



Congregation Sons of Israel

THE MYERS FAMILY CAMPUS

CONTINUING THE VISION — BUILDING OUR FUTURE

APRIL 2020
7 Nisan - 6 Iyar 5780
SPECIAL ONLINE EDITION





[RABBINICAL
ASSEMBLY
PASSOVER
GUIDE 2020,
CLICK HERE](#)

PESACH SERVICE SCHEDULE (all on Zoom unless noted)

Wednesday April 8, 8:00am. Weekday morning service for the Fast of the First Born (all are welcome to join). Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/131711514>

Mobile Dial (Audio Only): +19292056099,,131711514#

Regular Dial-in (Audio Only): +1 (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID: 131-711-514#

Virtual *Seder* lead by Rabbi Kane and Cantor Shiovitz: Available April 7th on the CSI website.

Sunday April 12 9:15am Weekday *Pesach* morning service (day four).

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/929106792>

Mobile Dial (Audio Only): +19292056099,,929106792#

Regular Dial-in (Audio Only): +1 929 205 6099 Meeting ID: 929-106-792#

Monday April 13 8:00am Weekday *Pesach* morning service (day five).

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/943212475>

Mobile Dial (Audio Only): +19292056099,,943212475#

Regular Dial-in (Audio Only): +1 929 205 6099 Meeting ID: 943-212-475 #

Tuesday April 14 5:00pm. Weekday *Pesach* afternoon (*mincha*) service **followed by Yizkor Service** and 7th day evening service.

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/413206912>

Mobile Dial (Audio Only): +19292056099,,413206912#

Regular Dial-in (Audio Only): +1 (929) 205-6099 Meeting ID: 413-206-912#

Friday April 17 6:30pm *Kabbalat Shabbat*

Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/694336884>

1 929 205 6099 by regular phone Meeting ID: 694 336 884#

PLEASE NOTE, DUE TO THE RULES OF YOM TOV AND SHABBAT WE ARE LIMITED IN WHAT WE ARE ABLE TO DO ON THOSE DAYS (April 9-11; 15-16) BECAUSE OF THIS **YIZKOR WILL TAKE PLACE PRIOR TO THE 7th DAY OF PESACH (Tuesday April 14) AT 5:00 pm.** A TEXT OF THE YIZKOR PRAYER WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ALL.

FROM THE RABBI

Steven C. Kane



Perhaps the most famous line of the *Pesach Seder* is "*mah nishtanah ha-laila hazeh mikol ha-lailot*", usually translated as "Why is this night different from all other nights?" Every parent wants their child to be able to recite this, and every child can't wait until there is someone younger than they are to relieve them of this responsibility! At my *seder* we have discussed whether this is a separate question (thus making five questions, not four), an introduction to each of the four questions, or perhaps it is the only question, followed by four answers (it's different because we eat matzah, *maror*, dip twice and recline).

This year I think that this line may best be understood as that third possibility, though perhaps we should take a look at how the Hebrew is translated. You see the Hebrew word *mah* doesn't really mean "why" (since Jews seem to be always asking questions, there are actually two other Hebrew words for why, *lama* and *maduah*). *Mah* actually means **what**. So we really ought to translate *mah nishtanah* as "**what is different about this night?**" This year we could ask that question, already knowing the answer, and it has little to do with matzah or reclining. Years from now we will hopefully be telling the story to children and grandchildren about the *Pesach* we spent under the cloud of the coronavirus, and what was different about the *seder* that year.

Unless you have your children or grandchildren living at home, or your usual guests came to visit three weeks ago and haven't left yet (a plague in and of itself!), your *seder* will consist of your immediate family at your table. For some, that will unfortunately be a *seder* of one or two, and for most if not all it means no one from the outside. **What can we do to make this night more meaningful?**

First, Cantor Shiovitz and I will be recording a *seder* for our web-site that will be ready for the first *seder*. It will consist of the most significant parts of the *seder* and run about 30 minutes. If you aren't used to leading a *seder*, would like to just follow along and listen to us leading a *seder* or simply want some "virtual company", you'll be able to do that via our web-site. You should be able to pause it if you want to, or let it run through from beginning to the end. You're all invited! Instructions with a link will go out on Tuesday April 7.

Many of you will want to include family and friends through the zoom app, which is actually fairly easy to do (I know because I was able to do it myself). Instructions on how to do that are included in this bulletin.

To begin with I want to suggest everyone dressing in holiday clothing, whatever that may mean for you. It will enhance the feeling at the *seder*.

In order to include every "zoom group" as much as possible, I want to suggest that you assign to each group something to do. This can be intellectual or fun. So, for example ask families in advance to write their own *Pesach* song to the tune of some famous song (show tunes work well, but so do children's songs and classic rock). You could even have a contest to see who is most creative or fun. If you have young children at your virtual *seder*, ask them to make a picture of some part of the *Pesach* story to show as you get to that part, and then use them as decorations for *Pesach*. Have each group take charge of leading parts of the *seder* themselves, while others listen. It can be as creative or intellectual as befits your usual crowd. Finally consider asking each group to come up with their own creative *Pesach* dish. Serve the same thing at each house, except the one unique dish that each one comes up with, and then compare and see who is the most creative (you could even limit it to the exact same ingredients, like the show "Chopped").

What is different about this *Pesach*? On the one hand we could say, everything. On the other hand, the challenge will be how to make it as similar as possible to other years. What will actually occur is a balance between the two. Let us hope though that we will all look back many years from now, and say that we experienced a unique *seder*, and what was different was how we were each able to make the best of a very difficult year.

Judy, Arielle, Tamar, Daniel, Elan and I wish each of you a *hag kasher v'sameach*, a *Pesach* that we all can say something good and new about what is different about this night?

L'hitraot,

Rabbi@csibriarcliff.org

Signing into a Zoom meeting is easy. Click on the link provided and follow the instructions.

You can be on camera or audio only.

Don't worry, you'll get it!

COURTESY OF
CANTOR
SHIOVITZ...
MUSIC OF
HEALING AND
HOPE CLICK
HERE!



CANTORIAL NOTES

Hazzan Jeffrey Shiovitz



One of the highlights of the Passover *seder* is the singing of *Dayeinu*. From a very young age, children learn the words and tune and delight in leading the song. Perhaps some of our most loving memories of Passover past are the family singing *Dayeinu* together. (In fact, there were many years that my family would take a break during the *seder* and call my father in Detroit to sing *Dayeinu* with him. It was his favorite!)

Did you ever stop to read the words in English? The beginning works well, but five or six lines in, we begin to wonder. “If He had brought us out of Egypt but not split the sea for us—it would have been enough.” Really? Surely we would have ended up dead. “Had He split the sea but not taken us through to dry land—it would have been enough.” I’m not so sure about that. “Had He taken us to dry land but not drowned our oppressors—it would have been enough. “What? “Had He drowned our oppressors but not provided for us in the desert—it would have been enough.” So we would die in the desert instead of at sea? Is that really enough?

Do you see the problem? It would not have been enough. Perhaps it would be better if, after lines such as these, the Hebrew word *Dayeinu* would be recited not as a statement but as if it were a question—“Would it have been enough?” One may reasonably ask what the rabbis had in mind when writing this and including it in the *seder*.

The rabbis want to teach us something. Often, people judge the present not for itself, but by its future outcome. The present will be judged favorably only if it leads to something positive. Not true say the rabbis in *Dayeinu*. See the beauty and the wonder of the moment—at the moment. If God had delivered us from Egypt but not split the sea then, yes, we would have died, but we would have died free, having experienced an amazing miracle. And who knew at the moment we were leaving Egypt if everything would turn out well? We never know what the next moment will bring. But if we wait for the future to judge the present, then we will always miss out on the wonders and miracles of the moment. The rabbis are teaching us to be able to say *Dayeinu* for the blessing of the present regardless of what the future will bring.

The truth is that each hour in life brings a *Dayeinu*. For some, it is a declaration of appreciation. We can say, “*Dayeinu*, this would be enough!” For others, it is a question of doubt: “*Dayeinu*, Is this enough?” With the novel coronavirus taking us by storm, we all need to say *DAYEINU*, enough! The lesson of the *Haggadah* reminds us that happiness lies in learning to say *Dayeinu* as a statement and not as a question. In these times, it is a lesson well learned.

Robyn, Rachel, Yonah and Miriam, David, Sarah and Drew, Talia and I wish everyone a happy healthy and peaceful Passover.

Cantor Shiovitz

Jshiovitz@gmail.com



CSI Community Organic Farm

Regenerative Agriculture Rooted in Jewish Tradition

With the mild weather we've been having we've started spring cleaning the Farm with a fresh coating of wood chips. Assembly of our new greenhouse will be underway shortly. Our vegetable starts were ordered (thank you Farmer Jonathan Kirschner and Barry Kirschner for helping and delivering) -- please let us know if there's a particular vegetable you'd like us to consider growing. We look forward to turning on the irrigation system and reconnecting the auto-watering system for the chickens.

We trimmed the grape vines and re-trained them to grow only on the top cordon. We will be mulching under the vines and monitoring from here until harvest for any signs of stress. Let's hope for a good year! *L'chaim!*

The Community Garden will again be available to CSI congregants. It is a wonderful opportunity for families to explore the beauty of nature and the ability to grow your own vegetables and flowers. The cost for a garden bed (a donation to CSI) is \$72. If you are concerned about the upkeep for your area after planting whatever flowers and vegetables you choose, for an additional \$72, we will take care of it for you (but of course, you will still enjoy your produce!). We have removed some trees from the overall area in order to provide more sunshine in all parts of the Community Garden. For further information, contact Jill Greenstein at 914-271-5418 or jillgreenstein9@gmail.com.

We are always looking for volunteers, not just outside labor... cooking, baking, delivery, grant writing, scarecrow making, etc. Feel free to contact Ryna with any questions or ideas at rynalustig@gmail.com.

For those who participated in the sunflower seed project at the *Tu B'shevat seder*: April 15 is the day to plant your seeds! Please contact either Ryna or Jill with questions.

-- Ryna Lustig, David Levitt, and Jill Greenstein

PROJECT EZRA

As you all know, we were unable to do our usual on-site collection of Passover food for elderly residents of New York's lower east side.

While the method of collection evaporated, the need did not. So, we reached out to our members by email asking for monetary donations.

In less than five days we had thousands of dollars to send directly to the administrator at Project Ezra so she could purchase food for those in need.

The immediate response was wonderful, but not unusual for CSI families. We come through for those in need. We continuously support the Jewish community both near and far.

Donors: Rochelle & Marc Auslander, Bonnie & Steven Bromberg, Nancy & Daniel Cohen, Daphne & Alan Crosswell, Robin & Sam Ginsberg, Debra & Alan Goodman, Suzanne & Neal Haber, Susan & Paul Hodara, Cindy & Richard Katz, Roberta & Rick Kay, Georgia & David Keidan, Margery & Michael Kirsch, Mary Refling & Art Krakowski, Sue Lerner, Susan & Andrew Morris, Mara & Gregory Mortman, Phyllis & Cal Neider, Sharon Orenstein, Roslynne Reichgott, Jennifer & Stuart Rosen, Marnie & Mark Rosenberg, Shelley Glick & Steve Saper, Rebecca & Douglas Schiz, Marci Dressler & Lou Sherman, Susan & Michael Thrope, Darlene Fairman and Jack Zinn. Please email Ellen@csibriarcliff.org if you donated but don't see your name here.

Yasher Koach and *Todah Rabah* to all. Wishing you a happy, albeit slightly quieter, Passover.

Rabbi Kane
Judy Boehr, Chair Social Action Committee

CSI'S COMMITTEES ARE DOING WHAT THEY CAN DURING THIS TIME!
IF YOU WISH TO REACH OUT TO ANY OF THEM, PLEASE FEEL FREE:

Caring Community: [Merrie Daitch](#)
Men's Club: [Rick Langeloh](#) & [Mark Reisman](#)
Pride Committee: [Suzanne Haber](#)
Sisterhood: [Robin Ginsberg](#)
Social Action: [Judy Boehr](#)
Social Committee—[Debra Young](#)

NEWS AND EVENTS from *Roni Shapiro, Educational Director*



The fun and learning has not stopped at the CSI Nursery school & Religious school!

Each day our Nursery school teachers are leading virtual class meetings. The children enjoy seeing & hearing each other and their teachers.

Singing, dancing, stories, calendar and letter fun are just some of the things that go on during these class sessions. Additionally, our incredible Nursery school teachers, email daily fun activities that the children can do and if they wish, share the next day. Even our sign language teacher posts a story each week for our CSI kids.

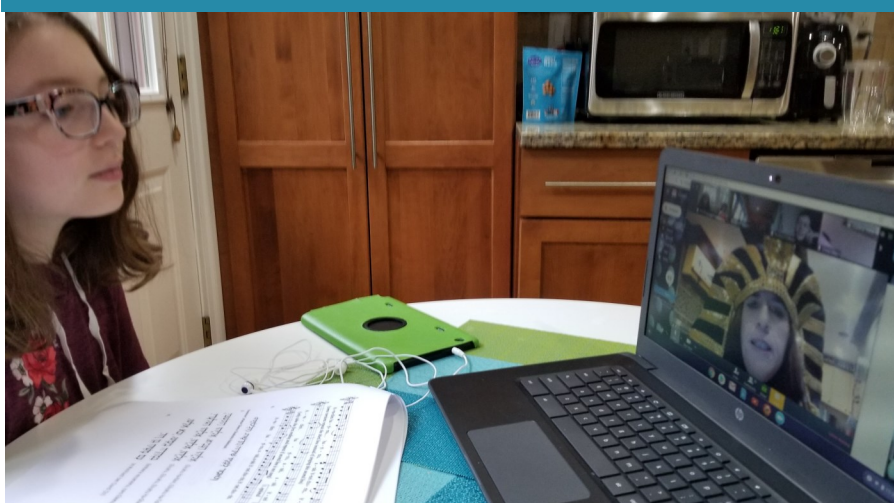
Last Friday afternoon, I enjoyed celebrating Shabbat with our Nursery school in a virtual Tot Shabbat and am already looking forward to next Friday.

Our Religious school students also are continuing their learning through weekly lessons being sent out by our dedicated staff. These lessons are following our curriculum and have included such topics as Hebrew, Passover and Torah. We love that so many of our students are doing the lessons by answering the questions thoughtfully and doing the projects assigned. Sunday morning, we had two virtual Religious school sessions. The children sang with me Passover songs and played a quiz bowl answering my questions and the teachers questions, sharing what they know about *Pesach*.

If you missed some of our lessons, no worries! check your emails, the CSI website and Join our next virtual Religious school lesson next Sunday.

I miss all of our children and hope we will be able to be together soon.

Eden Rappaport, (*Dalet* class) Zooming with Pharoah Roni and the rest of the CSI'S *Bet—Heh* kids!



DONATIONS

CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In honor of the *B'nai Mitzvah* of Samantha Anisman
& Ethan Anisman

The Daly/Anisman Family

CARING COMMUNITY FUND

In memory of Normal Altman
In memory of Louis Yoken
In memory of Jeanne Kanengiser
In memory of Mollie Gutstein
In memory of Gladys Barish
In memory of Norman Altman
In memory of Charles Davis
In memory of Harvey Golubock
In memory of Nathan Elman
In memory of Jeanne White
In honor of the birth of Ellie Margaret Messman
In honor of the birth of Shirin Khot Block
In honor of the 50th anniversary of Jon Kolbrener's *Bar Mitzvah*
In memory of Norman Alter

Annleah Berger
Deborah & Richard Yoken
Deborah & Richard Yoken
Rosalyn Rappaport
Gail Sider
Gail Sider
Gail Sider
Rhona Golubock & Andrew Rotter
Esther Schwartz
Leon White
Clare Rosen
Sonia & Paul Kleinman
Sonia & Paul Kleinman
Sonia & Paul Kleinman

EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In honor of the *B'nai Mitzvah* of Samantha Anisman
& Ethan Anisman

The Daly/Anisman Family

ETZ CHAIM - TREE OF LIFE FUND

In honor of the birth of Maya Feinstein
In memory of Leah Slotnick
In memory of Muriel Goldstein
In memory of Stanley Krakowski
In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Brandon Hawson

Helen Chuckrow & Rick Langeloh
Gail Sider
Eleanor & Michael Frey
Arthur Krakowski & Family
Alan & Elizabeth Legatt

JEFFREY DITTELMAN/ROBINOV CAMP RAMAH SCHOLARSHIP FUND (OVERNIGHT)

In honor of the birth of Maya Gabrielle Feinstein
In honor of the birth of Jane Ruth Schoenfeld
In memory of Harold Dittelman
In memory of Muriel Goldstein
Speedy Recovery to Arthur Baer
In memory of Sonia Barnett
In honor of the birth of Max Shepard Heyer
In honor of the birth of Samson Schulman-Corr
In honor of the birth of Stephanie Grzan

Debbie & Elliott Barish
Faye Dittelman & David Perelman
Sharon Dittelman
Faye Dittelman & David Perelman
Faye Dittelman & David Perelman
Leon White
Faye Dittelman & David Perelman
Faye Dittelman & David Perelman
Faye Dittelman & David Perelman

DONATIONS - CONTINUED

RACHEL GREENSTEIN CHILDREN'S RESOURCE LIBRARY FUND

In honor of the birth of Emily Alicia Schiz

In memory of Harold Grosberg

In memory of Evelyn Greenstein

In honor of the birth of Jane Ruth Schoenfeld

In memory of Norman Altman

In memory of Muriel Goldstein

In memory of Harold Grosberg

In memory of Muriel Goldstein

In memory of Michael Honschke

Susan & Asher Banks

Jill & Joel Greenstein

Jill & Joel Greenstein

Jill & Joel Greenstein

Jill & Joel Greenstein

Jill & Joel Greenstein

Harvey Grosberg

Clare Rosen

Jaclyn & Michael Schiffrin

GILBERT KAVY MEMORIAL BUILDING FUND

In honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Brandon Hawson

Clare Rosen

IRA KESTENBAUM BEAUTIFICATION FUND

In honor of the birth of Jordan Kestenbaum

In memory of Robert Eichengreen

In memory of Betty Strawgate

In memory of Morris Yohai

Iris & Joel Kazin

Ruth & Mel Speier

Susan & Howard Code & Family

Roberta & Rick Kay

KIDDUSH FUND

In memory of Douglas P. Null

In memory of Stanley Krakowski

In memory of May Davis

In memory of Anita Greene

In memory of Philip Basen

In memory of Paul Rosen

In memory of Harold Grosberg

In memory of Evelyn Greenstein

In honor of the 26th Wedding Anniversary of

Rika & Mark Reisman

In memory of Sara Levin

In memory of Justin Strawgate

In memory of Elinore & Milton Siegel

In memory of Morris Yohai

In memory of Meyer Rosen

The Thaler-Null Family

Arthur Krakowski & Family

Gail Perlow

Debbie & Elliott Barish

Gail Sider

Clare Rosen

Jill & Joel Greenstein

Jill & Joel Greenstein

Beth & Sandy Reisman

Rika Levin Reisman

Susan & Howard Code & Family

Bette & Gary Slutsky

Roberta & Rick Kay

Lisa & Larry Honigman

MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND

In memory of Sigmund Sternberg

In memory of Betty Strawgate

Ruth & Mel Speier

Susan & Howard Code & Family

DONATIONS - CONTINUED

RHODA & MEL MILLER RELIGIOUS SCHOOL TUITION ASSISTANCE FUND

In memory of Henry Borenstein

Cheryl Katz

In memory of Max Speier

Ruth & Mel Speier

ORGANIC FARM FUND

In memory of Kurt Speier

Ruth & Mel Speier

In honor of the birth of Leah Avery Khani

Marilyn & Bob Margolies

In memory of Sally Cohen

Arleen Neustein

In honor of the birth of Samson Schulman-Corr

Betsey & Richard Rosenblum

In honor of the birth of Samson Schulman-Corr

Marilyn & Bob Margolies

In honor of the birth of Samson Schulman-Corr

Clare Rosen

PRAYER BOOK FUND

In memory of Stanley Krakowski

Arthur Krakowski & Family

In memory of Paul Rosen

Clare Rosen

In memory of Arnold Sankin

Susan & Kenneth Sankin

In memory of Janet Krakowski

Arthur Krakowski, Mary Refling,

Gerard Krakowski & Hudson Krakowski

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In honor of the wedding of Lindsay Yellen & Adam Matloff

Liz & Alan Legatt

In honor of the birth of Maya Feinstein

Liz & Alan Legatt

In honor of the birth of Jane Schoenfeld

Liz & Alan Legatt

In memory of Ruth Saperstein

Karen & Allen Saperstein

In memory of Phyllis Levine

Karen & Allen Saperstein

In memory of Michael Levine

Karen & Allen Saperstein

Thank you for a wonderful trip to Israel

Margie & Mike Kirsch

In memory of Raymond Weinberg

Linda & Ed Kaye

In honor of the naming of Max Heyer & Gigi Heyer

Tina Goldman

In honor of Rabbi Kane

Ruth Hirschel

In memory of Jake Vandercar

Lisa & David Zimmerman

In memory of Mickie Goldstein

Jaime & Henrik Sukonnik

In memory of Susan Summer

Roy Summer

ZUCKERMAN/CHARLOTTE HERING MEMORIAL FUND FOR RAMAH DAY CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

In honor of the *Bar Mitzvah* of Brandon Hawson

Orit & David Daly

DONATIONS - CONTINUED

DONATIONS TO THE ORGANIC FARM FUND FROM RABBI STEVEN & JUDY KANE

In honor of the birth of Shirin Khot Block
In honor of the birth of Max Shepard Heyer
In honor of the birth of Ellie Margaret Messman
In honor of the birth of Samson Schulman-Corr
In honor of the birth of Stephanie Grzan

In memory of Muriel Goldstein
In memory of Judith & Barry Goldstein
In memory of Allen Moss
In memory of Maxine Kaye Gervey
In memory of Etti Cziment

LIFE CYCLE EVENTS

Mazal Tov to: Barbara & Norman Block on the birth of their granddaughter Shirin Khot Block. Shirin is the daughter of Jeremy Block and Afsi Khot.

Mazal Tov to: Tina Goldman on the birth of her grandson, Max Heyer. Max is the son of Haley & James Heyer.

Mazal Tov to: Ed & Hedi Sperling on the birth of their granddaughter, Ellie Messman. Ellie is the daughter of Galit Sperling Messman and Carter Messman.

Mazal Tov to Lois & Fred Schulman on the birth of their grandson, Samson Schulman-Corr. Samson is the son of Mand Schulman and Anthony Corr.

Mazal Tov to Ilene & Jeff Calderon on the birth of their granddaughter, Stephanie Grzan. Stephanie is the daughter of Marissa & Marko Grzan.

Condolences to: Robert Goldstein on the loss of his mother, Muriel "Micki" Goldstein. Micki was also grandmother to Malory Lea, Brian Goldstein and Jaime Sukonnik.

Condolences to: CSI member and teacher, Michelle Korzen on the loss of her father, Michael Honschke.

Condolences to: Phyllis Neider on the loss of her parents, Judith & Barry Goldstein.

Condolences to: Helene Rude on the loss of her mother, Etti Cziment

Condolences to: Ed Kaye on the loss of his mother, Maxine Kaye Gervey

**CELEBRANTS**

	Day	Years
Donald & Elaine Sunberg	1	8
Ed & Hedi Sperling	2	46
Jonathan & Laurie Goldheim	3	27
Steven & Audrey Bender	4	38
Michael & Laura Teitelbaum	4	22
Barry & Donna Yellen	5	33
Alex & Beth Fink	5	12
Norman & Marcia Levitt	9	60
Robert Johnsen & Rachel Goldman	9	11
Richard & Marisa Bloom	10	10
Paul & Sonia Kleinman	20	34
Howard Fleischer & Anna Medeiros	22	19
Leonard & Barbara Kobren	25	44
Scott & Amy Yules	27	17



CELEBRANT	Day	Age
Kylie Elyachar	1	5
Emma Lanier	1	10
Ronen Indibi	2	10
Eden Rappaport	5	12
Samantha Wancier	6	12
Evan Weintraub	8	4
Oliver Lanier	8	6
Elijah Lucht	12	12
Riley Shifren	20	5
Emmett Shifren	20	5
Ivy Stern	24	6