

*Happy Passover*  
5784

**CHRONICLE**

TEMPLE ISRAEL > APRIL 2024  
Congregation Yad B'Yad – Hand in Hand



WE STAND  WITH ISRAEL!

**A SPECIAL PRIVILEGE FOR  
OUR TEMPLE ISRAEL MEMBERS AS WE WELCOME TO THE BIMA**

**SPECIAL GUEST**

# **REP. RITCHIE TORRES** **(NY15)**

Israel's staunchest defender in the House of Representatives is neither Jewish nor desperate for Jewish votes since his district is heavily African American and Latino. However, Representative Torres has stood firm in his principled stance and continues to denounce the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement.



**FRIDAY  
KABBALAT  
SHABBAT  
SERVICES**

**APRIL 5,  
6-7:15PM  
@TI**

*In the weeks since  
Hamas' October 7 attack,  
he has vociferously supported Israel  
and denounced antisemitism. . .  
despite the heat he's taken in return.*

**NOT TO BE SHARED ON SOCIAL MEDIA!**

**WE STAND  WITH ISRAEL!**



# TEMPLE ISRAEL NYC SOLIDARITY MISSION

March 17-24



**Above: Devastation, Kibbutz Nir Oz:** 80% of the homes were destroyed on October 7th and 25% of the people were killed or taken hostage.



**Right: Gaza Border:** Rabbi Gelfand and Eugenia Edwards at Kibbutz Nir Oz.



**Stronger Together:** Rabbi Gelfand and Ken Lane.



Valerie Rubens, Eugenia Edwards, Ken Barrows, Ken Lane, Rabbi Gelfand, and Nicki Rubens. The ANU Museum of the Jewish People in Tel Aviv.



Memorial at the site of the Nova Festival Concert in Re'im.



**Above:** Dozens killed by Hamas within this **bomb shelter**.

**Right:** Torched and bullet-ridden vehicles of festival-goers.



WE STAND AGAINST  ANTISEMITISM



# Meeting the Deeds in Israel Requires All of Our Humanitarian Experience

BY YOTAM POLIZER, CEO OF ISRAAID, TI MEMBER

PUBLISHED IN "eJewish Philanthropy" MARCH 12, 2024

After the devastating attacks on Oct. 7, IsraAID, the humanitarian aid organization I lead, was faced with a huge decision. After 22 years of using Israeli humanitarian, technical and mental health expertise abroad, we decided for the first time to launch a large-scale response at home.

The first challenge was logistical. With so many organizations on the ground, IsraAID immediately began working to coordinate aid efforts and create technological solutions to ensure that materials, support and people arrived where they were needed most, and to avoid duplicating efforts. Following the Russian invasion of Ukraine, IsraAID established the Tulcea Humanitarian Logistics Hub in Romania, coordinating aid deliveries throughout the south and east of Ukraine and establishing the first secure aid corridor to that part of the country. During the pandemic, we established a national control room in the Kingdom of Eswatini to manage the national COVID-19 vaccine rollout. Those experiences taught us how to create computerized systems, like the "control room" we developed for Kibbutz Be'eri, to track volunteers and donations and coordinate between dozens of different organizations.

In the first days, we began setting up child and parent spaces in evacuation centers where families could access psychosocial support and psychological first aid in a communal setting. Child-friendly spaces are a hallmark of IsraAID's programs across the world. They're an essential tool for creating a protected space, under the guidance of mental health professionals, where children can regain a sense of agency, routine and normalcy as they process trauma.

In our child-friendly spaces in Colombia, children from the Venezuelan migrant community and the Colombian host community can learn to understand one another and access educational support. In Kenya, Uganda and South Sudan, children who have fled the ongoing civil war in South Sudan access child-friendly spaces for a sense of normalcy, routine and



ISRAAID/YEHUDAH BEN-ITAH

IsraAID staff build the air-conditioned tents that housed the Eshkol Regional Council Field School in Eilat, November 2023.

emotional learning activities. During the first days after the invasion of Ukraine, these spaces were a haven for refugee children crossing the border to Moldova, as well as a safe space for parents to plan their next moves.

In Israel, we saw children use the space to process trauma through play and find a positive outlet for their emotions. Parents were able to receive guidance from professionals on how to help their children through this period. Many just needed the assurance from a professional that their children's reactions were normal responses to trauma, and the chance to see their kids playing and simply being kids again. Above all, the spaces were a constant fixture in the evacuation centers — a solid touch point in a sea of change.

We also established art therapy spaces, many in the form of open studios that have traveled with communities as they moved between or left evacuation centers. We've seen the power of creative arts in places like Japan after the 2011 earthquake and tsunami, where we established a mental health program in schools across the country to help children process the trauma and loss they experienced. It was the first such art therapy program in the country and has since been adopted by the government. The experience taught us how important an integrated mental health approach is in a crisis, going beyond traditional frontal therapy and creating spaces for the community to heal together.

Another important challenge in Israel has been restoring access to education. IsraAID worked with partners and local authorities to establish field schools for evacuated communities in the first months of the war, because we know how much stability and support a school can bring. In Guatemala, where we work in the rural primarily indigenous region of Alta Verapaz, we learned that schools can be holistic centers for the whole community. In Israel, that experience guided us to help establish schools as quickly as possible to create that communal resource and make sure that psychologists were integrated into school staff.

*Continued on following page*

WE STAND  WITH ISRAEL!





### Temple Israel NYC Solidarity Mission:

Visiting Eran's Angels, an emergency supply distributor to Israeli refugees located in areas throughout the country.

Above all over the last two decades, we've learned that it takes time to rebuild resilience after an emergency. That's why we commit to communities for as long as we are needed — often many years after the initial crisis. We're still working in Dominica, the Caribbean nation devastated by Hurricane Maria in 2017, supporting disaster preparedness across the island, and in Vanuatu since 2015's Cyclone Pam. We've been in South Sudan since the country was founded in 2011, amid protracted violence and crisis, and in neighboring Kenya for more than a decade, empowering refugees and delivering drought solutions together with affected communities.

That long-term approach has also been at the core of our work in Israel. Our commitment helped us build trust and deep partnerships with communities — including the kibbutzim of Be'eri, Kissufim, Re'im, Kerem Shalom and others. As many move now out

of hotels to longer-term temporary housing, we're helping them make the transition to their next stage. Our experience has taught us to adapt our response to community needs rather than our own assumptions.

Our work in Israel has been a first for IsraAID in many ways; at the same time, it builds on our past and ongoing global missions. After decades of bringing Israeli expertise to communities in crisis, we found that all the experience we've gathered abroad was essential for us to be able to help at home. I have long believed that every disaster holds within it a chance to grow, build our personal and collective resilience and develop knowledge that can help others in the future. In this present crisis, I am grateful for everything I have learned from past emergencies, and hopeful that the difficult lessons we learn now will serve crisis-affected communities in the future.

JOIN TEMPLE ISRAEL & TEMPLE EMANU-EL

SHABBAT CELEBRATING

YOM HA'ATZMAUT, ISRAEL @ 76

We will celebrate with a performance by the amazing a cappella group **Six13**, a sing-along of Israeli music led by our Cantors.

Oneg catered by **Lior Lev Sercarz**, Daniel Boulud's former sous-chef/ founder/owner La Boîte

FRIDAY, MAY 10 @ 6PM

@ TEMPLE ISRAEL

(In-Person & Virtual)

WE STAND AGAINST ANTISEMITISM

# *2nd Night Congregational Seder*

*Join Rabbi Gelfand & Cantor Altshul*

*Tuesday, April 23rd, 2024 - 6-8:45 pm*

*At Temple Israel*



Adult Temple Members — \$100

Adult Non-Members — \$140

2 -12 years old — \$60

2 -12 years old Non-Members — \$70

Under 2 years old — No cost

*Fun Children's Program  
Included*



**RSVP: [tinyc.org/passover](https://tinyc.org/passover)**

Passover Seder Generously Supported by Bobbie Seril, In Memory of the Six Trachtenberg Sisters



# Israel Needs a Seat at our Seder

RABBI MELISSA BUYER-WITMAN, DIRECTOR OF LIFELONG LEARNING



I grew up thinking the Seder ended with the search for the *Afikoman*. Granted my parents may have been eager to get me to bed at a normal hour, but if we end the Seder with dessert and not the second half of the Seder, we leave our people wandering in the desert, never reaching the Promised Land! God's plan wasn't simply to redeem us from Slavery but to liberate us, forge us into a new nation, and help us actualize the dream - a land of our own - Israel! This year, we have been bombarded with anti-Israel and antisemitic rhetoric that reminds us of the profound necessity for our continued support of and connection to Israel. This year, we must finish the Seder in the Promised Land and find new ways to build a love and understanding of Israel among the rising generation.

## WAYS TO INCLUDE ISRAEL IN YOUR SEDER

■ **Purchase the Chinitz Zion Haggadah:** How to teach the Love of Israel at Your Seder. While it is a *Haggadah*, there are incredible resources, readings, and history included that you could incorporate into your existing *Haggadah*.

■ **Choose one of the 7 Species to put on your Seder plate:** The Land of Israel is described as "A land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees and pomegranates; a land of olive oil and honey (Deut. 8:8)." Our biblical ancestors relied on these seven species for nourishment but the rabbis believed they contained spiritual nourishment as well, as reflected by the unique blessing we use, thanking God for the goodness of the land.

■ **Place an index card under each person's plate highlighting an important piece of Israeli History.**

■ After you all recite "**Next Year in Jerusalem,**" - surprise your guests with a special take-home gift, like Noa Tishby's book, "*Israel: A Simple Guide to the Most Misunderstood Country on Earth.*"

■ **From Passover to Shavuot,** we tell our national autobiography in the 20th century. Soon after Passover, we ready ourselves for *Yom HaShoah v'LaGevurah* (Holocaust and Heroism Remembrance Day) - May 6, *Yom HaZikaron* (Memorial Day for Fallen Israeli Soldiers) - May 13, *Yom HaAtzmaut* (Israel Independence Day) May 14, *Yom Yerushalayim* - June 5 (Jerusalem's Day of Reunification since the Sixth Day War). Decide, as a family, how you will mark these occasions.

**The Seder is a night of questions, old and new. And there are multiple moments to incorporate Israel into your questioning during the Seder.**

■ **AT THE CANDLE LIGHTING.** Name what we have experienced this year and look for the light. Say, "While this has been a challenging, at times devastating year for the Jewish people, we have always held tight to hope and light. **As we light our Passover lights, what sparks of hope and love have you found in this moment?**"

■ **SALT WATER.** As we remember the tears of the slaves, can we add the pain of our people in the here and now? **What is similar, and what is different?**

■ **BITTER HERBS.** What has left a bitter taste in your mouth this year?

■ **THE EGG.** A symbol for Spring, life, birth, and renewal. In the light of this year, what can this Egg symbolize for you?

■ **DAYEINU IS A SONG OF GRATITUDE.** We can get lost in everything we don't have, yet God keeps giving us more. **What are you grateful for this year? What have you learned about yourself or your people that inspires gratitude?**

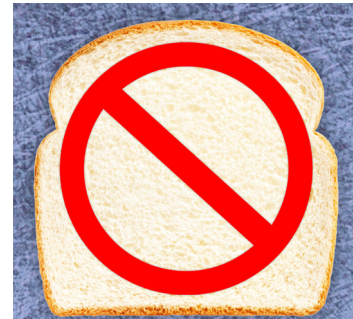


## ISRAELI STREET ART CAPTURES CLUES ABOUT THE CULTURE

Photos from Temple Israel NYC  
Solidarity Mission (March 17-24)

WE STAND  WITH ISRAEL!

# Your Passover Guide



## The Seder Table

**SEDER:** Hebrew, referring to the order of the service accompanying the Pesach meal. The Seder, which means "order," is not merely a dinner, but a religious celebration, both of Jewish survival and of human responsibility.

**PESACH:** Hebrew for "Passover." Found in the Bible, where it is stated that God saved the Jewish people by "passing over" their houses as death came to the houses of the Egyptians.

**HAGGADAH:** Hebrew, meaning "the telling." The name of the book from which we read the service for the Seder. There are many different haggadot (plural) available. Make sure you have one for each participant.

**MATZAH:** Hebrew for the unleavened bread traditionally eaten during the seven days of Pesach. The Hebrew word for leavened bread is *chametz*. Matzah is also called the "bread of affliction," both because it is the food of poverty, as well as that which our tradition says we ate during our ancestors' hasty exit from Egypt. The three pieces of matzah (matzot) represent the religious divisions in ancient Israel: Cohanim (Priests), Levites (assistants to the Priests) and Israelites (the rest of the people).

**CUP OF ELIJAH:** Each person at the Seder drinks four cups of wine, symbolizing the four-fold promise of redemption which God pledged to Israel. The "Cup of Elijah" is an additional goblet of wine placed on the table. Elijah is reputed to be an invisible guest at every Seder. In Jewish legend, Elijah will announce the coming of the Messianic Age, when true and lasting peace will finally come, symbolizing the four-fold promise of redemption which God pledged to Israel.

## Project Chametz 2024

Remembering an old Jewish custom, and helping the poor at the same time. During the Passover season, we gather with family and friends to celebrate the Seder. Following the dictates of *halacha*, we are taught to rid our homes of *chametz*, leavened bread. It is removed or sold symbolically to non-Jews.

In recent years, many Jews have chosen to modernize this custom out of respect for human life. Over one billion people go to bed hungry each night; over 40,000 children die of starvation each day! We at Temple Israel of the City of New York can do our own small part.

This Passover, let us rid our homes of *chametz* by bringing it to Temple Israel to benefit others. Too many are not free from hunger. We have a responsibility to respond because we are free! Bring canned or boxed goods to the Temple before Passover and make our celebration of Passover all the more meaningful!

*Together we can make real the mandate of the Passover Seder: "Let All Who Are Hungry Come And Eat!"*

## TI Passover Appeal

Please participate in the mitzvah of our **Temple Israel Annual Passover Appeal**. Your donation lets us participate with The Blue Card to welcome Holocaust survivors to our Congregational Seder, enables the Jewish Welfare Board to help Jews in our US Armed Forces and supports the efforts of the New York Board of Rabbis Passover Campaign, helping developmentally disabled New Yorkers to participate in a Passover Seder and supplying traditional Passover food packages to Jewish residents in nursing homes, assisted living, and aiding the most vulnerable amongst us.

To fulfill this special mitzvah, please make your check payable to the **Temple Israel Annual Passover Appeal** or visit [www.templeisraelnyc.org/passover](http://www.templeisraelnyc.org/passover). Thank you for your kindness, support, and generosity. May your Passover be filled with blessings and peace. **See page 25.**





Passover begins after sundown on Monday, April 22 and will continue through Monday, April 29 in accordance with Reform practice.

## You Can and Should Conduct a Seder!

Passover is always complex and a seder during the pandemic is all the more so. It's not as hard as you think, and the effort you put in will yield you, your family and friends great enjoyment and satisfaction. Here's some sound advice ...

First, put away the Maxwell House Haggadah! There are so many better written and more beautifully illustrated versions, and for a wide variety of age groups, too. Rabbi Gelfand has an amazing collection of almost 200 haggadot and can recommend a version which might work best at your Seder. You can be one of the scores of congregants who will call for suggestions before Passover this year!

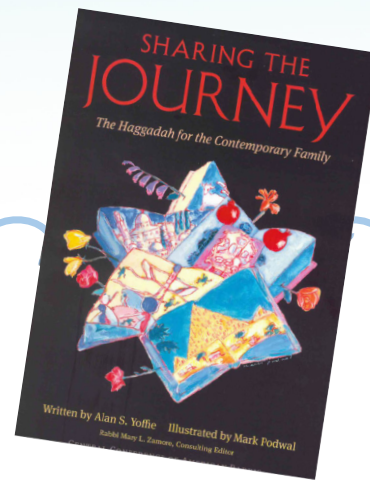
Second, don't miss out on the pleasure of observing Pesach at home because you think you can't run a Seder "the right way." What a pity if Pesach were to "pass over" your home without this wonderful Jewish home experience.

Here are some tips: Make sure everyone has a Haggadah. Don't feel your Seder has to be too formal. The Pesach message of freedom is serious, but the celebration of Pesach should be joyous, upbeat and fun. Sit with your Haggadah a day or two before; plan out what parts you want to use, what songs you want to sing, what Hebrew you want to read. Our clergy are here to help you — only a call, a Zoom or a FaceTime or an email or text away! Don't feel you have to read everything. Consider adding readings and songs of your own that you feel might be enjoyable. Don't lead by yourself. Move right around the table, giving everyone a turn. And be sure there's some parts that everyone can do together. As for the afikomen take time to carefully conceal it. Searchers may be children or adults! Consider making the prize something of Jewish significance. This should be enough to get you going.

When the *afikomen* is found, instead of giving the finder a gift, why not allow them to ransom it for a ten dollar or more contribution to the **Temple Israel Passover Appeal**? This way, the prize will reinforce the Pesach concept of acting on behalf of today's oppressed and those who defend our freedom. "Let all who are hungry come and eat."

Make a special family contribution to the **Temple Israel Passover Appeal**, fighting hunger locally and across the globe, including tragically, Ukrainian refugees and especially our brothers and sisters in Israel.

Conducting a Seder is great fun and a tremendous source of positive Jewish feeling. So do it!



## Ritual for Miriam's Cup

*Either have a water-filled goblet on the table or, if each Seder participant has a water glass, each one can pour some water from his or her own cup to fill the Kos Miriam. Raise Miriam's and say:*

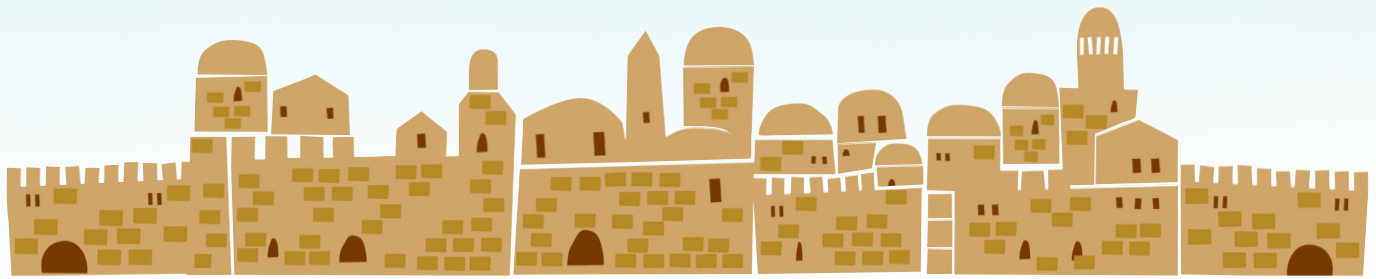
Miriam, a prophetess, predicted the birth of her baby brother Moses, guarded him as he floated down the Nile, witnessed Pharaoh's daughter drawing him out of the river, and arranged for their own mother to care for the infant Moses. Miriam was over 80 when she kicked up her heels and led the women in joyous dancing, celebrating the Israelites' safe crossing of the Sea of Reeds in their escape from slavery in Egypt. A symbol of her special place in the life of the Jewish people was the miraculous well, known as Miriam's Well, that quenched the thirst of our people during their 40 years in the trek in the desert. We place on our Seder table this special Cup of Miriam — *Kos Miriam* — to remember this remarkable woman who was a prophetess, dancer, and guardian of our people. As you fill her cup, voice your admiration for a Jewish woman who has influenced you in your life. Reciting the following: I pour this water in honor of *WOMAN'S NAME* who

**BRIEF COMMENT.**

## Let's All Eat Matzah...

Eating matzah is a small sacrifice to participants as one people. The Festival commemorating the Exodus from ancient Egypt reminds us of our ancestors' flight from slavery.

How often do we hear, "Why should I eat matzah all week? I can barely make it through the seder?" The eating of matzah seems a small sacrifice for all Jews to participate in this common Festival as one people. Not only will this holiday sound the clarion call for religious freedom, but the matzah also represents the "bread of the poor," a way to identify with the poor of the world and remind us that they are not forgotten. Perhaps the most important reason to eat matzah is as a reinforcement of one's own Jewishness, "We have a magnificent heritage. I'm really proud to be a Jew!"



## What to Eat?

"You shall observe the Feast of Unleavened Bread, for on this very day I brought your ranks out of the land of Egypt; you shall observe this day throughout the ages as an institution for all time. In the first month, from the 15th day of the month at evening, you shall eat unleavened bread until the 22nd day of the month at evening. No leaven shall be found in your houses for 7 days. For whoever eats what is leavened, that person shall be cut off from the assembly of Israel, whether he is a stranger or a citizen of the country. You shall eat nothing leavened; in all your settlements you shall eat unleavened bread." (Exodus 12:16-20)

The book of Exodus specifically mandates that "throughout the seven days (of Passover) unleavened bread shall be eaten." Accordingly, any food that has become fermented is prohibited during Passover. These forbidden foods, and by extension, utensils that come into contact with these foods, are characterized in Hebrew as *chametz*, literally meaning "sour." Although it may seem a simple matter to distinguish between that which is unleavened (matzah) and that which is leavened (*chametz*), it is not always obvious.

The following is an attempt to clarify which foods are considered leavened (not OK to eat) and those considered unleavened (OK to eat) during the seven days of Passover.

As if this weren't confusing enough ... the Ashkenazic (European Jews) and Sephardic (Spanish & North African Jews) traditions differ on a number of food items considered to be "kosher" for Passover. The Ashkenazic tradition deems corn, rice and beans as chametz (because they expand and rise during cooking) and, therefore, forbidden foods during Passover. The Sephardic tradition not only allows those foods during Passover, but includes some of them in time-honored dishes reserved for the Seder meal.

Whatever your heritage or tradition of "keeping Passover," may your Pesach be enhanced and enriched by the foods you and your family choose to, or not to, eat. Jewish life teaches, us that each dining room table in every Jewish home is a *Mikdash Me'at*, a miniature sanctuary where the *Shechinah*, God's presence, awaits to reside. May your table, during Passover and after, offer its sanctuary to those who sit around it. Happy Passover! *Chag Sameach!*

## 10 Modern Plagues

THE POISONING OF THE EARTH  
THE RAVAGES OF WAR  
ECONOMIC INJUSTICE  
CANCER, AIDS, AND OTHER  
DISEASES  
CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY

WORLD HUNGER  
RELIGIOUS INTOLERANCE  
DISCRIMINATION AND  
ANTI-SEMITISM  
UNEMPLOYMENT  
DENIAL OF HUMAN RIGHTS

## Chametz (not ok to eat)

Wheat  
Barley  
Spelt  
Oats  
Rye  
All flour NOT prepared  
for Passover  
All breads, cakes,  
cereals, & baked goods

## Unleavened (ok to eat)

Foods that do not need a  
Passover label:  
Coffee, tea, spices, & sugar  
Fresh fruits & vegetables  
Frozen/dried fruits &  
vegetables  
Meats & fish  
Foods that should have a  
Passover label:  
Milk & dairy products  
Oil, margarine, shortening  
All matzah products  
(including matzah flour,  
meal, farfel & mixes)



## Why is the Last Morning of Passover Different?

On **Monday, April 29 @8:30-9:30am**, we'll hold a **Concluding Passover Service with Yizkor**, as we conclude the festival following the Israeli and the Reform Jewish *minhag*. This is a fitting way to remember and pay homage to all those who once sat beside us at Seder and helped us appreciate Passover and family. (Traditional Jews in the Diaspora celebrate an additional day, with Yizkor on Tuesday, April 30.)



WLC/SISTERHOOD  
WOMEN'S SEDER



Tuesday, April 16  
@ 6pm

**Register:** [tinyc.org/wlc-seder](http://tinyc.org/wlc-seder)

MEN'S SCOTCH  
& STEAK SEDER

@ BRASSERIE COGNAC  
963 LEXINGTON AVE



Thursday, April 18  
@ 7:30pm

**Register:** [tinyc.org/mens-seder](http://tinyc.org/mens-seder)

NYCONNECT  
20's/30's SEDER



Monday, April 22  
@ 8pm

**Register:** [tinyc.org/nyconnect-seder](http://tinyc.org/nyconnect-seder)

TOT PASSOVER  
PETER YOUNG & SHELDON LOW



Tuesday, April 23  
@ 9:30-10:15am

PASSOVER TORAH  
STUDY  
RABBI HAYLEY SIEGEL  
Tuesday, April 23 @ 9:30am

PASSOVER YIZKOR  
SERVICE  
Monday, April 29  
@ 8:30-9:30am

# MITZVAH DAY

Helping Here, There & Everywhere

Sponsored by the Tillis Family

Join us Sunday, April 14 @ 10am-1pm

Join us as the Temple Israel community comes together for a day of social action  
as we heed the Jewish call of *tikkun olam*, repairing the world!



■ **MITZVAH DAY** is a special day on the Temple Israel calendar when members of our community gather to perform community service projects in fulfillment of the cherished Jewish value of *Tikkun Olam* (Repairing the World).

■ **MITZVAH DAY** is a day when we focus our attention on our New York neighbors struggling with hunger, homelessness, illness, and isolation and respond to these crises with kindness, friendship, and goodwill.

■ **MITZVAH DAY** is a day of congregation-wide advocacy and connection with remarkable Israeli non-governmental,

medical, and welfare organizations supporting our brothers and sisters in Israel. In the wake of October 7th, the Temple Israel community understands the significance of showing up and standing up for our Jewish families in Israel. **The Temple Israel community STANDS with Israel, now and forever!**

■ In this time of great need, we call upon Temple Israel members of all ages and families to join us in this holy work. **ONLY YOU CAN MAKE MITZVAH DAY 2024 a success!** So, whether you're painting a mural, hopping on a tricycle, or beautifying a community garden, let's have the courage to care this **MITZVAH DAY 2024!**



# Mitzvah Day Projects



Onsite @ Temple Israel

REGISTER AT [TINYC.ORG/MITZVAH-DAY](http://TINYC.ORG/MITZVAH-DAY)



## ■ NEW YORK BLOOD CENTER

Roll up your sleeves and save a life by donating your blood to the New York Blood Center.

(Ages: 16 with parental permission)

10:30am-4:30pm

*Separate advanced registration required.*



## ■ GIFT OF LIFE

Did you know that a simple cheek swab can save someone's life? Stop by the Gift of Life booth and add your sample to the donor registry. You could be the match who heals someone with blood cancer and other life-threatening illnesses.

(Ages: 18+) 10am-1pm



## ■ FRIENDS OF KAREN

Bring joy to a child with life-threatening illnesses and other critical health conditions. We'll make "birthday in a box" kits and homemade cards for children and families needing cheer. You can also bring a new, unopened toy!

(Ages: 5+) 10am-1pm



RMHC®

## ■ RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

Help children and families heading to nearby hospitals for cancer treatment by putting together health and wellness kits for the long day ahead.

(Ages: 5+) 10am-1pm



## ■ NEW YORK COMMON PANTRY

We will continue our tradition of sandwich-making for those contending with food insecurity and homelessness, benefiting the New York Common Pantry.

(Ages: 10+) 10am-1pm



## ■ TI PASSOVER CARE PACKAGES

With Passover just around the corner, we'll assemble and deliver Passover holiday packages for homebound members of the TI community. We'll include Passover essentials such as boxed matzah and macaroons as well as other yum-mies. (Ages: 10+) 10am-1pm



## ■ ALI FORNEY CENTER

Compile snack bags filled with nutritious foods for youth members of the LGBTQ+ community struggling with homelessness.

(Ages: 5+) 10am-1pm



Morgan Stanley Children's Hospital

## ■ MORGAN STANLEY CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Create a festive mural for New York Presbyterian Hospital's Morgan Stanley Children's Wing to lift the spirits of the patients, parents, and physicians.

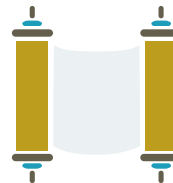
(Ages: 10+) 10-11:30am



## ■ MARCH OF DIMES

Share hope, inspiration, and friendship with families of pre-mature children in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU). We'll embellish onesies with comforting messages and colorful designs and donate them to nearby hospitals.

(Ages: 10+) 10am-1pm



## ■ HOLY ROLLERS

Join Rabbi Melissa Buyer-Witman as we maintain our beloved Torah scrolls by brushing away dust and debris. No experience necessary!

(Ages: 16+) 10am-1pm



## ■ NYPD 19TH PRECINCT & FDNY ENGINE #44

Show your appreciation to the brave men and women of our local FDNY Ladder #44 and NYPD Precinct #19. We'll be making giant "Thank You" posters expressing our gratitude for their continued presence and protection.

(Ages: All) 10am-1pm



## ■ HIAS (HEBREW IMMIGRANT AID SOCIETY)

Help to sort and package items for newly arrived migrant families with young children. HIAS will distribute these packages to the families in need.

(Ages: 12+) 10am-1pm

*Next page - Projects that Support Israel*



# Mitzvah Day Projects Supporting Israel

REGISTER AT [TINYC.ORG/MITZVAH-DAY](http://TINYC.ORG/MITZVAH-DAY)



## ■ FRIENDS OF THE IDF

Stop by the Friends of the IDF (FIDF) booth to learn about the FIDF's work in support of Israeli soldiers on and off the battlefield. Purchase a FIDF Kippah for yourself, friends, and family!  
(Ages: All) 10am-1pm



## ■ UNITED HATZALAH

Swing by the United Hatzalah table and see their "ambucycle," a medically equipped motorcycle that enables paramedics to reach injury sites in record time. Learn about this incredible organization's multi-religious, multi-ethnic ambulance drivers and medics in Israel, who are bringing hope and healing to all in need one trip at a time.  
(All ages) 10am-1pm



## ■ BEIT ISSIE SHAPIRO

Lace up your sneakers and start your (tri-cycle) engines! Families with young children are invited to participate in the Beit Issie Shapiro "Cycles for Smiles" program. Beit Issie Shapiro is a hospital based in Israel that treats children and adults with physical disabilities and conducts cutting-edge research on therapies. The more laps you do, the more donations are made!  
(Ages: 3+) 10am-12pm



## ■ AHAVA BABY

Ahava Baby helps families in Israel secure essential items for children such as formula, blankets, and clothing. We'll be selling donated and prepared nut-free baked goods, cookies, and other yummys. If you are bringing in a homemade item, please list all ingredients for those who might be contending with food allergies/sensitivities.  
(Ages: 3+) 10am-1pm



## ■ BELEV ECHAD

Decorate sugar cookies with hearts and other flourishes to benefit BeLev Echad, an Israeli organization providing physical, psychological, legal, and communal support to IDF soldiers.  
(Ages: All) 10am-1pm



## ■ YEMIN ORDE

Get those crafty hands ready for two art projects aiding Yemin Orde, an Israeli youth village providing critical services for at-risk Israeli and immigrant children. We'll be making a large mural and friendship bracelets, so be sure to use your imagination and creativity.  
(Ages: 10+) 11:30am-1pm



## ■ TZOFIM

Visit members of Tzofim ("Scouts") at the "Bring Them Home" on behalf of the October 7th Israeli hostages. Write notes of comfort and consolation to the families and learn how you can lend your voice to this important cause.  
(Ages: All) 10am-1pm



## ■ ISRAAID

Stop by the IsraAID table to learn more about this world-renowned, Israeli-based organization helping global communities respond to and overcome crises.  
(Ages: All) 10am-1pm



## ■ ALYN HOSPITAL PASSOVER CARDS FOR KIDS

Learn about the incredible art therapy program at Alyn Hospital, a premier hospital in Israel treating children with congenital and developed disabilities. We'll bring some holiday joy to the kids receiving treatment at Alyn Hospital by creating Passover cards which will be displayed in the hospital and distributed to the children.  
(Ages: All) 10am-1pm



# Mitzvah Day Projects

## @ Offsite Locations

REGISTER AT [TINYC.ORG/MITZVAH-DAY](https://tiny.cc/mitzvah-day)



### ■ INSPIR SENIOR LIVING

Join Cantor Altshul and members of "Kol Yeladim" in song as we bring music and merriment to the residents of Inspir Senior Living. No prior singing experience is necessary! Please note that only members of the Temple Israel community may register for this event at this time.

(Ages: 6+ with parent/guardian) 4pm

### ■ UPPER EAST SIDE REHABILITATION CENTER

Bring fun and festivity to the Upper East Side Rehabilitation Center residents. We'll be playing bingo and other games, as well as getting to know the residents.

(Temple Israel members only. Ages: 10+) 3:30pm-4:15pm



### ■ BUNNY'S GARDEN

Lend a helping hand in Bunny's Garden, a community garden in Harlem that provides healthy, nutritious fruits and vegetables to those in the neighborhood. Tasks will include composting, weeding, and watering.

(Ages: 10+; maximum 10 participants) 9:45am

Project  
Supporting Israel



### ■ CENTRAL PARK CONSERVANCY

Put on your work boots and casual clothes to get our beautiful Central Park in tip-top shape for spring. Participants will be helping our beloved Central Park to look its finest with many rehabilitation projects, including clearing debris, weeding, and other crucial tasks.

(Ages: 18+ only; up to 30 participants) 10am-12pm



Israel Guide  
Dog Center  
מרכז ישראלי לכלי נחיה

### ■ ISRAEL GUIDE DOG CENTER

Calling all dog lovers! Whether 2 or 4-legged, join us as we walk to support the Israel Guide Dog Center. The more laps we do, the more donations are made!

(Ages: All) 12pm

## Mitzvah Day Drives



HIAS

### ■ HIAS TOILETRY DRIVE

Donate new/unopened toiletries for newly arrived migrant families with young children. Collecting: baby Tylenol, formula, baby thermometers, diapers, children's books, unopened toys.

Donate now through Mitzvah Day. Drop-off at bins in TI Lobby.



### ■ NY COMMON PANTRY CHAMETZ FOOD DRIVE

With Passover right around the corner, help fill up the shelves of the New York Common Pantry with all kinds of leavened products by bringing their most requested shelf-stable items including: canned black & dry beans, grains (barley, quinoa, pasta, white or brown rice), hot or cold cereals (farina, sugar-free oats, grits, or corn flakes).

Drop these items off at the registration table at the start of Mitzvah Day.

# Another Year – A New Seder!

RABBI MELISSA BUYER-WITMAN, DIRECTOR OF LIFELONG LEARNING

At least 3-5 times a year, I get my favorite question; “Rabbi, why do we read the same *Torah* every year?” None of my students, regardless of age, are trying to be rude or adversarial - there is a genuine desire to understand why we tend to repeat texts, rituals, and traditions year after year. For *Torah*, my answer is simple - The text of the *Torah* may not change, but you do! You bring new understandings, maturity, wisdom, and life experiences to the text each and every new year - so what you see, read, understand, and learn will be pretty different from the year before. The Seder is no different. We are gathering each year to retell the most powerful narrative of our people - the story doesn't change, but we do, and as such, we will discover new meaning each time we sit down at the Seder table. And still - there are things we can do to ensure our Seder provokes curiosity, deep connectivity, and total emotion.

Each year, the *Torah* mandates the following: “In every generation, one is obligated to see oneself as one who personally went out from Egypt.” We can't just read about the plight of the Israelites; we must experience it. You can do just that with creative experiences and activities for guests of all ages.

■ **START WITH A GOOD, NO GREAT HAGGADAH.** Yes, this matters, and choosing one is hard. There are over 3,000 editions and counting - you can find everything under the sun. Like “The Haggadah for the Liberated Lamb” (a vegetarian Haggadah) or The Curb Your Haggadah” for Larry David fans. For Literature buffs, try something new with “The Shakespeare Haggadah”: Elevate Your Seder with the Bard of Avon,” and for Jewish feminists, “The Night of Beginnings” by Marcia Falk. For families with young children, “The Kveller's Haggadah: A Seder for Curious Kids (and their Grownups)” and if looking for something a little more interactive, check [K'iluKit.com](http://K'iluKit.com) - it includes everything you need to bring the Passover story to life: like an interactive audio adventure that you stream during the Seder, downloads and printables including a story map and a scavenger hunt.

■ **LINK YOURSELF TO THE GENERATIONS!** The Seder relays the master narrative of our people - Beginning with Abraham, and leading to Egypt. This year, move the story forward. **Invite your guests to bring their “Family Trees”.** Pin them around the room, and find a moment for guests to tour the family trees like a museum exhibit. When done; ask questions like: From where did your family migrate? Was there a harrowing part of the story (like that of the Israelites)? What kind of freedoms do you experience now as a result of your ancestors' journey? Why is it vital that we trace these steps through history?

■ **TIME TRAVEL - AND TAKE YOUR HOME WITH YOU!** Dr. Ron Wolfson tells the story of a seder he attended where the living room was draped with blankets and sheets to model a desert-like tent. The attendees dressed in bedouin robes, and everyone sat on the floor for the first part of the seder. This is your opportunity to create a memorable moment that will stay with you for a lifetime.

■ **MY FAVORITE TRICK THAT I'VE BEEN USING FOR 20 YEARS.** We tend to rush through the telling of the Passover story for our hungry guests. But in truth, once you say the blessing over the *Karpas*, you can serve veggie trays with other dipping sauces! This keeps guests happy while you extend the learning!



■ **REAL PLAY AND MANIPULATIVES.** Sometimes, it helps to keep our hands busy while we learn! Have your younger guests create the 10 plagues out of play dough! Have them hold them up while they are being explained! Put out Passover coloring placemats that depict scenes from the Exodus or the Seder plate itself. Put out Legos or blocks and have guests build pyramids, or later on in the Seder, have them create the booths the Israelites lived in while wandering in the desert or build the Mishkan (the tabernacle) for prayer.

■ **THE MAGGID.** This is the part where we “tell” the story - most just read it straight from the Hagaddah. **DO SOMETHING ELSE INSTEAD!** Sing it, act it, draw it, or find a new way to retell the Exodus. Take a tour of [Haggadot.com](http://Haggadot.com) to print out musical parodies, Passover plays, and artwork to help jazz up the story. Watch a clip from The 10 Commandments or The Prince of Egypt, then discuss it. Go to [Kahoot.com](http://Kahoot.com), create a free account and search for Passover content. There are ready-made quizzes so that your guests answer questions about the story (that counts!) **Puppet shows, music, arts and crafts- the possibilities are endless.**

■ **THE SEDER PLATE.** Try putting something unfamiliar on the Seder plate this year that arouses attention or questions. Alternatively, Invite your guests to bring something to add to the Seder plate that captures a relevant cause or speaks to something they link to the Exodus.

■ **NEXT YEAR IN JERUSALEM.** This year, more than ever, we must include Israel - the people, the land, and history in our Seder. See page 7 (Israel Section) for ideas on how to ensure that our connection to and love for Israel remains strong.

Yes, we read the Haggadah year after year, as we are commanded. But in the retelling you can find your own creativity and innovation. Each year try to experience our people's freedom from slavery differently. Learn something new and emerge with new hope and a vision for a better world.





# Faces & Places:



Temple Israel President, Aaron Casden with his daughter at the Purim Carnival.



Thank you to Purim Carnival Committee & countless volunteers.  
(Above: Tiffany Ma, Rachel Keonig (chair), Andrea Chase, and Tracy Spitzer)



Rabbinic Intern  
Peter Young dressed up  
as his new baby daughter  
Goldie for Purim!



Fun for all at the carnival!



Cantor Altshul with  
Emma Starishevsky  
as she leads the  
congregation in prayer  
on her Bat Mitzvah.



WLC/  
Sisterhood  
Comedy Night:  
Lynn Berger and  
Judy Kloner.



Shabbat Guest Speaker, **Irvin Ungar**, leading expert on the life and works of Arthur Szyk, "Artist-Warrior for Democracy" with Rabbi Gelfand.



Good Fun & Good Food! WLC/Sisterhood  
Comedy Night Out at "The Comic Strip".



TEMPLE WIDE! FRIDAY, APRIL 12 @ 6 -7PM

# ROCKIN'

SHABBAT SERVICE/  
SENIOR SIYYUM

A musical,  
visual,  
intergenerational,  
experience!



SCAN HERE TO  
REGISTER

JOIN TI CLERGY & SHELDON LOW  
ALL WELCOME!

DINNER @ 7:15PM



JOIN US FRIDAY, APRIL 12 @ 6PM

## SHABBAT

HONORING MITZVAH DAY HERO  
BENZI & HIS DOG LUGO  
FROM THE ISRAEL GUIDE DOG CENTER



Benzi will share his inspiring story and teach us about the incredible work of this Israel-based organization.

ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVE,  
OPEN YOUR HEART...



Our rabbis teach,  
"Whoever saves one life,  
it is as though you have  
saved the entire world."

Attend the  
BLOOD Drive during  
Mitzvah Day, Sunday,  
April 14 @ TI  
10:30 am - 4:30 pm  
Help us reach  
our goal  
of 45 donations!



New York  
Blood center

For more info on donating blood & eligibility visit  
[nybc.org](http://nybc.org) or call 800.688.0900  
Registration Required: [tiny.org/blood-drive](http://tiny.org/blood-drive)





## CZECH REPUBLIC: A SPECIAL FRIEND OF ISRAEL AND THE JEWISH PEOPLE

### JOIN US FRIDAY, APRIL 19 @ 6-7:15 PM



Arnošt Karel



David Harris

### A conversation with Special Guests:

**ARNOŠT KAREŠ**

Consul General of the  
Czech Republic

**DAVID HARRIS**

CEO, AJC, 1990-2022



Temple Israel's Precious  
Legacy Holocaust  
Czech Torah

### Musicians of Lenox Hill

### ANNUAL SPRING LEVY CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT



Emilie-Anne Gendron, Violin



Soo-Kyung Park, Flute



Anna Elashvili, Violin



Sean Katsuyama, Cello



Andy Lin, Viola



Yeontaek Oh, Piano

**TUESDAY APRIL 2, 7:30PM @ TEMPLE ISRAEL**

Schickele – *Welcome Serenade* for Flute and Violin  
Chopin – *Ballade No. 2* in F Major, Op. 38 for Solo Piano  
Boccherini – *Flute Quintet No. 3* in D minor, G 421, Op. 17  
Wieniawski – *Reverie* for Viola and Piano  
Milhaud – *La Création du Monde* for Piano Quintet, Op. 81b

**GENERAL ADMISSION | \$30**

Members enter for free using code **TINYC2024**

www.tinyc.org/molh | www.facebook.com/molhny | Instagram: @molhny  
molhny@gmail.com | 212-249-5000

*The Concert is made possible  
by a gift to Temple Israel by  
the late Muriel Levy in  
memory of her husband, Dr.  
Hyman Levy and their son,  
Jerold Levy.*

Join Rabbi Melissa Buyer-Witman and Cantor Irena Altshul  
For a New Monthly Book Club

## THE NEXT CHAPTER

Dedicated to the Study of Israel!

**NEXT SESSION:**

**TUESDAY, APRIL 30 @ 6-7:30 PM**

### Together We Will

- Explore Israel's rich and complex history.
- Learn about the diverse and multicultural citizens of Israel.
- Seek to understand diverse perspectives surrounding the conflict.

- Find new ways to discuss our love for and commitment to Israel with our growing children.

- Work to cultivate community with those seeking to deepen their connection to and knowledge of Israel.

**New Book: *ANTISEMITISM HERE AND NOW*  
by Deborah Lipstadt**

### ANTISEMITISM HERE AND NOW

DEBORAH E. LIPSTADT



Members: Free  
Non-Members: \$18/Per Session

**In-Person Only  
Wine & Cheese  
Served**



**SCAN HERE  
TO REGISTER**



Join  
Peter Young &  
Sheldon Low  
@ Temple Israel

# TOT SHABBAT

Saturdays  
April 13 & May 11  
@ 9:30 - 10:15am



## family FUN DAY

Join us at Gate Hill Day Camp for an incredible day together filled with fun, friends and (hopefully) sunshine!

Sunday, May 5th  
10am - 2pm  
\$50 per person (over age 2)

- ✓ face painting
- ✓ bounce houses
- ✓ crafts and games
- ✓ old and new ECLC friends
- ✓ music with Molly Rose
- ✓ ... and MORE!

## Temple Tots

PARENTING CENTER @ TEMPLE ISRAEL

**Play. Explore. Connect.**

Temple Tots is a grown-up-and-me class that offers a unique chance to build community with other families.

Developmentally appropriate curriculum includes:

- ✓ structured free play
- ✓ circle time
- ✓ snack
- ✓ art projects
- ✓ music + movement
- ✓ our weekly Shabbat celebration

Come make friends, celebrate holidays, form community and watch your child grow with us!

For children born January 1 - August 31 2023

Thursdays 11:30am-12:30pm  
Fridays 9:15-10:15am OR 10:45-11:45am

Price: Temple Israel members \$2,950/year  
Non-members \$3,400/year

Space is limited so don't delay! Classes begin 09/2024-05/2025.  
Open to children with birthdates from 1/1/2023-8/31/2023.  
Registration is now open [www.tinyc.org/baby-toddler](http://www.tinyc.org/baby-toddler)

Day Trippers & Mini Trippers

3-Day & 5-Day Options

## Camp Chaverim

חברים  
TEMPLE ISRAEL

Indoor & Outdoor

Separated & Non-Separated Options

**JOIN US FOR THE FUN!  
REGISTRATION OPEN NOW!!**

[www.tinyc.org/campchaverim](http://www.tinyc.org/campchaverim)

**June 5 - July 26**





# GIVE THE GIFT OF INDEPENDENCE

LISA SAMICK, DIRECTOR OF EARLY CHILDHOOD & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

*"The greatest gifts we can give our children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence."*

– Dr. Maria Montessori



The central theme in Passover is freedom. Freedom from oppression, freedom from roles that you've been assigned, freedom from a small and fixed mindset... Though in a different context, freedom is also a central theme of early childhood as children learn to separate themselves from babyhood and toddlerhood and start to understand that they exist separate and apart from their parents.

Critical in that development, is a strong sense of independence. It starts to develop naturally as very young children express their desire to do things by themselves, "Me do it!" But it is important for parents and caregivers to foster that desire and to encourage children to feel capable and competent.

Independence as a concept promotes confidence and self-esteem, as well as motivation and perseverance – all qualities that are essential building blocks to your child's development. It also helps them to develop skills like patience, concentration, self-help, cooperation and self-trust. But, like anything else, growing your child's independence must fit in with the ebb and flow of busy lives and schedules. Some days, you don't have time for them to figure out how to put on their own shoes, for example... but identifying those opportunities for growth will help you both in the long run.

**The following are three things to think about when trying to create a more independent environment for your child:**

**Stop doing everything for them:** It's easier, I know, to just do it – but that inadvertently reinforces to children that they can't and that they should give up. Luckily, this is not an "all or nothing" endeavor. You don't need to wake up tomorrow and send them off. Instead, look at your routines and find small pieces that you would be ok with your child doing. Maybe you start with them choosing their clothes and then slowly work up to them getting themselves dressed. You'll need to show them, to teach them, to encourage them, and then to step back.



When things don't go well – when it spills, or it breaks, or they get frustrated, your reaction matters – so it is also important to give them independence in ways that they can succeed. Take a deep breath and ask yourself honestly, if the task is beyond their ability. Your 2-year-old is unlikely to be able to tie their own shoes, but they can learn to put on their own coat. If the task is too hard, then it is a "mommy/daddy/grown up" job. If your child just needs practice, then you can reinforce and encourage, "that is a tricky one, but I know you can do it!" and then show them how.

**Give them responsibilities:** One day, your child will grow into a healthy adult. And when they do, they need to have basic life skills which include things like cooking, laundry, money management and the ability to follow through. While you are certainly not going to have your 4-year-old making dinner, giving them opportunities to participate and take responsibility is important, even from the youngest ages. Children should have chores – clearing their dish, putting away toys, helping to take the laundry out of the dryer.... all of these teach valuable life skills and respect.

**Stop trying to raise a "happy kid":** This is a hard one, I know, and I certainly don't mean that we want children to be unhappy. But as parents, it cannot be our goal to "make them happy;" in fact, it is actively not our job. Happiness must come from within and is built from a strong sense of self and from the satisfaction of being part of something meaningful. What is our job, is giving them the tools to get there. It is our job to help them to become a well-adjusted individual who is proud of themselves, who can problem solve, and who has confidence that they can do whatever they set their mind to.

**Giving children the "gift of independence" lets them know that we value them and that we believe in them.** Not only does this help our children grow and develop, but it also fosters them to be confident and competent communicators, curious and resilient explorers, and creative thinkers – and that is the ultimate freedom!





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**Irena Altshul** Cantor  
**Melissa Buyer-Witman**  
 Rabbi & Director of Lifelong Learning  
**Lara Knuettel** Executive Director  
**Lisa Samick**  
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# B'nei Mitzvah

## LUKE DUBINSKY

**SATURDAY, APRIL 6**

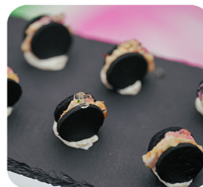
**Son of Cara and Todd Dubinsky**

**Grandson of Alice and Allan Marx  
 Helene and Arnold Dubinsky**

Luke has been a member of Temple Israel since 2013. He graduated from the ECLC and has attended the Religious School since Kindergarten.

For his Mitzvah Project, Luke has been volunteering at the Friendship Circle for the past two years. The Friendship Circle is a welcoming community that brings together Jewish kids with special needs, their families and teen volunteers. On Sundays, he plays sports, cooks and does art projects at the Friendship Circle. Luke looks forward to continuing to volunteer and support this organization.

During the summer, Luke attends Camp Equinunk in Pennsylvania. He loves playing competitive sports and is on several Flag Football teams during the year. He also enjoys basketball, fishing and traveling to new places with his family.



Images c/o Sarah Merlino and Gigi de Muno

**Deborah Miller**

**New York Catering & Events**

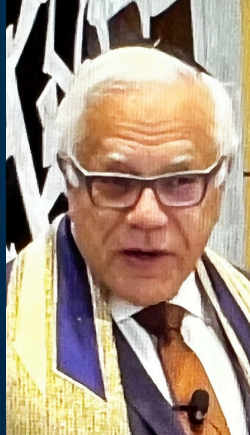
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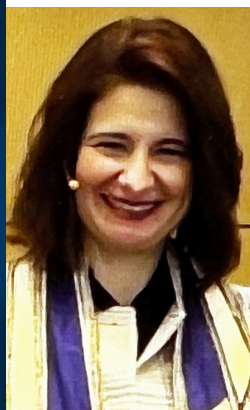




RABBI GELFAND



CANTOR ALTSHUL



RABBI BUYER-WITMAN



PETER YOUNG



RABBI HAYLEY SIEGEL



# WORSHIP SERVICES

## FRIDAY, APRIL 5

Rabbi Gelfand

Guest Speaker:

Rep. Ritchie Torres, NY-15

Israel's Staunchest Defender  
in the House of Representatives

## SATURDAY, APRIL 6

Sh'mini

Rabbi Gelfand

Expecting More From  
Those in High Places

## TORAH STUDY

Peter Young

Playing with Fire

## FRIDAY, APRIL 12

Rockin' Shabbat Senior Siyyum

TI Clergy & Sheldon Low

Mitzvah Heroes in Residence:  
Benzi & Lugo, Israel Guide Dog Center

## SATURDAY, APRIL 13

Tazria

Rabbi Gelfand

Healing Shattered Hearts,  
Bodies & Souls

## TORAH STUDY

Rabbi Hayley Siegel

Paging Dr. Kohen, M.D.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 19

Rabbi Gelfand

Guest Speakers: Arnošt Kareš,  
Consul General of the Czech Republic  
& David Harris, AJC CEO, 1990-2022

Czech Republic:  
A Special Friend of Israel  
& the Jewish People

## SATURDAY, APRIL 20

M'tzora

Rabbi Hayley Siegel

Shifra & Puah: Maverick Midwives

## MONDAY, APRIL 22

Peter Young

## NYCONNECT FIRST NIGHT SEDER

## TUESDAY, APRIL 23

### PASSOVER TORAH STUDY

Rabbi Hayley Siegel

Batya—Renegade Royal

## 2ND NIGHT CONGREGATIONAL SEDER

Rabbi Gelfand & Cantor Altshul

## FRIDAY, APRIL 26

Peter Young

The Birth of a People

## SATURDAY, APRIL 27

Chol HaMo-eid Pesach

Peter Young

The World's Shortest Seder

## MONDAY, APRIL 29

### PASSOVER YIZKOR SERVICE

Rabbi Gelfand & Cantor Altshul

The Power of Memories: DAYENU...and Us

## FRIDAY, MAY 3

Rockin' Kabbalat Torah Shabbat

TI Clergy & Sheldon Low

## SATURDAY, MAY 4

Acharei Mot

Rabbi Hayley Siegel

The Scandalous  
Scapegoats



**TORAH STUDY:** Together with our clergy engage in an interactive discussion of the weekly Torah portion. No Hebrew or previous knowledge required. ALL WELCOME! (In-Person sessions, enjoy coffee & a bagel!)



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& Family Engagement

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Religious School Assistant Director

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**Peter Young 212-249-5000**

Rabbinic Intern

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# TZEDAKAH *SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY*

We are grateful to all of our Temple Israel of the City of New York donors. Each month we acknowledge gifts to special funds made by congregants and friends. We send a note of thanks to each donor, and upon request, to a designated honoree or to the family of the loved one remembered. We invite you to consider making a donation to the Annual Appeal or to one of the dedications, memorials, programs, or funds. **For further information, please contact our Development Director, Eugenia Edwards at eedwards@tinyc.org or 646 292-9466.**

## YAHREZEITS

### DONOR

Evan & Deborah Azriliant  
Glen Burger & Monica Sherer  
Nancy Casden

Marjorie Cohen

Robert & Sylvia Elman

Terry Goldstein  
Maida & Harry Hirschhorn

Daniel Kalin & Bari Chase  
Phyllis & Bernard Leventhal  
Howard, Patricia & Miriam Mishkin  
Stephen & Beth Muller  
Judy & Mark Sage  
Jennifer & Laurence Tuschman

### IN MEMORY OF

Sydney Azriliant  
William B. Burger  
William J. Cadigan  
Dorthea Cadigan  
Fannie Lansner  
146 victims of the  
Triangle Shirtwaist Fire  
Albert Elias  
Julia Elias  
Betty Fromowitz  
Ethel Granowitz  
Neil Hirschhorn  
Irving Kalin  
Dr. Leo Braun  
Mark Mishkin  
Henry H. Muller  
Burt Sage  
Audrey Tuchman

*As of 3.18.2024*

## PASSOVER YIZKOR SERVICE

The Power of Memories:  
**DAYENU... and Us**



Rabbi Gelfand &  
Cantor Altshul  
Monday, April 29  
@ 8:30-9:30am

Informal Breakfast Follows





**Participate in the  
Mitzvah of our  
Annual Passover Appeal**

**Donate at:  
tinyc.org/give and select  
"PASSOVER APPEAL"**

## SUPPORT OUR PASSOVER APPEAL

**Gifts Directly Benefit the Following**

### **The Jewish Welfare Board**

Helps Jews in our Armed Forces celebrate Passover, supporting them far from their families as they defend our American freedom.

### **The New York Board of Rabbis Passover Campaign**

Helps developmentally disabled share a Seder. Supplies Passover food to residents in nursing homes, assisted living & aids the most vulnerable.

### **Blue Card**

Sponsors a seat at our Annual 2nd Night Congregational Seder for a Holocaust Survivor in the amount of \$140.

### **IsraAID**

Helps Israeli families challenged by war, terrorism, displacement & hostage families.

*Please open your hearts to those who might otherwise be forgotten  
and to those serving to protect our freedoms.*

## CONTRIBUTIONS

### **ECLC – PA Scholarship Fund**

Monica & Benjamin Cirlin  
Jessica & Zachary Kerr  
Tyler & Stephanie Robbins

### **General Contributions**

Phyllis & Bernard Leventhal in honor of Bobbie Seril

### **Kiddush/Oneg Fund**

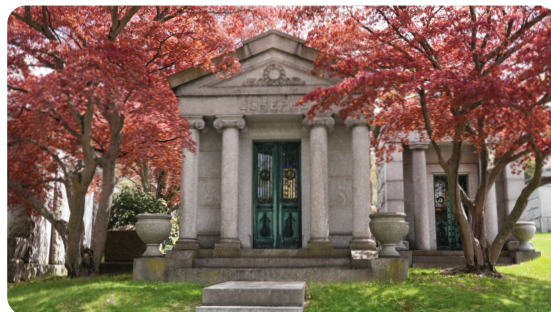
Kevin & Danielle Koplin

### **Rabbi David Gelfand Discretionary Fund**

Hilary & Jeffrey Auerbach in honor of  
Ellery Gelfand Kammerman's Bat Mitzvah

As of 3.18.2024

## TEMPLE ISRAEL CEMETERY



Nestled in the gently rolling hills of Westchester County, the Temple Israel Cemetery consists of 16 acres of exquisitely landscaped grounds.  
Plots and Mausoleums: Currently available for purchase.

Contact Elliott Czerwin at 914-478-1343  
eczerwin@templeisraelnyc.org  
for availability and pricing.



## IS TEMPLE ISRAEL IN YOUR ESTATE PLAN?



Please consider leaving a legacy for future generations by including Temple Israel of the City of New York in your estate planning gift.

*Sample Language for Your Will:*  
"I give and bequeath the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (or \_\_\_\_\_ % of my residuary estate) to Temple Israel of the City of New York, to be used in support of its general charitable purposes."

**Contact: Eugenia Edwards,**  
Development Director  
eedwards@tinyc.org or 646 292-9466.

## Mazel Tov

We are pleased to announce that proud parents **Daniela & Ryan Elazari** and big sister **Farrah** happily welcomed brother, **Rafa** on Sunday, February 18.

We are pleased to announce that proud parents **Hayley & Matt Kovner** and big brother **Henry** happily welcomed son and brother, **Cameron Jay Kovner** on Monday, February 26.

We are pleased to announce that proud parents **Ariela & Andrew Harris** and big sister **Lexie** happily welcomed sister, **Riley Blair Harris** on Monday, February 26.

## Life Cycles

**We are saddened to announce the death of:**

Donald Engel z"l passed away after a brief illness. Father of Temple Israel member **Jeffrey Engel (Carol)**; Chris Engel (Lisa) and Elisa Ross (Jim); grandfather of **Grant Engel and Blake Engel** (Torrance Cullen), great grandfather of Isabella Cullen Engel. He had 8 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. Donald passed away on Thursday, February 29.

Malcolm Fleischer z"l, father of **Heidi Fleischer (Ken)**. Malcolm passed away on Friday, March 1.

Alan Cahn z"l, brother of Temple Israel member **Ronald Cahn (Liz)**. Alan passed away on March 6.

## LEARN TO PRAY IN HEBREW LIKE A PRO!

*All from the comfort of  
your own home*

- Gain comfort & fluency reading the Shabbat prayers in Hebrew
- Explore the meaning of the prayers
- Learn key vocabulary
- Discover new melodies

**6 session online series:**  
Sundays, 7-8pm  
May 5- June 16

Must be familiar with sounds and shapes of the Hebrew aleph bet!

Class hosted by the Union of  
Reform Judaism

משכן תפילה  
MISHKAN T'FILAH  
A Reform Siddur • Weekdays and Festival

To register, click here



## IMPORTANT WEEK OF STUDY! @ Shalom Hartman Institute, Community Leadership Program

**JERUSALEM, JUNE 26 - JULY 3**

Engage first-hand with renowned thinkers and leaders.  
Explore urgent questions of Zionism, Jewish values, and a sense of belonging.



SHALOM HARTMAN מכון  
INSTITUTE הרשמן שלום  
SUMMER 2024



# WLC

## Sisterhood

NANCY RAPHAEL, PRESIDENT

### JOIN OR RENEW YOUR SISTERHOOD MEMBERSHIP NOW

Learn, volunteer, and have fun. Dues support WLC/Sisterhood and Temple activities. Join at [tinyurl.org/wlc](http://tinyurl.org/wlc) or by calling 212-249-5000.



### WALK IN THE PARK WITH CANTOR ALTSCHUL

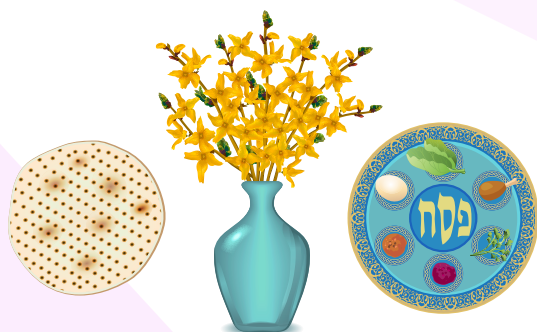
**Tuesday, April 2 at 9am  
(May 2 & June 6)**

Meet at 79th Street & 5th Ave.

### ANNUAL WOMEN'S SEDER

**Tuesday, April 16 at 6:00 pm**

Join Rabbi Buyer-Witman & Cantor Altschul  
for this very special evening!

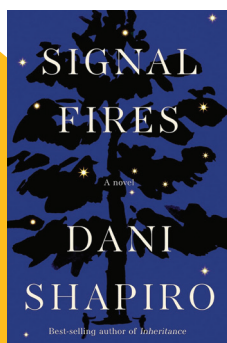


#### For Questions or to Volunteer!

Contact: Lexa Merson: [lexakoel@yahoo.com](mailto:lexakoel@yahoo.com),  
Andrea Chase: [chaseandreachase@gmail.com](mailto:chaseandreachase@gmail.com)

WLC members \$54 - Non-members: \$72.

**ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED**



### BOOK CLUB

**Monday, April 8  
at 6:30pm (Zoom)**

**SIGNAL FIRES**

by Dani Shapiro

To suggest a  
book or facilitate:

Contact Linda Morel:

[lindamorel2@gmail.com](mailto:lindamorel2@gmail.com).

### COFFEE & CONVERSATIONS

**Tuesday, April 30 at 9:30 am**

Cynthia Perthuis, Principal Owner at  
Senior Care Authority, will discuss the topics  
of growing older with grace: solo aging, 10 warning  
signs of dementia, and living life to its fullest.

Host: Susan Richter.

**REGISTER IN ADVANCE FOR THE ADDRESS**



### ONGOING

JOIN US AT SHABBAT SERVICES  
**IN-PERSON!**

**First Friday of the month.**

Always have a sisterhood  
friend to sit with.

**MONTHLY MAH JONGG @ TI**

**IN-PERSON!**

**This month**

**Thursday, April 18 @ 6:30pm**

Pre-pay and register in advance.

Questions :

[WLCmahjongg@gmail.com](mailto:WLCmahjongg@gmail.com)

### SACRED LAND EXHIBIT - HEBREW UNION COLLEGE

**Thursday, May 16 at 11:00 am**

Photographer Ralph Gibson & producer  
Martin Cohen, TI member, former board chair,  
have conceived of a unique photographic  
exhibition & publication capturing  
the essence of Israel as a sacred land

Questions: Contact Chair,  
Carole Ross at [ross.carole@gmail.com](mailto:ross.carole@gmail.com)

**ADVANCE REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

### MAXIMIZING OUR WELL-BEING

**Tuesday, May 21 at 6:30pm (In-person)**

A panel about taking care of ourselves  
With Dr. Felice Sussman & Dr. Danielle  
Friedman. Questions: Contact Chair,  
Lynn Berger at [Lynn@lynnberger.com](mailto:Lynn@lynnberger.com).

Scan here for Info/  
To register for all  
WLC programs



# CHRONICLE

## TEMPLE ISRAEL

### Congregation Yad B'Yad – Hand in Hand

112 EAST 75TH STREET, NEW YORK NY, 10021

tel 212-249-5000, fax 212-861-9092

[admin@templeisraelnyc.org](mailto:admin@templeisraelnyc.org)

[www.templeisraelnyc.org](http://www.templeisraelnyc.org)



## SAVE THE DATE

**ANNUAL TEMPLE ISRAEL BENEFIT**  
MAY 2, 2024, 6:30 PM

**HONORING**  
**CANTOR IRENA ALTSHUL**  
ON HER 10TH ANNIVERSARY AS  
SENIOR CANTOR OF TEMPLE ISRAEL

**THE SAVOY CLUB @ THE GM BUILDING**  
TICKETS, SPONSORSHIP, AUCTION ITEM DONATIONS  
[TEMPLEISRAELNYC.ORG/ANNUALBENEFIT2024](http://TEMPLEISRAELNYC.ORG/ANNUALBENEFIT2024)



## LIVE STREAMING

SHABBAT SERVICES are now available to view @ [tiny.org/live](http://tiny.org/live)