

Temple Beth Sholom Presents:

# Our Voices – A Monthly Newsletter

April 2022 – Adar II/Nisan 5782 | Issue 26 | A Jewish Center for Life, Learning, and Connections

## Important Contacts

Mike Winston, President – [winston.mike@gmail.com](mailto:winston.mike@gmail.com)

Ruth Irving, Executive Director – [riving@tbsoc.com](mailto:riving@tbsoc.com)

Rabbi David Lipper – [rabbilipper@tbsoc.com](mailto:rabbilipper@tbsoc.com)

Cantor David Reinwald – [dreinwald@tbsoc.com](mailto:dreinwald@tbsoc.com)

**Services** | Shabbat Evening Services will be streamed and offered in-person at TBS at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted

**Torah Study** | Saturdays in-person or virtual at 9:15 a.m.

## Join Us for Our Upcoming Events!

**4/1 @ 6:00 p.m.** | Family Shabbat Service – Join us for our monthly, family-friendly service. Family services are held the first Shabbat of the month at 6:00 p.m.

**4/3 @ 8:45 a.m.** | Brotherhood/Sisterhood Hike – It's time again for our almost-monthly hike. We will leave at 9:00 sharp from the Weir Canyon Trail. 1175 S. Hidden Canyon Road, Anaheim Hills. This is a 3.9 mile moderate to difficult hike. A wide dirt trail, but many hills. Register at <https://tbsoc.com/hike/>

**4/3 @ 10:00 a.m.** | The Visitors Concert – Enjoy a free musical morning with The Visitors, musicians from the Broadway tour of *The Band's Visit*, who will grace us with this unique opportunity to hear their original music.

**4/3 @ 1:00 p.m.** | Rabbi Lipper Presents: Searching the Prophets for Values – Rabbi continues his adult education series.

**4/10 @ 10:00 a.m.** | Brotherhood Speaker Series – Jeremy Sirota will be speaking, and his talk is called “A Music Man in the Digital Age.” Jeremy is the son of Ed and Ilene Sirota and is the CEO of Merlin, the independent's digital music licensing partner based in New York and London.

**4/10 @ 1:00 p.m.** | Rabbi Lipper Presents: Searching the Prophets for Values – Rabbi continues his adult education series.

**4/15 @ 5:00 p.m.** | Shabbat Evening Service – VIRTUAL ONLY – Erev Passover. See the website for streaming links.

**4/16 @ 10:30 a.m.** | Passover Service – Please join us in person for this special service (virtual options available).

**4/16 @ 6:00 p.m.** | Second Night Community Seder – Join us for a retelling of the Passover story and a delicious, catered seder from Parties by Panache. (See the weekly Shavu'on for details and pricing)

**4/22 @ 10:30 a.m.** | Passover Yizkor Service – With Rabbi Lipper in the Chapel

**4/24 @ 1:00 p.m.** | Rabbi Lipper Presents: Searching the Prophets for Values – Rabbi continues his adult education series.

**4/28 @ 6:30 p.m.** | Brotherhood Poker Night – Held in the Social Hall each month. Contact Lew Seigler with questions.

**4/29 @ 6:00 p.m.** | Brotherhood Shabbat Service – Join us as Brotherhood hosts this special service.

# Worship at TBS

## From the Rabbi's Study

*Rabbi David Lipper*

It's hard to believe that 9 months have passed since we first met one another. It feels like Dora and I are filled now with a lifetime of memories and a future of meaningful friendships here in the OC. As we focus on our future, I want to spend a little time in the present. TBS is an amazing community. It is filled with love, laughter, and deep meaningful caring about each other. You surround each other with blessings of heart and soul in ways that other communities we have served do not. You should all feel proud of the community you have created and the powerful memories it generates. And when times are tough, and they do get tough, you are here for one another to lift each other up. It's beautiful to see.

We are all about memories. And to help create them moving forward, we are moving early to outdoor worship so we can remove our masks and gather under the OC sky. Beginning on 4/1 with our family service, we are moving Shabbat to our Summer schedule (6:00 p.m.) and moving to the patio for worship. It's really a blessing we have such a wonderful prayerful space outdoors. This will enable those who have not come to services because they were indoors, to attend and be a part of our amazing community. I hope that our young families who were very supportive of our summer services, will come back and join us at 6:00 p.m. A community's energy is enhanced by strong Shabbat participation. And bring your friends ... Our doors are open.

This month we mark Pesach. This year, because of the tremendous refugee problems due to the war in Ukraine, let's try and find a way through our Seder gatherings to help the millions fleeing the war, find a meal. This year I am going to support financially, World Central Kitchen. WCK is first to the frontlines, providing meals in response to humanitarian, climate, and community crises. They build resilient food systems with locally led solutions. From the WCK website:



World Central Kitchen started with a simple idea: when people are hungry, send in cooks. Not tomorrow, today. Everyone knows that food is central to life and family all over the world. Food is even more essential in a crisis. It all began in 2010 after a huge earthquake devastated Haiti. Food relief is not just a meal that keeps hunger away. It's a plate of hope. It tells you in your darkest hour that someone, somewhere, cares about you. This is the real meaning of comfort food. It's why we make the effort to cook in a crisis. We don't just deliver raw ingredients and expect people to fend for themselves. And we don't just dump free food into a disaster zone: we source and

hire locally wherever we can, to jump-start economic recovery through food. After a disaster, food is the fastest way to rebuild our sense of community. We can put people back to work preparing it, and we can put lives back together by fighting hunger. WCK uses the power of food to nourish communities and strengthen economies in times of crisis and beyond. When disaster strikes, WCK's Chef Relief Team mobilizes to the front lines with the urgency of now to start cooking and provide meals to people in need. WCK's resilience work advances human and environmental health, offers access to professional culinary training, creates jobs, and improves food security for the people we serve. WCK has provided tens of millions of fresh, nourishing meals for communities around the world.

You can help this Pesach by donating at [www.wck.org](http://www.wck.org). Dora and I wish you a "Zissen Pesach!" and we hope that you have a beautiful Pesach gathering this year.

## Worship Committee Update

*Karen Warren, VP of Worship*



place in the social hall and Parties by Panache will be providing a delicious meal. Details, pricing, and registration links are on the website and in the weekly Shavu'on. If you would like to help with Onegs or be a part of the Worship Committee, please reach out to me at [warrenk123@gmail.com](mailto:warrenk123@gmail.com).

Beginning in April, services will return to 6:00 p.m. and, weather permitting, will be held outdoors to take advantage of the fresh air and beautiful Southern California evenings. We are also happy to continue Onegs in April but please note that we will continue to mask while inside the building. Lastly, I would like to personally invite you to our 2<sup>nd</sup> Night Community Passover Seder. It will take

## Executive Messages

*Mike Winston, TBS President*

Finally, Passover is almost here. My wife, Mimi, and I started planning our seder as soon as we got home from Purim—though I admit my head was still spinning from the amazingly hilarious Purim spiel put on by “Aunt Shirley.” The brisket, the matzah ball soup, the gefilte fish (if you have only had it out of a jar, you are missing out) ... my mouth is watering just from writing this. As Jews, we seem to live our lives around meals. We don't just meet up with friends, we meet up for dinner. And in our home, no holiday revolves around food more than Passover. As I mentioned back in December, my favorite holidays are ones that we celebrate at home with unique and individual traditions. I think I like this because of the hustle and bustle around the house and that I love the art of cooking. Getting a multi-course, multi-side meal served on time, with hot things hot, cold things cold, and crunchy things crunchy is a challenge that I love. Now if I can just get everyone to read the Haggadah at the correct speed, we'd be set.

Running temple and participating in its events is like putting on a Passover seder all year long. But rather than trying to serve hot things hot and cold things cold, we work to make religious things religious, fun things fun, and educational things educational. Not everything always comes out perfect. But this year, our temple “meal” has been amazing. Our clergy is inspiring and thought provoking, our staff works tirelessly to keep our community together, and our lay-leadership and volunteers have been creating some amazing events and opportunities for our community. I am very proud of where TBS is right now and continue to look to the future with hope and joy. L'Shalom.

## Brotherhood

### Community – Fellowship – Action – Service

*Sylvan Swartz, Brotherhood Director of Membership*

Southern California weather remained pleasant in March, although a little rain would be nice. At any rate, your TBS Brotherhood not only BBQed the burgers to the bone (actually, there were no bones) but also veggie burgers and kosher hot dogs for the Purim Carnival which was spectacular. What a turn out we had. Brotherhood, this year, purchased all the food, then cooked it, then served it. Now I am not saying that the Purim Carnival success was due to Brotherhood cooking and serving but hey, maybe a little bit was due to our superb culinary skills. (cont. on page 4)

## *Brotherhood, Cont.*

March 20<sup>th</sup> was the second of the Sons and Daughters of TBS Speaker Series featuring Dr. Jeffrey Siegler, son of Lew Siegler and Karen Siegler of blessed memory. This has been a fascinating series, learning about the very distinguished careers of these adult children. Our next speaker, on **April 10<sup>th</sup>**, will be Jeremy Sirota, son of Ed and Ilene Sirota. He is CEO at Merlin, the independent's digital music licensing partner based in New York and London.

And as if this wasn't enough, Brotherhood could finally have another poker night on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Our temple card sharks are starting to show up in force for this monthly event and are having a great time. If you are a novice, you are welcomed, and everyone will take great pity on you. If nothing else, come have a nosh and kibitz with everyone. Our next poker night is **Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup>** in the social hall.

We look forward to another Brotherhood/Sisterhood hike this month on **April 3<sup>rd</sup>**. We will leave at 9:00 sharp from the Weir Canyon Trail. 1175 S. Hidden Canyon Road, Anaheim Hills. This is a 3.9 mile moderate to difficult hike. A wide dirt trail, but many hills. Register at <https://tbsoc.com/hike/> And if you want something a little easier, we will be doing those closer to the beach this summer.

Lastly, watch for more info on the Brotherhood Shabbat on **April 29<sup>th</sup>**. We will be hosting services and hope to see you there. And until next time remember, if you are a man, if you have a man, or if you know a man, sign them up for Brotherhood. Regards to all and a Chag Pesach Sameach from Brotherhood.

### **Brotherhood Speaker Series - The Sons and Daughters of TBS: Celebrating Our Blessings!**



#### **"A Music Man for The Digital Age"**

**Jeremy Sirota, CEO, Merlin**

*Sunday, April 10, 2022, via Zoom at 10:00 a.m. PDT*

Jeremy is the son of Ed and Ilene Sirota and is a husband and father, as well as CEO of Merlin, the independent's digital music licensing partner based in New York and London. He currently resides in New York City, but was born in Los Angeles and raised in Orange County, where he attended Hebrew School and Sunday School at Temple Beth Sholom. He was deeply inspired by his Rabbi who oversaw his Bar Mitzvah.

After graduating from UC Berkeley, Jeremy spent time in New York at the tail end of the dot com boom, working as a brand designer at Juno Online. In 2001, Jeremy moved back to California for law school, UC Hastings, and then moved back to New York to take a job at a global law firm, Morrison and Foerster, in their tech/startup practice. From there, he took on several different senior positions at Warner Music Group before working on the Facebook Music Team and finally landing at Merlin (known in the music industry as "the fourth major" alongside Universal, Sony and Warner) in January 2020.

Over the years, Jeremy has maintained a connection to his Jewish heritage. He has visited Israel several times, including volunteer service, participating in REALITY's tech leadership program, and traveling there for work. Each time, he was mesmerized by the beauty of the land, the vibrancy of the country, and the spirit of the Israeli people. Recently, Jeremy's wife traveled to Israel with the Jewish Women's Renaissance Project. She was inspired by her experience and has helped maintain a spiritual Judaism in the Sirota household. The family enjoys celebrating Shabbat with friends and family. For Jeremy, living in the Lower East Side has felt like a return home, which still has a large community of cultural and religious Jews.



### **“A Legal Approach to Dealing with Prejudice”**

**Michael Swartz, Esq., Litigation Group**

*Sunday, May 15, 2022, via Zoom at 10:00 a.m. PDT*

Michael Swartz is the co-chair of Litigation Group, head of the shareholder activism litigation practice, and a member of the executive committee at the legal firm Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP, in New York. His litigation victories have been featured in The Hedge Fund Journal, Hedge Fund Legal and Compliance Digest and recently, the Litigation Group won Law360’s “Asset Management Practice Group of the Year” for its representations of leading private investment funds. Michael is the son of Sylvan and Barbara Swartz.



### **“How the Pandemic Accelerated Innovation in Healthcare”**

**Rachel Weissberg, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Sirius**

*Sunday, June 12, 2022, via Zoom at 10:00 a.m. PDT*

Rachel Weissberg has spent the last 20+ years in Healthcare Technology serving various leadership roles. Rachel currently serves as the Director of Strategic Initiatives for Healthcare at Sirius a CDW Company, which helps healthcare organizations improve quality of care, control costs, and ensure compliance. Rachel is the daughter of Dan and Linda Weissberg and the sister of Jason Weissberg.

## **Sisterhood**



This month, we invite you to keep in touch with friends and family through TBS Sisterhood Tribute Cards. Let Sisterhood take the work out of sending greeting cards to friends and family with our Tribute Card Service. We will write a personal note on your behalf (or you can provide the wording) for any occasion and then we will drop it in the mail. Your \$5 contribution includes the card and postage. All proceeds from the sale of Tribute Cards are donated to the Women of Reform Judaism YES Fund (Youth, Education, and Special Projects) which provides financial assistance to Reform/Progressive rabbinical and cantorial students, our youth, and organizations throughout the Reform/Progressive Movement. To send a Tribute Card, please contact our Sisterhood Tribute Scribe Cathy Markowitz at [markocathy@gmail.com](mailto:markocathy@gmail.com).

## **Our Youth**

### **Early Childhood Center**

*Tamara Levin, Director of Early Childhood Education*



Purim is a time of joyful celebration and this year the Purim Carnival fulfilled all our expectations. Children, resplendent in their glittering costumes, crunched brightly colored shaved ice, rode miniature ponies, jumped in the bounce house, played games in a bid to accumulate tickets that would translate into little prizes, and petted goats, lambs, and a potbellied pig. Purim is about overcoming the odds. It is about facing adversity and persevering. It is about celebrating triumphs be they large or small. It is about being part of a community. The Purim carnival marks the hope that our community is finally free to evolve, grow, and connect in meaningful ways. (cont. on page 6)



### *Early Childhood Center, cont.*

While the Purim Carnival brought us together to celebrate in joy, it also serves as a fundraiser for the religious school and the preschool. Thank you for supporting and nurturing the youngest members of our community. Thank you for working tirelessly to ensure that this celebration was successful. While the monetary donation will help the preschool purchase shade structures, it is the care and kindness that is priceless!

### **Religious School**

*Chavva Olander, Director of Youth Education*

Shalom! March brought exciting developments for our Religious School students and families. We kicked off the month with an epic Family Shabbat service that featured a scavenger hunt for students. It was wonderful to see so many of our families in attendance. One of the many highlights of the evening was searching for the Temple's largest mezuzah.



Our Religious School classes had a great time preparing for the Purim Carnival festivities. They learned about the holiday's history and customs, baked hamantaschen and packed Mishloach Manot, and rehearsed two fun songs for their performance at the Carnival which was a huge success! So many of our students enjoyed the games, trivia, art projects, and animal interactions. Students from both classes performed the songs they'd rehearsed, and our sixth and seventh graders took part in a hilarious debate-style Purimspiel on the topic of how a hamantaschen should be shaped. The day was a blast, filled with fun, food, and really excellent costumes. I'm looking forward to the next Nosh & Learn session with parents as well as some big Passover plans

for Religious School students in the coming month. Planning for our **May 1<sup>st</sup>** Yom Ha'atzma'ut Israeli Arts festival is also underway. Save the date now because you will not want to miss this exciting event!

### **Something to Kvell About – Recognizing our Teens and Young Adults**

*Monica Engel, Social Action Member*



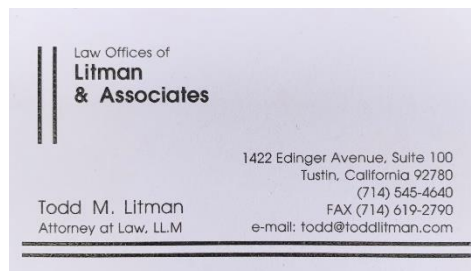
Once upon a time there was an amazing Religious School teacher at TBS; her name is April Akiva. While Mrs. Akiva loved her job, after 7 years she decided to have a baby. Welcome baby Adina who is now on the path to her Bat Mitzvah. Adina had her first Brit Bat Service and attended preschool at TBS. She enjoyed the swings and devoured fruit and veggies from the preschool garden. Her afternoons at TBS usually ended with a lollipop from Marla Vaughter and a visit to Cantor Reinwald's office. As she grew older her interests expanded and her last 7 years have been filled with musical theater, dance, and piano lessons. Adina's involvement in Girl Scouts began in first grade. She is still in the same troop today and participates often. She also attended summer camp at Gindling Hilltop and URJ Camp Newman.

Now in Middle School at Tarbut V'Torah, Adina enjoys studying engineering and Hebrew and currently hopes to become an engineer and travel to Mars. In her free time, music is still at the forefront of her activities; she dances, sings, plays piano, and rides horses. She also watches Anime shows but according to her mom, her favorite pastime is napping. Apparently, she's making up for the times when it wasn't her "thing" as an infant and toddler.

So, what will it be for our dear Adina? Astronaut, Dancer, Singer, Pianist, Jockey, Religious School Teacher, Camp Counselor? We can't wait to see what this amazing young woman decides.

# Thank You to Our Sponsors!

This newsletter is made possible entirely from donations and sponsorships. If you would like to contribute toward its continued development and distribution, please contact Ruth Aptaker ([ruth.aptaker@gmail.com](mailto:ruth.aptaker@gmail.com)) or the TBS office.



We are also grateful for the generous donations of Patti Widdicombe, the Weissberg Family, the Cohen Family, the Engel Family, Sandy Fainbarg, and our TBS Brotherhood.

## Committee Updates

### Chavurot

*Shani Boone, Chavurot Chair, Membership Committee Member, and TBS Secretary*

Our new Chavurot are up and running and it's been great seeing the energy that the new groups are showing! Joining a Chavurot is not a onetime event; they are ever changing. If you are interested in joining, we are happy to help you connect to an existing group with similar interests. If you have questions, please contact Shani at 714-343-1135 (text is ok) or [shaniboone2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shaniboone2@sbcglobal.net).

### Settled Rabbi Search Committee

*Lori Griffin, SRSC Chair*

The Settled Rabbi Search Committee has been working diligently through the search process over the last seven months to find the right rabbi for Temple Beth Sholom. Since posting our application with the CCAR in October, we have vetted close to 20 candidates. Of these applicants, two were invited to visit TBS in person at the end of January and early February. After narrowing down our search to one candidate of interest, our TBS president and a member of the search committee traveled to this candidate's home pulpit to observe them during a Shabbat service and to solicit input from some of their congregants and lay leaders.

The best news to report is that we are presently in discussions with the candidate to see if we can agree to the basic elements of a preliminary employment agreement. Once these discussions are complete, the search committee will present the candidate to the Temple Board of Directors who will then in turn vote to present the candidate to the entire congregation. In accordance with our Temple By-Laws, we will have a special congregational meeting at which time you will have an opportunity to meet the rabbi and vote to decide on their candidacy. The committee will continue to keep the congregation updated on our progress. If you have any questions, please email me at [lori@globaltrim.com](mailto:lori@globaltrim.com).

## Membership/FWYC

*Mary Gonzalez, VP of Membership*



The membership and FWYC committees enjoyed working with the Purim committee, ECC, and Religious School to prepare for the Purim festivities. The carnival was a great success, and it was a pleasure to watch all the smiling kids filling out their stamp cards and enjoying the activities. Our hats are off to Keren Marmareli and all those who made the festivities possible by donating time or funds.

And it was a blast reading the Megillah with Cantor Reinwald, his “Aunt Shirley,” and those who attended our adult Purim. That was certainly a Purim we will never forget! We are working on our Pesach plans so watch for updates in the weekly Shavu’on. If you would like to get involved in our “fun-raisers” please reach out Arielle Ohls at 562-316-7030 or Mary Gonzalez at 714-292-4957. We meet once per month and are looking for fresh ideas!

## Education

*Steffanie Belasco, VP of Education*



As I write this article, I am still feeling overjoyed that 360 people attended our Shushan Purim Carnival on March 13<sup>th</sup>. Keren Marmareli made sure that the event was spectacular by gathering volunteers from our entire congregation and reaching out to the greater Orange County community for attendees. We thank TBS Brotherhood who not only supplied the food, but also cooked and packed 400 individual meals for us. TBS Sisterhood made sure that we all had beverages and the bounce house, pony rides, and petting zoo were huge hits. I know our children made great memories and had a wonderful time. The kids went from activity to activity visiting different stations and tastes in the city of Shushan evidenced from their bags full of prize tickets, red faces from sticky snow cones, arms full of prizes that they won, and hamantaschen they ate.

The event was profitable and a huge success thanks to Keren and her committee.

As we look forward to Passover, I encourage you to share modern stories of people seeking freedom. Our seders are an opportunity to create family traditions and learn about how the Jewish people celebrate different customs around the world. Chag sameach Pesach!

A Yom Ha’atzma’ut (Israeli Independence Day) community event will be held on **May 1<sup>st</sup> from 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.** We will have Israeli dance instruction for all ages, delicious Israeli food, games, music, and art and crafts. Please mark your calendars, plan on wearing blue and white, and invite a friend to join you. We are, as always, looking for volunteers. Events like Hannukah and Purim so incredibly successful thanks to all the hard work and dedication from our volunteers! Please contact Chavva Olander at [colander@tbsoc.com](mailto:colander@tbsoc.com) or Steffanie Belasco ([steffanietalk@aol.com](mailto:steffanietalk@aol.com)) to sign up to help.

Adult Education is planning another movie discussion and a Yom HaShoah presentation for the congregation. This year, Yom HaShoah is **April 27 – 28**. Finally, if you have an idea for a program you’d like to see, please contact Angela Holmes, Chair of Adult Education or Steffanie Belasco, VP of Education.



## Fundraising

*Melanie Pollak, Director of Fundraising*

Want to help lead TBS into the future while helping to create fun and exciting events? Join the TBS Fundraising Committee! The Fundraising Committee meets once a month to plan fundraising campaigns, explore participatory revenue streams, and develop events to help the temple meet its financial goals. If you have a fundraising, sales, marketing, or development background and/or happen to be a creative person with great ideas, we need you! Please contact Melanie Pollak at (714) 204-6183 / [melaniepollak@gmail.com](mailto:melaniepollak@gmail.com).

# Social Action

## Education - Direct Service – Advocacy - Collections

*Social Action Committee*

Did you know?

- Fair Market Rent for a one-bedroom apartment in Orange County is \$1,888
- The annual household income needed to pay that rent is \$75,520 which works out to \$36.31 an hour
- Work hours per week needed at minimum wage: 104 hours
- Rent affordable to an SSI recipient: \$286.00
- The majority of homeless have lived and/or worked in Orange County for more than 10 years

info@unitedtoendhomelessness.org or call 949.263.6914'. The bottom of the flyer features the 'UNITED TO END HOMELESSNESS' logo and the text 'Empowered by Orange County United Way'."/&gt;

United to End Homelessness has 630 housing vouchers which will be expiring at the end of May. They are having difficulty finding available rental units to match with these vouchers so that veterans, other individuals, and families can be housed quickly. Once a voucher is matched with a unit and a recipient, the vouchers are good for the long term. We can help United to End Homelessness secure 630 rental units to make sure we can end homelessness for hundreds of people! Send them photos of available units, spread the word about Welcome Home OC or recommend great property providers to them. Go to <https://unitedtoendhomelessness.org/> if you

have spotted an available rental unit. If you are the owner of rental units, check out the website or see the Welcome Home OC flier included in the Shavu'on to find out how you can help provide housing and receive great benefits. Lastly, let your City Council know that you are an advocate for affordable housing and scan the QR code for more information.

Thank you for being a generous and giving community. If you are interested in joining us in our work, please contact Paula Pitluk at [pkpteach@gmail.com](mailto:pkpteach@gmail.com) / 714-225-2058. We meet the first Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

## Mitzvah of the Month

*Monica Engel, Social Action Member*

The Social Action Committee is so gratified with joining Sisterhood's program to recognize National Women's Month. The collection of women's sanitary needs was beyond expectation. Thanks all for your caring and generosity.

April is a lovely month to catch up on reading. Spring is a great season to enjoy reading in the backyard, a park bench, bed, or a comfy living room chair. Our Mitzvah of the Month for April will be collecting new and almost new books for adults and children ages 3 to teens. Everything from history to comics can provide pleasure and fulfillment for those in need. Also consider those who are homebound due to illness or incapacitated. Please note that facilities such as Orangewood are still unable to take used books and most used items.

## Mitzvah Meals is Back!

*Mitzvah Meals Team*

Mitzvah Meals is back in the TBS kitchen! Mitzvah Meals consists of a group of volunteers who come together every Sunday to prepare meals for those in need. There are various spots to fill each week. At this time, we ask that all volunteers are vaccinated and are willing to wear a mask. If you have time and would like to volunteer, please contact Cheryl Escoe at [caescoc43@gmail.com](mailto:caescoc43@gmail.com).

## Jewish Collaborative of Orange County to Resettle Refugees

*Barbara Rosen, Welcome Circle Volunteer*



Perhaps you have read about 3 refugee families who arrived in the OC a few weeks ago to be resettled by HIAS (the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society). One family is being sponsored by University Synagogue, another by Shir Ha-Ma'alot, and a third family has been resettled in Fullerton. The latter group is being settled by a group of volunteers

from various synagogues, one of whom is Barbara Rosen, formerly a TBS member. It would be a real mitzvah to have TBS involved in helping to settle this family.

The family consists of a wonderful couple and their adorable 3-year-old son. They have arrived with nothing and all their expenses for at least the first 6 month will have to be paid by the generosity of donors. Thanks to some of these donors, the "welcome circle" has already furnished their new apartment. They continue to have many needs, however, and there is a tax-deductible fund established to help with things such as rent, food, transportation, clothing, laundry, etc. until they can find employment. The father is a mechanical engineer and is currently looking for work. If you are aware of any opportunities in this field, or have any other questions about this, please email Barbara Rosen at [barbarajrosen@me.com](mailto:barbarajrosen@me.com). There is also a need for a recent model cell phone which can be reprogrammed for them. As you might know, HIAS was founded to help settle Jewish refugees in the 1800's. Today their motto is "We help them not because they are Jewish but because we are."

Please help today. This is a true Mitzvah. A PayPal link can be found in the weekly Shav-on or you can mail checks to Jewish Collaborative of OC at 2913 El Camino Real #701, Tustin, CA 92782. Checks should be made payable to JCoOC with "Welcome Circle" in the memo line. Donations are tax deductible with JCoOC Tax ID: 36-4844121.

# Adult Education

## Rabbi Lipper's Adult Education Presentations

### *Searching the Prophets for Values*

Dates: Sundays on April 3, 10, 24

Time: 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Location: TBS Board Room

From the essence of Torah, the prophets sought to elevate the Divine covenant beyond the virtual praxis of the Priestly class. The Prophets were those who sought to speak truth to power and to help the Jewish community elevate their lives in connection to the Holy and Blessed One. From Joshua to Ezekiel, each Prophet carved out their message of hope for the future. Please visit the TBS website or call the office to register.

### **Focus on Ma Nishtana: The Four Questions of Passover**

#### *Angela Holmes, Adult Ed Chair*

On Passover/Pesach we commemorate the Exodus from Egypt. During this time, we are commanded to pass down the story of the Exodus to our children. As the world is currently observing an attack on the freedom of an entire country, there is a potential example that we may use to illustrate the difference between a slave and a free person. As we witness responses to the decisions of a controlling power when its citizens wish to express themselves, we can identify, in real time, the removal of freedom represented simply in the inability to ask questions or carry a sign.

Apart from the inclusion of children and youth at the Seder table, and creating lasting childhood and family memories, it is again time to remind ourselves of the key lessons each of the four questions elicit. The following are short reminders of what each question represents in history and what could engage the table in conversation regarding these events and how they can be applied today. The questions appear in the order of the Ashkenazic tradition. The only difference with the Sephardic and Yemenite list is the order. The questions in parentheses are meant to encourage general discussion, as well as to personally relate to the intent of the 4 questions and can be modified as needed. Remember where we came from, but also where we are going. We celebrate our freedom by retelling the Exodus story out of Egypt commemorating freedom and justice. Chag Pesach Sameach!

Q1: Matzah – Why on all other nights do we eat either leavened bread or matzah, but on this night only matzah?

Q1A: Matzah represents the humility of poverty and slavery and is called the bread of affliction. (Have you ever had to go without something you really needed? How did it make you feel while you didn't have it? How did you feel when you got it back?)

Q2: Bitter herbs, bitter life – Why on all other nights do we eat different types of vegetables, but on this night only bitter herbs?

Q2A: Bitter herbs represent the bitter difficulties of life as a slave in Egypt. (Talk about a change that was difficult for you.)

Q3: The freedom of dipping food – Why on all other nights do we dip our food once, but on this night, we dip it twice?

Q3A: Dipping once and especially twice is meant to reflect freedom. It is an expression of being free not only in body, but soul. No one can enslave the soul. (Name a time when you were accused of something you didn't do, and you were not believed.) (cont. on page 12)

*Focus on Ma Nishtana: The Four Questions of Passover, cont.*

Q4: Reclining, a luxurious act – Why on all other nights do we either sitting upright or recline, but on this night we recline?

Q4A: Historically reclining is a luxurious behavior. This act helps us understand the sense of freedom throughout the Seder meal. (Talk about a time that was physically uncomfortable for you. What did you have to do to be comfortable?)

Resource: Go to YouTube and search music for the 4 questions or Ma Nishtana. You will find traditional and contemporary music that can be enjoyed by everyone!

### Reels and Repartee: Adult Education Film Series

Thanks to all who joined us for our stimulating movie and discussion groups so far! Since there are so many provocative and "energizing" movies to stream from our homes, we are planning another get together via Zoom for May. Watch for information in the weekly Shavu'on and in next month's edition of this newsletter.

## Don't Miss Out!

Don't forget to save Saturday, June 11, 2022, for a wonderful evening of live entertainment, delicious food, elegant cocktails, exciting live and silent auctions, and a wine pull in celebration of Cantor David Reinwald's 12 years of song and spiritual leadership. Underwriting Opportunities on sale now at [www.tbsoc.com](http://www.tbsoc.com) and we are now excepting donations of auction items! If you have a business or would like to donate or sponsor an auction item, please contact Melanie Pollak at [melaniepollak@gmail.com](mailto:melaniepollak@gmail.com). All proceeds from the auction benefit the programs and services TBS provides to our congregation.



<b>SYMPHONIC SUPPER</b>	<b>\$7,500</b>
Includes 4 Backstage Pass Tickets	
<b>OVERTURE HORS D'OEUVRES</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
Includes 2 Backstage Pass Tickets	
<b>GRAND FINALE DESSERT</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>
<b>ENCORE ENTERTAINMENT</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>IL DIVO INVITATIONS</b>	<b>\$500</b>
<b>RAZ-MA-TAZ SPIRITZ</b>	<b>\$250</b>
<b>PITCHY POSTAGE</b>	<b>\$125</b>

**Gala Ticket Prices:**

- Backstage Pass \$250 pp, includes Reserved Parking
- Orchestra Tickets \$150 pp