

**CELEBRATE TU B'SHVAT**



**BY PLANTING FOR  
THE FUTURE**



**Also In  
This  
Issue:**

*Our light shines brighter together*

Join us for Shabbat  
with our amazing set  
of Guest Artists!  
page 9

Come see what we  
have in store for  
Purim this year!  
pages 16-17

Celebrate Tu B'Shvat by  
joining some of our Green  
Events this month!  
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A Proud Member of the URJ

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With our Water Filling Stations  
We have saved

**9600 plastic bottles**

Temple Akiba's Green Team thanks you for your participation!

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Rebecca Holzberg

**A bi-monthly publication of: Temple Akiba**

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**Friday Shabbat Services**  
**JANUARY/FEBRUARY**

**Friday, January 5** 6:30pm  
Shabbat Shira Service

**Friday, January 12** 6:30pm  
Interfaith Shabbat Service with Choir

**Friday, January 19** 6:30pm  
Kabbalat Shabbat with Guest Artist Noam Katz

**Friday, January 26** 6:30pm  
Tu B'Shvat Seder & Service

**Friday, February 2** 6:30pm  
Shabbat Shira with 3rd Grade & Refugee Service

**Friday, February 9** 6:30pm  
Healing Shabbat Service with Choir

**Friday, February 16** 6:30pm  
**Pink & Teal** Kabbalat Shabbat Service

**Friday, February 23** 6:30pm  
Shabbat Service with Guest Artist Justin Stein

*On three things  
the world is sustained:  
on Torah, on service, and  
on deeds of loving kindness.*

Pirkei Avot 1:2



## Shalom, Rav



Dear all,

“It’s a perfect day for weeding”  
Ron said to me the other day.  
Sigh, I wanted to go out for a  
bike ride, but Ron had a look that told me I  
had better stick around.

I thought deeply about this time of year and  
garden work.

The first (non-Shabbat) holiday that occurs in  
the secular year is Tu B’Shvat, the “New Year  
of the Trees.” We learn about the significance  
of agriculture, and we strive to appreciate the  
many varieties of fruits in Israel and around  
the world. Most important, we plant seeds so  
that the next generation will enjoy the world  
just as much.

I think of the seeds my parents planted for me.  
And I believe these are the seeds that you all  
enjoy as well:

The seeds of love.  
The seeds of justice.  
The seeds of education.  
The seeds of memory.  
The seeds of responsibility.  
The seeds of gratitude.

Our world is complicated right now as we  
continue to face the realities that October  
7 unleashed. There are people who have  
planted weeds rather than flowers, attempting  
to suffocate our world with narrow thinking.  
Each and every person has potential for  
holiness. But some minds have been taken  
over by weeds.

My mom taught me at a young age how  
to extricate a weed to its root, without  
compromising the garden.

And Ron reminded me that the process of  
weeding is ongoing.

So we continue to plant and cultivate and  
prune. We do what we can get as close to the  
Garden of Eden once again.

Keep on planting those seeds of goodness.  
And do what you can to replace the weeds  
with nourishing truth.

With love and shalom,  
**Rabbi Zachary Shapiro**

## Cantor's Corner



*“Am-eh am-eh am-eh Yis-ra-el-eh chai  
Am-eh am-eh am-eh Yis-ra-el-eh chai  
oh--od-eh A-vi-nu chai  
O--oh--od-eh A-vi-nu chai”*

Translation: The Jewish people lives! Our God yet lives!

*Am Yisrael Chai* is a Jewish solidarity anthem, a widely used  
expression of Jewish peoplehood, & an affirmation of the continuity  
of the Jewish people.

The earliest documented uses were in the aftermath of the liberation  
of concentration camps during the Holocaust. A recording by the  
BBC radio service's Patrick Walker captured a chaplain proclaiming  
"Am Yisrael chai!, the children of Israel still liveth" after singing  
Hatikvah at the conclusion of a Friday evening Shabbat prayer service  
led by British Army chaplain Rabbi Leslie Hardman at the recently-  
liberated Bergen-Belsen concentration camp on April 20, 1945.

The phrase gained popularity during the Student Struggle for Soviet  
Jewry, when Jewish songwriter Shlomo Carlebach composed the  
song for the movement's 1965 solidarity rally in New York City. The  
Forward has placed "Am Yisrael Chai" second only to Hatikvah, the  
national anthem of Israel, as "an anthem of the Jewish people".

The version of the song at the top of this article might look slightly  
different than the version that most people recognize. Noam Katz,  
our upcoming Artist in Residence composed an exciting and dynamic  
variation of the song in Luganda, a dialect of Uganda. In Luganda, a  
vowel sound is often added to the end of words that normally end in  
a consonant. The Abayudaya have adopted this speech pattern in their  
pronunciation of modern Hebrew. This song reflects that melding of  
two cultures, two languages interacting with each other to reveal one  
universal message—that the strength of God and the Jewish people  
will live on forever.

Noam Katz will be joining us January 19 – 21. He is one of the most  
exciting voices in contemporary Jewish music. He has shared his  
high-flying energy & soulful melodies with Jewish and interfaith  
audiences throughout North America, Africa & Israel. A longtime  
songleader at URJ Eisner and Kutz Camps, Noam has performed at  
countless organizational events, summer camps & congregations. We  
are thrilled to welcome Noam to our community and look forward to  
hearing his inspiring music and learning from him.

L'Shalom, **Cantor Lonee Frailich**

## ECC & Religious School

Happy New Year Everyone!! With the start of a new year, we are blessed with an opportunity for change. As Jewish Americans we have this chance twice a year, to reflect and make resolutions towards enriching our lives and the lives of others around us. What have you done since Rosh Ha Shanah towards achieving your new year's goals? What can you do in 2024 to reflect on what it means to be an American Jew and to help your children identify the Jewish values present in their everyday lives?

In the past couple of months in Religious School we have begun focusing on the idea of holiness and creating holy space and how ordinary moments can often be connections to G-d. What makes a moment holy? What makes a space holy? Is seeing a Rainbow a Holy moment? What about going apple picking, or playing in the snow? Something "awesome" is something that inspires awe, reverence, and wonder. That feeling can often be a feeling of connection to God.

Judaism encourages us to recognize these awesome moments as moments of connection to God by reciting blessings to acknowledge and give thanks to God at those times. As your children discover their own moments of awe talk to them and encourage them to make those connections and to feel blessed for all of the wonders of life around us.

L'Shalom,  
**Randee Bishoff, Dir. of Education**



## President's Message

We wrapped up 2023 with a very special 70th Anniversary gathering on Dec. 10. The Social Hall was filled with people from Akiba's past and present to our youth of today. All around the room panels displayed highlights of our 70-year history. Rabbi and Judy Maller, Neal and Nancy Federman were in attendance along with past Temple and Sisterhood Presidents. The spirit of those who have passed on was also very evident. They continue to inspire us and we are grateful for their dedication to building Temple Akiba, not only the physical building, but the haimish community that we are. That feeling of warmth and love filled the room, exhibiting the true spirit of Temple Akiba. Cantor Lonee Frailich and her Chanukah Choir of students aged 11-17 brought it all together, reminding us that our children are our future.

Speaking of children, our Religious School has grown tremendously this year. This speaks to the desire for community and belonging and that Temple Akiba provides that warm embrace and foundation for Jewish identity and love of Judaism.

Our vision is to make Temple Akiba your center for Jewish Life. We want to build on that and create more opportunities for parents to stay engaged as their children move beyond B'nai Mitzvah and into our Monday night programs.

In these challenging and dark times, all of us are looking for that warm and welcoming embrace. We want to deepen our connections with all of the adults in our community. We look forward to providing new programming in 2024. Here is just a sampling of what is already happening. Join Rabbi's adult education programs throughout the week. Bake challah in community before Shabbat Services once a month. Socialize while exploring various breweries through our revitalized Pub Akiba. Connect with other families at ECC Friday coffees and pre-Shabbat schmoozes and Religious School breakfasts and dinners. Join Sisterhood's Israeli Dance Class and come to their annual Havdalah Service & Dinner Jan. 27. Watch the Super Bowl with the Men's Group Feb. 11. Join the Green Team's Tu B'Shevat outdoor gathering. Be a part of Mishloach Manot, the Purim Carnival, Mitzvah Day and A NIGHT OUT IN TEL AVIV-JUNE 1.

Wishing you light & love in the New Year,

**Cathy Penso, President**



## Executive Director's Message

October 7th changed the world for so many people. Since that time, the world has seen protest in cities and on college campuses, City Councils passing proclamations, anti-Semitic occurrences increasing, and the war in Israel continues. There are many days where I have a multitude of feelings ranging from sorrow to anger to anxiety. I do my best to give each of these emotions the attention they need at the time they appear. These are definitely challenging times for me, and for so many others.

What I have found that has helped me through these times are two things: spending special time with my family, and Temple Akiba. Family is understandable. But, being at the Temple on Monday nights and seeing the joy, friendship, learning and teaching at Akiba High gives me hope and excitement for our future. Seeing our ECC teachers creating safe, loving, learning environments for our children gives me a sense of pride and warmth. Attending Kabbalat Shabbat, filled with music, Ruach (spirit) and community, helps me to feel the loving embrace that Temple Akiba provides. Seeing the families as they join together for our Challah Bakes helps to bring Shabbat into our homes and fills the Temple with the delicious, comfortable smells of the freshly baked Challot. Watching Rabbi as he leads a Torah Study discussion providing insight, guidance, and wisdom to all those who are in attendance. Being part of a special Tikun Olam Bin dedication helping to ensure that Temple Akiba's Tikun Olam (Tzedakah) value and goals not only continues, but truly thrives.

These are just some of the wonderful ways that Temple Akiba helps to build, and provides a sense of community for all of us. We speak often that our Light Shines Brighter Together. I have seen, and felt first hand that Our Light, my Personal Light, does shine brighter when we are together.

As we move into 2024 I encourage you to join your Temple Akiba community for an additional Shabbat Service, participate in one of Rabbis adult education opportunities, join and participate in Sisterhood and Men's Group activities, sing in the choir, or come to any of the other wonderful opportunities that Temple Akiba provides. Being here. Being part of Temple Akiba absolutely makes me feel better, and helps me through these challenging times. And I know it will for you too. We are a strong, loving, vibrant community – and our Light does Truly Shine Brighter Together.



Wishing you a happy, healthy, and successful 2024.

L'Shalom, **Jeffrey Rips, Executive Director**

## Akiba Green Team Quiz On Food Waste

- How many pounds of edible food does the average American throw away in a year? (USDA)
  - 50 pounds
  - 100 pounds
  - 200 pounds
  - 500 pounds



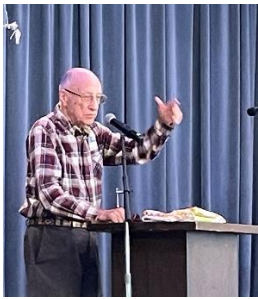
- USDA estimated the 2010 cost of food loss & waste at the retail & consumer levels was almost ..
  - \$500 million
  - \$1 billion
  - \$50 billion
  - \$150 billion
- How many million tons of greenhouse gas emissions are created by the food we never eat.
  - 10 million tons
  - 130 million tons
  - 240 million tons
  - 500 million tons



- What percentage of all freshwater we consume goes to produce food we never eat.
  - 5 %
  - 15%
  - 25%
  - 35%
- What are the most wasted foods in the U.S.? (stopwaste.org)
  - Bread
  - Milk
  - Lettuce
  - Bananas
  - Apples
  - All of the above
- What is the biggest problem with food waste?
  - It is a social or humanitarian concern (food insecurity).
  - It wastes all the energy and water it takes to grow, harvest, transport, and package it.
  - food goes to the landfill and rots, it produces methane—a greenhouse gas even more potent than carbon dioxide.
  - All of the above

Answers: 1-c, 2-d, 3-b, 4-c, 5-f, 6-d





## CHEERS TO 70 YEARS!

Temple Akiba proudly celebrated its 70th anniversary with an unforgettable afternoon of festivities. Our guests were treated to a captivating display of photos, articles and artifacts from seven decades of our rich history. The event was graced by the presence of esteemed speakers including Rabbi Maller as well as local city leadership. We were inspired & delighted by the voices of our youth in song. We were thrilled to see so many members of our community come together to honor Temple Akiba's past and celebrate its future. Thank you to all who attended and made this milestone event such a success. Here's to another 70 years of vibrant Jewish life and spirit in Culver City!







TEMPLE AKIBA  
of CULVER CITY  
*Our light shines brighter together*

Coming this Purim.....

A fundraiser and mitzvah all in one...

## **MISHLOACH MANOT!!**

Purchase our eco-friendly themed gift  
for congregation members, clergy,  
teachers and staff to show  
them you care and  
bring a smile to their face.

Gifts will go on sale in January 2024,  
through [www.HappyPurim.com](http://www.HappyPurim.com)  
Check your email for your unique login.

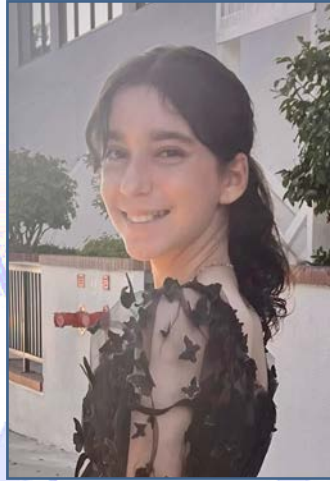
For questions or to learn about  
sponsorships, please contact  
Committee Chair Wendy Senelick,  
[wendysenelick@yahoo.com](mailto:wendysenelick@yahoo.com)



# B'Nai Mitzvah - Mazal Tov!



Lev Milavski  
son of Toby & Gur  
Milavski Saturday,  
January 13



Sophie Ben-Aharon  
daughter of Diana  
Tsudik & Lior Ben-  
Aharon Saturday,  
January 27



Clara Mellor  
daughter of Nancy  
Balter & Blake  
Mellor Saturday,  
February 3



Paige Dixon  
daughter of Alissa  
& Greg Dixon  
Saturday,  
February 10



Jeremy Saltzman  
son of Jamie &  
Blake Saltzman  
Saturday,  
February 17



Shane Plush  
son of Karen &  
Robert Plush  
Saturday,  
February 24

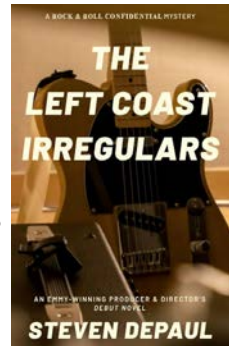


## Men's Group Message

The Men's Group of Temple Akiba invites you to join us for our upcoming events:

**Tuesday, January 30 at 7:00 PM for an interview and talk by Steven DePaul.**

Steve is an American television director, producer and mystery author. His first book, "The Left Coast Irregulars" A Rock and Roll Confidential Mystery. He comes by his rock and roll cred with a lot of experience. DePaul began working on Rock & Roll tours, first working as a roadie for Poco ('73-74). He spent the next 15 years touring with bands including Joni Mitchell, The Eagles, The Grateful Dead, Dan Fogelberg, Crosby, Stills and Nash, Boston, The Cars and The Faces. This career ended with a long stint, ('84-'92) with Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band, including the "Born in the USA" tour and the worldwide Amnesty International "Human Rights Now!" tour. He has directed multiple episodes of "The Good Doctor", "The Gifted", Shades of Blue, NCIS-LA, CSI-NY, GRIMM, The Unit, Bones, as well as a longstanding producer and director on NYPD Blue.



**Sunday, February 11 at 3:00 PM - Our first ever MEN'S GROUP SUPERBOWL PARTY.**

Join us to watch the big game on a big screen and comfortable chairs. There will be beer, pizza, and all kinds of other snacks. This is our opportunity to yell at the refs for missed calls, watch the half time show, to rate the various commercials on cleverness and originality. Generally, a great opportunity to hang out, yak, and enjoy each other's company. Spouses & significant others are welcome as well.

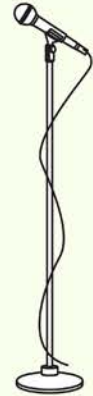
These will be entertaining events. A nice diversion from the serious times we are living in. Please join us! For more information and/or membership info, please contact Victor Nahmias at [VNahmias@aol.com](mailto:VNahmias@aol.com).







# GUEST ARTIST SHABBAT SERIES



Temple Akiba welcomes guest artists that will inspire us and elevate our souls with their dynamic and engaging music. We are excited to welcome these incredible Guest Artists to our Synagogue this year to lead us in our Shabbat services & other programs.

## Noam Katz

**Friday, January 19, 2024**



Rabbi Noam Katz is one of the most exciting and influential voices in contemporary Jewish music. He has brought his high-flying energy and soulful melodies to Jewish and interfaith audiences across North America, Africa and Israel. A longtime songleader at URJ Eisner, George and Kutz Camps, Noam has performed at URJ Biennials, CAJE, BBYO International, Limmud – England, NFTY Convention, and countless summer camps & congregations. He currently serves as the Rabbi/Dean of Jewish Living at The Leo Baeck Day School in Toronto, Ontario.

**Saturday, January 20, 2024**

Join us on Saturday Night where Rabbi Noam Katz will lead Temple Abika in Song Leader Training, Havdalah & a Campfire Style Sing-a-long

**4:30 PM – 5:30 PM** Learn about song-leading from one of the leading experts in the Jewish community

**5:30 PM – 6:30 PM** Community Dinner & Havdalah

**6:30 PM – 7:30 PM** Rabbi Katz will share his music & stories in an interactive Concert/ Kumzitz. We encourage you to bring a guitar or drum to jam & singalong.

## JUSTIN STEIN

**Friday, February 23, 2024**

Justin Stein has been the Music Director for the Jewish community Nashuva for 18 years and has been a songleader at Temple Beth Hillel for the past decade. Justin's primary focus is always on music's ability to foster human connection - connection to others, connection to nature, and connection to our inner selves.





Temple Akiba Sisterhood Women of Reform Judaism

# Annual Havdalah Service

Saturday, January 27th at 5:00 PM

Dinner by Reservation Only at 6:30 PM

Join us for a memorable and musical evening as we conduct our Torah Service followed by an inclusive Havdalah.

Dinner Reservations with payment due by January 22nd

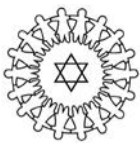
\$18 for Members & Associate Members

\$24 for Non-Members

Submit form below with check payable to:

Temple Akiba Sisterhood

For more info contact Linda Park; [mommylinda50@hotmail.com](mailto:mommylinda50@hotmail.com).



TEMPLE AKIBA  
SISTERHOOD



## Israeli Dancing Classes sponsored by Temple Akiba Sisterhood



TEMPLE AKIBA  
SISTERHOOD



**Wednesdays from 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM**

**October 4, November 1, January 3,  
February 7, March 6, April 3, & May 1**

Dust off your dancing shoes & join the Sisterhood in the Social Hall for Introductory Israeli Dance Classes! For Beginner & Intermediate Adults Only.

Cost: \$56 Early Registration for all classes (Register by October 1st) or \$10 per class

To register, please scan this code  
For questions, email Kate Cregor at  
[kcregor@hotmail.com](mailto:kcregor@hotmail.com)



## SISTERHOOD SPONSORED MAH-JONGG CLASSES

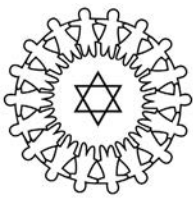
**1:00 PM on Sundays:**

**Jan 28, Feb 4, Feb 11, Feb 25,  
Mar 3, Mar 10, Apr 14 & Apr 28**

Join us at Temple Akiba for Beginner Mah-jongg Classes, sponsored by our Sisterhood. \$80 for 8 2-hour classes (plus \$15 for a current Mah-jongg card).

If you are interested,  
please contact Kate Cregor  
at [kcregor@hotmail.com](mailto:kcregor@hotmail.com).





TEMPLE AKIBA  
SISTERHOOD



*Brighter and Stronger... Together!*

In the blink of an eye, we see 2023 in our rear-view mirrors and look forward to 2024. With the lights of Chanukiah in our memories, we anticipate making new memories together as a community. We hope your holiday celebrations were filled with love & joy and wish good health to everyone as our days ahead start to lengthen.

We are so happy to host our semi-annual Mah Jongg Tournament this January 14th. Space is limited so if you have not yet registered, please do so quickly. If you do not yet know how to play the game, we are also sponsoring Mah Jongg classes. Our next Israeli Dance lesson is happening on January 3rd and is a perfect chance to have some fun and also work off those extra calories you may have ingested with too many latkes & sufganyot.

Also on January 27th, we will be conducting our annual Sisterhood Havdalah Service & Dinner. This is a truly special evening celebrating women but we welcome everyone in our community to share in the celebration. Reservations and payment are required for the dinner following the service RSVP by January 22nd!

Our heartfelt thanks to each and every one who supported our Gift Shop by participating in our annual Chanukah Boutique. As always, our Gift Shop is available by appointment, and we always have a complete stock of all things Judaic for any holiday season. Purim & Passover are right around the corner so start thinking about those celebrations. Contact Linda Park at [mommylinda50@hotmail.com](mailto:mommylinda50@hotmail.com) for an appointment.

And we are delighted that we will once be holding our famous Bingo-Rita on February 17th. This is truly a fun-filled event so plan to attend with your friends or your havurah. It is definitely not your Grandma's Bingo. Sign up quickly as this event is one of our most popular!

Sending our very best wishes for a New Year filled with light, and love, and joy to all.

**Sisterhood Presents**

**B I N G O ~ R I T A**

**Saturday, February 17 at 7:00 PM**

We will play BINGO while enjoying Frozen Margaritas! Non Alcoholic beverages will be available. Prizes for Game Winners! Bring your friends and family (21+ to drink) for this special evening with Temple Akiba Sisterhood.

**Admission is \$18 and includes 2 Bingo Cards, 2 Drink Tickets, Chips, and Salsa**

For more information, please contact:  
 Valerie Meyer [vjmeyerqt314@gmail.com](mailto:vjmeyerqt314@gmail.com) 310 902-7594  
 Kristine Capell [kristine.capell@gmail.com](mailto:kristine.capell@gmail.com) 708 217-5280

TEMPLE AKIBA  
SISTERHOOD

TEMPLE AKIBA  
of CULVER CITY  
Our light shines brightest together!

# January 2024 20 Tevet 5784 - 21 Shvat 5784

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>20 Tevet</i></p> <p>1 Temple Closed</p>          <p style="text-align: center;">New Year's Day</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>21 Tevet</i></p> <p>2</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>22 Tevet</i></p> <p>3</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>23 Tevet</i></p> <p>4</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>24 Tevet</i></p> <p>5</p> <p>6:30 PM Shabbat Shira Service</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>25 Tevet</i></p> <p>6</p> <p>9:00 AM Torah Study</p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><i>26 Tevet</i></p> <p>7</p> <p>9:00 AM Community Gathering: Security Update</p> <p>10:30 AM Intro to Judaism Class</p> <p>7:30 PM Rosh Hodesh: Online Discussion</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>27 Tevet</i></p> <p>8</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>28 Tevet</i></p> <p>9</p> <p>7:00 PM Sisterhood Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>29 Tevet</i></p> <p>10</p> <p>7:00 PM Life Transitions Group via zoom</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>1 Shvat</i></p> <p>11</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>2 Shvat</i></p> <p>12</p> <p>6:30 PM Interfaith Shabbat Service with Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>3 Shvat</i></p> <p>13</p> <p>9:00 AM Torah Study</p> <p>10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service with Bar Mitzvah of Lev Milavski</p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><i>4 Shvat</i></p> <p>14</p> <p>Mah-jongg Tournament</p> <p>No Religious School</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>5 Shvat</i></p> <p>15 Temple Closed</p>          <p style="text-align: center;">Martin Luther King Jr. Day</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>6 Shvat</i></p> <p>16</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>7 Shvat</i></p> <p>17</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>8 Shvat</i></p> <p>18</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>9 Shvat</i></p> <p>19</p> <p>4:30 PM Challah Bake</p> <p>6:30 PM Shabbat Service with Artist in Residence, Noam Katz</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>10 Shvat</i></p> <p>20</p> <p>9:00 AM Torah Study</p> <p>4:30 PM Song Leader Training</p> <p>5:30 PM Community Dinner &amp; Havdalah</p> <p>6:30 PM Jam Session &amp; Sing-a-long with Rabbi Katz</p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><i>11 Shvat</i></p> <p>21</p> <p>10:30 AM Intro to Judaism Class</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>12 Shvat</i></p> <p>22</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>13 Shvat</i></p> <p>23</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>14 Shvat</i></p> <p>24</p> <p>7:00 PM Life Transitions Group via zoom</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>15 Shvat</i></p> <p>25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>16 Shvat</i></p> <p>26</p> <p>5:00 PM Community Dinner</p> <p>6:30 PM Tu B'Shvat Seder and Service</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>17 Shvat</i></p> <p>27</p> <p>9:00 AM Torah Study</p> <p>10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service with Bat Mitzvah of Sophie Ben-Aharon</p> <p>5:00 PM Sisterhood Havdalah &amp; Dinner</p> <p>8:00 PM Pub Akiba</p>
<p style="text-align: right;"><i>18 Shvat</i></p> <p>28</p> <p>10:30 AM Intro to Judaism Class</p> <p>2:00 PM – 5:00 PM Tu B'Shvat at Stoneview Park</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>19 Shvat</i></p> <p>29</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>20 Shvat</i></p> <p>30</p> <p>7:00 PM Men's Group Meeting – Book Discussion</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><i>21 Shvat</i></p> <p>31</p>			



# February 2024 22 Shvat 5784 - 20 Adar I 5784

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 <sup>22 Shvat</sup>	2 <sup>23 Shvat</sup> 6:30 PM Shabbat Shira & 3rd Grade Family Service	3 <sup>24 Shvat</sup> 9:00 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service with Bat Mitzvah of Clara Mellor
4 <sup>25 Shvat</sup> 10:30 AM Intro to Judaism Class	5 <sup>26 Shvat</sup>	6 <sup>27 Shvat</sup>	7 <sup>28 Shvat</sup> 7:00 PM Sisterhood Israeli Dancing	8 <sup>29 Shvat</sup>	9 <sup>30 Shvat</sup> 6:30 PM Healing Shabbat Service with Choir  L'Taken	10 <sup>1 Adar I</sup> 9:00 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service with Bat Mitzvah of Paige Dixon  L'Taken
11 <sup>2 Adar I</sup> 10:30 AM Intro to Judaism Class 3:00 PM Men's Group Superbowl Party 7:30 PM Rosh Hodesh: Online Discussion  L'Taken	12 <sup>3 Adar I</sup>	13 <sup>4 Adar I</sup> 7:00 PM Sisterhood Board Meeting	14 <sup>5 Adar I</sup> 7:00 PM Life Transitions Group via zoom	15 <sup>6 Adar I</sup>	16 <sup>7 Adar I</sup> 4:30 PM Challah Bake 6:30 PM Pink & Teal Kabbalat Shabbat	17 <sup>8 Adar I</sup> 9:00 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service with Bar Mitzvah of Jeremy Saltzman
18 <sup>9 Adar I</sup>	19 <sup>10 Adar I</sup> Temple Closed  Presidents' Day	20 <sup>11 Adar I</sup>	21 <sup>12 Adar I</sup>	22 <sup>13 Adar I</sup>	23 <sup>14 Adar I</sup> 6:30 PM Shabbat Service with Guest Artist Justin Stein	24 <sup>15 Adar I</sup> 9:00 AM Torah Study 10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service with Bar Mitzvah of Shane Plush
25 <sup>16 Adar I</sup> 8:30 AM Blood Drive 10:30 AM Intro to Judaism Class	26 <sup>17 Adar I</sup>	27 <sup>18 Adar I</sup> 7:00 PM Men's Group Meeting	28 <sup>19 Adar I</sup> 7:00 PM Life Transitions Group via zoom	29 <sup>20 Adar I</sup>		

### TZEDAKAH

Members and friends of Temple Akiba have chosen to honor the memories of loved ones and to express their condolences to bereaved families by making contributions to the Yahrzeit and other Temple funds. In addition, one can make donations to the Temple to honor birthdays, a marriage, a baby naming, a conversion, the privilege of sitting on the bima, for having an aliya, or for any other blessed occasion.

### TEMPLE FUND

**Joyce & Michael Simmons**

*In honor of:*

**Rabbi Shapiro & Cantor Frailich**, for their warmth to the Parker & Heller families, from Debra Heller

**Rabbi Shapiro & Cantor Frailich**, for the warmth and excellence they brought to the High Holy Day Services, from Arnold & Marjorie Platzker

*In memory of:*

**Dorothy Gach**, from the Apfelberg Family

**Gretha Himel**, my grandmother, from John Magoulas

**Ellen Litman**, from the Musselman Family

### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

*In gratitude to:*

**Rabbi Shapiro**, from Dorothy Frankel

**Rabbi Shapiro**, for his mentorship of student Rabbi Joshua Shapiro. From Lisa & Jeff Shapiro

*In honor of:*

**A Happy Chanukah**, from Temple Akiba Sisterhood

"So that maybe one day, my beautiful niece **Camille Hamilton's children** will only ever have to understand anti-Semitism as part of history", from Noelle Toal

*In memory of:*

**Ted Abrams**, my husband, from Marlene Abrams

### CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

*In honor of:*

**A Happy Chanukah**, from Temple Akiba Sisterhood

### ECC FUND

**Rachelle & David Fleischman**

*In memory of:*

**Irving Ziedman**, my father & **Ann G. Gordon**, my mother-in-law, from Sheila Gordon & Family

### RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

*In memory of:*

**Ann & Richard Alexander**, my parents, from Deborah Alexander

**Irene Crane**, my aunt, and **Mara Forsythe-Crane**, my cousin, from Sue Polep

### FROM THE HEART RESIDENT CAMP FUND

**Alan & Jessica Valensky**

### LEE WOLKOWITZ FUND

*In memory of:*

**Jennie Fae Karnofsky**, my mother, from Marla & Ed Wolkowitz

### CAMPAIGN OF LIGHT FUND

**Michele & David Feigenblatt**

### YAHRZEIT FUND

**Bertram Balsam**, my father, from Lesley Gold

**Hal Clements**, my husband, from Meg Clements

**Mollie Drizeck**, my grandmother, from Marlisse Bachrach

**Helen Ellis**, my mother, from Christine & Bradley Comp

**Sumner Feldman**, my husband, from Sheri Feldman

**Sidney Feldmar**, my father, from Toni Goldstein

**Morris Gardner**, my father, from Peter & Barbara Gardner

**Goldie & Sol Geffner**, my parents, from Arnold & Jeanne Geffner

**Edna Genualdi**, my mother, from Carole Seedman

**Geraldine Goldie Glaser**, my mother, from Marc Glaser

**Mike Glick**, my husband, from Toni Glick

**Frances Goldstein**, my mother, from Don Goldstein

**Earl Gross**, my father, from Hugh Gross

**Herman Henry MD**, my father, from Rosie La Briola

**Karen Kahan**, my wife, from Alan Kahan

**Alexander Kanner**, my father, from Ethel Berger

**Rose Levy**, my mother, from Marlene Abrams

**Celia Moreno**, my mother-in-law, from Norma Moreno & Robert Turner

**Devora "Dorothy" & Harold Natkin**, my grandparents, from Benjamin Natkin

**Bess Poizner**, my mother, from Michael Poizner

**Mollie Polep**, my mother-in-law, from Sue Polep

**David Jay Price**, our son, from Morris & Shirley Price

**Hyman Sederoff**, my father, from Rosalie & Michael Gotz

**Tom Shapiro**, beloved husband & father, from Mary & Jeremy Shapiro

**Herbert Sheftel**, my father, from James Sheftel

**Rose Starr**, my mother, from Mark Starr

**Reva & Abraham Stein**, my parents, from Sharon Krakoff & Bob Knopf

**Mortimer Stern**, my grandfather, from Carol Fortel

**Lois Stone**, my mother, from Laurie Hurl

**Sarah Vodovoz**, my mother-in-law, from Jack Wexler

**Lillian Serpin Ullman**, my mother, from Andie & Jay Swerdlow

**Gloria Zaff**, my sister, from Louise Feinberg

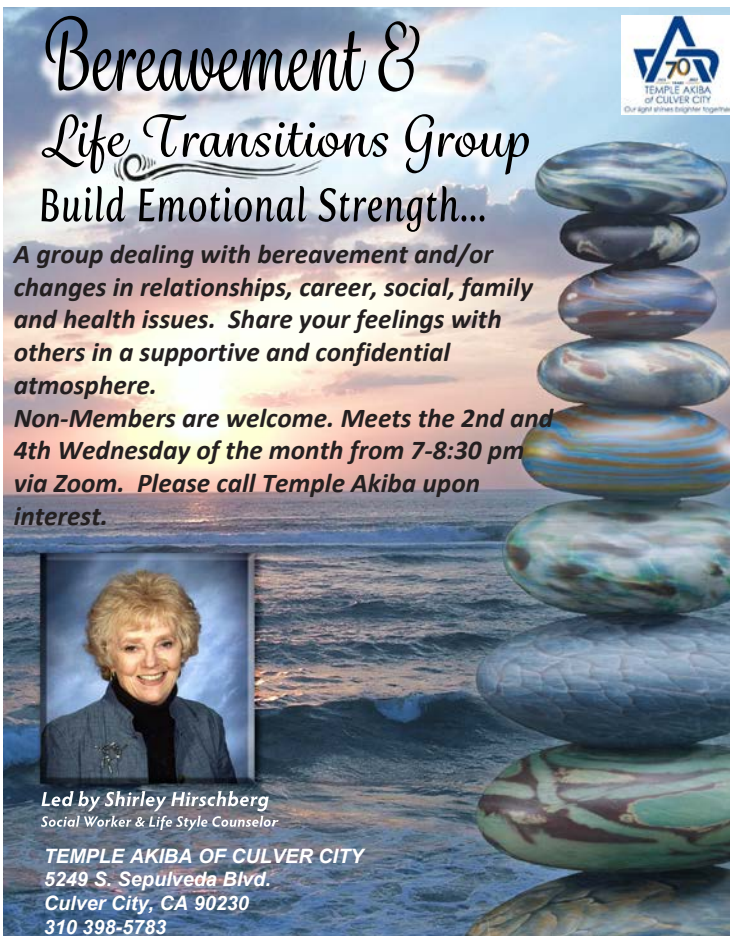
**Louise de Mayo Zakheim**, my mother, from Rosalyn Zakheim & Gayle Dukelow





## 2023 SECURITY CAMPAIGN FUND

Susan Abraham & Joe Pollock, Brett Abrams & Jennifer Chan, Andrew & Leah Adams, Zachary & Felicia Andrews, Jeffrey & Trine Apfelberg, Ellen August, Paul & Susan Balter, Sharon Balter, Richard & Cindy Bambam, Devin & Samantha Barshay, Mary Lou Basaraba, Jonathan & Meredith Basiri, Marc & Lacey Bauer, Michael & Judith Bauer, Mollie Bauer & Michael Rofo, Alana & Daniel Bemel, Josette & Raoul Benassaya, Leonard Blonder & Michele Paley, Adam & Kristine Capell, Gregory & Loren Castle, Amanda & Alex Chapman, Cayla & David Chipp, Margaret Clements, Robin & Kevin Comstock, Michael & Lindsey Contento, Susan & Scott Corwin, Nick & Kate Cregor, Daniel & Stefanie Cutler, Ira Diamond, Gregory & Alissa Dixon, John & Marissa Dowd, Roe & Anna Einhorn, Verna Erez, Beverly Eshed Magaril, Michele & David Feigenblatt, Sara Fields, Owen Fighter & Laura Abrams, Rachelle & David Fleischman, Robert & Linda Fleischman, Bill & Tricia Flumenbaum, Susan Frazin, Arnold & Jeanne Geffner, Susan Glassman, Howard Gleicher & Damon Chen, Antoinette Glick, Lesley Gold, Jesse Golden & Connie Chiu, Amy & Joshua Goldenberg, Jared & Amanda Goldwasser, Michael & Rosalie Gotz, Dayna Greenspan & Robert Schwartz, David Halle & Michelle Lai, Camille Hamilton & Bryce Salmi, Marc & Roberta Hamilton, Ryan & Jessica Haselton, Steven Hassan, David & Diana Hauptman, Sonya Helmer, Larry & Sue Hochberg, Elaine & Bruce Holiday, Laura Horwitz, Helene Jaffa, Lillian Jenkins, Paul & Yvette Joffe, Michael & Talia Joseph, Alan Kahan, Zack & Jennifer Kaplan, Arthur & Joan Kassan, Myrna Kayton, Daniel & Mia Kennedy, Nathaniel Kingsbury & Le Li, Liliana Klein & Justin Gordon, David & Karen Klemes, Igor & Ellie Kleyman, Dyan Kolb, Elizabeth & Elliot Kotek, Jennifer La Van & Miles Abbott, Mary Lachman, Matthew & Kelly Levy, Steven & Miriam Levy, Reuben & Daniella Liber, Julia Linsech & Zack Burns, Sharlene & Anthony London, John Magoulas, Sarah Malkin & Benjamin Huber, Karen Marcus & Daphne Boutilier, Jaclyn & Josh Margolis, Scott & Anita Markowitz, Carlos & Diana Martin, Blake Mellor & Nancy Balter, Jerry Mendel, Eric Metz & Melissa Sanders, Andrew & Valerie Meyer, Toby & Gur Milavski, Marcy & Ari Miller, Adam & Yana Moser, Barry & Susan Moser, Richard Moster & Beverly Trunk-Moster, Jackie Motobo, Stephen Musselman, Rebecca Nadel & Michael Cobden, Marshall Naiman & Danelle Fisher, Benjamin Natkin, Craig & Monique Newman, Shoham Nicolet & Tali Dolev, Karen & Robert Plush, Irene Oelberger, Leslie & Ronald Ostrin, Michael & Pule Patchen, Cathy & Bruce Penso, Ilbert & Laura Phillips, Michael Poizner & Joanne Wolf, Susan Polep, Stephen Quinn & Eleanor Sherman-Quinn, Dror Ram & Adi Rom, Shirley Raskind-Miller, Jeffrey Reynolds & Diane Buck, Brian Roper & Shawn Rubin, Paul & Leila Rosemberg, Ira & Lori Rudich, Eric & Ariel Rudin, Ari Rutenberg & Nikki Tilmouth, Peter & Sara Rutenberg, Alexander & Jennifer Safyan, Elaine Saperstein, Brad & Lauren Saunders, Joel & Christie Savitt, Michael & Roslyn Savitt, Neil & Janice Schwartz, Carole Seedman, Devin & Wendy Senelick, Wendy Shabsis, Susan Shapiro, Amanda & Noah Sharfman, Terry Shenkman, David Sherman-Presser & Karla Torres, Ira & Nadine Shulman, Andrew & Danya Shults, Joyce & Michael Simmons, Michael & Anna Siprut, Eileen Snidman, Robert Sondik & Joanna Schaeenman, Adam & Jenna Sonenshein, Shira & Todd Stanley, Jane Stark, Emily Tabak & Colin Kim, The Milton and Ruth Berman Family Foundation, Jordan Tilzer & Jessica Clark, Lisa & Alexander Tsimanis, Robert Turner & Norma Moreno, Rick Tuttle & Rebecca Rona Tuttle, Suzanne Urfrig, Jessica & Benjamin van der Fluit, Jessica & Thomas Vermette, Ira & Laurie Waldman, Robert & Alicia Walker, Ronald & Leanna Watts, Eric & Thelma Waxman, Dara & Todd Weinger, Jack Wexler, Rosalyn Zakheim & Gayle Dukelow, Steven & Jodi Zimelman, & Morris & Elizabeth Zlotowitz




**Bereavement & Life Transitions Group**  
Build Emotional Strength...

*A group dealing with bereavement and/or changes in relationships, career, social, family and health issues. Share your feelings with others in a supportive and confidential atmosphere.*

*Non-Members are welcome. Meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month from 7-8:30 pm via Zoom. Please call Temple Akiba upon interest.*

Led by **Shirley Hirschberg**  
Social Worker & Life Style Counselor

**TEMPLE AKIBA OF CULVER CITY**  
5249 S. Sepulveda Blvd.  
Culver City, CA 90230  
310 398-5783



**CARING COMMUNITY**

Do you or a loved one need a ride to services or an appointment, a meal or an errand, a visit or phone call?

**OR** Can you provide these services?

Please let us know.

**Co-Chairs:**

Terry Coty: [trcoty@hotmail.com](mailto:trcoty@hotmail.com)

Terry Shenkman: [teshenkman@gmail.com](mailto:teshenkman@gmail.com)

**THANKS FOR CARING!**







# Temple Akiba's Purim in the Big Apple

**SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2024**  
**10:00 AM - 1:00 PM**



Hail a cab & get in the New York state of mind! Have fun in the Big Apple under the bright lights! Enjoy Purim Carnival games, food, wine bar, costume contests, crafts, silent auction, & more! If you have any questions or would like to participate, please contact Jennifer Fogel, [jenfogel@gmail.com](mailto:jenfogel@gmail.com) or Robyn Kupferman, [robyn.kupferman@gmail.com](mailto:robyn.kupferman@gmail.com)



Leapin' Lizards! Before you can say "Hard Knock Life," Temple Akiba will be overflowing with those beloved, scrappy orphans from everyone's favorite family show, "ANNIE!"

"The sun'll come out" over Temple Akiba on  
Sunday, March 17th at 9:00 AM (before the Purim Carnival)  
and Tuesday, March 19th at 6:00 PM.

Mark your calendar now for this year's Purim Shpiel so you won't miss Estie, King AhashWarbucks, Miss Haman-igan & all of your favorite "Annie" characters re-tell the Purim story. With the largest cast Temple Akiba has ever had, this year's Purim Shpiel is full of fun, song, dance, and you can "bet your bottom dollar" that it will pull on your heart strings just a bit, too.



## Temple Akiba's

# PURIM SHPIEL





# Become a Purim Carnival Sponsor Today!

## The Big Apple - Event Sponsor - \$3,600

- Recognition in all event publicity (Bulletin, E-News, website, social media posts, signage at event)
- 8 event wristbands
- 8 lunch tickets

## Coney Island Sponsor - \$1,800 (Wolkowitz Field with Carnival Games)

- Recognition in all event publicity
- 4 event wristbands
- 4 lunch tickets

## Bright Lights Photo Booth Sponsor - \$1,000

- Naming of the photo booth
- Recognition in all event publicity
- 3 event wristbands
- 3 lunch tickets

## Times Square/Costume Contest Sponsor - \$540

- Naming of the Costume Contest
- Recognition in all event publicity
- 2 event wristbands
- 2 lunch tickets

## Staten Island/Wine Garden Sponsor - \$540

- Naming of the Wine Garden
- Recognition in all event publicity
- 2 event wristbands
- 2 lunch tickets

## Radio City Music Hall/DJ Booth Sponsor - \$540

- Naming of the Music Station
- Recognition in all event publicity
- 2 event wristbands
- 2 lunch tickets

## 42nd Street/Craft Area Sponsor - \$540

- Naming of the Craft station
- Recognition in all event publicity
- 2 event wristbands
- 2 lunch tickets

## Shirley Temple/Kid's Bar Sponsor - \$540

- Naming of the Kid's Bar
- Recognition in all event publicity
- 2 event wristbands
- 2 lunch tickets

## Katz's Deli/Food Area Sponsor - \$540

- Naming of the Food Area
- Recognition in all event publicity
- 2 event wristbands
- 2 lunch tickets

## The MTA/Name a Booth Sponsor - \$360

- Naming of a booth
- Recognition at the event (signage at booth)
- 2 event wristbands

## Bagel and Lox/Co-sponsor a Booth - \$180

- Naming of a booth
- Recognition at the event (signage at booth)
- 1 event wristband

## I ♥ NY/Recognition at the Carnival - \$72

- Recognition at the event (signage at event)
- 2 lunch tickets



If you have any questions, please contact  
Jennifer Fogel [jenfogel@gmail.com](mailto:jenfogel@gmail.com) or  
Robyn Kupferman [robyn.kupferman@gmail.com](mailto:robyn.kupferman@gmail.com)





Save the Date



# TU B'SHVAT IN THE PARK

**Sunday, January 28 from 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

Temple Akiba's Green Team invites you to enjoy Tu B'Shvat with your community at Stoneview Nature Center. Tu B'Shvat is the birthday of the trees. To celebrate, join us for some or all of the below activities between 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM.

Contact Kathryn for more: [programdirector@templeakiba.net](mailto:programdirector@templeakiba.net)

**Stoneview Nature Center**

5950 Stoneview Dr.

Culver City, CA 90232

## **PARK ACTIVITIES**

- Bring a picnic & explore the park at your leisure
- A 20-minute guided tour of the park at 3:00 PM
- A self-guided scavenger hunt designed to teach you about the trees
- Pick up a mini booklet of blessings for the things you see in nature, created by Temple Akiba.
- Discuss the book *The Overstory* by Richard Powers with Stoneview's book club from 2:00 - 3:00 PM.

## HAVURAH HAPPENINGS



### **Chanukah Hang**

Check it out! Families of last year's graduating high school seniors formed a havurah. The college kids came home for break, and their families got together to celebrate Chanukah.

### **Pub Akiba: Another Round!**

Our open havurah, known as Pub Akiba, meets every other month or so at different meeting spots around town to sample food & beverage and of course to get to know Akiba community members better. Our next date is **Saturday, January 27 at 8:00 pm** at Beach and Brew. Please contact Kathryn for questions or to rsvp: Please RSVP to Kathryn so that we can reserve space for our group: [programdirector@templeakiba.net](mailto:programdirector@templeakiba.net)



### **Movie Havurah**

Perfect for those who love to discuss films, members gather to discuss predetermined films and will sometimes go out to see films and Laemmle or other theaters. Contact Victor Nahmias at [vnahmias@aol.com](mailto:vnahmias@aol.com)



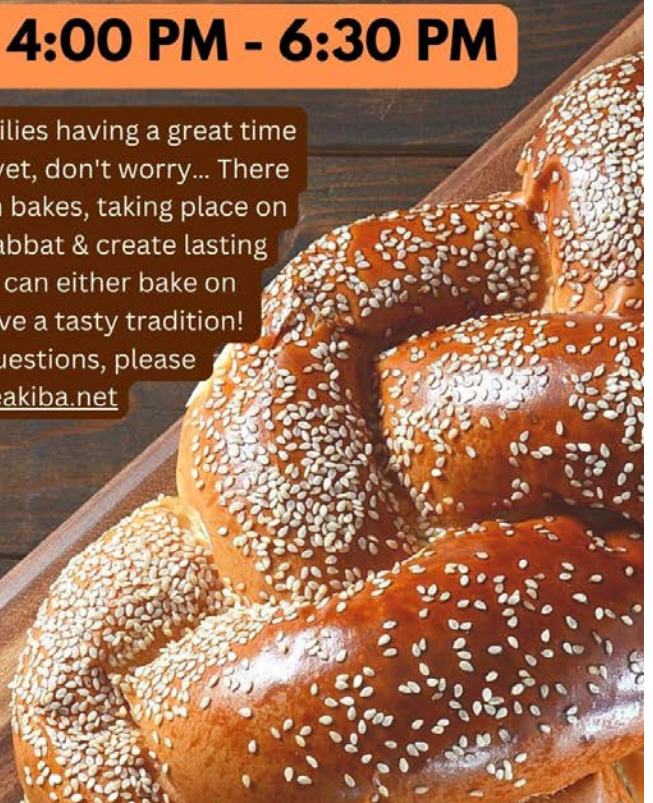


# CHALLAH BRAID & BAKE

January 19 & February 16 from 4:00 PM - 6:30 PM

We are excited to share with you some wonderful photos of our families having a great time baking challah last month! If you haven't had the chance to join us yet, don't worry... There are plenty of opportunities coming up in 2024. Our monthly challah bakes, taking place on the 3rd Friday of each month, are the perfect way to welcome Shabbat & create lasting memories. Pre-order dough on Monday and then on Friday you can either bake on site (between 4:00pm-6:30pm) or take your dough home. We love a tasty tradition!

**Cost:** \$12 per challah for members, \$15 for non-members. Questions, please contact Kathryn Vischjager: [programdirector@templeakiba.net](mailto:programdirector@templeakiba.net)



## PINK DAY

SHARSHERET TEMPLE AKIBA

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Pink Day is a worldwide initiative to generate conversation about hereditary cancers affecting the Jewish community.

*Pink Challah Bake*  
4:00PM-6:30PM

We are baking PINK CHALLAH before Shabbat services!  
RSVP is required, contact Kathryn at [programdirector@templeakiba.net](mailto:programdirector@templeakiba.net)

*Teal & Pink Kabbalat Shabbat*  
6:30PM

Dedicated to honoring those among us who are breast or ovarian cancer thrivers and remembering those we've lost.  
**COME DRESSED IN TEAL AND PINK.**



## Rosh Hodesh: Spirituality for Women

New & past participants are equally welcome.  
For more information please contact, Kathryn Vischjager at [programdirector@templeakiba.net](mailto:programdirector@templeakiba.net)

January 7 at 7:30 PM  
February 11 at 7:30 PM

Zoom link provided upon registration





**AKIBA RESIDENT CAMP 2024!**  
**HAKARAT HA'TOV – ALL ABOUT GRATITUDE!**  
**JULY 21 – AUGUST 4**  
**INDIAN HILLS CAMP**



For more information visit our webpage at  
[www.templeakiba.net/akiba-resident-camp](http://www.templeakiba.net/akiba-resident-camp)  
**REGISTRATION IS OPEN!**



**TASTY Spring Session**  
 A Temple Akiba Youth experience  
 you won't want to miss!



**March 25 to March 29**  
**9am-4pm @ Temple Akiba**  
**TK-5th Grade**



For more information  
 visit our TASTY Sessions webpage at  
[www.templeakiba.net/tasty-sessions](http://www.templeakiba.net/tasty-sessions)





# NOW ENROLLING FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR!

## Temple Akiba Early Childhood Center

CONTACT EDUCATION DIRECTOR  
RANDEE BISHOFF  
RELIGIOUSSCHOOL@TEMPLEAKIBA.NET

18 MONTHS TO  
5 YEARS

STRONG  
JEWISH  
COMMUNITY



70  
TEMPLE AKIBA  
of CULVER CITY  
Our light shines brighter together



## TEMPLE AKIBA BLOOD DRIVE

Sunday, February 25, 2024  
8:30 AM - 2:30 PM

Help save lives & help Temple Akiba  
continue to be an amazing supporter of  
the Red Cross Blood Program.

To make your life-saving  
appointment, please visit  
[Redcrossblood.org](http://Redcrossblood.org) and enter  
sponsor code: TempleAkiba,  
or call 1-800-Red Cross.

TEMPLE AKIBA ECC & PJ LIBRARY PRESENT

## Tiny Tot Shabbat Experience

It's never too early to start celebrating  
Shabbat with your little one.

For kids 0-2 years.

Join us for PJ library storytime, music,  
singing, and fun with Rabbi Shapiro and  
Cantor Lonee.

Come meet other families with tiny tots.

FREE and open to the whole community!

Join us in person for  
Tiny Tot Shabbat  
At 9:00am  
Jan. 5, Feb. 2,  
Mar. 1, Apr. 5

Please bring a towel or yoga mat for you and your  
child to sit on.

For more information please contact  
[schooloffice@templeakiba.net](mailto:schooloffice@templeakiba.net)

TEMPLE AKIBA OF CULVER CITY  
5249 Sepulveda Blvd  
Culver City, CA 90230  
[www.templeakiba.net](http://www.templeakiba.net)



PJ Library® of Los Angeles is a program of the Jewish Federation of  
Greater Los Angeles, with support from generous local donors,  
and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

# TEMPLE AKIBA OF CULVER CITY TZEDAKAH SOCIETY 2023-2024

Temple Akiba thanks members who have made generous donations over their full membership commitment to bring an even brighter "Light" to our Temple Community.

## *President's Circle*

### Chai

Sara & Peter Rutenberg

### Tzadik

Barbara Axelband Susan & Paul Balter Joy & Paul Jacobs Jerry & Letty (z'l) Mendel  
Leanna & Ron Watts Marla & Edward Wolkowitz Sue & Jerry (z'l) Urfrig

### Heschel

Judy & Michael Bauer Linda & Robert Fleishman

### Priesand

Myrna Kayton Cathy & Bruce Penso Ariel & Eric Rudin

### Hillel

Ira & Carol (z'l) Diamond Helene & David (z'l) Jaffa Susan & Barry Moser Maria & Ira Pemstein

### Maimonides

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Andrew Lachman & Ingrid Moran Yana & Adam Moser Lauren & Jeffrey Rips Wendy & Devin Senelick  
Andrea & Jay Swerdlow Laurie & Ira Waldman Elizabeth & Morris Zlotowitz

### Moses

Elaine & Bruce Holiday Jenna & Adam Sonenshein

### Miriam

Diana & David Hauptman Susan Frazin Emily Parkhust & Gary Hoggatt Donna Spielberg  
Nancy & Herb Trachtenberg

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Laura Abrams & Owen Fighter Manami & Abraham Fischer Linda & Joel Forman  
Arleen & Lewis Forsheit Antoinette Glick Rosalie & Michael Gotz John Magoulas  
Lori & Ira Rudich Ari Rutenberg & Nikki Tilmouth Sheila & Stanley Weinberg

### Deborah

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Jack Wexler Gabrielle Zadra & Mark Wild





# January Donation Drive

## Culver City Safe Sleep Program



Culver City has launched a “Safe Sleep” location for transitional housing that is available to 40 people experiencing homelessness in Culver City. The Safe Sleep program aims to reduce loss of life, eliminate encampments and provide greater access to resources for unhoused neighbors. 20 transitional suites with around the clock staffing and supportive services including three meals a day, restrooms, showers, garbage and recycling collection, access to laundry services, & healthcare. The Safe Sleep location is operated by Urban Alchemy, a nonprofit that develops other safe sleep sites across the country. Urban Alchemy is an organization with a mission to transform urban spaces through supportive & compassionate care.

### ONLY these items are needed:

- New Underwear & Socks (Mostly Men’s, Some Women’s sizes)
- Hygiene Items (toothbrushes, deodorant, soap, shampoo, etc.)



**Drop off your donations at the Temple in the donation bin at the Front Lobby outside. The drive will last the entire month of January.**

This project is sponsored by Temple Akiba’s Tikkun Olam Committee. Thank you for your generosity!  
Questions: Sara Fields, Director of Engagement, [direngagement@templeakiba](mailto:direngagement@templeakiba)

### Bogancha Family Update

On June 1, 2023 a small group of members of Temple Akiba and Adat Shalom Synagogue congregated at LAX to welcome a family of three from Ukraine. Since that time, Temple Akiba and Adat Shalom have worked with the Bogancha family to facilitate housing, ESL classes for Andrii and Maryna Bogancha, enrollment for their daughter Mylana in Culver HS, payment of rent and expenses and help with employment for Andrii.



This month, Andrii has started full time employment at WASH, a full-service laundry management company. Maryna is an accomplished piano teacher and we are currently interested in helping her find work as a piano teacher for children and adults.

If you have ideas or suggestions to help Maryna find employment at this time, please email Michele Paley at [michelepaley.mp@gmail.com](mailto:michelepaley.mp@gmail.com). This family strives to meet the challenges of living in a new country and continue to prosper with the tremendous support of our congregation.

### Special Message from Michele Paley, Co-Chair of the Welcome Circle

I would like to thank the HIAS Welcome Circle Akiba members Svetlana Rapoport, Cheryl Levinson, Sara Fields, Leila Rosemberg, and Nancy Trachtenberg for all of their efforts to help re-settle this family, in addition to our Adat Shalom partners. Also, a tremendous thank you to the Akiba congregation for so much support. In addition to monetary donations, gift certificates for their apartment, offers of help from driving to legal, advice, job skills training, housing and so much more, we had so much help. Lastly, thanks to Cathy Penso, Rabbi Shapiro, Jeffrey Rips, Rebecca Holzberg, and Dina Hempling for always being there whenever they were needed.

# SWAG SHOP



Temple Akiba's swag store is now open - just in time for our 70th anniversary year! We know that our community is full of spirit, so we have created a place to get Akiba gear that you are sure to love. We have lots of styles and color variations for infants through adults, so be sure to look around. 20% of your order directly supports Temple Akiba. Let us show off our Akiba spirit in style!

Please scan this code to visit our store.



## CALLING ALL RV'ERS/CAMPERS

The Lovin' Levelers is an active Jewish RV Camping Club which originated out of the North Valley Jewish Community Center in the early 1970's. Many people question the idea yet alone the reality of JEWISH CAMPING versus exquisite hotels. While both are good, remember that in our early Jewish history we camped for 40 years in the desert after leaving Egypt!

Our membership is quite wide ranging from Santa Barbara to Oceanside, including the LA, San Fernando & Santa Clarita Valleys, Thousand Oaks to Ventura & Seal Beach to Brea. Our group is looking to expand with new members aged 50+. We are a "Traveling Havurah" in RV's of various sorts, enjoying the company of other Jewish people.

We plan group outings on one long weekend a month within 2-3 hours of Los Angeles. Our weekend outings include visiting places of interest in each area, gathering around a campfire, playing games, doing crafts and just having fun being together. Furthermore, we include brief but meaningful services and celebrations for Shabbat and Havdalah.



For more information contact

Linda Fleischman, Temple Member, 310-487-8910 or  
Allan Teplinsky, Club President, Home (818) 368-3471;  
Cell (818) 264-6199

## Adult Education

Learning doesn't end with our youth. Adult education programs teach, inspire and uplift. Temple Akiba has been an innovative and intellectual center, with long standing groups and activities, this year we are creating new opportunities to learn, think, and grow. Join our variety of weekly meetings.



### MORNING MINYAN

Every Monday  
9:30 AM - 10:00AM  
On Zoom

Start your day and week with a spiritual breath of fresh air, offering prayers and selections. We will include Kaddish in each service to remember those who have died.



### TALMUD TUESDAYS

Every Tuesday  
11:00 AM - 11:20AM  
On Zoom

How can Jewish values deepen the way we live? Each week we will look at a different lesson from Jewish teachings.



### WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE JEWISH WORLD

Every Wednesday  
11:00 AM - 11:20AM  
On Zoom

Let's look at a world timely topic through a Jewish lens.



### Torah Study

Every Saturday  
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM  
In Person & On Zoom

Torah is an ongoing dialogue between the text and its readers, aka YOU. It is real in our daily lives and goes with us wherever we are. We meet to develop the skills to study Torah which is essential to integrating Torah into our lives.





Want to invest in property in Los Angeles while helping to build new housing?  
Contact Temple Akiba member Josh Kamali at (323) 487-1348 or [josh@reddoorinvest.com](mailto:josh@reddoorinvest.com)  
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# Tu B'Shvat Seder

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2026

5:00 PM DINNER

6:00 PM SEDER & SERVICE

TU B'SHVAT IS THE NEW YEAR OF THE TREES.  
JOIN US AT OUR TU B'SHVAT SEDER WHERE WE  
CELEBRATE NATURE BY EATING A VARIETY  
OF FRUITS AND NUTS, DRINKING FOUR  
CUPS OF COLORFUL JUICES AND  
SINGING FUN SONGS.