

# Congregation Or Atid Highlights

19 Adar II 5784



March 29th, 2024



## CANDLE LIGHTING

7:14 PM



## TZAV

Leviticus 6:1 – 8:36

Numbers 19:1-22

Ezekiel 36:16-38



## SHABBAT SERVICE

Friday Night 6:00 PM

Saturday Morning 10:00 AM

## SHABBAT SERVICES INFORMATION

**Friday, March 29th, 6:00 PM**

**Evening Shabbat service**

**Pre-Neg at 5:45 PM**

In-Person and via Zoom

**Join Zoom Meeting By Computer:**

[Click Here to Join By Zoom](#)

**Meeting ID: 876 1772 6755**

**Passcode: 000771**

**Saturday, March 30th, 10:00 AM**

**Shabbat morning service with**

**In-Person and via Zoom**

**Join Zoom Meeting By Computer:**

[Click Here to Join By Zoom](#)

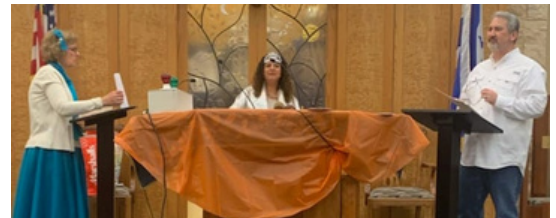
**Meeting ID: 669 242 126**

**Passcode: 000771**

For All Zoom users please [Click Here for a RA approved temporarily PDF of the New Siddur](#)

## COA Latest Happenings

Last Saturday, we had about 25 people join our joyful Purim Megillah reading, fulfilling the mitzvah of reading the Book of Esther. We enjoyed some Hammantaschens and funny costumes.



**It's that time of year again...ANTS are looking for a way in (patio & Kiddush room doors), so please wipe down all tables and countertops after each use (we have plenty of Clorox wipes) and make sure to sweep up the crumbs in the kitchen. We have a quarterly pest control contract, but they can't combat unclean surfaces.**

**In unity, we stand strong with Israel.**

**Your donation to the Israeli Emergency Fund aids immediate relief and recovery. Contribute today,**

[CLICK HERE TO SUPPORT OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN ISRAEL](#)

Connections is our monthly newsletter sent at the beginning of each month. If you would like to share an article, photos, or have questions please send them via email to Connections Editor, Ruth Schoenhaut at [ruthscho54@gmail.com](mailto:ruthscho54@gmail.com).

The Board of Governors asks that you be considerate of others when attending services. Please stay home if you are not feeling well or if a member of your household has tested positive for Covid. Wearing a mask inside the synagogue is optional but recommended. (rev. 3/16/2023)

# UPCOMING EVENTS

Hear the inspiring story of Benzi, an IDF veteran with PTSD, and Lugo, his life-changing service dog partner from the Israel Guide Dog Center. After years of struggle, Lugo has helped Benzi manage his symptoms and reconnect with life.

**Join us Friday, April 5th at 10AM** to learn about this remarkable organization providing service dogs to those in need across Israel.

Be uplifted by Benzi and Lugo's powerful story showcasing the Israel Guide Dog Center's transformative work.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

*"I have seen things and done things that no one should ever see or do. It's very dark, but because of Lugo, I'm seeing colors again, the air is fresher, and I'm beginning to return to life."*



## ATTENTION: GRANDPARENTS & YOUNG FAMILIES

### Family Shabbat Experience

**Friday, April 5th at 6:00 PM**

Join us for our young Family Shabbat experience on Friday followed by a kid-friendly Shabbat service, dinner and desserts. Grandparents and older siblings are welcome

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



Join us on **Sunday, April 7th at 10:30 AM** for a FREE lecture on nutrition and heart health. Samantha Haswell, a registered dietitian nutritionist at VCU Massey Comprehensive Cancer Center, will share valuable insights and practical tips to help you make informed choices for a healthier heart. Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your understanding of nutrition's role in cardiovascular wellness!

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



Join us for a joyous **Musical Shabbat on Friday, April 12th at 6:00 PM.**

Indulge in delicious dairy Mexican cuisine as we come together to celebrate the arrival of spring.

Cost: \$10 per Adult, \$5 4 to 12 years Old, 3 and under are FREE.

Please register by Monday, April 8th.

Don't miss out on this wonderful evening of music, food, and community

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



### Young Families

Join us on **Sunday, April 14th at 4:00 PM** for an exciting **Passover cooking class** filled with schmoozing time, good food, and wine. We'll provide childcare, ensuring you can fully enjoy the experience. After our culinary adventure, we'll gather to savor the dishes we've created with the children. Please register by April 10th so we can plan accordingly. While there is no charge for this event, donations (suggested \$18.00 per family) are appreciated towards the cost of this event.

[\*\*CLICK HERE TO REGISTER\*\*](#)



Join us for an upcoming Community Wide Event **Sunday, April 28th at 9:30 AM Yom Ha'Shoah Holocaust and Heroism Remembrance Day Commemoration.**

Rachel Loria will introduce her parents, Dr. Roger and Win Loria, who will present their family's World War II history. A Light Passover Breakfast will be served, Suggested donation \$10

[\*\*CLICK HERE TO REGISTER\*\*](#)

## **Jewish Community Events**

Anti-Jewish and anti-Israel groups are pressuring the Richmond City Council to pass an anti-Semitic and anti-Israel resolution with hateful rhetoric. Currently, no Council members support this resolution, **and we need help to keep it that way.**

#### Key Points:

- City Council needs to be reminded to not engage in foreign affairs; they have enough on their plate dealing with city challenges!
- Any resolution should condemn Hamas' October 7th attacks on Jews
- This resolution would breed division and hatred in Richmond

#### Action Needed:

- Attend City Council meeting, sit together silently with provided signs during public comment
- Sign up to indicate attendance

**Parent/Teen Workshop:  
Tools for Talking Antisemitism  
April 18th | 5:30-7:30 PM  
Congregation Or Atid**

**Register  
HERE**

Please join the Jewish Community Relations Committee of Richmond and ADL Washington, D.C. for an evening designed for discussing and combating antisemitism. This event will feature two concurrent sessions: one designed for caregivers and one for teens



**Sign Up for a time  
HERE**



# EDUCATION



**TAL SIMMONS, PhD**  
**SUNDAY, MARCH 31ST at 4:00 PM**

Tal Simmons, a forensic pathologist, had the grim task of identifying victims of the October 7th attack. This lecture is not for the faint of heart, but please consider attending to bear witness to this tragedy.



**RABBI SHERRY GRINSTEINER, AMY MELNIK SCHARF AND MAYA ECKSTEIN - SUNDAY, APRIL 7TH - 6:30 PM**

Come hear Rabbi Sherry Grinsteiner, Congregant Amy Melnik Scharf and Maya Eckstein insights from their recent trip to Israel as delegates with the Richmond Jewish Federation.

## TESTIMONIES FROM ISRAEL



[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR TAL'S TALK](#)

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR RABBI'S TALK](#)

Join us on Zoom with Frankie on **Tuesday, April 2nd, 7:00-8:00 PM**. We will explore In this class the Tanakh/Bible food eaten in Ancient Israel. Then we will be looking at archaeological evidence that reflects the consumption of these food items – fruits, vegetables, spices, proteins, grains, etc. Each class is a standalone topic, so newcomers are always welcome! Online on ZOOM only

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



Join Rabbi Sherry and friends for a weekly **Torah and Conversations** session! Beginning with the Parasha, our discussions delve into various topics inspired by the group's conversation. **Next session is March 28th 2:30-3:30 PM**. Attend in person or via Zoom. **Beginning 3/28 the classes will resume at a NEW TIME 2:30-3:30 PM until May.**

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Introducing **Millstone Scholars: A national honors program for exceptional middle schoolers**, delving into Zionism and the inspiring history of modern Israel. Engage in core seminars and special events, exploring Jewish thought and contemporary Israel. **Program starts April 14, 2024, at Congregation Or Atid.**

Tuition: \$175 (with sibling discount) with scholarships available. **Congregation Or Atid members: please contact Rabbi Sherry for tuition scholarship.** Join us in shaping the next generation of Jewish leaders.

Learn More & Apply: [MillstoneScholars.org](https://MillstoneScholars.org) | Contact: [aunger@tikvahfund.org](mailto:aunger@tikvahfund.org) [CLICK for more info](#)

## COA Book Club



**Join our book club**, resuming on the following dates at **7:30 PM**:

April 3rd, May 15th, June 26th, August 7th, September 18th, October 30th, and December 11th.

For more information and to join, please contact Sandy Mayer at [clynemayersd@gmail.com](mailto:clynemayersd@gmail.com)

Don't miss out on the opportunity to discuss great books with fellow enthusiasts

## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL UPDATES



IT WAS WONDERFUL TO SEE SOME OF OUR STUDENTS AND PARENTS AT THE PURIM FESTIVAL AT THE JCC, WHICH OUR CONGREGATION COLLABORATED WITH. THANK YOU, MOREH AARON AND ALISTAIR BENTLEY, FOR ALL YOUR HELP WITH THE KIDS' CRAFTS AREA. WE HOPE YOU ENJOY YOUR SPRING BREAK AND LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU ALL ON APRIL 7TH.

SCHOOL CONTACT  
INFORMATION:  
ALEX MENDEZ-ZFASS  
[AMENDEZ.ZFASS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:AMENDEZ.ZFASS@GMAIL.COM)

GAL SHIRI BIRNBAUM  
[GBIRNBAUM@ORATID.ORG](mailto:GBIRNBAUM@ORATID.ORG)



# COA Pathways to Engagement



Join us in the spirit of  
togetherness this  
Pesach

Have an extra seat or are you new to Richmond area and  
seeking a warm table to celebrate?  
We invite you to participate in our Pesach Match Program

To Host: Please register by Friday, March 29th  
To Be Someone's Guest: Please register by Monday, April 3rd

*Let's ensure no one is alone during this meaningful time.  
Let's embrace the mitzvah of hospitality and open our  
hearts to share the joy of Pesach together.*

**Join our Passover Match program! Register to host  
by March 29th or be someone's guest by April 3rd.  
Let's ensure no one is alone during this special time;  
embrace hospitality and share the joy together.**

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

The **Caring Committee** offers various forms of support to our members:  
phone calls, cards for the unwell, home or hospital visits, and celebrating  
life events like welcoming a new baby with gifts and meals. Reach out to  
Ellen Bernstein at 804-399-3649 for help or to refer someone. Current  
Caring Committee needs: Some members need cards, visits, or meals.  
Please contact Ellen for details.



## Come join our SHABBAT CIRCLE

This is a great opportunity to make new friends and spend time with old friends as we **renew** socially  
and spiritually together. If you would like to **Host a Shabbat Dinner** as part of our Shabbat Circle,  
please contact the office or you can [CLICK HERE](#) to pick your date on our Sign-up Genius sheet.

## **REMEMBER WHEN DOING YOUR WEEKLY SHOPPING:**

Join our Community Partners who make giving to Congregation Or Atid as  
easy as everyday shopping!

**Just CLICK On Their ICON**



## Get Involved and Stay Connected: Shabbat Services, Feedback, and Support

**Participation in Upcoming Shabbat Services:** Contact  
Michael Schoenhaut to participate in reading Torah,  
Haftorah, leading prayers in Hebrew or English, at  
[\*\*miru719@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:miru719@gmail.com)

The members of the **Leadership Task Force** value  
your feedback and input. Please don't hesitate to  
contact the Task Force members at  
[\*\*LeadershipTaskForce@oratid.org\*\*](mailto:LeadershipTaskForce@oratid.org)

Report antisemitic or security incidents related to a Jewish organization to the Secure Community Network (SCN), the  
safety and security organization for the Jewish community. The Jewish Community Federation of Richmond encourages you to  
share information on any threats or antisemitic activities you experience or are aware of, whether in person, by phone, mail,  
social media, or via a flyer left on your doorstep. This helps implement safety strategies, working with law enforcement to  
address threats. Use the reporting form on the Federation's website: [\*\*https://www.jewishrichmond.org/incidentreporting\*\*](https://www.jewishrichmond.org/incidentreporting)

If you would like to **sponsor a Kiddush** to recognize a life event, please  
contact Sandy Mayer 804 822-0604 or Fran Todras 757 692-4263



## **Gan Chessed Garden**



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP WITH THE GARDEN, PLEASE  
CONTACT SUE GELLER AT: [\*\*SUSANRGELLER@GMAIL.COM\*\*](mailto:SUSANRGELLER@GMAIL.COM)  
OR 804-387-7643.

Or Atid's Gan Chessed Kindness is supported,  
in part, by a generous contribution from  
the Jewish Community Federation  
of Richmond.

[\*\*CLICK HERE TO VOLUNTEER\*\*](#)

[\*\*CLICK HERE TO DONATE\*\*](#)

