

**B'nai Tikvoh-Sholom  
& The Neshama Center for Lifelong Learning  
April-May 2025 Nisan-Iyyar –Sivan 5785**



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## Passover Schedule

**Thursday, April 10th at 7:30 am** on Zoom only

*Siyyum Bekhorim*

Service for first-born who would otherwise fast (all are welcome!)

Teaching by Rabbi Cantor.

**Selling of Hametz forms due in BTS office**

**Evening** – Search for Hametz (*Biur Hametz* is on Friday morning)

**Friday, April 11th at 7:00 pm**

in-person and on Zoom

**Welcome Shabbat Service**

**Saturday, April 12th at 10:00 am**

in-person and on Zoom

**Shabbat HaGadol Service and Deep Dive**

**First Seder** at home

**Sunday, April 13th at 10:00 am**

in-person and on Zoom

**Morning services for the First Day of Passover**

**Second Seder** at home

**Monday, April 14th**

**Second Day of Passover/Yom Tov**

**Wednesday, April 16th at 7:00 pm** on Zoom only

**Hol HaMoed Passover Evening Service**

**Friday, April 18th at 7:00 pm**

in-person and on Zoom

**Evening service for Shabbat and 7th night of Passover**

**Saturday, April 19th at 10:00 am** in-person and on Zoom

**Morning Services for Shabbat and 7th Day of Passover**

**Yizkor** will be recited

**Sunday, April 20th - Eighth Day of Passover/Yom Tov**

### Rabbi Cantor's Vacation & Mini-Sabbatical

Most BTS activities, including Shabbat and holiday services, will conclude at the end of April. Please note that Rabbi Cantor's last Shabbat at BTS will be April 25th-26th. Beginning on April 27th, the rabbi will be taking her vacation time and mini-Sabbatical, through the end of June. As is always the practice when Rabbi Cantor is away, there will be other rabbis on call in case of emergencies.

Go to <https://www.btsonline.org/passover> to register for Passover services and resources.

### When Passover Begins on Saturday Night (It's complicated)

*The first seder this year falls on Saturday night which means that many of the holiday's observances are moved earlier so as not to conflict with Shabbat. Also, in practical terms, your house needs to be ready for Passover before Shabbat begins!*

**So what about challah at Shabbat dinner and the next day at Kiddush?**

**Option 1 - Use egg matzah.** Egg matzah is not technically considered matzah but is also not hametz. Two sheets of egg matzah can be used in place of challah on both Friday night and Shabbat morning. (Note: Regular matzah should **not** be used on the Shabbat leading into Pesach in order that we arrive at seder night with an appetite for the matzah we are about to enjoy.)

**Option 2 - Eat hametz, but very carefully.** This is a great time for paper plates or outdoor dining! Be sure to finish eating hametz by 10:15 am and dispose of any leftovers by 11:35 am, thus rendering them inedible. At that time, we recite the "Kol hamira" formula (normally recited when burning hametz) that cancels any remaining hametz.

**Can we begin the First Seder early, before Shabbat ends?**

The seder commemorates the eating of the Paschal lamb with matzah and maror, and telling the story of the Exodus which occurred as the 15th of Nisan began, after dark. This is traditionally the earliest time that a seder should begin. Additionally, we generally do not start a Yom Tov (holiday) early when it follows Shabbat due the particular sanctity of the Sabbath day and the restrictions it carries. Still, the rabbis recognized that starting the seder late in the evening could be difficult for young children, and even for adults whose ability to fully enter into the joy and meaning of the night might wane due to fatigue.

My colleague Rabbi Joshua Heller, in "Seder, and other Yom Tov Observances, Before Dark" offers three options, listed below in order of preference:

**The Traditional Approach:** If it is within the capacity of all attending to participate fully in a Seder beginning after dark, this would be the preferred option.

**Seder Out of Order:** Begin Seder at any time after 6:10 pm, timing its performance so that some portion of the telling, and the consumption of matzah and maror (the most central elements of the seder), fall after dark. Havdalah, which is traditionally said over the first cup of wine, should be postponed until Shabbat is over and may be said on any subsequent cup instead.

**The Lenient Approach:** Begin Seder at any time after 6:10 pm, working under the assumption that once one begins Yom Tov, even if it's early, it is now appropriate to perform all night-time rituals including matzah and maror. (But even with this option, Havdalah should not be said until after Shabbat ends.)



YOU ARE INVITED TO

# SUPPER & SERVICES

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**FRIDAY - APRIL 25TH, 6 P.M.**

- Food, Photos, Fun & Services!
- 6 p.m. Supper by Yosi Catering
- 7 p.m. Welcome Shabbat Services followed by Dessert Oneg

Our dinner is for BTS Members & Family only  
Free of Charge

**RSVP**, include names & dietary restrictions  
**BY TUESDAY, APRIL 15TH**

To: Shari J. Cantor at [betorah@aol.com](mailto:betorah@aol.com)

## **Sisterhood Paid Up Membership Dinner**

**Tuesday, May 6th at 5:00 pm**

**Rockledge Grill at the Rockledge Country Club  
289 South Main Street, West Hartford**



We haven't forgotten! If you're a paid up member, dinner's on us. Join your fellow Sisterhood members at the Rockledge Grill at the Rockledge Country Club. Nosh and schmooze while overlooking the golf course.

If you haven't yet paid, mail your check for \$36 made out to BTS Sisterhood to:  
Karen Freilich, 30 Farmington Chase Crescent, Farmington, CT 06032..

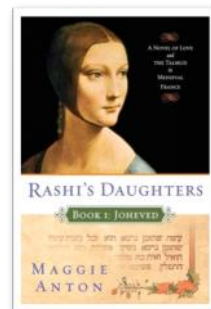
RSVP to Shari J. Cantor at [betorah@aol.com](mailto:betorah@aol.com) by Tuesday, April 29th.



## **Sisterhood Book Discussion: *Rashi's Daughters Book 1: Jochaved: A Novel of Love and the Talmud in Medieval France* by Maggie Anton**

**Sunday, May 18th at 4:00 pm in person at the home of Shari Cantor  
121 Federal Street, West Hartford**

"Rashi's Daughters" is the story of the three daughters of the great Talmudic authority Salomon ben Isaac, a.k.a. Rashi, who lived in 11th century Troyes, France and had no sons. At a time when most women were illiterate and the rare educated woman was one who could read the Bible, Rashi's daughters studied Talmud. They were also vintners, merchants and mothers of the next generation of Talmudic scholars.



Built on seven years of exhaustive historical research and ten years of Talmud study, "Rashi's Daughters" explores what might have been, weaving actual events, as described in responsa literature and Talmud commentaries, into an account of the lives of these amazing women. Talmud is an integral part of these novels; readers will learn along with Rashi's daughters as he explains selected texts. This is also the story of the medieval French Jewish community, how they lived, loved, worked, ate, prayed and interacted with their non-Jewish neighbors. A wealth of material about Jewish women's daily lives is provided, including how they observed life cycle events and holidays.

Join Shari J. Cantor to discuss this book, which is "rich in drama and period detail." And there will be food!!! RSVP to Shari at [betorah@aol.com](mailto:betorah@aol.com).

### **Also scheduled for 2025:**

*Deadly Scrolls: The Jerusalem Mysteries, Book One* by Ellen Frankel

*Becoming Janet: Finding Myself in the Holocaust* by Janet Singer Applefield

*By Fire, By Water: A Novel* by Mitchell James Kaplan

## Donations as of March 15th

### GENERAL FUND

Marion Adler, in honor of the yahrzeit of her sister, Rose Sadick

Shereen Edelson, in honor of Rabbi Cantor and in gratitude for her December birthday blessing and good wishes

Jeffrey & Virginia Kluger, in honor of the yahrzeit of Jeffrey's mother, Sophie Kluger

Richard & Marsha Lowry, in honor of the yahrzeit of Leona Lowry Engel

Al Oppenheimer, in honor of the yahrzeit of his son, Bryan Oppenheimer

Al Oppenheimer, in honor of the yahrzeit of his father, Karl Oppenheimer

Sherry & Stuart Rosen, in memory of Shirley Hodes

### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Barb & Gerry Hirsch, in honor of the yahrzeit of Mel Hirsch

Mark Hodes & Trudy Galynker, in appreciation of Shirley Rosen Hodes memorial service and BTS hospitality

### KIDDUSH FUND

Jonathan Wagner, in honor of the yahrzeit of his mother, Sally Wagner

## Tangling with Talmud

**Tuesdays, April 1st, 8th, and 22nd at 10:30 am on Zoom**

**April 22nd is the final Tangling with Talmud.**

**Our theme this year is "Rereading the Women of the Talmud."** We'll be exploring Talmudic stories about famous female figures and then re-examining them through a variety of lenses. Our discussions will be inspired and guided by Gila Fine's amazing new book, *The Madwoman in the Rabbi's Attic*. Come join us anytime—no experience is needed! You only need to register once for Tangling With Talmud online. [https://bit.ly/BTS\\_Tangling\\_With\\_Talmud](https://bit.ly/BTS_Tangling_With_Talmud)



## Friends of Yiddish

**Sunday, April 6th at 10:30 am on Zoom**

**Sunday, May 18th at 10:30 am on Zoom**

Friends of Yiddish is an informal, mostly English bilingual drop-in social group which meets to hear a guest speaker or discussion & maybe absorb a Yiddish word or two. For more information, contact Barbara Katzman at 860-666-6751 or [barbaralenore@yahoo.com](mailto:barbaralenore@yahoo.com).

You only need to register once for Friends of Yiddish online. <https://bit.ly/BTS-Friends-of-Yiddish>.



## Phyllis Hoffman Hartford Jewish Film Festival

To learn more about the films, see trailers and buy tickets, go to:

<https://www.mandelljcc.org/index.php?src=gendocs&ref=Film%20Festival&category=ArtCulture>

**Tuesday, April 8th 6:30 pm**  
Mandell JCC



### Weeknight Minyan

**Wednesday nights at 7:00 pm on Zoom**

Join us for a brief service to *daven* and say *Kaddish*. Register for Weekly Minyan online. [https://bit.ly/BTS\\_WednesdayMinyan](https://bit.ly/BTS_WednesdayMinyan)

### Welcome Shabbat

**Fridays at 7:00 pm at BTS**

Join us as we make the transition from the work week into Shabbat. We'll sing some Shabbat melodies, share words of Torah, recite a prayer for healing and Mourner's *Kaddish*, and then make *kiddush*. Register for Welcome Shabbat Services online.

[https://bit.ly/BTS\\_Welcome\\_Shabbat](https://bit.ly/BTS_Welcome_Shabbat)

### Shabbat Morning Services and Deep Dive

**Saturdays at 10:00 am at BTS**

We'll celebrate Shabbat with services, Torah reading and a deep dive into the text. Register for Shabbat Morning Services online.

[https://bit.ly/BTS\\_ShabbatDeepDive](https://bit.ly/BTS_ShabbatDeepDive)



### Wednesday Night Minyans in May

Although BTS will no longer be holding Shabbat services after April, Wednesday evening minyan will continue to meet on Zoom through the end of May.

The cover photo of magnolia blossoms, as well as that of daffodils on page 5 and apple blossoms on page 14, are courtesy of Shari J. Cantor. The photo of tulips in Philadelphia on page 4 is courtesy of Pamela J. Covey.



**GHIAA**

Greater Hartford  
— Interfaith —  
Action Alliance



**A**

**CONVERSATION**

**ON CT'S FISCAL ROADBLOCKS**

**WITH SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE**

**MATT RITTER**

A GHIAA and CT For All event to compel policy change on CT's path to passing a budget that invests in community needs.

We will be joined by members of the Hartford Legislative Delegation



**APRIL 8, 2025 @ 6-7:30PM**

- **IMMANUEL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**
- **10 WOODLAND STREET, HARTFORD**

This is a GHIAA event organized in collaboration with Immanuel Congregational Church, Asylum Hill Congregational Church, and CT For All.

*ASL and Spanish Interpretation Provided*

**REGISTER BY CLICKING**  
**[HERE](#) OR SCANNING**  
**THE QR CODE**





Our values are at stake and the WZO needs our voice to be heard.

## Are you ready to vote MERCAZ USA?

**WHO:** Any Jewish adult over 18 who lives permanently in the U.S. and didn't vote in the last Knesset election

**WHAT:** Voting MERCAZ USA in the 2025 World Zionist Congress elections

**WHERE:** Fill out the form at [mercazusa.org/votemercaz2025](https://mercazusa.org/votemercaz2025), and we'll let you know the moment the election begins.

**WHEN:** Voting opens on March 10, 2025.

**WHY:** MERCAZ USA claims space for Conservative/Masorti Jews in the Zionist future.

As extremists threaten to assert their narrow view of Judaism on us all, MERCAZ USA works with the World Zionist Congress and its affiliates to:

- ✓ Advocate for our shared values of democracy, inclusion, and respect and preserve a pluralistic Jewish society
- ✓ Secure millions in funding for comprehensive Israel education through Ramah (especially the shlichim program), USY, synagogue programming, and more
- ✓ Rebuild Israel in the aftermath of October 7 and support our hostages
- ✓ Direct resources into our communities to combat antisemitism
- ✓ Promote an understanding of the Zionist vision and counter misinformation

[CLICK HERE TO FILL OUT YOUR FORMS](https://mercazusa.org/votemercaz2025)



Questions? Email [campaignmanager@mercazusa.org](mailto:campaignmanager@mercazusa.org) or ask your organization's election captain.





An invitation to our community  
**YOM HASHOAH  
 COMMEMORATION**  
 Standing Together in Remembrance

**A conversation between generations:**  
 Ava Tringali, George Bacall, Lindsay Tringali  
 Moderated by Shiri Sandler  
**With clergy of many faiths**

**Sunday, April 27, 2025 | 2:00pm**  
**West Hartford Conference Center (Town Hall)**





**Register:**

**43rd Annual  
 State of Connecticut Holocaust Commemoration**

**Testimony From  
 Dr. Leon Chameides**



**Friday, April 25, 20 at 10 am**  
**Lunch to Follow**





**Register:**



**Yom Hazikaron  
 Ceremony**  
 ISRAEL REMEMBRANCE DAY

**Tuesday, April 29, 7:00pm**  
 Herbert & Evelyn Gilman Theater | Mandell JCC | Free and Open to All  
**We can never forget.**



**Register:**



Served at the January Lunch & Learn

## Janna's Two Chips Congo Bars

(courtesy of Janna Gross)

- 2/3 cup butter (melted)
- 1 pound dark brown sugar (may substitute light brown sugar)
- 3 eggs
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 2 3/4 cups flour
- 2 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 6 ounces semi-sweet chocolate chips (1/2 bag)
- 6 ounces white chocolate chips (1/2 bag)
- 1 1/3 cups chopped walnuts (may substitute pecans)



Spray a 9' x 13" with butter spray. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Thoroughly mix melted butter, dark brown sugar, and eggs until blended. Add in baking powder and salt and mix and then add flour and mix until combined. Finally, fold in chips and nuts. Spread mixture in pan. Bake for 25-30 minutes. Cool. Cut into bars in desired size.



**Register:**

Served at the February Lunch & Learn

## Chocolate Pecan Pie Bars

(adapted from Martha Stewart)

- 1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, room temperature, plus 2 T, melted
- 1/4 cup packed light-brown sugar
- 1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3 large eggs
- 3/4 cup light corn syrup
- 1/2 cup granulated sugar
- 1 package (11.5 ounces) semisweet chocolate chips
- 2 cups coarsely chopped pecans



Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line the bottom and sides of a 9" square baking pan with aluminum foil. In the bowl of an electric mixer, beat one stick room-temperature butter, brown sugar, flour, and salt until coarse crumbs form. Pour mixture into prepared pan; press firmly into bottom.

Bake until lightly browned, 25 to 30 minutes. Let cool, 10 minutes. Meanwhile, in same large bowl, mix eggs, corn syrup, granulated sugar, and melted butter until well combined. Add chocolate chips and pecans; spread over crust. Bake until set, 25 to 30 minutes. Cool completely in pan before lifting out (using foil to lift). Cut into bars in desired size.

# April 2025

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
		<b>1 3 Nisan</b> 10:30 <b>Tangling With Talmud On Zoom</b> 7:00 Guy Mintos Trio, Rhapsody in Blue and White Mandell JCC	<b>2 4 Nisan</b> 7:00 Minyan on Zoom	<b>3 5 Nisan</b>	<b>4 6 Nisan</b> 7:00 Welcome Shabbat 7:02 Candle Lighting	<b>5 7 Nisan</b> Vayikra 10:00 Shabbat Morning Services & Deep Dive
<b>6 8 Nisan</b> 10:30 Friends of Yiddish on Zoom	<b>7 9 Nisan</b>	<b>8 10 Nisan</b> 10:30 <b>Tangling With Talmud On Zoom</b> 6:00 GHIAA Event Immanuel Congregational Church 10 Woodland St. Hartford	<b>9 11 Nisan</b> 7:00 Minyan on Zoom	<b>10 12 Nisan</b> 7:30 <i>Siyyum bekorim</i> on Zoom Selling of Hametz forms due in BTS office Evening-Search for Hametz at home	<b>11 13 Nisan</b> 7:00 Welcome Shabbat 7:09 Candle Lighting	<b>12 14 Nisan</b> <b>Shabbat HaGadol Erev Pesach First Seder</b> Tzav 10:00 Shabbat HaGadol Service & Deep Dive 8:12 Candle Lighting
<b>13 15 Nisan</b> <b>Pesach Day 1 Second Seder</b> 10:00 Morning Service for First Day of Pesach 8:13 Candle Lighting	<b>14 16 Nisan</b> <b>Pesach Day 2</b> 8:14 Havdalah	<b>15 17 Nisan</b> <b>Pesach Day 3</b> <b>No Tangling with Talmud</b> <b>RSVP Deadline For April 25th Supper &amp; Services</b>	<b>16 18 Nisan</b> <b>Pesach Day 4</b> 7:00 Hol HaMoed Minyan on Zoom	<b>17 19 Nisan</b> <b>Pesach Day 5</b>	<b>18 20 Nisan</b> <b>Pesach Day 6</b> 7:00 Welcome Shabbat 7:17 Candle Lighting	<b>19 21 Nisan</b> <b>Pesach Day 7</b> 10:00 Morning Services for Shabbat & 7th Day of Pesach Yizkor
<b>20 22 Nisan</b> <b>Pesach Day 8</b> 8:22 Havdalah	<b>21 23 Nisan</b>	<b>22 24 Nisan</b> 10:30 <b>Final Tangling With Talmud On Zoom</b>	<b>23 25 Nisan</b> 7:00 Minyan on Zoom	<b>24 26 Nisan</b> <b>Yom HaShoah</b>	<b>25 27 Nisan</b> 10:00 43rd Annual Holocaust Com. Ceremony State Capitol 6:00 <b>Supper</b> 7:00 Welcome Shabbat/ <b>BirthDay Shabbat</b> 7:25 Candle Lighting 	<b>26 28 Nisan</b> <i>Shmini</i> 10:00 Shabbat Morning Services & Deep Dive
<b>27 29 Nisan</b> 2:00 Community Yom Hashoah Commemoration West Hartford Conference Center (Town Hall)	<b>28 30 Nisan</b>	<b>29 1 Iyyar</b> <b>Rosh Chodesh Iyyar</b> 7:00 Community Yom HaZikaron Commemoration Mandell JCC	<b>30 2 Iyyar</b> <b>Rosh Chodesh Iyyar</b> <b>Yom HaZikraon</b> 7:00 Minyan on Zoom			

# May 2025

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				<b>1 3 Iyyar</b> Yom HaAtzma'ut	<b>2 4 Iyyar</b> 7:32 Candle Lighting	<b>3 5 Iyyar</b> <i>Tazria-Metzora</i>
<b>4 6 Iyyar</b> Israel Festival Mandell JCC	<b>5 7 Iyyar</b>	<b>6 8 Iyyar</b> 5:00 Sisterhood Paid Up Membership Dinner at Rockledge Grill	<b>7 9 Iyyar</b> 7:00 Minyan on Zoom	<b>8 10 Iyyar</b>	<b>9 11 Iyyar</b> 7:40 Candle Lighting	<b>10 12 Iyyar</b> <i>Achrei Mot- Kedoshim</i>
<b>11 13 Iyyar</b> <b>Mothers Day</b>	<b>12 14 Iyyar</b> 6:30 Braiding Beautifully with the Challah Prince Idan Chabisov Mandell JCC	<b>15 Iyyar</b>	<b>14 16 Iyyar</b> 7:00 Minyan on Zoom	<b>15 17 Iyyar</b>	<b>16 18 Iyyar</b> <b>La BaOmer</b> 7:47 Candle Lighting	<b>17 19 Iyyar</b> <i>Emor</i>
<b>18 20 Iyyar</b> 10:30 Friends of Yiddish on Zoom 4:00 Sisterhood Book Discussion at home of Shari J. Cantor	<b>19 21 Iyyar</b>	<b>20 22 Iyyar</b>	<b>21 23 Iyyar</b> 7:00 Minyan on Zoom	<b>22 24 Iyyar</b>	<b>23 25 Iyyar</b> 7:54 Candle Lighting	<b>24 26 Iyyar</b> <i>Behar-Bechukotai</i>
<b>25 27 Iyyar</b>	<b>26 28 Iyyar</b> <b>Memorial Day</b> Yom Yerushalyaim	<b>27 29 Iyyar</b>	<b>28 1 Sivan</b> <b>Rosh Chodesh</b> <b>Sivan</b> 7:00 Minyan on Zoom	<b>29 2 Sivan</b>	<b>3 Sivan</b> 8:00 Candle Lighting	<b>31 4 Sivan</b> <i>Bamidbar</i>



Yom HaZikaron



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## B'nai Tikvoh-Sholom Donation Form

(Revised 11/1/2020)

Donation From: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Donation For: \_\_\_\_\_

Fund: \_\_\_\_\_

Minimum Donation for General Fund or Specific Fund is \$10 each or for other—see listed below:

If applicable, acknowledge to: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check other donation you wish to order and attach with specific instructions for:

- |                                                          |                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chumash, Machzor Bookplate \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Bookplate \$25       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Memorial Plaque \$300           | <input type="checkbox"/> Sanctuary Seat Plaque \$350 |

Foyer Tree of Life:  Gold \$360  Silver \$250  Bronze \$125  Stone \$1,500 Hallway Tree of Life:  Gold \$125

Provide additional information if necessary: \_\_\_\_\_

**All funds, other than the two funds below, are closed to donation.**

### General Fund

To support the operation of the synagogue

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

To be used at the Rabbi's discretion

### Torah Fund

To maintain the integrity of the Torahs

**Rabbi Debra Cantor**  
[cantordebra@gmail.com](mailto:cantordebra@gmail.com) 860-463-0986  
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[barrygoldberg@msn.com](mailto:barrygoldberg@msn.com) 860-930-5472  
**Office/Business Manager: Maria daCunha**  
[mdacunha@btsonline.org](mailto:mdacunha@btsonline.org) 860-243-3576  
**B'nai Tikvoh-Sholom**  
180 Still Road Bloomfield, CT 06002  
860-243-3576 FAX—860-243-9601  
[office@btsonline.org](mailto:office@btsonline.org) [www.btsonline.org](http://www.btsonline.org)  
**Bulletin Editor: Shari J. Cantor**  
**RABBI'S OFFICE HOURS:**  
The rabbi is happy to communicate with you via email, text and telephone or in person. Feel free to contact her.  
**OFFICE HOURS:**  
Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.  
Mail and items placed in the drop box will be picked up.

