

From Rabbi Michael Silbert

rabbi@tbdrochester.org

As a child, I was intrigued by the empty seat at our Seder table. Had my mother miscalculated how many guests were coming? Did an invitee change their mind? Not only a cup for Elijah the prophet, but an entire *place-setting* for someone?!

At some point I reached the age of being able to grasp this concept which straddled the line between abstract and concrete: a place-setting that was intentionally set for a person we didn't know, who wouldn't even be there. It was in honor of Russian Jews who were not free to celebrate Pesach - the festival of emancipation and liberation from oppression - in their homeland, and neither were they free to leave.

This was but one of the ironies of the Pesach Seder celebration. Another is the ancient tradition of removing a drop of wine from our cups at the mention of each of the ten plagues. This practice says to us in the midst of our euphoria that we need to remember that the Egyptians suffered greatly from the plagues, that they too were children of God and it pained God to have to punish them. What a fascinatingly complex message: at the height of our festivities, we ever so slightly minimize our merriment in compassionate recognition that our oppressors' suffering was a necessary component of our liberation from them.

As we know, the Jews of Russia have since been released and with their freedom there also is one place-setting less at our tables. Elijah's cup stays though; it would appear that even the fall of Communism wasn't enough to bring about the Messianic Age, which had it happened, would have led Elijah to finally come inside our homes after all these years of waiting for him, in order to announce the Messiah's imminent arrival.

Some of us have even embraced new Seder innovations in recent years, possibly adding Miriam's cup - a cup of water - in honor of the prophetess and sister of Moses whom our tradition associates with the provision of water during our people's lengthy wilderness wanderings. Others have also introduced an orange to the table. Reasons for this abound: some incorrectly attribute it to an alleged protest by Susannah Heschel in favor of the recognition of female rabbis. In



fact, she appointed it the symbol of her wish that LGBTQ people and other marginalized groups should once and for all find universal inclusion - a sentiment so appealing that one is almost tempted to raise a fifth glass to it.

Inclusion and the appreciation of universal rights brings us, of course, to the realization that this

year there will most likely be a dark cloud hanging over our Pesach celebrations. Just as we appear to be emerging from two years of pandemic with the hope that more than a mere summer respite awaits us, our thoughts turn to one of the largest Jewish communities in Europe for whom this season will be met with misery and suffering. Of course, it is not only the Jews of Ukraine who will wistfully sing of their dreams of freedom; they find themselves joined by their non-Jewish neighbors who are no better off than them. Together they are led by their own latter-day Moses, a brave Jewish leader who dares to stand up to the pharaonic Putin, demanding: "Let my people go."

This Pesach, wherever you may find yourselves - whether breaking Matzah with friends, participating in Beth David's communal seder or elsewhere - please take a moment amidst the revelry to pause and remember those who are under attack, for whom the cry of "*Dayenu*" - "It's enough for us" - doesn't even begin to describe the situation in which they find themselves. Discuss among yourselves which fund(s) you will support in order to send much needed aid to Ukraine, and then take a moment to discuss how much it means to you to be free in this country.

I send my wishes to you, your loved ones and to all people everywhere, that we should all know what it means to live in peace and freedom and for our rights and our dignity to be recognized and upheld everywhere we go. Until that time comes though, let's remain aware that we still have a way to go; perhaps you might want to choose a symbolic reminder of this to place on your Seder table this year.

Chag Kasher veSame'ach,

Michael

WHAT?!

Jews owned slaves after *they* were slaves in Egypt?

— LEARN ABOUT PESACH —

Join us for a discussion about the Torah's view of labor and what made slavery in Egypt so exceptional.

Thursday, April 7, 2022, at 7:00pm on Zoom.

Register in advance (anytime between now and April 6th) at:
www.TBDrochester.org



Temple Beth David will meet for Shabbat service at Temple Beth El at 10:00 am

Saturday, April 9 and Saturday, April 30

For more information, visit our website or call the temple office.

Covid-19 Safety Protocol for inside Temple Beth David



Masks (surgical or N95 or KN95) must be worn over the mouth and nose at all times, even when speaking / singing / chanting into the microphone. No other masks are acceptable. Surgical and KN95 masks are provided by Temple Beth David for those who do not have their own. Temple Beth David requires proof of vaccination to be on file with the office or to be shown at the door.

Please provide proof of vaccination including booster shots when eligible from the CDC Vaccination Record Card, the COVID-19 Vaccination Excelsior Pass Plus (go to "vaccination details"), or a Medical Health Record.



All in the Family

Happy 90th Birthday, Rhea!

April Birthdays

Robert Dworkin
Elie Silbert
Henry Markowitz
Rhea Feinberg
Lisa Klein
Phillip Lederer
Gail Spitulnik
Lauren Yesowitch
Susan Wood
Richard Towber
Martin Yesowitch
Ruth Rappaport-Kristal
Judy Levy

April 5
April 6
April 10
April 12
April 14
April 19
April 23
April 24
April 25
April 26
April 26
April 27
April 29

April Anniversaries

Neal & Sue Eckhaus
Marc Lande & Linda Servetnick

April 6
April 30

The next **Temple Beth David Board of Trustee Meeting** will be held Tuesday, April 12 at 7:00 pm via Zoom. All temple members are welcome to attend or you may submit questions or concerns to a board member for consideration prior to the meeting. For information on how to attend the meeting, please contact the temple office. Board members are listed on the last page of this bulletin.



Take Home Treats

If you would like to help with take home treats distributed after Shabbat service each week or wish to sponsor "Take Home Treats" in honor of a good news event, please contact the temple office or speak with Alison Helms (number is in directory).



Information about
Passover
will follow shortly.
Please see upcoming
editions of our weekly
Newsletter for details



Riverside Cemetery Plots
are available to purchase from

Temple Beth David

at reduced temple member rates
for Jewish burials in adherence to
Temple Beth David
ritual requirements.

For questions regarding purchase,
contact the temple office. For questions
pertaining to Jewish burial ritual
requirements, contact Rabbi Silbert.

Donations

Received February 16 - March 15, 2022

DAVID SOLOMON FUND

IN MEMORY

Amy Beth Brody

Howard & Helen Kashtan

Karen McArthur

Bernard Roth

Dan & Risa Saltzman

Judy Eissenstat

Paul Eissenstat

Harry Herman

Phillip & Susan Lederer

IN HONOR OF RABBI SILBERT'S INVOCATION FOR MAYOR EVANS

Karen Schaffer

TU B'SHEVAT TZEDAKAH

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RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND

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Sophie Isaacson

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Jacob Haymoff

Jewell Rothstein

Bill & Lisa Keeley

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Paula Harris & Ody

HAPPY BIRTHDAY RABBI SILBERT

Karen Schaffer

PURIM TZEDAKAH

Scott & Merrie Franklin

Roberta Kinell

Maxine Manjos

Maxine Newman

Bernard Roth

Karen Schaffer

MARSHA FISHMAN YOUTH EDUCATION FUND

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Rosiland Marx

Myron & Rheva Kleinberg

SOLDIERS PROJECT

IN MEMORY

Samuel Markus

Sidney Markus

IN SUPPORT

Maxine Newman

THANK YOU, LINDA SERVETNICK, FOR BOOK CLUB EVENT

Joyce Towber

Donate



Donate online at

www.tbdrochester.org

April Yahrzeits

April 1

Betty Segelin

April 2

Samuel Katzman

April 4

Herman H. Levine

Florence Sanow

Rappaport

April 6

Alex Perlman

April 8

Barbara Berger

April 9

Minetta Klein

April 12

Richard Braiman

Sadie Leitman

April 13

Katherine Gan

Ruth Haymoff Comisar

Lester Rappaport

April 15

Sylvia Kowal

April 16

Rita Schnidman

April 18

Blanche Gordon

Regina Schott

April 20

Harvey Louis Priceman

Harold Rosenbaum

April 22

Benjamin Ritter

April 23

Ruth Drexler

April 24

Eli Caplin

Sylvia Gertzog

April 25

Milton Kerker

Leonard Lutzky

April 26

Nancy Grube

April 27

Anita Bauman

April 28

Harry Abelson

Marvin Foigelman

Sylvia Vicker

April 29

Obbe Abelson

Penelope Nelson

Sally Zeif

April 30

Belle Schwartz

The yahrzeit date that appears above is the date of observance using the secular calendar.

These dates match those of the Hebrew calendar for the actual date of death.



Find us on Facebook at **Temple Beth David - Rochester, NY**. You will find photos and videos, event information, recipes, and more. If you are interested in certain types of content, please send suggestions to office@tbdrochester.com.

Temple Beth David and Temple Beth El Present



5th Annual Joint Golf Outing *@ Mendon Golf Club (Mendon, NY)* *Monday, July 25th, 2022*

in memory of Jay Cohen and to benefit TBD and TBE Education Funds

Golf, Breakfast, and Hors d'Oeuvres
\$136.00 earlybird before 6/1
\$150.00 after 6/1

8:30am	Registration, breakfast, team pictures
10:00am	Shotgun tee start
4:00pm	Hors d'oeuvres @ Mendon Golf Club

Register for golf/sponsorship online @ <https://www.tberochester.org/> or complete form on back

SPONSOR OPTIONS

Sponsor signs will be placed on the golf course and displayed at the hors d'oeuvres

Sponsor Name:
Wording for Sign:
(submit by 6/25; if no wording for the sign is written, we will use the Sponsor Name)
Sponsor Address:
Sponsor Phone:
Sponsor Email Address (needed for graphic):
Sponsor Web Address:

***** ALL SPONSORS GET MENTIONED IN OUR EVENT BOOKLET (which is handed out to all attendees) AND ONLINE WEBPAGES*****

<input type="checkbox"/> Platinum Hole Sponsor	Includes golf for four (4) people	\$1000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Gold Hole Sponsor	Includes golf for two (2) people	\$700.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Silver Hole Sponsor	Includes golf for one (1) person	\$400.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Bronze Hole Sponsor	Includes hors d'oeuvres for one (1) person	\$200.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Breakfast Sponsor	Includes breakfast for one (1) person	\$125.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Hors d'oeuvres Sponsor	Includes hors d'oeuvres for one (1) person	\$125.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Golf, breakfast & hors d'oeuvres	Earlybird: \$136.00/ After June 1: \$150.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hors d'oeuvres only		\$40.00

REGISTRATION FORM FOR GOLF AND/OR SPONSORS

			Golf \$136 (before 6/1) \$150 (after 6/1) <hr/> Hors D'oeuvres only \$40	Hole Sponsor Platinum/Gold Silver/Bronze Meal Sponsor (see above for prices)
Name	Phone	Email		
			\$	\$
TOTAL				

Affiliation: ☐ TBD ☐ TBE ☐ Both ☐ Unaffiliated

Please make checks payable to **Temple Beth El** with "Golf Outing"
on the memo line and mail to:

Temple Beth El
139 Winton Road South
Rochester, NY 14610
Attn: Golf Outing

Registration forms must be in by Friday, July 15th, 2022

If you have any questions please call:

TBD: Phil Katzman (585) 473-3834 or email philip_katzman@urmc.rochester.edu

TBE: Evan Spindelman (585) 415-1245 or email evans@lombardcecil.com

SEND A CARD TO A FRIEND OR LOVED ONE!

Checks payable to: **Temple Beth David, 2131 Elmwood Avenue, Suite 204, Rochester, NY 14618**

Date _____ Amount enclosed \$ _____ Minimum donation \$10, or two for \$18

Donor:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

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Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Card Message:

- ☐ Get Well Wishes _____
☐ Happy Birthday _____
☐ Congratulations on _____

- ☐ In Memory of _____
☐ In Honor of _____
☐ In Appreciation of _____

Note: _____

Fund: If no fund is specified, your donation will be made to the David Solomon Operating Fund. Thank you.

- ☐ David Solomon Operating Fund
☐ Herb Kraus Adult Education Fund
☐ Marsh Fishman Youth Education Fund
☐ Mitzvah Kiddush Donation

- ☐ Rabbi Discretionary Fund
☐ Rabbi Skopitz Fund
☐ Soldiers Project
☐ Torah Repair Fund



Donations and dues payments may now be accepted online! Visit our donate page at www.tbdrochester.org/donate Online donation minimum \$10.



Do you receive our Weekly News email?

If not, you are missing out on the latest news about Temple Beth David services and events, as well as community information. Call or email the Temple Office to add your name to the mailing list!

Please call the office if you or a family member is scheduled for surgery or is admitted to the hospital. We very much want to offer comfort to congregants who are ill but regulations do not permit the hospital to contact us with your news. We will only know if you let us know. Please call!



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Temple Funds

• David Solomon Operating Fund

Supports General Temple Expenses and Maintenance

• Herb Kraus Adult Education Fund

Supports Adult Learning and Community Events

• Marsha Fishman Memorial Fund

Supports Hebrew School and Youth Educational Activities

• Mitzvah Kiddush Fund

• Rabbi Discretionary Fund

• Rabbi Skopitz Fund

Supports Cultural Events

• Torah Repair Fund

Supports Maintenance and Repair of Torah Scrolls

• Soldiers Project

Serves the needs of Jews in the US military