and that our approach may be right for us but not for everyone. 25 years ago, I wrote an article as a rabbinic intern titled “Pluralistic Judaism Means Referral Judaism.” My key point:

The real challenge of pluralism, something that the mainstream debate has yet to take on fully, is the full acceptance of other forms of Judaism as equally valid as your own. This means....Referrals. If someone comes to a Reform Temple but is

really a Humanist, they should send them to us. And if a Conservative Jew, unsympathetic to Humanistic Judaism, wanders in our front door, we should point them in the right direction. It’s really a strategy for successful Jewish life: niche marketing and giving the customers what they want and need. And if what you’re selling doesn’t interest them, send them somewhere else.

The difficulty is stopping yourself from arguing with the Jew who has found the wrong Temple. If you believe in your own brand of Judaism, why not try to sell it to everyone, even if it doesn’t fit them? And for some temples, the drive for membership and dues is more important than the quest for finding a meaningful form of Jewish identity for all of those members....

On a moral, ‘pluralistic’ level, ‘Referral Judaism’ is probably right. On a ‘Jewish survival’ level, it is almost certainly right; if Jews are very different people, we can’t expect one form of Judaism to satisfy them all.

If we want to be part of a diverse Jewish future, then we need to be good Jewish neighbors. And “referral Judaism” also benefits Kol Hadash, both by pointing potential Humanistic Jews in our direction and by enabling us to have clearer boundaries regarding our values, beliefs, and practices. A potential KH member who wanted to impose gender segregation in services would be changing who we are; we can direct them to Orthodox congregations that already reflect their values.

We live a pluralism paradox: we affirm the right of everyone to make up their own mind and find (or found) Jewish communities that reflect their Judaisms, yet we also affirm our right to be who we are as a distinctly Humanistic Jewish congregation. In other words, every Jewish family has the right to celebrate Jewish life as they prefer, but not all of those preferences will be consistent with Humanistic Judaism. If we were everything to everyone, always internally pluralistic bordering on undefined, we would not be ourselves.

A true pluralism allows different Judaisms be what they are in their unique approach to Jewish life.

Kol Hadash Values in Action Committee

Lynn Miller, valuesinaction@KolHadash.com



Get excited! Values in Action is participating in another Mitzvah Day with the Unitarian Church on Saturday April 13th from 10:00am to 12:00pm.

Activities for the day will include a clothing drive for Deerfield Free Store ([visit their website to find out what they need](#)), making fleece blankets, volunteering at Bernie's Book Bank, working at the Northern Food Bank, and writing post cards to help get out the vote. We're also having a gift card drive to benefit PADS of Lake County. The gift cards should be from Jewel, any gas cards, and fast food restaurants. We'll also have a short service from Rabbi Adam Chalom and Reverend Lucas Hegert.

Every activity is appropriate for families, couples, and singles activities. Look for your weekly email

to sign up for this great volunteering opportunity! If you have questions or other volunteering ideas, please contact me at lgmiller107@gmail.com.

See you April 13!



Join Values in Action at the Highwood Food Bank as we load groceries into cars. We'll be at the Fort Sheridan Metra Station on **Friday, March 1 & 15 and April 5 & 19 at 2:45pm.** Questions? Contact Tony at anthbilotti@gmail.com or 312-859-0500.



PLEASE JOIN US

COMMUNITY PASSOVER SEDER

Tuesday, April 23, 5:00pm

**Bluegrass Restaurant
1636 Old Deerfield Road, Highland Park**

Adults & children ages 13+ (\$60)

Children 12 and under (\$15)

(Children under 6: no charge)

[Click Here to Register](#)

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, April 17

Please consider adding a tax-deductible donation to support this and other special programs.

Donors will be listed as co-sponsors in the Shofar newsletter. THANK YOU!

\$20 Afikomen Sponsor • \$50 Thank the Organizers • \$100 Be Amazing

Shabbat Services

The Golden Calf

Ki Tisa (Exodus 30:11-34:35)

Friday, March 1, 7:30pm ♦ in-person & Zoom

March Yahrtzeit Service

Why in this week's Torah narrative of meeting the Hebrew God include its betrayal with worship of a Golden Calf? Why does that God then threaten to destroy all the people just saved from Egyptian slavery, and how does Moses stop him? And is there more than one version of the Ten Commandments? Join us to explore these questions and more this Shabbat.

3rd/4th/5th Grade Class Shabbat Service

Friday, March 8, 7:30pm ♦ in-person

All are welcome to experience a special family shabbat, led by our 3rd-4th-5th grade class and their teacher, Karen Jackson! After sharing a Shabbat dinner, we'll celebrate Shabbat together and learn from the students what they have been learning so far this year in Sunday School.

Zoom Shabbat Service: Purim for Adults Only

Friday, March 15, 7:30pm ♦ Zoom Only

Purim is not simply a dress-up holiday for children; it's based on one of the most violent stories in the Hebrew Bible, and that's saying something! Adults are told to get so drunk they can't tell the difference between Haman and Mordechai, the historical Purim *shpiel* (play) included cross-dressing and mocking authorities (including the rabbi), and much more. Open a bottle and join us over Zoom to celebrate Purim *ad lo yada* – until you can't!

Out of Egypt: The Band's Visit

Friday, April 5, 7:30pm ♦ in-person & Zoom

What happens when an Egyptian orchestra mistakenly winds up in a tiny Israeli town on a cultural exchange trip? "The Band's Visit," originally a 2007 Israeli film, became a Broadway musical a decade later, winning 10 Tony Awards. This Shabbat, we'll honor our Theatre/Movie Group by discussing both the film and the stage musical (showing at Glencoe's Writer's Theater in February and March) and what lessons they might offer for bridging conflict and difference.

Heirloom Shabbat

Friday, April 19, 7:30pm ♦ in-person & Zoom

April Yahrtzeit Service

Memories exist both in our minds and also in the objects we own and cherish. What transforms an object into an heirloom is both time and lived experience. This Shabbat, everyone is encouraged to bring an heirloom or two (or prepare to "show and tell" over Zoom) whose story and personal meaning they can share. Together we can create a new beloved memory of inheritance.

6th/7th Grade Class Shabbat Service

Friday, April 26, 7:30pm ♦ in-person

Our 6th-7th grade class has been learning about antisemitism and the Holocaust, sadly relevant topics this school year. Join us for a special adult Shabbat to commemorate the tragedy and to learn from it.

Adult Education

What is Zionism?

Tuesday, March 5, 7:30pm ♦ in-person & Zoom

A political movement to create a Jewish state started in the late 19th century, in some circles today "Zionism" is reviled as ethno-nationalist racist colonialism (and other epithets). What are the origins, varieties, and meanings of Zionism (and anti-Zionism) in the 21st century?

What is Diasporism?

Tuesday, March 12, 7:30pm ♦ in-person & Zoom

Most of Jewish history has happened without an independent Jewish state. And most Jews have lived outside the land of Israel for over 2,000 years. Are non-Israeli Jews in "exile" or "diaspora," or can they have an identity rooted in the lands where they live?

What Counts as Genocide?

Tuesday, April 9, 7:30pm ♦ in-person & Zoom

The term "genocide" was coined during the Holocaust to describe the intentional attempt to destroy a national, racial, ethnic or religious group, and was ratified by a United Nations convention in 1948. In recent years, the accusation of committing genocide has been thrown at Russia and Israel, Sudan and China, Myanmar and the Islamic State. What does it take for tragedy to become "genocide?"

The Laws of War and the Gaza Conflict

Tuesday, April 16, 7:30pm ♦ in-person & Zoom

Until the 20th century, most wars saw armies in uniforms facing each other with clear rules of engagement. Guerilla warfare, civilian casualties far behind the front lines, the lack of clear front lines at all, asymmetrical conflicts between terrorists and first world armies: can the laws of war handle 21st century conflicts? The struggle between Israel and Hamas highlights these issues for our deliberation.



**Stay
Connected
with Kol Hadash**

Follow Us on
Instagram
[@kolhadash](https://www.instagram.com/kolhadash)

Questions?
Contact Jeremy at
info@KolHadash.com

Steering Committee Meetings

Thursday, March 14 & April 4 at 7:30pm

The Steering Committee meets monthly and all members are welcome to attend. Questions? Contact Laurie Schiller. scchair@kolhadash.com.

Kol Hadash Women's Group

see Weekly Email for dates and times

Our canasta group meets each Monday, and our Chat group meets the first Wednesday of each month. Questions? Email WE@KolHadash.com.



Join us for our annual March Madness bracketed wine tournament! Each "game" consists of a blind tasting by the group, who vote on which wine advances to the next round. All are welcome — you do not have to enter the tournament or drink wine! RSVP to winers@KolHadash.com.

SciFi Book Club:

Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep

Tuesday, March 19, 7:30pm

This month's book selection is [*Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep* by Philip K. Dick](#). Questions? Contact David Hirsch scifibookclub@KolHadash.com.

NonFiction Book Club:

The Worlds I See

Thursday, March 28, 7:30pm

This month's book selection is [*The Worlds I See* by Fei-Fei Li](#). All are welcome. Questions? Contact Ilya at nonfictionbookclub@KolHadash.com.

Junior Klezmer Orchestra

Thursday, May 2, 7:00pm

After 30 years, generations of klezmer musicians are reuniting at one event! To celebrate three decades, graduates will regroup to play together (including Jonah Chalom!). Visit klezmermusicfoundation.org for more information.

The Congregation is invited

Bat Mitzvah of Molly Kleinman

**Daughter of Sally Rosen
& Rich Kleinman**

**Saturday, April 20, 10:30am
North Shore Unitarian Church**

Mitzvah Day

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

Spend the day performing social justice projects/activities in the community. Watch the weekly email for more information including registration. Questions? Contact Lynn Miller at valuesinaction@KolHadash.com





you are invited

PURIM FAMILY CELEBRATION


SUNDAY, MARCH 17
10:30-11:30AM

COSTUME CONTEST
MAKE YOUR OWN CRAFTS
COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

TASTE OF KOL HADASH

**BRING A DISH TO SHARE
or come as a taster!**

SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 11:00AM
 OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL AT DEERFIELD HIGH SCHOOL



Click each ad for more information. Contact Ilana Shaffer at youthed@kolhadash.com or 773-209-8266 with questions.

PASSOVER FAMILY SEDER

Sunday, April 21, 10:30-11:30am



at our Sunday School at Deerfield High School



ALL ARE WELCOME

Doing Sunday School Differently

Open House & Sunday School Tryout

Are you thinking about how to expose your children to Jewish culture and identity? Your family is welcome to 'try out' our Sunday School by visiting their grade's class for the day.



There is no expectation of a commitment by attending.

ADULT & TOT MAKE 'N TAKE

Purim: March 10
Passover: April 14

Children decorate their own special object each month!

9:30-10:30am
for 3-6 years

10:30-11:30am
for 0-2 years

Adults & Tots join Kol Hadash Humanistic Congregation with Rabbi Adam Chalom for holiday stories, songs, crafts and fun! There is time for adults to schmooze (chat) and connect with other parents with young children. And, we will have a holiday-themed snack.





March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Values in Action at Highwood Food Bank 2:45pm Shabbat Service: The Golden Calf (Yahrtzeit) 7:30pm	2 Winers March Madness 7:00pm
3 Sunday School 9:30am Taste of Shabbat 10:30am Taste of Kol Hadash 11:00am	4 Women's Group: Canasta 11:45am	5 Adult Education: What is Zionism? 7:30pm	6 Women's Group: Online Chat 7:30pm	7	8 Family Shabbat Dinner 6:30pm 3rd/4th/5th Grade Class Shabbat Service	9
10 Sunday School 9:30am 6th/7th Grade Class Field Trip to IL Holocaust Museum 9:30am Adult & Tot Make 'n Take: Purim (3-6) 9:30am (0-2) 10:30am	11 Women's Group: Canasta 11:45am	12 Adult What is Diasporism? 7:30pm	13	14 Steering Committee Meeting 7:30pm	15 Values in Action at Highwood Food Bank 2:45 Zoom ShabbatService: Purim for Adults Only 7:30pm	16
17 Sunday School 9:30am Purim Family Celebration 10:30am	18 Women's Group: Canasta 11:45am	19 SciFi Book Club 7:30pm	20	21	22	23
24/31 No Sunday School Spring Break	25 Women's Group: Canasta 11:45am	26	27	28 NonFiction Book Club 7:30pm	29	30

April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Women's Group Canasta 11:45am	2	3 Women's Group: Online Chat 7:30pm	4 Steering Committee Meeting 7:30pm	5 Values in Action at Highwood Food Bank 2:45pm Shabbat Service: Out of Egypt: The Band's Visit 7:30pm	6
7 No Sunday School Spring Break	8 Women's Group Canasta 11:45am	9 Adult Education: What Counts as Genocide? 7:30pm	10	11	12	13 Mitzvah Day 10:00am
14 Sunday School 9:30am Confirmation Class Field Trip 9:15am Youth Education Committee 9:30am Adult & Tot Make 'n Take: Passover (3-6) 9:30am (0-2) 10:30am	15 Women's Group: Canasta 11:45am	16 Adult Education: The Laws of War and the Gaza Conflict 7:30pm	17	18	19 Values in Action at Highwood Food Bank 2:45 Shabbat Service: Heirloom Shabbat (Yahrtzeit) 7:30pm	20 Molly Kleinman's Bat Mitzvah 10:30am
21 Sunday School 9:30am Passover Family Seder 10:30am	22 Women's Group: Canasta 11:45am	23 Community Passover Seder @ Bluegrass Restaurant in Highland Park 5:00pm	24	25	26 Family Shabbat Dinner 6:30pm 6th/7th Grade Class Shabbat 7:30pm	27
28 Sunday School 9:30am Secular Week of Action All-School Volunteer Session 11:00am	29 Women's Group Canasta 11:45am	30				

March Yahrtzeits

The following names will be read at the [March 1](#) Shabbat service.

Dorothy Bernstein	Sylvia Cottle	Audrey Diane Gerson	Kathy Lederer	Betsy Olson	Leon Schwartz
Joseph Bilotti	Lois Edwards	Audrey Gerson	George Leichenko	Michael Pollack	Frank Sebor
Lemuel Cartagena	Gussie Eichner	Corinne Goldman	Edna Levine	Ida Rothenberg	Sol Simon
Stuart Chase	Rose Fisher	Allen Hart Lippitz	Max Lubotsky	Harold Rudnick	Marsha Small
Bernard Cohn	Stan Friedlander	Larry Jacobs	Sam Merkin	Nathan Sarasohn	Alberta Stambouly
Bess Cohn		Abe Kelner	Louise Milstein	Joseph Sayegh	Belle Wauldron
					Harvey Wexler

April Yahrtzeits

The following names will be read at the [April 19](#) Shabbat service.

Bernice Aaron	Phyllis Gerberding	Jerry Kane	Burton Linn	Aaron Pashkow	Leonard Shepard	Alice Tibbetts
Cathryn Adams	Rella Harris	Robert Kass	Belle Marks	Norman Platnick	Philip Sitrick	Molly Yoelin
Edward Dorfman	Cyma Hefter	Bill Korr	Louis J. Moses	Evelyn Rosen	Miriam Sitrick	
Richard Dreifuss	Rae Holtzberg	William Korr	Rita Muroff	Abe Rosenzweig	Sheldon Sitrick	
Nathan Eichner	TylerGrant Juneau	Leo Krouse	Mary Winandy Parker	Theodosia Sebor	Louis Sonshine	
Joanne Friedlander	Gerald Kane	Morris Lambert	Bert Pasettiner	Nancy Shaffer	Alice Tibbetts	

Tributes

Alina Dizik & James Agres, to support the Family Shabbat Dinner

Phyllis Cohen, Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, in honor of Rabbi Chalom for his kindness and compassion during my husband's memorial service.

Jessica Eisner, to support the Adult Challah Making Class

Katie & Sam Milgrom, to support the Adult Challah Making Class

Margaret Kaden, to support the Adult Challah Making Class

Patricia Butler, General Fund

Andrea & Mark Friedlander, General Fund in appreciation of Leah Sosewitz's exquisite taste in fine china, mysterious memory, generous spirit.

Dawn & Mark Friedman, General Fund in memory of David Fretzin

Glynis & David Hirsch, General Fund, in memory of David Fretzin

Karen Jackson, to support the Family Shabbat Dinner

Sally Rosen & Ritch Kleinman, to support the Family Shabbat Dinner

Lynn & Elliot Miller, Tzedakah Fund, in honor of Gabe Shaffer's Bar Mitzvah

Abby & Jim Sayegh, to support the Family Shabbat Dinner

Ilana Shaffer & Marty Shaffer, in honor of Ellen Apley, Mara Heichman, Leah Sosewitz, and Rabbi Chalom for their help with Gabe Shaffer's Bar Mitzvah

Sandy Shelist, Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, in memory of Mike Shelist

Svetlana Bekman, to support the Adult Challah Making Class

Family News/Thank You

- Mazel Tov on recent new grandchildren or great-grandchildren to Rick and Marsha Bolnick, Esther Silberman, and Lynn and Elliot Miller.
- Mazel Tov to Gabe Shaffer and his parents, Ilana Shaffer and Marty Shaffer, on his recent Bar Mitzvah!
- Mazel Tov to David Beach on his recent move from Wisconsin to Lincolnshire, IL!
- Deep condolences to Sara and Bill Race and their family on the recent death of Sara's father, Dr. David Fretzin.
- A big thank you to Simon Apley, Jonah Chalom, Irene Chase, Marina and Ryan Murphy, Sally Rosen and Rich Kleinman, Gabe Shaffer, Chad Solomon, Victoria Stamova, and Ben Tolsky for all their help in setting up (so much fruit!) and for cleaning up at our Tu B'Shevat Family Fruit Seder.
- Thank you to all of our parents for joining their children on Bring Your Parents to Sunday School! And, to our teachers for their creative activities based on their class's curriculum.
- Much appreciation to Faye Eisenberg for all her help in cleaning up after our Challah Making Class.
- We appreciate our our Special Guest Teachers at Sunday School: Ellen Apley, Rick Bolnick, David Hirsch, and Victoria Ratnaswamy.