



# CONGREGATION NER TAMID

A SPECIAL PLACE TO BELONG

March 2022 Vol. 37 No. 2 Adar I – Adar II, 5782

Congregation Ner Tamid  
Presents...

## THE LITTLE MERMAID PURIM SPIEL

SUNDAY, MARCH 13

10:00 a.m.

TEEN TALENT SHOW

10:30 a.m.

PURIM SPIEL  
PERFORMANCE



PREPAY/ PURCHASE  
YOUR UNLIMITED PLAY  
AND FOOD TICKETS HERE:



## UNDER THE SEA PURIM CARNIVAL

11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Congregation Ner Tamid  
Parking Lot

BOUNCE HOUSES \* GAMES  
RAFFLE \* PHOTO BOOTH  
FACE PAINTING  
FOOD TRUCKS \* LIVE DJ

COSTUMES  
ENCOURAGED

RESERVATIONS NOW AVAILABLE FOR  
CNT'S PASSOVER SEDER, FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2022

See Page 2

# CALENDAR OF SERVICES

## **Friday, March 4, 2022**

5:45 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. Chavurah and  
New Member 2020/ 2021 Reception

7:00 p.m. – *Shabbat* Service

## **Saturday, March 5, 2022**

8:45 a.m. – Torah Study

10:00 a.m. – Jovie Wikler's *Bat Mitzvah*

Morning *Shabbat*/ Minyan Service

(In person and on Zoom)

11:00 a.m. – Our Jewish Heritage

## **Friday, March 11, 2022**

6:15 p.m. – Shabbatones and

Tot *Shabbat* Service

Blessing for Jerry Polis

## **Saturday, March 12, 2022**

8:45 a.m. – Torah Study

10:00 a.m. – Julien Guidry's Bar Mitzvah

Morning *Shabbat*/ Minyan Service

(In person and on Zoom)

11:00 a.m. – Our Jewish Heritage

## **Friday, March 18, 2022**

7:00 p.m. – *Shabbat* Service

## **Saturday, March 19, 2022**

8:45 a.m. – Torah Study

10:00 a.m. – Morning *Shabbat*/ Minyan Service  
(Zoom only)

11:00 a.m. – Our Jewish Heritage

## **Friday, March 25, 2022**

7:00 p.m. – *Shabbat* in the Round

Sixth – 12th grade *Shabbat*,

Congregants of the Year,

New Members 2020/ 2021

8:00 p.m. – Photos of New Congregants

## **Saturday, March 26, 2022**

8:45 a.m. – Torah Study

10:00 a.m. – Morning *Shabbat*/ Minyan Service  
(Zoom only)

11:00 a.m. – Our Jewish Heritage

*All Torah Study and Minyan Services  
will be held on Zoom in March.*

*For Zoom links, go to our calendar  
at [www.lvnertamid.org](http://www.lvnertamid.org).*



# PASSOVER SEDER 2022

**Reserve your seats now for Congregation Ner Tamid's Passover Seder,  
Friday, April 15, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.**

**Enjoy our first community event back together in our Social Hall with a traditional  
Passover Seder catered by Madeline Morris including charoset, chicken, gefilte fish,  
matzah ball soup, potato kugel, stuffed cabbage, vegetables and delicious desserts.**

**Seating will be limited, so make your reservations now at [www.lvnertamid.org](http://www.lvnertamid.org).**

**Members \$55 • Non-Members \$75 • Children 12 and Under, \$18**



## CNT Purim Carnival Offers Whole Megillah of Fun, Games

Two bounce houses, a raffle, a photo booth, face painting and glitter stations, food trucks, and a live DJ – Congregation Ner Tamid’s “Under The Sea” Purim Carnival promises to pack a punch on Sunday, March 13, 2022, from 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., at CNT’s outdoor parking lot.

Immediately following the morning’s Teen Talent Show at 10:00 a.m. and “The Little Mermaid Purim Spiel” at 10:30 a.m. (see more on Page 4), the congregation will proceed to the parking lot for a joyous Jewish festival complete with a GaGa pit, a relay obstacle course, ping pong and basketball games, balloon animals and, of course, Hamantaschen.

Rumor has it there may even be an aquatic “Dunk the Rabbi” booth...

This event is open to the public and costumes are encouraged.

It’s never too late to sponsor a booth or prepay/ purchase wristbands for unlimited play and food tickets. Use the QR code on your Bulletin’s cover, or visit [www.lvnertamid.org](http://www.lvnertamid.org).

## Congregation Ner Tamid Welcomes Its Newest ‘Member’



Congregation Ner Tamid is introducing its newest “member,” a modern, updated multicolor logo with eight colors that evokes the synagogue’s stained-glass windows at its sanctuary entrance.

CNT hired award-winning advertising rep and graphic designer Ashley Campbell, principal of akdc Creative, to create the new hybrid Jewish Star of David and heart logo. Her local advertising and marketing firm specializes in brand identity, website development, and print and broadcast advertising. Campbell chose its eight colors and embellished the Congregation Ner Tamid name and tagline “A Special Place To Belong” with La Luxes, Serif and Nunito Sans, Semibold fonts.

“When we kicked off the new logo development project, I was given a tour of the Congregation Ner Tamid campus,” Campbell said. “Many things caught my eye throughout the hallways and rooms, but the stained-glass windows were so beautiful and vibrant. In the first round of concepts, I had pulled the color scheme from the Torah covers – also vibrant and whimsical. From there, we increased the brightness of each color for the final logo.”

“I think our new logo and colors better represent CNT and communicate a lot to our members,” Illisa Polis, Congregation Ner Tamid’s Membership Co-Chair, said. “The colors are vibrant like our congregants, and our modernized logo reflects how our congregation is evolving with the times and continually creating new programs to enrich our members’ lives.”



## CNT To Produce Boffo Purim Spiel With Celebrity Talent



Jeff Leibow, an actor and producer who starred in the internationally acclaimed musical “Jersey Boys,” and Colleen Freedman, a choreographer who danced with the likes of Backstreet Boys, Katy Perry, Lady Gaga, and Paula Abdul, are joining theatrical forces with Congregation Ner Tamid’s Cantor Jessica Hutchings to produce “The Little Mermaid Purim Spiel” at the synagogue on Sunday, March 13, 2022, at 10:30 a.m.

“For almost eight years, the Purim Spiel has become the event of the year for dozens of our aspiring actors and musicians in our Religious School, and I’m elated to bring back our full stage production Spiel,” Cantor Hutchings said. “It is a chance for 26 of our students to take to the stage, Jewishly. This year, we swim to Disney’s ‘The Little Mermaid’ as our inspirational theme. With a hero and a villain in the plot, and through the lens of mermaids, we will tell our ancient Purim story from persecution to freedom.”

Leibow, a Congregation member who for seven years starred as The Four Seasons’ Nick Massi in the Las Vegas production of “Jersey Boys,” and who produces charity events for the Neurofibromatosis Network, will be directing the CNT cast. “Every opportunity I have to lend my musical talents to the temple, I do, and when Cantor Hutchings approached me about directing this year’s Spiel, I jumped at the chance,” he said.

“I’ve been a part of the Spiel for a few years, and you see the comradery between all of the students,” said choreographer Freedman, who has also worked on multiple TV shows and movies including “Dancing with the Stars,” “Glee,” “La La Land,” “The Greatest Showman,” and “True Blood.” “It’s been really neat to see how the kids have grown over the years.”

Even though Congregant Freedman is currently pursuing a law degree at UNLV, she is making time to teach the synagogue’s kids how to dance their way through their fishy tale.

After the cast and crew bask in the limelight, the ensemble and congregation will celebrate at an outdoor Under The Sea Purim Carnival from 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.





You recently received an email from Edward Simon, our Executive Director, regarding security measures approved by the Board of Trustees. This was in response to the latest attack on a synagogue in Texas as well as the significant increase in antisemitic threats and activity both nationally and in our community. While we have provided armed security over the past several years for High Holidays, and the Yeshiva Day School has been providing armed security on the Campus during school hours, we have now instituted it during services and Sunday Religious School. The \$100 per year fee being assessed to each family covers this cost.



However, this security fee does not address the full cost of providing a secure environment when you are on our Campus. In the world we now live in, armed security is not the complete answer to protecting you and our Campus. For the past several months we have been evaluating our existing security infrastructure and security procedures. We have recently received proposals to upgrade both, and the Board will be addressing this in short-order, including funding from existing moneys, projected revenues, grants, and additional gifts.

As I write this article the Omicron variant is receding, but we have no idea what the situation will be when you read this or what it will be in the weeks or months ahead. As you know, our Covid committee will continue to address the protocols and procedures which have allowed us to provide you with services and programs while at the same time seeking to protect you.

But there is another story that has been unfolding over the past two years, which has been somewhat overshadowed by the pandemic. Despite all of the dislocation and uncertainty caused by the pandemic, we have reopened the Kantor ECEC and it is thriving. We have expanded our administrative staff, upgraded operating procedures and practices, and commenced the refurbishing, remodeling and expansion of our facilities. Our membership has shown significant growth with the addition of many young families, the religious school has record attendance, and our financial condition is healthy.

Just imagine what we will accomplish when we are back to “normal.”

Jerry Gordon, President



The old Jewish joke which defines most of our holidays goes like this, “They tried to kill us. We won. Let’s eat!”

Like most humor, there is a certain amount of truth to this joke. While most of our holidays do not focus on our imminent demise (think Yom Kippur, Rosh Hashana, Tu B’shvat, and *Shabbat* to name a few), there are holidays that do commemorate our victory over oppression (think Chanukah, Passover, Yom Hashoa to name a few).

This month’s holiday – Purim – also falls into this category.

A sadly familiar tale of a government that turns against our people and our very existence is threatened.

We win because of the bravery of Esther and Mordecai.

The ideal victory, however, would be to live in a time when antisemitism itself was vanquished. We do not live in this world. And while the “threat level” may not approach many periods in Jewish history, it is enough to cause us concern at a level that has not been seen in many years. Antisemitism and xenophobia have morphed throughout Jewish history. Names and accusations including “Christ-killers,” “poisoners of wells,” “responsible for the Black Plague,” “blood libels,” “inferior race” and “racist Zionists” have all been leveled at us. In today’s day of social media, it doesn’t take much to accuse us of something absurd, nor does it take much for someone reading these posts to go down the “rabbit hole” of believing in these accusations.

The recent banning of the graphic novel Maus by a board of education in Tennessee demonstrates the need to make sure our educational system understands the importance of teaching about the Holocaust which by definition is a subject that recounts the murder of six million Jews. Hard to teach this subject and sugarcoat it at the same time. Students today who are so desensitized to violence, thanks to video games and movies and TV shows, need to be taught these sad truths so they will understand that history is not a comic book; but something far more serious.

Whoopi Goldberg’s lack of understanding about the root cause of the Holocaust was not an act of antisemitism, but surely an act of ignorance by someone who should know better. The fact she didn’t understand the Holocaust occurred because of Nazi racism presents itself as a teachable moment. I hope it will be viewed this way.

While I often preach we need to teach the “joy” of Judaism and not just the “oy,” there are moments that should remind us that both are what have shaped our values and our dreams. When the Hamans of the world rear their ugly heads, we cannot, must not be silent. In modeling the action of Queen Esther, we understand the importance of speaking truth to power.

B’shalom,

Rabbi Sanford Akselrad





Shalom Chaverim!

Be happy! It's Adar!

Two years ago, we had worked very hard preparing a "Grease" Spiel, and had no idea that our world was about to change the very next day. A year later, when the pandemic was still in full force, we could not fulfill our long-held tradition of a silly wonderful Purim Spiel.

Instead, my cantorial best friend, Cantor Lizzie Weiss, and I had to get very creative for our communities. We brought you a spectacular Puppy Purim Spiel told by our cuddly puppies. It was great, but... It was not together.

This year, I am elated to bring our full stage production Spiel back! We will present, "The Little Mermaid," filled with a cast of 26 students, directed and choreographed by celebrities Jeff Leibow and Colleen Freedman.

We hope you will join us at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, March 13, 2022, for the Spiel followed by an amazing Purim Carnival from 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. organized by our Parent Connect!

Looking ahead... It's almost (and finally) Pop Up *Shabbat* with Neshama Carlebach. Two years after canceling, we are making it happen in Downtown Las Vegas on Friday, April 29, 2022. Save the date and stay tuned for more!!!!

May your month be healthy, joyful, and tons of fun.

B'shira,



Cantor Jessica Hutchings



INTERESTED  
IN JEWISH  
SUMMER  
CAMP  
SCHOLARSHIPS?

Please contact Rabbi Akselrad or Cantor Hutchings:

[rabbak@lvnertamid.org](mailto:rabbak@lvnertamid.org)

[cantor@lvnertamid.org](mailto:cantor@lvnertamid.org)



## Jovie Wikler – Saturday, March 5, 2022

Jovie Wikler is a seventh-grader at Sig Rogich Middle School in Summerlin and loves playing goalie for her club soccer team and participating in Broadway Kids musical productions.

She is so excited to be called to the bimah as a *Bat Mitzvah* on Saturday, March 5, 2022, and to celebrate her accomplishment with her friends and family.

For her *Mitzvah* project, Jovie is raising money to support the CARE Complex, an organization that serves the homeless population in Las Vegas. Specifically, Jovie is raising money for the organization's Homeless to Home program, which provides \$1,000 to employed homeless individuals that are ready for permanent housing but cannot afford to pay the necessary security deposits required to secure housing. Jovie's goal is to raise \$5,000, and a generous private donor has agreed to match all funds, for a total donation of \$10,000 to this incredible program. As a result, Jovie's efforts will allow 10 individuals to lift themselves out of homelessness and move into safe, secure housing.

For more information about CARE Complex, or to donate to the cause, please visit [www.carecomplex.org](http://www.carecomplex.org). If you would like to contribute to Jovie's *Mitzvah* project, please note "Jovie's *Mitzvah* project" in your donation notes.

## Julien Guidry – Saturday, March 12, 2022

Julien Guidry will be called to the Torah as a *Bar Mitzvah* on Saturday, March 12, 2022. Julien is the only child of Rebecca and Guy Guidry, Jr.

Julien is a seventh-grader at Bob Miller Middle School. Outside of school, Julien enjoys cooking, playing drums, and playing video games.

He will be reading Parshat Vayikra from the Torah.

Julien's family is proud of his hard work and is excited to celebrate Julien becoming a Bar Mitzvah with family and friends. Julien loves animals of all shapes and sizes. For his *Mitzvah* Project, he has partnered with Vegas Roots Rescue and will be collecting supplies and donations for the dogs and cats that come through the rescue. We hope you can help them out at [www.vegasrootsrescue.com](http://www.vegasrootsrescue.com).





In addition to enrolling children for Preschool, The Gary & Lynn Kantor Early Childhood Education Center is now enrolling kids, 18 mos. to Pre-K, for Summer Camp, Monday, June 6 – Friday, July 22, 2022.

This fully licensed facility's seven-week, on-campus session will offer arts & crafts, beading, cooking, costume days, Las Vegas Natural History Museum classes, musical instruments, My Gym, nature walks, painting, sensory play, Summer Camp *Shabbats*, water play, and Zumba.

“We have some unique vendors that are going to bring a ton of fun to our little learners,” said Farrah Tomaro, director of Kantor ECEC. “Between water days and opportunities for hands-on activities with art and animal visitors, it’s sure to be a memorable time for everyone involved.”

Each week will also have a theme including Carnival Week, Color War Week, Creepy Crawly Week, Dinosaur Week, Going on Safari Week, July 4th Party in America Week, and Under the Sea Week.

“Enrolling your 18-month-old child into our Kantor ECEC Summer Camp is a great place to start academic and social learning and a life-long engagement with Congregation Ner Tamid,” said executive director Edward Simon.

Summer Camp hours are 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., and you can enroll in early morning drop-offs from 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. and late afternoon pick-ups from 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. on Fridays.

Schedule your tour today, and inquire about our Early Bird Discounts and Referral Program. When you refer a family who enrolls their child in summer camp, receive \$100 off your next week’s Preschool tuition.

## Why Is This Summer Camp Different From All Other Summer Camps?



The Gary & Lynn Kantor Early Childhood Education Center Now Enrolling For SUMMER CAMP  
Monday, June 6 – Friday, July 22, 2022  
18 mos. – Pre-K \* (702) 733-6292 \* [www.lvnertamid.org](http://www.lvnertamid.org)  
Ask About Our Early Bird Discounts

This semester has been off to a great start in our **RELIGIOUS SCHOOL**. We began our new chug (activity) cycle, and students are excited to try out new activities including cooking, art, producing a school yearbook, and more. Students have also had the opportunity to participate in the Purim Spiel, which will take place on Sunday, March 13, 2022. Our Pre-K class has been getting a great introduction to Judaism and traditions. Kindergarten and first-grade students had their consecration on Friday, Feb. 11, 2022, and it was a huge success! Second-, third-, and fourth-grade students have been working on expanding their Judaic knowledge along with diving more into their Hebrew studies. The fifth-grade students have continued to learn about life cycles, and the Fifth Grade Wedding will be on Sunday, March 27, 2022. Sixth-grade students have been working on their Holocaust unit, and seventh graders have been learning about Israel and Israeli culture.

Please join us for *Shabbat* Services each week and send your selfies to Cantor Hutchings or Hayley Wizig. The second *Shabbat* of each month is *Shir Shabbat* and is geared towards Pre-K through fifth-grade students. The fourth *Shabbat* of each month is *Shabbat in the Round* and is geared towards sixth to 12th-grade students.

CNT encourages all of its students to participate in **YOUTH GROUP** events. These events allow for students to bond and get to know each other in a fun, safe, and Jewish setting. Overseen by Hayley Wizig, third through 12th graders have many opportunities throughout the year to participate in events. We have NTTY (Ner Tamid Temple Youth) events for our eighth to 12th graders, TNT (Tweens of Ner Tamid) events for our sixth and seventh graders, and IBN (Itty Bitty NTTY) for our third to fifth graders. Our final IBN/ TNT event of the year will be on Sunday, April 24, 2022, after Religious School, with IBN being run by Ilana Cohen, and TNT being run by Isaac Roachford-Gould. NTTY Teens have lounge nights each month after *Shabbat in the Round* services, led by Hayley Wizig.

Save the date for an NTTY Havdalah ceremony on Saturday, March 26, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

## **‘Seas’ The Day, Help Us Make A Memorable Event For Our Kids!**

Congregation Ner Tamid will host its **UNDER THE SEA! PURIM CARNIVAL** on Sunday, March 13, 2022, to celebrate the Jewish Festival of Purim and raise money to support its Religious School and youth programs. If your family or business would like to sponsor an activity, your tax-deductible contribution will include your family or business name, or other desired message, on at least one poster at your sponsored activity, as well as on other printed and announced formats.

Suggested sponsorship for raffle items, fun stations, and more is \$180.

To donate, call Hayley Wizig at (702) 632-2250.







# JOIN CONGREGATION NER TAMID'S ADVENTURE IN ISRAEL

Led by Rabbi Sanford Akselrad & Cantor Jessica Hutchings

**June 5 - 17, 2022**

**With optional Eilat/Petra Extension June 17-20, 2022**

*Israel is a land of connections and reconnections. It is a place that both holds nostalgia and awaits rediscovery. Over the decades, so much in Israel has changed dramatically, yet the essence that draws us remains the same. Traveling together as a community we will bond through our shared experiences and enhance our understanding of culture and archaeology, religion and politics, the ancient and the modern, as we delve in-depth into Israel's millennia-old legacy as heart of the Jewish People.*

## OUR AMAZING JOURNEY INCLUDES:

- Celebrate our **B'nai Mitzvah** in the fortress of **Masada**, turning the Zealot's fateful stand into a site of life and tradition.
- Discover the charm, delight and complexity of **Jerusalem's Old City**, including the **Western Wall**, the **Jewish Quarter** and a spectacular rooftop vista.
- Descend below ground and back in time at the **Dig for a Day** - a real, live archaeological expedition! Discover the ancient past, transforming their trash into modern treasure.
- Repair the world with tikkun olam and give back to the community at **Pantry Packers**, packing food supplies and serving the needy in Israel.

*and so much more!!!*



PRICING CHART (based on double occupancy)	CHECK/CASH PRICE	CREDIT CARD PRICE
LAND TOUR	\$4,679	\$4,819
Single Supplement additional cost	\$2,079	\$2,141
Eilat/Petra Extension	\$1,549	\$1,595
Extension Single Sup.	\$699	\$719

Non-member fee: \$250 per person  
Flight information coming soon.

**Learn more about this amazing trip at**  
**[secure.ayelet.com/NerTamid2022.aspx](https://secure.ayelet.com/NerTamid2022.aspx)**

Paper Registration form also available - call 800-237-1517 or email [ayelet@ayelet.com](mailto:ayelet@ayelet.com)



**Ayelet** Tours, Ltd.

800.237.1517 | [www.ayelet.com](http://www.ayelet.com)



# Rabbi Akselrad's Compelling Conversations YouTube Premiere Wednesday, March 9 7:00 p.m.

What is antisemitism, and why do we see more of it on college campuses today? These are two tough questions to tackle, but one organization, The Maccabee Task Force, is doing just that at more than 100 college campuses across America.

David Brog is the executive director of The Maccabee Task Force, and he's Rabbi Akselrad's guest on a new episode of Compelling Conversations that will premiere on Congregation Ner Tamid's YouTube channel on Wednesday, March 9, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

The Maccabee Task Force was created in 2015 to combat the disturbing spread of antisemitism on America's college campuses. The organization believes the BDS movement is at the forefront of this troubling trend and maintain that BDS is an antisemitic movement that crosses the line from legitimate criticism of Israel into the dangerous demonization of Israel and its supporters. They are determined to help students combat this hate by bringing them the strategies and resources they need to tell the truth about Israel.

David said his group has identified strategies that work including the cornerstone of his program, sponsoring trips to Israel for college campus leaders and influencers. When in Israel, they get to talk to pro- and anti-Israel activists and discover much of what they thought they knew about Israel and Jewish people is based on misinformation. The Maccabee Task Force combats hate by giving the opportunity for influential campus leaders to learn the truth firsthand in the Holy Land.

Local podcaster Ira David Sternberg moderates this compelling conversation.



# WELCOME – NEW PRESCHOOL DIRECTOR

## Berlin-Tomaro New Director Of CNT's Kantor Early Childhood Education Center

Farrah Berlin-Tomaro has been hired to helm Congregation Ner Tamid's Gary & Lynn Kantor Early Childhood Education Center.

Originally from Southern California, Tomaro moved to Las Vegas as a child and earned her Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education Administration and a Master's degree in Special Education, Autism, and Behavioral Science at UNLV. She also completed some doctoral studies in Early Childhood Education at UNLV and has engaged in behavioral therapy with children with autism and developmental delays.



"I have worked in early childhood education in the Las Vegas Valley since 2008," Tomaro said. "I have knowledge in this area and a huge interest in using my talents to help grow The Kantor ECEC. In addition to my experience growing up Jewish, I have also spent time working in Jewish private schools and incorporating traditions and customs into the classrooms and beyond. I am excited to play an administrative role and be able to put that experience, along with Jewish education, towards The Kantor ECEC's strong foundation."

Tomaro said a child's earliest educational experiences set the stage for all learning throughout life, and she wants The Kantor ECEC to be a place where enrolled 18-month to Pre-K kids acquire social, emotional, and academic skills through sensory play.

"There's a lot of really passionate people here and some amazing families involved, and it seems like everybody is all in to move things forward," she said. "I'm honored to help accelerate all the amazing things that have already been started."

Tomaro will replace Karen Stern as Preschool Director, who plans to stay at The Kantor ECEC to teach and assist in Tomaro's transition.

"I'm not truly leaving," Stern said, "and I'm still going to be a part of the school, but I'm handing over the baton to Farrah because I know when she takes over, she's going to help the school grow. She's coming in with fresh ideas on how she wants to create an amazing program, and she's coming with a whole new skill set and qualifications."

"Karen has done an amazing job restarting our school, taking us from zero students to a thriving educational center," Edward Simon, Congregation Ner Tamid's executive director, said. "And we're really excited to have Farrah come on board who has expertise in early childhood education and can only add to what has already been established. We're really excited to have an expert educator on staff."

## CHAVURAH SHABBAT/ NEW MEMBER MIXER FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 2022



Congregation Ner Tamid's Membership Committee invites you to a special Chavurah *Shabbat* and New Member Wine and Cheese Mixer on Friday, March 4, 2022, from 5:45 p.m. – 6:45 p.m., before 7:00 p.m. services. Mark your calendar and plan to attend this in-person *Shabbat* introducing our new CNT Chavurah program and celebrating all new Congregation Ner Tamid members from both 2020 and 2021.

Before services, during the Wine and Cheese Hour on the Patio, you'll get to say "Hello" to our newest members, some of which haven't stepped into the building since joining due to the pandemic, and get the chance to talk with Rabbi Sanford Akselrad, Cantor Jessica Hutchings, and CNT staff members.

All CNT members will also get to meet with Chavurah leaders and sign up for all the Chavurah groups they'd like to join. Membership Committee members will be available to answer any questions and introduce you to members with similar interests. Our sincere hope is that you will find something of interest and find this a great way to meet other members at CNT.

Please RSVP at <https://lvnertamid.shulcloud.com/event/new-member-reception-.html>

## CHAVURAH CHAZERAI



More than 50 CNT members have already signed up to be a leader of or a participant in a CNT Chavurah. Please enjoy reading though your **CHAVURAH BOOKLET** inserted into this March Bulletin. In it you'll learn what a Chavurah is and how to join, what groups are available, and how to start your own. When you're ready to lead or join, contact CNT's Chavurah Matchmaker Wendy Roberts and she'll help match you with a group that shares your interests and review the steps you need to take to lead a Chavurah of your own. If you'd like to sign up go to:  
<https://lvnertamid.shulcloud.com/form/Chavurah>



## HAPPY 90th BIRTHDAY JERRY POLIS – SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 2022

Jerry Polis was born in Philadelphia in 1932. He is first generation American with Russian ancestry on both sides of his family. He was the youngest of three children (with one brother Sam and a sister Anne).

Jerry attended Central High School and Penn State where he earned a degree in Accounting. Jerry completed basic training with the 101st Airborne Division of the U.S. Army and then worked for the U.S. Army Audit Agency.

After working for Price Waterhouse and then for RCA, Jerry's entrepreneurial spirit and love of convertibles lured him to the sunny West Coast in 1963. Jerry immediately got his real estate license and started getting involved in many businesses. He met Lotty, his wife of 55 years, on a flight from Los Angeles to Las Vegas. She was his flight attendant, so he only had one hour to charm her. Jerry and Lotty have two sons, David (married to Karen) and Eric (married to Illisa), and five grandchildren who all live in Henderson, Anthony, 15, Alex, 15, Kylie, 14, Jacob, 12, and Adina, 11.

If you are trying to find Jerry, you'll probably find him at a Jewish deli with friends or family for lunch, watching Netflix thrillers with Lotty, or playing FreeCell on his iPad.

Jerry has always been sharp as a tack and full of laughs. He is a human calculator and the family jokester. It has been important to Jerry to behave like a mensch and prioritize tzedakah.

He will celebrate his 90th birthday on Saturday, March 19, 2022.

Join us on Friday, March 11, 2022, at 6:15 p.m., for *Shabbat* services where a special blessing will be given for Jerry Polis.



## CONGREGANTS OF THE YEAR FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 2022

Join us for our Congregants of the Year *Shabbat* on Friday, March 25, 2022, at 7:00 p.m., when our congregation will acknowledge the tremendous contributions of Doctors Fred Toffel and David Miller during the Covid-19 pandemic. They have led the Congregation Ner Tamid Covid Committee since Spring 2020 working toward the common goal of keeping our congregants safe. Please show your appreciation of their service by attending in person. There will be an Oneg following services.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS 2022



Beth Molasky Cornell  
and Kenneth Cornell

Natalie and Allen Storie



***Thursday, March 24, 2022 – Our Annual Book Review With Rabbi***

**Please Join Us For Rabbi's Book Review**

**Thursday, March 24, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.**

We will either meet in person or via Zoom depending on Temple Covid restrictions.  
We will let you know closer to the event!

Our book will be Yiddish for Pirates by Gary Barwin, Vintage Canada Press, 356 pages.

The story is set in the year around 1492, as Moishe, a young man enchanted by maps and adventure, leaves the shtetl to join a ship's crew. There he meets Aaron, a ribald and philosophical parrot narrator who becomes his steady companion. With a beakful of Yiddish jokes and expressions, Aaron takes us on a swashbuckling world of exploits on the high seas filled with revenge, exploration and daring escapes. This is also a love story between Moishe and Sarah, a young woman whose father is annihilated in the Inquisition. It is a satirical novel, sometimes very funny, sometimes sad, and always compelling.

Books are available in the Gift Shop or through Amazon.

### ***SAVE THE DATE***

**Monday, April 18, 2022 – Our Annual Women's Seder**

### ***PLEASE JOIN US***

Our Sisterhood is warm and welcoming. We would love to see you at our many events!

Looking to be involved? We invite you to be on one of our many committees.

Our Board Meetings are open to all Sisterhood Members.

Our March Meeting is Thursday, March 12, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

Our April Meeting is Thursday, April 14, 2022, at 6:30 p.m.

If you would like to attend, please email and let us know:

cntsisterhoodlv@gmail.com

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our upcoming events.

**Michelle Blank – President**



## CNT'S SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP A JUDAICA MARKETPLACE

Sometimes it feels like it's harder to find quality Judaica than a Chanukah miracle, but Congregation Ner Tamid's Sisterhood Gift Shop provides a bright beacon in the Nevada desert. CNT's Sisterhood Gift Shop is located at Congregation Ner Tamid, and opens 45 minutes prior to Friday night *Shabbat* services and by appointment by calling Gift Shop Co-Chairs Cathy Linefsky (702) 521-8651 or Cheryl Cohen (702) 755-1737. The shop sells affordable Jewish-themed children's plush toys, books and bibs, candlesticks, cookbooks, jewelry, stately kiddush cups, playful kippahs, matzah crumbers and plates, golden menorahs, mezuzahs, fashionable necklaces and bracelets, artistic seder plates, shofars, tallits, and Yahrzeit candles. It also raises money for the Fay Schoenfeld Fund 4 Youth to send CNT Religious School students to Jewish summer camp.



COME VISIT FOR  
PASSOVER!



## Better Than Box Mix Chocolate Brownies

CNT Sisterhood and CNT Little Sisters held a FLOUR POWER Zoom on Thursday, Feb. 17, to show congregants how to bake a sweet treat for *Shabbat*.

Prep Time, 15 minutes • Cook Time, 30 minutes • Total Time, 45 minutes

Servings, 15 • Calories, 366

**Ingredients** – 1 cup butter (2 sticks), 2 1/4 cups sugar, 4 large eggs, 1 1/4 cups cocoa powder, 1 tsp. salt, 1 tsp. baking powder, 1 tbsp. vanilla, 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour, 1 cup chocolate chips

**Instructions** – 1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. 2. Line a 9x13 baking dish with foil, allowing it to hang over the edges. Spray foil with non-stick spray and set aside. 3. In a small pot, melt butter over medium low heat. Once completely melted, add in the sugar and stir together. Continue cooking for 1-2 minutes, stirring continually. Don't let it boil. 4. Pour the butter/sugar mixture into a large bowl (or your stand mixer bowl). Add in cocoa powder and mix to combine. 5. Add in eggs, salt, baking powder and vanilla. Beat until fully incorporated. 6. With the mixer on low, slowly add in flour until just combined. 7. Stir in chocolate chips and make sure they are evenly distributed. 8. Pour the batter into your prepared pan and bake for approximately 30 minutes, until a toothpick comes out with moist crumbs attached. 9. Cool in the pan on a wire rack. 10. Once cool, lift the brownies out of the pan using the foil overhang. Peel back the foil and cut into squares.

Just as we thought we were about to see more “normalcy,” we said hello to new Covid variants at the end of 2021 and the beginning of 2022. With all of our patience, we were able to endure these times as well. While we still stay cautious, we have not forgotten about our goals and principles as a philanthropic and social group of men.

As we look forward to the spring and summer, we are striving to achieve these goals. We would like to grow our membership of the organization to develop a much stronger depth and ability to serve our congregation, our community, and each other. With the nicer weather comes the ability to have more events outdoors and the opportunity to gather with one another, especially for those who still feel uncomfortable participating in indoor events. As in our last year before Covid, we would like to host a spring Steak and Spirits event for the membership of the MENSch Club. We look forward to meeting those of you who are new to the temple and reconnecting with those of you whom we have not seen recently. Please watch your email for further correspondence regarding our upcoming events. If you are currently not enrolled in MENSch Club and would like to get involved, please contact us for information on how to become a member of this great group of men.

Rich Greenis – MENSch Club President



## OURGEN

Mindy Unger-Wadkins, mindywadkins@me.com





## CNT TRIVIA TUESDAYS!

**Time to bring your friends!**

For CNT members & non-members alike!

**Tuesdays, March 29 & April 26 at 7pm**

Mixed subjects - anything goes!

Virtual Trivia via Zoom from your computer\*

\*RSVP to [mindywadkins@me.com](mailto:mindywadkins@me.com) for the zoom link and super easy instructions to play.





**OurGen is 40s & up and includes anyone who ranges from a little older than “young adult” and a little younger than “old fogey”!**

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**Sunday, March 20 at 3:30pm at  
Lynn & Gary Kantor’s Home**

*Join your fellow OurGeners to welcome spring, learn some great photography tips and enjoy a bit of magic tricks... It’s a mix of fun and friends on a Sunday afternoon!*



**Be there for the tips,  
be there for the tricks,  
or be there for the friends!  
Just be there!**

RSVP to Mindy at  
[mindywadkins@me.com](mailto:mindywadkins@me.com)





When a loved one passes away, Jewish tradition teaches us to remember them annually by lighting a candle on the date of their passing, or Yahrzeit. We honor and show our love for the departed and remember that those who have passed away never truly leave us as long as we hold them in our hearts and adopt their life lessons into our own daily lives. If you'd like to pay homage to a loved one, add their name to our Rows of Remembrance.

**Next engraving takes place in April.**

**To reserve or to purchase please contact:**

Roberta Unger (702) 733-6292 runger@lvnertamid.org



## NEVADANS FOR THE COMMON GOOD

Dorie Kirtman, dbdb2@hotmail.com  
Susan Sernoe, sus830@centurylink.net

“...What elevates us in life is not what we receive but what we give. The more of ourselves that we give, the greater we become.” Rabbi Jonathan Sacks’ words are the foundation for the work of Nevadans For The Common Good. Even during the Covid pandemic, NCG has been striving to assist the Las Vegas and Henderson communities with its challenges and difficulties. Housing shortages and evictions and food shortages continue to plague our friends and neighbors nearby. Our NCG Henderson Strategy Team, comprised of synagogue and church NCG members, is working diligently with the local community on these issues.

**DID YOU KNOW:** Substance abuse is widely considered to be an epidemic on United States college campuses today. Alcohol abuse and illicit drug use are on the upswing, exacerbated by Covid and its effects on student life. Alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, heroin, fentanyl, and prescription drugs such as Adderal, Oxycontin, and Ritalin are widely used nationwide on campuses and also here in Nevada. In addition, drinking and driving (DUI) accidents and student rape incidents have been increasing dramatically. Consequently, NCG’s Addiction & Recovery Group, based at Congregation Ner Tamid, is actively working on a four-part educational series on substance use and ensuing disorders for UNLV students to be presented in February and March in conjunction with Roberta Sabbath, a member of CNT and the Religious Study Coordinator for the UNLV Campus & Community Partnership.

As well, our NCG Lead Organizer, Anna Eng, and NCG CNT Steering Committee leaders will be meeting shortly with Rabbi Akselrad and the CNT Board to discuss NCG actions, including Listening Sessions and other strategic plans to take place within the next few months. The CNT NCG Steering Committee meets on the third Thursday of the month at 5:15 p.m., via Zoom, and the Addiction & Recovery Team meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 4:30 p.m.



Congregation Ner Tamid participated in an interfaith community service event hosted by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LDS) on Saturday, Feb. 12, 2022. It was a wonderful opportunity for all of us to work together towards our shared values of helping those in need and our community. It was a great opportunity to demonstrate that our faiths share many of the same values. Our LDS hosts were very thoughtful. They pushed back the time of the event to ensure it did not interfere with our *Shabbat* and made sure the hotdogs served were kosher.



Rabbi Akselrad was there to talk to the participants and answer questions. It may have been the first-time participants met a Rabbi. He had a wonderfully positive impact upon those who attended. Members of the Social Action Committee were there helping the children, and more than a few adults, make tzedakah boxes and learn about tzedakah, *mitzvah* and tikkun olam. Flyers that provided more information about our values were available.



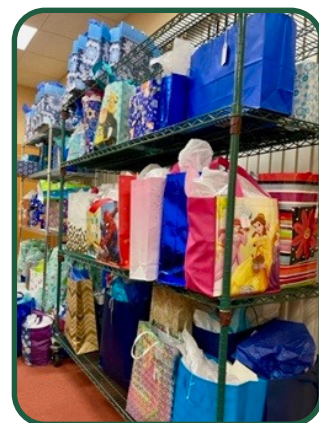
Participation in the event was amazing. There was a constant flow of people. Entire families were there working on *mitzvah* projects and learning together which is something the Social Action Committee continually strives for.

In early 2020, members of the Social Action Committee participated with the LDS church in another community service event hosted by the LDS church who in turn was going to participate in our *Mitzvah* Day. Sadly, we were not able to reciprocate as *Mitzvah* Day was canceled due to Covid. We look forward to being able to host interfaith events soon.

Thank you, Rabbi, and members of the Social Action Committee, for participating in such a meaningful event.

Every year the *Mitzvah* Menorah project brings Congregation Ner Tamid together during Chanukah to sponsor children in need. The overwhelming generosity of our congregants made it possible to provide toys and gift cards to more than 85 children. Thanks to our Sisterhood and Chanukah Harry, we were also able to provide 25 family gifts of a menorah, candles, gelt, dreidels, and a gift card.

On behalf of the Social Action Committee, thank you all!





**Todah rabah!** Thank you to the following who provided contributions to Congregation Ner Tamid between Dec. 9, 2021, and Feb. 8, 2022.

## **Rabbi Akselrad's Discretionary Fund In Memory Of:**

Suzie Chenin by: Alan, Lori, and Sheryl Chenin and Families  
Bette Edelman Brandes by: Marilyn and Lewis Etcoff  
Lisa by: Ellen and Bob Goodside  
Michael Howard Nadler by: David Levine  
Evelyn Simon, Irene Dwosh, Dora Klessman, Marjorie Akselrad by: Marcy and Jack Simon

### **In Honor of:**

Jill Hanlon and Daryl Alterwitz  
Lynda and Thomas Armbruster  
Yvonne and Jerry's 50th wedding anniversary by: Nadine and Joe Cracraft  
Lois and Malcolm Doctors  
Susan and Adam Godorov  
Eileen Kollins  
Rabbi Akselrad by: Terry Matzkin  
Sid Salmon  
Audrey Akselrad Smith  
Iris and David Torjman  
Sugar Vogel  
Rabbi Akselrad by: Sheryl and Douglas Webb

## **Building Fund In Honor Of:**

Yvonne and Jerry's 50th wedding anniversary by: Nan and Ira Spector

## **General Fund In Memory Of:**

David Kapel by: Loretta Hollander  
**In Honor of:**  
Lori Frankl and Scott Greenspan  
Cindy Morales and Joel Kerben  
Jayden Bruno by: Roni Miles  
Donna and David Miller  
Carolyn Stewart  
Mindy Unger Wadkins by: Kirk Stowers  
Bob Unger by: Kirk Stowers

## **Cantor Hutchings' Discretionary Fund In Honor Of:**

Suzie Chenin by: Alan, Lori, and Sheryl Chenin and Families  
Shirley and Tony Kouffman  
Iris and David Torjman  
Sugar Vogel  
Cantor Hutchings by: Sheryl and Douglas Webb

## **Congregants Of The Year Fund In Honor Of:**

Drs. Fred Toffel and David Miller by: Sheryl Chenin-Webb and Douglas Webb

## **IBN And TNT Fund In Honor Of:**

Jolie Brislin by: Andrea Behreas

## **Library Fund In Memory Of:**

Joanne and Lee Bernick

## **Amy M. Spector Memorial Fund In Memory Of:**

Bette "Bippy" Edelman Brandes by: Ruth and Andrew Urban

## **Youth Scholarships Fund In Memory Of:**

Fern Chenin by: Jackie and Alan Chenin  
Bette Edelman Brandes by: Debbie and Mel Hallerman



## **Marjorie Akselrad Memorial Fund:**

Marjorie Akselrad by: Marlene and Del Acosta  
Joanne and Lee Bernick  
Michelle Blank  
Linda and Stephen Chenin  
Arlene Cohen  
Nadine and Joe Cracraft  
JoAnne Dandin  
Lois and Malcolm Doctors  
Laurie and Richard Frankoff  
Norma Friedman  
Carolyn Friedner  
Marilyn Goldstein  
Yvonne and Jerry Gordon  
Gorov Family  
Maxine and Steve Gratz and Family  
Joanne and Elliot Harris  
Michelle and Jeff Hirsch  
Arlene and Neil Kalodner  
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Shirley and Tony Kouffman  
Merle Lehrman  
Helen Mazor  
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Fern and John Percheski  
Diamond and Pleggenkuhle Families  
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Marcy and Jack Simon  
Edward Simon  
CNT Sisterhood  
Nan and Ira Spector  
Debbi Spielman  
Lisa Akselrad and Cindy Stalkup  
Barbara and Barney Tabach  
Ruth and Andy Urban  
Adrienne Weil

## **REMEMBRANCES**

**Dec. 9, 2021 - Feb. 8, 2022**

*Richard Miller – Beloved Congregant*  
*Sylvia Hayman – Beloved Congregant*  
*Rose Downs – Grandmother of Miah Downs*  
*Bette Edelman Brandes – Beloved Mother of Erin Josephs and Sister of Nan Spector*

## IN LOVING MEMORY

## REMEMBERED BY

Abe Tobiansky.....	Beverly and James Aronovsky
Abraham Braun, Libe Kershenovich.....	Mara Braun
Bess Sundilson, Noreen Sternberg.....	Mary Lou Burbine
Fern Chenin.....	Jackie and Alan Chenin
Joseph Dandin, Barbara Batton.....	JoAnne Dandin
Lillian Schulman, Sam Schulman, Pearl Saperstein .....	Renee Diamond
Mary Sholkoff, Herminia Barreto, Israel "Tito" Prieto III, Sylvia Katzker....	Marsha Goldberg and Brian Dick
Desmond Roman, Arline Roman.....	Sally Eisenberg
Nancy Barasch.....	Carolyn Friedner
Janet Frockt.....	Ryan Frockt and Richard Frockt
Ralph Ginsberg.....	Larry Ginsberg
Harold Katz.....	Sharon and Ray Gordon
Eric Glichouse.....	Debbie and Mel Hallerman
William Gabelman.....	Arlene Kagan
Eric Bulloff, Julia Kirtman.....	Dorie and Leonard Kirtman
David Kline, Cindy Kline.....	Lois Kline
Emanuel Stern, Florence Stern.....	Eileen Kollins
Miriam Kouffman, Louis Kouffman.....	Shirley and Tony Kouffman
Arthur Gellin.....	Robin Krakowsky
Molly Katz.....	Helene Laefer
Rose Levenberg.....	Miriam Levenberg
Rae Lewis Tishkoff.....	Phyllis and Cal Lewis
Betty Silber.....	Silber and Martin Family
Larry Mazursky.....	Gayle and Chuck Mazursky
Donald Mazer.....	Winifred Meyer
Louis Davidson, Pearl Davidson.....	Anita Moody and Rachel Moody
Bertha Aronovitz, Aaron Aronovitz, Sherri Swezey.....	Jennifer Neeman
Charlotte Popowcer, Morris Schiller.....	Bob and Tootsie Popowcer
Samuel Primack Saul C. Primack.....	Debbie Primack
Rocky Burrue.....	Terri and Gary Rosenberg
Larry Rothman.....	Maxine Rothman
Howard Miller, Riva Sofer, Melissa Evan, Ruth Schaul, A. Charles Schaul, Iser Sofer.....	Sam Schaul
Joseph Ritchie, Kathryn Zolloto, Douglas Ritchie.....	Susan Fine and Max Spilka
Alfred Moses Gerstler.....	The Sprague Family
Noreen Sternberg, Bess Sundilson.....	Mary Lou Burbine and Gary Sternberg
Anne Schwartz, Harry Schwartz.....	Iris and David Torjman
Dorothy Wanderer, Lee Pearson, Emilie Wanderer, Fran Sanoff.....	Ruth and Andy Urban
George Felszegi.....	Mary Zone



# CNT STAFF AND EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Kita Howard, Maintenance

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Ex Officio, Rabbi Sanford Akselrad  
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Alan Mann, Jim Mason, Jon Perry, Eric Polis

Michelle Blank, Sisterhood President  
Rich Greenis, MENSch Club President

## TEMPLE OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday.....9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Friday.....9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Phone.....(702) 733-6292

FAX.....(702) 733-8553

After Hours.....(702) 733-6292

### Preschool Office Hours

Monday – Thursday.....8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Friday.....8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Phone.....(702) 632-2250

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Dr. Bernard Farrow  
\*David Goldwater  
\*Eugene Kirschbaum

\*Deceased



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# SAVE THE DATE!



SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 2022 – YOM HASHOAH  
HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY AND HOLOCAUST  
MEMORIAL UNVEILING AT KING DAVID MEMORIAL  
CHAPEL AND CEMETERY



FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 2022 – POP-UP SHABBAT WITH  
TEMPLE SINAI AT THE EL CORTEZ FEATURING  
NESHAMA CARLEBACH



SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2022 – MICHAEL CHERRY TIKKUN OLAM  
COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD CEREMONY HONORING  
SARA GORDON