

7emple Sholom 5 East Dillon Road P.O. Box 664 Monticello, NY 12701 845-794-8731

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templesholom1954@amail.com www.templesholomny.org

### Rabbi

Michele Brand Medwin, D.Min. rabbimedwin@me.com 607-765-2895

### **Board Officers**

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The Harbinger

**MARCH 2021** ADAR - NISAN 5781

### Sholom Jewish University – Spring 2021 / 5781 Temple Sholom, Monticello, N The ZOOM link will be

sent to those who register. Call Rabbi Medwin to join.

Tuition - The cost is \$36 for temple members and \$54 for non-Temple members. Scholarships are available for those who cannot afford the full cost of the class. Please contact Rabbi Medwin regarding scholarships. (rabbimedwin@me.com)

### **Back to Basics: Torah Study from the Beginning**

Taught by Rabbi Michele B. Medwin, D. Min.

Tuesdays, Noon - 1:15 PM

### March 2 - May 11, 2021

(No class during Passover on March 30)

We will continue from where we left off in the Fall Semester, at Genesis Chapter 13.

We will read verse by verse and discuss the various ideas and concepts that come up. What are the messages we gain from the text? How does the verse speak to me personally? We will use The Torah's Seventy Faces: Commentaries on the Weekly Sidrah by Simcha Raz to supplement and add a spiritual dimension to our understanding of the texts. The book is available on Amazon or authorhouse.com.

You are welcome to bring any Torah commentary you have to add to the discussion.

You do NOT need to have taken this class before. You will be able to follow along without any previous knowledge of Torah.

If you have never used ZOOM before, you will need to download the software and follow the instructions. (See page 16.)

ZOOM is usually started by 11:45. If it is not up by noon, you can call the rabbi's cell phone, 607-765-2895.

### From the rabbi:

### Personal Reflections for Passover



The rabbis declared that we should have a Passover seder each year. They outlined the fourteen steps involved in the seder, yet many of the details within each step are left to us. Because of this, there are thousands of *Haggadot* available offering different approaches to this unique holiday ritual. I would like to share some ideas from a Haggadah called *The Ayeka Haggadah*: *Hearing Your Own Voice*, written by Rabbi Aryeh Ben David. He asks us to consider various questions to better personalize the meaning of the Passover story and the Passover seder. I share some of these questions for you to reflect on for this year.

♦Kiddush - The Hebrew word for the blessing over wine, Kiddish, means holy. What was one holy moment in your journey this year?

**♦***Kol Dichfin* – Let all who are hungry come and eat.

•If we weren't concerned about COVID, or travel distance, what guests would you want to invite to your Seder? (People you know, public figures, historical figures...)

•We are hardwired to give. Share a moment when you either carried out or witnessed a momentous act of extraordinary giving.

◆The Four Sons/Children - What questions do you imagine the wise child would ask today?

We talk about the journey of the Israelites as they escaped from Egypt.

•What would be the most helpful question someone could ask you about your journey during the past year? What is one smart thing you did on your journey?

•On your journey, was there ever a moment when you felt helped by God or felt a deep spiritual connection to something beyond?

•Every journey has moments of exaggeration. Years from now, what moments in your journey do you think will be exaggerated?

•*Dayenu* - Every journey has moments of gratitude. What specific moment of your journey is worth singing about?

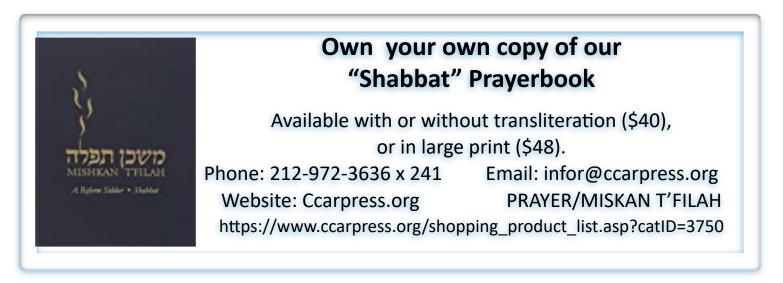
Retelling the story of Passover gives us hope. What would you say was the greatest moment for the Jewish people in your lifetime?

◆The *Korech* sandwich combines bitter herbs and sweet charoset. What was a bitter experience that ended up being important for your personal journey and growth?

#### **Questions for Kids**

- ✤If matzah could talk, what do you think it would say?
- ✤If *maror* (bitter herbs) could talk, what do you think it would say?
- What do you think Pharaoh's kids were telling him during the ten plagues?

Rabbi Michele B. Medwin, D.Min.



The Harbinger

### VIRTUAL MODEL SEDER Friday, March 26, 2021 7:00 PM via ZOOM

### NOTE THE EARLY START TIME TO GIVE US ENOUGH TIME FOR DISCUSSION DURING THE SERVICE

Join is for a spiritually informative Passover experience as part of our Shabbat service. Based on *"The Ayeka Haggadah: Hearing Your Own Voice,"* by Rabbi Aryeh Ben David, we will have an interactive model seder experience. This Haggadah offers us opportunities to reflect on our own personal journey as it relates to the symbols of the Passover seder. During the service we will have a few breakout groups, (Zoom randomly creates small groups), to be able to discuss some of the inspiring questions offered by Rabbi ben David. (See Rabbi Medwin's article on page 2.) You DO NOT need to have this Haggadah. Everything will be shared on the screen.



Have with you:

- •Wine/grape juice and kiddush cup
- Parsley or something green
- Matzah
- •Bitter herbs or something sour, or a picture of bitter herbs
- •Charoset or a picture of charoset

### TEMPLE SHOLOM and THE FLOOD

Burst pipes caused a river to flow through Temple Sholom.



Neal Jacobs and Howard Perlman spent days cleaning up the temple so the construction crew could make repairs. Great support and assistance were given by: Lauren Miller, Judy Cutler, Sue Kantor, and Stephanie Phillips.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBER:

MARION SCHAAL



### MARCH 2021 - ADAR / NISAN 5781

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 SHOLOM UNIV	3	4	5 Shabbat Services 7:30 (via ZOOM)	6
					Candle lighting 5:34	Ki Tisa
7	8	9 SHOLOM UNIV	10	11	12 Shabbat Services 7:30 (via ZOOM) <i>Candle lighting 5:42</i>	13 Vayak'hel-Pekudei
14 Daylight Saving Time Begins	15	16 SHOLOM UNIV Board of Trustees mtg	17	18	19 Shabbat Services 7:30 (via ZOOM) Candle lighting 6:49	20 Vaikra
21	22	23 SHOLOM UNIV	24	25	26 VIRTUAL MODEL SEDER NOTE EARLY TIME 7:00 Candle lighting 6:57	Harps Passover Tzav
28 First Day of Passover	29	30 PESACH (No class)	31	Shabbat Services start 7:30 PM via ZOOM Zoom in 30 minutes early to schmooze a bit with other zoomers.		
O6 March   22 Adar   Ki Tisa   Exodus 30:11-34:35     13 March   29 Adar   Vahak-hel-Pekudei   Exodus 35:1-40:38     20 March   07 Nisan   Vaikra   Leviticus 1:1-5:26     27 March   14 Nisan   Tzav   Leviticus 6:1-8;36						
Virtual ONEG SHABBAT sponsors: MARCH 5: Lois Weinstein in memory of grandparents, Louis & Mildred Silvermintz. MARCH 12: Judy Cutler, in honor of her & Dr. Rick Stein's birthdays. MARCH 19: Sue & Don Horowitz, in honor of Sue's birthday.						

MARCH 26: Sponsor needed

Passover is rich in social justice themes. It is

impossible to study the Jewish story of redemption and not feel compelled to eradicate injustice in the world today. Among the primary social justice themes found in the Exodus story and in the Passover observance are hunger, homelessness, oppression, and redemption.

At Passover, we are reminded of a time when Jews were once restricted to eating only **matzah**, considered the "bread of affliction," due to the hasty retreat from Egypt. This experience with hardship following the exodus from Egypt is an inspiration to consider those who eat the metaphorical "bread of affliction" in present times.



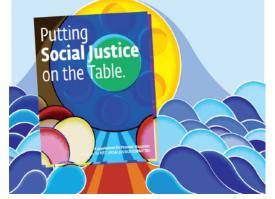
In the Babylonian Talmud, we are taught, "Even the poorest

person in Israel may not eat until he reclines, and they must not give him less than four cups of wine." This is a reminder that it is imperative to take care of everyone in the community, even the poorest person. The requirement that even poor Jews be provided with ample wine – and presumably with all of the holiday's ritual foods and practices – leads to the expectation that Jews should help the poor and the hungry not just during Passover but throughout the year.

Passover also serves as a painful reminder that the Jewish people were seen as strangers in the land of Egypt and spent 40 long years of wandering in the wilderness without a home. These elements of the Passover story remind us of current issues of immigration and refugee concerns, and the memory of being displaced instills in us a desire to eradicate homelessness in the modern era.

At Passover, we read, "This year we are slaves. Next year, may we all be free."Jews are commanded to be directly present in the Passover story, remembering what it was like for the Children of Israel to be slaves in the land of Egypt. This personal experience is a motivation to examine the current international situation and wrestle with cases of injustice, oppression, and modern-day slavery. Thus, Passover provides us an opportunity to raise awareness of contemporary examples of slavery and oppression throughout the world, such as human trafficking, the sex trade, and even domestic violence, which traps victims within their homes, limiting their freedom as surely as if they were enslaved.

Copy and paste this link to see how you can incorporate social action themes into your Passover observance. https://reformjudaism.org/passover-social-action-guide? utm\_source=BulletinBytes&utm\_campaign=Passover&utm\_medium=email&utm\_content=2021\_1\_27



The link below will allow you to download a collection of readings, activities, and songs that both extend the traditional Seder and resonate with it. The Passadena Jewish Temple & Center have tried to include selections that will be meaningful (and interesting) for children and young people as well as their parents and grandparents. They invite you to pick and choose what will work best for your own Seder.

https://pjtcsocialjustice.files.wordpress.com/2019/04/pjtc-sjc-passover-supplement-2018-rev.pdf

### **Religious School News**

There are presently 2 religious school classes. The Bar/Bat Mitzvah class is a virtual class and is going well. In the primary class, also virtual, are the younger students. Though the technology is challenging, they are learning to sing the blessings, learning about the Jewish holidays, and learning what it means to be a good Jew. *(See Passover article page 5.)* 

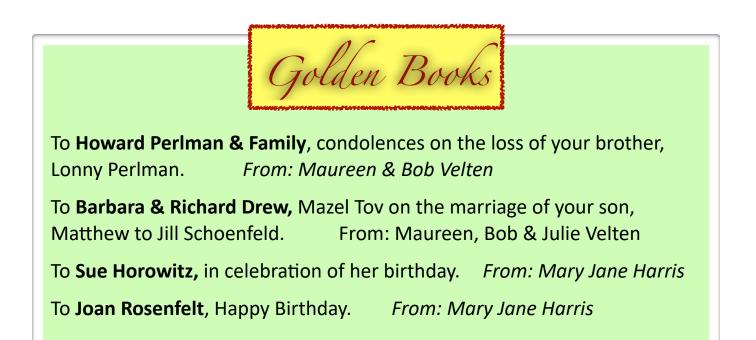
Much credit is to be given to Lauren Miller, our very dedicated primary teacher. It is hard while connecting through zoom to keep the youngsters focused and actively learning. The children want to learn and so they try very hard.

Everyone is hoping to be back in the building sometime in the fall.





And then there was **PURIM** —Lauren Miller read the Purim story with the help of King Ahasuerus. Macy and Lauren dressed up and shook their groggers when they heard Haman's name. It was quite an enjoyable Purim lesson.





To **Howard Perlman & Family**, condolences on the loss of your brother, Lonny Perlman.

From: Ellen Nesin & Family

To **Ira Simon**, thank you for planning and leading Shabbat Services while Rabbi Medwin was on vacation.

From: Lauren & Marty Miller

To **Michael Zalkin**, thank you for planning and providing technical expertise while Rabbi Medwin was on vacation.

From: Lauren & Marty Miller

Our VOLUNTEERS are THE BEST SPECIAL THANKS to Ira Simon and Michael Zalkin, for organizing and leading zoom services while Rabbi Medwin was on vacation.



### Thank you

To the **Russell/Rivers Family** for their donation to Temple Sholom.



- 4 Jessica Nesin
- 5 Brian Miros
- 7 Andy Hazelnis
- 8 Dr. Ted Isseks
- 9 Macy Miros
- 10 Judy Cutler
- 10 Reva Miller
- 10 Dr. Rick Stein
- 13 Bob Velten
- 16 Neal Jacobs
- 19 Susan Horowitz
- 19 Bob Glatt
- 20 Dr. Gary Garfield
- 23 Hal Abrams
- 28 Sheryl Manz
- 31 Michael Feltman
- 31 Paul Nesin

### JEWISH NATIONAL FUND



### In loving memory of Leon Altman

Certificate to: Phyllis Altman Donor: Mary Jane Harris

March



3 Ralph & Ellen Cutler 23 Dr. Ríck & Marílyn Stein 29 Brían & Sherí Míros

### GIFTS of SERVICE to Temple Sholom

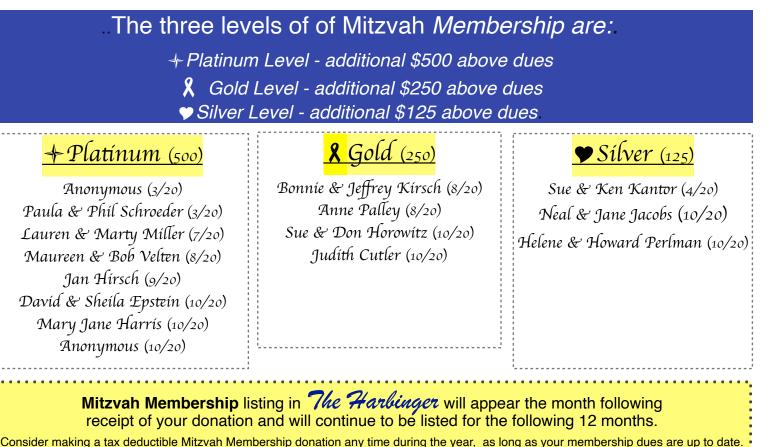
- Steve Plotkin for the kiddush and holiday wines
- Sue Kantor for organizing our virtual oneg sponsors
- Mary Jane Harris for building and maintaining the website
- Stephanie Phillips for maintaining the facebook page
- Rick Stein, Ellen Nesin, Stephanie Phillips, Howard Perlman, Gail Abramowitz for maintaining our adopted exit
- Sue Horowitz for sending out the Yahrzeit reminder letters
- Anne Palley for sending out the birthday cards
- Shain Fishman for creating the monthly Harbinger
- Harbinger proofreaders: Mary Jane Harris, Susan Kantor, Rabbi Medwin, Lauren Miller, Stephanie Phillips, Paula Schroeder, Jane Jacobs, Ira Simon
- Anne Palley for monthly labeling and folding the Harbinger, and for helping in the office when needed.
- President Neal Jacobs and Board Member Howard Perlman (our handymen) who are at the temple every Wednesday doing all the small (and not so small) jobs required to maintain our 66-year-old building.

### Many ways to support Temple Sholom

- 🗱 Sponsor an oneg at Friday night services
- x Tree of Life highlights a milestone event (\$54)
- Plant a Tree in Israel in honor of a family celebration/commemoration (\$18)
- x Send a Golden Book message (\$5)
- 🔯 Send a Tribute Card (\$10)
- x Volunteer your time at temple events (\$0)

### 2021 Mitzvah Members

As is happening with most religious and service organizations across the country, Temple Sholom is experiencing a growing gap between income and expenses. To help toward closing the budget gap, Temple Sholom members are being asked to contribute, according to their ability, an additional amount above regular membership dues. Can you step forward to support the continued existence of Reform Judaism in Sullivan County?



If you are able, please PAY YOUR FINANCIAL OBLIGATION and BECOME A MITZVAH MEMBER. Specify: "Mitzvah Membership"

Mitzvah Membership donations are tax deductible.

### Friends of Temple Sholom — Exceptional Gifts from Nonmembers

### **Diamond Donors**

Arlene & Fred Zílker (2/20) Marc & Judy Hudes (6/20) Gold Donors

Línda Kleínman (7/20) Jonathan Farrow & Famíly (10/20)



### **IN MEMORY - YAHRZEIT WILL BE READ ON:**

March 5: David Harris, Nancy Karkota Solomon, Adrienne Gold Huberman, Pauline R. Goodman, Ken Gobel, Dora Bader, Aaron Altman, Norman Levine, Ben Schacht, Jacob Kapito, Phillip Richman, Rose Appel, Ethel Goldfeder, Anna Cerullo, Murray H. Gitlin, Irene Jacobi, Dr. John Kotin, Raye Linnetz Furst

March 12: Isadore Cohen, Herman Lewinter, Henry Wrobel, Ralph Jacobs, Alois Eisner, Evelyn C. Silverstein, Rudiger Spiegl, Yetta Slotnick, Helen Rubler, Sidney Epstein, Hyman Mintz, Walter Gersten, Morton Farber, Irma Krieger, Jean Miller, Abraham Brafman, Benjamin Fein, Norman Plotkin

March 19: Jesse Wolfson, Carol Imbey, Muriel Gitlin, Samantha Brafman, Hyman Himmel, Sam Woda, Morris Striefer, Dr. Russell Pantel, Dr. Frederick M. Shulman, Maria Stein

March 26: Sarah Margolis, Mary Victoria Barnes, Diana Laub, Dr. Gustav Gavis, Ann Fuss, Abraham "Al" Kantor, Mavis E. Mednick, Sidney Mordin, Howard Hayden, Robert David Mastropiero, Wayne Detwiler, Ellen Rabelskie, Abraham Edelman, Rose Ray, Judah Altman



### Donations to the YAHRZEIT FUND In Loving Memory of the Following:

David Harris by Mary Jane Harris Deborah Harris by Mary Jane Harris Evanelle Detwilwer by Mary Jane Harris Wayne Detwiler by Mary Jane Harris Milton E. Goldenberg by Maureen & Bob Velten Raye Linnetz Furst by Sue & Don Horowitz Violet Salton by Marcia Salton Beniamin Nedwin by Joanne Israel Lew Greenfield by Fran Greenfield Lew Wohl by Sam & Honora Wohl Helen Wohl Blinder by Honora & Sam Wohl Larry Solomon by Laura Solomon Paul & Bella Berger by Sylvia Schwartz & Steven Bruce Sam Opfer by Sylvia Schwartz & Steven Martin, Stanley & Bessie Schwartz by Sylvia Schwartz & Steven Gittel & Itzchak Wagmeister by Sylvia Schwartz & Steven Henry Wrobel by Shain Fishman Samuel Schroeder by Paula and Phil Schroeder



The Harbinger

### OFFICE HOURS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

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#### IF YOU ENTER THE BUILDING ...

### <u>Please wear a mask.</u>

Entry with appointment only. Ring the bell. You will be buzzed in.

When in the temple, please maintain the socially distant guideline of 6 feet away.

To speak with Rabbi Medwin, call 607-765-2895.

### Committees

Adopt-N-Exit: Lauren Miller, Rick Stein, Ellen Nesin, Stephanie Phillips, Howard Perlman Beautification: Carolyn Richman. Nancy Isseks, Beth Leidner Building: Neal Jacobs, Howard Perlman, Don Horowitz, Stephanie Millett Fundraising: Paula Schroeder Good & Welfare: Anne Palley Harbinger: Shain Fishman Kitchen: Susan Kantor Membership: Sue Kantor, Marcia Salton, Judy Cutler Office Volunteer: Anne Palley Oneg Reservations: Sue Kantor Publicity: Stephanie Phillips Religious School: Lauren Miller Ritual: Rabbi Medwin, Jane Jacobs, Sue Horowitz, Don Horowitz, Lauren Miller, Ellen Nesin, Marcia Salton Special Consideration: Neal Jacobs Webmaster: Mary Jane Harris Yahrzeit: Susan Horowitz

COMMITTEE MEMBERS CAN BE REACHED BY CALLING THE TEMPLE 845-794-8731



## Oneg Shabbat means, "The Joy of Shabbat."

Even though we cannot get together at the synagogue, we do gather together every Shabbat on Zoom. Getting together brings us great joy!

Because of the pandemic, funds will be tighter. You can do a mitzvah by being a **Virtual Oneg Shabbat Sponsor**. Pick a Shabbat you would like to "**Virtually**" **Sponsor**.

Send an e-mail to Rabbi Medwin (rabbimedwin@me.com) and tell her which Shabbat you will sponsor and if you have a specific reason: birthday, anniversary, in memory of, in honor of, to celebrate Shabbat, to support the temple, etc. If you provide a picture of the person or event that you are honoring, the rabbi will share it with the congregation during the service.

Send a donation check to: Temple Sholom, PO Box 664, Monticello, NY 12701 Write *"Virtual Oneg Shabbat"* in the memo line.

The email sent to temple members the week of your oneg will recognize you as the sponsor and you will be acknowledged during the service.

Is your friend sponsoring an oneg? You can make a donation to the temple in his or her honor.

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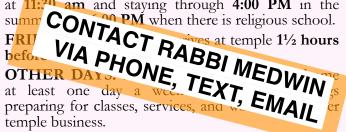
> South Fallsburg, New York 12779 Phone: 845-434-0511 Email: <u>info@rollingv.com</u>





### **RABBI MEDWIN'S SCHEDULE**

**TUESDAYS:** Rabbi is generally at the temple teaching classes from 12:00 noon – 3:00 PM, arriving at 11:20 am and staying through 4:00 PM in the summ COMPAN when there is religious school.



**Please note:** Contact the rabbi directly if you would like to talk or set a time to meet.

- Call on her cell phone any day: **607-765-2895.** If you get voicemail, please leave a message and she will get back to you as soon as possible.
- Send e-mail: rabbimedwin@me.com

Rabbi Medwin is happy to arrange a specific time to meet with you earlier or later than the above mentioned hours.

ReformJudaism.org Jewish Life in Your Life

# \* Adult Education \* \* Shabbat Services \* via ZOOM

You can participate in Shabbat Services and Rabbi Medwin's classes remotely. If you would like to participate via ZOOM, and you are not on our temple e-mail list, please e-mail Rabbi Medwin at <u>rabbimedwin@me.com</u> for information about joining our classes and services.

Put yourself on the screen.



Through the wonder of Zoom we are able to see and talk to each other.

If you have never used ZOOM before, you will need to download the software and follow the instructions. Go to https://zoom.us/download and from the **Download** Center, click on the **Download** button under "**Zoom** Client For Meetings". This application will automatically download when you start your first **Zoom** Meeting.

ZOOM is usually up and running 15 minutes before the start time.

Make sure you are on the temple's email list to receive notification of the links for Zoom services, classes, and meetings.

#### **TEMPLE SHOLOM OF MONTICELLO, NEW YORK**

The First Congregation of Reform Judaism in Sullivan County Established 1954 **"SIXTY-SEVEN (67) YEARS AND GROWING STRONGER"** A REFORM CONGREGATION AFFILIATED WITH THE UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM RABBI MICHELE BRAND MEDWIN, D.Min.

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