

Volume 5 | Issue 8 | April 2020 | Nissan/Iyar 5780

Nissan/Iyar 5780



From the Rabbi

Early in the Passover seder, we lift up the matza and recite the Ha Lachma Anya:

This is the bread of affliction that our ancestors ate in the land of Egypt.

Let all who are hungry come and eat. Let all who are in need come and celebrate Pesach.

Now we are here; next year in the land of Israel. Now we are slaves; next year, may we all be free.

So begins the telling of the Passover story around the seder table. We start with the past – our ancestors enslaved in Egypt, eating the bread of affliction. We move to the present – sharing our food and our celebration. And through that sharing, we move one step forward toward true freedom -- the future redemption for us and for all humanity. The Ha Lachma Anya is thus an introduction and summary of the whole message of Passover that we recall and celebrate at the seder.

It raises some interesting questions: Why would we invite people to join us to eat the bread of oppression? What kind of invitation is that?!

Rabbi Jonathan Sacks points out that “matza represents two things: it is the food of slaves, and also the bread eaten by the Israelites as they left Egypt in liberty. What transforms the bread of oppression into the bread of freedom *is the willingness to share it with others.*”

But this year of the coronavirus how can we invite one another to share this matza which symbolizes the transformation from oppression to freedom when we are warned to maintain physical separation? At SOZ we have had a wonderful tradition of Seder Together where we match seder guests with seder hosts. This year that is not possible in the usual way.

The second line of Ha Lachma Anya gives us a clue about what we can still do. We not only invite all who are physically hungry to eat; we also invite all who are in need to celebrate. Why does this second invitation to “all who are in need” add “to all who are hungry”? Hunger implies a physical need for food. “In need” implies something more: an emotional, spiritual yearning for connection and community.

For many of us, it has been a challenge maintaining distance from one another and from our communal sources of support. We do not live our lives in isolation. We are social beings. As Jews, we are reminded in Pirkei Avot to not separate ourselves from the community. We need the community, and the community needs us.

Fortunately, despite the pandemic, SOZ has come up with a way to fulfill the invitation for all of us in need – of community, of connection, of being part of something that is greater than our individual selves – to celebrate Passover seder together. All are welcome to take part in our first ever online seder. Through a computer program called Zoom, we can see one another, hear one another, and feel connected.

From the Rabbi (continued)

We already have two weeks of experience holding Wednesday afternoon services and Saturday morning services via Zoom. It's not perfect - there is a time lag in hearing our voices - but we share laughter and tears, we sing and we study Torah, we are still very much a caring and supportive community. In fact, people attending these services "arrive" earlier and in greater numbers.

I'm usually not a big fan of computer technology, but Zoom enables SOZ this Passover to offer the sincere invitation to all of us who are in need of connection and community to come and celebrate the first seder online together. The invitation has gone out via email, on the website, and now again in this newsletter. I hope you can join us on Wednesday, April 8, for this unprecedented Passover seder. In so doing, we can be part of our people's long history of overcoming obstacles and challenges by coming together, supporting and sharing our lives with one another, and, in so doing, transforming the bread of oppression into the bread of freedom, transforming adversity into liberation and empowerment.

With warm wishes for a happy and connected Passover,

Rabbi Saul Perlmutter



NISSAN/IYAR

5780

April 2020

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
29 4 Nissan	30 5 Nissan	31 6 Nissan	1 7 Nissan Mincha Minyan Schmooze, 5pm Service, 5:15pm (Zoom)	2 8 Nissan	3 9 Nissan	4 10 Nissan Shabbat Service, 10am Shabbat HaGadol (Zoom) <i>Tzav</i>
5 11 Nissan	6 12 Nissan Minyan cancelled due to Coronavirus	7 13 Nissan Search for Chametz after nightfall	8 14 Nissan First Seder hosted by SOZ, 5:30pm (Zoom) Sell Chametz by noon	9 15 Nissan Second Seder Passover Day 1	10 16 Nissan Passover Day 2 1 Omer	11 17 Nissan Shabbat Service, 10am (Zoom) Passover Day 3 2 Omer <i>Shabbat Chol Hamoad</i>
12 18 Nissan Passover Day 4 3 Omer	13 19 Nissan Minyan cancelled due to Coronavirus SOZ Board Meeting, 6:30pm (Zoom) Passover Day 5 4 Omer	14 20 Nissan Passover Day 6 5 Omer	15 21 Nissan Mincha Minyan Schmooze, 5pm Service, 5:15pm (Zoom) Passover Day 7 6 Omer	16 22 Nissan Last Day of Passover Minyan including Yizkor, 10am (Zoom) Last Day of Passover 7 Omer	17 23 Nissan 8 Omer	18 24 Nissan Shabbat Service, 10am (Zoom) 9 Omer <i>Shemini</i>
19 25 Nissan 10 Omer	20 26 Nissan Minyan cancelled due to Coronavirus 11 Omer	21 27 Nissan Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom HaShoah) 12 Omer	22 28 Nissan Mincha Minyan Schmooze, 5pm Service, 5:15pm 13 Omer	23 29 Nissan 14 Omer	24 30 Nissan 15 Omer	25 1 Iyar Shabbat Services, 10am (Zoom) Rosh Hodesh Iyar 16 Omer <i>Tazri'a-Metzora</i>
26 2 Iyar 17 Omer	27 3 Iyar Minyan cancelled due to Coronavirus 18 Omer	28 4 Iyar Israel's Memorial Day (Yom HaZikaron) 19 Omer	29 5 Iyar Mincha Minyan Schmooze, 5pm Service, 5:15pm Israel's Independence Day (Yom HaAtzma'ut) 20 Omer	30 6 Iyar 21 Omer	1 7 Iyar 22 Omer	2 8 Iyar 23 Omer

DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday, April 1, 2020

Mincha Minyan: 5pm schmooze, 5:15pm service (Zoom)

Saturday, April 4, 2020

Shabbat Service, Shabbat HaGadol, 10am (Zoom)

Monday, April 6, 2020

Minyan cancelled due to Coronavirus

Tuesday, April 7, 2020

Search for Chametz after nightfall

Wednesday, April 8, 2020

First Seder hosted by SOZ, 5:30pm (Zoom)

Thursday, April 9, 2020

Passover: Day 1, Second Seder

Friday, April 10, 2020

Passover: Day 2

Saturday, April 11, 2020

Shabbat Service, 10am (Zoom)

Monday, April 13, 2020

SOZ Board Meeting, 6:30pm (Zoom)

Wednesday, April 15, 2020

Passover: Day 7

Mincha Minyan: 5pm schmooze, 5:15pm service (Zoom)

Thursday, April 16, 2020

Last day of Passover, 10am Minyan including Yizkor (Zoom)

Saturday, April 18, 2020

Shabbat Service, 10am (Zoom)

Monday, April 20, 2020

Minyan cancelled due to Coronavirus

Tuesday, April 21, 2020

Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom HaShoah)

Wednesday, April 22, 2020

Mincha Minyan: 5pm schmooze, 5:15pm service (Zoom)

Saturday, April 24, 2020

Shabbat Service, 10am (Zoom)

Rosh Hodesh Iyar

Monday, April 27, 2020

Minyan cancelled due to Coronavirus

Tuesday, April 28, 2020

Israel's Memorial Day (Yom HaZikaron)

Wednesday, April 29, 2020

Israel's Indépendance Day (Yom HaAtzma'ut)

Mincha Minyan: 5pm schmooze, 5:15pm service (Zoom)

How to Watch SOZ's Past Shabbat Services on YouTube:

(Zoom services are not recorded)

Turn on your computer and speakers.

1. Run an internet browser (Internet Explorer or Chrome, for example)
2. Type [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) in the navigation bar and press enter.
3. In YouTube, type [Congregation Sons of Zion](#) (not just "Sons of Zion") in the box that says Search and then click on the magnifying glass or press enter.
4. Click on the video that has a red "Live" button on the bottom right corner. It may take up to 45 seconds for the video to load.

Services start at 10:00am. Shabbat Shalom!

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A Special Thank you to Our Sustaining Members

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Michael and Joan Rosner

Bill and Joanne Saltman

***Please consider joining our generous
Sustaining Members...at any time!***

Congregation Sons of Zion Legacy Society

☆ Congregation Sons of Zion Legacy Society ☆

The following congregants have made arrangements in their wills to leave a bequest to Congregation Sons of Zion and/or have named Congregation Sons of Zion as a beneficiary in their life insurance policy and/or have established a tax-deductible fund for the synagogue, retaining a lifetime income from the fund.

Anonymous (4)

Elaine Baskin

Irene Bernstein

Joseph Boucher

David & Nancy Carmen

Louise Citron

James Eisenstock

Andrea Fox

Richard & Ellen Freyman

Albert Goldberg*

Herbert* & Barbara* Goldberg

Debra Goldberg and Seth Waxman

Rose Gorin*

Janet & Richard Greenfield

Rachel Henderson

Alfred & Lee Hutt

Ira Laby

Aaron & Gail Lansky

Stephen & Lois Levin

Stephen & Joan Levine

Sidney* & Elizabeth* Paul

Burton & Marjorie Resnic

Michael & Joan Rosner

William Robbins* & Mollie Blatt*

Ellen Saltman*

Paul Saltman

William & Joanne Saltman

Elihu & Joan Schepps

Nitza Seaver

Charles Weinstein

Frances Welson & Thomas Osborn*

Sherwin & Rhoda Wernick

Thomas & Eleanor Wilson

*Deceased

Congregation Sons of Zion Legacy Society has participated in Create a Jewish Legacy of Western Massachusetts, which is jointly funded by the Jewish Endowment Foundation and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. The Federations of Western Massachusetts and the Berkshires are program partners.

For further information about supporting Congregation Sons of Zion through a legacy or planned gift, please contact Michael Rosner at office@sonsofzionholyoake.org or (413)534-3369. Thank you very much.



Donations: Thank you!

Building Fund

- ♦ Toby and Ellie Wilson: In memory of Toby's mother, Ethelle Wilson

Cemetery Fund

- ♦ Marcia Burke: In memory of her father, David Slotnick
- ♦ Elizabeth B. Goodman: In memory of Betsy's father, Martin Bassell
- ♦ Steve Kappel and Elaine Clein: In memory of their father, Charles Kaplinsky
- ♦ Charles Weinstein: In memory of his father, Samuel Weinstein
- ♦ Aaron Wilson: In memory of his father and mother, Benjamin and Teresa Wilson

General Fund

- ♦ Lois Brody: In honor of Bonnie Gruszecki's 60th birthday
- ♦ Louise Citron: From the Herbert & Barbara Goldberg Foundation in memory of Addie Firestone
- ♦ Elizabeth and Kevin Ferry: In memory of their uncle, Sidney Paul
- ♦ Andrea Fox: In memory of Douglas Morse
- ♦ Andrea Fox: In memory of the beloved veterans' lives lost at the Holyoke soldiers home, and in honor of the courageous staff providing care there
- ♦ Jeffrey S. Goodless: In memory of Mrs. Firestone
- ♦ Bonnie and Maggie Gruszecki: In memory of Bonnie's maternal grandfather, Jules Hecht
- ♦ Bonnie and Maggie Gruszecki: In memory of Bonnie's paternal grandfather, Matias Gruszecki
- ♦ Larry Kadis: In memory of Adelaide Firestone
- ♦ Steve and Joan Levine: In honor of the yahrzeit of Alvin Koufax
- ♦ Steve and Joan Levine: In fond memory of Thomas Schwab
- ♦ Steve and Joan Levine: In honor of Bonnie Gruszecki's 60th birthday
- ♦ Meyers Brothers Kalicka, P.C.: In memory of Adelaide Firestone
- ♦ Joan and Michael Rosner: In memory of Douglas Morse
- ♦ Joan and Michael Rosner: In memory of Elizabeth Lambert, Paul Lambert's mother
- ♦ Joan and Michael Rosner: In memory of Thomas Schwab
- ♦ Barry Sparkes: March 2020 Appeal

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- ♦ Dr. Morton Laby: In memory of his father, George Laby



April Yahrzeits

March 29 - April 4: Rich Freyman

March 29 *Bertha Levinson
 *Teresa Wilson
 March 30 Basha Mehr Cramer
 *Jean Orlen Lieban
 *Samuel Winofker
 April 1 Mrs. Udes Alexander
 Beatrice Geiges
 *Samuel Liberman
 Rose Mekler
 *Harry Stein
 *Harry Wernick
 April 2 Matias Gruszecki
 *Max Koss
 *Max Smith
 *Alex Suher
 *Samuel Weinstein
 April 3 Sarah Tanzer

April 5 - 11: Ira Laby

April 5 *Ellen Saltman
 April 6 *Edythe Hollup Radner
 April 8 *Eva R. Magidson
 April 9 *Alan Firestone
 April 11 Goldie Brodsky
 Jules Hecht

April 12 - 18: Lois Levin

April 15 Lillian Margolis Cohen
 *Evelyn Polansky
 Barbara Levine
 April 17 Ida D. Paul
 April 18 *Robert Suher

April 19 - 25: Steve Levin

April 19 Lillian Thorn
 April 20 *Abraham H. Adelson
 April 22 Herman Speiser
 April 23 *Saul Firestone
 April 24 *Charles Kaplinsky
 April 25 *Eva Bernson

April 26 - May 2: Deb Levine

April 27 Susan Marks
 May 2 *Sidney H. Wilson



Purim 2020

Provided by Andrea Fox, Deb Levine, Steve Levine, and Shoshana Zonderman



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There is always room for more!!!