

Torah Thoughts, Tzav, Leviticus 6:1-8:36

“All Night Long”

There are three nights a year Jews pull all-nighters: Slichot, the Saturday night before Rosh Hashanah, Shavuot, the Feast of Weeks, and the Passover Seder. The late night element adds a measure of danger and fun to traditional rituals. On Passover it also delays the meal, in some households it's after midnight by the time you are sipping matzah ball soup. We are meant to be reminded of the tenth plague, where, according to the Torah, the Angel of Death came in the dead of night to take the lives of the first borns of Egypt. This harkens back to the original meaning of Passover, a celebration not of the entire Exodus from Egypt, but exclusively of having our lives spared in the final plague.

In this week's Torah portion, Tzav, we read about the roasting of the burnt offering which we are told must “burn upon the altar all night until the morning” (Leviticus 6:2). Like slow cooked meat at a BBQ, we can imagine the savoury nature of the ancient gift to God. But for the priests in charge this was hard work, that required dedication and focus in a way their day time activities might have lacked.

For me, I had my lifetime share of all-nighters before my children began to walk. I remember the many, many nights without sleep when our oldest suffered from colic during the first four months of her life. During that time, I learned the limits of my endurance, as well as the true joy of a good night's sleep. Needless to say, our family Passover seders happily conclude way before midnight, allowing us to digest our scrumptious seder meal while we sleep.

Shabbat Shalom and Happy Passover,
Rabbi Alex

In Memoriam

Shiva

Dr. Elias Kaufman
Eva Rubinstein
Marilyn Elkin Leeds, cousin of Jay (Rebecca) Mesnekoff
Marsha Grass, aunt of David (Diane) Safir
Francziska Kowal, mother of Mike Kowal

Sheloshim

Wilma Iggers
Arlene Guttenberg
Suzanne Lefcourt
Michelle Polonski

Yahrzeits

Izzy Boroszko	Fannie Kranitz	Samuel Sherman
Albert L. Cohen	Ralph Kushner	Carl Shubert
Edith Crandall	Ruth Lansing	Roslyn Stringer
Gary Friedfertig	Dr. Alfred Lederman	Harry Tubin
Sanford Gelernter	Faiga & Boruch Lipsitz	Sanford Weinstein
Sarah Gelman	Samuel Mackler	
Aron Goldberg	Tillie Malnikof	
Lillian Golden	Frank Moskow	
Jenny Gorbaty	Maurice Owsowitz	
Richard Sanford Horwitz	Sidney L. Owsowitz	
Dr. Joseph House	Karen Rank	
Hella Kaminski	Edward Reis	
Harry Karch	Joyce Rubin	
Mary Klein Katz	Rose Rubin	

Erev Shabbat Service
Friday, April 11, 2025/14 Nisan, 5785
7:00 pm



Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein
Cantor Arlene Frank
Executive Director Joanne Marquisee
Community Religious School Director Rabbi Einav Symons
President Todd Sugarman

CONGREGATION SHIR SHALOM
In Person Events & Virtual Services

Saturday April 12th

Passover Eve

9:00 am Torah Study in person and via Zoom– Offsite

10:45 am Shabbat Morning Service and Kiddush Luncheon-offsite

Sunday April 13th

Passover Day 1

No CRS

No CRS Junior Choir

6:00 pm Passover Second Night Seder (reservations required)

Monday April 14th

Passover Day 2

Office Closed

Tuesday April 15th

Passover Day 3

Wednesday April 16th

Passover Day 4

7:00 pm Mussar Class

Thursday April 17th

Passover Day 5

7:00 pm Buffalo Corner Reading Series and via Boxcast, Facebook and YouTube

Friday April 18th

Good Friday

Office Closed

7:00 pm Erev Shabbat Service and via Boxcast, Facebook and YouTube

8:00 pm Oneg Shabbat sponsored by Aaron and Dana Sugar in honor of Irv Sugar

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Passover Haggadah Project is now open to participants. Join the Worship Committee and a subcommittee of the Adult Education Committee, the Passover Haggadah Committee, to write our very own CSS Passover Haggadah for next year's Seder. If you are interested in participating in the Passover Haggadah Project, please email Joanne Marquisee at joanne.marquisee@gmail.com

Passover Second Night Seder will be on Sunday, April 13, 2025 at 6:00 pm. Reservation Forms are located outside of the sanctuary. Join us for this very special holiday. Reservations are closed.

The Roaring 20's Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre will be on Saturday, April 26, 2025 at 6:00 pm. Tickets are \$42 and will include an Italian Dinner Buffet, wine, beer, soft drinks and dessert. Please RSVP to Joanne at joanne.marquisee@gmail.com.

The Buffalo Corner Reading Series will be on Thursday, April 17th at 7:00 pm. Join us for a suspenseful Mystery Night with special guest, Gary Earl Ross. This event will be both in person and via Zoom.

The Passover Yikzor Service, will be on Saturday, April 19th at 10:30 am. Join in community for special Yikzor memorial prayers on the last day of Passover with a Luncheon to follow after the service.

Earth Day Celebration will be on Sunday, April 27th from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm with a service at 4:30 pm. There will be activities for all ages. Bring your family and friends.

Our Mission Statement, as a congregation, is to be a welcoming community and to enhance all aspects of Jewish life.

The Board of Trustees of Congregation Shir Shalom
COMMITMENT STATEMENT

We, the Board of Trustees, pledge to unite and to enrich the lives of our congregation.

We will proceed in our commitment to Congregation Shir Shalom, to create an inclusive and open environment for the entire congregation.

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Cantor-Arlene Frank

Executive Director-Joanne Marquisee

Community Religious School Director-Rabbi Einav Symons

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Immediate Past President-Bruce Corris

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Prayer for those who lead our congregation

O God, this congregation has honored us with the task of leading them, and of serving You with them.

May we strive to be fit for this sacred task.

May we lead well and may we serve well.

May we hear the quiet as well as the active voices,

and may we heed the call and follow the paths of what we,

after honest searching, feel to be the right things to do.

May we listen to each other, and may we listen to You,

as all of us together make this synagogue a *kehillah kedusha*, a Holy place.

Congregation Shir Shalom is Affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism and Reconstructing Judaism.