



**oices**  
כולות ק.ק. עדת ישראל



**Middletown, Connecticut**  
**March 2024 adar I/adar II 5784**



Dear Friends,

Purim is around the corner. Candy, masks, costume parade and carnival—all that brings special awareness to the term “pediatric Judaism”. This term was created to define the tendency of thinking that Judaism, at its core, is really for kids. Sarah Hurwitz, in an interview about her book “Here All Along: Finding Meaning, Spirituality, and a Deeper Connection to Life — In Judaism (After Finally Choosing to Look There)” tells of her amazement that Judaism is very much for adults, actually.

Kids, of course, are invited to participate and learn. But, that's secondary. Judaism, at its best, is much too complicated for

*(Rabbi Continued on page 5)*

### **WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!**

If you or anyone you know is ill or in need of support, please let our Bikur Cholim (Compassionate Care) Committee know!

Contact Michelle Grossman  
at [rickandmichelle360@gmail.com](mailto:rickandmichelle360@gmail.com)  
or Joanna in the office.

### **Security Update**

*Adam Finkelstein*  
*President*



As many of you know, the safety and security of our members, families, and children has been a top priority for me since I first joined the board. It was really the first initiative I got involved with and since then I have written about it here and elsewhere, while also discussing it in my remarks to the congregation on the High Holidays.

This past High Holiday season, I said that when we came together at the same time next year, we would have both the remodeled religious school that we have worked towards for the last few years as well as a new, state of the art, security system with video access of our entire building.

Admittedly, I did this very intentionally, to publicly hold the board, and most of all myself, accountable to that goal.

Today, I'm pleased to report that we have signed a contract to install that very system. I won't lay out all of the specifics in this setting, but suffice it to say, we will have constant surveillance and video feed of every room, entrance, and exit in our building, so

*(President Continued on page 3)*

**JOIN US ON  
MARCH 3, 2024 AT 11:30 AM  
IN THE NESTER CENTER 16 BROAD ST. MIDDLETOWN  
TO WATCH:**

# **UConn MENS GAME VS SETON HALL**



**Snacks will be available for munching  
RSVP to the synagogue 860-346-4709 or  
[office@adathisraelct.org](mailto:office@adathisraelct.org) by February 28th.**

(President Continued from page 1)

that in the case of any emergency we are able to respond in the safest and quickest way possible.

Of course, this will not be the end of our efforts to increase our security and well-being, but a notable improvement on where we've been to this point, and only made possible because of the progress we've made over the years.

I'd like to thank John Colangelo, the Community Security Director for the Jewish Federation of Greater Hartford, for all of his help over the years. John has conducted two different assessments of our property in recent years, helped to secure police coverage for major services, led three training courses in our building, and, because of our increased commitment to our security, recommended us for a grant writing program back in 2021 that we ultimately received. That grant reward will reimburse us for the entirety of this new video system.

I would also like to recognize Carly, who was the president when we first opted to pursue these efforts to improve our security, as well as Rabbi Nelly, Joanna, Anna, and numerous other people within our community who have attended these trainings, been helpful and flexible during building assessments, and will undoubtedly have to continue to accommodate increasingly more work in the weeks and months to come.

Finally, I would like to thank Rebecca Wilansky. While she may no longer be with us, her impact continues to be felt. It was her research and recommendation that ultimately led to the company that will install this system.

### **Did You Know . . .**

**You can drop off nonperishable food for Amazing Grace Food Pantry anytime the synagogue is open.**

**You can also drop off clean & dry redeemable bottles\* & cans.** Funds generated benefit 3 causes:

November—February, Rabbi's Discretionary Fund  
March—June, Sunday Meals Program at St Vincent de Paul

July—October, Lynn Bennett Religious School  
Capital Campaign Fund

From November through February \$24.95 was raised for the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund.

**Bins for food and bottles & cans are outside the office.**

\*Beer bottles must be in their cardboard 6-pack holder.



### ***Books You'll Plow Through***

*During these cold, gray days of winter, it is always a good time to go through your books and find something that you put aside but want to read. It is time to curl up next to a fireplace and take the time to read!*

*Many thanks to all who participated in the discussion of Kantika by Elizabeth Graver on February 6th. This story was based on the life of the author's grandmother who does not give up, and fights for what she feels is right for her family and herself despite challenges, disappointments and loss. I could not help but wonder how many of us would do the same.*

*The book selection for the March 19th meeting is Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride. This is a murder mystery that takes place in a small town and captures a rapidly changing country, as seen through the eyes of the recently arrived (Jewish, Black and European immigrants) and the formerly enslaved. Find out why everyone is talking about this book!*

*The Book Club meetings are held at The Nester Center at 7 p.m. as well as via Zoom. We are using a hybrid model so that more people can participate. Come join us!*

**Meeting ID: 886 4652 0065**

**Passcode: 196174**

**Happy Reading!**

**ROBERTA and HOLLY**

**Roberta Levine Glass, [rjlevine610@gmail.com](mailto:rjlevine610@gmail.com), 302-593-7581 (cell)**

**Holly Simon, [hfpsimon@icloud.com](mailto:hfpsimon@icloud.com), 860-395-8989**





# — JEWS OF THE WORLD \* SPEAKER SERIES \* —

## SUNDAYS 4 PM

Adath Israel is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom Meeting  
for an international journey exploring Judaism  
around the world.

Discover how communities and individuals  
deal with their own challenges and joys of being Jewish.



**3/3/24 - Paraguay: Mijal Kohan**



**3/31/24 – Uganda: Jonathan Mwosuko**



**4/28/24 – Sweden: Rabbi Jeremy Gerber**

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87665535045?pwd=VnhZZkR5TzlxeG9KbzE0Y3l4SGxEZz09>

Meeting ID: 876 6553 5045

Passcode: 994884

(Rabbi Continued from page 1)

kids. It involves philosophy. It involves questioning and seeking, while acknowledging that the answers will probably never be found, at least not in final form. It involves inward inquiry and self-sacrifice, not to mention deep and serious questions about life and its meanings. And looking at the same text in five different ways. And did I mention dealing with laws that can be at once malleable and strict? That's all hard stuff - not exactly kindergarten-level.

It's a well-known irony that many Jewish families stop their synagogue involvement at exactly the moment when the kids begin to be able to appreciate Judaism on a more mature level – as soon as the bar or bat mitzvah happens. This is very similar to a person who would get involved with a sport and quit just as the training ends – just before the season begins. So it comes with no surprise that many Jews are often dissatisfied with their religious experience; they missed the good part – both as parents and as children.

Going back to Purim, take a moment to look more closely to its four specific *mitzvot* (commandments). These *mitzvot* not only enhance the Purim experience, but also carry profound lessons for us as individuals and as a community.

**1. Megillah Reading:** The primary *mitzvah* of Purim is the public reading of the Book of Esther, known as the Megillah. This tradition serves as a powerful reminder of the miraculous events that unfolded in Shushan. As we gather to listen attentively to the Megillah, let us open our hearts to the nuances of the narrative: there is the cowardice and the courage of Esther, the resilience and stubbornness of Mordechai, and the question regarding whether the king is a manipulated drunken fool or a master manipulator. Haman, the antagonist of the story, is more than a mere caricature of evil; he is a manifestation of the potential for hatred that exists within us all. As we celebrate the downfall of Haman, we are reminded of the ongoing struggle to overcome the forces of intolerance and prejudice in our own lives. The narrative unfolds in a way that blurs the lines between heroes and villains, inviting us to consider the complexities of human nature.

**2. Mishloach Manot:** Purim encourages us to strengthen the bonds of community through the mitzvah of *Mishloach Manot*, the exchange of food gifts. Sharing the joy of Purim through thoughtful and

heartfelt gestures, reinforcing that our community is warm and caring, is incredibly important. *Mishloach manot* are the vehicle for love within a community.

**3. Matanot La'evyonim:** Which leads us to love to the other - *Matanot La'evyonim*, giving gifts to the needy. This *mitzvah* underscores the importance of social justice and compassion in our dealings with the larger community of Middletown. As we celebrate our own deliverance and material comforts, the fact that our gifts to each other contain extra delicious things that are not just basic food, we can't forget that there are those who face challenges every day. This *mitzvah* is supposed to cover a decent meal for two different people – you can certainly go online during Purim and give to institutions such as Mazon, Masbia or Saint Vincent dePaul. Through acts of charity, we can make the spirit of Purim come alive, ensuring that the joy we experience is paid forward.

**4. Mishteh:** Completing the quartet of Purim *mitzvot* is the festive meal, called *Mishteh* or *Seudat Purim*. No, it is not a coincidence that all those *mitzvot* begin with the letter *Mem* – one that goes both outward and inward. The *Mishteh* is a celebratory feast that brings our community together, providing an opportunity to share laughter, joy, and gratitude. May we recognize that the act of coming together is itself a *mitzvah* that strengthens the bonds of our community.

As we prepare ourselves for Purim and its *mitzvot*, let us do so with intention and mindfulness, recognizing their deeper significance. And if some of what is written above was a little opaque, if you feel that your knowledge of Judaism is lacking, there are choices. You can either repeat the patterns of the past, and be satisfied with not knowing, and be satisfied with giving your children a Judaism that is just “for them”. Or you can do yourself a favor: Download a podcast. Attend a class such as “Embracing Judaism”, which is a great course offered in the West Hartford area. Read or listen to a book such as [Here All Along](#) by Sarah Hurwitz. Do something to stimulate your Jewish mind, your Jewish growth, your own deepening of your search for meaning and the reasons behind things we do as Jews. You might be surprised that, by breaking the cycle of pediatric Judaism, your own Jewish life is transformed.

Warmly,

Rabbi Nelly Altenburger





**A NEW PROGRAM AFTER  
SERVICES ONCE A MONTH**

**THE BREAKFAST BUNCH  
COMMUNITY WITH A SCHMEAR!**

**MONDAY, MARCH 4TH**

Following morning minyan join  
us for breakfast at Perk on Main, Middletown  
Please note: while the great conversation is  
free, participants are responsible  
for what they order.

**[WWW.ADATHISRAELCT.ORG](http://WWW.ADATHISRAELCT.ORG)**

## TIKKUN OLAM OPPORTUNITIES

# Ways You Can Help



Mosaic United. This is a site where you can get informed on ways to combat antisemitism and anti-Zionism online and offline. <https://mosaicunited.org/>

Bonot Alternativa. The aforementioned group helping women directly impacted by the war. They have 100,000 volunteers to open ad hoc community-care centers for the displaced. <https://www.bonot.org/aid-israel>

Brothers and Sisters in Arms. All donations go toward procuring and distributing supplies to civilians and security personnel in the conflict zones. <https://www.ahimlaneshkek.org/donate-2023>

UnXeptable. The pro-democracy protest group founded by Israeli expatriates in Silicon Valley is seeking volunteers to host Israelis who are stuck abroad, organizing Bring Them Home rallies for the hostages and highlighting organizations seeking donations. [unxeptable.org/crisis](http://unxeptable.org/crisis)

Magen David Adom. Donations support paramedics, EMTs, first responders and first-aid providers in Israel. [afmda.org](http://afmda.org)

United Hatzalah. This nonprofit, fully volunteer emergency medical service organization provides help throughout Israel free of charge. [israelrescue.org](http://israelrescue.org)

ERAN: Emotional First Aid. The group runs a 24-hour crisis hotline for mental health emergencies in Israel. [en.eran.org.il](http://en.eran.org.il)

Israel Trauma Coalition. The organization and its member groups, especially ERAN and NATAL, have expanded their mental health crisis services due to the large number of requests for help. [israeltraumacoalition.org/en](http://israeltraumacoalition.org/en)

NATAL. Israel Trauma Center for Victims of Terror and War. This Israeli organization offers mental health treatment for PTSD and other trauma related to war and terror. [natal.org.il/en](http://natal.org.il/en)

The Jewish Agency's Fund for the Victims of Terror. Your donation will directly help Israelis affected by terror attacks: <https://www.jewishagency.org/>

Friends of Israeli Defense Forces. Critical Needs that your gift to FIDF can go toward: temporary field hospitals, intensive care ambulances, hygiene kits, plasma kits: <https://www.fidf.org/>

IsraAid. Founded in 2001, IsraAid is the largest humanitarian aid organization based in Israel: <https://www.israaid.org/>

### Office Hours

Monday: 7:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
Tuesday: 7:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
Wednesday: 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.  
Thursday: 7:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.  
Friday: 7:30 a.m.-Noon

The office is closed weekends, legal holidays, and Jewish holy days.

### ADATH ISRAEL ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS

The Scholarship Committee of Adath Israel is pleased to announce that the Application Forms and Rules and Regulation Guidelines for the Annual Adath Israel Post Secondary School Scholarships are available from the synagogue office beginning in February.

Students who are seniors in high school through graduate school, and whose family meets the membership requirements are encouraged to apply.

All questions concerning the application process should be directed to **Fred Zierler**, Committee Chair at (203) 631-9567 or via email, [fzierler@gmail.com](mailto:fzierler@gmail.com).

Completed applications should be returned to Congregation Adath Israel.



# EARLY RISERS MINYAN

Wednesday, March 6th  
7:00am



Adath Israel

*Celebrate Jewish Life*

**Kiddush breakfast following services**



**JOEL CHASNOFF  
COMES TO ADATH ISRAEL!  
SATURDAY,  
MARCH 16, 2024  
7:30 PM**

Join us for a night of laughs and conversation with American-Israeli comedian and author, Joel Chasnoff. He is a veteran of the IDF and author of multiple books. His most recent book, written with co-author Benji Lovett, **Israel 201: Your Next-Level Guide to The Magic, Mystery and Chaos of Life In The Holy Land** just won the 2023 National Jewish Book Award. This is an up-close look at daily life in Israel, behind the headlines. Refreshments and Book Signing following the program.

Come be together, bring your friends and join us for an evening of comedy and connection!

For more information about getting tickets, visit our website at [www.adathisraelct.org](http://www.adathisraelct.org) or call the office at 860-346-4709.



**Jewish Camp/Israel Trip Scholarships**

The Congregation is blessed with two scholarship funds which provide support for children of members in good standing wishing to send their children to Jewish summer camps or to experience Israel.

Applications for the Maxine Thumim Camp Scholarship and the Dr. Arthur & Gladys Weiss Scholarship are at the end of this issue of *Kolot* and are available from the Synagogue office.

**Kolot Due Date**

Articles for April's *Kolot* must be received by the office by March 4.

**CELEBRATE JEWISH LIFE  
THROUGH PRAYER**

All services are in-person & via Zoom

**Morning Minyan**

Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM

1st Wednesday of the month, 7:00 AM

Sunday, 9:00 AM

**Zoom Info**

Meeting ID: 863 5646 9422 Passcode: 679552

**Shabbat Services**

Friday, 7:00 PM

Monthly Pray-Eat-Sing Services, 6:00 PM

Saturday, 9:30 AM

**Zoom Info**

Meeting ID: 815 6727 3870 Passcode: 474612

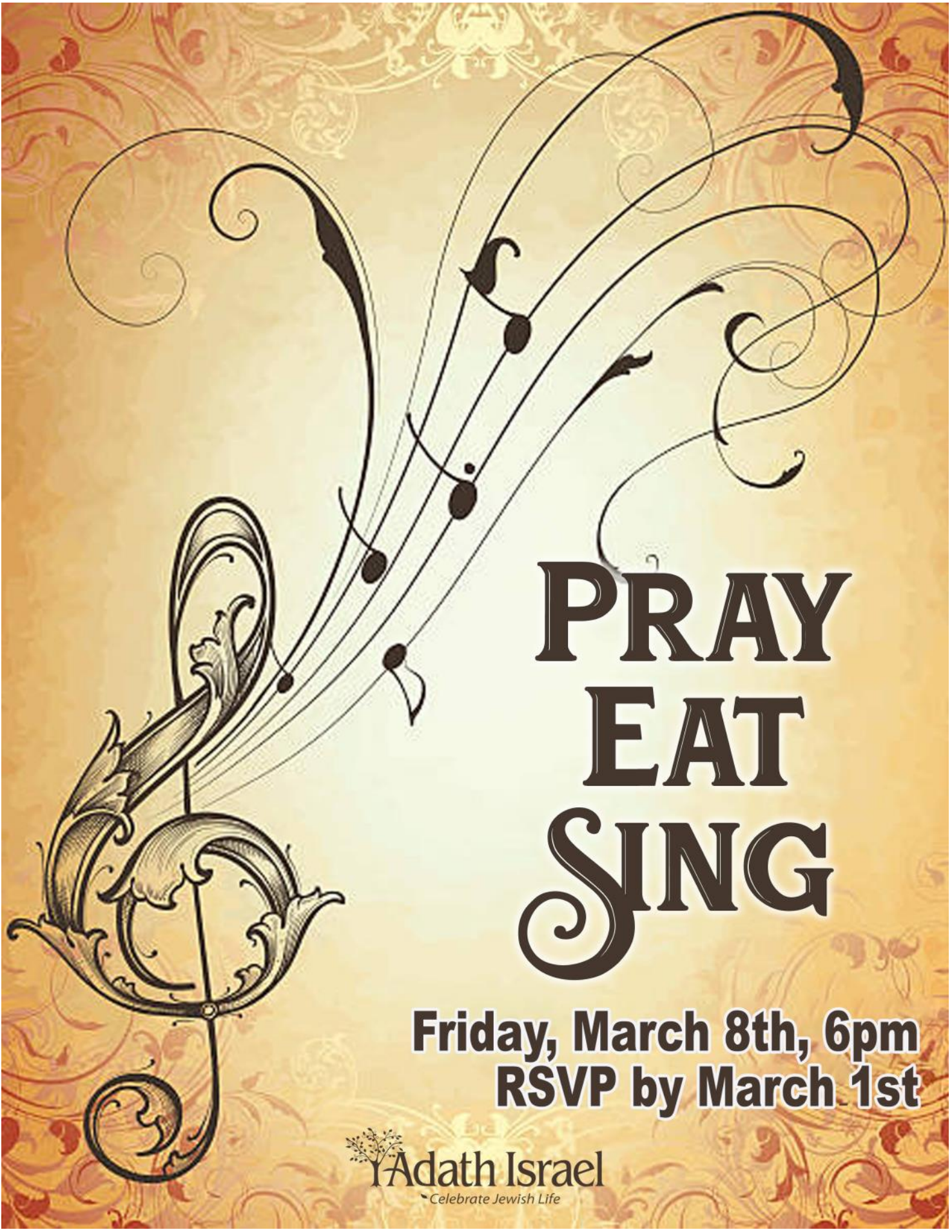
All prayer services at Adath Israel are public events, open to the community as a whole. Members, guests, and other religious seekers who desire the warmth of Jewish prayer and the fellowship of being together are always welcome.

**ADATH ISRAEL  
EMERGENCY  
CANCELTION &  
CLOSING PROCEDURES**

**RELIGIOUS SCHOOL:  
THE PRINCIPAL WILL CONTACT  
STAFF & STUDENTS' FAMILIES  
DIRECTLY.**

**ALL OTHER CANCELTIONS  
& CLOSINGS:**

**CHECK TV CHANNEL WFSB  
(EYEWITNESS 3) OR  
WWW.WFSB.COM.**



# PRAY EAT SING

**Friday, March 8th, 6pm**  
**RSVP by March 1st**

 **Adath Israel**  
Celebrate Jewish Life





(L-R Jonah Young, Michaela Altenburger, Maya Shapiro-Rosado, Ethan Olczak)

## Meet the Religious School's Marvelous Madrichim (Teacher Assistants)

Religious School Madrichim are *dugmaot* (role models) for all of our Religious School Students. They join us every Sunday morning, to learn with Rabbi Nelly and then to help in the school. Our students look up to them, learn from them and can imagine themselves as Jewish teens who can choose to continue to learn and grow in our synagogue community.

I asked our four Madrichim to give us a little insight into their decision to stick around on Sunday mornings, keep learning with Rabbi Nelly and to start teaching our students. Each Madrich/a was asked:

1. Share your High School and Grade
2. What are you involved in, interested in, excited about outside of synagogue life?
3. Why did you choose to stay active in the synagogue's religious school?
4. Can you share one special moment you have had with a student or a group of students that has made an impact on you?

Here is what they said:

### Jonah Young

I am a sophomore at Rocky Hill High School.

I like to play lacrosse and football, as well as, of course, playing video games.

I like the routine, and the bonus of getting paid is pretty nice.

One special moment was when I got to help out during Chanukah. I saw some of the students recreating the Maccabees' victorious fight during a role-playing lesson.

### Michaela Altenburger

I am a freshman at Middletown High School.

Outside of the synagogue, I act, dance, sing, draw, paint, and listen to music.

I chose to stay as an assistant teacher in the religious school because I wanted to get more involved with the synagogue. I also wanted to have more experience with toddlers and young children.

A favorite memory I have with a student is when my students give me hugs and say they missed me.

### Maya Shapiro-Rosado

I am a freshman at Middletown High school.

Outside of the synagogue I play softball, do kung fu and act.

I chose to stay active in the synagogue's religious school, because I always enjoyed coming to Hebrew school when I was a student and I want to give back to my community.

A special moment that I have had was baking Chanukah cookies with a group of students. We had so much fun together and it was one of my favorite days at the synagogue.

### Ethan Olczak

I am a Sophomore at Newington High School.

I am on the Newington High School baseball team.

I had trouble learning Hebrew growing up, as languages were not easy for me. I want to make sure the younger kids have an easier time learning Hebrew using some of the methods that helped me.

Last year, at the Purim Carnival, I had a little 1 vs 1 basketball game with one of my students. We were both really happy to be there and the excitement on his face for every shot was amazing.

We love having our madrichim and are looking forward to them creating wonderful Jewish memories for our students.





**MARCH 16TH**  
**SHABBAT L'CHOL ADAT**  
**9:30AM**

**TOT SHABBAT**  
**11:30AM**

**SHABBAT FOR THE WHOLE COMMUNITY**



## **ADATH ISRAEL DEDICATED FUNDS**

### **ADATH ISRAEL SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

(SOPHIE & JULIUS BARKER, EVELYN & ABRAHAM GROSSMAN, SARAH ZIETZ PIERSON, RABBI ALBERT & ROSALYN TROY, SYLVIA GROSS WASSERMAN, MAX CHEIKIN, BERNIE SEIDON, AND JEAN STERN ARON SCHOLARSHIPS)

Provides scholarships to children of Adath Israel members attending an accredited college, university or school of higher learning

### **DR. ARTHUR & GLADYS WEISS SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Provides scholarships to children of Adath Israel members attending Jewish camp, Jewish content special programs, and trips to Israel

### **BEIT-PALEY FUND**

Supports Torah repair

### **CHEVRA KADISHA**

Supports maintenance and enhancement of the cemetery

### **IN MEMORY OF**

Hyime Paley by

Luanne & Mark Paley

Stewart Paley

Pam Paley

### **ARTHUR & EDYTHE DIRECTOR FAMILY FUND**

Supports music in the ritual, educational, and cultural gatherings at Adath Israel

### **ETERNAL LIGHT FUND**

Supports the general operation of Adath Israel

### **IN MEMORY OF**

Mark Finkelstein by Tina & Mark Loomis

Rebecca Wilansky by Tina & Mark Loomis

### **HOWARD FELDMAN BEAUTIFICATION FUND**

Supports the beautification of our synagogue building and grounds and the Nester Center

### **LYNN BENNETT RELIGIOUS SCHOOL**

#### **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

Supports the upgrade of our religious school

#### **REFUA SH'LEIMA**

Joan Needle by Robin & Marty Levine

Michael Needle by Robin & Marty Levine

### **IN MEMORY OF**

Edward Shoenberger by Joy & Alan Firestone

### **MAXINE THUMIM CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

Provides scholarships to children of Adath Israel members attending Jewish camp or travelling to Israel

### **MICHAEL FASSLER FUND**

Supports early childhood education at Adath Israel

### **MUSEUM FUND**

Supports purchases and maintenance of Adath Israel's museum

### **IN MEMORY OF**

Bernice Grower Bonchi by

Odysseys Unlimited

Barbara Lee

Laurie & Rick Dickerson

Cathy Curtis

Claudia & David Schutz

Lori & Bryan Siegal

### **NATHAN OLSHIN SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE-FUND**

Supports annual scholar-in-residence program

### **IN MEMORY OF**

Julie & Julius Jonas by Bobette Reed & Jeffrey S. Kahn

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

Allows the rabbi to support individuals and causes in our community anonymously

Virginia Zwelling

Alice Weiss

Ben Srulowitz

Ann Louise Cowan

Robin & Marty Levine

### **IN MEMORY OF**

Bernice Bonchi by Jan Cooper

Isaac Stoller by Sandra & Paul Beckman

Bruce Weiss by Sandra & Paul Beckman

Herbert Bichunsky by Steven Bichunsky & Family

### **SANFORD BEIT MINYAN FUND**

Supports the creation and building of community over Kiddush



Come spend the Evening  
with Comedian and Author  
**JOEL CHASNOFF**

Saturday, March 16, 2024  
at 7:30 pm

His most recent book will  
be available for sale  
and signing!



**ADVANCED RESERVATION:**  
**\$25pp until March 1st!**  
**After March 1st:**  
**Only at the door: \$35pp**

Call the synagogue office at (860) 346-4709 to make your advanced reservation.  
Payment by check, credit card or drop off payment at the synagogue.

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

If mailing your payment send to: PO Box 337, Middletown, CT 06457



*(Funds Continued from page 13)*

## SYNAGOGUE FUND

Supports the general operation of Adath Israel  
IN MEMORY OF  
Thelma Cohn by Harriet Fein-Deeton

## YAHREZEIT FUND

Supports the general operation of Adath Israel  
Alan Steele by Gertrude Steele  
Sylvia Korfin by Fran Goldberg  
Robin Weiss by Barbara & Steven Weiss  
Sol Cheerman by Leonard & Natalie Cheerman  
Lee Resnick by Steve Resnick  
Mamie Melton by Steve Resnick  
Arthur Palmer by Michael Palmer  
George Shapiro by Ernest Shapiro  
Ruth & Max Edelberg by June Saltzberg  
Bertha Goldberg Fass by Heidi Geiges & Beth Katz  
Anita Bernstein by Paula Eisner  
Minnie & Bernard Levitt by Arlene Weyler  
Henry Silverman by Edie Simon  
Morris Sheftel by Barry Sheftel  
Louis Hoffman by Ceile Zanoni  
Evelyn Grossman by Henrietta Silverman  
Ruth & Morris Berlind by Allan Berlind  
Adele & Jerry Wettstein by Barbara Sequenzia  
Maurice Lerner by Diane Blum  
Rubin Segal by Claire Segal Sergi  
Joseph Barker by Michael Barker  
Reva Paley by Marvin Hoberman  
Ethel Edelberg Segal by Claire Segal Sergi  
Lori Shapiro by Ernest Shapiro  
Zeddie Handler by Leslie Handler-Stern  
Carolyn Wrubel Magram by Henry & Gayle Wrubel  
Winkler  
Dorothy Ray by Nona & David Horn  
Anita Lief Levine by Marshall Levine  
Gladys Bronstein Grower by Liz Whittaker  
Jules Abraham Grossman Dahlia Grossman  
Leslie Bluman by Susan Mikulski  
Samuel Bluman by Susan Mikulski  
Joseph Zaiantz by Fredda Zaiantz  
Sarah Jabes by Corinne Brodie  
Julius Jonas by Margaret Kahn  
Julie Jonas nee Oppenheimer by Margaret Kahn  
Rebecca Sheftel by Barry Sheftel  
Irene Hopenhajm by Ruth Borsuk



## IT'S NEWS

### MAZAL TOV!!!

Brett Director on being named  
to the Board of Community  
Foundation of Middlesex County  
David Director on being named 2024 Industry Leader  
of the Year by Southington Chamber of Commerce



### TODAH RABAH

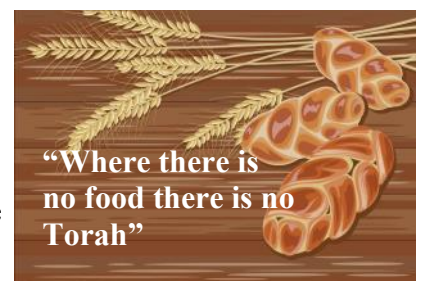
Helping to defray the cost of  
security:  
David Greenblatt

### Other Acts of Kindness

Meals & Shopping: Harriet, Marcey, and Aaron  
Thiela  
Picking up food at the Crown: Fred Zierler, Sam  
Bauer  
Proofreading: Naomi Kamins, Phil Saxe  
Helping with mailings: Anita Hennessey  
Taking care of our eNews and blasts: Eileen Daling  
Washing towels from the kitchen: Joanna Schnurman  
Returning bottles: Eileen & Mike Daling

### Sponsoring a Kiddush

Joy & Alan Firestone  
Jan & Jay Weiss in  
memory of Gloria  
Weiss & Arthur Henle  
Brian Kabatznick in  
memory of Esther  
Kabatznick



### Early Risers Minyan

Scott Levy

### Supporting Pray-Eat-Sing

Harriet, Marcey, and Aaron Thiela  
Kim Anderson  
Naomi & Richard Kamins  
Phil Saxe

*(News Continued on page 17)*

Adults Only

# MEGILLAH READING

Join Us for an Evening of Fun, Food and Friends!

**7:45 pm Havdalah \* 8:00 pm Megillah Reading**

Wine, mocktails, hot & cold hors d'oeuvres, and of course hamantaschen will add to the festivities!

Costumes strongly encouraged!

Suggested donation \$18pp; Patron \$36pp

\*A portion of each donation will go toward the mitzvah of *matanot l'evyonim*, giving support to those who need help.

**March 23rd  
in the  
Nester Center**



 **Adath Israel**  
*Celebrate Jewish Life*

For more info please contact synagogue at 860-346-4709 or [office@adathisraelct.org](mailto:office@adathisraelct.org)





### **SPEEDY RECOVERY**

We'd like to wish a "Refua Shleima" to the following: Shana Adams, Katrina Axelrod, Phyllis Frydenberg, Paula Goldstein, Joan & Michael Needle, Rabbi Marshal Press, David Schwarz, Stephen Shapiro, and Anne Willis

### **MAY GOD GRANT COMFORT**

Our sincerest condolences are extended to the families of

Bernice Grower Bonchi who came to her eternal rest on January 7 (26 tevet)

Irving Wagner who came to his eternal rest on January 31 (22 shevat)

May the bereaved find comfort in our community's support.



### **Compassionate Care A.K.A. Bikur Cholim Committee**

A core value of our Congregation is to provide care to our community.

This care often includes pastoral visits but our scope is much broader.

We can provide visits, calls, cards, transportation, shopping and food assistance, and often more, when we know of the needs. We try to provide emotional support where helpful and connections for those who are isolated by whatever circumstances (alone at home, at a medical facility or nursing home). We do this confidentially and without cost or obligation.

We need your help to identify those who need assistance who we do not know about and the best way to contact them. Please reach out to us with as much information as you can share in confidence so that we can reach out and fulfill our desire to help those in need in our community.

Michelle Grossman is the contact person for Compassionate Care. She can be reached at 203-558-4937 or rickandmichelle360@gmail.com.



Teresa and David Shulman  
Linda and Allen Caplan



David Willis  
Rabbi Michael Kohn  
Mark Kaplan  
Ben Eisner  
Re'ut Ben-Zeev  
Liz Hibino  
Rabbi Michael Leipziger  
Raisa Filler  
Dorothy Kaplan  
Bern Padawer  
Katrina Axelrod  
Louise Feldman  
Alexander Fooy  
Isla Bonito  
Melanie Login  
Andy Bauer  
Robert Baskin  
David Norman  
Darcy Searle  
Shari Turner  
Jan Weiss  
Joan Needle  
David Goodman  
Jonathan Shapiro  
Beth Shapiro  
Laurie O'Brien-Schwarz  
Denis Caron  
Luanne Paley  
Susan Massicott  
Jenna Dickes

Did we leave someone off the list?  
Please call the office, and let us make it right.

 Adath Israel  
™ Celebrate Jewish Life

**Megillah Reading  
and  
PURIM  
CARNIVAL**



**FAMILY ACTIVITIES  
MARCH 24TH**

**Megillah Reading starts at 9 am  
in the Nester Center  
Purim Carnival to follow in the  
large social hall.  
Join us for games, food and fun.**

**FOR MORE INFO CONTACT THE OFFICE AT  
860-346-4709 OR OFFICE@ADATHISRAELCT.ORG**

[WWW.ADATHISRAELCT.ORG](http://WWW.ADATHISRAELCT.ORG)





# St. Vincent de Paul Middletown

MEETING NEEDS, OFFERING HOPE.

Amazing Grace Food Pantry, a ministry of St. Vincent DePaul Middletown, gratefully acknowledges your recent generous donation of 100 pounds of healthy food on behalf of Congregation Adath Israel on 01/24/2024.

Each month, more than 900 families 'shop' at our Amazing Grace food pantry, and over 24,000 food items are distributed free of charge to those families. Your generous contribution helps keep the pantry shelves stocked so that we are able to meet the needs of families in our community.

Whether you bring food to Amazing Grace once a year or every month, please know that your commitment to helping families in need is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Brenda Reilly  
Program Manager  
Amazing Grace Food Pantry

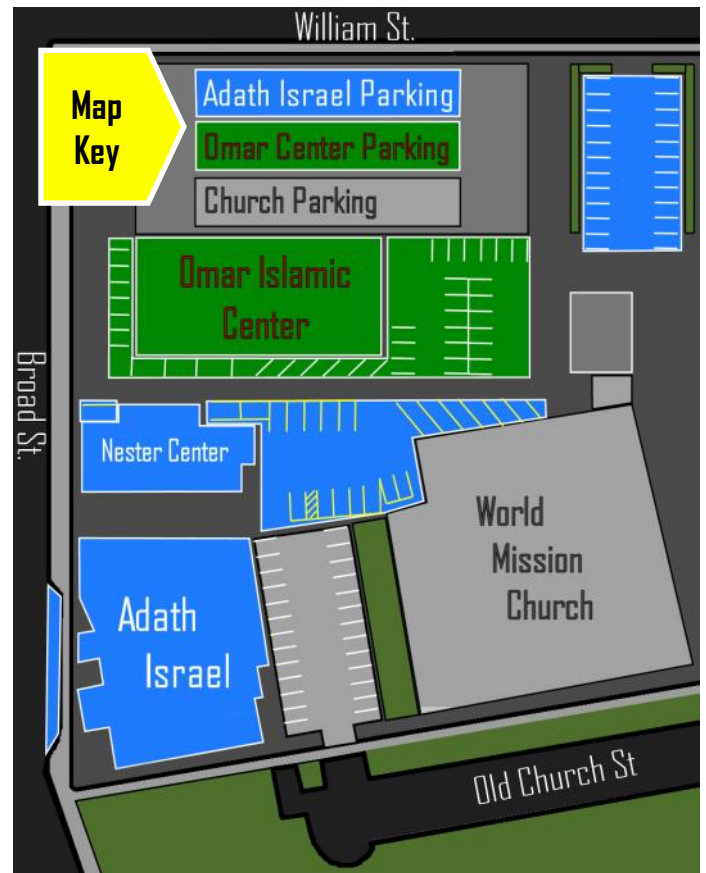
## **PASSOVER – A CHARITABLE TIME ADATH ISRAEL MATZAH/MA'OT HITTIN**

Your donation to The "Matzah Fund" assists those in our community without the means to make Passover a reality. Distribution priority is given to Adath Israel congregants. Any funds in excess of need will be donated to Jewish charities for Passover allocation. All funds are allocated in the strictest of confidence.

Please send all contributions to the office by April 1, 2024, so that distribution can take place prior to Passover.

Finally, if you know of any families or persons that require some assistance, please contact Joanna at [office@adathisraelct.org](mailto:office@adathisraelct.org) or 860-346-4709.

Again, all communications will be handled in the strictest of confidence.



## **Parking Update**

To keep everybody up to date with Synagogue parking, please use this guide. The Omar Islamic Center has used white paint to outline their spots, the Adath Israel spots behind the Nester Center are painted yellow, and the World Church spots between our two houses are painted white. Our lot off William St. is used by the City until 5pm each weekday afternoon, and is for our use evenings and weekends.

**Thank You** in advance for being courteous to our neighbors, and for passing along this information should you have guests attending an Adath Israel function.

## **March Dates in Jewish History**

- 3/8 Ben Gurion & Israel's First Government take office (1949).
- 3/12 Jabotinsky & Trumpeldor form the Jewish Legion (1915).
- 3/18 First ever bat mitzvah in the United States (1922).
- 3/26 Israel & Egypt sign peace treaty on White House lawn (1979).
- 3/28 IDF Aid delegation arrives in Japan after Tsunami (2011).

From the Jewish Virtual Library

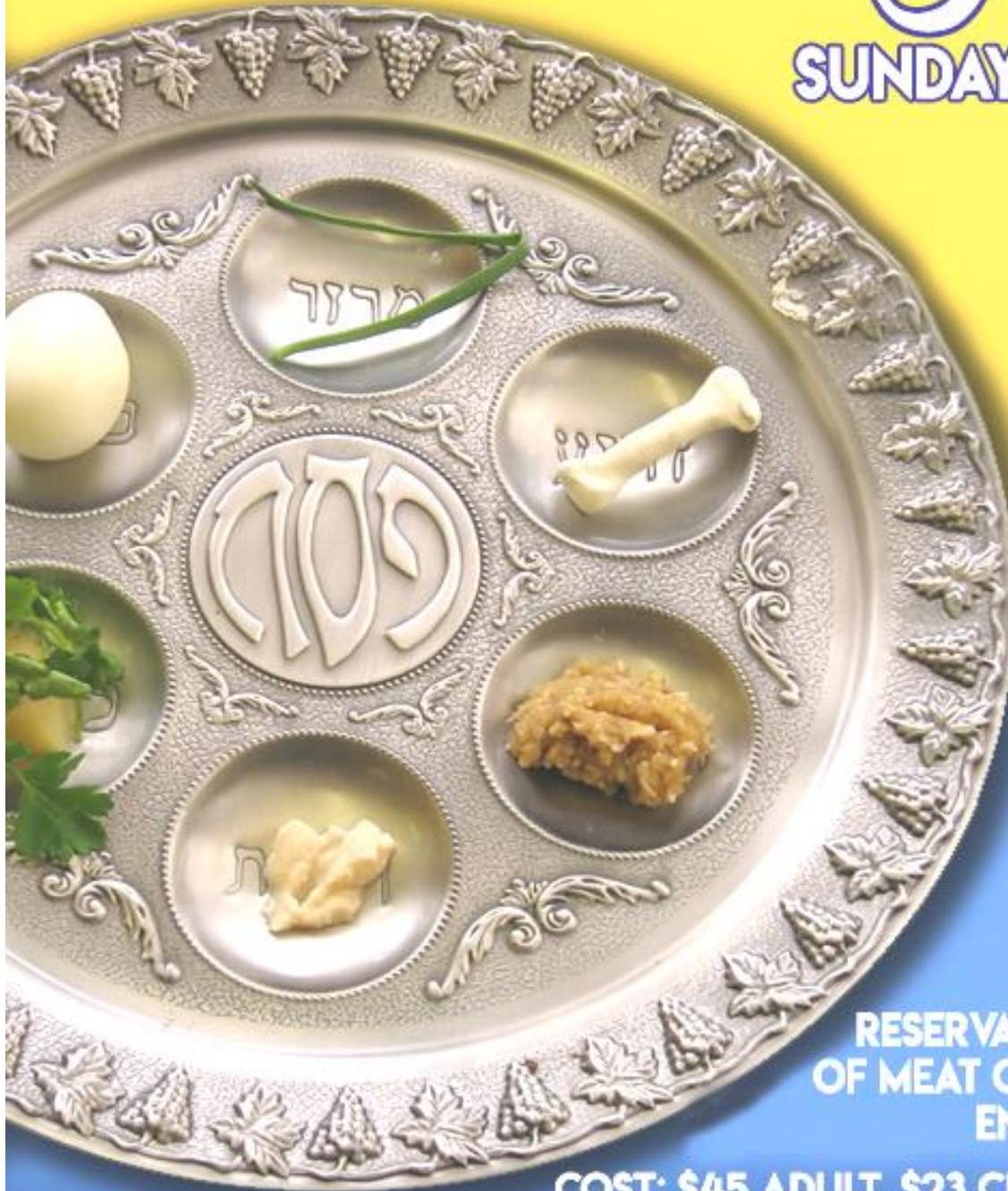


# COMMUNITY SEDER

**SUNDAY, APRIL 28**

**5:30 PM**

**RSVP BY  
APRIL 1**



**RESERVATION & CHOICE  
OF MEAT OR VEGETARIAN  
ENTRÉE REQUIRED**

**COST: \$45 ADULT, \$23 CHILD: AGES 5-12**

**CHILD UNDER 5 FREE**

**\$125 MAX FAMILY (PARENTS/GUARDIAN WITH MINOR CHILDREN)**

**For more information or to RSVP contact  
OFFICE@ADATHISRAELCT.ORG or 860-346-4709**





## **“Train Yourself to Always Show Up”**

Opinion, Guest Essay, New York Times, January 19, 2024

*By Sharon Brous*

Rabbi Brous is the founding and senior rabbi of Ikar, a Jewish community based in Los Angeles, and the author of “The Amen Effect.”

A somewhat obscure text, about 2,000 years old, has been my unlikely teacher and guide for the past many years, and my north star these last several months, as so many of us have felt as if we’ve been drowning in an ocean of sorrow and helplessness.

Buried deep within the Mishnah, a Jewish legal compendium from around the third century, is an ancient practice reflecting a deep understanding of the human psyche and spirit: When your heart is broken, when the specter of death visits your family, when you feel lost and alone and inclined to retreat, you show up. You entrust your pain to the community.

The text, [Middot 2:2](#), describes a pilgrimage ritual from the time of the Second Temple. Several times each year, hundreds of thousands of Jews would ascend to Jerusalem, the center of Jewish religious and political life. They would climb the steps of the Temple Mount and enter its enormous plaza, turning to the right en masse, circling counterclockwise.

Meanwhile, the brokenhearted, the mourners (and here I would also include the lonely and the sick), would make this same ritual walk but they would turn to the left and circle in the opposite direction: every step against the current.

And each person who encountered someone in pain would look into that person’s eyes and inquire: “What happened to you? Why does your heart ache?”

“My father died,” a person might say. “There are so many things I never got to say to him.” Or perhaps: “My partner left. I was completely blindsided.” Or: “My child is sick. We’re awaiting the test results.”

Those who walked from the right would offer a blessing: “May the Holy One comfort you,” they would say. “You are not alone.” And then they would continue to walk until the next person approached.

This timeless wisdom speaks to what it means to be human in a world of pain. This year, you walk the path of the anguished. Perhaps next year, it will be me. I hold your broken heart knowing that one day you will hold mine.

And on your good days — the days when you can breathe — show up then, too. Because the very fact of seeing those who are walking against the current, people who can barely hold on, and asking, with an open heart, “Tell me about your sorrow,” may be the deepest affirmation of our humanity, even in terribly inhumane times.

It is an expression of both love and sacred responsibility to turn to another person in her moment of deepest anguish and say: “Your sorrow may scare me, it may unsettle me. But I will not abandon you. I will meet your grief with relentless love.”

We cannot magically fix one another’s broken hearts. But we can find each other in our most vulnerable moments and wrap each other up in a circle of care. We can humbly promise each other, “I can’t take your pain away, but I can promise you won’t have to hold it alone.”

Showing up for one another doesn’t require heroic gestures. It means training ourselves to approach, even when our instinct tells us to withdraw. It means picking up the phone and calling our friend or colleague who is suffering. It means going to the funeral and to the house of mourning. It also means going to the wedding and to the birthday dinner. Reach out in your strength, step forward in your vulnerability. Err on the side of presence.

Small, tender gestures remind us that we are not helpless, even in the face of grave human suffering. We maintain the ability, even in the dark of night, to find our way to one another. We need this, especially now.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/01/19/opinion/religion-ancient-text-judaism.html>

### **Famous Jews with March Birthdays**

**3/2 Sholem Aleichem (1859)**

**3/6 Alan Greenspan (1926)**

**3/9 Bobby Fischer (1943)**

**3/12 Jake Tapper (1969)**

**3/14 Albert Einstein (1879)**

**3/15 Ruth Bader Ginsburg (1933)**

**3/16 Henny Youngman (1906)**

**3/17 Katie Ledecy (1997)**

**3/19 Harvey Weinstein (1952)**

**3/20 Emily Solis-Cohen (1886)**

**3/22 William Shatner (1931)**

**3/26 Leonard Nimoy (1931)**

**3/28 Swifty Lazar (1907)**

**3/31 Barney Frank (1940)**



# **Torah Study with Rabbi Nelly**

## **via Zoom**

**Every Wednesday - 10:30 AM**

**Zoom ID 837 9879 1910, Passcode 963942**

**Every Thursday - 6:00 PM**

**Zoom ID 887 326 428, Password 827527**

### **Zoom info:**

#### **Shabbat Services:**

**Friday at 7 p.m. and Saturday at 9:30 a.m.**

**— Meeting ID: 815 6727 3870**

**— Meeting Passcode: 474612**

#### **Daily Minyan:**

**Sunday at 9 a.m. and Monday-Friday at 8 a.m.**

**— Meeting ID: 863 5646 9422**

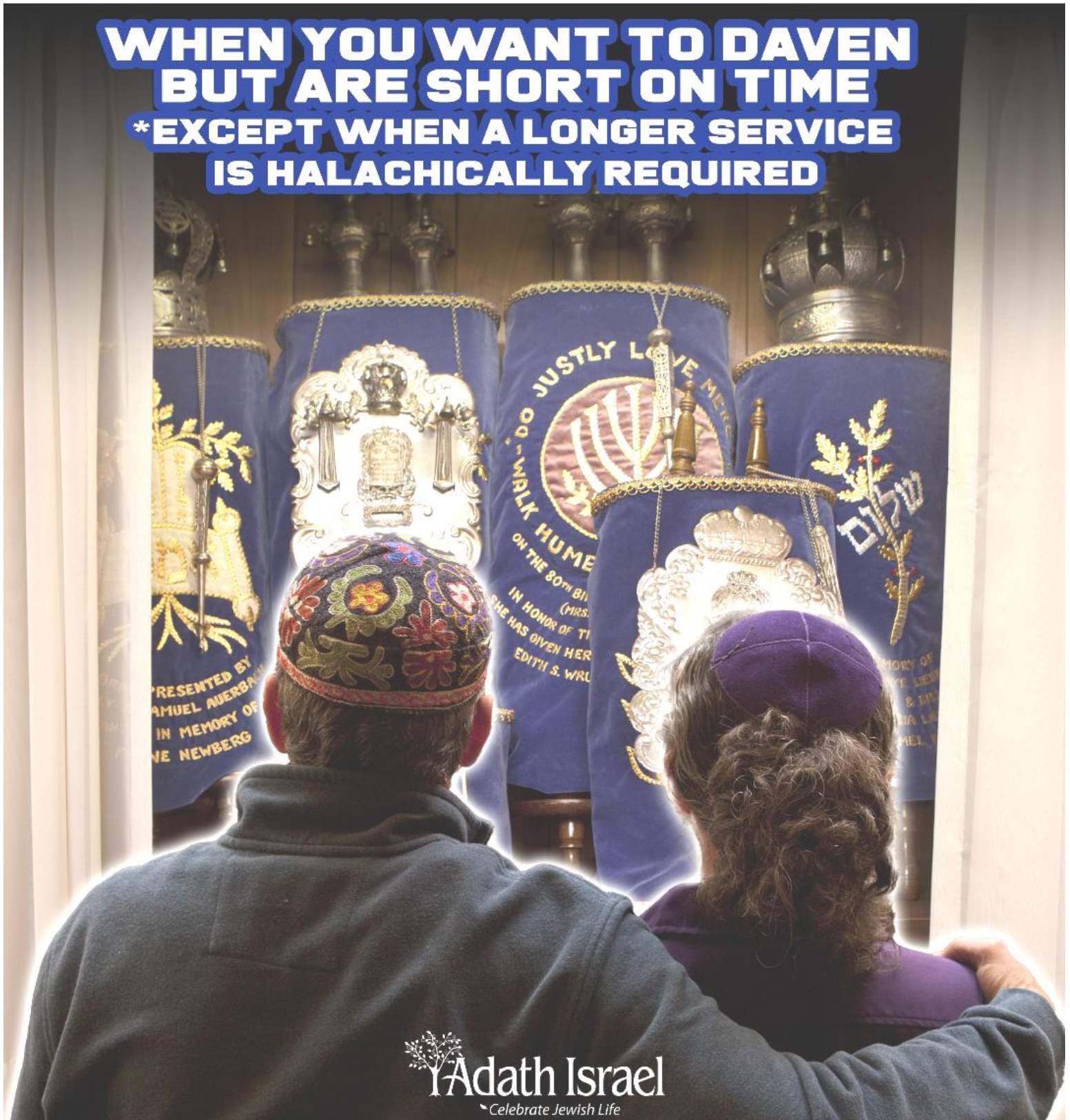
**— Meeting Passcode: 679552**

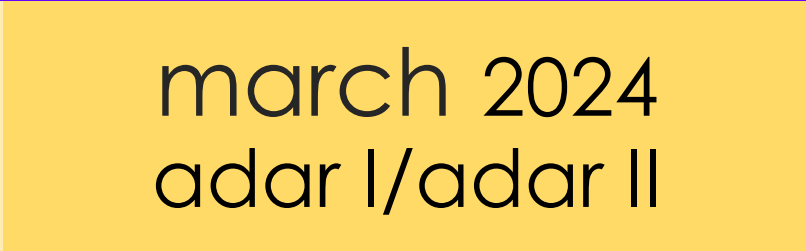


# EXPRESS MINYAN

EVERY WEDNESDAY 8:00AM\*

**WHEN YOU WANT TO DAVEN  
BUT ARE SHORT ON TIME  
\*EXCEPT WHEN A LONGER SERVICE  
IS HALACHICALLY REQUIRED**









# april 2024

## adar II/nisan

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
* Candle Lighting Time for Middletown, CT	1 <b>RSVP Deadline for Community Seder</b> 8 a.m. Minyan  <b>22 adar II</b>	2 8 a.m. Minyan 11 a.m. Mah Jongg 12:30 p.m. Mah Jongg 7:30 p.m. Al Anon  <b>23 adar II</b>	3 7 a.m. Early Risers Minyan 10:30 a.m. Torah Study, w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom 4 p.m. Religious School  <b>24 adar II</b>	4 8 a.m. Minyan 6 p.m. Torah Study, w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom  <b>25 adar II</b>	5 8 a.m. Minyan 7 p.m. Shabbat Evening Services  *7:02 p.m.  <b>26 adar II</b>	6 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Services  <i>Shemini Shabbat HaChodesh</i> <b>27 adar II</b>
7 <b>No Religious School or Mazel Tots</b> 9 a.m. Minyan  <b>28 adar II</b>	8 <b>May Kolot Articles Due</b> 8 a.m. Minyan  <b>29 adar II</b>	9 8 a.m. Minyan 11 a.m. Mah Jongg 12:30 p.m. Mah Jongg 7:30 p.m. Al Anon  <b>Rosh Chodesh 1 nisan</b>	10 <b>No Religious School</b> 8 a.m. Minyan 10:30 a.m. Torah Study, w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom  <b>2 nisan</b>	11 8 a.m. Minyan 6 p.m. Torah Study, w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom  <b>3 nisan</b>	12 8 a.m. Minyan 7 p.m. Shabbat Evening Services  *7:10 p.m.  <b>4 nisan</b>	13 9:30 a.m. Shabbat L'chol Adat Morning Services 11:30 a.m. Tot Shabbat  <i>Tazria</i> <b>5 nisan</b>
14 <b>No Religious School or Mazel Tots</b> 9 a.m. Minyan 9:30 am JWV Brunch  <b>6 nisan</b>	15 8 a.m. Minyan 7 p.m. Board of Directors Mtg  <b>7 nisan</b>	16 8 a.m. Minyan 11 a.m. Mah Jongg 12:30 p.m. Mah Jongg 7:30 p.m. Al Anon  <b>8 nisan</b>	17 8 a.m. Minyan 4 p.m. Religious School  <b>9 nisan</b>	18 8 a.m. Minyan 6 p.m. Torah Study, w/ Rabbi Nelly, Zoom  <b>Yom HaAliya 10 nisan</b>	19 8 a.m. Minyan 7 p.m. Shabbat Evening Services  *7:18 p.m.  <b>11 nisan</b>	20 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Services  <i>Metzora</i> <b>Shabbat HaGadol 12 nisan</b>
21 9 a.m. Minyan 9 a.m. Religious School 10:30 a.m. Mazel Tots  <b>13 nisan</b>	22 7 a.m. Minyan & Siyyum  *7:21 p.m.  1st Seder <b>Erev Pesach 14 nisan</b>	23 <b>Office closed</b> <b>No Mah Jongg</b> <b>No Al Anon</b> 8 a.m. Festival Morning Service  *8:25 p.m.  <b>Pesach I 15 nisan</b>	24 <b>Office closed</b> <b>No Religious School</b> <b>No Torah Study</b> 8 a.m. Festival Morning Service  <b>Pesach II 16 nisan</b>	25 <b>No Torah Study</b> 8 a.m. Minyan  <b>Intermediate Day 17 nisan</b>	26 8 a.m. Minyan 7 p.m. Shabbat Evening Services  *7:25 p.m.  <b>Intermediate Day 18 nisan</b>	27 9:30 a.m. Shabbat L'chol Adat Morning Services 11:30 a.m. Tot Shabbat  <b>Pesach Intermediate Day 19 nisan</b>
28 9 a.m. Minyan 9 a.m. Religious School 10:30 a.m. Mazel Tots 4 p.m. Jews of the World 5:30 p.m. Community Seder  <b>Intermediate Day 20 nisan</b>	29 <b>Office closed</b> 8 a.m. Minyan  <b>Pesach VIII 21 nisan</b>	30 <b>Office closed</b> <b>No Mah Jongg</b> <b>No Al Anon</b> 8 a.m. Festival Morning Service  *8:33 p.m. Havdalah  <b>Yizkor Pesach VIII 22 nisan</b>				







## **Dr. Arthur and Gladys Weiss Scholarship Application**

Dr. Arthur Weiss, a Past President of Temple B'nai Abraham, and his wife Gladys were long-time, extremely active, and dedicated members of Temple B'nai Abraham. They established this scholarship to encourage Jewish youth to participate in Jewish activities such as camps, Jewish content special programs, and trips to Israel. Individuals may contribute to this fund to help perpetuate the memory and interest of the Weiss's. Open to Jewish children elementary school age through high school whose parent(s)/guardian(s) are members in good standing of Adath Israel, this scholarship award is based on applicant's involvement in Congregation activities, the Jewish nature/content of the program, and financial need.

**Complete and return to Adath Israel by April 30, 2024**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of years your parent(s)/guardian(s) have been members of Temple B'nai Abraham/Adath Israel \_\_\_\_\_

Please respond to the following:

A. Identify the program for which you are requesting a scholarship. Explain the Jewish content of the program (printed literature and/or a website link is required).

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B. Why did you choose this program, and what do you hope to gain from attending it (both Jewish and otherwise)?

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**Dr. Arthur and Gladys Weiss Scholarship Application (cont.)**

C. What is the length and total cost of the program? (Do not include transportation, clothing, personal items, etc.)

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D. If you are 16 years or older, please answer: How much of the total cost are you planning to contribute? How are you going to earn it?

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E. Tell us about your involvement in recent Congregation activities and when the activities took place. College students: please specify your Congregation activities and Jewish activities you are engaged in while in college.

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F. Discuss any additional thoughts you have as to why you should be awarded a Weiss Scholarship.

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Signature

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Date



## Thumim Scholarship Funded by Mark and Luanne Paley An Investment in our Jewish Future

The Thumim Scholarship is pleased to announce camp scholarships are available again this year to Adath Israel families whose children will attend Jewish camp or travel to Israel. Multiple studies show the Jewish camp experience provides long term positive effects on Jewish identity and other life choices. During their lifetime, the Thumims, longtime members of Adath Israel, provided funds for these camp scholarships. Since their deaths, the camp scholarships have relied on individual donations, largely raised in honor of our Volunteer(s) of the Year. Last year and going forward into the future, Mark and Luanne Paley have committed to help fund these scholarships with a significant donation. Individual donors are still needed to maximize the number of families this scholarship can assist. Please consider donating to the Thumim Scholarship throughout the year whenever you send a card, observe a yahrtzeit, celebrate a life cycle event or to honor the Volunteer(s) this year in the fall.

### THE THUMIM SCHOLARSHIP FUNDED BY MARK AND LUANNE PALEY APPLICATION

Please note: only members current in their obligations to the synagogue are eligible to receive scholarship.

To be considered for a scholarship, please complete the application below and return it to the Synagogue office by April 30, 2024. Awards are based on the number of applications and funds available. Camps/Israel financial statements are required with this application to process the request.

CHILD'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF CAMP: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

DATES OF ATTENDANCE: \_\_\_\_\_

COST OF CAMP: \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT OF CAMP NOT COVERED BY OTHER STIPENDS: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE ATTACH COPY OF BILLING STATEMENT.

REMINDER!! SUBMIT THIS APPLICATION TO THE OFFICE BY APRIL 30, 2024.



Contact information

Phone: 860-346-4709

Email: [office@adathisraelct.org](mailto:office@adathisraelct.org)

Website: [www.adathisraelct.org](http://www.adathisraelct.org)