



TEMPLE OHEV  
**SHOLOM**  
BULLETIN

**ADAR - NISAN 5781**  
**MARCH 2021 - VOL. 11 NO. 7**

# FROM YOUR RABBI: PREPARING FOR PESACH

Hi Everyone!

Pesach is just about a month away. It's hard to believe that we have been suffering through this pandemic for a full year. I've been writing about COVID for most of these monthly articles, and it's been depressing to be sure. This month I want to talk about the ways we can prepare for Pesach, and how the four names for the Holiday of Passover can help us prepare for a happier time in 2021.



What are the Four Names of Passover? The first is **Zman Herutaynu** the season of our freedom. While we are already a free people, this year, with the advent of the COVID vaccine we hope will be available to all of us very soon, we can begin to think about what freedom really means to us. May we all be free to leave our homes in relative safety soon, and may we enjoy the freedom we have sacrificed for the past year to keep ourselves and others healthy.

Speaking of sacrifice...the next name for Passover is **Hag Hapesach**, the festival of the Passover sacrifice. We sacrificed our Seders for virtual ones last year, and we will do the same this year as well. And while we have made many sacrifices over the past year, we need to remember those whose lives have been permanently changed by the loss of family and friends, and the sacrifices they will make for the rest of their lives.

The next name for Passover is **Hag Hamatzot**, the festival of Matza. Make sure to have plenty of Matza on hand this year. Eating unleavened bread can remind us that there is still a sense of normalcy in our upside-down lives. We have been eating Matza at Pesach for many generations...even smuggling it into the death camps during the Holocaust. When we eat Matza this year, let us remember that life goes on, no matter the circumstances.

The fourth name for Passover is **hag Ha-Aviv**, the Festival of Spring. I think we need spring more than ever this year, after we weathered the pandemic and the return of the snowy winters that we haven't seen in many years. Spring is a time for rebirth and rejoicing. May we all rejoice this year as the seasons begin to change.

Passover is the favorite holiday of many, if not all Jewish people. Just as preparing for a vacation can often be as enjoyable as the trip itself, the Seder only lasts a short time (30 minutes for our Congregational Seder), while we have a whole month to prepare for something very special...not only preparing in our kitchens, but preparing for the day when we really taste the freedom we have sought for so many months. Enjoy this happy time in our lives.

My best to all of you.

*Your rabbi,  
Peter Kessler*

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Board is thrilled that the annual congregational seder will resume this year, after we were forced to cancel it last year during the first weeks of the COVID-19 pandemic. Of course, this year's seder will be online rather than in person, but otherwise it will be much like past years – except this year, there's no charge because you'll do your own cooking! You can find the links to the seder and the rest of our March programming on the "Purim & Passover 2021" page of the Temple's website at [www.ohvsholom.org](http://www.ohvsholom.org). See the big green button on the top left of the home page.

A letter with all of the details was mailed to all members last month, but here are the highlights:

- **Saturday, March 13, 8:00 p.m.:** "The Bible Players," a New York-based Jewish comedy group, will present a comedy show for our adult members. There is no charge for this event.
- **Monday, March 15, 7:00 p.m.:** Sisterhood's "Create, Collage, & Experiment Using Passover Cards" program, led by artist and educator Martha Savage. For more information and to RSVP, please contact Reyna Jose, Sisterhood President, at [rmjose32@comcast.net](mailto:rmjose32@comcast.net).
- **Friday, March 26, starting at 12:00 p.m.:** Pre-recorded Passover Shabbat and Tot Shabbat service videos will be posted for members to watch at their convenience.
- **Sunday, March 28, 6:00 p.m.:** Rabbi Kessler will lead our traditional annual seder, using the same 30-Minute Haggadah that we always use. You will be prompted on our website to enter a case-sensitive password to access the haggadah. The password must be typed exactly as follows: w33e42

All of the live events will start on time, so please log in a few minutes early. I look forward to seeing all of you then. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact me with your questions or concerns at [robteplitz@comcast.net](mailto:robteplitz@comcast.net) or (717) 329-3101.

***Rob Teplitz***

***President, Temple Ohav Sholom***

## **SAVE A TREE...AND OUR BUDGET**

Please let Michelle Darr know if you are willing to receive the bulletin electronically. Doing so will help us keep our costs down during these financially uncertain times and be better for the environment. If you change your mind later, we would be happy to re-subscribe you to the hard copy, no questions asked. Thank you in advance for doing your part!

## Are you facing challenges due to COVID-19?

You may be eligible for a Grant. Grants support members of the Jewish Community facing COVID related needs:

- financial challenges
- medical and mental health assistance needs
- funding for housing and utility expenses
- food insecurity and more



Please contact Board Treasurer, Dan Green, for a confidential conversation at 412-719-9329 or [dangreen1984@gmail.com](mailto:dangreen1984@gmail.com)

Grants will be made to Temple Ohev Sholom through the Jewish Community Foundation of Central PA.

## 50% Matching Gift Opportunity to help friends and neighbors through these challenging times.

Our Jewish Community Foundation of Central PA will match up to 50%\* of your gift for COVID relief!

\*Up to \$20,000 total

### DONATE BY CHECK TO:

Jewish Community Foundation of Central PA,  
3211 N. Front Street, Harrisburg, PA 17110

### DONATE BY CREDIT CARD TO:

[pajewishendowment.org](http://pajewishendowment.org)

**NOTE:** "JCF Match Fund" on memo line

Call Paulette Keifer at (904) 307-2413



Jewish Community Foundation  
of Central Pennsylvania



## THE TEMPLE OHEV SHOLOM BOARD AND SISTERHOOD PRESENT:



### **"VACCINE HESITANCY BEFORE AND DURING COVID-19"**

Vaccine hesitancy is as old as vaccines. In this program, Bernice Hausman, Ph.D., Chair of the Department of Humanities at Penn State College of Medicine and a member of Temple Ohev Sholom, will share her research on historical and contemporary themes in vaccine hesitancy and how these are being expressed during the COVID-19 pandemic. She will focus on how understanding the reasons behind vaccine hesitancy and refusal can help to create common ground even in the context of a polarized social context.

Dr. Hausman's research focuses on medical controversies as social controversies, and she has studied sex change and the meaning of gender, breastfeeding and maternity, and vaccination, publishing five books on these topics. Her most recent book, *Anti/Vax: Reframing the Vaccination Controversy* (Cornell University Press 2019), addresses vaccine dissent as a complex social phenomenon that draws in many common concerns about bodies, health, and medicine in contemporary culture.

The program will be moderated by Dr. Erika Saunders, Chair of the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health at Penn State College of Medicine. Dr. Saunders is a member of Temple Ohev Sholom's Board of Trustees and Sisterhood, a member of the board's COVID-19 Response Committee, and chair of the Religious School Committee.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 2021 | 10:00-11:00 A.M.**

**VISIT [HTTPS://OHEVSHOLOM.ORG/COVID-19-INFO/](https://OHEVSHOLOM.ORG/COVID-19-INFO/) FOR THE ZOOM LINK**

# RELIGIOUS SCHOOL UPDATE

Much of February the religious school focused on the holiday of *Purim*. Not only did the religious school get to experience a very special *Purim* show from the Bible Players, a Torah improv group based in New York, families also had an opportunity to participate in the JCC's annual (virtual) Purim carnival.

Speaking personally, *Purim* has always been one of my favorite Jewish holidays (a close second to *Sukkot*). The Rabbis teach,

משנכנס אדר מרבין בשמחה

**(Mi'Shenichnas Adar Marbim B'Simcha),**

the one who enters *Adar* (the month of Purim) increases in joy. This teaching has always struck me as strange. How is that by simply entering a new month, do we become more joyous? But as I have reflected on this more over the years, I have come to really appreciate its meaning.

The Jewish calendar highlights rhymes and rhythms of the year. At Passover, we have an opportunity for spring cleaning. During *Sukkot*, we get to spend some final days outside, before the weather turns. And at Hanukkah, we get to celebrate with lights when they are most needed.

*Purim* and the month of *Adar* are no different. This is the time of the year when winter is turning into spring and there is a revival. This newness is bringing on natural changes and new growth. It's also the reason, I believe, that the Rabbis taught that on *Purim* everything is flipped on its head

"ונהפוך הוא"

**(V'Nahaphoch Ho).**

*Purim* is the holiday of change. It's the holiday where we get to rid ourselves of our winter baggage and feel anew again. It's for that reason that when we enter *Adar*, we find a feeling of new joy.

L'Shalom,

Jason Graf, Religious School Director

## Important March Dates:

**Sunday, March 28th - No School, Passover**

# ADULT EDUCATION | MARCH SCHEDULE

**BASIC JUDAISM:** March 7th at 10 AM

**PEP:** March 7th at 11 AM

**LUNCH N LEARN:** March 10th at 12 noon

**SOUP & STUDY:** March 12th at 7 PM

**CONFIRMATION:** March 21st at 10 AM

**BOOK REVIEW:** March 21st at 11 AM

I'll send out the ZOOM link the week prior to the class.

Looking forward to seeing you virtually!



*Peter*



# SISTERHOOD NEWS

Winter is still here, but spring is just around the corner. That means Purim and Passover is almost upon us. Sisterhood and the Temple have several programs in the works. Please read below:

- **Sisterhood Board Meeting**, Sunday morning, March 7th @ 9:45am
- **Soup and Study**, Friday evening, March 12th @ 7:00pm. In Celebration of Women's History Month, Rabbi Kessler will speak about *Women of the Bible*. RSVP to Dianne Stolberg at [tr6gal@gmail.com](mailto:tr6gal@gmail.com) or Linda Grobman at [lindagrobman@gmail.com](mailto:lindagrobman@gmail.com).
- A Temple program....Get ready to laugh at a "**Live**" **Comedy Show** on Saturday evening, March 13th. Please go to the Temple's website for more information.
- Get your creative juices flowing at Sisterhood's **Create, Collage and Experiment Making Passover Cards**. This Zoom event will take place on Monday evening, March 15th @ 7:00pm. There is a \$5.00 fee. Please mail a check made out to T.O.S.S. to Reyna Jose, 32 Jackson Drive, East Berlin, Pa 17316. This class will be taught by artist and educator, Martha Savage. For a list of materials, please see the flyer in this month's Bulletin or look on the Sisterhood's or the temple's Facebook page.
- A **Live Zoom Seder** led by Rabbi Kessler on Sunday evening, March 28th. Please see the Temple's website for more information.
- Keep an eye out for **Sisterhood's Donor letter and Donor event**. The Donor event (Thursday evening, April 22nd) will be great, something positive, so mail in your Donor donation and you will receive more information on the event.

As you can see there are many programs that will be offered in the next month or two. Please join us and participate. You will not be sorry.

Our Sisterhood is always looking for people to join and participate in all of our amazing programs and committees. The more, the merrier. We currently have a few openings on our board. We are looking for a Program Chair and a co- chair for our Emergency Aid Committee. Please contact me for additional details, 717 379-0674. I look forward to welcoming all of you into our Sisterhood!!

Take care and stay well.

In Sisterhood,

**Reyna Jose**

**President**



# Create, Collage, and Experiment Making Passover Cards



No experience needed, just a willingness to play around with materials of your choice. Led by **Martha Savage**, artist and educator.

*"I hope you will find collage making as playful and imaginative as I do!"*

This event is \$5. This will be asked of you when you register.



*"I have been making 'things' from an early age and began painting when I was 10 years old. I have a BFA and MFA in visual art. I was also an educator in CT. Collage has always been a part of my art-making process. It's fun, easy, relaxing, and hard to mess up. An assortment of materials are both essential and inspiring. I have quite a collection of toy, wonderful little things, images and papers. I enjoy time in my studio in New Haven, CT." - Martha Savage*

## Happy Passover

**What's happening:** LET'S GET CREATIVE & CRAFTY!

**As for materials:** Whatever is on hand: glue, scissors, needle and thread, all types of paper scraps, beads, broken jewelry, broken tiny toys, stickers, cardboard, crayons, colored pencil, markers, and a matzah box or a picture of matzah and paper on which to arrange and glue things.

**Date:** Monday March 15, 2021

**Time:** 7pm

**Where:** Zoom (the link will be sent closer to the date)

**RSVP to Reyna Jose at**  
[rmjose32@comcast.net](mailto:rmjose32@comcast.net)

*Reminder: This event is \$5 when registering.*

To learn more about Martha Savage, check out her website at [www.martha-savage.com](http://www.martha-savage.com)

# SOUP & TORAH STUDY WITH RABBI KESSLER



**WHEN: FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2021**  
**TIME: 7:00 P.M.**

Please mark this program on your calendar and join us, via Zoom, for Soup & Torah Study!

*Topic: In Celebration of Women's History Month...  
Women of the Bible*

Please make your reservations by emailing:

Dianne Stolberg: [tr6gal@gmail.com](mailto:tr6gal@gmail.com)  
or Linda Grobman: [lindagrobman@gmail.com](mailto:lindagrobman@gmail.com)

Once you RSVP, you will receive a Zoom link closer to the day of the event. Bring your own bowl of soup to your table.

# MARCH KADDISH

## March 5

Jacob Abel  
Maurice Altaker  
Louis Brenner  
Celia F. Buch  
Joseph Cluster  
Joseph D. Cohn  
Mollie Cohn  
Richard Coran  
April DeLoach  
Naomi Doranz  
Hannah Druckman  
Walter Fox  
Rosa Frank  
Lewis C. Friedman  
Benjamin Gainsburg  
Sidney Haftman  
Meyer Jacobs  
Caryl Louise Hess  
Kramer  
Sam Levy  
Edgar Marks  
Clara Nell Sweeney  
McArthur  
Romaine Sadler  
Menaker  
Melvin Portnoy  
Hannah Salkin  
David M. Saxe  
Barbie Shauf  
Charles Silver  
Louis Spitalny  
Bernard Zaritzky

## March 12

Huldah Appell  
Edward J. Brenner  
Jeanette M. Brenner  
Lena T. Brenner  
Dora Cramer  
Gerald Eisnitz  
Tillie Garner  
Samuel Gross  
Rise Gomez Hausman  
Abram S. Jacobson  
Rosalind Lax  
Israel Mayer  
George Jasper  
McArthur  
Fay Millstein May  
Lillian A. Roberts  
Sheila Schooler  
Miriam R. Silver  
William Strouse  
Isaac Vladimerov

## March 19

Morris Aboff  
Ephraim Brenner  
Faye F. Doranz  
Donald H. Friedman  
Steven Henry  
Galowitz  
Leon Grobman  
Yetta Gurwitz  
Solomon Hurwitz  
George I. Katzman  
Leonard Kessler  
Rebecca Kraus  
Louis Lehrman

Gertrude Lesser  
Dora Levine  
Maurice M. Melamed  
Stephanie Sacks  
Hilda R. Schleisner  
Sheila Schooler  
Michael Strouse  
Joseph Tanchum  
Robert D. Woldorf  
Morris Yarowsky

## March 26

Estelle Bartok  
Marjorie Bryant  
Morris Estreicher  
Julia Fineshriber  
Eugene Frahm  
Morris Goldman  
Bernard Goodman  
Phyllis Gordon  
Louis Grass  
George I. Katzman  
Samuel Kuhn  
Herbert Lang  
Bernice (Bunny)  
Nepon  
Gerald (Jerry) Nepon  
Tony Repshas  
Peggy Rose  
Sidney Scheifer  
Otis Sensel  
Leo Talkov  
Helen Rouse Ufberg  
Richard Yamin

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**