



Temple Times



April 2017

Congregation Shaareth Israel

Lubbock, TX

Congregation Shaareth Israel is a vibrant center of Jewish life, which recognizes our rich heritage as a Jewish Community, and strives to maintain and enrich Jewish life on the South Plains through meaningful educational, spiritual, social, cultural and worship experiences.

Dear CSI family,

Two Jews are out to lunch at a restaurant during the week of Passover. When the meal arrives, one Jew is very upset, his salad includes breaded shrimp, and he doesn't eat bread during Passover!

Jews who are very relaxed about their Jewish practice on 358 days of the year, are suddenly passionately observant for 7 to 8 days. By now, you've already heard me say, numerous times, that "Tradition" is "what ****I**** did in ****my**** house when I was growing up." At no other time is this statement more true than during Passover.

For sure there are things we should and should not do on Passover. But the rules are not as rigid or clearly defined as one might think. For example:

- ★ Many people know that Ashkenazi (European) Jews and Sephardic (Spanish) Jews have different Kashrut (dietary) practices.
- ★ There have been some recent Rabbinic *responsa* that change the rules even within the Ashkenazi community (*kitnyot*: to eat legumes or not eat legumes?)
- ★ Jews around the world also have different traditions at the Seder table: The youngest reads the four questions (American), or we all sing it together (Brazilian – or at least, in my childhood home in Brazil). In Israel, children re-enact parts of the story. Sephardic tradition invites hitting each other with green onions during Dayeinu as though the onions were whips. And many more.
- ★ *Charoset* (what most people say is a symbol of the mortar) has many different recipes. I dare say that most people reading this article would say that if it doesn't have: apple, walnuts, cinnamon, and wine, then it's not *charoset*! And yet... there are many authentic *charoset* recipes without these ingredients. What they do have in common is that they are all brown and often (but not always) look like a paste to resemble mortar.

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Shabbat Dinner April 28th at 6:45 pm, **Services at 6:15 pm**



Please RSVP Fela Shturman at shturman@sbcglobal.net by Wednesday April 26th if you would like to attend!

The Splitting of the Sea



By [Yoram Raanan](#)

Community

April Yahrtzeits Zichronam Livracha

*May their memories
be for blessings*

- 2 6 Nisan Ann Strauss Salfield
3 Sylvia Shopmaker
6 Sonia Chartoff
Sadie Levine
7 Morris A. Wolfe
Sam Caplan
8 Gershon Caplan
9 Eleonor Grossfeld
10 Joseph Jacob Ginsburg
14 Nisan Isaac Michael Kramer
15 19 Nisan Abraham Simons
16 Ernestine Goldstucker
Sylvia Lehman
20 Nisan Rosa Simons
17 21 Nisan Louis Koslosky
19 Anna Rose Swartz
Sadie Kelisky
22 Rabbi Stephen E. Weisberg
23 Alfred "Buck" Buchalter
27 Alfort Isadore Glassman
28 Morris Rosenwasser
30 Abraham Schneider

Donations

*Thank you to all our donors for
your continued support.*

General Fund

- Henry and Sellie Shine in memory of Stella Shine Laing and Nathan Shine and in honor of Lisa Beason's many years of service to CSI
- The Gelfonds
- Leon and Fela Shturman in memory of Rebeca Zychlinski

Building Fund

- Gail Tutino in memory of June Meverson Rothstein

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- Anonymous

Shabbat Services,

**Our members are invited to
reserve a date to
Host an Oneg Shabbat!**

***Please contact Monty
Strauss and Jane Winer to
reserve a April Oneg.***

7th Parsha: Tzav 7:30 pm
(Lev. 6:1-Lev. 8:36)

14th Pesach! 7:30 pm

21st Parsha: Shimini 7:30 pm
(Lev. 9:1-Lev. 11:47)

28th Parsha: Tazria-Metzora 7:30 pm
(Lev. 12:1-Lev. 15:33)

May:



5th Parsha: Achrei Mot-Kedoshim
7:30 pm
(Lev. 16:1-Lev. 20:27)

Contact Info for Members:

Synagogue: 794-7517

Rabbi Goldmann:

Call her at [310-402-7425](tel:310-402-7425) or email
her at dygoldmann@gmail.com
please

Urgent Matters:

please contact Jonathan Marks
at jonathan.marks@ttu.edu or
806-577-8489, or contact
Rabbi Goldmann.

Bulletin Submissions

News, reports, information, etc.
can be submitted to the bulletin
Editor or to Allison Cook at
allisonchelsey90@gmail.com

***If you'd like to sponsor an
oneg:***

Contact:

April: Monty Strauss and Jane
Winer

Corner

Shabbat Service Info:

Friday April 7th: Rabbi 7:30 PM Service

Torah Reading: Tzav
Torah: Leviticus 6:1-8:36

Friday April 14th: Lay-led 7:30 PM Service

Pesach!

Friday April 21st: Rabbi 7:30 pm Service

Torah Reading: Shimini
Torah: Leviticus 9:1-11:47

Friday April 28th: Lay-led 6:15 PM Service, 6:45 Dinner

Torah Reading: Tazria-Metzora
Torah: Leviticus 12:1-15:33

Thank You:

- **The Religious School** for decorating for Purim!
- **Dorothy Chansky, Sandra & Neil Kurtzman, Michael Rubin, and Stephanie Shine** for leading recent services.

Here are the current dates for Rabbi's attendance throughout the year. These are subject to change, so please check the current calendar monthly. If you need to speak with the Rabbi please contact her (see contact info on the bottom of page 2).

2017:
Apr 7-9
Apr 21-23
May 5-7
May 19-21
May 26-27
June TBD
June 30-July 2

Remember to Check our CSI website for the calendar at csitemple.org:

It's now being updated regularly!

Also, CSI's Facebook page is available at Congregation Shaareth Israel—
Please "Like"

Remember: In Case of Bad Weather:

Should we have intense or threatening weather and you are unsure of whether synagogue will be open: Before you leave home:

Call the synagogue's answering machine: 806-794-7517: if services, religious school or meetings are cancelled we'll put a message on the answering machine

at least an hour before the event

Check your e-mails before you leave: we'll send an email notice in case of cancellation

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- ★ There are those who say that ALL of the Haggadah must be read and everything should be debated. This makes for a very long Seder – which some like and some don't.
- ★ We don't eat *chametz* (leavened foods) because we were in a hurry when we left Egypt and the bread didn't have time to rise. But Baking soda, powder, and (sometimes) even yeast is kosher for Passover. AND we spend a lot of time cooking to relive a time when we didn't have time to cook.

Can we say "OY!" There are some general rituals and practices that are seemingly consistent throughout, but there is a wide range of variety in those pesky details. These pesky details lead to a fierce competition of "who is holiest? Who does it best?" These pesky details also lead to mistrust and fighting (they are doing it wrong! I can't go to their house). Sadly, I dare say that even this competition and fighting is part of our Passover tradition. Rabbi Isaac Klein tells us that the reason sugar required a special Passover *hescher* (Kosher rabbinic seal of approval) was due to mistrust of the companies who would cheapen the sugar by adding flour to it. He points out that today such practice doesn't exist, so no special Passover *hescher* is required. Yet, I am sure that there are communities who would say that you DO in fact still need it. We create habits that become hard to break.

The same is true of *kitnyot*, legumes. For a long time, in addition to the five forbidden grains, Ashkenazi Jews did not eat legumes during Passover. There were rabbis who thought you could make flour out of legumes (something that is popular today: we can make flour out of almost anything). Despite the strong tradition among many Ashkenazi Jews today that we should not eat *kitnyot*, there wasn't a consensus on this matter even as the tradition took hold. Rabbi Eric Berk tells us, "Opposition to the ban on eating *kitniyot* began around the time of its inception in 13th century France, with one Rabbi calling the practice "a mistaken custom," and the second rabbi calling it "a foolish custom". With regard to *Halachah* (Jewish law), the central question is this: whether it is permissible to do away with a mistaken or foolish custom. Many rabbinical authorities (including the Rambam, or Moses Maimonides) have ruled that it is permitted (and perhaps even obligatory!) to do away with this type of "foolish custom". Furthermore, there are many good reasons to do away with this "foolish custom."¹

The growing consensus among Conservative and Reform Rabbis is that *kitnyot* are permissible. Changing this tradition (foolish or otherwise) is proving hard. We are used to our ways, to the traditions of our childhood. Thus the battle of "who does it best" continues.

Competition of "who does it best" is an opportunity to create mistrust and judgement, which are not positive

motivations. We would do well to remember that Passover is a time to add joy and pleasure to our Jewish observance. So, if doing it the way you've always done it brings you joy and pleasure, then by all means! On the other hand, if doing it the way you've always done it is cause for fighting or judging others, then perhaps we should rethink our "tradition".

When the time comes to determine how you'll clean and/or lead a seder, I hope we are all able to consider the people present at our table: consider their needs, consider their interests, consider their traditions. Remember that there are many authentically wonderful ways to celebrate Passover.

Wishing you a meaningful and joyful Passover,

Rabbi

For more on this, read Rabbi Eric Berk's full essay on <http://www.reformjudaism.org/food-restrictions-passover-explained-chametz-and-kitniyot> and Rabbi Isaac Klein's, "A Guide to Jewish Religious Practice"

Refuah Shleimah:

- **Terry Bennett**
- **Gwen Meyer**
- **Mark Meyer**
- **Ruth Sitzer**
- **Bobby Skibell**
- **Amy Todd**

If you or someone you know is in need of *refuah shleimah* please let Rabbi know. The only way we know you need some extra strength in prayers is when you tell us!



First Thursday Men's Lunch at Caprock Cafe, 34th and Indiana on April 6th at 11:45am



A Measured Celebration

It happens every single year
A time for joy,
and to shed a tear
We celebrate the liberation
Of a chosen people
Through God's salvation.
The children of Israel were held as slaves
Deprived of freedom until their graves.
Pharaoh, ruler of Egypt bore
responsibility for this and more.
He ignored each one of Moses' pleas
Nothing could move him
Nothing would appease.
Until God's holy intercession
The children of Israel would know oppression
Pharaoh was warned, he was advised,
This made him all the more despised.
Moses warned him once again
That he had no right to hold such men
Against their will, in utter squalor
With the yolk of bondage, worn like a collar
In the end all of Israel won
Through the love and favor of the Holy One

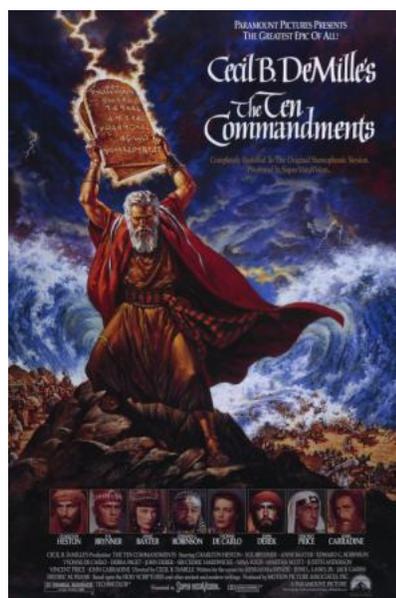
Author Unknown

* for questions regarding not having a dash in God,
please reach out to the Rabbi

Five Passover Movies You'll Love

The holiday of [Passover](#) hasn't inspired quite as many popular film retellings as [Hanukkah](#), but that certainly doesn't mean there are no good flicks to choose from. Some family/kid shows and a few for the adults.

- * **The Ten Commandments** (1956)
- * **The Prince of Egypt** (1998)
- * **A Rugrats Passover** (1995)
- * **The Animated Haggadah** (1985)
- * **Shalom Sesame: It's Passover, Grover!** (2011)



Religious School

Corner:

April: 2: 10AM - Taking G-d Home
9: 10AM - Rabbi's Passover Program
16: **No RS**
23: 10AM - Jewish People
30: 10AM - Love Your Neighbor



[CSI Google Calendar with RS info](#)



Congregation Shaareth Israel
 PO Box 93594
 Lubbock, TX 79493

(806) 794-7517

www.csitemple.org

Deborah Goldmann, Rabbi

Vicki Hollander, Rabbi Emeritus

Jonathan Marks, President

Charles Skibell, Vice President

Monty Strauss, Secretary

June Wagner, Treasurer

Lisa Beason, Sisterhood President

Neil Kurtzman, Past President

April 2017 Calendar at-a-glance

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
RS 10 am 2	3	4	5	Men's Lunch 11:45 am 6	Shabbat Services 7:30 pm 7	8
RS 10 am 9	Passover first night Seder 10	11	12	13	<u>Passover</u> Shabbat Services 7:30 pm 14	15
No RS 16	17	18	19	Board Meeting 7:30 pm May Bulletin copy due 20	Shabbat Services 7:30 pm 21	22
RS 10 am 23 30 RS 10 am	24	25	RSVP Fela for Shabbat dinner! 26	27	Shabbat Services 6:15 pm Shabbat Dinner 6:45 pm 28	29

Save the date: Passover first night Seder April 10th!