

Kayruv



קירוב

“Judaism for Today In a Warm and Caring Environment”

March 2017

Adar/Nisan 5777

FROM THE RABBI



Dear Friends,

Some of you asked for my remarks during the Rally for Humanity promoted by ARC on Sunday, Feb. 26th. Here they are. It was a beautiful opportunity to be close to people from our wonderfully diverse Danbury community,

and I am grateful for having been given the opportunity to participate.

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Kayruv means “Welcoming.”

I want to begin by thanking the Association of Religious Communities and PJ Leopold for making this gathering possible, and to Reverend Tickner and Central Christian for giving us the space to make this opportunity possible.

This afternoon I want to share the two forces that bring me here today. Religion and culture.

Judaism is a religion and a culture that encourages and prizes questions, much more than it prizes answers. By questioning, by arguing, the rabbis say that God's will is revealed to us, consistent yet different at every time and place.

One of the good questions is why should the Bible begin with the story of Creation. If the first five books of the Bible, which we Jews call Torah, are just to reveal laws, what is this story doing here? There are many answers to this.

I want to share two of them this morning, and this is the “religion” talking.

One answer says that Torah is not only about laws. It is about overarching values that become transformed into laws, in an eternal search for a perfected, just society of more perfected human beings. In that view, the phrase found in the beginning of the Book of Genesis - ‘then God created the Human in God's image, in the image of God he was created, male and female the Human was created’ is a departure from the view that says that kings and rulers are the children of God, and we, merely children of humans, are to obey them. This verse holds that we are all children of God.

We all carry God's presence within us – the overarching vision is of a society where there is profound equality for all, regardless of gender, skin color, nationality, religion, sexual orientation; we are all equal, we are all endowed with dignity.

Another answer is that Torah is all about law. In that vision, there is a commandment here: let's make the Human in Our image, the same Genesis text says just before the one I just quoted – let's make the Human in our image - it is a command. It means that we are all called to perfect what being human means.

All humans, regardless of gender, skin color, nationality, religion, sexual orientation; we are all called to make ourselves in God's image: just as God is compassionate, so too we are to be compassionate. Just as God is loving, we too are to be loving. Just as God cares for the dead and the living, so too we are to care for the dead and the living. Just as God cares for all of God's creatures, we too are to care about all of God's creatures. Just as God is just, we too are to be searching for justice.

If we look at these two answers, we will see that in practice they are the same – we are always striving to make this world a better place. Love your neighbor as yourself, say the rabbis, is the overarching principle of the Torah: but a principle in Judaism always demands action. This principle demands loving actions. And modern and contemporary rabbis add – love your neighbor even when your neighbor is not like yourself. Act loving to all – to your Muslim neighbor. To your Atheist neighbor. To your LGBTQ neighbor. To your Jewish neighbor. To your Black neighbor. To your Brown neighbor. To your Yellow neighbor. To your White neighbor. To your Wiccan, Buddhist, Santeria neighbor. To your disabled neighbor and to your genius neighbor.

Because we are all, at the end of the day, children of the One God – and nothing is more painful to a parent than to see his or her children acting hatefully towards each other.

Now, I would like to share a little of the culture part.

At least once a year, every single Jew says or thinks the words, "Never again". That is on Yom HaShoah, the day of remembrance of the Holocaust. "Never again" are two words that recall

horror stories of millions who died in Nazi concentration camps, or of friends and family who survived the Shoah (Holocaust) but who were haunted for the rest of their lives by the knowledge of how much horror and pain people can inflict on each other.

When we say, "Never again," we remember that many stood silent while our people were labeled less than human, then rounded up, and ultimately murdered.

But also, when we say "Never again" we remember those who stood up, and saved Jews. Despite being told that we were dangerous, disgusting, dishonored, debased. Despite being told of the consequences. Despite being threatened with the full legal punishments – because, let's remember, everything in Germany was legal – they persisted. They persisted in their defense of the humanity of the Other, some inspired by their religious commitments, some inspired by their own hearts and minds.

Among the saviors there were Muslims from Albania, Bosnia, Turkey, countries of the former Soviet Union, and an Egyptian doctor residing in Berlin.

There were Christians of all creeds, soldiers, policemen, officers, and an entire Huguenot city in France.

There were priests, nuns, farmers, noblemen and the owner of a circus.

There were many, of many races, professions, creeds and nationalities, but they all share one thing. When asked by researchers of the Holocaust Remembrance Center years later, "Why did you do it?" they all answered something along the lines of: "If a person in need knocked at your door, wouldn't you have done the same?" or "If I permitted them to get into the hands of a murderer, that would have made me a murderer."

"Never again" are two words that ask every Jew the ultimate question: What would you have done? And they continue to pose the question: What would you be willing to risk to honor and defend the dignity of the Other?

Those two forces – everyone carries the Image of God, and “never again” bring me here today.

When I came to America I learned the beautiful words of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. “The arc of life bends towards justice.” But my friends, the arc does not bend by itself. There is no magic. There is no inevitability. The arc bends because of people, common folk like you and me, we are tugging and pulling every step of the way.

May we have the courage to build bridges and stand strong, and lovingly, against those who refuse to see the dignity of each and every human being. May we have the spirit to relish in the beautiful diversity of God’s creation, represented in this room and in all of America. May we be inspired by the humanity in ourselves and in each other, to do what is right and what is just, and bend the arc.

Thank you.
Rabbi Nelly Altenburger

RABBI’S OFFICE HOURS

Rabbi Altenburger invites you to meet with her and will be available any day except Wednesday and Shabbat. Please feel free to call or stop by.

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!

If you or anyone you know is ill or in need of support, please call our **Bikur Cholim** (Caring) **Committee** at 203-792-6161.

MAZON'S FIFTH QUESTION
(Read this after the seder's Four Questions)

Each year at the Seder, we ask the traditional four questions. And each year, MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger asks a Fifth Question to raise awareness about a particular hunger-related issue and spark important conversations around the seder table. This year, we turn our attention to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which faces proposals for devastating changes and cuts that would increase the problem of hunger.

Charities and houses of worship provide important temporary assistance for emergency situations, but they simply do not have the capacity or resources to feed the overwhelming number of people in need.

Federal food and nutrition assistance programs serve as our nation's frontline defense against food insecurity. SNAP is the nation's most important and effective anti-hunger program, targeting assistance according to need and helping millions of Americans to purchase adequate food for an active, healthy, and productive life.

On this night (and all other nights going forward), let us ask our elected officials to do better and commit to supporting policies that work to end the problem of hunger, not make it worse.

[All read The Fifth Question together.]



THE FIFTH QUESTION

Why is this night different from all other nights?

On all other nights we ask, "How can I help feed the hungry?"

Tonight we ask, "How can we protect the precious safety net that supports those who are hungry?"

YOU CAN HELP PROTECT SNAP

Visit mazon.org/SNAP to sign a petition asking Speaker of the House Paul Ryan (R-WI) to protect, not eviscerate, SNAP.

House Speaker Paul Ryan (R-WI) has previously introduced dangerous proposals to change the structure of SNAP that will eviscerate the program and its funding. Now there is a real threat that his plan will advance, causing millions to suffer.

SNAP is the nation's most important anti-hunger program and a major pillar of the nation's safety net. It protects against hunger and lifts millions of people out of poverty.

Please join MAZON in urging Speaker Ryan to protect the SNAP program and the millions of Americans who cannot feed their families without it.

MAZON | A Jewish Response To Hunger | 10850 Wilshire Blvd Suite 400, Los Angeles, CA 90024 | (800) 813-0557 | mazon.org

Jewish Family Services of Greater Danbury/Putnam

Donna Prywes M.S.W., Administrator

Located at the United Jewish Center, 141 Deer Hill Avenue, Danbury, CT 06810

203-794-1818 - ifsdanbury@mail.com

JFS in a confidential, no fee, information, resource and referral service that provides personalized assistance, support and advocacy to individuals and families.

Seeking help for any of these issues?

- *Homecare, assisted living, and nursing home options
- *Individuals facing physical or emotional challenges
- *Caregiver support, self-help groups and mental health counseling
- *Normal life transitions or stressful, traumatic life events

JFS is your helping hand-reach out to us!

FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Friends,

I was very pleased to see how many members of CBI took me up on my invitation to attend the interfaith Humanity Rally, which finally took place on Sunday, February 26 after being postponed because of inclement weather. There

was a tremendous turnout (the News-Times estimated a crowd of about 300!), not just from CBI, but from many faith communities—Christian, Jewish, Muslim, and others—and of people of all ages from all over the area. The speakers were superb, including, of course, our own Rabbi Altenburger (who has thoughtfully provided her remarks as her message in this month's newsletter). *Kol Hakavod* to Reverend PJ Leopold and the Association of Religious Communities for organizing the rally, Reverend Stephen Tickner and Central Christian Church for hosting the rally, the speakers for inspiring us to build bridges with our neighbors, and everyone who showed up to stand up for each other—as Mariam Khan, who grew up in Danbury and whose father is the president of the Danbury Masjid, memorably said in her speech: "A threat to justice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

Speaking of justice, the Jewish, Muslim and Christian communities of the Greater Danbury area have organized an event that will give us an opportunity to hear from two activists who have made tremendous progress in laying a foundation for justice, freedom and peace between Palestinians and Israelis living in the West Bank. Antwan Saca, a Palestinian Christian peace activist, and Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger, an Israeli settler who has become an advocate for coexistence, will be speaking on behalf of Roots/Judur/Shorashim, a Palestinian-Israeli grassroots initiative that fosters dialogue, understanding, and nonviolence. Please join me on Wednesday evening, March 29 at 7:30 pm at the Fox Hill Inn—it promises to be a transformative evening!

Within just our own faith community, I'm very happy to report that the Jewish Federation of Western Connecticut has been reaching out to connect with the synagogues in our area. I met with Executive Director Jade Stoltz and Board President Jane Mahler, who are working hard to make the federation's work on behalf of the Jewish community as relevant, engaging, and helpful as possible. So please let me know if you or someone you know would be interested in a day or overnight Jewish campership or a college scholarship, and please keep an eye on our announcements for federation events such as meeting Izzy Ezagui (an American-born squad commander in the IDF who was severely injured in battle, but was permitted to re-enlist for active duty) on Sunday, March 19, or a women's seder featuring a musical program with Linda Goodman on the evening of March 23.

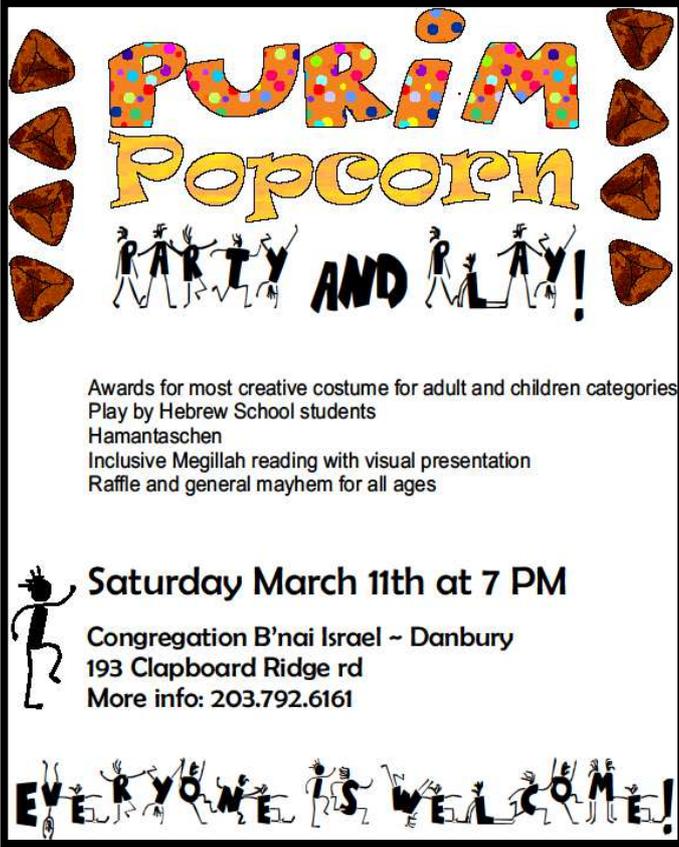
Finally, here at CBI we've got our Purim Popcorn, Party, and Play coming up on Saturday, March 11 at 7:00 pm, which will be as lively and zany as always—but with popcorn! Please join me again in making sure that everyone in our congregation receives *mishloach manot* (a bag of Purim treats) delivered to them. Many of our members can't make it to the megillah reading and Purim spiel, and I was delighted that many of you joined me last year in grabbing bags for folks who weren't able to attend, and personally delivered them over the next day or two. Please keep up the good work this year—it's not just a mitzvah, it's a way to let our synagogue family know we care about them!

Together with justice, transformation, and caring,

Kennis Koldewyn

MARCH EVENTS

PURIM SATURDAY MARCH 11TH AT 7:00 PM



Awards for most creative costume for adult and children categories
 Play by Hebrew School students
 Hamantaschen
 Inclusive Megillah reading with visual presentation
 Raffle and general mayhem for all ages

Saturday March 11th at 7 PM
 Congregation B'nai Israel ~ Danbury
 193 Clapboard Ridge rd
 More info: 203.792.6161

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

MARCH 28TH AND MARCH 30TH NEXT ADULT
 EDUCATION CLASS – ETHICAL CASES
 THROUGH A JEWISH LENS

This course will begin on March 28th at 10:00
 AM and on March 30th at 7:30 PM. Same class,
 twice a week. Everyone is welcome!

A PAINFUL HOPE AT THE HEART OF LASTING PEACE




Join two activists – one a Christian
 Palestinian, Antwan Saca and one an
 Israeli settler, Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger -
 as they tell their personal stories and the
 intertwining of their stories. They come with
 no ready peace plans in hand, but only with
 the conviction that human understanding
 and trust are the prerequisites for lasting
 justice, freedom and peace on that tiny
 sliver of land that they both call home.

Since 2014, the organization known as
 Roots/Judur/Shorashim
 has been bringing Palestinians and Israelis together in dialogue
 as a path to build peace. For more info: friendsofroot.net

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29TH – 7:30 PM
FOX HILL INN
 257 FEDERAL RD. BROOKFIELD | 203.775.0089

Logos: DANBURY MASJID, UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF DANBURY, MFC, Christ Church Parish, JUDUR, SHORASHIM, TEMPLE B'NAI ISRAEL, CONGREGATION B'NAI-ISRAEL

**SAVE THE DATE FOR CBI'S ANNUAL
 TOUCH A TRUCK EVENT!**



DANBURY'S LARGEST TOUCH A TRUCK EVENT RETURNS!

Sunday, May 7 
 10 am to 3 pm
 RAIN OR SHINE

 Touch, climb and discover trucks 
 and other vehicles of distinction

 Toddler Riding Zone!
 Food and Drinks!
 RAFFLE!
 Face-painting and more!

 Danbury High School
 Parking Lot

 **HORN-FREE**
 from 10 am to noon
 (For Children with Special Needs
 and Sensitive Ears)

\$6 for one child
 \$10 for two children
 \$15 for 3 or more
 Children under 2 FREE

Brought to you by
 Congregation B'nai Israel
 203-792-6161



PASSOVER SCHEDULE



Sunday, April 9th, 2017

From 7:57 PM to next day – search for *chametz*

Monday, April 10th, 2017

6:22 AM – Fast of the firstborn begins

10:42 AM – eat no more *chametz*, eating *matza* is not permitted either.

11:49 AM – sell and burn *chametz* – see page 7.

7:11 PM – candle lighting for the First Day of Passover [remember to set aside another flame in a long lasting candle such as a *yahrtzeit* candle to transfer the fire to the candles of the second day]; Passover *seder* begins.

Tuesday, April 11^h, 2017 (First Day of Passover)

8:13 PM – Candle lighting for the Second Day of Passover [The two *Yom Tov* candles are kindled with a pre-existing flame, meaning a flame that was already in existence by having been lit before the holiday begun; that is, one can use the flame of a 26-hour *yahrtzeit* candle]. Second *seder* begins.

Wednesday, April 12th, 2017 (Second Day of Passover)

8:14 PM – end of Second Day

Sunday, April 16th, 2017 (Sixth Day of Passover)

7:18 PM – candle lighting for the Seventh Day of Passover [remember to set aside a *yahrtzeit* candle for the purpose of lightening the next day's candles]

Monday, April 17th, 2017 (Seventh Day of Passover)

8:20 PM – candle lighting for the Seventh Day of Passover [The two *Yom Tov* candles are kindled with a pre-existing flame, meaning a flame that was already in existence by having been lit before the holiday begun; that is, one can use the flame of a 26-hour *yahrtzeit* candle.]

Tuesday, April 18th, 2017 (Last Day of Passover)

8:21 PM – end of the holiday. Happy *chametz*!

SALE OF CHAMETZ

Note: If possible, all chametz – food not acceptable during Pesah (Passover), or materials containing such unacceptable food – should be destroyed or given away before the holiday begins. Should this be impossible, the chametz may be stored in such a way that we are sure not to use it during the holiday and its actual ownership is transferred to a non-Jew until the holiday ends. Please complete the form below and return no later than April 21, 2016 by 8:00 P.M.

KNOW ALL PEOPLE BY THESE PRESENTS: That I/we, the undersigned do hereby make and appoint Rabbi Nelly Altenburger my/our true and lawful representative to act in my/our place and stead, for me/us and in my/our name and in my/our behalf, to sell all *chametz* owned and possessed by me/us, knowingly or unknowingly, as stated in the Torah and defined by the sages of Israel (*chametz*; *hashash chametz* - suspect *chametz*; all kinds of *ta'arovet chametz* – *chametz* mixtures and others); also, *chametz* that tends to harden and to adhere to the surface of pans, pots, or other cooking or eating utensils, of whatsoever nature, and to lease all places wherein the aforementioned *chametz* owned or possessed by me/us may be found, especially in the premises located at (write address/es on lines below)

Rabbi Nelly Altenburger has the full authority and power to sell said *chametz* and to lease said place or places where said *chametz* may be found, upon terms and conditions as discretion dictates. Rabbi Nelly Altenburger has the full power and authority to assign or appoint a substitute or substitutes to act in my/our behalf with all the same powers and authority that I/we have invested in the rabbi, and I/we do hereby ratify and confirm all that Rabbi Nelly Altenburger or a rabbinic substitute lawfully does or causes to be done by virtue of these presents.

And to this I/we hereby affix my/our signatures on this _____ day of _____, in the year _____.

Name(s)

Address

GOOD TIMES WE SHARED

Religious School

Our religious school students have been working hard baking *hamantaschen* as well as filling and decorating our Purim Goody Bags.



Photos courtesy of Nadja Raver

Kitchen Kinship

Late in February, Alvin and I volunteered to host the last Kiddush of the month. What began as a simple sense of obligation to do our part in taking responsibility for a luncheon morphed into a CBI "happening."

First, I created and "executed" a modest shopping list and called on my trusted friend, Carol Nurenberg to help me organize the B'nai Israel kitchen. While preparing the food and clearing refrigerator space we managed to critique the upcoming Academy Award hopefuls, reminisce about "old times" and some shared zany experiences. And before long the food was organized, space was cleared and the serving tables were attractively set.

On Shabbat morning, I came into the kitchen with the intention of quietly setting the food into serving dishes. However, that quiet was pleasantly altered when seven year old Michaela Altenburger arrived with a welcome offer of help. Her interest and expertise was clearly focused on arranging cookies and her expressive eyes sparkled as she volunteered to perform a "quality check" on the doughnuts that she artistically arranged. Somehow, the kitchen ambiance encourages sharing and I learned among other things that "sisters are great while twin brothers can sometimes be challenging."

The next volunteer was Grace Rudick, whose poise and wisdom belies her 12 years of age. Grace pitched in wherever needed but firmly refused to cut the bagels. That job, she insisted (with an engaging smile) could only be performed by Paul Simon who considers this task (along with precisely filling the Kiddush cups) his sacred duty. Grace and I had a special opportunity to share memories of her beloved grandmother and my friend, Sally Rudick. Also discussed was her upcoming role in her school's production of Cinderella.

As if on cue, the kitchen door swung open and Paul Simon entered filling the room with good cheer and extravagant compliments. While performing his "sacred duty" we had a few minutes to discuss our shared love of theater.

Then, just in time to help me find some needed trays and utensils plus answer a myriad of food related questions, our resident gourmet chef, Pam Lampell arrived. There is truly something magical about Pam---when she walks into the kitchen everything seems to automatically fall into place and I can relax knowing that "everything will work out well." She is so generous with sharing her know how and such a calming and nurturing presence!

Chris Kimble arrived with a smile that radiates goodwill and a sense of fun. Chris takes his unique Shabbat - related functions seriously much to the benefit of all the Kiddush goers

The Shenkers, Levitts. Asya Takken and numerous others popped in to say hello and generously offer help. (Please forgive me if I did not mention all who offered help by name.)

After the Kiddush, the clean-up was fast and efficient with the help of many. Our indefatigable president, Kennis Koldewyn added to his ever growing resume of skills by energetically cleaning tables and sweeping the floor.

And how can we thank Harriet and Glen Lebetkin enough for quietly taking over the final tasks of dishwashing, and living up to the girl scout motto "always leave things cleaner than you found them." They somehow made us feel like their hard work was a privilege

The Kiddush was in so many ways an enjoyable experience and clearly a demonstration of the very meaningful connections that are shared in our warm and caring CBI community---a snapshot (non-digital) of the big picture that makes CBI so special.

Pat Goldman

THROUGH A JEWISH LENS



Joel Levitt had an interesting experience at the Lower East Side Tenement Museum. The following is a reprint of the article that recently appeared in the "News-Times".

My wife and I recently toured the Tenement Museum on the Lower East Side of Manhattan; a neighborhood that was the first stop for so many immigrants after leaving Ellis Island. There, a remarkable coincidence occurred, perhaps more suitable for a sci-fi time traveler than a visitor from Connecticut.

The museum tells the true stories of real-life immigrant families from various cultures, all of whom at one time lived in this building over a 75 year period.

We stepped back in time to 1916 and into a tiny three-room apartment to meet a 14 year-old named Victoria Confino, who shared it with nine other members of her extended family. Toilets were in the hall and shared with other families. Baths occurred only weekly at a nearby bath house. The rooms were authentically furnished and a costumed actress told Victoria's story in the first person. Her Sephardic Jewish family had escaped from war-torn Greece during the Ottoman era. They traveled to America as most immigrants did, including my grandparents, in steerage; the cheapest, most crowded and most unsanitary part of the boat. She was a factory worker, with little formal education, but related an aspirational tale of immigrant life shared by many of the 7,000 inhabitants from 20 countries who had once lived at 93 Orchard Street.

After we left the apartment, our guide explained that the adult Victoria Confino had married a man named Cohen, moved to Brooklyn, was widowed and lived with her daughter, Celia, and her husband until her death at age 87. Her granddaughter, Vicky, had worked with the museum to develop the program we had just seen. It wasn't until our trip home that I connected all the dots to come to an amazing conclusion.

I knew Victoria Confino.

I knew her 50 years later and only as Mrs. Cohen. She was the elderly Sephardic immigrant mother of my parents' friends Celia and Stanley (with whom she lived), who had daughters named Vicky and Denise. I recalled hearing that after her grandmother died, Vicky volunteered at the museum. At the time, I did not know in what capacity (later confirmed by the family). What a loving tribute to this wonderful woman and to all immigrants.

With calls for a "national conversation" about immigration, I think a visit to the Tenement Museum, Ellis Island, the Statue of Liberty or even getting to know our immigrant neighbors in our own communities would make a good starting point. Whatever one's political point of view, learning about our own personal histories, as well as our neighbors', will add color and context to the debate and make us better informed to reach thoughtful solutions to these complex issues.

Passover Kitchen Makeover

Making the Passover Changeover – the basics

The most important thing to know when you clean for Passover is that only the necessary work has to be done. Do not make yourself crazy. There is no need for *Pesach* cleaning to make you feel like you really never left Egypt. You **do have choices**: a more superficial level or a thorough cleaning. But remember to pace yourself.

What are you looking for?

What is this *Chametz* we have to get rid of? The verse the Torah says: "neither *Chametz* nor *se'or* shall be visible to you in all your boundaries" (Exodus or Shemot 13:7) *Chametz* is defined as the result of grain (oats, rye, wheat, spelt, barley) that ferments. *Se'or* is fermented dough that is used to make another dough ferment – we call this sourdough, or starter dough, as opposed to yeast. *Chametz* is food. *Se'or* is not food, it has the function of fermenting other dough and it is truly inedible.

There's a third category: Non-edible *Chametz* that is not capable of fermenting other dough. That is neither *Chametz* nor *se'or*. In Jewish law we call this "garbage" or *shmutz* - and it does not have to be gotten rid of for Passover. A good example is dust from a Cheerio on the floor.

To review the three categories:

- 1) **Chametz** is food made of fermented grain.
- 2) **Se'or** is non-edible sourdough, which has the power to ferment other dough.
- 3) **Garbage** is something that is either incapable of fermenting other dough, or so totally non-edible that a dog wouldn't eat it.

If you have small children, you do have to do a more thorough cleaning – all rooms have to be cleaned, including closets, if your children are pre-*b'nai mitzvah* age. **As you finish each room, you might post a sign, such as "Kosher I'Pesach" or "Chametzbusters were here!"** These signs remind the family both that food is not to be taken into these rooms, and that the task of cleaning for *Pesach* is gradually being accomplished. This is also a wonderful time for going over toys and books that have been outgrown. Each person can realize that he or she has changed since last *Pesach*, and that it is time to recognize that new person by removing the "Chametz" of the old.

Once your kids are old enough that you would trust them not to forget food in their clothes and jackets, you can allow yourself not to clean the closets.

Any place in your house that you know no one takes food to eat, such as an attic or the top of the refrigerator, **does not** have to be cleaned.

The kitchen can be seen as a serious challenge. However, if you take it step by step, you can keep it from being completely overwhelming. Listed here is a suggested order for *kashering* different parts of the kitchen so that you don't lose your mind along with the Chametz! For actual *kashering* methods see the *Pesach Guide* that is included as a separate attachment to the email or that is available by calling the office.



Kitchen Countdown! (print out and affix to your refrigerator)

1. About a month in advance: stop buying *Chametz*, and try to use what you already have at home. It's easier to change a pantry with fewer items.
2. About two weeks before: begin buying and storing *Pesachdik* foods, preferably out of the kitchen, so that they will not be confused with things that are "*Chametzdik*."
3. One day before: use your dishwasher, stove, oven and microwave for the last time. They all need a 24-hour wait period before being kashered. Begin using your sink with cold or warm water (not hot). Put away pots and utensils that cannot be kashered, or that you won't use again.
4. Here we go: Select an area to be *Chametzdik*, where you will still do some of the meals during those days.
5. Clean the kitchen cupboards. If you don't have special *Pesach*-only cabinets, remove the regular dishes from the cabinets you will need and get them *Pesach*-ready. The food for *Pesach* can then be put inside. If you don't need to empty all of your cabinets, DON'T!! After you clean them to make sure they are *Chametz*-free, tape them shut and mark them so that they will not be used. The outside surfaces should still be cleaned.
6. Kasher the refrigerator and freezer. One small corner lined with foil can be used for *Chametz* until the morning before the Seder. The foil is discarded at the final changeover.
7. Kasher the stove and oven (after a 24-hour waiting period). After this point, *Chametzdik* meals should be prepared in a toaster oven or other appliance. Microwave ovens can be kashered, but they **have to be unused for 24 hours beforehand**. The process itself is quick, however, so the microwave can remain available longer than the oven.
8. Kasher the dishwasher (Alternatively you may decide to lock the dishwasher and not use it for *Pesach*, using it for *Chametzdik* storage instead).
9. Kasher part of the counter so that you can put *Pesach* dishes and foodstuff on it.

10. Kasher pots, pans, and silverware (flatware). Skip this step if you have doubled your pots, pans and silverware for Passover.
11. Kasher the microwave.
12. Kasher the sink.
13. Take all remaining *Chametz* out of the kitchen. Finish kashering all of the counters.
14. Clean the floor.
15. Bring out the *Pesach* dishes.

And just how long is this going to take??!

It is a very good idea to have as a goal a completely *kashered* kitchen **at least one day before the morning of the Seder**. Balancing *Chametzdik* meals and a *Pesach* kitchen is NOT easy, but lends to the sense of adventure. People end up eating dinner on the porch or even outside when the weather is warm enough. In order to manage everything, it is a good idea to start the kitchen four to five days ahead of the holiday, allowing more time if you have a very busy regular schedule. IT DOES GET FINISHED!!

But I have so much Chametz!

Observing *Pesach* is expensive, but it is not supposed to cause financial hardship. It is a good idea to try to use up as much regular, opened food as possible before the holiday. If, however, you have just too much left, by *halakhah* (religious law) you can sell it. This is called *mehirat Chametz*. All of the *Chametz* must be in a specified place, described, and paid for by a non-Jew. Because the process is complicated, it is usually conducted through a rabbi. See B'nai Israel's sale of *Chametz* form at the back of this issue of the Kayruv.

The combination of children and cleaning

Drawing children into the activities is one of the central goals of *Pesach* and the *Seder*. However, the serious cleaning of the holiday is hard for adults to enjoy, let alone youngsters! Aside from the plain hard work, there are often strong chemicals around, heavy boxes to move, and sometimes stressed people to contend with. THIS may be the time to get a sitter. Alternatively, work with the children on preparing for the *Seder* and get someone else to clean your kitchen!

HOWEVER, if you are on your own with children demanding your attention while you are trying to make progress, get them started in one of the activities to get ready for the *Seder* (such as making place cards or pictures for one of the table songs) within shouting distance. You can then continue to work (although you will be interrupted) and the children will be contributing to the preparations. When a major job is almost done, the children may be able to symbolically "help" complete it. As they see it getting finished, they can get the feeling that everyone in the house is working together to "bring *Pesach* closer."

Of course, the children should have an active part in the culminating activities of searching for and burning the *Chametz* (see further). They should be made aware that all *Chametz* is now nobody's property: it is like dust, not for eating, until *Pesach* is over. They can be reassured, if necessary, that the change is not permanent, and they will get to enjoy Cheerios again before too long! **YOU DID IT!!**

IN THE COMMUNITY



March 19, 2017 from 11:00 – 1:00 PM
MEET IZZY EZAGUI



Meet IDF Soldier, Izzy Ezagui. Izzy is an American born, one-armed squad commander in the Israel Defense Force. He is the only soldier injured in battle permitted to re-enlist for active duty. FREE family event, all are welcome, especially our Jewish Veterans.

CALL TO RSVP: 203-267-3177, x 340

WOMEN'S SEDER

6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

A Women's Seder



Experience the Journey

SAVE THE DATE: March
23 at 6:00 PM

Multi- generational
Women's Seder

Featuring Musical Program with Linda Goodman

What's Happening at the JCC in Sherman

Adult Canvas Paint Night with Color on Wheels

Friday, March 24th 7PM-9PM

\$40 Per person - BYOB - Light snacks Provided
Pre-Paid reservations required by Wed. March 22
Choose between two 11x14 paintings - images
can be found on our website.

Great Decisions 2017

Begins Sunday, April 9th 10AM-12PM

Great Decisions is America's largest discussion
program on world affairs. The program model
involves reading the Great Decisions Briefing
Book, watching the DVD and meeting in a
Discussion Group to discuss the most critical
global issues facing America today.

Each year, eight topics are chosen by a panel of
experts. Check our website to see complete list of
topics.

Members \$65 / Non-members \$75 - includes
briefing book

To register or events or to find our more
information please visit our
website jccinsherman.org
info@jccinsherman.org / [860.355.8050](tel:860.355.8050)



**GAME ON!
HANEFESH
KADIMA KALLAH
2017**



Date: March 31-April 1 2017
Price: \$49
Time: 4PM Friday-9:30 PM Saturday
Location: The Emanuel Synagogue
160 Mohegan Drive, West Hartford, CT 06117

Register by March 27 at www.tinyurl.com/hanefesh1617

You must be a paid member of your Kadima chapter to attend.
Please contact Jason Kay at jason@hanefesh.org with any questions.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR FRIENDS IN THE COMMUNITY

Below are business cards of members of the Greater Danbury Community who have been instrumental and generous to us in the renovation of our building. We ask you to help show our thanks by supporting them whenever possible.

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OPERATIONS MANAGER

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Brookfield, CT. 06804
203-740-2152
Cell# 203-627-1353
Fax# 203-740-2441
rlwoods@winair.com
danburywinair.com

DONATIONS



FOR OUR LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES!

This is CBI's ongoing project to help our local food pantries. Items most in need are dried/canned beans, canned fish, peanut butter, jelly, fruit juice, sugar, flour, personal care items such as soap and shampoo.

CBI is a generous and caring community and as always, we thank you for your donations and support as they are truly appreciated.

SCHEDULE OF SHABBAT SERVICES

☆ **Shabbat, 13 Adar, March 11, Tetzaveh:** Moshe and Aaron are instructed about the intricate designs of the priestly vestments.

Haftarah: 1 Sam. 15:2-34

☆ **Shabbat, 20 Adar, March 18, Ki Tissa:** Moshe is gone too long and the people of Israel build a golden calf. *Haftarah:* Ezekiel 36:16-38

☆ **Shabbat, 27 Adar, March 25, Vayakhel-Pekudei:** The portable sanctuary is built by the Israelites. *Haftarah:* Ezekiel 45:16-46:18

☆ **Shabbat, 5 Nisan, April 1, Vayikra:** We begin the third book of the Torah which deals with the sacrificial rites of the Priesthood (the Kohanim). *Haftarah:* Isaiah 43:21-44:23

☆ **Shabbat, 12 Nisan, April 8, Tsav:** The sons of Aaron prepare for the dedication of the sanctuary. *Haftarah:* Mal. 3:4-24, 23

CANDLE LIGHTING

March 10, 2017:	5:37 PM
March 17, 2017:	6:45 PM
March 31, 2017:	7:00 PM
April 7, 2017:	7:08 PM
April 10, 2017: Pesach	7:11 PM
April 11, 2017: Pesach	8:20 PM
April 14, 2017: Pesach	7:15 PM
April 16, 2017: Pesach	7:17 PM
April 17, 2017: Pesach	8:27 PM

YAHARZEITS

10 Adar, March 8, 2017

Edythe Kiner (Nada Adler)

15 Adar, March 13, 2018

Bobbie Sommer (Lorie Mael)

19 Adar, March 17, 2017

Helen Maser (David Maser)

20 Adar, March 18, 2017

Josephine Gershon (Norman Gershon)

24 Adar, March 22, 2017

Sarah Slavin (Natalie Slavin & Evelyn Weinstein)

25 Adar, March 23, 2017

Adele Small (Pam Lampell)

Hilda Hirsch (Peter Hirsch)

26 Adar, March 24, 2017

Betje Smeer (Dina Essinger)

29 Adar, March 27, 2017

Brakha Rabinovich (Eliezer Rabinovich)

4 Nisan, March 31, 2017

Pearl Silverstein (Roslyn Friedman)

5 Nisan, April 1, 2017

Max Kruzansky (Dina Markind)

Sylvia Simon (Paul Simon)

7 Nisan, April 3, 2017

Nathan Smeer (Dina Essinger)

9 Nisan, April 5, 2017

Phyllis Kaplan (Barry Kaplan)

13 Nisan, April 9, 2017

Bertram Sommer, Jr. (Lorie Mael)

THANKS! THANKS!

For the General Fund

☆ Herman Lepson in memory of Sol Lepson

☆ Rhoda and Ralph Janis in memory of Doug Wise's mother Harriet

For Their Generous Kiddush

☆ Pam Lampell in honor of *Tu B'Shvat*

☆ Dina Markind in memory of her mother Sara Kruzansky

☆ The Goldmans