

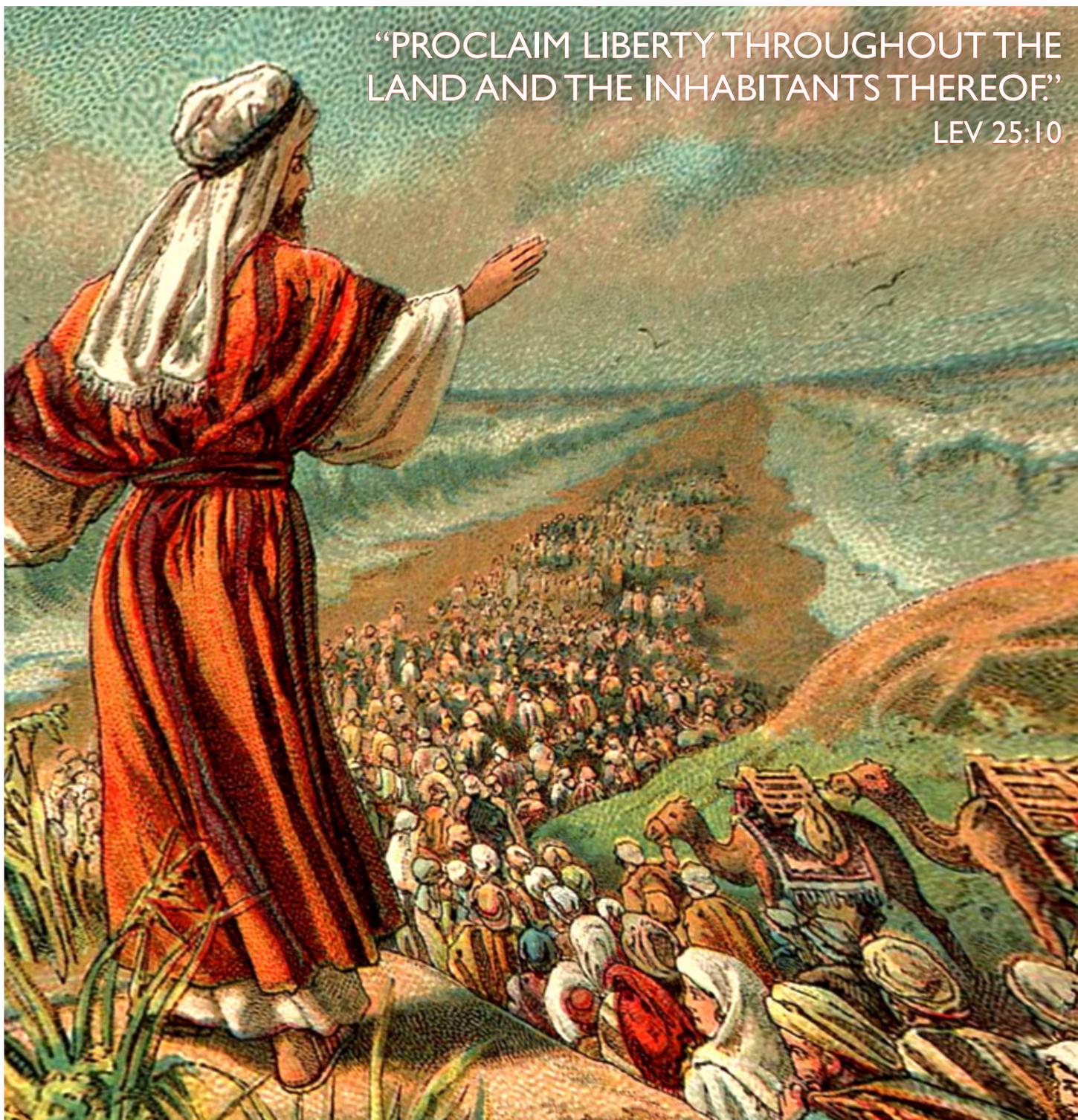


THE SHPIEL

APRIL 2020 | NISSAN/IYAR 5780

“PROCLAIM LIBERTY THROUGHOUT THE
LAND AND THE INHABITANTS THEREOF.”

LEV 25:10



All meetings are held in the Chapel Center unless otherwise noted.

SLJC April 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Devorah Hadassah Chicks (offsite) CANCELLED	2	3 11:00 am Devorah Hadassah Fashion Show (Global Tea Mart) CANCELLED	4
5 3:00 pm Friends of Israel Meeting CANCELLED	6	7	8	9	10	11 5:00 pm Annual Community Passover Seder CANCELLED
12	13	14 9:30 am SLJC Sisterhood Board Meeting CANCELLED 2:00 pm Shalom Hadassah Women's Seder (offsite)	15	16	17 7:00 pm Shabbat Service CANCELLED	18
19 9:00 am JWV Event Meet & Greet with Yehoshua David Campbell (offsite) CANCELLED	20a	21	22 Out to Lunch with Devorah (offsite) CANCELLED	23 1:00 pm Sisterhood Program, Paris Lights CANCELLED 1:30 pm Devorah Hadassah literary Ladies (offsite) CANCELLED	24	25
26	27					

HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 From the Clergy
- 5 Co-Presidents' Message
- 10 Celebrations & Yahrzeits
- 12 Contributions
- 12 Donation Form

- Co-President, Geri Gould (480) 305-0123
- Co-President, Wendy Feldman-Kerr (602) 541-6185
- Membership, Marilyn Koss (480) 940-1916
- Rabbi Irwin Wiener, D.D. (623) 640-5913
- Cantor, Ronda Polesky (480) 247-8408
- Music Director, Lana Oyer (602) 524-5936
- Graphics, Mike Milgroom (480) 802-7990

To submit to *The Shpiel* or for more information, please contact Geri Gould at (480) 305-0123, or gerijim@hotmail.com.



Where Was Man?

Each year we consecrate ourselves to the proposition that we will never again allow the fiery furnace of hate and indifference consume us. This is a solemn pledge reaffirmed by each generation. For the past seventy-five years we bore witness to the edge

of defeat and then to victory. In our hearts we have forgiven, but our souls will never forget. The memories we carry will ensure the immortality of those who perished in the nightmare of despicable atrocities. Can we ever forget the dialogue of Holocaust survivors who asked the question, “At Auschwitz, where was God?” And the answer we hear is, “Where was man?”

God does not promote hatred nor does God encourage dangerous episodes of degradation and humiliation. What God does is give us the insight into the evil that can overcome us when we forget discipline and concern for one another. And though we have this divinely inspired insight, we still find ourselves brought to a level of monstrous proportions — the mortal sin of depravity.

Repeated are arguments about the absence of God during the terrible ordeals we encountered then and still do day after day. It is not easy to engage in conversations attempting to explain that God is not responsible for our behavior; rather we alone control our thoughts and actions. To some, this is too simple an answer. We search for the One who gave us life and seems to have abandoned us in our hour of need.

The one common thread in the tapestry of human existence is a simple thing called hope. There is a future. There will always be a future. What that future will be rests with us. The most important aspect of hope is the salvation of the human spirit. We must recall the sacrifices of so many because they enable us to bask in the glory of redemption.

A twelve-year old girl, who witnessed first-hand the horrors inflicted, cried out “No, no, my God, we want to live! Not watch our numbers melt away. We want

to have a better world. We want to work — we must not die!” Is this not the cry of humanity? We all want to see a world of togetherness and connection, reaching fulfillment and completion. The cry of all victims is a universal plea for sanity and survival. It is the plea of more than sixty million people from all walks of life, all corners of the globe, who were sacrificed because humanity chose to ignore the signs of hatred. Never forget that ten percent were the People Israel.

Can we ever understand the evil humans can inflict on each other? Can we ever rid ourselves of the stench from the ovens of mass destruction and the cries of the helpless as they endure the agony of indifference? Another victim of the Holocaust, Yitzchak Katznelson, wrote:

I dreamed a dream-unadulterated terror – my people had vanished. They were gone, no more. Oh, God on high, I cried out, trembling, why should it be that my people has died? How can it be that they died in vain? Not even in battle, not even in war. Young and old, women and children, have ceased to be. They are no more—wring your hands in grief! I cry thus in anguish both day and night, Why Lord? Why God? Why?

Where was man? As always, he was asleep waiting to be wakened by the thunder of marching men, women and children rushing to their salvation. God is waiting for us to break the chains of terror and create a world of contentment, free of fear. In these trying times, more than ever, we need the understanding that only collectively can we defeat hatred and destruction. Together we can overcome the evil that permeates our society and societies around the world. How can we, given our history, turn our backs on the plight of refugees and the senseless carnage of our humanity? We are, at this juncture, reliving the past. However, this time, the end is closer, the evil more deadly, and results more devastating.

It is not enough to ask, “Why Lord? Why God? Why?” This time, in this place, we can and should determine that this devastation will NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN, not with slogans, but with steadfastness followed by action. Then, perhaps, the annual Holocaust Remembrance will have meaning for all of us. 🕯️

SLJC MEN'S CLUB

The Men's Club is a social organization that meets the first Tuesday of the month from September through June. We have interesting speakers from our community to address our membership each of these months. Guests are always invited, and refreshments are provided. The organization also has special lunches as well as various site visits in the local area. The Temple membership is encouraged to be members of the Men's Club to enable fellowship throughout our Jewish Community and achieve our social responsibility as a Jewish Community. Membership dues are due on July 1 each year. It is truly the BEST DEAL in town.

The Men's Club collects non-perishable food for local food banks prior to Friday night Services in front of the Chapel from 6:15 to 6:45 pm. Do not leave by the garage as they may get lost or discarded. Please consider donating to this worthy cause. We have collected 757 pounds of food since the High Holy Day services. Keep up the good work!

Normally, the next meeting would have been scheduled for April 7 at 7 pm at the Chapel Center. However, due to the outbreak and concerns over the Coronavirus, future meetings and functions are postponed to a later time for the protection of our Congregants and members.

For further information contact Steve Horowitz stevehorowitz@windstream.net



LONE SOLDIER PROJECT

Lone Soldier Connection to Sun Lakes

Alexis Julia Wasserman, granddaughter of Linda and Bill Wasserman, grew up in Livingston New Jersey. From a young age, Alexis and her family spent time visiting Israel, and she always felt a strong connection to the country. After attending college for one year, Alexis joined the IDF and was assigned to the canine unit where she spent three years with her dog Pito on active duty. She was discharged in July 2019.

If you ask her, she would tell you that her experience was amazing. Alexis now lives in New York and attends NYU School of Nursing.

If you have a relative who was or is currently a Lone Soldier in the IDF, please let us know so we can tell their story. For more information, please call (480) 895-4660.



CO-PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

GERI GOULD AND WENDY FELDMAN-KERR



In the Safford Federal Prison in Safford, Arizona, there sits a prisoner named Martin Gonzalez. For the past few months, SLJC has received checks sent by the U.S. Department of the Treasury from Martin Gonzalez, with only one word as his message: “Shalom.”

Nobody knows who Martin Gonzalez is or why he has chosen SLJC to receive his modest donations. We tracked down his location by calling Kyrsten Sinema’s local office because the prison in which he is incarcerated is not identified. They found a prisoner registration name and number that matched the one on the check. At least we can send him a thank you note and ask him why he is he doing this.

We can concoct any theory we want. Maybe he has a Jewish relative in the area. Maybe he is Jewish himself. Maybe he once belonged to a skinhead gang and feels remorse. Maybe he read about the upswing in antisemitic attacks and decided he wanted to show that bigotry and hatred are not universal. Maybe he just likes Jews in Sun Lakes. We may never really know.

But especially now, as we observe Passover and the Holocaust during the month of April, we should just be grateful that he is thinking of us. We are not slaves of the Pharaoh nor are we living in the hell of the Nazi vision of a people who had to be eradicated. Martin Gonzalez does not have the prerogative to come and go as we do, cannot make decisions about how his days are spent as we can, and perhaps lives in fear of prison gangs as we do not. He does not have the blessing of freedom each day, or freedom at night without the certainty of waking up in the morning facing guards and bars that keep him locked up.

If this month means anything at all, it means we can look back, hear repeated stories of captivity in Biblical times and horror and death in modern times, and thank God we are here now and we are free from what our ancestors and some congregants — survivors or relatives of survivors — lived through. Let’s remember: **we are here now and we are free.** Martin Gonzalez does not have that luxury. Yet with each check, he wishes us shalom. 🕯️

This is the time of year when we plan for our annual **“BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE”** in which we honor and memorialize our departed family members. This printed book is given out at the **YOM KIPPUR MEMORIAL SERVICE**. Since there are many members who leave for the summer months, and will want to have a listing in the book, we ask that you fill out the form below and send it in as soon as possible. A completed form, even if your information has not changed, must be included with your payment and be received no later than **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2020**

NAMES WILL BE COUNTED, NOT LINES. EACH NAME ON A LINE WILL BE COUNTED INDIVIDUALLY.

Prices for the publication are as follows:

One quarter page	\$18.00	one to ten names
One half page	\$36.00	one to fifteen names
Full Page	\$72.00	one to twenty names

Rreturn with your check payable to Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation to:

Susan & Michael Cohen, 9008 E. Stoney Vista Ct., Sun Lakes, AZ 85248 – questions call 895-4660

USE SEPARATE CHECK FOR MEMORIAL - DO NOT INCLUDE WITH OTHER CONGREGATIONAL DUES

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

IF NAMES HAVE NOT BEEN CHANGED IN PREVIOUS MEMORIAL, CHECK HERE: _____

NEW MEMORIAL, CHECK HERE: _____

PLEASE USE SEPARATE PAPER AND ATTACH TO THIS FORM

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PLEASE USE SEPARATE PAPER AND ATTACH TO THIS FORM

Amount Enclosed:

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SIGN YOUR NAME[S] EXACTLY AS YOU WISH IT TO APPEAR IN YOUR MEMORIAL

By _____

Your telephone number OR email address: _____

APRIL CELEBRATIONS

ANNIVERSARIES — *kol hakavod* — to a great year ahead together!

14 Marilyn & Harvey Fein
13 Roberta & Maishe Levitan

BIRTHDAYS — *mazel tov* — another year older and another year wiser!

4 Rita L. Tanen	20 Elaine (Lainy) Sardina
6 Sara jo Deahl	21 Charles Wolin
8 Michael Milgroom	22 Myron Bernstein
11 Susan Palmbeck	23 Gail Kollman
11 Jason Sherter	23 Sandra Schulman
14 Sheila Asroff	25 Howard Weiner
16 David Israel	27 Alan Behr
19 Gary Klein	30 Gina Caplan

APRIL YAHRZEITS

Zichronam livrachah — may their memories be a blessing.

Henrietta Behr
Kate Bender
Harry Bendick
Anna Bernstein
Joseph Blumenfeld
Joseph Bright
Estelle Brooks
Herman Brown
Nathan Codkind
Herman Cohen
Rae Cohen
Abraham Cooper
Sophie Cooper
Jack Dante
Ida Doctorow
Sarah Feit
Joseph Fishman
Samuel Flaxman

Rose Freed
Louis Freedman
Pearl Freedman
Helen Garber
Sol Gerson
Abraham Gersten
Jack Gindick
Henri Degenshein
Glicenstein
Marcelle Glicenstein
Frieda Goldstein
Jerry Goodman
Zelda Gordon
Harry A. Groban
Clara Haufman
Luddy Israel
Gloria Israel

Sol Kahn
Ester Katz
Yetta Katz
Harry Kimmelman
Irwin Kolicoff
Mildred Kopsenal
Jerome Kubrin
Sylvia Kubrin
Irving Lavin
Gertrude Lavin
Isaac Levitan
Irving Levy
Stephen Meltzer
Barney Meltzer
Judy Moise
Siegfried Moses
Morris Nelson
Isidore Pinsly

Janet Plotkin
Morris Rocklin
Robert J. Rossow
Helen Roth
Elhanan Sakulsky
Bennit Scheck
Esther Schulman
Joseph Shagrin
Joseph Shagrin Jr.
Harriet Sharff
Joan Steinberg
Joel Zuckerman

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

The SLJC community extends our deepest condolences to the Kollman family on the recent passing of Ron, and to the Mintz family on the recent passing of Mel. Please accept our sympathy.

NOTES TO THE ENTIRE CONGREGATION VIA THE COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD SHOULD BE SENT TO GERI GOULD AT GERIJIM@HOTMAIL.COM.

I want to thank everyone who has phoned, sent emails, cards, brought meals and came to visit me when I was permitted to have visitors after my recent hospitalization.

Alan and I appreciate all the sincere concern and support that has been shown to us during these many months of being evaluated and finally getting diagnosed.

I'm hoping in the coming months that I will be able to come back to Temple and see everyone.

Sincerely,
Marilyn Behr

Shopping List for SLJC
(Donations gratefully accepted):

- Matzo for Passover Seder
- Wine for Passover Seder

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CONTRIBUTIONS



Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation gratefully acknowledges the following contributions made from February 13 through March 5 in honor or memory of a special person or event. If you would like to make a contribution, please use the donation form below.

GENERAL FUND

For Passover Seder
by Anonymous Donor
For Peace
by Martin Gonzalez

MUSIC FUND

In Honor of Makena Sophie
Rush's Bat Mitzvah
by Michael and Mireille Kaplan

FLOWER FUND

In Memory of Jerry Goodman
by Cyril Goodman

YAHRZEIT FUND

Sarah Weinberg
by Judy & Irwin Plafker
Louis Cohen and Gittel Nelson
by Gail Dante
Morris Nelson, Jack Dante, Rae
Cohen
by Gail Dante
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by Shirlee Katzman
David Kornetsky and Jason
Dean Kornetsky
by SaraRuth Rossow
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by Alex Goldstein
Sidney Klein
by Wendy Goldstein
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*by Geri & Jim Gould and Janey
& Jeff Burnce*
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by Ruth Dolin
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by Shelly Henden
Joan Steinberg
by Sharon Becker
Nathan Codkind
by Ronald Codkind
Sylvia Kubrin and Jerome
Kubrin
by Steven and Susan Kubrin
Jack Ornstein
by Susan Reeves
Esther Schulman
by Ellin Merritt
Luddy Israel
by David Israel
Jerry Goodman
by Cyril Goodman

Irwin Kolikoff
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Frieda Goldstein, Marcella
Glicenstein, Henri Louis
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Gloria Israel
by Marc Israel

Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation Donation Form

Please accept this contribution to the following fund, in honor/memory of:

Chapel _____ Oneg _____ Music _____ Family Fund _____ Flower _____ Torah _____

Yahrzeit Honoree: _____ Month _____

Please send card to:

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Minimum donation of \$10, please. Minimum contribution to the Flower Fund is \$50.

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DO YOU REMEMBER? This photo was taken in 2011 and features the first SLJC Adult B'nei Mitzvah class. In future issues, we will display pictures of past events in the life of our congregation. Share some of your favorite photo memories, reflecting the vibrancy of our congregation as it continues to celebrate milestones in our history.

Back Row: Eleanor Miller, Barbara Gordon, Bunny Elman, Marcia Weiner, Barbara Kaplan, Sandy Friedson, Anita Frindell, Diane Silverman, Carol Weiner, Fran Applebaum

Front Row: Mildred Nires, Blanche Kay, Lita Schiller, Rabbi Wiener, Glenda Warshaw, JoAnn Rubinstein, Rhoda Zaretz