

**Reminder, articles for publication must be received by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication.**

## Next Shabbat at Hevrat Shalom Congregation

**March 5, 2021** at 7:45 PM on Zoom and 4 PM on Ingleside's Channel 976

Look for your "eVite" or use the link below:

**Below is the link for all Hevrat Shalom Zoom Events:**

<https://zoom.us/j/2407676518?pwd=cG5QdGRBQ0lGK1Q1ZlJUQktTc0M5QT09>

**ID: 240 767 6518 Password: Hevrat21**

**Dial-in Phone Number for Voice Only: 301-715-8592**

**Meeting ID for Voice Only: 240 767 6518**

**Password for Voice Only: 025649#**



### **Passover Greetings**

**Rabbi Stan Levin**

Passover begins on Saturday night, March 27, 2021. For me, the Passover story is more modern than ever.

For the past year we've been dealing with a health crisis, social unrest, a reordering of values, hail, natural disasters, human-made disasters, historical fires and freezes, and before Spring is over, we will have locusts – or at least the 17-year cicadas. All we are missing are frogs and boils. More than ever, we can empathize with the Hebrews and Egyptians, or at least take the opportunity to.

Before 2020 we had to imagine what our ancestors endured through a series of disasters over which they had no control. Now we are having that experience ourselves.

It begs the issue: what can we learn from our own 21<sup>st</sup> century plagues? One of the obvious lessons is that everyone in society has to deal with them. This affords us the opportunity for empathy for all people everywhere, because no culture is exempt. It gives us a chance to reassess our values. We can appreciate human interaction that we have been denied for a year. We can do what we can to help others and ourselves, whether it is as simple as wearing a mask or getting a vaccination. This is the time we can provide Tzedakah for people here and around the globe who need support during their economically trying times.

Passover is our holiday of freedom and redemption. May we combine efforts to see to it that all people everywhere can find their way out of strife, through the wilderness, to an emotional

land of milk and honey. By serving others, animals, and the planet itself, we are truly *b'tzelem Elohim* – made in the image of G-d.



## Passover Greetings

### **Rabbi Peter Novick**

Pesach is a wonderful holiday, particularly being together with family, friends, and youngsters. It is a joyous holiday lasting eight days. The first seder for Pesach begins on March 27, 2021. What is not that well known is that there are four special Shabbatot preceding Pesach, each having a symbol, and each has a purpose or message prior to the holiday.

The first special shabbat is Shabbat *Shekalim*. Its name comes from the maftir aliyah read on Shabbat. It describes the obligation of every Israelite man to contribute a half-shekel. The contribution served two purposes: it provided funds to support the operation of the Mishkan (portable sanctuary). At the same time, it accomplished a census of Israelite men. Today we observe this obligation by collecting funds before Purim. The funds support Jewish institutions or other charitable endeavors.

Shabbat *Zachkor* (the Shabbat of remembrance) is the second of four special Shabbatot before Pesach. It recalls Amalek's cowardly attack upon the weak and weary of the Israelites as they traveled in the wilderness. The people of Israel are commanded to remember what Amalek did and to wipe out Amalek's memory (a reference to G-d's command to wipe out the memory of Amalek who attacked without cause the rear of the Israelite people containing the sick, tired, hungry, and elderly after they crossed the sea of reeds and were trailing behind the major Israeli lines).

The rabbis prescribed that we fulfill this commandment once a year by reading this passage publicly from a Torah scroll. They chose the Shabbat before Purim for this reading to connect the wiping out of the memory of Amalek to the Purim practice of "blotting out" the name of Haman, who was a descendant of Amalek.

Shabbat *Para* is the third of the four special Shabbatot before Passover. It falls on the Shabbat before Shabbat HaKodesh (the fourth special Shabbatot), and represents the beginning of preparation and purification for Pesach. The special maftir reading details the matter of the *Parah Adummah*, (red heifer). In the days of the temple, the priest would use the ashes of the Parah Adummah to purify people who were in a ritually impure state, caused by dealing with the dead, which would have prevented them from being eligible to eat of the Pesach sacrifice.

The fourth special Shabbat before Pesach is Shabbat *Hachodesh*. It discusses the first mitzvah given to the Jewish people as a nation to sanctify every new month (Rosh Chodesh) and goes

on to describe the *Korban Pesach* (Paschal lamb) and other Passover mitzvot. a special *maftir aliyah* reading contains both the story and various laws of Pesach, connects us to our ancient past, and prods us to accelerate preparations for Pesach which is only a few weeks away.

Have a wonderful Pesach, spiritually uplifting and joyous.



### **Passover Again and Again** **Cantor Caron Dale**

Passover has so many memories for me. Sitting around the seder table with the whole family. Grandpa doesn't miss one word of the Haggadah, cousins hanging out under the dining room table when we've passed their exhaustion points; being so hungry because the first part of the seder takes hours; then food, food and more food with *lotsa* matzah. Falling into our own exhaustion with yet another 1 ½ to 2 hours of seder to go and finally ending around midnight. What I could not possibly appreciate at that time was the beauty and power of the traditional seders with which I grew up.

Next to being with my family, it was the music that moved me; the fun melodies and the haunting ones, the songs that got faster and faster and the ones that elicited our emotions in their minor motifs. So many of the songs of Passover can be powerful, invoking a fearsome time in our history. Many of these sentiments and emotions were sung by African slaves in the fields of our own country.

Too much of our history has been repeated over the millennium upon too many unempowered people. As you prepare your seder, consider adding a new song of tragedy to hope to enhance the texture and memory of the experience for all.

Whether by Zoom or in person, I wish you a meaningful and *zeese* Pesach.



### **I Never Pass Over Passover!** **Cantorial Soloist Joan Wolf**

Perhaps like many of you, Passover is my favorite holiday. Partly for geographic reasons. Why?

My family is spread across the U.S. in a zigzag way, and over thirty years ago my mother instituted a Roving Seder policy. Each year, one family member would host everyone (from six to twenty people; we stayed in hotels to take the pressure off) in their hometown. So, over the years we have visited and revisited Chicago, Boulder, Los Angeles, Seattle, Scottsdale, Boca

Raton, San Diego, Annapolis, rural Virginia and my home in Bethesda. It was kind of like a wedding in that the run-up to the actual event featured other activities and celebrations.

Here's the hilarious part: my mother did not trust that grocery stores in all of these places would have soup mix or beet horseradish or even matzoh! So she traveled laden down with TWO EXTRA SUITCASES filled with a variety of Passover foods and accoutrements (and most always had to pay an overweight baggage fee at check-in) to make certain that the brisket was made with Barnett's chili sauce and the soup was made with Manischewitz soup mix.

And so Passover was observed with 'imported' items such as soup mix and a Seder plate transported in bubble wrap in my mother's fourth suitcase. We all knew it had been lugged through airports, rolled on luggage carts in hotels and driven to the host's home for their final destination that year.

And even when I showed my mother that other cities and remote towns had Manischewitz soup mix, she still preferred to tote her own, purchased at her local Publix grocery store. When travel is a 'thing' again, I hope to cart Seder stuff around the *country*, too.

Wishes for a joyous Pesach, *gut mo'ed!*



### Celebrating Recent New Members

**Doris Bratt & David Cohen**

**Allab & Leah Lipman**

**Lesia Peterson**

**Martin & Sandy Rush**

**David Stander**

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### Event Calendar

- **Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup>** , Special Purimspiel musical presentation, a "Motown Megillah" with Cantorial Soloist Joan Wolf and her daughter, Leah, members of the Zemer Chai choir, and even Rabbi Stan, 7:30 PM, *prerecorded for broadcast on the Hevrat Shalom Zoom connection*. A brief community chat with the "cast" will follow this 7:30 celebration of Purim.
- **Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>**, Sabbath Service led by Rabbi Stan Levin with Cantorial Soloist Joan Wolf, 7:45 pm, *on Hevrat's Zoom connection*. Or, watch it at 4:00 pm on Ingleside's

Channel 976. A “Live on Zoom” community Oneg (chat) with Rabbi Stan and Joan Wolf will follow the 7:45 service.

- [Friday, March 19th](#), Sabbath Service led by Rabbi Peter Novick with Cantor Caron Dale, 7:45 pm, “Live” on the *Hevrat Shalom Zoom connection*. A community Oneg (chat) with Rabbi Peter and Cantor Dale will follow the 7:45 “Live on Zoom” service.
- [Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup>](#), “A 2021 Taste of Seder in Song, Verse and Video” led by Cantor Caron Dale, 7:45 pm, “Live” on the *Hevrat Shalom Zoom connection*. For so many reasons, this year is different from all other years. Join us for a special celebration of Hevrat Shalom’s traditional Second Night Passover Seder.



## March Yahrzeits

Ted Bahr	Husband of Carol Bahr
Stanley Berger	Brother of Elaine Moses
Olivia Elkaim	Wife of David Elkaim
Paul Fox	Brother of Florence Lang
Charles Lehman	Brother of Leonard Lehman
Ronald Olin	Brother of Irwin Olin
Michael Parsont	Husband of Mina Parsont
Louis Schulman	Father of Bonni Dutcher
Hugo Schuster	Father of Ruth Goldman
Recha Schuster	Mother of Ruth Goldman
Bess Shay	Member
Gabriel Swart	Father of Mimi Goldstein
Hyman Shapiro	Husband of Irene Shapiro
Judith Wittman	Wife of Harold Wittman
Matthew Zimet	Brother of Elihu Zimet

## Year of Mourning

Irwin Faibisch	Husband of Fran
Carl Berlinger	Husband of Judy
Ed Isaacs	Husband of Edith Isaacs
Florence Long	Beloved wife of Gerald Long

Irma Bierman  
Irv Perlman  
Ina Land

Beloved Member  
Beloved Member  
Mother in Law of Dorie Moses Land

*May their names be for a blessing.....*

*לְבִרְכָה זְכוּרֹנָם חֲכָמֵינוּ אָמְרוּ ל"אחז*