

## April Calendar of Events

- Fri. Apr. 3—Kabbalat Shabbat, 4:00pm; First Night Seder
- Sat. Apr. 4—Passover Service, 10:30am; Temple Isaiah Second Night Seder, 6:30pm (Reservations required)
- Mon. Apr. 6—Intermediate Hebrew, 10:00am
- Tues. Apr. 7—Board Meeting, 7:30pm
- Thurs. Apr. 9—Film Series, 7:30pm (#1)
- Fri. Apr. 10—Yizkor, 10:30am; Shabbat Service, 8:00pm
- Sat. Apr. 11—Torah Study & Service, 9:30am; Cantillation, 11:00am
- Sun. Apr. 12—Goods & Services Auction (Details at right)
- Mon. Apr. 13—Intermediate Hebrew, 10:00am; Conversational Spanish, 10:30am; Lunch & Learn at Ayhan's Shish Kebab, 11:30am
- Wed. Apr. 15—Yom Hashoah Program, 8:00pm
- Thurs. Apr. 16—Film Series, 7:30pm (#2)
- Fri. Apr. 17—Renewal Service, 7:30pm; Shabbat Service, 8:00pm (Yom Hashoah observed at service)
- Sat. Apr. 18—Torah Study & Service, 9:30am; Cantillation, 11:00am
- Mon. Apr. 20—Intermediate Hebrew, 10:00am
- Thurs. Apr. 23—Film Series, 7:30pm (#3)
- Fri. Apr. 24—Kabbalat Shabbat, 6:15pm
- Sat. Apr. 25—Torah Study, 9:30am; Torah Service, 10:30am
- Sun. Apr. 26—Visting Author Maggie Anton, 2:00pm
- Mon. Apr. 27—Intermediate Hebrew, 10:00am

***Conversational Spanish with Reva Levy  
 Resumes on Monday, April 13 at 10:30am  
 Call Kathie Davis for more information***

## TEMPLE ISIAH GOODS & SERVICES AUCTION



***Sunday, April 12th 2:00pm***

**REMEMBER, ONE OF THE BIGGEST  
 FUNDRAISERS OF THE YEAR AND OUR  
 MOST EXCITING EVENING IS FAST  
 APPROACHING. PLEASE PLAN TO BE  
 THERE.**

**BID ON: VACATIONS, THEATER TICKETS,  
 JEWELRY, ELEGANT DINNERS,  
 RESTAURANTS, SPORTING EVENTS, ART,  
 TOYS, COMPUTER LESSONS & MORE**

**COLLECT GIFTS FROM THE  
 PEOPLE YOU DO BUSINESS  
 WITH AND LET'S WORK  
 TOGETHER TO MAKE THIS  
 EVENT A HUGE SUCCESS**

**(AN ADDITIONAL GIFT  
 CERTIFICATE IS ON PAGE 6.)**

**BE SURE TO SEND IN YOUR  
 RSVP AND RAFFLE TICKETS!**

## RABBI'S COLUMN

### Four Other Questions for the Pesach Seder



At our Pesach Seders every year we sit together with family and friends to relive the experience of the exodus from Egypt, our redemption as the Children of Israel, and the beginning of our journey to the Promised Land. This is also a time to ask a lot of questions. In fact, the Haggadah is especially designed to evoke questioning, and thereby discussion. In addition to the traditional Four Questions posed near the beginning of the Seder, I'd like to suggest four other questions this year. They were inspired by a colleague and speak to today's issues:

1. In the Kiddush, we speak of God as having *"chosen us from all the nations."* Did God make us "exceptional?" Are we Jews "exceptional?" Is anybody? Everybody?
2. The Haggadah tells us: *"In every generation they rise up to destroy us."* In the 2014 Pew Research Survey of American Jewry, when asked to define what it means to be Jewish, 79% said "Remembering the Holocaust." By contrast only 19% said "Observing Jewish law." Is fighting anti-Semitism reason enough to be a Jew? Can Judaism continue without distinctive practices based on the Torah?
3. If you won't eat a bagel during Pesach, how come you will eat non-kosher food during the year? And why don't you eat a bagel during Pesach? And if you do ... why?
4. The Egyptians enslaved us and sought to destroy us. Now there is a peace treaty between us and Egypt. Do you think that will happen someday with Palestinians? Will it have to take 3000 years as it did with the Egyptians?

**Extra Credit:** Really, why IS this night different from all other nights of the year? Wouldn't it be nice if we got together more often as a family? As friends? As Jews?

Linda and I wish you and yours a Zissen Pesach – a sweet and joyous holiday.

*Rabbi Ted Tsuruoka*



***Second Night Seder  
Saturday, April 4***

***Reservations a MUST!  
Please call right now to see if we have  
space available.***

## CANTOR'S COLUMN

### Passover Expression of Love



On most Friday evening services we usher in Shabbat with the singing of *L'cha Dodi* ("Come, My Beloved"), a poem composed in the 16<sup>th</sup> century by Solomon Ha-Levy Alkabetz, one of the leading mystics in Safed. In between each of several verses the congregation sings:

Come, my beloved, to greet the bride,  
Let us welcome Shabbat.

Shabbat is depicted as a radiant bride and we are Israel, her bridegroom, joyfully welcoming her approach.

Throughout the bible expressions of love and marriage have been used to describe the special and unique relationship between God and the Jewish people. When we recite the *Shema*, our declaration of faith, we say, "you shall love Adonai your God..." The blessing before this, *Ahavat Olam* in the evening and *Ahavah Rabbah* in the morning, expresses our everlasting love for God, using similar language that a lover would use to express faithfulness to one's beloved. In many of our prayers we allude to our boundless longing for God and our self-sacrifice for God's name.

The most sensuous and expressive descriptions of God's relationship to Israel can be found in the words of *Shir HaShirim*, *The Song of Songs*, traditionally chanted during Passover in Ashkenazic synagogues and on *Erev Shabbat* in Sephardic synagogues. There is no mention of God in the verses and on a purely literal level the book is entirely secular. The work has been attributed to King Solomon and, as such, accepted as wedding poetry. Since Judaism considers the loving relationship between two people to be potentially holy, Rabbi Akiva maintained that *Shir HaShirim* should be included in the bible, despite its sensuous language. He said that if all the other books of the bible are holy, then *Shir HaShirim* is the "Holy of Holies." He added, "The whole world does not outweigh the day on which the *Song of Songs* was given to Israel."

The two figures in *Shir HaShirim* are lovers who explore their desires as spring approaches. And as the earth and the wildlife give way to a blossoming spring, the lovers' adoration and hunger for each other grow. The language is erotic and intoxicating, the lovers' sexuality barely hidden in word allusions and double meanings:

Like an apple tree among trees of the forest,  
So is my beloved among the youths.  
I delight to sit in his shade,  
And his fruit is sweet to my mouth. (2:2-3)

Awake, O north wind,  
Come, O south wind,  
Blow upon my garden,  
That its perfume may spread.  
Let my beloved come to his garden  
And enjoy its luscious fruits! (4:16)

Since its poetry is filled with visual references to the budding of nature in the spring, we read *Shir HaShirim* at the time of Passover, the Festival of Spring. Additionally, it is said that the courtship between God and the people of Israel began on Passover and allegorically God and Israel were married when Israel received the Torah at Mount Sinai.

So, for the Jewish people, Passover is not just a time to remember our redemption from slavery; it also begins a season that re-establishes our loving and everlasting bond with our Creator.

Steve and I wish you a sweet Passover, a seder that helps you experience the holiday with new awareness and – of course – joyful music!

*Cantor Leslie Friedlander*

## MESSAGE FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS *Temple Isaiah History—Part III*

### Let's Disagree--But Amicably

In its nearly 50 years, Isaiah has been remarkably free from contentious arguments. But there have been subjects that were debated and about which members offered different opinions.



For years there were some members who wanted to move to a home of our own. Others maintained that we had a large, usable and affordable space in the Community Church, and so long as the two congregations enjoyed one another's presence, we had little reason to move. This debate ended when the congregations drifted apart and June Feldman's herculean efforts produced enough money for Isaiah to build.

In the early 1980s some members argued that Isaiah did not need a Hebrew school. The school was not self supporting, drawing on regular operating funds to supplement student tuition and fees. We had a full school at the time, with 60-75 students. But some felt that Isaiah could better serve the community as an adults only congregation. Needless to say, time and changing demographics settled this debate.

The most contentious disagreement was over the question of whether we should stand as a congregation for Kaddish, mourning those millions killed in the holocaust for whom no family remained, or was Kaddish a personal prayer reserved for those observing an individual remembrance. The Reform Movement was edging towards the former, while more conservative members of our group felt that standing as a congregation minimized the individual mourner's experience. As a matter of religious belief and conviction, the positions on both sides were deeply felt and argued. Today, almost all of our congregation stands, but each member does so making an individual choice.

There is yet one other debate that continues unresolved.

Watch this space for further information.

*Helman Brook & Kathie Davis*



### Special Yom Hashoah Program “Witness to History” with Guest Speaker Christy Carazoa Wednesday Evening, April 15th at 8:00pm

Christy Carazoa, Curator at SUNY Farmingdale History Museum and on the curatorial staff at Hofstra University will present a slide show program depicting how artists have portrayed tragic periods in world history. Some of the artists included are Yonia Fain, George Grosz, Kathe Kollwith and Jacob Lawrence.

# April 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 Kabbalat Shabbat Service, 4:00pm  First Night Seder	4 Passover Service, 10:30am; Temple Isaiah Second Night Seder, 6:30pm
5	6  Intermediate Hebrew, 10:00am	7  Board Meeting, 7:30pm	8	9  Film Series #1, 7:30pm	10 Yizkor 10:30am  Shabbat Service, 8:00pm	11  Torah Study & Service 9:30am; Cantillation, 11:00am
12  <i>Goods &amp; Services Auction, 2:00pm</i>	13  Intermediate Hebrew, 10:00am; Spanish, 10:30am; Lunch & Learn, 11:30am	14	15 Yom Hashoah Program: "Witness to History" 8:00pm	16  Film Series #2, 7:30pm	17 Renewal Service, 7:30pm; Shabbat Service, 8:00pm (Yom Hashoah observed)	18  Torah Study & Service 9:30am; Cantillation, 11:00am
19	20  Intermediate Hebrew, 10:00am; Spanish, 10:30am	21	22	23  Film Series #3, 7:30pm	24  Kabbalat Shabbat Service, 6:15pm	25  Torah Study 9:30am; Torah Service, 10:30am
26  Visiting Author Maggie Anton, 2:00pm	27  Intermediate Hebrew, 10:00am; Spanish, 10:30am	28	29	30  Film Series #4, 7:30pm		<i>May 2:</i>  "Guess Who?" with Richard Solow, 7:30pm



**Temple Isaiah of Great Neck**  
**1 Chelsea Place, Great Neck, NY 11021**  
**Tel: 516-487-5373 Fax: 516-829-0825**

## CERTIFICATE OF GIFT

**From: April 2015 Goods and Services Auction**

**To Highest Bidder:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Collected by member** \_\_\_\_\_

**Note to member: Please mail this certificate to Cathy at the temple office. It will be recorded in our catalog and put up for auction.**

# Spring Film Festival Hosted by David Aubrey

Thursdays, April 9, April 15, April 23 and April 30  
7:30pm



David is back with the popular film series enjoyed by all. This year's theme is Jewish comedies set in Manhattan, with four great films featuring actors such as Jill Clayburgh, Michael Douglas, and Judy Holliday.



\$10 charge per person includes film, refreshments, and lively discussion.  
(\$40/series)



## Visiting Author Maggie Anton “Enchantress— A Novel of Rav Hisda’s Daughter” Sunday, April 26, 2:00pm

Rav Hisda's daughter and her husband Rava brave an evil sorceress and the Angel of Death in their quest to safeguard their people, even while putting their own romance at risk. Anton has conjured literary magic in a pivotal era of Jewish and Christian history researched from the Talmud.

Join us to hear from the author, ask questions and have your books signed.  
(Book will be available for purchase or bring your own.)



*The American Zionist Movement is holding open voting for all American Jews to determine the United States' delegation to the 2015 World Zionist Organization. Every Jew has the opportunity to vote for the platform that most aligns with his/her personal views and help shape the agenda of the Congress.*

**Voting ends April 30th.** For more information and to vote go to [www.reformjews4israel.org](http://www.reformjews4israel.org)

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**SAVE THESE DATES IN MAY**



**A Live Action Trivia Contest**

**With Richard Solow**

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**2015 תת טשצ**

**Richard will be impersonating well known actors, comics and singers and will perform excerpts from movie scenes and comic routines as the clues in this trivia contest with a twist.**

**Wine, Cheese, Noshes & Coffee**

**RSVP—\$20 in advance, \$25 at the door**

## **Special Music Service**

**On Friday, May 8, at our regular 8:00 Shabbat service, my good friend and colleague, Cantor Fran Burgess of Temple Beth Hillel in Richmond, California, will be joining Rabbi Tsuruoka and me on the bima for what will be a joyous and music-filled Shabbat celebration. The music will be the familiar melodies that we usually sing with the addition of harmonies and extra *ruach*!**

**Cantor Burgess lives in Berkeley, CA and is a graduate of the Academy for Jewish Religion in Los Angeles. She has a strong classical music background in opera, flute, oboe and guitar and before becoming a cantor she earned a nursing degree with a specialty in orthopedic massage. She and her husband travel the world with their bicycles and they are about to embark on a cycling trip in Croatia...or the south of France...I can't keep track!**

**Please mark your calendars and make a point to join us for services on Friday, May 8.**

**Cantor Friedlander**



## **General Donations**

### ***In Loving Memory Of:***

Bernard Rosenberg, Brother and Uncle  
Roslyn Bein and Perri Bein  
Rosalia Schweitzer, Aunt of Susan Bendor  
Phyllis Eyl, Dear Friend of Susan Bendor  
Elizabeth and Frank Blum, Parents of Susan Bendor  
Edgar Bendor, Husband of Susan Bendor  
Susan Bendor  
Joel Dick, Spouse of Everett Kerner  
Judy & Helman Brook  
Lori & Peter Cohen  
Kathie & Richard Davis  
Sheila & Victor DeFazio  
June & Allan Feldman  
Gail & Robert Gordon  
Mindy & Howard Israel  
Terry & Richard Joseph  
Anice Kaplan  
Ruth Mandelbaum  
Phyllis & Howard Markowitz  
Denise Miller & Steve Fein  
Alisa & Martin Secofsky  
Shelley Sherman  
Harry Goldwater, Husband of Minnie Goldwater  
Minnie Goldwater  
Alice Gordon, Wife of Jacob Gordon  
Jacob Gordon  
Marlene Baharlias, Sister-in-Law of Ruth Isaac  
Ruth Isaac  
Alvin Graham, Father of Miriam and Barry  
Judy & Helman Brook  
Kathie & Richard Davis  
Sheila & Victor DeFazio  
June & Allan Feldman  
Gail & Robert Gordon  
Ruth Isaac  
Mindy & Howard Israel  
Terry & Richard Joseph  
Willa Lewis & Ed Moulin  
Ruth Mandelbaum  
Denise Miller & Steve Fein  
Bill Rosenberg  
Alisa & Martin Secofsky  
Shelley Sherman  
Mortimer Leavitt, Father of Robin Leavitt  
Robin Leavitt  
Adolph Fuchs, Father of Connie Maller  
Connie & Al Maller  
Recha & Max Fein, Grandparents of Steve Fein  
Morris Hamel, Grandfather of Denise Miller  
Denise Miller & Steve Fein  
Armondo Galis-Menendez  
Sandra & Stuart Rabeck  
Bruce Reider, Husband of Leslie & Father of Bradley  
Leslie Reider  
Gloria Weiner, Dear Friend of Joan Robinson  
Joan & Irwin Robinson  
Bernard Rosenberg, Father of Alice, Elaine,  
Howard and Bill  
Martha Rosenberg, Mother of Alice, Elaine,  
Howard and Bill  
Alice Moss  
Elaine & Ira Wolf  
Howard & Laura Rosenberg  
Bill Rosenberg  
Sylvia Schalet, Mother of Phyllis Schalet  
Phyllis Schalet  
Jacob Soifer, Father of Hank Soifer  
Rebecca Soifer Blitz, Sister of Hank Soifer  
Arlene Soifer  
Marcia Springer, Wife of Claude Springer  
Claude Springer

### ***In Loving Memory Of (cont'd):***

Carol Rubenstein, Daughter of Rita Rubenstein  
Suzanne Branch & Gary McTiernan  
Judy & Helman Brook  
Kathie & Richard Davis  
Sheila & Victor DeFazio  
June & Allan Feldman  
Gail & Robert Gordon  
Sonia & Calvin Greenbaum  
Ruth Isaac  
Mindy & Howard Israel  
Terry & Richard Joseph  
Willa Lewis & Ed Moulin  
Ruth Mandelbaum  
Denise Miller & Steve Fein  
Bill Rosenberg  
Alisa & Martin Secofsky  
Shelley Sherman

### ***In Honor of :***

Marsha Hochstadt & Jonathan Wagner for Their  
Hard Work on the Shaloch Manot Bags  
Kathie & Richard Davis  
Cathy Reibstein  
The Good Health of Franklin Greene  
Steve Fein's Success at Trivia Night  
June & Allan Feldman  
Cantor Leslie Friedlander for Teaching and Officiating  
at the Bat Mitzvah Service of Our Daughter Lauryn  
Robyn & Jeffrey Weintraub  
Cantor Leslie Friedlander for Officiating at the Funeral  
of Violet Knaster  
Victoria Knaster  
The Marriage of Joel (Son of Bella Bekker) & Indiana  
Bekker  
Judy & Helman Brook  
Kathie & Richard Davis  
Sheila & Victor DeFazio  
June & Allan Feldman  
Gail & Robert Gordon  
Mindy & Howard Israel  
Terry & Richard Joseph  
Ruth Mandelbaum  
Denise Miller & Steve Fein  
Alisa & Martin Secofsky  
Shelley Sherman  
The Hard Work of Co-Presidents Helman Brook and  
Kathie Davis  
Gail & Robert Gordon

### ***In Honor of (con'td):***

The Speedy Recovery of Cathy Reibstein  
The Speedy Recovery of Daniel Ratner  
The Speedy Recovery of Linda Tsuruoka  
The Happy Birthday of Belle Gayer  
The Happy Birthday of Alisa Secofsky  
Ruth Isaac  
The Birth of Kaishu Israel, Son of Sawa & Aaron Israel  
(son of Mindy & Howard)  
Suzanne Branch & Gary McTiernan  
Judy & Helman Brook  
Kathie & Richard Davis  
Sheila & Victor DeFazio  
June & Allan Feldman  
Gail & Robert Gordon  
Terry & Richard Joseph  
Ruth Mandelbaum  
Denise Miller & Steve Fein  
Alisa & Martin Secofsky  
Shelley Sherman  
The Engagement of Daniel Diamond (Son of Shelley  
Sherman) & Ashley Mask  
Suzanne Branch & Gary McTiernan  
Judy & Helman Brook  
Kathie & Richard Davis  
Sheila & Victor DeFazio  
June & Allan Feldman  
Gail & Robert Gordon  
Mindy & Howard Israel  
Terry & Richard Joseph  
Ruth Mandelbaum  
Denise Miller & Steve Fein  
Alisa & Martin Secofsky  
The Engagement of David Gordon (Son of Gail & Bob)  
and Indiana Bittenwieser  
Suzanne Branch & Gary McTiernan  
Judy & Helman Brook  
Kathie & Richard Davis  
Sheila & Victor DeFazio  
June & Allan Feldman  
Mindy & Howard Israel  
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Denise Miller & Steve Fein  
Alisa & Martin Secofsky  
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### ***Tzedakah Fund:***

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**BULLETIN**  
Co-Presidents: Helman Brook, Kathie Davis  
Rabbi: Theodore Tsuruoka  
Cantor: Leslie Friedlander  
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