



APRIL 2024

ADAR II : NISAN 5784

Congregation Albert Ma Yesh

Congregation Albert, founded in 1897, is the oldest continuing Jewish organization in New Mexico. We are a Reform congregation whose members rejoice in our diversity. Together, we are committed to the ongoing works of building a congregation shaped by the Jewish values of *Kedusha* (spirituality), *Kehillah* (community), *Torah Lishmah* (lifelong learning), and *Tikkun Olam* (repairing the world).

Board of Trustees

President: Charna Lefton

VP of Operations: Jenny Moran **VP of Finance:** Dale Atkinson

Immediate Past President: Rob Rosenberg

Secretary: Jason Krosinsky Treasurer: Roger Baar Trustees: Alissa Berger

John Thomas Folkner

Amy Martinez
Ben Meisner
Jessica Paul-Ward
Scott Schaffer
Carol Spizman

Board@congregationalbert.org

Sisterhood President: Jan Secunda **Brotherhood Rep:** Warren Field

congregationalbert.org

facebook.com/congregationalbert

@congregationalbert

Office Hours

Monday through Thursday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Friday: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday & Sunday: Closed

3800 Louisiana Blvd. NE Albuquerque, N.M. 87110 Phone: (505) 883-1818 Fax: (505) 883-1814



Board President

Charna Lefton charna@congregationalbert.org

Rabbi Celia Surget

rabbisurget@congregationalbert.org

Cantor Barbara Finn

cantorfinn@congregationalbert.org

Rabbi Emeritus Harry Rosenfeld

rabbirosenfeld@congregationalbert.org

Early Childhood Director

Dale Cooperman ecc@congregationalbert.org

Executive Director

Daniele Williams ED@congregationalbert.org

Accountant Specialist

Alysha Running Hawk alysha@congregationalbert.org bookkeeper@congregationalbert.org

Clergy-Education Administrative Assistant

Chrissy Henderson chrissy@congregationalbert.org

Administrative Assistant

Lorie Ponce Lorie@congregationalbert.org

Administrative Assistant

Emily Perrone Emily@congregationalbert.org

Lead Maintenance

Vern Maldonado custodian@congregationalbert.org

Maintenance

Ray Nieto ray@congregationalbert.org

President's Message

I am so honored to be the 2023-2025 Congregation Albert (CA) Board of Trustees President. I am equally grateful for your confidence in me. As a lifelong member of CA, I have a deep connection to our community and a profound sense of stewardship toward the congregation and the Reform Jewish values we stand for.

Those values play a key role in my Jewish identity. And, as I begin my term as Board President, I want to refocus on some of the important Jewish values that I believe are critical to keeping us rooted in what it means to be Jewish in the 21st century. These are the values that we want to embrace and, in some cases, return to in our CA community so that our congregation will be strong, healthy, vibrant and relevant well into the next 125 years. As I begin this journey through our Reform Jewish values, I am reminded of one of my favorite stories that I bet many of you will remember. It is said that a non-Jewish man came to Hillel, the beloved first century prophet, and promised to convert to Judaism if Hillel could teach him the Torah while the man stood on one foot. The wise Hillel agreed, and, as the man balanced on one foot, Hillel said, "What is hateful to you, do not do to others. That is the whole of the Torah. All the rest is commentary."

Like Hillel, many Jewish thinkers, both past and present, hold lovingkindness (chesed in Hebrew) as Judaism's primary ethical value. The Torah starts and ends with acts of chesed: God clothes Adam and Eve, and buries Moses. So central to Judaism is the value of kindness that chesed is mentioned nearly 200 times in the Torah.

In recent years, scientific research has identified kindness as a universal character strength and virtue that provides significant physical and mental health benefits, increase productivity and profitability in business, and holds societies and communities together by creating and strengthening relationships among people and helping us live harmoniously despite our shared differences. One of the most intriguing discoveries is how kindness generates an increase in oxytocin, the brain hormone responsible for the sense of connectedness and trust. And, even more encouraging is that kindness is contagious. Acts of kindness, random or otherwise, generate further acts of kindness.

Over the coming months and years, our acts of lovingkindness – toward our families, neighbors and coworkers; toward the members of our congregation and the larger Jewish community; toward all people; toward our planet, and (equally importantly) towards ourselves – will be critical in making all our lives happy, healthy, meaningful and secure. Chesed is, perhaps, the most important thing we can practice to ensure the longevity of our congregation, and our world.

It isn't hard to start performing acts of chesed. Give a complement to the person sitting next to you at services. Write a simple note of thanks to your child's teacher. Follow what my family called "the Thumper rule" (from the Disney movie Bambi), that is, if you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all. Try to find a smile, a kind word, or a helpful gesture for someone at least twice every day. Because, as Jews, that's who we are called to be. We are the people who can stand on one foot and say that our belief, our most important spiritual practice, is lovingkindness.

L'Shalom.

Charna Lefton

Contact the CA Board of Trustees at **Board@congregationalbert.org**Contact Charna at **Charna@congregationalbert.org**

Clergy Comments

One of my favorite parts of the Passover Seder is the account of the four children-each representing facets of our own personalities, and different parts of the community. It is a yearly reminder that though the Passover Seder is meant to be an educational experience (as well as a communal one, bringing together friends, families and those who we do not yet know), it is only successful if we have spent valuable time hearing and listening to the questions that are asked, and those not voiced-taking the time to answer and to engage in a healthy and respectful debate, and acknowledging the diversity to opinions in the community.

I have felt for a long time that the child who offers the question "what does this ritual mean to you", though often called the "wicked one" is actually the one I prefer: that child challenges the setting, not willing to accept as a given what they are being taught, and the label that child has been given is actually a reflection of our own difficulty to embrace questions that make us uncomfortable.

One of the ways in which we can bring meaning to the Passover Seder is through the elements that will appear on our plates and our tables. These vary from one table to the next according to traditions, heritage, family history. As we prepare for our community's Seder, I wanted to share with you some of the elements we will be adding to our plate, and invite you to perhaps consider adding them to your own plates, or sharing with us any additional elements you are considering adding.

An orange: there is some ambiguity as to the need to add an orange on a Seder plate, given that the story that it is associated with has undergone significant changes. But what does not differ is our commitment to creating a truly and sincerely inclusive religious, cultural and spiritual space for all who seek it and wish to engage with us. As a Progressive community, we abide by the values that remind us that our responsibility to each other is not to judge and reject, but to respect and honor each other, as the holy vessels that we each are.

Olives: we add olives to our Seder plate as an expression of our hope for a state of peace that is whole, strong and cannot be broken. While there is still a long way to go, and the work will not be easy, it is nonetheless our responsibility to work towards that time.

<u>Sunflower seeds:</u> We will all hopefully be gathering in safe spaces, and aware that for so many, that opportunity has been taken away from them. As a way of marking our solidarity with the people of Ukraine, we will be adding sunflower seeds to our Seder plate.

And this prayer: This year in particular, we are aware that for many families in Israel and around the world, there will be at least one empty chair at the table-Rabbi Aaron Starr wrote the following beautiful and poignant prayer:

Tonight, we celebrate our freedom, and we sing psalms of joy.

Tonight, we pray for the release of our siblings suffering in captivity.

Tonight, we relish the warmth of our homes, surrounded by family and friends

Tonight, we are mindful of hundreds of thousands of Israelis displaced from their homes.

Tonight we are mindful of all those displaced from their homes because of war.

Tonight, we give thanks for the abundance of food and drink.

Tonight, we note the millions around the world who lack their most basic needs.

Tonight, we sit at the Passover table.

Tonight, we stand for the right of Jews everywhere to live in safety.

Tonight, we remember that we came out of Mitzrayim.*

Tonight, we hope that no one will experience Mitzrayim ever again



Registration is open for:

Summer Camp, 2024 and the 2024 – 2025 school year Classes are filling.

Let's play outside!
Summer Camp: "Our Big, Beautiful World"

SESSION 1: June 3rd – June 28, (closed on June 12th)

and

SESSION 2: July 1 -July 26th (closed July 4th and 5th) joyfully serving ages 2-7

Please join our FOCUS 5 star school community and learn, play and grow with us!

Congregation Albert Early Childhood Center

(Serving children 2 years of age – kindergarten)
Call or email for more information:
Dale Sides Cooperman, M.A., Ed. Spec
Early Childhood Director
ecc@congregationalbert.org
505.883.0306









SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!

J Celebrate Cantor Finn's 20 Years

Leading our Community in Song and Prayer

SATURDAY MAY 18, 2024

LOOKING FOR A FUN SUMMER JOB? WE HAVE GOT THE PERFECT JOB FOR YOU!



Do you love young children? Would you enjoy a summer experience working and playing with children ages 2-7? And, do you also have a good sense of humor?

If the answer to these 3 questions is YES, then we have a job opportunity for you! Congregation Albert's Early Childhood Center is looking for summer staff, for the months of **June and July**.

The ECC is seeking positive, energetic, and enthusiastic people to join a team of professionals who find joy and creativity in working and playing with young learners at Congregation Albert Early Childhood Center. We are a five star early learning environment that places great value on early childhood education and on our talented faculty. And, it is a 5 star early learning environment where we recognize the beauty and unique talents each child brings.

PLEASE CONTACT DALE COOPERMAN, EARLY CHILDHOOD DIRECTOR, AT: ECC@CONGREGATIONALBERT.ORG, OR AT 505.883.0306 FOR MORE INFORMATION.





May 3rd

Nosh at 5:30 pm sponsored by

The Caring Committee to honor the work of the

committee and its volunteers followed by service

at 6:00 pm!

If you would like to sponsor a Cafe Shabbat please email office@congregationalbert.org

Pesach Services:

April 23rd- 10:30 a.m.

First Day Pesach Service

April 28th- 6:00 p.m.

Erev Seventh Day Study



The Michelle Goffe Memorial Rose
Garden was conceived thirty years ago to
honor our daughter Michelle, who was
tragically murdered on April 9, 1994, at the
age of 19. Michelle was a beloved daughter,
sister, niece, cousin and friend. Our family
started the garden on the grounds of
Congregation Albert to keep Michelle's
memory alive. It has always been important
to include you, our Congregation Albert
family of friends, in this living legacy.

A metal archway draws you through our Garden, which still features roses but now emphasizes more xeric (drought tolerant) plants. In the original garden of 30 years, we installed four high-quality,comfortable Polysteel benches. But after so long, they became cracked, rusted and discolored. Last April, I was hopeful to receive funds from the estate of Michelle's father, Jerry Goffe, to help replace those well-used benches. Gratefully, this became a reality.

With the research and help of Congregant, Ray Cohen, we were able to locate this same company and four new benches will arrive soon. Ray's continuing help ensures the removal of the four old benches and installation of the new ones.

Congregation Albert Sisterhood made a generous \$1,000 donation which will pay for one of the benches and assist with on-going garden care and maintenance costs: adding mulch, fertilizing, repairing and replacing irrigation emitters and tubing, and planting more perennials and shrubs.

I am eager to have these projects begin so that the Garden will return as a place to quietly sit and reflect, enjoy the beauty of the blooming roses and follow the stepping stones throughout the xeric plantings.

The continuing contribution of money and time from Congregation Albert and its members reassures my family and myself that Michelle's blessed memory will be perpetuated through the Michelle Goffe Memorial Rose Garden.

Thank you. Sylvia Goffe





Sisterhood and the Green Team Present Earth Day Nosh & Knowledge - Local Flavor

Thursday April 18th from 5:30pm - 7:30pm Buffet Dinner / Cost \$20 (pre-payment requested)

Hear

Elan Silverblatt-Buser of Silverleaf Farms in Corrales talk about solar powered, pesticide free and H20 efficient sustainable agriculture farming.

Amy Owen of Desert Hives in Tijeras talk about bees and beekeeping, their role in a healthy planet, propagating and how we can be a friend to bees.

Win

a free basket from our presenters just by coming to the event! Sign up to tour both facilities at a later date.

RSVP by Monday, April 15th

Use the link below OR at <u>ca.sisterhood.com</u> OR call Evie Zlotkin at 505-639-1112 and then send your check made payable to CA Sisterhood to 3800 Louisiana Blvd NE 87110 mentioning Earth Day in the memo section.



Congregation Albert Green Team Happenings

Co-leaders – Judy Smith and Paula Donahue

February - CA Grounds Clean-up

On February 25th, thirteen volunteers worked for several hours to clean out weeds, dead leaves and trash along the CA perimeter fence allowing us to be better neighbors with the neighborhood to the east. Thank you to Sam, Terri, Jan, Elaine, Gary, Erik, Ed, Susie and guest, Rabbi Paul, Syl and Judy tor their hard work and to Vernon for drinks and supplies.



After we raked, pulled, shoveled and bagged, Ed Magidson hauled 12 cubic yards (twenty-eight 55-gallon bags) of tumbleweeds and leaves to the County Green Yard waste recycle center! This is just the tip of the iceberg for general grounds care. Much more needs to be done.

March – Memorial Rose Pruning and Irrigation Pipe Repairs

In early March, Syl Goffe led volunteers in three pruning sessions for the Memorial Rose Garden. The Green Team will be asking for help to

carefully weed and prune the Pollinator Meadow in April. Call Paula Donahue at 505-358-6336 for more information.

Some of the broken irrigation pipes and meters on the property are now getting some attention due to a generous donor, but the whole system probably needs an overhaul.

April 18 – Mark your calendars for the Earth Day dinner and talk.

On April 18th, the Sisterhood and Green Team are hosting an Earth Day dinner with great speakers, gift baskets, and an oppotunity



to sign up for tours to an organic farm in Corrales and a honey operation in Tijeras.

Amy Owens from Desert Hives will talk on the 18th and is offering daytime hands-on learning sessions with the bees (for a fee) and a free tour for those who wish to be observers and learn more about honey bees. Elan Silverblatt of Silverleaf Farms will also talk on the 18th and is offering a free daytime tour of Silverleaf organic farms in Corrales. We hope you will join us for these events.

Meditation Shabbat Services

Co-Facilitators Paula Schwartz and Paula Donahue

Come join us for a monthly 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Meditation on Zoom. If you would like to receive a copy of the meditation service and a reminder with Zoom link, contact Paula Donahue to be added to a Congregation Albert meditation group email list. A simple Zoom link is also published in the Congregation Albert electronic announcements the week of the meditation. If you have questions about meditating call Paula Donahue.

Meditation allows you to slow your breath down and focus your attention. In the Zohar, the 13th century text on Kabbalah, Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai taught that the union between humans and God can be found through the breath. According to the Rabbi, King Solomon learned breathing techniques involved in invoking the Holy Breath of the Divine from his father King David. "By learning and practicing the secrets inherent in breath," Rabbi Shimon said, "Solomon could lift nature's physical veil from created things and see the spirit within."

The themes for our meditations are taken from Torah portions. We will gather on Zoom on the following dates:

April 20, 2024 M'Tzora May 18, 2024 Emor June 22, 2024 B'ha'alot'cha July 20, 2024 Balak August 17, 2024 Va-ethchannan









HELLO GESHER

We are off to a good start. Quite a few groups have held their first get-togethers. GREAT JOB!

Theater went to see The Odd Couple, female version at the Adobe Theater on Sunday, March 17th and is planning the next one.

Walking has another walk planned on Thursday, March 21st 10 am at Arroyo Del Oso Park.

Reading has scheduled their initial meeting for Sunday, March 24th at 11 am at the synagogue.

Live Music and Breweries went and saw Turner & Grimes at Ex Novo Brewing on Tuesday, March 19th.

Movies group has an event planned on March 31st at The Guild and discussion afterwards at O'neills.

We ask that you take the first step to get your groups going. You have all received your group lists. It just takes one person to come up with an idea, date, time and place and email your group members. LET'S DO THIS!

Congregation Albert Brotherhood

Brotherhood Deli Brunch with Dr. Sara Koplik, Hillel @ UNM Sunday, <u>April 21st</u> 10:00am

Join us for a delicious Deli Brunch followed by an interactive discussion with Dr. Sara Koplik, Director of Hillel @ UNM

"Campus Antisemitism: It's Just Down the Street"

Antisemitism has become the norm on college campuses since the Hamas attack on Israel. While name schools like Penn, Cornell, Columbia, and Harvard are being investigated for campus antisemitism, UNM is not exempt from antisemitism. Join us for great food and Sara's perspective on how antisemitism appears at UNM, and how we can combat it.



Sponsored by Congregation Albert Brotherhood 3800 Louisiana Blvd. NE Albuquerque, NM

For reservations: Please email your reservation by April 18th to: brotherhood@congregationalbert.org

Cost for the brunch and program is \$20 (\$18 for Congregation Albert Brotherhood and Sisterhood members). Price includes the delicious Deli Brunch and Speaker.

For information, call Jeff at 505-259-3190 or email the address above.

*******Proceeds go towards the Brotherhood's community service projects*******









April Kaddish

Apr 1 - 6

Nathan Jay Friedman Jay Leonard Berman Goldie DuBow Floise Sutin Eileen Mildred Weiss Helen Lucille Luderman Svlvia Rosenstein Ord Matek Mark Rosenberg Michelle Siegal Lily Tannen Paul Arnold Feil Alma Marks Bella Mevers Annette Newman Melinda Potcher Svlvia Weier Friend Julia Chasnoff Edwin Donahue Milton Epstein Edward I Feil Joan Goldberg Lottie Magidson Morris Spizman Jane G. Tuchman

Apr 7 - 13

Sadie Frisch Spector Kenneth M. Kamerman Marvellen Lifson Emma Wides Lucille Okoshkin Eleen Jacobs Revo Marilvn Eimer Michelle Eve Goffe Bobbie Goldberg Aaron Jay Linnell Irving Bauling Bernard Komisar David Hillel Rosenstein Molly Walker Dorothy Borden Eddie Einhorn Julius Lipman Winifred Marcus Matthew Mizell Sr. Dr. Jacob Bronitsky

Apr 7 - 13 cont

Joseph Dickman
Julius Mechanic
Nathan Wortzman
Mel Einhorn
Philip Fox
Jackie Gross
Rudolf Hofheimer
Allen Lazar
Helen Miller
Maurice Reuler
Paula Rose
Kendra Lee Schuster

Apr 14 - 20

Norman Bleicher Irvin Cohen Isadore Einhorn Michael Mann Louis Weinstein Marnie Collister Mark Malsbury Edna McColl Joseph Mevers Leo Parnes Dorothy Virginia Shaw Jessie Witkoff Mver "Mike" Beresh Kenneth Richard Lewis Roselyn "Roz" Strohl Kellissa (Kelly) Marie Titus Silver Robert Waetzig Connie Frisch Roland Greenwald Bouazza Ben Khiti Norman Kronick Byron Weiller Joseph Michael Chavez Orna Hooperman Vida Kregstein Sevmore Maisel Jane Schamban Anna Sutin Myra Varon Sol Glazer Bertha Mehlman Alexander Simpson Beal Elaine Orlick

Max Ludwig Weissmann

Apr 21 - 27

Mary Kleiner Kay Krawll Dana Gayle Atkinson Vaughn Lane Marion Newman Sara Pokress Larry Rose Shirley Rose William Alan Silvers Margot Baron Eleanor Gillespie Freda Goldberg Irving Wunder Jesse Bronitsky Hvman Julius Danoff Leon Edelstein Elizabeth Friedman John Duhiaa Marion Finkle Jeffrey Lev Joseph Moise Michael Sanderson Anna Segel Armin Skadron Edith Wollen Ella Apodaca Glenna Delle Kimzev Manuel (Manny) Paskin Elizabeth Schmerling R. Adrian Cherry Sam J. Danoff Allen Hope Ezra Secunda Morris Varon Frances Vehar Annabel Engle

Apr 28 - 30

David Bleicher
Herman Decktor
William Earl Folkner
Mina K. Heyman
Lev Aryeh Weinstock
Albert Clarfield
Lillian Jean Kimzey
Annette Padway Preston
Douglas Gridley Brookins
Sylvia Miller Nathanson

Yahrzeit Donations

In memory of Abe Pokress Richard Pokress and Suzan Borecki

In memory of Steve Schiff
Marcia Schiff

In memory of Velma and Edwin Donahue Paula Donahue

In memory of Ida D. Kirkel Marjorie Kirkel

In memory of Ruth and Morris Granat Norma Libman

In memory of R. Adrian Cherry Daniele C Williams

In memory of Edna McColl Jeff and Diana Paul

In memory of Philip Kaplan Rosanne Kaplan

In memory of Peter Skadron and Armin Skadron George and Vivian Skadron

In memory of John Duhigg
Doris Drucker Duhigg

In memory of Aaron Atkinson, Kelly Titus, Dana Lane, Dennis Atkinson, Eve Cranston, Jack Lapin Dale Atkinson and Samantha Lapin

In memory of Melinda Potcher Caryn Grosse

In memory of Sara Pokress and Sol Glazer

Richard Pokress and Suzan Borecki

In memory of Mark Rosenberg
Rob Rosenberg and Jane Wishner

Tributes and Donations

Omitted from February Ma Yesh

Cantor L'Chaim Weekend

Erika Rimson and David Bernstein

Dara Kaufman Tree of Life

Richard and Sharon Finkle in memory of Marion Maxx Finkle

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Larry Hample

Tributes and Donations

Richard and Sharon Finkle Hope Krasner Tamara Rodriguez

Building Fund

David and Lauren Kistin

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

Diane Reuler in memory of Mel Schwartz and William Reuler

Cantor L'Chaim Weekend

Raymond Cohen and Cathy Good Cohen Acy DeBois and Milt Lasoski Sam and Verrity Gershin Gloria Harmon Norman and Betsy LaZar Rob Rosenberg and Jane Wishner

Caring Committee

Michelle Fromm-Lewis in memory of Mel Schwartz and Peter Weinreb

Cemetery Fund

Diane Reuler in memory of Gary Singer and Peter Weinreb

Executive Director's Discretionary Fund

Sarah Newman and Keli Bouchar in memory of Peter Weinreb

Family Promise

Elizabeth Kistin Keller and Timothy Keller

General Fund

Rabbi Arthur and Linda Flicker
n honor of Rowan Gallagher's birthday
Aaron Kaplan
Marilyn Lafer and Charles Brown
in memory of Jean-Pierre Surget
Marcia Schiff
in honor of Cantor Finn
Daniele C Williams

Goats!

Roger and Donna Baar Sylvia Goffe Roger and Stacy Goldstein Chloe Koren and Angela Herrera Koren Charna Lefton Jerome and Lynne Pfeffer Alysha Running Hawk Naomi Sandweiss Marcia Schiff Ron and Meryl Segel Daniele C Williams

Goffe Memorial Garden

Steven and Masha Sanders in memory of Mildred Applebaum, Melvin Schwartz, Peter Weinreb, and Norm Orchant

Pesach Seder

Daniele C Williams

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Paul and Marcia Greenbaum in memory of Peter Weinreb

Security Fund

Wendy Gallagher in memory of Robert Modern

Tributes and Donations

Nolan Bennet and Rebecca Trujillo-Bennett Neil and Leslie Pivar in memory of Peter Weinreb Tamara Rodriguez Ron and Meryl Segel in memory of Peter Weinreb Michael and Sharon Siegal



2024						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	•	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	-Sisterhood Torah Study 1:00 p.m.	2	3	4	-Cafe Shabbat 5:30 p.m. -Erev Shabbat service 6:00 p.m.	-Torah Study 9:00 a.m. -Shabbat Morning Service 10:30 a.m
7	8	9	10	11	-Kab' Shab' 5:00 p.m. -Erev Shabbat Service 6:00 p.m.	-Torah Study 9:00 a.m. -Shabbat Morning Service Anshei Mitzvah 10:30 a.m.
-CASJS 9:30 a.m.	15	16	17	18	-Erev Shabbat Service 6:00 p.m.	20 -Torah Study 9:00 a.m. -Shabbat Morning Service 10:30 a.m.
TIDI UH GH	22 -ECC closed 1:00 p.m. -First Night Seder 5:00 p.m.	23 -Office Closed -10:30 am First Day Pesach Service -Second Night Seder 6:00 p.m.	24 -Office Opens at 1:00pm	25	26 -Erev Shabbat service 6:00 p.m.	-Hike, Pray, Learn Service 9:00 a.m.
-CASJS 28 9:30 a.m. -Chocolate Seder	29 -ECC Closed -Office Closed	30				

-Chocolate Seder 11:00 a.m.

-Erev Seventh Day Study 6:00pm