



TEMPLE SHALOM

To Embrace, Promote, and Teach Jewish Life and Values

VOLUME 23

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APRIL 2025

A MESSAGE FROM RABBI EMERITUS SOLOMON AGIN DD.

The True Meaning of the Matzah

Matzah, known as unleavened bread, is called in Hebrew *lehem oni*. The second Hebrew word carries with it several different meanings.

The first and oldest use of *lehem oni* is “the bread of affliction or the bread of oppression.” *Matzah* is a slave bread. That is because it is not enriched but is simply flour and water. It is bread that can be made very quickly. Therefore, it becomes a symbol of slavery and our commitment to work on behalf of freedom.

The second meaning of *lehem oni* is “the bread of poverty.” Since *matzah* is made of just flour and water and no other ingredients, it is the cheapest form of bread. It is the bread of poor people. It is a reminder of our responsibility, yours and mine, to deal with the problem of world hunger.

The third meaning of *lehem oni* is “the bread over which much is answered.” The word *Haggadah* itself means literally “the telling.” The *Seder* service that tells the children, and incidentally the adults, the answer to some basic questions about history and life itself.

Judaism is a repository of wisdom which offers a guide to the conduct of a *chayim tovim*, a good life. In fact, someone once observed that the problem today is that Judaism has the answers but we contemporary Jews have forgotten the questions. Perhaps, if we ask again the meaning of *matzah*, we will find some very significant answers to the questions of life.

A meaningful Passover to all.

Yes, The Right to Belong

The bible tells us “the rich shall pay more and the poor shall not pay less than a half shekel when giving the God’s offering.” (Exodus 30:15). What the bible is saying here, everyone had to give the same amount because in God’s eyes everyone is counted alike.

This tele-passage is a basic source for the concept of democracy and equality. The bible contains many, many statements about treating people equally and respecting the stranger. But here is a practical implementation of the Jewish emphasis on democracy and accepting other human beings as equals even though they be strangers with strange views.

There is a story, I am told, that there is a sign at the entrance to a small Kentucky town that reads: “Home of 2,000 happy people and a few sore heads.” A visitor to the town asked one of the locals, “How many sore heads were counted there?” The man shrugged and replied, “I don’t really know but the mayor says there are five of them. That is how many votes there were against the mayor at the last election.

Most of us view those who disagree with us as sore heads, and we tend to be intolerant of them. But just as we have the right to speak, so, too, do they. Indeed, there are times when each in a disagreement appears to be a sore head to the other. However, the real point is that both we and they have the right to our opinions and the right to conscience. Truly, we are all equal in the sight of God and equally entitled to our convictions.

MESSAGE FROM BOARD TRUSTEE JOYCE GELFAND

Temple Shalom Caribbean Cruise March 15, 2025

What do you get when you cross two dozen Temple Shalom Jews
(Don't take offense because it rhymes...) on a Freedom of the Seas Cruise?

For entertainment, the singers and dancers were absolutely great.
The beautifully costumed ice skaters in the small rink were first rate.

When exiting the show, one of our members fell; one had already broken her toe.
Both of them had seen the medic on deck number two, "Ooh no"!

Our troubles were not over as there were several more glitches.
One member had pneumonia; another had required six stitches.

However, the food and liquor were incredibly fine.
We were able to celebrate Shabbat together, albeit without wine,

One came down with Covid, although that was after we were off the ship.
"Oh my," you're saying, "That was really some Temple Shalom trip."

Nevertheless, we all felt the trip was really very dear.
There's even a rumor some are planning to go on another cruise next year!



A Note from Judi Migdol, President

As you can see from Joyce's poem, the cruise happened. There were some "casualties", but everyone had a great time. There was such comradery between the whole group. I was so proud to be part of it.

We went to the Synagogue in St. Thomas – and I will follow up on that shortly in an email. It was a heartwarming experience that we all learned from.

Thank you to all who joined us. Hope we can do it again.

Yahrzeits

April 4, 2025

Frances Blumenthal	Herman Fleshman	Anita Horwitz	Esther Pollack
George Crim	Samuel Goldberg	Harry Levine	Irving Rosenthal
Moishe Dennis	Newton Gordon	Wanda Lojko	Coleman Treibitz
Renee Eckhoff	Mina Guttag	Miriam Miller	Harris Wagenheim
Frank Fefer	Louis Hoffman	Ruchel Netzer	

April 11, 2025

Michael Alpern	Nettie Glickstein	Muriel Moser	Leah Schecker
Alex Buchwald	Joyce Greenwald	Heidi Nord	Phyllis Scheller
Fannie Chait	Berl Kahan	Esther Nozik	Nathan Schnur
Esther Eisenberg	Dora Mallow	Dora Rosenthal	Rose Schnur
			Sidney Vegotsky
			Johanna Zeisler

April 18, 2025

Louis Bernstein	Leah Gehler	Dorothy Kirschner	Saliha Shochat
Evelyn Brown	Sydell Goldberg	Louis Krieger	George Weinflash
Ruth Carson	Frances Gottlieb	Francis Morris	Louis Widzer
Dr. Benjamin Cook	Morris Kaplan	Carl Olsan	Sam Widzer
Abraham Edelstein	Lea Kirschbaum	Rose Perel	Martin Wilson
			Abe Wolson

April 25, 2025

Gabrielle Azar-Levin	Eleazar Friedman	Minna Picard	Harry Shayman
Ida Bearak	Julia Goldmuntz	Sally Roark	Anna Spencer
Herman Brooks	Jean Goldstein	Leonard Rood	Ethel Weinberg
Isaac Brown	Emma Handleman	Yetta Rosen	Rita Zeides-Horwitz
Max Cohen	Rose Kornfield	Garnette Scholl	

FAMILIES THAT ARE OBSERVING A YAHRZEIT DURING THE MONTH ARE REQUESTED TO
ATTEND THE FRIDAY EVENING SERVICE DURING WHICH THE NAMES
WILL BE READ PRIOR TO KADDISH.



APRIL CELEBRATIONS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Susan Stein
April 4th

Larry Zeides
April 6th

Naomi Alexaner
April 10th

Shelly Pollack
April 13th

Esther Waxman
April 13th

Karyl Katz
April 16th

Paul Leight
April 20th

Jeff Marks
April 22nd

E.C. Roark
April 23rd

Robin Green.
April 26th

David Green
April 27th

Susa Marie Denkhau
April 28th

Dr. Catherine Bukovitz
April 29th

HAPPY ANNIVERSRY

Dr. Matthew and Michelle Bagan – April 1st

Dr. Neil and Amy Zusman – April 8th

Stephen and Linda Bloom – April 9th

Dr. William Dworet and Dale Doyle – April 23rd

DONATIONS

Judi Migdol	In honor of Bat Mitzvah of granddaughter Sydney Breuer In honor of Bat Mitzvah of granddaughter Anna Tufariello
Linda and Stephen Bloom	In memory of Odette Port
Rebecca Wellhouse	Donation
Barbara Allvin	In memory of Odette Port
Gayle Druker	In memory of Odette Port In honor of Judi Migdol's granddaughter's Bat Mitzvah
Joyce Gelfand	In memory of Odette Port
Sandi Walker	In memory of Odette Port
Dr. Marc and Cindy Melser	In memory of Odette Port
Karyl Katz	In memory of Odette Port
Carol Butera	In memory of Odette Port
Charles and Angela McKone	In memory of Odette Port
Sam and Marsha Cohen	In memory of Ruth Sugarman
Jeff and Shelly Pollack	In honor of Mike and Jennifer Newman's daughter's marriage
Dr. Catherine Bukovitz	In memory of John Bukovitz
Berna Goldberg	In memory of Odette Port
Lydia Gattanell	In memory of Odette Port
David and Sharon Cooper	In memory of Odette Port
Allen Levin	In memory of Garnet Levin Kling
Loretta Levi	In honor of Glenn Stern for renovating Odette Port Executive Wing
Jerry and Roslyn Eisner	In memory of Odette Port

Joseph and Anita Sabatino	In memory of Phyllis Sherman
Dr. Janice Nord and Robert Tholemeier	In memory of Odette Port
Allan and Barbara Solomon	In memory of Odette Port
Loretta Levi	Get well wishes to Lenny Katz
Dr. Neil and Amy Zusman	In memory of Odette Port Edith Keila



The semi-annual Temple Shalom Congregational Board meeting is usually held on the fourth Thursday of April. Due to the fact that April 24th is Yom Hashoah, we will be having our congregational meeting on Thursday, May 1st at 1:00. Please attend – it is the only way you can find out what is going on in YOUR temple.



You are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item to Temple as a sign of a “Mitzvah of Concern”, that we have an obligation to help those who are in need in the community.

Do you have any **GOOD IDEAS** for the Temple – functions, fundraisers, and committees? If so, please let us know. Please contact any board member with your thoughts. This is **your** temple, and we want **your** input!!!!

Would you like to sponsor and shop for an Oneg Shabbat? It could be for a life cycle event – birth of a child, birthday, anniversary, or just to do it. Please call Naomi Alexander to schedule it. We really need different members to sponsor and shop for Onegs.

Would you like to advertise in the Shalom (and reach all our congregants) – or do you know someone who would like to advertise? If so, please call Judi Migdol at 516-635-9871 for information.

We have a wonderful library in Temple Shalom. Please let us know what kind of books you would like us to obtain for your reading pleasure.

Amazon. Smile is a charitable component of Amazon Corporation that provides income to charitable organizations, such as the Temple, based on purchases made by Amazon customers who have identified the Temple in their Amazon profile. It is very easy to sign up.

***WE SEND OUR DEEPEST AND HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF LONG-TIME MEMBER PHYLLIS SADOFF.
OUR HEARTS AND LOVE ARE WITH YOU.
MAY SHE REST IN PEACE!***

REMINDER!!!!



PASSOVER – 5785 - SECOND SEDER

Sunday, April 13, 2025 – 5:00pm

at Temple Shalom



Fantastic Main Course

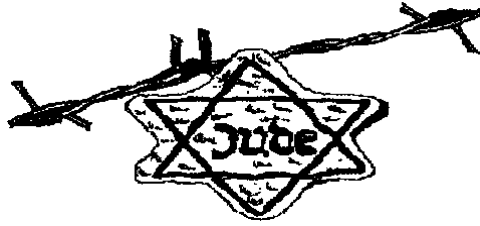
Choice of

Brisket or Chicken

and many Passover delicacies

RESERVATIONS ARE CLOSED!

79 PEOPLE WILL BE ATTENDING.



Yom HaShoah

Our Community

Remembrance Service

Of The

Holocaust

Thursday, April 24, 2025

6:00pm

Temple Shalom
23190 Utica Avenue
Port Charlotte, Florida

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In The Bond Of Eternal Light**



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