

KOL SHOFAR

Temple Chayai Shalom

January / February 2019
Tevet / Adar I 5779



UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM
האיחוד הרפורמי
SERVING REFORM CONGREGATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

Rabbi **Kenneth Carr**
Cantorial Soloist
David Rothberg
Education Director
Sarit Ferreira
Rabbi Emeritus
Rabbi Paul Levenson



Service Schedule

January

Friday, January 4th
5:30 pm Tot Shabbat
7:30 pm Shabbat Service

Friday, January 11th
6:30 pm Family Service
Tof-fillah Drum Circle Style

Friday, January 18th
7:30 pm MLK Shabbat

Friday, January 25th
7:30 pm Hippie Shabbat

February

Friday, February 1st
5:30 pm Tot Shabbat
7:30 pm Shabbat Service

Friday, February 8th
6:30 pm Family Service
Sweet Shabbat

Friday, February 15th
7:30 pm Shabbat Service

Friday, February 22nd
7:30 pm Shabbat Service

Making mitzvoth meaningful to students and our community...

For Mitzvah Day, members of all ages joined as a community to create, cook, sort, and pack for various organizations in need! We packed over 100 backpacks full of warm clothing as well as packed toiletries for the homeless, made fleece scarves and hats, cooked meals for families in need, and decorated and packed "Birthday Boxes." We made toys for cats and dogs, sorted and shelved food at two local food pantries and raked leaves at the Sheep Pasture! We enjoyed some snacks, and most importantly – the company of each other as we not only helped those in need, but built community here at TCS. Well done and THANK YOU to everyone who participated!



March 9th

Progressive Dinner

Save the date...

Back by popular demand!



You can still celebrate Chanukah... and help sustain the temple!

Donate to the Chanukah Appeal by December 31st... and help raise \$10,000 for our students!

Maybe you have already exchanged gifts this season... but if you haven't already given to the Chanukah Appeal, there's one more gift that will make a big difference to the lives of our students!

Your gift – of any amount – will help fund the Learning Center Coordinator, who ensures that learning is accessible and appropriate for all our students. Your gift will also fund our project-based learning program that gives our students a better understanding of Jewish values and a deeper connection to the Jewish community.

Thanks to generous temple families, we have already raised \$7,250!

Many thanks to everyone who has already given to the Chanukah Appeal... If you haven't given yet, I hope you will consider a gift before December 31st. Just send a check to the temple or go to chayaishalom.org/2019-chanukah-donation.

Thank you!

Judy Lehrer Jacobs, President

Thurs. January 3rd & February 7th at 11:30 am

Tucci's Talks with Rabbi Ken

Join Rabbi Ken for informal learning over lunch at Bertucci's in Mansfield Crossing. Each session will be organized around a theme – something in the news or relevant on the Jewish calendar.

Friday, January 11th at 6:30 pm

Shabbat Evening Family Service: Tof-fillah Drum Circle Style

The Psalms tell us to praise God “with a joyful noise.” We'll be doing just that at this Drum Circle-style Family Shabbat service. As Psalm 150 says, we “praise God with drum and dance” and with “crashing cymbals;” we'll use hand drums and percussion to add a truly exciting degree of ruach (spirit) to our prayers. The Hebrew word for drum is Tof, so we named this with a pun: Tof-fillah.

Friday, January 18th at 5:30 pm

Torah Talk/Potluck Shabbat Dinner

Join us for an always delicious potluck Shabbat dinner (bring a dairy or vegetarian dish to share), as we have a lively discussion leading us into Martin Luther King Shabbat. This week we'll explore the biblical and Jewish sources in Martin Luther King's “I Have a Dream” speech, which has been set up for study as a page of Talmud.

Friday, January 18th at 7:30 pm

Martin Luther King Shabbat

Join us for an inspiring service honoring the legacy of Martin Luther King. The service will feature reflections from participants in the multi-congregational Civil Right trip, as well as Kol Shalom singing inspiring African American spirituals and other songs of peace, freedom and hope.

Friday, January 25th at 7:30 pm

Hippie Shabbat

Groovy ones! Wondering how the “Hebrew Hippies” will be leading our Shabbat pray-in on Friday, January 25th? How about with songs by the Beatles, the Monkees, the Mamas and the Papas, the Doors, and Bob Dylan? So truck on down to TCS on Friday, January 25th at 7:30 pm for peace, love and prayers set to some of the greatest songs in classic rock! And don't forget that the Hebrew Hippies would love to see you in your hippie outfit!

Friday, February 8th at 6:30 pm

Sweet Shabbat Family Service

Experience the sweetness of Shabbat with a special “sweet treat” Seder as we explore the meaning of the prayers in some unexpected, albeit delicious ways. Don't miss this fun, interactive and educational service. You'll never look at the Friday night service the same again!

Friday, February 22nd at 5:30 pm

Torah Talk/Potluck Shabbat Dinner

While our potluck Shabbat dinner will be vegetarian (bring a dairy or vegetarian dish to share), our discussion will feature calf, of the golden variety. We'll explore Israel's great sin in the wilderness. Just what led them to create a golden calf? How did God and Moses respond? What is the continuing legacy of the event? And what echoes do we find in the stories of the prophets?

A Magical Chanukah Party was a Huge Success!

Sunday, December 2nd, at The Village at Willow Crossings in Mansfield
Thank you to everyone who helped make the day so memorable.



From Rabbi Ken.... All Who are Hungry



Stories permeate Jewish life. Volumes of folktales fill Jewish libraries. Much of the genre of Jewish literature known as midrash consists of stories told to illuminate our tradition. Now, in the middle of winter, as we dream of the coming spring, we look to-

ward the spring holiday whose primary means of celebration is the recounting of a story: Passover. At the seder, we retell (the word *haggadah* means "telling") the story of our ancestors' bondage in Egypt and their miraculous liberation, their transformation from Pharaoh's slaves into God's covenant partners, their journey from degradation to dignity.

These two elements of Passover intertwine most tightly in the primary symbol of the holiday: matzah. Matzah recalls simultaneously our freedom and our oppression. We emphasize the different messages at different times during the seder. In the middle of the seder, we ask, "What is the purpose of this matzah?" The Haggadah answers that we eat it because our ancestors left Egypt so suddenly that they did not have time to bake leavened bread. Their wonder as they first discovered liberation, their celebratory dance on the far side of the Sea of Reeds, their songs of praise to God-- all of these spices are baked into this matzah. Matzah is the food of a people rejoicing in the taste of freedom, and our own liberty adds flavor to the feast.

Yet earlier in the seder, the meaning of the matzah is very different. The first time we mention matzah, we recite: "Ha lachma anya; This is the bread of affliction, which our ancestors ate in the land of Egypt." Instead of a joyous souvenir of our victory march, now matzah is a severe reminder of our oppression. This bland, evaporated, unadorned cracker served as the staple of the diet of slaves. It was designed to be filling so they could subsist

on less of it. Our ancestors struggling under the burdens of their Egyptian taskmasters did not have the luxury of time to let their bread rise. As we eat this matzah, the harsh conditions our people endured remain difficult to swallow.

Matzah reminds us of both our bondage and our liberty, encapsulating in one food the master story of the Jewish people. But its significance does not stop there. Indeed, the very next line of "Ha lachma anya" articulates our ongoing obligation: "Kol dichfin yeitei v-yeichul; Let all who are hungry come and eat." This call, while certainly a charge to combat poverty, comprises more than ending starvation. It is equally a demand for hospitality, for fellowship, for community. The Passover story is meant to be retold and relived together, in groups. We are charged to open our doors to the stranger and

Matzah is the food of a people rejoicing in the taste of freedom, and our own liberty adds flavor to the feast.

to welcome new people to our table. No person, whether hungry or not, should need to celebrate Passover alone.

We should read this line of our Haggadah as "Let all who are

hungry -- whether for food or for companionship - come and eat."

This coming Passover, let us combat both types of hunger. Throughout the year, we encourage donations to Mazon: A Jewish Response to Hunger; please consider a contribution there (www.mazon.org) to help fight physical hunger. This year, let us also make sure no one is alone at Passover. Please make room at your seder for a stranger. There are members of the congregation who would appreciate being welcomed at someone else's seder. Each of us probably knows people in our lives outside TCS who would want to attend a seder: ask them! If you would like to be invited somewhere, or if you would like a suggestion for someone to invite, please contact me. In this way, we can make the story of this spring a warm and satisfying one for all of us, our loved ones, our guests, and our hosts.

Shabbat Morning Torah Study with Rabbi Ken Saturdays at TCS at 9:00 am

Join Rabbi Ken and your TCS friends to gain a deeper understanding of familiar (and unfamiliar) Torah passages. Temple membership is not required, so bring your friends and enjoy bagels, beverages, and insightful discussion!



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Have a question? Contact Rhonda Jellenik at rjellenik@comcast.net

“SULAM Shabbat”

New & exciting program this spring!

This program will give students from Kindergarten to 6th grade the opportunity to learn about Shabbat in the best way possible -- through experiencing it! The program will begin with an educational activity for the students, and will continue with a community Shabbat morning service. We hope family members of all ages as well as non-SULAM TCS members and guests will join us for the Shabbat service and the potluck lunch which will take place after it.

Saturdays, February 2nd & March 9th from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm. SULAM will be canceled each following Sunday. These SULAM Shabbat days count towards students' SULAM attendance.



Young Explorers



Sunday, January 27th, 9:30 am at Center School
Tu B'shvat

Join us as we celebrate a special holiday for trees. We will examine all that trees give us, and brainstorm what we can do for the trees. We will sample fruit, sing songs, tell stories and have fun with friends!

Sunday, February 10th, 9:30 am at Center School

Joseph & the Multicolored Coat

Joseph had a beautiful multicolored coat. As we tell the bible story, we will explore the Jewish values of kindness and generosity. We will learn Hebrew words for colors and eat a colorful snack. Join in for fun with friends!



EXPLORING NEW WORLDS
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Mitzvah Meals

Support TCS Members

At TCS we pride ourselves on being a caring community that reaches out to one another during times of joy and in times of need. Our committee helps by making or picking up meals and delivering them to TCS members who are going through significant challenges.

Signing up to be on the committee does not obligate you to do anything, but allows you to stay informed of any needs in our community and to sign up if or when you are able to pick up a meal at the grocery store or takeout restaurant, or you can offer to deliver a meal someone else prepared. MealTrain.com, an online resource, lets us organize and disseminate information, thus minimizing the volume of emails and facilitating the organization of a large group of people.

If you have questions or are interested in joining Mitzvah Meals please contact:
 Heather Lambrecht at:
h_lambrecht@hotmail.com.



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Contact us today for an awesome summer!



Your Name Matters...

It is the most important way that someone can identify and refer to you. The Engagement Committee has provided every TCS member with a name tag that we can use whenever we are at TCS. They are being stored in a cabinet in the lobby. Come in, get your name tag and clip it on...we also have lanyards if you prefer.

When you leave, please return your name tag to the cabinet.

**Join us at the 11th Annual
Team Trivia Night and Dinner
Saturday, January 26th at 7:30 pm at the Temple
Hosted by TCS Brotherhood and open to everyone!**



Bring your brain AND your stomach!

Put together your own team of 4, or we'll help place you with other couples or singles, and compete by answering questions in various categories including current events, sports, entertainment and more! Prizes for the winning team!

Entry fee for Brotherhood members is \$20/person or \$36/couple.

For non-members it is \$26/person or \$44/couple.

Your entry covers dinner and the game. We ask that each competitor bring either a non-alcoholic drink, dessert or appetizer. You are also allowed to bring alcoholic beverages for your own table.

Detach the portion below & return with your entry fee by Friday January 18th to:
Temple Chayai Shalom, ATTN: Trivia Night, 239 Depot Street, Easton, MA 02375

**Temple Chayai Shalom Trivia Night & Potluck Dinner
Saturday, January 26th - 7:30 pm at the Temple**

You may use this form to register up to 4 people. If you don't have a specific group of 4, check here ☐ and we will be happy to place you with other members to form a team.

Name

Phone

Bringing (Circle One)

DRINKS APPETIZER DESSERT

DRINKS APPETIZER DESSERT

DRINKS APPETIZER DESSERT

DRINKS APPETIZER DESSERT

Contact Email: _____

Total Brotherhood Entrants @ \$20: _____ Total Brotherhood Couples @ \$36: _____ = \$ _____

Total Non-Brotherhood Entrants @ \$26: _____ Total Non-Brotherhood Couples @ \$44: _____ = \$ _____

_____ Enclosed check payable to **TEMPLE CHAYAI SHALOM**

_____ Or pay by PayPal through the temple website Brotherhood page



Become a "New Member Ambassador"

Welcoming the stranger is a core principle of Judaism. Help us fulfill this important mitzvah while strengthening our congregation by becoming a NMA.

You'll be given the name of a family who is new to the TCS community. Call to welcome the family, then invite them to the next TCS event you'll be attending or perhaps for a quick cup of coffee. Together, we can make TCS feel like home for our new members.

Email Caren Levine at carenrisalevine@yahoo.com and say "YES!"

SENIOR First Annual Senior Chai Yiddish Night



The evening started out with the movie *Yiddle Mitn Fiddle* starring Molly Picon. Everyone enjoyed the movie and popcorn. Ron Gordon, our featured speaker, told us how he got interested in Yiddish and answered many questions.

The evening ended with a delicious dessert buffet. It was a huge success for Senior Chai and the 50+ people who attended.

**Temple Chayai Shalom • 239 Depot Street • Easton, MA 02375
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