## Adar/Nisan/Iyar 5781 March/April 2021 Vol. 67, No.5

# AKIBA BULLETIN

# Temple Akiba of Culver City



On all other nights we eat bread as well as matzah. On this night, why only Matzah?

On all other nights, we don't dip our food at all. On this night, why do we dip twice?





On all other nights, we eat all kinds of vegetables. On this night, why do we specifically eat bitter herbs?



On all other nights, we eat either casually or with celebration.
Why on this night do we all eat with celebration?





Also In This Issue:

Nefesh Mountain is back for Shabbat! March 26 6:30 pm

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The Words of my Heart A prayer writing workshop April 7, 14, 21, 28 Have fun at Sisterhood's Trivia Night April 17 7:30 pm



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## **BULLETIN DEADLINES**

The first day of the prior month to publication

<u>Issue</u> <u>Deadline</u>

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# MAR/APR Friday Shabbat Services

Friday, March 5 6:30pm

Shabbat Shira Service

Friday, March 12 7pm

Refugee Shabbat Service with Choir

Friday, March 19 7pm

Shabbat Service - Generation of Singers

Friday, March 26 6:30pm

Shabbat Service with Nefesh Mountain

Friday, April 2 6:30pm

Shabbat Shira Service

Friday, April 9 7pm

Yom Hashoah Shabbat Service with Choir

Friday, April 16 5pm

Kehilah Teen Shabbat Service

Friday, April 16 7pm

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Friday, April 23 7pm

Yom Ha'atzmaut Shabbat Service

Friday, April 30 7pm

Shabbat Service with our Junior Cantors

# Cantor's Corner

Why is this night different from all other nights? This is the central question that we ask each year on Passover. As we move through the Haggadah, our answers unfold, telling the history of our ancestors and why it is important to remember their stories year after year. This year our lives have changed drastically and so we wanted to modernize the four questions found in our Passover service to reflect the realities of living through a Pandemic. The Rabbi challenged a few staff and board members to respond to these updated questions.



## **Temple Akiba's President, Ira Diamond** will answer the first question:

I. On all other nights, we eat bread as well as matzah. On this night, why only Matzah? In normal times, our community does all kinds of activities. But this year, what has it been like to cut back?

## **Executive Director Jeffrey Rips** will respond to the second question:

2. On all other nights, we eat all kinds of vegetables. On this night, who do we specifically eat bitter herbs? In normal times, there is a balance with life moments in our synagogue activities. This year, what have we done to create balance in the face of so many difficulties?

### Our **Director of Education Randee Bishoff** will answer the third question:

3. On all other nights, we don't dip our food at all. On this night, we do we dip twice? In normal times, we take so much for granted. What have we looked more closely at this year?

I was challenged to respond to the fourth question.

4. On all other nights, we eat either casually or with celebration. Why on this night, do we all eat with celebration? In normal times, our lives are interwoven with regular moments and with celebrations. How have our celebrations changed this year?

Our lives have changed so much over the last year. The way we communicate, travel, eat and play look drastically different from life before the Pandemic. The Pandemic has brought so many challenges and yet there are so many wonderful blessings that we've experienced with those challenges. It has taken a lot of discussions and thinking out of the box to ensure our celebrations continue during this time.

Our calendar is filled with times for celebration and times for gathering together. The Pandemic definitely made it more difficult to celebrate together in person, but it didn't stop us from our celebrations, it didn't stop us from marking the special moments in our lives. Last year the Rabbi and I had made a decision for the first time to not have a Temple Akiba 2nd night seder. This decision was made before Covid began for various reasons. Once the lock-down began and Passover approached, we realized it was vital to celebrate this important holiday together as a community. We were all new to Zoom at that point and it was a big learning curve, but we continued the Temple Akiba tradition and had a beautiful second night Passover Seder together online.

Our celebrations continued throughout the year with every Jewish holiday celebrated together online. Birthdays and other holidays looked very different but were celebrated. For my daughter Indee's birthday we had a Zoom party and a Drive-By Birthday for my daughter Meleena's party.

Yes, our celebrations look different and have felt different. But our calendar is still marked with these opportunities for us to take a moment and live. We may not be able to go out in the same way and see friends in the same way, but we have still taken the time to be together, to celebrate the wonderful moments in life together. A Pandemic will never take that away from us.

Wishing you all a meaningful Passover!

Cantor Lonee

Due to his father's death in February, Rabbi was not able to submit an article. His column will return next issue.

# President's Message

Rabbi Shapiro has challenged me to look at one of the questions in our Passover Haggadah and relate it to our current reality. This experience has been insightful. My auestion is:

On all other nights, we eat bread as well as matzah. On this night, why only Matzah?

In normal times, our community does all kinds of activities. But this year, what has it been like to cut back?

During the pandemic we have had to adapt and change the way we do things. Unable to meet in person, we have needed to think out of the box. The challenge was to find a way to stay connected and still continue all our events, programs and schools.

Words like hamish, warm, and welcoming describe our community. Can we maintain our hamish welcoming spirit while we are unable to physically see and embrace each other? Has this at times actually brought us closer together? The answer is yes.

Shabbat services via Zoom and YouTube has in many ways expanded our experience and connection. More people than ever participate at our services and it has allowed many guest artists to participate. The chat communication allows congregants to share names of those needing an extra prayer of healing and to share thoughts. The shmoozing after the service allows our congregants to catch up and wish each other Shabbat Shalom.

Since the pandemic began, our congregational meeting, town hall meetings, committee meetings and Board meetings have been very successful via electronic format. Religious School classes, Sisterhood and Men's Group meetings and events, committee meetings, youth group meetings and much more have been very well attended.

As it states in the question, during Passover we abstain from eating hammetz and only eat matzah. What has it been like to cut back? ... although we have had to "abstain" from gathering in person, we have been able to stay in touch via electronic connections, and have grown stronger and closer from the experience.

Just as many of us enjoy eating Matzah throughout the year, we may find combining electronic

connections along with physical connections to be even more gratifying.

Happy Passover and Chag Sameach!

Ira Diamond, President



"Why is this night different from all other nights?" has turned into "Why is this year different from all other years?" So much has changed this past year, and yet so much has stayed the same. When the pandemic hit, and everything shut down, there were so many questions – definitely more than the traditional four we ask at the Seder. But this year, there was no story to tell to answer all those questions. Our journey into this year's unknown was like that of the Children of Israel going off into the desert. In both, there were questions, fears, and not knowing what the future held in store.

This year, much like our ancestors traveling through the desert, we have made it through with faith, perseverance, and community. At a time when it would have been easy to just isolate ourselves, while we literally isolated, we have chosen to not only embrace one another, but to seek out ways to reach out, and create community, albeit virtually.

Although much of what Temple Akiba does at the Temple is not currently happening, our ECC continues to gather every day. We have also ensured that our weekly Lunch and Learn and Torah Study, as well as our Coffee with the Clergy continue to happen. As a congregation, we have participated in many Tikun Olam events – so even during this challenging time, we continue to make the world a better place. Our Friday Shabbat services, and our B'nai Mitzvah on Saturday morning have been different, but we still gather as a community to connect, pray, and celebrate.

So what is different this year? On all other years, we gather, in person to celebrate and be as a community. We have learned that on this year, that even if we cannot go to the Temple, Temple Akiba and our community is here for you and our community, more than ever, and that Temple Akiba can come to you – wherever you are. We can participate, albeit differently, and still be part of a bigger community, even while being at home. We have learned that our bond, that our connection, goes beyond the boundaries of the Temple property. Although we wish we could be at the Temple, we have learned, much like the Children of Israel, that we are stronger together, that indeed our Light does shine brighter together – no matter where we are. And I know, as this journey continues, we will indeed end up back in our promised land, at Temple Akiba,

celebrating and dancing together like Miriam with her Trimbles.

Jeffrey Rips **Executive** Director

# **ECC & RELIGIOUS SCHOOL**



On all other nights, we don't dip our food at all. On this night, we do we dip twice?

In normal times, we take so much for granted. What have we looked more closely at this year?

The biggest lesson I learned in 2020 was: don't take anything for granted. This year threw the world and many of us personally into a state of uncertainty. However, I believe this is an opportunity for us to make positive changes in our lives, changes that will help us and those around us. We are less able to understand what the future holds, and this has personal and professional implications leading us in a different direction.We need to adapt so that we can best operate in new conditions. For me, this has meant putting more emphasis on taking care of myself and others, fostering my friendships and connections, and doing things to be as prepared as possible for the future.

## Taking care of ourselves

This year taught me that mental health is more important than ever. I believe we all need a certain amount of personal balance to navigate our lives, and it's proven to be even more critical this year. As an educator, balance has always enabled me to be better at my work, be more creative, and work well with others, so I place particular importance on it now and will continue to in 2021.

## Taking care of others

We can spend many years getting to know our congregants and families and sometimes don't know them that well or understand the challenges they're going through. We're more disconnected than before. It's an excellent time to check in with people, be it, Temple members, colleagues, neighbors, loved ones, and friends. I hope this year brings a shift in the way we move through the world and what we place value on, with a specific emphasis on kindness. The only way we'll get through hard times is together.

### Fostering connections

It's challenging enough in good times to keep our close connections and relationships alive; it requires some effort through time spent together and shared experiences. That's been hard this year as we've had to spend time apart. But I've learned this year that talking to friends over video sparks almost the same amount of joy as seeing them in person. I've reconnected with old friends and seen family that live far away. Educators across the country have been able to support and learn from one another while deepening the connections between new and old colleagues and friends.

2020 has been a doozy, but focusing on taking care of myself has created a stable foundation and helps me be there for others. Reconnecting with old friends and fostering my relationships with colleagues has made me feel connected. Let's make 2021 the year we focus on kindness and look at the world through the lens of others, not iust ourselves.

#### Randee Bishoff

#### Director of Education

# UPDATE ON URJ CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY

Dear Fellow Members,

We're excited to let you know that Temple Akiba's results from the URI Benchmarking and Assessment survey have come in! We have heard your voices and presented the findings to the entire Akiba Board of Directors. For the next several weeks, our committee will work with the Board to determine a list of goals and action steps to be taken to meet the needs and concerns of all as well as to build on our strengths as a community whose light shines brighter together. We will be sending updates in the coming months and making a presentation during our Congregational Meeting in May.

L' Shalom,

Johanna Besterman Chair of URJ Benchmarking & Assessment Committee VP Development, Temple Akiba of Culver City



# Celebrate Shabbat

# with Jewish Bluegrass Sensation

# **NEFESH MOUNTAIN**



# March 26 at 6:30 PM

"Bluegrass and Jewish Traditions Meet and Fall Madly in Love" - Bluegrass Today

Nefesh Mountain is the place where Bluegrass, Old-Time, and American Roots music meet with Jewish heritage and tradition. Creators, band leaders and husband and wife team Doni Zasloff and Eric Lindberg are the heart of this eclectic offering, pioneering a new world of American culture which seamlessly blends their deep love for American and Western musical forms with their own cultural backgrounds as Jewish Americans.



# Havdalah in the Dark Havdalah in the Dark

With Charlie Kramer

March 13 at 5:30 PM via zoom

Connection, Community & Healing

Charlie Kramer is song & spirit.

Legally blind and with an acoustic guitar, Charlie Kramer unites, magnetizes and elevates the communities around him. A touring songleader, songwriter & spiritual leader, Charlie has sung with communities throughout North America, Israel, Australia and New Zealand.

Founder and Creative Director of the blindfolded singing and healing experience, Singing in the Dark, Charlie shares the story of his blindness across the world through music and meditation, helping others to face their challenges and uncover the many blessings within their lives.





# Join us for our Kehilah virtual events:

March 28 at 4:30 pm

# SECOND NIGHT FAMILY SEDER

Get your seder plate ready and join us for a musical seder for the whole family. (You better believe we will be dancing too!)

April 16 at 5 pm

## **TEEN SHABBAT**

Kabbalat Shabbat services led by some of the most impactful Jewish teens across the country!

# The Words of My Heart

Exploring Prayer Poetry a prayer writing workshop ONLINE

Led by Cantor Lonee Frailich and Cantorial Intern Liz Baseman

We will study liturgy, contemplate how words of prayer relate to our lives, and craft our own liturgical prayers.

Wednesdays at 7 pm PT April 7, 14, 21, & 28

For more information, or to RSVP and receive a ZOOM link, please email Cantor Lonee Frailich at cantorlonee@templeakiba.net



Temple akiba ecc & PJ Library Present

# Virtual tiny tot shabbat experience

It's never too early to start celebrating Shabbat with your little one.

For kids 0-2 years.

Join us for PJ library storytime, music, singing, and fun with Rabbi Shapiro and Cantor Lonee.

Virtually meet other families with tiny tots

FREE and open to the whole community







PJ Library® of Los Angeles is a program of the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles, with support from generous local donors, and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

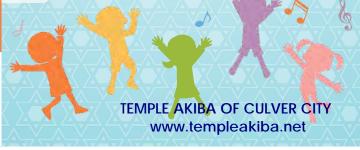
# Join us for Virtual Tiny Tot Shabbat at 9am!

March 5
April 9

May 7
June 4

RSVP to Diane to receive a Zoom link to nurseryschool@templeakiba.net

If possible please have a Kiddish cup, candles and candlestick holders, a piece of challah or bread, and some sort of noise maker for music.



# B'Nai Mitzvah - Mazal Tov!







**Ethan Knopf** son of Cindy & Kevin Knopf Saturday, March 13



Josie Kent daughter of Mimi & Rick Kent Saturday, March 20



Cayla Roper daughter of Shawn Rubin & Brian Roper Saturday, April 10



Ryan Vermette son of Jessica & Tommy Vermette Saturday, April 17



Elliot Rosenberg son of Linda & Lenny Rosenberg Saturday, April 24



# Temple Akiba Sisterhood

Women of Reform Judaism

# Annual Havdalah Service Saturday, March 20th, 5:00 P.M.

Join us for a memorable and musical evening

as we conduct our Torah Service

followed by an inclusive Havdalah

with a surprise for all who are registered.

Registration required by March 6th Zoom link will be provided after that date.

RSVP to Linda Park: mommylinda50@hotmail.com







As the days start to lengthen we look forward to many holidays and annual celebrations Sisterhood observes. Flyers providing information are included in this Bulletin.

Our Annual Sisterhood Havdalah Service will be held on March 20th. This is an evening celebrating Sisterhood and women, filled with inspiration and music for women and men to enjoy, and also includes an all-inclusive Havadalah celebration. Reservations are required to receive the link to participate, as well as a special surprise.

A really fun night will take place on April 17th when we sponsor Trivia Night! The price of admission buys you the opportunity to participate in 3 different games and the winners will receive Gift Cards for food delivery services. Gather together as a family and make a night of it, or test your own scope of knowledge - you'd be surprised at what your children and you know!

Sisterhood is embarking on an ambitious endeavor to have one of our Temple's Torahs repaired by female scribe Linda Coppelson. This project is truly significant in part because there are so few female scribes at this point in time. The Torah needs re-stitching as well as repair work on the actual text which has become illegible. We anticipate that this will take several months to complete and will be very excited to share with our Temple community the process of what has been done as well as the history of this specific Torah in Temple Akiba's history upon completion.

SAVE THE DATE: May 23rd to share in a comedic program about a culinary history of Jews in America based on the Astrological Signs of the Delicatessen. This is sure to be an entertaining event and details will follow soon.

Please remember that our Gift Shop stocks a full range of items for Passover and all holidays. If you want to make a purchase for any occasion contact Linda Park, mommylinda50@hotmail. com, for an appointment and to see our full inventory.









# March 2021 17 Adar 5781 - 18 Nisan 5781

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	17 Adar	18 Adar	19 Adar	20 Adar	21 Adar	22 Adar
		2	3	4	5	6
	00 PM Lunch and arn via zoom	11:00 AM Coffee with the Clergy via zoom	6:00 PM Adult Hebrew Class via zoom		9:00 AM Tiny Tot Shabbat via zoom	9:00 AM Torah Study via zoom
					6:30 PM Shabbat Shira with Aliya and 2nd Grade Family Shabbat via zoom	10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service with Bar Mitzvah Miles Silverman via zoom
7 23 Adar 8	24 Adar	25 Adar	26 Adar	27 Adar 11	28 Adar 12	29 Adar 13
10:00 AM Introduction 12:	:00 PM Lunch and arn via zoom	10AM-12PM Tikkun Olam Committee's Art Supply Drive for Refugee Children	10AM-12PM Tikkun Olam Committee's Art Supply Drive for Refugee Children	7:00 PM Shabbat Service with Choir - Refugee Shabbat	7:00 PM Shabbat Service with Choir -	9:00 AM Torah Study via zoom 10:30 AM Shabbat
		7:00 PM Sisterhood Meeting via zoom	6:00 PM Adult Hebrew Class via zoom			Morning Service with Bar Mitzvah Ethan Knopf via zoom
			7:00 PM Life Transitions Group via zoom			5:30 PM Havdalah in the Dark w/ Charlie Kramer
14 1 Nisan 15	2 Nisan	3 Nisan	4 Nisan	5 Nisan	6 Nisan	7 Nisan
	00 PM Lunch and arn via zoom	11:00 AM Coffee with the Clergy via zoom	6:00 PM Adult Hebrew Class via zoom		7:00 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service - "Generation of Singers" via zoom	9:00 AM Torah Study via zoom
			7:00 PM General Board Meeting via zoom			10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service with Bat Mitzvah Josephine Kent via zoom
						5:00 PM Sisterhood Havdalah Service
21 8 Nisan 22	9 Nisan D	10 Nisan 23	11 Nisan 24	12 Nisan 25	13 Nisan	14 Nisan 27
		7:00 PM Men's Group Meeting via zoom	6:00 PM Adult Hebrew Class via zoom		6:30 PM Nefesh Mountain Shabbat Service via zoom	9:00 AM Torah Study via zoom
			7:00 PM Life Transitions Group via zoom			
22						
28 15 Nisan 29	16 Nisan	30	31			
	00 PM Lunch and arn via zoom					
4:30 Kehilah 2nd Night Family Seder						
6:30 Temple Akiba 2nd Night Seder						

# April 2021 19 Nisan 5781 - 17 Iyar 5781

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				19 Nisan	20 Nisan	21 Nisan
					6:30 PM Shabbat Shira with Aliya via zoom	
22 Nisan	23 Nisan	24 Nisan	25 Nisan	26 Nisan	27 Nisan	28 Nisan
	12:00 PM Lunch and Learn via zoom	11:00 AM Coffee w/ the Clergy via zoom	6:00 PM Adult Hebrew Class via zoom	Ü	9:00 AM Tiny Tot Shabbat via zoom	9:00 AM Torah Study via zoom
			7:00 PM Words of My Heart prayer writing workshop via zoom		7:00 PM Shabbat Service with Choir - Yom Hashoah via zoom	10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service with Bat Mitzvah Cayla Roper via zoom
29 Nisan <b>11</b>	30 Nisan	1 Iyar	2 Iyar <b>14</b>	3 Iyar	4 Iyar	5 Iyar <b>17</b>
10:00 AM Introduction to Judaism via zoom	12:00 PM Lunch and Learn via zoom	10AM-12PM Tikkun Olam Committee's	10AM-12PM Food Drive for SOVA		5:00 PM Kehilah Teen Shabbat via zoom	9:00 AM Torah Study via zoom
		Food Drive for SOVA	6:00 PM Adult Hebrew Class via zoom		7:00 PM Kabbalat Shabbat Service	10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service with
		7:00 PM Sisterhood Meeting via zoom	7:00 PM Words of My Heart prayer writing workshop via zoom			Bar Mitzvah Ryan Vermette via zoom 7:30 PM Sisterhood
6 Iyar	7 Iyar	8 Iyar	7:00 PM Life Transitions Group 9 Iyar	10 Iyar	11 Iyar	Trivia Night  12 Iyar
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
10:00 AM Introduction to Judaism via zoom	12:00 PM Lunch and Learn via zoom	11:00 AM Coffee w/ the Clergy via zoom	6:00 PM Adult Hebrew Class via zoom		7:00 PM Shabbat Service with Choir - Yom Ha'atzmaut	9:00 AM Torah Study via zoom
			7:00 PM Words of My Heart prayer writing workshop via zoom		via zoom	10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service with Bar Mitzvah Elliot
			7:00 PM General Board Meeting via zoom			Rosenberg via zoom
25	26	15 Iyar <b>27</b>	16 Iyar	17 Iyar	30 18 Iyar	
	12:00 PM Lunch and Learn via zoom  7:00 PM Men's Group Meeting w/ Guest Speakers Michael & Ayan Rubin via zoom	6:00 PM Adult Hebrew Class via zoom		7:00 PM Shabbat Service with Junior Cantors via zoom		
		7:00 PM Words of My Heart prayer writing workshop via zoom				
			7:00 PM Life Transitions Group via zoom			

#### **TZEDAKAH**

Members and friends of Temple Akiba have chosen to honor the memories of loved ones and to express their condolences to bereaved families by making contributions to the Yahrzeit and other Temple funds. In addition, one can make donations to the Temple to honor birthdays, a marriage, a baby naming, a conversion, the privilege of sitting on the bima, for having an aliya, or for any other blessed occasion.

#### **TEMPLE FUND**

**Antoinette Glick** 

**David & Karen Klemes** 

Dr. David M Paperny, z''l

Lynne Shapiro

**Brian Tell** 

In honor of:

Our 50th anniversary, from Ron and Leanna Watts

Rabbi Zach, from Irving Reifman

Sue Polep, from Rick Crane

In memory of:

Dr. Lawrence Gershon, from Joan Pasternak

**Marion Louise Greenberg,** sister of Evelyn Weinstock, from Sue Polep

Helen Gruber, Liz Gruber Harris' mother, from Sue Polep

Barry Josephson, from Randee & Scott Bishoff, Valerie Fontaine,

Daniel Goodkin, Eleanor Klausner, Jacki Parsons, & Sue Polep

Karen Kahan, my wife, from Alan Kahan

Louise Zakheim, from Bob Knopf and Sharon Krakoff

Samuel and Sofia ZeBrack, from Lyn and Walter Brophy

#### **RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Sandra Luboviski

In honor of:

**Akiba Amoeba Havorah and many lifelong friends**, from the Shabsis Family

Bar Mitzvah of Diego Horowitz, from Diego Horowitz and Family

Bat Mitzvah of Alaina Gafni, from Ben and Cori Gafni

Bat Mitzvah of Jacquelyn Liber, from The Liber Family

**Confirmation of Camille Joffe**, from Ellie Sherman-Quinn and Stephen Quinn

**Rabbi Zach Shapiro** for making us feel so welcome remotely, from Steve Ross and Mary Wujek

**Rabbi Zach Shapiro** having performed the memorial service of Vicki Sriro, from Don Sriro

In memory of:

Milton Berman, my father, from Sara Rutenberg

Marceline Creve, from Heidi and Hilton Creve

Barry Josephson, from Herb & Marg Eder & family, Diana &

David Hauptman, Jonathan Josephson, & Mari Levenson

#### CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In honor of:

**Akiba Amoeba Havorah and many lifelong friends**, from the Shabsis Family

Bar Mitzvah of Diego Horowitz, from Diego Horowitz and Family

Bat Mitzvah of Alaina Gafni, from Ben and Cori Gafni

Bat Mitzvah of Jacquelyn Liber, from The Liber Family

Confirmation of Camille Joffe, from Ellie Sherman-Quinn and

Stephen Quinn

In memory of:

**Barry Josephson**, from Herb & Marg Eder & family, Jonathan Josephson, & Mari Levenson

#### **YAHRZEIT FUND**

Rose Altschull, my mother, from Edythe Elkinson

Eva Angelin, from Wayne White

Elliot Ballonoff, my father, from Bradley Comp

Shirley Barasch, my sister, from June Penso

**Ida Baseman and Joseph Baseman**, from Deborah, Ken, and Liz Baseman

Milton Belzer, from Dorothy Rainier

Marjorie Berkson, from Bruce and Lori Rudich & family

Sheldon Block, my father, from Keith Block

Arnold and Sarah Borenstein, from Deborah, Ken, and Liz

Baseman

Lee Brody, from Roz Brody

Marion Chelnek, my mother, from Sue Urfrig

Sidney Feldmar, my father, from Toni Goldstein

Frances Flumenbaum, my mother, from William Flumenbaum

Esther Forman, from Joel and Linda Forman

Goldie and Sol Geffner, from James Geffner

Ann Gerson, my mother, from Marsha Gerson Hirsch

Samuel and Frances Gleckman, my parents, from Roger Gleckman

Clara Goldstein, my mother, from Roz Brody

Louis Gordon, from Bruce and Lori Rudich

Marilyn Gotz, from Rosalie and Michael Gotz

Michael Grossman, from Letty & Jerry Mendel

David Gursky, from Michael & Veronica Gursky

Charles Harris, my father, from Louise Feinberg

Robert Henken, my brother, from Irene Oelberger

Jack Hirschberg, my husband, from Shirley Hirschberg

Esther and Nathan Jaffa, from David and Helene Jaffa

Ben Kahan, my father, from Alan Kahan

Alexander Kanner, from Ethel and Jack Berger

Herb Karnofsky, from Marla and Ed Wolkowitz

Debbie Kovach, my sister, from Lisabeth Lobenthal

Michael Krenicki, from Joanne and Larry Kahn

Murray Lebowitz, from Roz Brody

Harvey Lewin, my brother, from Joanne Wolf

Aaron Lipman, Evelyn Lipman, Joseph Lipman, & Louis

**Lipman**, from Fay Lipman

Ira Lurvey, my father, from Nathana Lurvey Horn

Ester Margolis, from Steven Margolis and Joanne Seltzer

Robert Marks, my husband, from Barbara Marks

Alfred Mendel, from Elaine Holiday, and Jerry & Letty Mendel

Erwin Meyer, my father, from Suzan Meyer and Andrew Meyer

Celia Moreno, from Norma Moreno and Robert Turner

Ida Nowison, from Sheila and Ron Berman

Leon Juda Penso, my father-in-law, from June Penso

William Polep, my father-in-law, from Sue Polep

Al Resnick, from Sheila and Stan Weinberg

Mendel Ritter, my father, from Susan Weinberg

Gerry and Hal Rosen, our parents, from Michael and Steven Rosen

Maurice Senit, from Sylvan and Steven Senit

Susan Rosenkranz White, from Wayne White

Gertrude Rubinstein, my grandmother, from Jodi Zimelman

Florence Sederoff, from Michael and Rosalie Gotz

Jack Shulman, from Ira and Diney Shulman

Abraham and Reva Stein, my parents, from Sharon Krakoff

Louis Tassone, from Cathy and Bruce Penso

Helen Wolkowitz, from Ed and Marla Wolkowitz

Luis Zelava, my brother, from Linda Germain

Cookie Zimelman, my mother, from Steven Zimelman

#### **CHOIR FUND**

*In memory of:* 

Barry Josephson, from Carole Seedman

#### TASTY FUND

In memory of:

Barry Josephson, from Jacki Parsons

#### JUSTIN SHABSIS MEMORIAL FUND

*In honor of:* 

Akiba Amoeba Havorah and many lifelong friends, from the Shabsis Family

*In memory of:* 

Howard Shabsis & Justin Shabsis, from Leanna and Ron Watts

#### LEE WOLKOWITZ FUND

Marla and Ed Wolkowitz

#### RESIDENT CAMP FUND

Dr. David M Paperny, z"l

#### RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

*In memory of:* 

Alex and Andy Alexander, my parents, "who relied on tzedakah from others to help educate their children at Temple Akiba," from Deborah Alexander

#### EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER FUND

Adam and Yana Moser

Tali Dolev and Shoham Nicolet

*In memory of:* 

Ann Gordon & Sidney Lewis Gordon, my in-laws, from Sheila Gordon & Family

Irving Ziedman, my father, from Sheila Gordon

## Randee Bishoff honored by Builders of Jewish Education (BJE)

These donations were made to various funds in honor of **Randee** Bishoff for being honored by BJE at their Out of the Box Gala February 5, 2021.

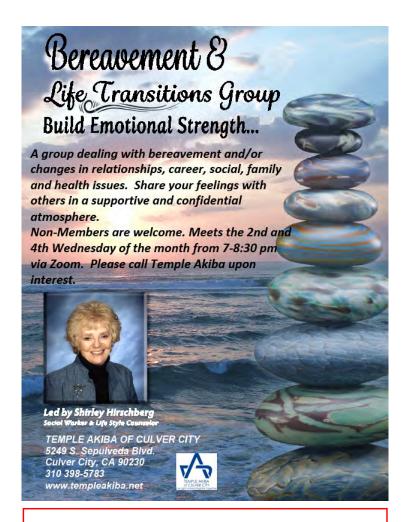
Gayle and Jimmy Bishoff (ECC Fund & Religious School Scholarship Fund)

Lynne Goldklang (ECC Fund & Rabbi's Discretionary Fund) John Magoulas (RS Scholarship Fund)

The Men's Group of Temple Akiba (ECC Fund)

Lori and Bruce Rudich (ECC Fund)





# A Successful Blood Drive!

Thank you, Temple Akiba, for your continued support in our Blood Services Partnership. The units we collected January 24 remain paramount for our hospital partners as we work to stabilize our supply during this crisis. We can't thank you and our wider community enough for your overwhelming support in our mission together. Our blood drive results are below and they are shared here with Temple Akiba and the wider community with our heartfelt thanks.

Our partnership in our Life-Saving Endeavors is paramount and we hope that everyone there understands the impact we can make because of communities like yours.

Registered Donors: 30

Total units collected: 28 (including 1 Power Red!)

From: Sean Inoue (Red Cross rep) and Ron Watts (Akiba rep to Red Cross)

Our next blood drive at Temple Akiba will be on June 6, 2021.

**American Red Cross** 



# NEWS FROM THE TIKKUN OLAM COMMITTEE

The need is constant. We appreciate your continued generosity and support! We donated two SUVs full of food to the CC Backpack for Kids Program!



Please attend our **Refugee Shabbat Service on March 12** and Donate New Art Supplies for children at the San Fernando Valley Refugee Center



Crayons, colored pencils, washable markers and pads of drawing paper

Tuesday, March 9 and Wednesday, March 10 10am-12noon

Please drop off your donations at Temple Akiba's Front Entrance on Sepulveda Blvd.

Please do not bring your items to the Temple at any other time!

# Collection of Personal Care Items for People who are Homeless

travel size shampoo, conditioner, soap, hand sanitizer, sunscreen, tissue packs, socks, combs, Band-Aids, Chapstick



Travel size items available at Target, Walgreens, CVS, Rite-aid & Bed Bath & Beyond

Collection will be held in May. Dates to be announced.

Committee Members, wearing masks, will be present to accept your donations.

Thank you for your generosity!

Questions: Cathy Penso, VP Affiliations, <a href="mailto:VPAffiliations@templeakiba.net">VPAffiliations@templeakiba.net</a> or 310-670-6394

# FOOD DRIVE FOR SOVA

# Tuesday, April 13 and Wednesday, April 14 10 am - 12 noon

Please drop off the items listed below at Temple Akiba's Front Entrance on Sepulveda Blvd. Please do not bring your items at any other time!

Jewish Family Service LA SOVA depends on your donations to meet the ongoing hunger crisis in our community. Donations directly benefit the thousands of people who visit our pantries - people of all backgrounds and identities. Please be as generous as you can - the need is great.

We also welcome other nonperishable foods, personal hygiene items and children's books including:

Dry Beans

Dry Pasta

Dry Milk

100% Juice

Oatmeal

Tomato Sauce

Canned Beans

Canned Vegetables

Canned Fruit

Canned Pasta

Cooking Oil

Kosher Foods

Diapers/Wipes

Soap

Shampoo/Conditioner

Razors

Deodorant

Lotion

Toothpaste

Toothbrushes

Please avoid glass jars, opened or perishable foods.

# **OUR MOST CRITICAL NEEDS:**

**Peanut Butter** 

Rice

Canned Tuna/Fish

**Canned Meats** (beef stew, chili w/meat, chicken etc.)

**Canned or Dry Soup** Whole Grain Cereal

This project is sponsored by **Temple Akiba's Tikkun Olam Committee.** Committee members, wearing masks, will be present to accept your donations. Thank you for your generosity! Questions: Cathy Penso, VP Affiliations, VPAffiliations@templeakiba.net or 310-670-6394



SOVA Community Food & Resource Program



# The Men's Group of Temple Akiba





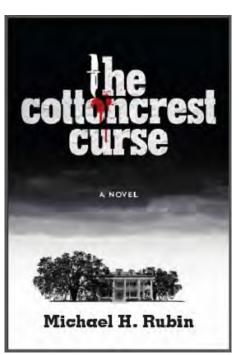
Israeli Election Results - What does it mean? Will there be a new P.M.? Will Bibi survive to fight another day? Will this be nothing more than a set up for a fifth election? At our March meeting

Tuesday, 23 March 2021 @ 7:00

A conversation with Michael and Ayan Rubin, on the history behind the mystery of their award winning historical thriller, "The Cottoncrest Curse" Tuesday, 27 April 2021 @ 7:00

Drop us a line to be included in our notices to receive our email Please contact Victor Nahmias @ <a href="mailto:Vnahmias@aol.com">Vnahmias@aol.com</a>.

These events are open to all Temple members and their guests at no charge





# The Men's Group of Temple Akiba Is pleased to present a ZOOM conversation with Michael and Ayan Rubin, authors of The Cottoncrest Curse



In this heart-racing thriller, a series of gruesome deaths ignite feuds that burn a path from the cotton fields to the courthouse steps, from the moss-draped bayous of Cajun country to the bordellos of 19th century New Orleans, from the Civil War era to the Civil Rights era and across the Jim Crow decades to the Freedom Marches of the 1960s into the present. At the core of the story is the apparent suicide of an elderly Confederate Colonel who, two decades after the end of the Civil War, is alleged to have viciously slit the throat of his beautiful young wife and then fatally shot himself. Sheriff Raifer Jackson, however, believes that this may be a double homicide, and suspicion falls upon Jake Gold, an itinerant Jewish peddler who trades razor-sharp knives for fur and who has many deep secrets to conceal. Jake must stay one step ahead of the law, as well as the anti-Semitic and racist Knights of the White Camellia, as he interacts with landed gentry, former slaves, crusty white field hands, crafty Cajuns, and free men of color all the while trying to keep one final promise before more lives are lost and he loses the opportunity to clear his name.

THE COTTONCREST CURSE explores the universal question of what sacrifices and compromises, if any, a Jew should make to survive in a harsh and unyielding world. It also examines how much any of us really know about our ancestors and whether our own actions, behavior, and outlook on life might change if the unvarnished truth about our family's lineage was discovered. THE COTTONCREST CURSE is a multigenerational epic that provides a compelling basis for serious discussion about the Jewish immigrant experience and cultural identity.

Tuesday, 27 April 2021 @ 7:00PM Please contact Victor Nahmias @ Vnahmias@aol.com to receive log-in information

# **TEMPLE AKIBA SISTERHOOD PRESENTS**



# Saturday, April 17, 2021 at 7:30 PM

Join us for 3 games of Trivia covering diverse topics with instant scoring and sometimes astonishing results.

Measure your scope of knowledge with other participants about everything and anything.

Winners will receive a \$50 Gift Card for food delivery service providers.

Register today by e-mailing vimeyerQT314@gmail.com or RTAHINI2@gmail.com and sending a check for \$18 to:

Temple Akiba Sisterhood, 5249 S. Sepulveda Blvd. Culver City, CA 90230

Only registered and paid participants will receive the link.



# Caring Communities Outreach



Phone Connections for Homebound Seniors and Young Active Adults/ Families to connect during these unprecedented Covid-19 times.

Seniors, you will be matched with a Mensch/Menschette in our community.

Active Congregants (Mensch/Menschette!) We will connect you with Senior/in need Congregants who need someone to check in on them.

- Do you love to schmooze?
- Do you want to do some volunteering to help others (food shopping or errands) in your area?
- Would you be able to provide grocery market runs for homebound seniors near you as the need arises?
- You will be matched with a senior that lives near where you live.
- All food costs will be reimbursed by the recipients/seniors.

CONTACT:

Lauren Varsano
Caring Communities Trustee
caringcom@templeakiba.net
Temple office: 310-398-5783

# Adult Education Programs

Torah Study

Saturdays from 9 am-10 am

**Lunch and Learn** 

Mondays from noon—1 pm

Coffee with the Clergy

1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month from 11 am—12 noon

All programs conducted via Zoom—connect at templeakiba.net

Additional adult programming may be found at urj.org and
jewitathome.com

# SHARING OUR JOYS AND SORROWS

Is a friend of yours at Temple Akiba going through a stressful time illness or death in the family? OR maybe they're celebrating a special Simcha?

Please tell the front office - so our Community can reach out to them.

Send an email to: admin@templeakiba.net or call 310-398-5783

# **Temple Akiba Youth & Camps!**

\*Summer 2021 Programming in Progress\*





# \*Save the Dates\*

**Details to follow** 

Family Camp 2021: Saturday May 1



# **Resident Camp 2021:**

July  $19 - \text{July } 26 (3^{\text{rd}} - 6^{\text{th}} \text{ grade})$ July 27 – August 1 (7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade)



# Akiba Day Camp/Youth Programming 2021: Dates TBA

**Contact Youth Director Leah Penso** youthgroup@templeakiba.net

# TEMPLE AKIBA OF CULVER CITY TZEDAKAH SOCIETY

2020 - 2021

Temple Akiba thanks members who have made generous donations over their full membership commitment to bring an even brighter "Light" to our Temple Community.

# President's Circle

# **Tzadik**

Jerry & Letty Mendel Sara & Peter Rutenberg Sue Urfrig

# Heschel

Barbara Axelband Renee Meshul & Tom Klitzner Marla & Ed Wolkowitz

# Priesand

Judy & Mike Bauer Helene & David Jaffa Susan & Paul Balter Cathy & Bruce Penso Dione & Daniel Shugar Myrna Kayton

## Hillel

Lacey & Marc Bauer Arleen & Lewis Forsheit Sandy Luboviski Leanna & Ron Watts

## **Maimonides**

Carol & Ira Diamond Linda & Robert Fleischman Elaine Holiday Andrea & Jay Swerdlow

#### Moses

Diana & David Hauptman Virginia & Lester Wagner

#### **Miriam**

Lillian Morris & Dinesh Chhetri Joan & Arthur Kassan Jeanne & Ron Marmelefsky Wendy & Saul Miller Micah

Ira Clark & Patricia Newler Verna Erez Linda & Joel Forman Antoinette Glick Rosalie & Michael Gotz Lia Buman & Matthew Harawitz Michele Hindler Joy & Paul Jacobs Yvette & Paul Joffe Ingrid Moran & Andrew Lachman Sharlene & Tony London Mildred & Donald Mann Monique & Craig Newman June Penso Svetlana & Benjamin Rapoport Lori & Ira Rudich Marni & Matthew Schapiro Janice & Neil Schwartz Wendy & Devin Senelick Jenna & Adam Sonenshein Nancy & Herb Trachtenberg Naomi Zimmermann & Alan Van Gelder Shari Starr & Jerry Wiener

Judith Woolsey Elizabeth & Morris Zlotowitz

#### Deborah

Johanna Besterman Melissa Billet-Brennan & Thom Brennan Penny Choy Meg Clements Beverly Eshed-Magaril Susan Frazin Jean & Arnold Geffner Lori & Joel Hecht Alan Kahan Deborah Koniak-Griffin & Art Griffin Eileen & James Krause Mary Lachman Miriam & Steven Levy Nancy Balter & Blake Mellor Melissa Sanders & Eric Metz Rachel & Daniel Mirvish Irene Oelberger Karen Bernstein & Gary Ostrick Joyce Perlick Sue Polep Jaime & Joseph Rubin Terry Shenkman Danielle & Jen Sheppard Nadine & Ira Shulman Cynthia & Michael Smith Jane Stark Sheila & Stan Weinberg Leona Weitz Rosalyn Zakheim & Gayle Dukelow

# Thank you to the sponsors of our Kehilah programs:

Sue Polep, Helene & David Jaffa, Tricia & Bill Flumenbaum, Verna Erez, Renee Meshul & Tom Klitzner, and Carol & Ira Diamond

# KEHILAH VIRTUAL EVENTS

## SEPTEMBER 23, 2020 | OVERCOMING OUR BLIND SPOTS | 5:30PM PT

A one hour presentation and conversation on our perceived limits and how we can overcome them. Charlie will share his story, answer questions and teach songs that have guided his path to healing.

## OCTOBER 6, 2020 | FINDING SHELTER: JEWISH MINDFULNESS | 5:30PM PT

Find shelter this Sukkot with an intro to Jewish mindful meditation practice.

#### NOVEMBER 7, 2020 | HAVDALAH & FRIENDSGIVING CONCERT | 5:30PM PT

Join Charlie and friends for Havdalah and an evening featuring some of the top voices in Jewish music.

## DECEMBER 13, 2020 | CHANUKAH FAMILY CONCERT | 3PM PT

Grab your dreidel, jump into your dancing shoes, turn up the volume and get ready to rock to some of your favorite Chanukah jams.

#### JANUARY 9, 2021 | LUNCH & LEARN: JUDAISM & DISABILITY | 12PM PT

Grab your bagels, and join Charlie for a lunchtime conversation on Judaism and disability.

## FEBRUARY 23, 2021 | PURIM, ESTER & WOMEN'S VOICES | 5PM PT

An Evening of song and Torah led by some of the most impactful women in the Jewish world and beyond.

#### MARCH 28, 2021 | SECOND NIGHT FAMILY SEDER | 4:30PM PT

Get your seder plate ready and join us for a musical seder for the whole family. (You better believe we'll be dancing too!)

#### APRIL 16, 2021 | TEEN SHABBAT | 5PM PT

Kabbalat Shabbat services led by some of the most impactful Jewish teens across the country.

#### MAY 15, 2021 | TOT SHABBAT | 1PM PT

Grab your shakers and get ready to rock! The littlest friends of your community will love dancing, singing and praying with parents and grandparents at this lively, soul-filled virtual service.

#### JUNE 8, 2021 | GATHER 'ROUND THE CAMPFIRE | 5:30PM PT

A concert featuring your favorite Jewish camping and campfire classics with some of the nation's best Songleaders.

#### JULY 16, 2021 | KABBALAT SHABBAT | 5:30PM PT

A service featuring Charlie's music, classic melodies and moments of mindful prayer.

# AUGUST 22, 2021 | A GATHERING FOR CHANGE |

Our culminating gathering is a dynamic social action program & concert with opportunities to contribute Tzedakah to support important Jewish initiatives across the globe.

# - Temple Akiba members for four generations -The Penso family business is now open for retail!



Victor's Market Co. has been a meat purveyor to fine restaurants, hotels and prominent country clubs in Los Angeles since 1951. As a local family-owned business we understand how important it is to have people that you can rely on during these challenging times. That is why we are now making our high quality products available to the public for the first time in our history.

Next business day pick up in Hawthorne. Local delivery for orders over \$250.



**Prime Beef** 



**Natural Poultry** 

**Fresh Seafood** 

Order online or call. Open Monday to Friday 8 AM to 3 PM.

victorsmarketco.com

(310) 676-0127 Ask for Daniel

If you have any questions we would be happy to talk to you!

Victor's Market Company 11735 Prairie Ave. Hawthorne, CA 90250

# Gifts & Memorials

"Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more." -H. Jackson Brown Jr.

What a wonderful way to remember your loved ones. The cost of individual plagues for Temple members is \$750 and for those not affiliated it is \$1,000. How about participating in what may be the most exciting opportunity - the Sue and Jerry Urfrig Family Memorial Room. With your contribution of \$10,000 to the Campaign of Light, your name will be included on the Donor Board in the Memorial Room. The purchaser will have two complimentary plaques reserved for them to be designated with names they choose.

For more information please contact: Temple Office at admin@templeakiba.net or 310-398-5783

# TESTIMONIAL "It was great working with Lacey because she was truly committed to our home search. There's no doubt our happiness mattered to her." -M.M. | Buyer 10% OF MY COMMISSIONS DONATED TO TEMPLE AKIBA laceyannbauer@gmail.com www.laceyannbauer.com Beverly & Co.









Join us for our 2nd Night Seder

Sunday, March 28 6:36 PM