# AKIBA BULLETIN





Also In This Issue: Join us for annual Congregational Meeting on May 15th! page 6 Come have fun on a night out in Tel Aviv on June 1st!

Be part of the magic at our 17th annual Mitzvah Day on May 19th!



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With our Water Filling Stations We have saved

#### 13,488 plastic bottles

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

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#### **Friday Shabbat Services MAY/JUNE**

Friday, May 3 6:30pm

Shabbat Shira Service with

Guest Artist, Jacob Spike Kraus

Friday, May 10 6:30pm

Shabbat Choir Service

Friday, May 17 6:30pm

Confirmation Shabbat Service

Friday, May 24 6:30pm

Men's Group Shabbat Service

Friday, May 31 6:30pm

Shabbat Service with Guest Artist, Justin Stein

Friday, June 7 6:30pm

Shabbat Shira Service Honoring HS Seniors

Friday, June 14 6:30pm

Choir Service with Volunteer Recognition

Friday, June 21 6:30pm

Pride Kabbalat Shabbat

Friday, June 28 6:30pm

Beach Shabbat Service

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.

We are Jews. We stand at the intersection of universal truths and the Torah of our people.

We are Jews.

We pursue justice for all humanity while living the traditions of 1000 generations.

We are Jews.

We balance free-will with the voice of commandedness.

We are Jews.

We support and demand more of Israel at the same time.

We are Jews.

We study Torah. We wrestle with Torah. We argue with Torah. We do not walk away from Torah.

We are Jews.

We embrace those who are broken. We realize that each of us, in some way, is broken.

We are Jews.

We talk with God. We listen to God. We partner with God. We try to figure out exactly what God is.

We are Jews.

We resonate with the music and sounds of our culture.

We are Jews.

We are one. We are many.

We are Jews.

We are Reform. We are Orthodox. We are non-Denominational. We are secular. We are traditional. We are cultural. We feel it when Anti-Semitism occurs. We feel it when Hatikvah is sung.

We are Jews.

We are proud. We are questioning. We are seeking. We are learning.

We are Jews.

With love and shalom.

Rabbi Zachary Shapiro

#### Cantor's Corner

A pedestrian on 57th Street sees a musician getting out of a cab and asks, "How do you get to Carnegie Hall?" Without pause, the artist replies wearily, "Practice, practice, practice."



On Sunday, April 7, three of Temple Akiba's High School students did just that. They practiced, practiced, practiced and made their singing debut at Carnegie Hall! My daughter Indee Gantman, a Freshman, Sienna Burris, a Sophomore and Cayla Roper, a Junior are members of the HaZamir International Jewish Teen Choir. HaZamir is a youth movement that welcomes Jewishly identified & musically talented teens from a broad range of cultural backgrounds and levels of religious

observance. HaZamir offers high schoolers in 35 chapters across the United States & Israel the opportunity to learn and sing Jewish choral music at the highest musical standard & on the world's greatest stages.



Temple Akiba, Wilshire Boulevard Temple & Temple Beth Am took turns hosting rehearsals for HaZamir's city chapter. Los Angeles has the second largest participating group in the United States of 13 kids between the City & Valley chapters. Our students have been practicing every weekend for this concert since October. They joined together to sing at Carnegie Hall with over 250 other young adults from chapters across the United States and Israel.

The concert was an emotional and moving tribute to Israel and it was extraordinary. The blending of their voices, their poise and musicianship was phenomenal and professional. Seeing hundreds of Jewish high school students proudly sing Hebrew songs, proudly showcase their Jewish identities and proudly and publicly celebrate Israel during this contentious time in history was empowering and heart-warming.

One of the highlights of the concert was a two-minute standing ovation as the students from the Israeli chapters took to the stage for their performance. Many of these young adults were directly impacted by the events of October 7. They have friends & family who have perished, their homes destroyed and their lives in constant flux. Many will be graduating High School and moving directly into the IDF in the summer-time. Despite these hardships, they continued to meet and practice and were proudly debuted at Carnegie Hall.

The experiences these students had & the friendships made are ones that will last a lifetime. These are the future leaders of our community, leaders that are proud to be Jewish, proud to be connected to their community and proud to sing for Israel!

L'Shalom, Cantor Lonee Frailich

#### **ECC & Religious School**

Each year the first full week of May officially brings a national focus of gratitude directed at educators across the country with an abundance of expressions of appreciation for teachers and what they do. I personally believe that every day of the year should be recognized as Teacher Appreciation Day. We here at Temple Akiba are filled with gratitude for the dedicated, creative, & responsive care that the educators in our classrooms give to our children each & every week. Our teachers in our schools are our honored partners who work on the ground daily & weekly to create inspiring and responsive environments that support the learning of our children. The National Education Association (NEA) describes National Teacher Day "as a day for honoring teachers & recognizing the lasting contributions they make to our lives."

There is something so Jewish about this idea. Two things that Judaism places the highest value on are the expression of gratitude and the importance of teaching & learning. The Hebrew term for gratitude is hakarat ha'tov which translates to "recognizing the good." It is a reminder to express our appreciation when & where it is felt. There is also no shortage of expressions of reverence for educators throughout Jewish teachings. In the Talmud, it is said that 'the true guardians of a community are the teachers. The wise rabbi & philosopher, Abraham Heschel, captured the essence of the power & impact of teachers, especially those of young children, when he said, "What we need, more than anything else, isn't textbooks but rather text people. It is the personality of the teacher which is the text that students read – the text that they'll never forget." Teaching carries quite a weight of responsibility & it's right that we dedicate some energy to showing our appreciation to those who dedicate their lives to educating our children. So, as we approach this formal week of expressing gratitude to teachers in our lives & in the lives of children, reflect on a teacher who has touched your life or someone in your life in a positive way and take a moment to reach out & express your gratitude to them – now & throughout the year. And to all our teachers, I personally thank you for the tiring, yet very meaningful, impactful work you do each & every day.

Toda rabah/thanks so much!
Randee Bishoff, Dir. of Education

#### President's Message

On Sunday, April 14, I stood in solidarity with our congregation as we came together to pray for Israel and all Jewish people. Once again, I was reminded that belonging to our community is such a blessing, to have a shelter of peace that inspires us to come together to triumph over darkness and fear, enabling our light to shine brighter and brighter.

Our light shone very brightly as we came together for the special Congregational meeting to approve hiring **Rabbi Daniel Freedman as our Rabbi Educator.**This is a historic moment for Temple Akiba. The haimish welcome Rabbi Freedman received was truly heartwarming. I want to acknowledge again the commitment and effort of the Search Committee: Co-Chairs, Helene Jaffa and Tracey Wise-Finkelstein, with Scott Markowitz, Randy Murphy, Stella Setka, Jen Sheppard, Jenna Sonenshein and Summer Lucas, Youth Representative. Rabbi Shapiro, and Jeffrey Rips, our Executive Director, were invaluable in this process, as well.

Come together again for our annual Congregational Meeting Wednesday, May 15 at 7:00 PM to vote on next year's budget and to elect our Board Members. New Board members will be introduced and outgoing Board members will be recognized as well as special committees & staff. Join us for dinner at 6:00 PM.

Mitzvah Day, Sunday, May 17 -Come together with 300 of your fellow congregants to make a difference in the lives of hundreds of people. Be a Part of the Magic by signing up using the brochure or online.

Join us for A Night out in Tel Aviv, Saturday, June 1 as Temple Akiba is transformed. Casino Games, Prizes, Drinks, Food, Live Music, Dancing and more!

Volunteer Recognition Shabbat on June 14 - Join us as we thank all of you who gave your time, talent, commitment, and energy, to the incredible events, programs and improvements this year.

As my third year as President ends and I begin my last, I look forward to building on what we have accomplished through the great partnership we have with our Board, Staff, Committees and all of you.

Our light truly shines brighter together!

Cathy Penso, President

#### Executive Director's Message

When I was growing up, the month of May signified a crucial time for me. Sure, it meant we were one step closer to the end of the school year. More importantly, it meant that my yearly heaven was drawing closer. I was one of those kids who went through the motions during the school year to get to what I loved – going to summer camp! When we were not on a family camping trip, all my summers were spent going to day camp. Then, when I was old enough, I started going to sleep-away camp.

My time at day camp and sleep-away camp was transformative for me and led me on my professional trajectory that has fortunately brought me to Temple Akiba. The freedoms I felt, the friends I made, the ability to try new things, and the invaluable learning about Jewish life and culture in a fun way are still things I think about when I think about my time at camp. In addition to the experiences and amazing times I had, it is the ever-enduring relationships I made during my time attending and then working at camps that are still so important to me today. In the past few weeks, I connected with four former camp directors whom I am blessed to call my mentors, still have in my life, and all whom I consider to be my friends. More important than anything else, I met my wife Lauren when we were working at camp together.

As I think back, my parents sending me to camp was one of the biggest gifts they ever gave me. It was not an easy thing to do, but they always made it a priority for me and my sisters. If you have not given your child or grandchild the gift of camp, by signing them up for Temple Akiba's Day Camp or Camp Akiba's sleep-away camp – it is not too late. Space is filling up, but you can still register for our camp programs at templeakiba.net/Akiba-camps. If you want to help other children attend camp, something that was given to me by so many people I did not know, you can make a difference in other children's lives, enabling them to attend our camp programs by donating to our camp scholarship funds at www.templeakiba.net/donate.

A huge thank you to our Youth & Resident Camp Director, Leah Penso, and Day Camp Director, Robyn Altman, for their dedication, care, creativity, passion, and hard work in creating our incredible camp programs. With their leadership, our camp programs help to make our Light Shine Brightly!



L'Shalom, Jeffrey Rips, Executive Director

# PASSOVER SEDER



This Passover, our Akiba community joined together to enjoy a 2nd night seder filled with tradition & song led by our clergy, followed by a delicious catered meal. Special Thank you to our Passover Seder Sponsors, Helene Jaffa and Maria & Ira Pemstein.









#### 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.







Boston based Jacob 'Spike' Kraus is a 32 year old singer-songwriter, educator, & innovator. His music has been included in the cantorial curriculum of Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion, and is featured by Jewish Rock Radio & PJ Library. Spike has been performing for 2 decades at synagogues, Jewish day schools, and summer camps. Having just finished a 3 year stint as the Artist-In-Residence at Temple Israel of West Bloomfield (the largest synagogue in North America), Spike now tours Jewish communities across the country as a performer, teacher, composer, and joyful individual.

#### **Justin Stein**

#### Friday, May 31, 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.



# CONGREG ATIONAL MEETING & DINNER

Wednesday, May 15th

6:00 PM - Dinner in Annex Courtyard 7:00 PM - Meeting in the Social Hall (Childcare available by RSVP)

Please RSVP for the dinner and/or childcare by Monday, May 13. Walk-ins will not be accepted for childcare.

# With your help, our Purim Carnival was a success!





























OUR PURIM CARNIVAL SPONSORS

Event Sponsor **Anonymous** 

**Coney Island Sponsor Rutenberg Family** 

**Wine Garden Sponsors** Ruttenberg, Cutler, Broomer, LLC Temple Akiba Men's Group Wine Guy & Wine Gal

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> **Katz Deli Sponsors** Cathy & Bruce Penso Marla & Ed Wolkowitz

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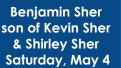
**Booth Co-Sponsors** 

Fogel/Mathews Family, Hoggatt Family, Kleyman Family, Kupferman Family, Sharlene & Tony London, John Magoulas, Silberstein Family, Westmont of Culver City Senior Living, Fisher/Naiman Family

Lauren & Jeffrey Rips

#### B'Nai Mitzvah - Mazal Tov!







**Zachary Sayles** son of Dana Sayles & John Tyson Sayles Saturday, May 11



Jonah Wild son of Gabrielle Zadra & Henry Wild Saturday, May 18



**Hannah White** daughter of Lauren & Ryan White Saturday, June 1



**Nathan Dunn** son of Julie Alexander & Troy Dunn Saturday, June 15











# Mah Jongg Tournament

## Sponsored by Temple Akiba Sisterhood Sunday, June 9, 2024





Temple Akiba 5249 Sepulveda Blvd. Culver City, CA 90230 (310) 398-5783 www.templeakiba.net

#### Come join the fun!

Tournament fee is \$45 per person which includes a continental breakfast, a delicious buffet lunch, and snacks.

#### Schedule:

Check-in, coffee and bagels 8:30 - 9:00 Session 1 (3 rounds) 9:00 - 12:00

Lunch 12:00 - 1:00

1:00 - 4:00 Session 2 (3 rounds)

Awards 4:15

For more information, please contact Judi Nachenberg (818) 764-6240 email: judi@mahjonggfunla.com or Rose Ross rtahini2@gmail.com

A \$10.00 ADMINISTRATIVE FEE WILL BE CHARGED FOR ANY CANCELLATION NO REFUNDS 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE TOURNAMENT

To register, fill out the form below and enclose it with a check & copy of your Vaccination Card to:

Mail to: Judi Nachenberg 7037 Park Manor Avenue North Hollywood, CA 91605

	ear off			
Temple Akiba Sisterhood-Mah Jongg 6/3/2024				
Name:	Phone:			
Address:				
City:	Zip:			
Email:				
Check all that apply:				
☐ I am willing to be East and keep so☐ I will bring my Mah Jongg set and				





We are so excited and busy with all the events and activities still to be celebrated as this year draws to a close. We were thrilled to be able to raise almost \$411 during our Purim Carnival Bake Sale and contribute the proceeds to the Temple. It was once again a sell-out and a huge thank you to all our volunteer bakers, as well as to all who purchased our treats.

We will be celebrating our ECC graduates on May 31st and presenting each of them with a book in honor of this milestone event. We will also be honoring our upcoming Confirmands at their celebration on May 17th, presenting each of them with a WRJ Womens Torah Commentary and making donations on their behalf to programs/organizations of their choosing.

Our final event of the year is our semi-annual Mah Jongg Tournament scheduled for June 9th.

Our Gift Shop continues to be open by appointment. Contact Linda Park at mommylinda50@hotmail. com. We continue to replenish our inventory with new tallit, mezuzahs, candlesticks and many other ritual items. Keep us in mind for birthdays, anniversaries, weddings as well as Bar and Bat Mitzvahs.

Our new Sisterhood Executive Board and Sisterhood Board of Trustees will assume their responsibilities as of July 1st and continue to lead Sisterhood in our customary roles as well as seek new paths for Sisterhood to enhance and augment life at Temple Akiba. Please join me in wishing them a hearty Mazel Tov!

Wishing everyone a healthy, happy and safe summer.



#### JOIN OUR SISTERHOOD!



Join the Temple Akiba Sisterhood team as we walk from Temple Akiba, to support The National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI).

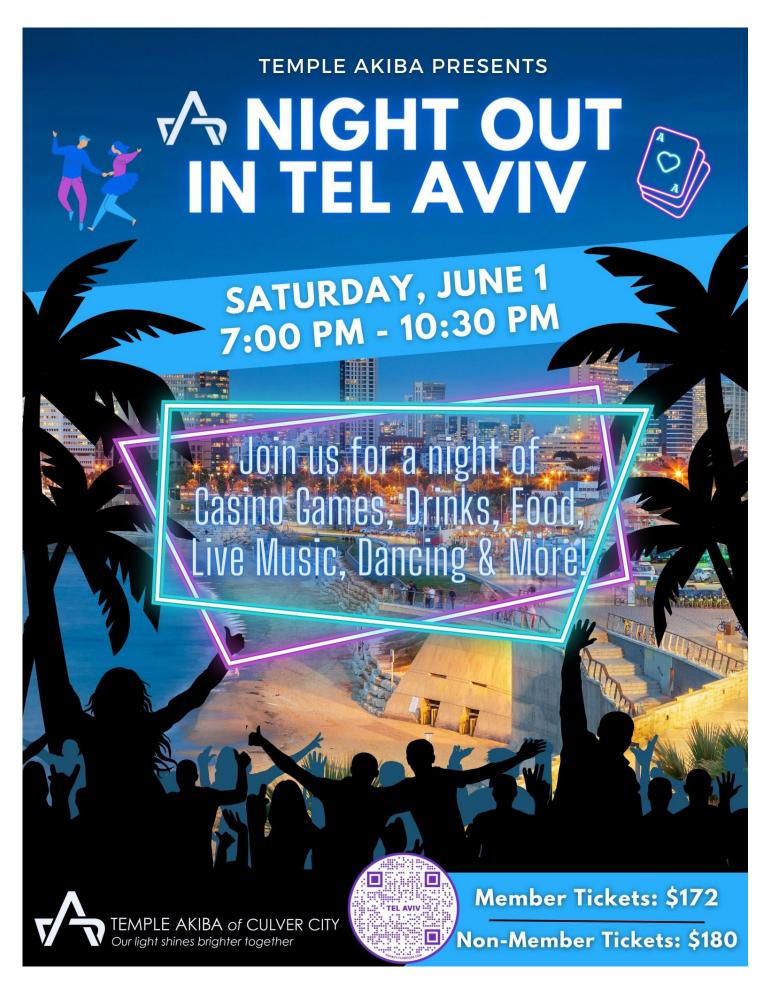
Saturday, May 4, 2024 at 10:00 AM

NAMI, the National Alliance for Mental Illness, provides advocacy, education, support and public awareness so that all individuals and families affected by mental illness can build better lives.

- Raise awareness of mental illness by donating to: www.namiwalks.org/losangelescounty and/or registering to our team: Temple Akiba Sisterhood.
- Walk an approximate 1.5-mile loop from Temple Akiba to El Marino Park and back or make the round trip twice. Refreshments will be available at the end of the walk.

For more information, contact Sue Polep s.polep@gte.net; 310-476-4632; Tricia Flumenbaum pflumenbaum@gmail.com; 310-991- 0704





Join Temple Akiba at A NIGHT OUT IN TEL AVIV. This event will have Las Vegas style gambling, dinner, open bar, music, dancing, prizes, and other surprises! Your participation makes a critical difference, not only showcasing your commitment to Temple Akiba, but also ensuring that Temple Akiba remains vibrant for generations to come.

#### SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

#### Rothschild Blvd. Sponsor: \$7,200

- Recognition as Event Sponsor on Temple Akiba Website and marketing materials
- Recognition on Rolling Scroll, Registration Table and Bar throughout night
- Choose the casino night special cocktail name
- Sponsorship of 2 casino tables
- · Admission for 12 guests
- · Extra Gaming Chips

#### **Dizengoff St. Sponsor: \$5,400**

- · Recognition as Event Sponsor on Temple Akiba Website and marketing materials
- Recognition on Rolling Scroll, Registration Table and Bar throughout night
- Sponsorship of 2 casino tables of your choice
- · Admission for 8 guests
- Extra Gaming Chips

#### **Shuk HaCarmel Sponsor: \$3,600**

- Recognition as Event Sponsor on Temple Akiba Website and marketing materials
- Recognition on Rolling Scroll and Registration Table throughout night
- · Exclusive Recognition & naming of the Poker Table
- Admission for 6 guests
- Extra Gaming Chips

#### **Neve Tzedek Sponsor: \$1,800**

- · Recognition as Event Sponsor on Temple Akiba Website and marketing materials
- · Recognition on Rolling Scroll and Bar throughout the night
- Sponsorship of 1 casino table
- · Admission for 4 guests
- Extra Gaming Chips

#### Jaffa Sponsor: \$1,200

- Recognition on Temple Akiba Website and marketing materials
- Recognition on Rolling Scroll throughout the night
  - Sponsorship of 1 casino table
  - · Admission for 4 guests

#### King George St. Sponsor: \$720

- Recognition on Temple Akiba Website and marketing materials
- Recognition on Rolling Scroll throughout the night
- · Sponsorship of 1 casino table
- · Admission for 2 guests

#### Herzl St. Sponsor: \$540

- Recognition on Temple Akiba Website and marketing materials
- Recognition on Rolling Scroll throughout the night
  - · Admission for 2 guests

#### **Ben Gurion Sponsor: \$360**

- Recognition on Temple Akiba Website and marketing materials
- Recognition on Rolling Scroll throughout the night
  - · Admission for 1 guest

Scan code to purchase tickets & sponsorships. For more info please contact Scott Bishoff, scott.bishoff85@gmail.com and Ira Pemstein, elpem@sbcglobal.net

# May 2024 23 Nissan 5784 - 23 Iyar 5784

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			23 Nissan	24 Nissan	25 Nissan	26 Nissan
			1	2	3	4
			7:00 PM Sisterhood		9:00 AM Tiny Tot Shabbat	9:00 AM Torah Study
			Israeli Dancing		5:30 PM 6th Grade Dinner	10:30 AM
					6:30 PM Shabbat	Shabbat Morning Service with
					Shira & 6th Grade Family Service with Guest Artist Jacob Spike Kraus	Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Sher
27 Nissan	28 Nissan	29 Nissan	30 Nissan	1 Iyar	2 Iyar	3 Iyar
5 Last Day of Sunday	6	7	8	9	10	11
School Instruction			7:00 PM Life		9:30 AM ECC Parents	9:00 AM Torah Study
10:00 AM Holocaust Museum Tour			Transitions Group via zoom		Celebration	10.20 434
3:30 PM President's Circle Gathering					6:30 PM Shabbat Service with Choir	10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service with Bar Mitzvah of
7:30 PM Rosh Chodesh Online Class	Yom Ha'Shoah					Zachary Sayles
12	13	6 Iyar	7 Iyar	8 Iyar	9 <i>Iyar</i>	10 Iyar 18
12		11			17	
	ECC Closed – Parent/ Teacher Conferences	7:00 PM Sisterhood Meeting	6:00 PM Dinner		3:30 PM Challah Braid & Bake	9:00 AM Torah Study
	Last Day of Akiba High	Last Day of Hebrew School	7:00 PM Congregational Meeting		5:30 PM Confirmation Dinner	10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service with Bar Mitzvah of
Mother's Day	Yom Ha'Zikaron	Yom Ha'Atzmaut			6:30 PM Confirmation Shabbat Service	Jonah Wild
11 lyar	12 Iyar	13 Iyar	14 Iyar	15 Iyar	16 Iyar	17 Iyar
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM Mitzvah Day &			7:00 PM Life Transitions Group	12:00 PM Luncheon	6:30 PM Men's Group Shabbat Service	9:00 AM Torah Study
Blood Drive	:		via zoom	1:00 PM Cindy Paley		
				Concert		
18 Iyar	19 Iyar 27 Temple Closed	20 Iyar <b>28</b>	21 <i>Iyar</i>	22 Iyar 30	23 Iyar 31	
20	Z7 Temple Closed	20		30	01	
		7:00 PM Men's Group Meeting			4:00 PM ECC Graduation	
					6:30 PM Shabbat Service with Guest Artist, Justin Stein	
Lag B'Omer	Memorial Day					

# June 2024 24 Iyar 5784 - 24 Sivan 5784

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 9:00 AM Final Torah Study
						10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service with Bat Mitzvah of Hannah White
						7:00 PM A Night Out in Tel Aviv Event
25 <i>1yar</i>	3 26 Iyar	27 Iyar	5 28 Iyar	29 <i>Iyar</i>	1 Sivan	2 Sivan
					6:30 PM Shabbat Shira Service Honoring HS Seniors	
3 Sivan	4 Sivan	5 Sivan	6 Sivan 12 Temple Closed	7 Sivan	8 Sivan	9 Sivan
9:00 AM Sisterhood Mah-jongg Tournament		6:00 PM Shavuot Study Session	7:00 PM Life Transitions Group via zoom		4:30 PM Challah Braid & Bake 5:30 PM Volunteer	10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service with Bar Mitzvah of Nathan
5:00 PM Back to Camp Night 7:30 PM Rosh					Recognition Gathering 6:30 PM Choir Service with Volunteer Recognition	Dunn
Chodesh Online Class			Shavuot		, and the second	
10 Sivan	11 Sivan	12 Sivan	13 Sivan 19 Temple Closed	14 Sivan	15 Sivan 21	16 Sivan <b>22</b>
	Day Camp Begins	7:00 PM Sisterhood Meeting	Day Camp to still take place		5:30 PM Community BBQ	10:30 AM Shabbat Morning Service with Adult Bar Mitzvah of Gary Leo
	ECC Camp Begins				6:30 PM Pride Kabbalat Shabbat	Gary Leo
Father's Day			Juneteenth			
17 Sivan	24	19 Sivan <b>25</b>	20 Sivan	21 Sivan	22 Sivan	23 Sivan
24 Sivan		7:00 PM Men's Group Meeting	7:00 PM Life Transitions Group via zoom		6:00 PM Beach Shabbat Service	
30 4:00 PM Cindy Paley Reception & Concert						
L						

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**

Sherri & Davis Cadmus

**David Wallace** 

*In honor of:* 

Ellen August, wishing her a speedy recovery, from the Akiba Amoeba Havurah

Sonni Helmer's Birthday! From Francine & Michael Fisher **Sonni Helmer's Birthday!** From Diana & David Hauptman Sonni Helmer's 85th Birthday! From Myrna Kayton

Sonni Helmer's special birthday, from Sheila & Stan Weinberg **Hoppettes**, forever friends, from Leanna & Ron Watts **Susan Fine**, my little big sister, from Leanna & Ron Watts

Sharlene & Tony London's 54th Wedding Anniversary, from Sharlene & Tony London

Cathy Penso & Jeffrey Rips, for their amazing leadership, from Renee Meshul & Tom Klitzner

Leila Rosemberg, for her continued good outcome after surgery, from the Akiba Amoeba Havurah

**Inez Sherman-Presser**, for her Hebrew Naming Ceremony, from Stanley, Yan Yu & Solomon Presser In memory of:

**Donald Mann**, from the Akiba Amoeba Havurah

**Donald Mann**, from Joy & Paul Jacobs Donald Mann, from Myrna Kayton

#### RABBI SHAPIRO'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

*In gratitude to:* 

Rabbi Shapiro, from amazing love & warmth you shared as you performed our Renewal of Vows and the blessing for Landon & Cora as well, you are such a blessing to the community, from Jenni & Nate Halperin

Rabbi Shapiro's wisdom and compassionate leadership, and his friendship, from Rabbi Amy & Gary Perlin In honor of:

Miles Aaronson, on becoming a Bar Mitzvah, and gratitude to Rabbi Shapiro & Cantor Frailich for teaching and inspiring Miles, from Josette & Raoul Benassaya

Rabbi Freedman's arrival! From Steve Ross & Mary Wujek **Sonni Helmer**, for her birthday, from Terry Shenkman Leanna and Ron Watt's anniversary, from Susan Polep *In memory of:* 

Gloria Goldberger, mother of Cindy Bambam & grandmother of Kathryn Vischjager

Joshua Lobenthal, my brother, from Lisabeth Lobenthal Donald Mann, from the Zimelman family

Shirley Waldman, my mother, from Ira & Laurie Waldman Lee & Harrison Weitz, my parents, from Carol Fortel

#### RABBI FREEDMAN'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Elizabeth & Morris Zlotowitz

#### **RELIGIOUS SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP FUND**

*In memory of:* 

Dan Rudman, my cousin, from Susan Polep

#### **YAHRZEIT FUND**

Ralph Fischer, from Rosette Fischer

Samuel Flumenbaum, my father, from Bill & Tricia Flumenbaum Frank Groussman, beloved husband of Dina Groussman, beloved father of Maxine Andron (and 6 other children), beloved grandfather of Deborah Kopit (and many others), & beloved great grandfather.

Melvin Myron Jaffa, my brother-in-law, from Helene Jaffa

Fred Jamner, my father, from Lisa Jamner

Sarah Knopf, from Joanne Herz Molner

Harry Lachman, my father, Chaim Lachman, my grandfather, and Robert & Ronald Lachman, my brothers, from Mary Lachman

Esther Ludvigson, my mother, from Max Ludvigson

Esther Meshul, my mother, from Renee Meshul & Tom Klitzner

Erwin & Eve Meyer, my parents, from Andy & Valerie Meyer **Barry Moskowitz**, my husband, from Raechel Moskowitz

Herman Nathanson, my father-in-law, & Linda Peterson, my daughter-in-law, from Janet Nathanson

**Anita Pemstein**, my mother, from Maria & Ira Pemstein

Victor Penso, my father, from Cathy & Bruce Penso

Boris Porter, my grandfather, from Brooke Katz & my father, from Myra & Jack Porter

Zena Rudich my mother, from Bruce & Lori Rudich and Randee Bishoff Gertrude & Louis Samuelson, my parents, & James Samuelson, my brother, from Janet Nathanson

Nathan Spector, my father, from Michael & Benita Spector Nate Spielberg, from Brooke Katz

Barry Stark, beloved husband, father, & grandfather, from Jane Stark & Family

Mildred & James Trepeck, my parents, from Toni Glick

Jerome Urfrig, my brother, from Donald Urfrig

Anne Urfrig, our mother, from Donald Urfrig & Wendy Temple Paula Weiss, from Helene Jaffa

Adelle Wexler, my wife, from Jack Wexler

Benjamin Zakheim, my father, from Rosalyn Zakheim & Gayle Dukelow

#### **CANTOR FRAILICH'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

*In gratitude to:* 

Cantor Lonee, for Special Shabbat music programs, from Yvonne & Alan Frailich

Cantor Frailich, for her hard work & dedication in producing & directing "Estie" an inspiring and uplifting Purim Shpiel

#### FROM THE HEART RESIDENT CAMP FUND

Anonymous

**Dyan Kolb** 

*In honor of:* 

Leila Rosemberg, to your health & happiness, from Leanna & Ron Watts

Jill & Melania Sowell, on their B'not Mitzvah, from Lora Byala

#### LEE WOLKOWITZ FUND

*In honor of:* 

Bernita Payton, for her faith & optimism, from Leanna & Ron Watts

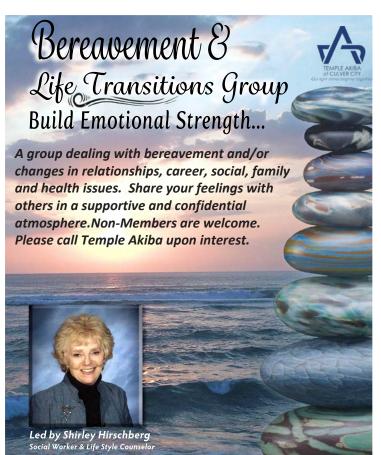
#### <u>JUSTIN SHABSIS FUND</u>

*In honor of:* 

Max Watts, an older brother to be proud of, from Leanna & Ron Watts

#### **2023 SECURITY CAMPAIGN**

Michele Hindler





#### TO PAINT IS TO LIVE

Sunday, May 5 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM

Temple Akiba honors Yom Ha'Shoah with a guided tour of the new exhibit at Holocaust Museum LA featuring art & resistance in Thereseinstadt. Meet in front of the museum & enter together as an Akiba group. For more information, please contact Kathryn at programdirector@templeakiba.net

# √>ncestor Voices

**USC Shoah Foundation Recognizes Holocaust Survivors** 





Temple Akiba member, Morris Price, who recently turned 97, was among the Holocaust survivors honored by the Shoah Foundation. In April, Holocaust survivor, Celina Biniaz whose family was saved by Oskar Schindler accepts USC's highest honor, the University Medallion, on behalf of all the survivors whose testimonies have been preserved by USC Shoah Foundation – The Institute for Visual History and Education, which Spielberg established in 1994. This year marks the 30th year of the Shoah foundation. Morris has contributed to the over 56,000 testimonies the Foundation has archived.

#### Men's Group Message

We have a busy spring and summer ahead of us! The Men's Group invites you to participate in these upcoming events:



Friday, 24 May - Men's Group Shabbat Service. Our annual shabbat where we lead the congregation in prayer. Want to participate? Let Ira Pemstein know at *elpem@sbcglobal.net* 

Friday nights, June 21/July 12/August 9 - We will be hosting 3 barbecues this summer! Grillmasters, get your mitts and equipment ready.

July 27th - Our 2nd annual night of Music Under the Stars. Once again, Klezmer will reign supreme in Wolkowitz Field. Dancing is encouraged. Join us, get involved!

On a more personal note, many of you know I have been diagnosed with prostate cancer. I was fortunate enough to learn this from my PSA test during my annual physical. Fortunate because it was found early enough that it is treatable with a high survival rate. I want to take this opportunity to urge all the men out there to get your annual physical and make sure your PSA test is part of it. Especially if you are over 50. We guys tend to think we are invincible and will live for ever. But stuff starts to not work so well as we get older. It is my hope to have you all around the Temple for a long time to come.

Back to the Men's Group. Have an idea for a program? Have a connection to someone really interesting? Let us know. Help us arrange future programs and events. (Don't forget, we are men interested in the world around us, so don't be afraid to share your ideas). For more information and/or membership info, please contact Victor Nahmias @ VNahmias@aol.com.







# TEMPLE AKIBA BLOOD DRIVE AT MITZVAH DAY

Sunday, May 19, 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 and enter sponsor code: TempleAkiba, or call 1-800-Red Cross.

De Part of the Magic!







# 17th Annual Mitzvah Day Sunday May 19, 2024

Please Register before Mitzvah Day! Projects filled first come, first served! T-shirt size not guaranteed.

Please donate the following items to make our projects successful:

SHOES: gently used, all kinds, including dress shoes & NEW SOCKS

TRAVEL SIZE HYGIENE ITEMS: combs, tissues, disposable razors, feminine hygiene products, & flip flops

**BOOKS** for Teens, new and gently used, and **NEW TOYS & BOARD BOOKS** for young Children, SCHOOL SUPPLIES, No Adult Books please

HOUSEHOLD CLEANING SUPPLIES: Paper towels, new dish rags, dish soap

PET SUPPLIES: dog & cat food, treats, toys, blankets, towels, stainless steel bowls, leashes, collars, harnesses, pet beds, carriers, crates, and cat litter, wee wee pads, shampoos

Questions? Call 310-398-5783 or email admin@templeakiba.net

#### Temple Akiba Mitzvah Day 2024 Registration Form PLEASE PRINT OR Register online: https://www.templeakiba.net/mitzvah-day

Name	Age (if child)	T-Shirt Size				
		CS/CM/CL/AS/AM/AL/AXL/AXXL CS/CM/CL/AS/AM/AL/AXL/AXXL CS/CM/CL/AS/AM/AL/AXL/AXXL CS/CM/CL/AS/AM/AL/AXL/AXXL				
Phone: E-r	mail:					
Project Choices: First-come first-served. Children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult.						
Name(s)	Name(s)					
1st	1st					
2nd	2nd					

#### SIGN UP BY APR 30

Your donation of \$18 per individu	ıal
or \$36 per family will help defray	
event costs. Breakfast & lunch	
included.	

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	_

I am unable to participate in Mitzvah Day 2024 but would like to make a donation

I will sponsor a Mitzvah Day Project for \$180. My name/organization will be posted at an on-site project and printed on t-shirt.

Please make checks payable to

Temple Akiba & return with form in enclosed envelope by April 30 to be guaranteed a Mitzvah Day t-shirt.

Mitzvah Day donation enclosed:





# The Music of Cindy Paley



# Luncheon & Songs of Israel with Cindy Paley

# Thursday, May 23

12:00 PM Lunch, 1:00 PM Concert

Temple Akiba partners with Cindy Paley to honor Yom Ha'atzmaut with a luncheon followed by a concert featuring songs that celebrate the state of Israel. RSVP Link coming soon.





# A Yiddish Summer Singalong with Cindy Paley

Sunday, June 30

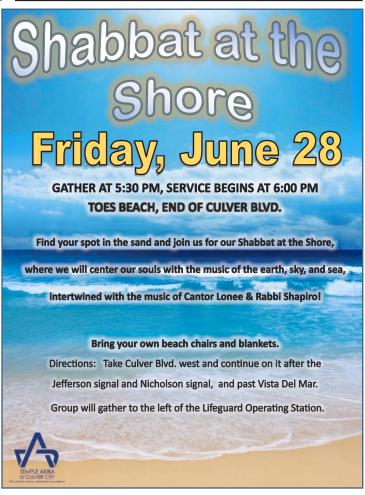
4:00 PM Reception, 5:00 PM Concert

Join us to enjoy the beautiful summer weather with an outdoor Yiddish singalong with Cindy Paley & gang. No prior yiddish experience necessary to enjoy the music & read from lyric sheets we're all sure to learn a few words! RSVP Link coming soon.













# BE A PART OF THE FUN!!!





**8 WEEKS of FUN! JUNE 17 - AUGUST 9** 

#### **Email:**

akibadaycamp@templeakiba.net for more information visit www.templeakiba.net/day-camp



# AKIBA DAY CAMP 2024!!!





backgrounds of our congregation: Jews by birth & Jews by choice. Those in relationships with Jews. Those discovering Judaism. Jews of color. LGBTQIA Jews. Jews with disabilities, etc. Temple Akiba is proud to stand together with all who care about bringing goodness into the world!

## 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'I) Diamond Helene & David (z'I) Jaffa Susan & Barry Moser Maria & Ira Pemstein

#### **Maimonides**

Lacey & Marc Bauer Cayla & David Chipp Verna Erez Steven Hassan Alan Kahan Andrew Lachman & Ingrid Morań 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

#### Micah

Sharon Balter Meredith & Jonathan Basiri Patricia Newler & Ira Clark Sara Fields 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**

Tamar & Fren Asken Diane Bulgatz Beverly Eshed-Magaril Connie Chiu & Jesse Golden Jill & Jonathan Hyman Paula Shulman & Matthew Josephson Deborah & Art Koniak-Griffin Miriam & Steven Levy Allison Parker & Sam Plotkin Joyce Perlick June Penso Diney & Ira Shulman Marni & Matthew Schapiro Svetlana & Benjamin Rapoport Debbie Richards Jessica Stroik & Kamyar Soleymani Annie Dimascio & Adam Tessitore Jane Stark Jack Wexler Gabrielle Zadra & Mark Wild



# You are Cordially Invited to

TEMPLE AKIBA'S PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE GATHERING

Sunday, May 5, 2024 at 3:30 P.M.

Temple Akiba - Wolkowitz Field

Please join us as we showcase all the accomplishments your support makes possible.

Mike Bauer, Cayla & David Chipp, Ira Diamond, Bob Knopf, John Magoulas, Yana & Adam Moser, Cathy Penso, Sue Urfrig, & Ed Wolkowitz President's Circle Committee

RSVP By Tuesday, April 30th: https://templeakiba.shulcloud.com/form/presidents\_circle\_2024

\*Childcare will be provided upon request

For more information, please contact Admin@templeakiba.net or 310-398-5783

President's Circle Members give a minimum of \$2,500 to the Temple Akiba Tzedakah Society over their full membership commitment to Temple Akiba. All Attendees are asked to make a commitment to the 2024-2025 President's Circle.



Thank you to everyone who participated, sponsored, & volunteered in the mitzvah of



#### MISHLOACH MANOT

#### A note on how to use the eco-friendly gifts:

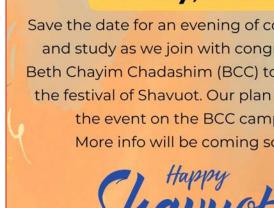
Kitchen Compost Bin - Collect food scraps and dispose in your yard waste garbage bin. This reduces the volume of landfills & decreases greenhouse gas emissions.

Beeswax Wrap - Use instead of plastic wrap to cover food or containers. Use the heat of your hands to gently mold the wrap around the food or container. Hand wash in warm water, lay flat to dry. Do not put in the dishwasher, microwave, or oven.

Mesh Produce Bag - Use instead of plastic produce bags, machine washable.

Seed Paper - Paper, embedded with wildflower seeds. Plant in the garden, water daily and watch it grow.

Silicone Straw - Use instead of plastic straws, dishwasher safe.





### Save the Date Tuesday, June 11

Save the date for an evening of community and study as we join with congregation Beth Chayim Chadashim (BCC) to celebrate the festival of Shavuot. Our plan is to hold the event on the BCC campus. More info will be coming soon!



# S W√~G

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 though a Jewish lens.



#### **Torah Study**

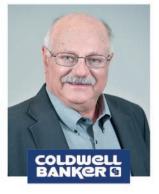
**Every Saturday** 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM In Person & On Zoom

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 www.reddoorinvest.com

#### **BRUCE FORMAN**



Akiba Veteran's Auditorium **Volunteer High Holiday** Moving, Setup & Usher Corps

Committed to Serving Akiba Members since 1981

Are you selling your home?

#### **Experience counts!**

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Feliza, The Real Estate Matchmaker, invites you to a no obligation free real estate consultation.

10% of my commission will be donated, in your name, to AKIBA. Referrals will also qualify.

I've been serving home sellers and buyers, on the Westside, for over 25 years.

I look forward to getting to know each other!

Feliza Kohan, REALTOR® 310.581.8188 Cell / text Coldwell Banker Realty feliza.Kohan@CBRealty.com FelizaColdwellBanker.com CaIDRE #00639867







# Temple Akiba's 17th Annual MITZVAH DAY

Sunday, May 19, 2024

A magical day of Tikkun Olam and community building devoted to a variety of projects for the benefit of those in need in our community and beyond. Join us and come be part of the magic!

For for information on Mitzvah Day, check out page 17.