

The Covenant

MARCH/APRIL 2024 • VOLUME 67 • ISSUE 2



Temple
Jeremiah
The Joy of Belonging



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Editor's Note

MEREDITH LEVINSON

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Punxsutawney Phil, a groundhog who has only been correct about 30% of the time over the past decade, has garnered much praise this year as he predicted an early spring. And while I personally prefer fall and winter to spring and summer (I know, I know), I do enjoy the feeling of renewal that comes with this time of year. Children begin to play outside again, snowbirds return from their winter residences, and Temple Jeremiah staff gear up for Purim and Passover. The theme of renewal is woven in throughout this issue of the *Covenant* – through articles written by Rabbi Cohen and Rabbi Helbraun, and through upcoming opportunities to meet new people and participate in engaging programs.

If you're looking forward to some of our annual events, you can find all of our Purim and Passover festivities on the next page, including the return of our Adult Purim Party!

I would also like to turn the spotlight on our Adult Choir, and the fun facts shared by Paul Dykstra on pages 10 and 11. Our choir is always open to fresh voices, and with spring upon us, it may be a great time to try a new activity. If you prefer to listen vs. sing, we have a number of musical guests joining us in the next few months, including Noah Aronson!

While I can't predict an early spring or an unexpected March snowstorm, I can tell you that Temple Jeremiah is the place to be regardless of the weather. We can't wait to see you!

Meredith

TORAH PORTIONS

MARCH

March 2nd	Ki Tisa	Exodus 30:11-34:35
March 9th	Vayak'heil	Exodus 35:1-38:20
March 16th	P'kudei	Exodus 38:21-40:38
March 23rd	Vayikra	Leviticus 1:1-5:26
March 30th	Tzav	Leviticus 6:1-8:36



APRIL

April 6th	Sh'mini	Leviticus 9:1-11:47
April 13th	Tazria	Leviticus 12:1-13:59
April 20th	M'tzora	Leviticus 14:1-15:33
April 27th	Chol Hamoed	Exodus 33:12-34:26
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Coming Up at Temple Jeremiah

Dates and times are subject to change.
Check our calendar for the most up-to-date information at tinyurl.com/TJ-calendar

Purim March 24th, 2024

INCLUSION PURIM CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, MARCH 10TH, 2024
11:30 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

A special Purim Celebration is planned for participants of the Inclusion activities and J-Quest students (8th grade and up). Come and have fun making Hamantaschen, creating *shalach manot* baskets, and playing games. Plus, enjoy a pizza lunch!

PLEASE USE THE LINK BELOW TO REGISTER BY MARCH 1ST
TINYURL.COM/INCLUSIONPURIM24

Questions? Contact: Caren Brown ceb994@gmail.com (847) 471-1158 Barb Kite bkite1002@gmail.com (847) 732-5352

21ST ANNUAL SHUSHAN SHUFFLE 5K RUN/WALK

SUNDAY, MARCH 17TH
9:00 A.M.

REGISTER:
tinyurl.com/ShushanShuffle24

Suggested Minimum Donation of \$18/person. Proceeds will benefit SHALVA.

Temple Jeremiah Presents... **Disney Purim**

Sunday, March 17th, 2024

9:00 a.m. Shushan Shuffle
10:30 a.m. Purim Shpiel & Costume Contest
11:00 a.m. Purim Carnival

Games! Prizes! Treats!
Join us in your best Purim costume for a fun-filled day of Purim activities with a Disney theme. Your participation supports our youth!

Register for the carnival: tinyurl.com/TJPurim2024

Questions? erin@templejeremiah.org

Saturday, March 23rd
6:00 p.m.

JEREMIAH'S GREATEST HITS
Adult Purim Party (21+)

FOOD | LIVE BAND KARAOKE | DRINKS

Register: tinyurl.com/AdultPurimParty24

Passover April 22nd-April 30th, 2024

Passover Matzah Brei & Midrash
Tuesday, April 23rd @ 10:00 a.m.

Kabbalat Shabbat & Yizkor
Friday, April 26th @ 6:30 p.m.

Maot Chitim Food Delivery

SPONSORED BY TEMPLE JEREMIAH BROTHERHOOD

Sunday, April 14th
8:30 a.m.

Let's go for 100! Help Temple Jeremiah deliver 100 pre-packed boxes of Passover food and help bring some joy to those in need.

PLEASE RSVP BY APRIL 9TH:
TINYURL.COM/MAOTCHITIMSPRING24

Contact Michael Schack (michael.schack@comcast.net) with any questions.

INCLUSION PASSOVER SEDER 2024

SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH
2:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Please Register by April 19th:
tinyurl.com/inclusionpassover24

QUESTIONS? CONTACT: Caren Brown ceb994@gmail.com (847) 471-1158 Barb Kite bkite1002@gmail.com (847) 732-5352

CLUB345 CHOCOLATE SEDER

Join Club345 for a Passover seder experience you won't forget! We'll have a fun, interactive seder infused with... you guessed it, chocolate!

Sat., April 20th at 5:00 p.m.

Register here:
tinyurl.com/chocseder24

Temple Jeremiah

Coming Up at Temple Jeremiah

Acoustic Kabbalat Shabbat & Weekend with Steven Chaitman (6:30 p.m.) & Shabbat Dinner with Friends (7:30 p.m.)
Friday, March 1st

Jeremiah Parents Coffee Connections
Sunday, March 3rd @ 9:30 a.m.
Sunday, April 21st @ 9:30 a.m.

Gan Jeremiah
Sunday, March 10th @ 9:15 a.m.
Sunday, April 14th @ 9:15 a.m.

Yoga
Sunday, March 10th @ 9:15 a.m.
Sunday, April 14th @ 9:15 a.m.

JeTY at Topgolf
Saturday, April 13th @ 4:30 p.m.

Jeremiah Kids Minecraft Mission
Sunday, April 14th @ 11:00 a.m.

Jeremiah Buddies
Sunday, April 21st @ 9:00 a.m.

Jr. JeTY's Playing Bubble Soccer
Sunday, April 28th @ 11:00 a.m.

Shabbat Dinner with Families & Camp Sendoff (5:30 p.m.), Family Kabbalat Shabbat with Monthly Birthday Celebration (6:30 p.m.)
Friday, May 3rd

A Weekend for Everyone!

Shabbat Dinner with Families of Pre-K Children & Grandparents with Special Guest Jonathan Chapman
Friday, April 5th @ 5:30 p.m.

Tot/Family Kabbalat Shabbat with Monthly Birthday Celebration and Special Guest Eliza Kanner
Friday, April 5th @ 6:30 p.m.

Brunch & Learn with Eliza Kanner
Saturday, April 6th @ 10:30 a.m.

Eliza Kanner Speaks with Parents & Grandparents
Sunday, April 7th @ 9:00 a.m.

Children's Author Alice McGinty at J-Quest
Sunday, April 7th @ 9:00 a.m.

Teen Talk with Eliza Kanner
Sunday, April 7th @ 11:00 a.m.

Jonathan Shmidt Chapman, founder and co-creator of The K'ilu Company, skillfully draws from storytelling, theater, puppetry, and play to make Jewish stories and traditions accessible and dynamic for all young learners and their families.



A three-season veteran New England Patriots Cheerleader, **Eliza Kanner** has worked extensively to fight antisemitism and counter anti-Israel rhetoric, on and off the field.



Alice B. McGinty is an award-winning children's author, frequent presenter, and recipient of the Prairie State Award for Excellence in Writing for Children.



*Those who joined after February 1st will be featured in a later issue.

PREPARING FOR PASSOVER WITH NOAH ARONSON

Noah Aronson is coming to Temple Jeremiah! Noah has been inspiring audiences with his heartfelt and soulful music for 20 years. We are so excited that he will be joining events throughout the weekend to help us prepare for Passover.

Temple Jeremiah

A P R I L	19TH	KABBALAT SHABBAT WORSHIP 6:30 P.M. SHABBAT DINNER WITH FRIENDS* 7:30 P.M.
	20TH	TORAH STUDY 9:30 A.M. HAVDALLAH & NOAH ARONSON CONCERT* 5:00 P.M.
	21ST	NOAH JOINS J-QUEST 9:00 A.M.

*RSVP required. Visit our calendar for more information.

Meet Our Newest Members!



THE TUOVER FAMILY
David, Suzanne, Mazi, and Mac



THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY
Ariel, Joshua, Nola, and Lu



ROBERT AND BARBARA DAVIS



Beloved Friends,

I write to you in the midst of a cold and rainy February morning. I look ahead to the days that you will read this when the springtime air begins to fill our souls with the scent of blooming flowers. The days are growing longer, and many of us find ourselves seeking renewal. This yearning for rejuvenation coincides with the celebration of Passover, a festival rich with the themes of redemption, rebirth, and renewal.

Passover, with its rich tapestry of rituals and traditions, offers a poignant opportunity for personal reflection and spiritual growth. Drawing from the timeless wisdom of Mussar, our Jewish ethical tradition, Passover becomes not only a commemoration of historical liberation but also a call to examine and liberate ourselves from internal struggles.

Mussar teachings focus on the importance of cultivating virtues such as gratitude, compassion, and resilience, especially in the face of stress and anxiety that permeates our world. As Rabbi Yisrael Salanter, a prominent figure in the Mussar movement, famously said, *"The purpose of learning Mussar is not to amass Mussar, but to acquire a soft heart."* Passover serves as an annual reminder to apply these teachings in our daily lives, softening our hearts and opening ourselves to growth and transformation.

The narrative of the Exodus serves as a powerful Mussar lesson in resilience and perseverance. Just as the Israelites triumphed over bondage and oppression, so too can we overcome our own personal struggles and limitations by cultivating inner strength and faith. Rabbi Menachem Mendel of Kotzk once remarked, *"There is nothing so whole as a broken heart."* Through our brokenness, we find wholeness and redemption, echoing the journey of the Israelites from slavery to freedom.

Moreover, Passover coincides with the arrival of spring, a season synonymous with new beginnings and fresh starts. In the spirit of Mussar, we are encouraged to harness this energy of renewal to embark on a journey of self-discovery and transformation. Rabbi Eliyahu Dessler, another major teacher in the Mussar tradition, wrote, *"The world is not a hotel, but rather a hospital."* Springtime reminds us that we are on a journey of healing and growth, constantly evolving and striving toward our true potential.

During this season of renewal, Mussar teachings remind us to prioritize self-care and introspection.

Whether through mindfulness practices, journaling, or engaging in acts of *gemilut chasadim*, acts of loving-kindness, finding moments of stillness and reflection can help alleviate the stress and anxiety of an endless political cycle, war in the Middle East and Ukraine, poverty, and increasing polarization. As Rabbi Abraham Twerski once taught, *"Self-esteem comes from being able to define the world in your own terms and refusing to abide by the judgments of others."* By cultivating self-awareness and self-compassion, we can nurture a sense of inner peace and resilience.

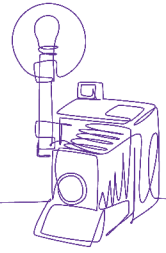
Passover also provides us with the opportunity to cultivate gratitude for the blessings in our lives, a central tenet of Mussar. The Seder, with its focus on storytelling and symbolism, encourages us to reflect on the miracles and wonders that surround us each day. As Rabbi Shlomo Wolbe wrote, *"Gratitude is the most important ingredient of a happy life."* By embracing an "attitude of gratitude," we can shift our perspective and approach life's challenges with renewed optimism and resilience.

I am deeply moved by the words of Rabbi Nachman of Breslov, *"The day you were born is the day God decided the world could not exist without you."* As we celebrate Passover and embrace the arrival of spring, let us remember that each of us plays a unique and indispensable role in the tapestry of creation. May this season of renewal bring healing, joy, and peace to all who seek it, guided by the ancient wisdom of Mussar teachings intertwined with the vibrant energy of Passover and springtime.

Shalom,

ICYMI...

(In Case You Missed It)



Family Bingo Night

Temple Jeremiah families enjoyed Bingo, prizes, and pizza on Sunday, December 17th! Family Bingo Night is an annual event sponsored by Brotherhood.



Jeremiah Kids Pajama Jammie Jam

Jeremiah Kids put on their pj's for our annual Pajama Jammie Jam on Sunday, January 21st! They jammed out to Israeli music, ate Israeli snacks, and played games – all while staying cozy in their jammies!

Club345+6 at Dave & Buster's

Club345 let 6th grade join their fun and games at Dave & Buster's in Vernon Hills on Saturday, January 13th! Attendees were able to eat, play, and enjoy spending time together. Plus, adults got together in the restaurant for their own Saturday night activity!

Shabbat Shirah

Cantor Jonathan Comisar took congregants on a musical journey during our Shabbat Shirah (Shabbat of Song) service on Friday, January 26th. He was accompanied by our adult choir and a blend of musical instruments.

New & Newer Member Breakfast

On Sunday, February 4th, Chefs Rabbi Cohen, Danny Glassman, and Ben Topaz made omelets and waffles for our members who have joined in the last two years. This was an EGGcellent opportunity to hear from some of our committees and how new members can engage in temple activities.



Shabbat Dinner with Families & Family Kabbalat Shabbat

On Friday, February 2nd, families of Kindergarten, 1st, & 2nd graders gathered for Shabbat dinner followed by Family Kabbalat Shabbat. It was a treat for the kids to sit on the Bima and celebrate a youthful and joyous Shabbat as a family.

5 Lesbians Eating a Quiche

The Mosaic Players, a traveling theatre troupe whose work embraces social justice, human rights, and equality, put on a show for congregants on Saturday, February 10th. Following the performance there was a moderated Q&A session with the actors, and of course, quiche!

Send us your photos!

Do you have photos from Jeremiah events you would like to share with us? We would love to see them! Please send photos to Meredith Levinson at meredith@templejeremiah.org.



Multi-sensory Hebrew

RABBI DEBORAH GARDNER HELBRAUN
Hebrew Coordinator
rabbidebbie@templejeremiah.org

If you walked into the *Mercaz Ivrit* (Hebrew Center) you might have seen students putting a banana on their head, jumping with a strawberry, or running to the door with an apple. While it may have looked strange, it is a perfect example of **Hebrew Through Movement**. After learning the name of their fruit in Hebrew, each student was instructed in Hebrew to do various actions with the fruit in tow. Upon leaving, one student asked, “Can we do that again? It was really fun!!” A true success in my book.

Over the last few years, our Hebrew learning has expanded to include multi-sensory methods of learning. Studies show that students learn in different ways, and that they can be most successful if allowed to use their strengths to gain and retain information. Some learn by creating letters and words from play dough, stamps, or beads. Others learn through games, writing, movement, or oral repetition. Students learn in small groups or through one-on-one instruction. The best way to instill learning is to give students variety and options so that they are able to do their best work.

Regardless of learning style, however, it is widely understood that literacy most naturally develops from sound to print. With English, our native language, this happens naturally and often without much thought. Usually, children listen to their parents for a full year before they speak, yet their understanding of their world begins much sooner. They develop a context for their speech and background knowledge as they progress toward reading.

#Onward Hebrew, a Hebrew program created for the 21st century, considered this information when developing their curriculum. J-Quest has embraced many of the tenets of #Onward Hebrew and uses its philosophy in creating our own vision of Hebrew and prayer education.



Students and parents spell “*Shabbat Shalom*” in *Aleph-Bet Yoga* during J-Quest on Sunday, January 14th.

“Hebrew Through Movement” (HTM) is one program that was created in order to help students engage in learning Hebrew orally before they tackle reading. It is based on James J. Asher’s Total Physical Response (TPR) which used body movement as a means of teaching language. HTM begins by teaching students a variety of Hebrew commands such as: sitting, standing, walking, running, spinning, jumping, and pointing, in addition to some nouns, adjectives, and adverbs. Once students have an understanding of these basics, they can use these words to learn holiday, ritual, blessings, and *Tefilah* (prayer) vocabulary completely in Hebrew. It’s amazing to see how much students have accomplished already. Even kindergarteners can understand and respond to a full 10–15-minute lesson taught only in Hebrew.

In addition to this, students are taught both a Hebrew letter and Jewish Life Vocabulary beginning with that letter each week during *Kehilah*, our weekly gathering. For example, when the students learned the letter ת (*tav*), they looked at the shape of the letter, repeated its sound, and made the letter in “*Aleph-Bet Yoga*.” Coupled with this, students learned a phrase that begins with the letter ת (*tav*) תיקון עולם (*tikkun Olam*), meaning “repair the world.”

Throughout their time at J-Quest, students will build upon their learning—hopping, spinning, and gaming their way toward a knowledge base that gives them a strong foundation of Hebrew vocabulary and usage within the context of Judaism and temple life.



Lately Around J-Quest

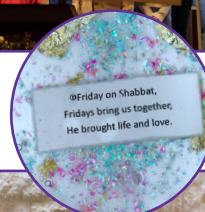
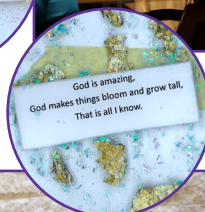
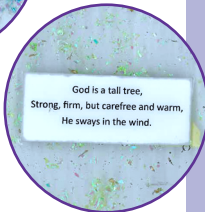


J-Quest Family Day on Sunday, January 14th.

6th graders visited Chicago Jewish Funerals in Skokie on Sunday, January 28th.



4th graders participated in a "Resin Project," crafting Haiku poems into their own art pieces in preparation for their Creative *Tefilah*, which took place on Sunday, February 11th.



A Minute with Mr. Matt



Director of Congregational Learning
matt@templejeremiah.org

Shalom!

It has been an incredible year for J-Quest so far! We have celebrated milestones, implemented new projects, and witnessed personal growth within our students and staff. And we still have more to come!

"What's in a Name?"

3rd Grade Hebrew Name Program

Sunday, March 10th @ 9:00 a.m.

J-Quest Open House for Prospective Members

Sunday, March 10th @ 9:00 a.m.

8th Graders and Up Join the Inclusion Purim Celebration

Sunday, March 10th @ 11:30 a.m.

Children's Author Alice McGinty Visits J-Quest

Sunday, April 7th @ 9:00 a.m.

Teen Talk with Senior Development Officer at Combined Jewish Philanthropies Eliza Kanner (7th-10th Grade)

Sunday, April 7th @ 11:00 a.m.

Kabbalat Shabbat & Confirmation

Friday, May 17th @ 6:30 p.m.

J-Quest Family Day & Shir Joy Concert

Sunday, May 19th @ 9:00 a.m.

While our 2023-24 J-Quest year will come to an end in May, be on the lookout for our 2024-25 registration form going live in the coming months. Whether J-Quest is in session or not, you are welcome to stop by and say hello when you are in the neighborhood. ☺

Matt

5 QUESTIONS FOR...

PAUL DYKSTRA

Temple Jeremiah Musical Director

1

Who is Paul Dykstra? Please tell us a little about yourself.

I'm originally from South Dakota, but have been a Chicagoan since 1986. I'm a graduate of the University of South Dakota, have done extensive graduate work at DePaul and studied opera coaching and conducting at the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz Austria. I worked for 33 years as the CEO of a large not-for-profit professional association and produced the fifth largest trade show in Chicago. Prior to working with Temple Jeremiah, I worked with Cantor Aviva Katzman at Temple Sholom of Chicago for nearly 30 years. During that time I also conducted the Lira Ensemble and Symphony of Chicago, the nation's only professional performing arts organization dedicated to the culture of Poland, which culminated in sold out performances at Symphony Center.

2

What do you do at Temple Jeremiah?

I am currently working as the Musical Director with dual focus on working with the adult choir and the keyboard needs for services.

Fun Fact: If Paul could instantly learn any language, he would choose Italian. "I am in my third year of intense study. But can I speak it? Nope!!"



3

What does the "Joy of Belonging" mean to you?

Personally just the utter joy I feel being with the members of the Synagogue. It is why I consider the temple my Jewish home.



5

What are your favorite things to do outside of work?

Cooking and musical theatre/opera.

4

What's your favorite Jewish tradition?

I've observed B'nai Mitzvah services for more than 30 years, and I must say nothing is more delightful to me than seeing the efforts of these young people being celebrated and praised by family, friends, and the congregation. Seeing the support the participants receive warms my heart through and through, because the reinforcement and the belief in themselves this affords these young people is beyond belief.

In action:

Paul Dykstra conducting the adult choir practice prior to our Shabbat Chanukah service.



Spotlight: Adult Choir

The Temple Jeremiah choir is a great way to meet new friends, make beautiful music, and have fun. Our Adult Choir is the only choir in the North Shore that gathers weekly and sings monthly. All voices are welcome. No musical or Hebrew background is required.

Check our calendar for rehearsal times and performances. To get involved, please email Paul Dykstra (paul@salondesartistesmusic.com).



*I have been a member of Temple Jeremiah and the Jeremiah Choir for five years. It was a no brainer for me to join this kind and caring group of people who love to sing. I love music and Jewish Choral Music is my vehicle for prayer. **Tuesday nights' rehearsals are my early Shabbat.***
-Michael Mitzen



*TJ's adult choir is certainly one of the top Synagogue volunteer choirs in Chicagoland. We study and work together on everything from current folk/lighter liturgical music to the fully blown mastery of music written for the High Holy Days and other major observances. **The choir has grown from a few loyal singers to nearly 30 recurrent participants. We welcome anyone with a love for music to join us in serving the temple and its members.***
-Paul Dykstra

I've been a member of the adult choir for five years now. Music brings joy to my soul and I get so much personal fulfillment singing in the choir at temple. I like learning about different Jewish composers and learning new pieces. As a choir, I hope that we are adding spiritual inspiration to a service through our songs. Happily, the choir feels like a big family supporting each other but we always are ready to welcome anyone who wants to sing with us.
-Lisa Levy



Adult Choir preparing and performing for Shabbat Shirah, which featured Cantor Jonathan Comisar and took place on Friday, January 26th.



Social Justice at Temple Jeremiah

RECEIVE
ADVOCACY
ALERTS



Feed the Hungry

More Lunches Needed to Meet Demand!

Our partnership with Another Chance Assembly in the Austin neighborhood of Chicago has enabled us to continue our mission to feed the hungry in an area with the most need. We have been asked by Pastor Kay to provide more lunches going forward now that many migrants are being sheltered in the area.

Please consider this ask as a wonderful opportunity to make lunches together as a family on a Saturday night and bring them to the temple on the first Sunday of every month. All ages can assemble the lunches in the comfort of your own home, and it's a chance to unplug from electronics and talk while packing. For questions, please contact Mindy Kurtz (cupermom@aol.com) or Stephen Miller (stephenmiller2854@gmail.com).

Feed the Hungry
Sundays, Mar. 3rd & Apr. 7th
@ 9:00 a.m.
tinyurl.com/FTH2324

Backpack Blessings

Opportunities to Make a Difference

Volunteers of all ages and abilities are welcome to help with Temple Jeremiah's Backpack Blessings Program, which feeds between 40 and 60 children during the school year. As part of the program, children in the Highland Park/Highwood School District are sent home with a bag of nourishing food to eat on weekends when the children do not receive free breakfast and lunch at school.

Another volunteer opportunity is to pick up the bins from Red Oak Elementary School on the Friday before packing before 3:00 p.m. and bring them to Temple Jeremiah. For questions, please contact Jacki Krashin (jackikrashin@gmail.com) or Melanie Morrow (stein.melanie@gmail.com).

Backpack Blessings
Sunday, Apr. 21st
@ 9:00 a.m.
tinyurl.com/Backpack2324

Thank You!

Oren Jacobson



Oren Jacobson was welcomed back to Temple Jeremiah on Tuesday, December 19th to discuss the real-time ways in which antisemitism is showing up in discourse around the war between Hamas and Israel, especially in more progressive spaces. To watch the recording of the presentation, visit our YouTube channel.

Family Promise Volunteers

Thank you to all our volunteers who made our Family Promise hosting a success. We hosted guests for three weeks at Temple Jeremiah and engaged in meaningful connection over dinner the last week. We look forward to hosting Family Promise guests again in the fall. Volunteering for Family Promise gives you the opportunity to bring food and share dinner with families experiencing housing insecurity while they stay at Temple Jeremiah. You can also help out by shopping for groceries. For questions, please contact Dana Garbarski (dana.garbarski@gmail.com).



Brotherhood & Sisterhood

Men's Night Out: March Madness Basketball & Dinner




**Thursday, March 21st
7:00 p.m.
Buffalo Wild Wings
(Northbrook)**




Come for a men's night out at Buffalo Wild Wings, where we'll have dinner and watch a lot of NCAA Tournament Basketball. Reply to dbellows60025@yahoo.com by March 19th if you are planning to attend.



Sisterhood Book Club



Contact Randi Gurian at randi.gurian@gmail.com for more information about Sisterhood Book Club.

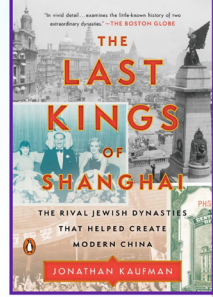


The Last Kings of Shanghai

By Jonathan Kaufman

Thursday, March 14th
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

An epic, multigenerational story of two rival Jewish dynasties who flourished in Shanghai and Hong Kong as twentieth-century China surged into the modern era.




Between Friends

By Amos Oz

Thursday, April 11th
10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

These eight interconnected stories, set in the fictitious Kibbutz Yekhat, draw masterly profiles of idealistic men and women enduring personal hardships in the shadow of one of the greatest collective dreams of the twentieth century.



B'nai Mitzvah Date Request Form 2026-2027

The B'nai Mitzvah Date Request Form for 2026-2027 was sent via email on February 26th to families with students currently in our 4th grade J-Quest Sunday School and Hebrew Programs. It is an online form. If you did not receive the form link via email, have questions regarding the form, or would prefer a hard copy be mailed to your home, please contact Cindy Lieb, B'nai Mitzvah Coordinator, by phone, (847) 261-0729, or email, cindy@templejeremiah.org.

Date requests are due by Monday, April 1st, 2024, and final dates will be emailed to families on Monday, May 6th, 2024. Please note, Cindy is unable to hold, reserve, or release any dates prior to May 6th.



Host Your B'nai Mitzvah Party or Kiddush Luncheon at TJ!



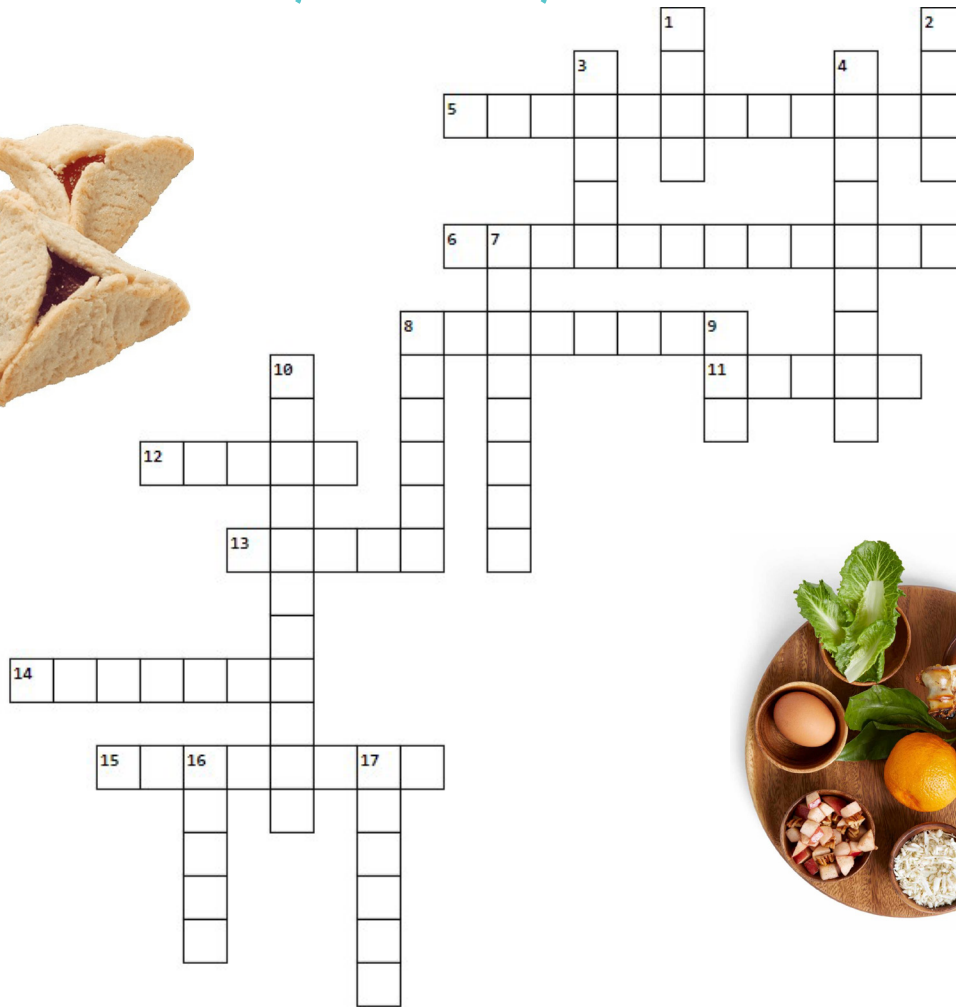
We offer all the amenities and services to make your event a success:

- **Preferred Provider Program:** *Select all the services you need from our approved vendor list with special pricing for our members.*
- **Choose your caterer:** *Customize your meal with any of our preferred caterers.*
- **Flexible Lighting and Superior Acoustics**
- **Flexible spaces for different sizes and phases of your event**
- **Dance floor**
- **Handicapped accessibility**

To learn more about renting our temple facility for a Shabbat Dinner, B'nai Mitzvah party, or Kiddush Luncheon, contact Cindy Lieb.

Jeremiah Crossword Puzzle

PURIM, PASSOVER, & PUZZLES!



ACROSS

5. Triangular filled-pocket pastries associated with the holiday of Purim.
6. Born in Chicago, Illinois, the son of a Russian Jewish mother and an Irish father, this actor is best known for his roles as Indiana Jones and Hans Solo.
8. Rabbi Helbraun wrote an article in this issue of the Covenant, highlighting Hebrew Through _____.
11. _____ Day is an annual event on April 22nd to demonstrate support for environmental protection.
12. The villain of Purim.
13. Our Inclusion Purim Celebration will take place on the 10th of this month.
14. On Sunday, March 17th, our day of Purim activities will begin with the 21st Annual _____ Shuffle 5K Run/Walk!
15. Maot Chitim Food Delivery for this holiday will take place on Sunday, April 14th.

DOWN

1. This TJ youth group, which hosts events geared toward 8th-12th graders, will be testing their golf skills at Topgolf on Saturday, April 13th.
2. Jewish Singer/Songwriter known for her 'colorful' stage name.
3. Israel is a global leader in adopting _____ recycling practices.
4. On Saturday, April 20th, Club345 will host their annual Passover seder experience infused with this sweet ingredient.
7. Temple Jeremiah's Social Justice Committee recently shared our updated social justice platforms, which guide our _____ work.
8. Unleavened "bread" that is part of Jewish cuisine and forms an integral element of the Passover festival.
9. The number of plagues associated with Passover.
10. Also on Saturday, April 20th, this musician will be holding a concert at Temple Jeremiah.
16. If you look at our "Calling J-Quest Teachers!" bulletin board in our main office, you will see this number of teachers list Passover as their favorite holiday.
17. The *Megillah*, or Book of _____, recounts the story of Purim.

Crossword Puzzle Answers on Page 17.

Previously at Temple Jeremiah



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The Scott B. Crane Abilities Awareness Shabbat

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Thank You!

**Purim, Passover, & Puzzles
Answers**

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