

Congregation Or Atid Highlights

12 Adar II 5784



March 22nd, 2024



CANDLE LIGHTING

7:07 PM



VAYIKRAH

Leviticus 1:1 – 5:26
Deuteronomy 25:17-19
1 Samuel 15:2-34



SHABBAT SERVICE

Friday Night 6:00 PM
Saturday Morning 10:00 AM

SHABBAT SERVICES INFORMATION

Friday, March 22nd, 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 23rd, 10:00 AM
Shabbat morning service with
In-Person and via Zoom

Megillah Reading at 8:00 PM

[Click HERE to register](#)

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 Sunday, we had over 30 attendees join us to listen to our congregant Ephraim Seidman share about his time volunteering with the Israel Guide Dog Center. It was a wonderful turnout for the first session of our 'Testimonies from Israel' series. We kicked off the morning with a delightful breakfast featuring bagels, cream cheese, and even green donuts. Please join us for the next session with Dr. Tal Simmons, PhD, on Sunday, March 31st at 4:00 PM.



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.

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



Join us **Saturday, March 23rd at 8:00 PM** for our annual mitzvah of listening to the story of Esther and Mordechai at our lively Megillah Reading! Costumes are encouraged, bring your noisemakers, and come prepared to cheer for Mordechai and Esther, and stomp out that other guy's name. Light snacks will be provided.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Congregation Or Atid is excited to announce our collaboration with the JCC to celebrate the **Purim Carnival** at the JCC. The event will take place on **Sunday, March 24th, from 12:00 PM to 3:00 PM**.

Rabbi Sherry will lead the Megillah reading at 12:15 PM

There will be **no school** that Sunday so that everyone can enjoy the festivities. Please [REGISTER HERE](#) if you are planning on attending.

Purim CARNIVAL!
MARCH 24 12 - 3 PM with a special sensory friendly hour from 11 AM - 12 PM

- LASER TAG • CLOWNS •
- BOUNCE HOUSE • FINGER PUPPETS •
- COSTUME PARADE • FACE PAINTING •
- OBSTACLE COURSE •
- CROWN & MASK CRAFTS •
- HAMANTASCHEN DECORATING •

FREE and open to all!
Fun for families of all ages and faiths!

MAGIC SHOWS & JUGGLING from Jonathan the Juggler 12:30 PM & 2:00 PM
 MEGILLAH READING 12:15 PM
 KOSHER LUNCH \$8 Card only, please! No cash
 Hot Dogs
 Hamburger
 Vegetarian
 Knishes

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS!
 Congregation Or Atid
 PJ Library
 Men's Club
 RTA
 Jewish Community Federation of Richmond

5403 Monument Avenue



ATTENTION: GRANDPARENTS & YOUNG FAMILIES

Family Shabbat Experience Friday, April 5th at 6:00 PM

Join us for our young Family Shabbat experience on Friday at 6:00 PM, followed by a kid-friendly Shabbat dinner and desserts.

Grandparents and older siblings are welcome

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

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."

WELCOMING ISRAEL'S 2 LEGGED AND 4 LEGGED HEROES
IDF VETERAN BENZI & SERVICE DOG LUGO

AFTER SUFFERING FROM PTSD FOLLOWING HIS ELITE IDF SERVICE, BENZI WAS PARTNERED WITH A SERVICE DOG NAMED LUGO IN 2022, WHICH HAS ALLOWED HIM TO MANAGE HIS SYMPTOMS AND RECONNECT WITH HIS FAMILY AND LIFE. COME HERE THEIR REMARKABLE STORY

Friday, April 5th, 2024
 10:00-11:00 AM
 Congregation Or Atid

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: 10.00 per Adult, 5.00 12 to 4 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](#)



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



[Sign Up for a time HERE](#)



**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



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
SUNDAY, APRIL 7TH - 6:30 PM

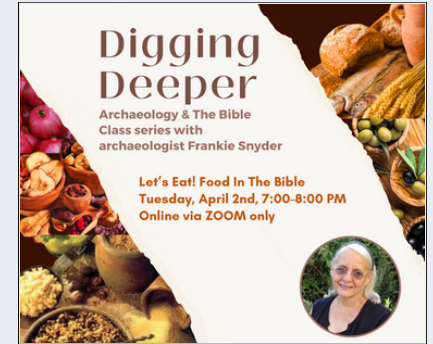
Come hear Rabbi Sherry's insights from her recent trip to Israel as a delegate with the Richmond Jewish Federation. The presentation will be in an interview format with audience Q&A.

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](#)

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

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

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL UPDATES



LAST WEEK, THE STUDENTS HAD SO MUCH FUN LEARNING ABOUT PURIM. THEY BEGAN THE DAY BY LISTENING TO A TALK BY CONGREGANT EPHRAIM SEIDMAN ABOUT HIS TIME IN ISRAEL DURING THE WAR, VOLUNTEERING AT THE ISRAEL GUIDE DOG CENTER. AFTERWARD, THEY ALL WENT UPSTAIRS TO MAKE GROGGERS AND MASKS. REMEMBER, THERE WILL BE NO SCHOOL THIS SUNDAY SO WE CAN ALL JOIN THE CELEBRATION AT THE JCC. [CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFO.](#)

SCHOOL CONTACT
INFORMATION:

ALEX MENDEZ-ZFASS
AMENDEZ.ZFASS@GMAIL.COM

GAL SHIRI BIRNBAUM
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

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

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>

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
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](#)

