



## CELEBRATE PASSOVER WITH SHIR HADASH



### Second Night Congregational Seder

Thursday, April 6, 5:00 PM

Seder is a night of traditions and a time of remembrance. It's an opportunity to be with family, talk about hardships the Jewish people have overcome, and look to the past to inform our future. There's always space for God. And there's always space for another friend to come and join the seder. Join us at Shir Hadash for Second Night Seder. We have a Zoom option if you cannot join us in person.

[Register](#) by March 31 and bring a bottle of wine or a kosher dessert to share.

#### Seder at Home

As a community we hope no one is alone on Passover. It's not too late! If you have an extra seat at your Seder table this Passover or are looking for a seat at a home seder, please email [Connor](#) in the Shir Hadash office.

#### Wise Sons Deli Pop-Up

Shir Hadash will host a Wise Sons Deli Pop-up on Wednesday, April 5, at 2:00 pm, in the Shir Hadash parking lot. Find their Passover catering menu and more information [here](#).

#### Leaven Up: Service & Breaking Bread

Wednesday, April 12, 6:00 PM

Join us to mark the end of Passover with a service and songs, followed by pizza and beer.

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FROM RABBI NICO

## An Invitation To Move

*"In every generation, one must see oneself as if one had personally experienced the Exodus from Egypt. As it is written: 'You shall speak to your children on that day, saying, this is how the Holy Blessed One redeemed me from Egypt.'"*

Isn't it puzzling that despite the horrors and hardship of slavery, the children of Israel weren't eager to leave Egypt?

Despite Moses' best efforts to ignite them with the notions of redemption and freedom, the Promised Land and a life of aspirations, leaving Egypt wasn't an easy sell.

We tend to embrace what we know even when that implies the disconcerting fact that we would choose the bitter taste of oppression over the unknown flavor of freedom.

This is why faith and hope aren't merely abstract notions but rather the fuel that can ignite the motion toward transformative change. But let's not forget that in order for this to happen we need to want to be moved!

*B'chol dor vador*, the idea that in every generation, we shall see ourselves as if we ourselves came out from Egypt, is in a way reflective of the desire to be moved. Our tradition "pushes" us to move, to observe from a "different" perspective (*ma nishtana*— why is this different?) and to ask questions!

We ask not only to counteract our inclination toward confirmation bias but also to cultivate inquisitive spirits. Passover isn't merely the celebration of a historical exodus but rather the recollection of a memory that invites (pushes!) us to become freedom seekers. We defy the confines of our own ignorance and obliviousness and so, we seek for deeper understanding, and so we question here—today!

*"Understanding is always more than merely re-creating someone else's meaning. Questioning opens up possibilities of meaning, and thus what is meaningful passes into one's own thinking on the subject. Only in an inauthentic sense can we talk about understanding questions that one does not pose oneself—e.g., questions that are outdated or empty... To understand a question means to ask it. To understand meaning is to understand it as the answer to a question..."*

*"To reach an understanding in a dialogue is not merely a matter of putting oneself forward and successfully asserting one's own point of view, but being transformed into a communion in which we do not remain what we were." (H.G. Gadamer, Truth and Method, 1960)*

"Being transformed into a communion in which we do not remain what we were"

In every generation... In this generation,

We evoke the memory of the exodus;

**We repeat** old questions and formulate new ones;

**We dare** to ask challenging questions;

**We defy** our lack of inquisitiveness and tendency to stagnate.

**In every generation, in this generation we ask to be moved, to be transformed.**

This year as we open the Haggadah let's recognize it for what it is: a song of redemption, the memory of what it was and a taste of what it could be, an invitation to move.

Wishing you a moving Passover / Chag Sameach,

Nico

## Exciting New Collaboration with Music by Heart



Shir Hadash and Kulanu have been selected as the first shul to pilot Music by Heart's immersive curriculum called "Cousins Like Us." Music by Heart is an organization that provides schools with curricula for classes and professional development in music education for teachers and administrators. Their founding member is Israeli musician and educator Lior Ben-Hur. You can read more about him [here](#).

The curriculum is based on a musical storybook that lifts up the positive interactions between two cousins, one from America and one from Israel. It includes a music album so parents can support learning in the classroom by listening to songs with their children as well as an ebook for children. More information about the curriculum and program can be found [here](#).

The curriculum will be implemented for our Kindergarten-2nd grade students and families, beginning in mid-April, and will run through mid-May. It will be incorporated into Kulanu by our teachers, song leader, and clergy.

The culminating event of the program will take place during our Shabbat morning service on Saturday, May 20, at 10:30 am, where we will join together in prayer and sing this music. At this service, we will celebrate with and honor our beloved Rabbi Schwartz as he moves forward in his rabbinical journey as solo Rabbi in Huntsville, Alabama.

MAY 5-6, 2023

### RABBINIC INSTALLATION & COMMUNITY BRIT SHABBAT

Friday, May 5  
6:15pm Shabbat Service  
7:30pm Oneg & Nosh  
7:45pm Tish with  
Special Guests

Saturday, May 6  
9:30am Torah Study  
10:30am Shabbat Service Installation  
and Community Brit  
12:30pm Community Lunch



We Are Overjoyed to Welcome  
Rabbi Nico Socolovsky  
Congregation Shir Hadash  
New Senior Rabbi

שיר חדש  
Congregation Shir Hadash

## April Services

**SAT 1** 9:30 am Torah Study  
10:30 am Bat Mitzvah of Mackenzie Dunlap

**FRI 7** 6:15 pm Shabbat Service [SHTV](#) [zoom](#)

**SAT 8** 9:30 am Torah Study  
10:30 am Shabbat Service [SHTV](#) [zoom](#)

**WED 12** 6:00 pm Leaven Up: Service & Breaking Bread

**FRI 14** 6:15 pm Shabbat Service [SHTV](#) [zoom](#)

**SAT 15** 9:30 am Torah Study  
10:30 am Bar Mitzvah of Jaxon Taylor

**FRI 21** 6:15 pm Shabbat Service [SHTV](#) [zoom](#)

**SAT 22** 9:30 am Torah Study  
10:30 am Bat Mitzvah of Allison Brunnings

**FRI 28** 6:15 pm Shabbat Service [SHTV](#) [zoom](#)

**SAT 29** 9:30 am Torah Study  
10:30 am Bar Mitzvah of Ian Mesches

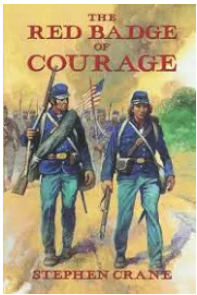
Services are in person unless noted.

[zoom](#) Live via Zoom. Sign up at [shirhadash.org/calendar](https://shirhadash.org/calendar).

[SHTV](#) In person, also available live-streamed on Shir Hadash TV, at [shirhadash.org/live](https://shirhadash.org/live).



## Fiction Book Group: *The Red Badge of Courage*, by Stephen Crane



The next book being read and reviewed by the Men's Club fiction book group is *The Red Badge of Courage*, by Stephen Crane. *The Red Badge of Courage* is a war novel by American author Stephen Crane (1871-1900). Taking place during the American Civil War, the story is about a young private of the Union Army, Henry Fleming, who flees from the field of battle. Overcome with shame, he longs for a wound, a "red badge of courage," to counteract his cowardice. When his regiment once again faces the enemy, Henry acts as a standard-bearer.

Snacks and drinks will be provided.

Please contact Paul at: [paulsirkin@gmail.com](mailto:paulsirkin@gmail.com) or call Paul at : (650) 504-7351 if you plan on attending. The address will be provided when you RSVP.



## Interfaith Volunteering at Shir Hadash

On March 12, approximately 60 Jews, Christians and Muslims volunteered together—as part of an Abrahamic Alliance International (AAI) meal service event—to prepare and serve food to unhoused community members and residents at CityTeam Ministries.

This event was the first one at CityTeam since before the pandemic! After serving dinner, the volunteers enjoyed a meal together. It was a truly wonderful event, filled with communal spirit, appreciation and fantastic energy! Special thanks to Christy Altman for her kitchen coordinating efforts and to Michelle Wolf Bloom for organizing Shir Hadash's portion of the event.

## Men's Club Weekly Walks

Our Congregation Shir Hadash Men's Club walks weekly on different trails around the south bay. All our walks are on flat or mostly flat trails and we support all levels of walkers. We start our walks promptly at 10:30 am every Thursday morning and walk for 30 minutes and then turn around and retrace our steps to the parking area. Our fastest walkers generally walk about 1½ miles (total), but we also have medium and slow walkers. There is no competition amongst our group and we walk for fun and exercise. After our walks we have lunch at a restaurant near the trail parking. If you would like to participate (and hopefully join the Men's Club) and see some interesting local nature sites please join us on a walk. Contact Marshall Heller e-mail: [fitnes2@earthlink.net](mailto:fitnes2@earthlink.net) or phone: (408) 472-0442 for information about our walks.



## Trash Talk with SHOC

The Purim carnival featured an unusual game this year. Participants were challenged to see if they could sort a variety of items between landfill, recycle, organic waste (compost) or reuse. In preparing for this game, we discovered that our congregants receive waste disposal services from a number of companies, each with different rules. Although Campbell, Los Gatos, and Saratoga have the same trash hauler, the rules are different for commercial (Shir Hadash) and residential pick-up. Sunnyvale, Cupertino, and San Jose all have different rules. Which container your used pizza box goes into? Depending on where you live it could be in the organic waste, landfill, or into a recycling container. No wonder people aren't sure which container to use following services or lunches at Shir Hadash! The kids who played our game were terrific and it was exciting to see how often they came up with creative ideas for reuse. While children played the game, parents could check out items to replace single-use plastics. The parents learned a lot, too.

One of our challenges is to clarify what serviceware (plates, utensils, cups) can be treated as organic waste vs. landfill. We will be meeting with our waste hauler in late March or early April to discuss this. We are looking into what would be necessary to standardize disposal throughout the county.



We are looking into offering workshops on mending clothes, repairing small appliances, and alternative uses for items that go to the trash. Interested in learning more about what happens to your waste or have skills to share, please email [environment@shirhadash.org](mailto:environment@shirhadash.org) or call Linda Allen or Alissa Klar.



**Sunday, April 16, 3:00 PM**

We invite all ages to join us to make new friends over an afternoon of tea and cookies! We will have cookies with a twist -interesting ingredients in new combinations to delight the taste buds. If adventurous baked goods aren't your cup of tea, come anyway and take part in sugar cookie decorating with kids! Register [here](#).

## Todah Rabah!

Join us in a big "Todah Rabah" to this month's stand-out volunteers among our wonderful volunteer community!

- Josh Bernstein: For his constant pursuit of improving our technology and ability to thwart crises.
- Jill Jacknow and Sara Ellman: For the wonderful Purim Dinner and celebration.
- Aviva Paul: For her strong leadership in Youth programming and unending organizing and effort.



## Holocaust Remembrance— We Will Never Forget!

"Holocaust and Heroism Remembrance Day," known in Israel as Holocaust Day (Yom HaShoah), is observed in Israel yearly on the 27th of Nisan—April 17 this year—to commemorate the approximately six million Jews who perished as a result of actions taken by Nazi Germany and its collaborators from 1933 to 1945. The date was chosen as a tribute to the Warsaw ghetto uprising.

A Community Yom HaShoah Memorial Service will be held on Monday, April 17, at 7:00 pm, at Temple Emanu-El. The Silicon Valley community is invited to a Yom HaShoah service on the theme of Anti-Semitism Today. Guest speakers Sophie Weinzimmer, Ruth Litwin, a student speaker, and Jewish Clergy including those from Shir Hadash will be in attendance. Survivors and their descendants are invited to participate in a candle lighting to remember and dispel anti-semitism.

The Men's Club will sell candles for Yom HaShoah, and money raised will be used to foster youth development at Shir Hadash. Your generous past contributions have allowed the Men's Club to provide support for Religious School scholars in need. We have also supported pre-pandemic trips to Washington, DC, and Costa Rica for the upper grade to participate in social justice and

community-building experiences and for individual students to participate in Jewish programs of merit outside of Shir Hadash. We have funded a number of events for students and parents, as well as attendance by SALT youth to a NFTY convention. Please return the form to us by Monday, April 17.

YOM HAZIKARON, YOM HAATZMAUT

## Israel's Independence Day & Memorial Day

Yom HaZikaron, on April 25, is the national Remembrance Day, observed in Israel for all Israeli military personnel who lost their lives in the struggle that led to the establishment of the State of Israel and for those who have been killed subsequently while on active duty in Israel's armed forces.

Yom HaAtzmaut, on April 26, is Israel's Independence Day. The State of Israel is turning 75 this year. Below are two Bay Area celebrations:

- [APJCC Israel 75](#), April 25, 4:30 pm
- [Bay Area Israel@75 and Kulanu Special Program](#), April 30, 11:00 am

## We Thank These Donors for Their Generous Contributions...

Scott & Judy Alberts  
Eli Bail  
Harold & Rochelle Baumstein  
Fred & Alyssia Berkowitz  
Martin & Cheryl Brewer  
Diane Calmis  
Stan & June Chapman  
Jim & Barb Chappell  
Jacob Chappell  
Stephen Cohen  
Lisa Freedman & Glen Shaffer  
Sharon & Jack Friedman  
Alex Gelber & Linda Wolf  
Sheldon Goldsmith  
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Carol Shapiro Gutstein  
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Sima & Arnold Hilde  
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Avery Kaufman & Richard Borenstein  
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Bonnie Slavitt  
Eric & Robyn Stone  
Robert & Patty Weisman  
Bonnie Wohl  
Harriet & Sandy Wolf  
Mitchell Wunsh & Supriya Molina Wunsh



## Photos from Our Purim Celebration



# APRIL

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<b>1</b> Shabbat Tzav 9:30a Torah Study 10:30 Bat Mitzvah of Mackenzie Dunlap 4:00p NFTYx Central West Coast Region (CWR) Spring Conclave
<b>2</b> 12:00s NFTYx Central West Coast Region (CWR) Spring Conclave 9:00 Kulanu Learning 9:30 Men's Club Board Meeting 12:30p Kulanu Hebrew Sundays	<b>3</b> 3:00p Shir Hadash Men's Club Fiction Book Group Meeting	<b>4</b> 6:30p JET 7:00 Silicon Valley Intro to Judaism Via Zoom	<b>5</b> 10:30a Free Meditation Class Taught by Marilyn Katz <a href="#">zoom</a> 2:00p Wise Sons Pop-up <b>EREV PASSOVER</b>	<b>6</b> <b>PASSOVER</b> Office Closed 5:00p Second Night Congregational Seder	<b>7</b> <b>PASSOVER</b> 6:15p Shabbat Service <a href="#">zoom</a> <a href="#">SHTV</a>	<b>8</b> <b>PASSOVER</b> 9:30a Torah Study 10:30 Shabbat Service <a href="#">zoom</a> <a href="#">SHTV</a>
<b>9</b> <b>PASSOVER</b>	<b>10</b> <b>PASSOVER</b>	<b>11</b> <b>PASSOVER</b>	<b>12</b> <b>PASSOVER</b> Office Closed 6:00p Leaven Up: Service and Breaking Bread	<b>13</b> <b>PASSOVER</b> 7:00p Yom HaShoah Choir Rehearsal	<b>14</b> 6:15p Shabbat Service <a href="#">zoom</a> <a href="#">SHTV</a>	<b>15</b> Shabbat Sh'mini 9:30a Torah Study 10:30 Bar Mitzvah of Jaxon Taylor
<b>16</b> 9:00s Ahavat Cycling 9:00 Kulanu Learning 11:00 SHOC Meeting <a href="#">zoom</a> 12:30p Kulanu Hebrew Sundays 3:00 Teatime With a Twist	<b>17</b> 7:00p Yom HaShoah Service at Temple Emanu-El	<b>18</b> <b>YOM HASHOAH</b> 6:30p JET 7:00 Silicon Valley Intro to Judaism Via Zoom	<b>19</b> 10:30a Free Meditation Class Taught by Marilyn Katz <a href="#">zoom</a> 4:00p Adult Ed Meeting- Zoom Only 7:30 Shir Hadash Board Meeting	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 6:15p Shabbat Service <a href="#">zoom</a> <a href="#">SHTV</a>	<b>22</b> <b>ROSH CHODESH IYAR</b> Shabbat Tazria/M'tzora 9:30a Torah Study 10:30 Bat Mitzvah of Allison Brunnings 5:00p SALT Board Elections
<b>23</b> 9:00s Kulanu Learning 9:30 Membership Committee Meeting 10:00 Kulanu Room Parent Meeting 11:00 Kulanu Open House 12:30p Kulanu Hebrew Sundays	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>YOM HAZIKARON</b> 4:30p APJCC Israel@75 6:30 JET 7:00 Silicon Valley Intro to Judaism Via Zoom	<b>26</b> <b>YOM HAATZMAUT</b> 10:30a Free Meditation Class Taught by Marilyn Katz <a href="#">zoom</a>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 6:15p Shabbat Service <a href="#">zoom</a> <a href="#">SHTV</a>	<b>29</b> Shabbat Acharei Mot/K'doshim 9:30a Torah Study 10:30 Bar Mitzvah of Ian Mesches
<b>30</b> 9:15s Kulanu Hebrew Sundays 11:00 Kulanu Special Program & Off-Site Event - Israel@75						

Please visit [www.shirhadash.org](http://www.shirhadash.org) for the full calendar.



Live via Zoom. Sign up at [shirhadash.org/calendar](http://shirhadash.org/calendar).



In person, also available live-streamed on Shir Hadash TV, at [shirhadash.org/live](http://shirhadash.org/live).