HAPPY PASSOVER

בש של פסח
חג פסח
כשר ושמה

Passover Seder and Seder Plate by Marc Chagall
Good day everyone!

January 26th started off as most Sundays, doing something at ATC, but this Sunday was just a bit different. The teachers for our ATC Rabbi Gerson and Temple Beth Emunah South Area Religious School started to arrive at 8:15 a.m., followed by our students at 8:45. The front doorbell began to ring about the same time as Minyan was to begin at 9:00. Our Minyaners enjoyed their bagel schmear. About the same time, our Mah Jongg volunteer crew began to set up tables, set those Mah Jongg tiles on each table, and worked for several hours in the kitchen preparing lunch, snacks, and treats for the 60 Mah Jongg players about to enter the building at 1:00 p.m.

Pastor Adrienne, of the Life Center Church, arrived at 10 a.m. and was preparing for their 11:00 a.m. service. Then there was her voice bringing life to the quiet social hall as folks nosh from Minyan, or work to make the Mah Jongg Tournament a success.

It’s about noon and our Mah Jongg crew is getting ready to welcome many players — some veterans, and some first timers at ATC.

The energy is beginning as our SAUSY’ers begin to arrive for an afternoon of games. Temple Beth Emunah provided wonderful chaperones for the event. The smell of pizza filled the air just as Mah Jongg begins. Our SAUSY Youth Group had a wonderful afternoon downstairs. We have happy Mah Jonggers, happy USY’ers, and happy volunteers (a bit tired though).

Continued on page 5
Purim has been highly significant in Jewish life. Its description of anti-semitism was confirmed by Jewish experience through the centuries. It is as modern as the latest ranting of a Jew-baiter. What are Haman's grievances against Mordechai?

The proud Jew would not bow down to him. Why? The rabbis of the Talmud say that Mordechai would have no right to jeopardize the safety of his people by an act of personal pride. But, they add, Haman wore over his breast a small idol; to this, Mordechai was justified in refusing obeisance.

The independent Jew, loyal to his own way of life, refused to subordinate his values to the idol-worshiping vizier. Haman got to the point. He said to the King, "There is a people in our midst whose ways are different." Right. Then, in true anti-semitic fashion, he continues, "They do not obey the King's laws." This, of course, was false. The Jews had not refused to obey Ahasuerus. In fact, it later developed that Mordechai had endangered his life in thwarting the plans of assassins who had plotted to kill the King. An ancient cryptic rabbinic decree has defined the correct attitude of Jews toward the laws of the country in which they live; "Dinah demalchutah dinah - the law of the land is the law."

Spiritually, however, the Jews have always insisted on their right to obey the laws of their own Torah, which became, in time, the laws of their inmost being. Thus, they could not worship idols of the Temple or of the State. They could not substitute a temporal ruler for the King of Kings. They would not violate the Sabbath for brutalizing sports or material gain. They loathed violence, at times accepting it reluctantly as a last resort, never good or glorious in itself. Regarding all men as G-d's children made in His image, they cherished human freedom and human dignity. Thus, most oppressors of man's free spirit have found the Jew not only irritating, even baffling, but also obstructionist. His independent mind, his humanitarian values, his moral courage and his unflagging loyalty to his invisible G-d stood as obstacles to regimentation and oppression.

Purim has another quality that made it popular. The Jews are essentially serious people. They are not morbid, guilt-ridden, and pessimistic. But from the beginning of their story they have taken a very realistic, hence serious, view of life. Duty ranks high in their scheme of values. "Thou shalt be holy for the L-rd, thy G-d, is holy" does not allow for much nonsense. Nevertheless, possessing a rich sense of humor and needing release from life's tensions, they seized upon Purim as an occasion for gaiety and playfulness. Even the Book of Esther has an oriental, sensuous quality, which is not typical of the Bible. It sounds rather like a tale from the Arabian Nights, the Queen Vashti who refused the King's request to disport herself before his guests and, therefore, was deposed; the beautiful unknown girl, Esther, who was chosen Queen in her place (an Eastern version of the Cinderella story); the wicked plot against her people; the hero's intervention which saves the King's life in the nick of time; the exploitation of the Queen's beauty to reverse the evil decree; and, finally, the indignities and the gallows for the villain what could be nicer? The very nature of the story encourages Jews to be gay on Purim. They enthusiastically follow the biblical pattern, "Therefore do the Jews make the fourteenth day of the month of Adar a day of gladness and feasting, a good day, and of sending gifts one to another."

Down through the centuries, despite our hardship, we Jews have rejoiced with a kind of abandon on the winter's day chosen by the casting of lots (Purim). This gaiety was the more acceptable because Esther, unlike all the other books of the Bible, contains no mention of the name of G-d. So, even the synagogue becomes a house of mirth on Purim eve. Nefarious noisemakers are distributed among the children and used without restraint every time the reader of the Megillah (the Book of Esther) comes to Haman's name. The youngsters masquerade and present humorous plays. Gifts are exchanged. Special generosity toward the poor is customary, but even they are expected to give token gifts so their self-respect may be maintained.

Can we not understand then why the rabbis say that when all other holidays will have passed away, Jews will still be celebrating Purim?

Chag Purim Sameach

Rabbi J
We are looking forward to spring, when we celebrate the special holidays of Purim and Passover.

We met in February to discuss *The Song of Jade Lily* by Kirsty Manning. We recommend this book, a historical novel of Shanghai during the years of the Holocaust. Please join us in April for our next book.

Another recommended book is *Things We Cannot Say* by Kelly Rimmer. It begins in 1942 in a Russian refugee camp, where a woman says her wedding vows and there begin secrets which affect many lives.

Tu B’Shevat is the New Year of the Trees. We celebrated with a Seder filled with fruits. Some had pits which could not be eaten. Some had shells which could not be eaten and we were able to eat the entire fruit in some cases. We watched as our grape juice went from white to deep red as we celebrated the seasons of the year.

Our next Rosh Chodesh Group Meeting will be held at 10:30 AM on Thursday, March 5, celebrating Purim. We will make *hamantaschen* and fill Mishloach Manot bags. Please join us.

Our annual Women's Seder will be held on Wednesday, April 1. This event is free for all Sisterhood members, $18.00 for non-members. Watch your email for details. Please join us.

Sisterhood Shabbat will be held on May 16.

Please support our Judaica Shoppe. Sandy and Lynne have filled their shelves with many beautiful items. The Judaica Shoppe is open by appointment. Please check our display in the lobby to see our merchandise. Please remember to visit our Shoppe for your Bar and Bat Mitzvah needs as well as many other beautiful items. Please contact Sandy Stogel to make an appointment. Sandy is usually at ATC on Tuesday mornings with the Senior Group.

Please contact Bev Barbell for get well cards, sympathy cards, and cards for almost any occasion. Her contact info is below. The money collected is used to provide funds for ATC.

Sisterhood needs your help. We are only as strong as our membership. Please attend our events, help with our functions and make suggestions for a new ones.

Please contact us with any questions or suggestions.

**Madeleine Lewis**
**Cindy Smith**
Co-Presidents

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**Acknowledgement Cards**

Sisterhood is now sending donation acknowledgement cards. Each card gratefully acknowledges a contribution made, and is suitable for Condolence, Get Well, Mazel Tov, or most any other occasion.

The cost of each card is $4.00 if purchased, or $4.50 if mailed by the Sisterhood Card Coordinator. All proceeds benefit the ATC Sisterhood, which in turn, benefit our congregation.

To learn more, or to have a card sent, please contact Beverly Barbell, by email at Bbarbell@aol.com or by phone at (781) 910-5527.
At the end of the day, multiple texts popped up as to how much fun our volunteers had (me included), and what a great day it was. It was a building full of Ruach and Energy of all ages. May we have many more days like January 26!

As you see to the left, the happy person next to me is Jaime Regan of Stoughton High School. Jaime teaches a course to junior and senior high school students entitled “The Holocaust and Resistance Movements.” On behalf of ATC, I presented a $500.00 check to help continue to expand this course. This donation was made possible by hosting comedians Jarett Berenstein and Jeff Hofstetter in July.

I hope all our members and guests who attended Shabbat Across America on February 28 enjoyed a wonderful evening hosted by Tina and Arthur Mallock, led by Dan and Betty Bauman, with special guests, Tufts University’s Shir Appeal. Oh yeah – the dinner.

A perfect introduction to this month’s President’s message is brought to you by…

The upcoming events all can participate in over the next 60 days:

- ATC’s “Evening of Trivia” on March 7.
- Purim Party on March 9. Dress up as if it were the 1920s.
- Our Religious School’s class service at Temple Beth Emunah on March 14.
- A Passover food demonstration and wine tasting on March 15. This event should not be missed!
- What synagogue shows Mel Brooks’ “Blazing Saddles?” We will on March 28.
- Sisterhood’s annual Passover Seder is April 1 (no fooling).
- Passover begins on April 8.
- Our Religious School will host their annual seder on April 5.
- The Brotherhood Jazz Brunch is BACK on April 12. We will begin at 1:00 p.m.
- ATC hosts the South Shore’s Community Yom HaShoah Service on April 21 at 7:00 p.m.
- April 26 - Sisterhood hosts their second in a series of Mah Jongg tournaments.

Be part of the happenings at ATC by attending, helping, anything...

Bob Bornstein
president@atorah.org

For all your grocery shopping use ATC scrip ... It’s a Mitzvah!

A Call to Minyan – We Need You!

Please do not forget the continuing need of our Minyan. Minyanim are held Sunday at 9 a.m., Monday through Thursday at 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Services begin at 7:30 p.m. on Friday (unless otherwise indicated) and Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m.
Religious School News

Shalom!

We are all so proud of our students as they make great strides in learning Hebrew, our holidays, our traditions, our history and developing pride in our religion and in being a Jew.

Thank you so much to Rabbi Gouze and the members of Temple Beth Emunah for our amazing morning celebrating Tu B’Shevat. The children saw a movie, acted out stories about the holiday, worked on projects, and participated in the seder. They had a very enjoyable time and learned so much.

The children planted parsley which will be used at the Passover seder.

The children will celebrate Purim on Sunday, March 8, with costumes, goggers, a Megillah reading and, of course, Mishloach Manot bags.

On March 14, we will be at Temple Beth Emunah for our Spring Class Service, which starts at 9:30 a.m. Everyone is encouraged to come and participate as our students lead the service, using the skills they learn at school and by coming to services. There will be a kiddush luncheon following the service.

Once again, we will be visiting Heights Crossing in Brockton to perform a Purim play, play Bingo and bring Mishloach Manot for the residents. This will take place on Sunday, March 15 at 10:30 a.m.

On April 5, we will hold our Passover celebration with activities related to the seder and the holiday.

Thanks again to all who help make our school run so smoothly. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Please spread the word about our school. If you know anyone who might be interested, please give me their contact information and I will give it to Bob Cohn, so he can contact them.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions.

Madeleine Lewis
Lead Teacher
ATCEdDirector@gmail.com

Ten things G-d created before Shabbat:
1. Shabbat Candles
2. Menorah
3. Challah
4. Matzah
5. Afikoman
6. Temple
7. Wine
8. Tallit
9. Kippah
10. Jewish Star

Our preschoolers in Michael Gaffney’s class make their version of the letter “Shin”

Now we know why G-d rested on the 7th day
Yom HaShoah Commemoration

This year we are honored to host the Yom HaShoah program at ATC on Tuesday, April 21 at 7 p.m. We commemorate this day with a special program to remember the strength and courage of those who did not survive those torturous years.

We are honored to be represented by Noah Siegel, as a student reader, and Helayne Magier, who will share a synopsis of her dad’s story. The last time we hosted this event, we had more than 300 people with standing room only. Let's do it again!! Mark your calendars today and show your support for this very special program. As we say: NEVER FORGET! NEVER AGAIN!

High Holiday Prayer Book
Dedication Fund

Tina and Arthur Mallock, in loving memory of Edith Talisman
Tina and Arthur Mallock, in loving memory of Goody Safer
Stacy and Howard Andler, in loving memory of Goody Safer
Tina and Arthur Mallock, in loving memory of Gary Rudman
Stacy and Howard Andler, in loving memory of Gary Rudman

Donations received after February 20th will be acknowledged in the next issue.

Levy Chapel Fund

Barry Levy, in memory of beloved wife, Lois
Ruth and Dan Cretu, in memory of Goodie Safer, mother of Susan Bernstein
Marv Asnes, in memory of Goodie Safer, mother of Susan Bernstein
Benita and Larry Barbell, with thanks
Sandi and Fred Sussman, in memory of Goodie Safer, mother of Susan Bernstein
Helayne Magier

Donations received after February 20th will be acknowledged in the next issue.
Mah Jongg Tourney

A great time was had on January 26, as 60 men and woman gathered to play Mah Jongg! Everyone was "cracking" their "bams" and "dots", while hoping to get as many "jokers" as possible! They even enjoyed those "flowers" blowing through their "winds"! Thanks to all of those who helped out! It was a great and successful FUNdraiser for ATC. In addition to the great time everyone had at the tournament, we were able to make an important impact for the temple community. We are happy to share that the proceeds from the tournament helped to purchase an AED defibrillator for the temple. Thanks again to everyone who helped support this effort. New to Mah Jongg? Haven't played in a while? Dust off your sets or find a friend to teach you and come and join us for our next Mah Jongg event on April 26!

Inez Springer & Marilyn Rabinovitz

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Trivia Fun 2020

Cash Bar
Beers & Wines
Snacks and
Complimentary
Dessert Buffet

Great trivia prizes
Bonus games
And so much
more!!

Saturday, March 7
Doors open at 7:00 pm Trivia begins at 7:30
Teams up to 9 players, individual players too!
$12.00 PAID in advance, $15.00 at the door.
RSVP to ATC Office—781-344-8733 or email office@atorah.org
Deadline for PAID Admission is March 4, 2:00 pm
Walk ins welcome but reservations are strongly suggested

Ahavath Torah Congregation

1179 Central Street Stoughton, MA 02072 781-344-8733 office@atorah.org www.Atorah.org
March-April Calendar

**Shabbat Zachor/Tetzaveh**
Friday, March 6
- Candle lighting: 5:23 PM
- Kabbalat Shabbat: 7:30 PM

**Saturday, March 7**
- Tefillah: 9:30 AM
- Trivia Night (see p.9): 7:00 PM

**Trivia Fun 2020**
Saturday, March 7
Doors open at 7:00 pm. Trivia begins at 7:30.

**Purim Party**
Monday, March 9 (see p.22): 6:30 PM
- Megillah Reading: 7:00 PM

**Shabbat Parah/Ki Tissa**
Friday, March 13
- Candle lighting: 6:31 PM
- Kabbalat Shabbat: 7:30 PM

**Saturday, March 14**
- Tefillah: 9:30 AM
  - School Service at Temple Beth Emunah

Sunday, March 15
- Cooking Demo & Wine Tasting (see p.19): 4:00 PM

**Shabbat HaHodesh/VaYakhel-Pekudei**
Friday, March 20
- Candle lighting: 6:39 PM
- Kabbalat Shabbat: 7:30 PM

**Saturday, March 21**
- Tefillah: 9:30 AM

**Shabbat VaYikra**
Friday, March 27
- Candle lighting: 6:47 PM
- Kabbalat Shabbat: 7:30 PM

**Saturday, March 28**
- Tefillah: 9:30 AM

**Shabbat HaGadol**
Friday, April 3
- Candle lighting: 6:54 PM
- Kabbalat Shabbat: 7:30 PM

**Saturday, April 4**
- Tefillah: 9:30 AM

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**No Evening Minyan April 8 or 9**

**Pesach Day 1**
Wednesday, April 8
- Candle lighting: 7:00 PM
- 1st Seder traditionally begins after candle lighting

**Pesach Day 2**
Thursday, April 9
- 2nd Seder traditionally begins after 8:02 PM
- Begin counting the Omer during Seder

**Friday, April 10**
- Tefillah: 9:30 AM

**Shabbat Hol HaMoed Pesach**
Friday, April 10
- Candle lighting: 7:02 PM
- Kabbalat Shabbat: 7:30 PM

**Saturday, April 11**
- Tefillah: 9:30 AM

**Passover Jazz Lunch**
Sunday, April 12 (see p.13): 1:00 PM

**Pesach Day 7**
Tuesday, April 14
- Candle lighting: 7:07 PM
- Maariv: 7:30 PM

**Wednesday, April 15**
- Tefillah: 9:30 AM

**Pesach Day 8**
Wednesday, April 15
- Maariv: 7:30 PM
- Thursday, April 16
- Tefillah: 9:30 AM
  - Yizkor will be recited

**Shabbat Shemini**
Friday, April 17
- Candle lighting: 7:10 PM
- Kabbalat Shabbat: 7:30 PM

**Saturday, April 18**
- Tefillah: 9:30 AM

**Community Yom HaShoah Commemoration**
Tuesday, April 21 (at ATC): 7:00 PM

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(Continued on page 20)
Helping others is so SWEET!!

Join ATC President Bob Bornstein and Suzanne Blacker of the Stoughton/Sharon Food Pantry with ATC’s Matanot l’Evyonim Project. Providing gifts to the poor is one of the prime mitzvot for observance of Purim.

Place your donations HERE in our Stop & Shop shopping basket through March 10

Ahavath Torah Congregation
1179 Central Street, Stoughton, MA 02072  781-344-8733
Ahavath Torah Congregation
and
Temple Beth Emunah
South Area Religious School
Morning Class Service
MARCH 14
Services to be held at Temple Beth Emunah
15-A Plymouth Dr, South Easton
at 9:30 am
Ahavath Torah Congregation

Presents the

PASSOVER JAZZ LUNCH

Sunday, April 12th from 1:00pm - 4:00pm

We are bringing back the Passover Jazz brunch only this time we are doing it as a luncheon. All members of ATC, The Life Center Church and the human race are invited.

We will be having the Tal Shalom-Kobi Quartet back to ATC and of course our gourmet culinary team will be presenting a fantastic Passover meal.

There will be raffles and some GREAT silent auction items.

Advanced reservations are required as this event always sells out and we have limited seating.

Reservations will be accepted until Wednesday, April 4th.

$20 per person when you prepay,
$25 at the door (if seats are still available)

RSVP by e-mail to office@atorah.org or drop your check at the temple office with “Jazz Brunch” on the memo line.

You can also call us on (781) 344-8733.

Ahavath Torah Congregation – 1179 Central Street – Stoughton, MA

Condolences

Our sympathies are with...

The Barbell family, on the loss of beloved mother and grandmother, Edith Talisman

The Bernstein family, on the loss of beloved mother and grandmother, Goodie Safer

The Rudman family, on the loss of beloved son and brother, Gary Rudman

The Tenenbaum family, on the loss of beloved mother, Lorraine C. Olstein

A Call to Minyan – We Need You!

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For all your grocery shopping use ATC scrip ...

It's a Mitzvah!
**I. What is Chametz?**

The basic rule that underlies the dietary laws of Passover is that during this holiday a Jew must not eat, own or derive benefit from chametz. Chametz refers to the five species of grain - wheat, barley, spelt, rye and oats - that have been subjected to a leavening process. In their unleavened states, these same five grains can be used to make matzoh. The word "Chametz" itself refers to fermenting or souring. Dough (flour and moisture) can rise by just sifting (sour dough) or by a leavening agent being added.

Chametz includes not only bread, crackers and macaroni, but items formed of fermented grain used in other ways - such as beer, whiskey and grain vinegar.

The elaborate cleaning ("kashering") process, involving putting away "regular" foods and dishes, renouncing ownership of leaven, and buying special foods, are all steps to ensure that no chametz is found in places where it might be used. Any presence of chametz, however minute, is forbidden on Passover. The rabbis made an exception to this very strict rule: If an accidental mixture took place before Pesach began, it can be considered negated if chametz is less than 1/60 of the whole mixture. This is why it is safer to purchase various foods (for example, milk) before the holiday begins. If you buy milk before Passover, no special Hechsher (certification of Kosher) is necessary, but if such items are bought during the holiday, they do require a Hechsher. (Shopping for most things before Pesach will also increase the number of items you can economize on.)

**II. What about legumes?**

In our definition of chametz, rice, millet, corn, peas and beans weren't mentioned ("Kitniyot" in Hebrew). All agree that these are not chametz. Sephardic Jews generally follow the practices of the Talmud and Shulchan Arukh (16th century law code) permitting these items on Passover. Ashkenazim (European Jews) followed the custom of prohibiting these items, either because of fear of "contamination" (e.g., rice might have grain mixed in) or confusion (e.g., because beans can be ground into a flour-like substance, it might be confused with grain flour). Custom plays an important role in Jewish life, but one should be aware that there is a significant difference between eating soda crackers (100% chametz) and soy beans. Many Ashkenazic Jews eat string beans because the kernel has not been formed, and there are differences of opinion regarding peanuts and a variety of seeds (sunflower, safflower, cottonseed, etc.). Chocolate used to be a problem for Ashkenazim, because lecithin, used as an emulsifier, comes from soybeans. Today, most Israeli chocolate factories use a substitute emulsifier, from rapeseed, for Passover, and can label their chocolate "Ilo hashash kitniyot" (without suspicion of Kitniyot).

**III. How do you get Rid of Chametz?**

A. Eat it up before Passover.
B. Give it away to a non-Jew.
C. Renounce ownership by selling it. This is usually done by making a rabbi your agent, signing a document, allowing him to sell it to a non-Jew for a token down payment. After the holiday, when the purchaser discovers that he really doesn't want all the leftover graham crackers in your closet, he normally sells it back and the down payment is returned. This is legal fiction, but it solves the problem of what to do when you have too much Chametz to merely give away.

ALL CHAMETZ SHOULD BE TAKEN CARE OF BY 11:28 A.M. ON APRIL 8, 2020 AT WHICH TIME CHAMETZ IS BURNED AND THE CONTRACTS WILL BE SOLD.
**IV. Why go through all this bother?**

Ultimately, as with all rituals, the meaning you derive from it is a very personal matter and often it cannot be explained rationally. Here are some possibilities:

- The cleaning out of chametz symbolize the cleaning out of the old ways of slavery as our ancestors had to do to leave Egypt. It can symbolize our desire to cleanse ourselves of our “evil inclinations,” the “chametz of the heart.”

- It is a "spring cleaning," a chance to air out our houses, and ourselves, after the long winter's hibernation. In the spring, we are spiritually and physically reborn. In this sense, the themes of Passover and Easter are very similar.

- The more effort we put into preparing for a holiday, the more intense are our feelings and memories associated with it. This is why Passover has maintained such a powerful hold on even the most assimilated of Jews, while other celebrations have fallen from favor.

We all have vivid memories of childhood Passovers, and they are so vivid because of all the work that went into the preparation. On Passover, we simultaneously recall the infancy of our people and of ourselves. We are transformed both to Egypt and to wherever we grew up. But such a moving experience does not come for free: we must earn it the old fashioned way — by removing leaven.

**V. When do we start eating Matzah?**

Matzah can be eaten all year round. But we should avoid it for 24 hours before the first seder so that its taste is fresh. It probably is a good idea not to eat much of anything during the afternoon before the first seder. Some don't eat matzah for two weeks prior to the holiday.

**VI. How do I clean my house for Passover?**

Areas where eating takes place should be cleaned thoroughly. Also, check places like briefcases, purses, desks and coat pockets, if you occasionally put food there. Offices, lockers in school, and automobiles should also be cleaned. There is no need to go overboard with this, however. The house can still be kosher for Passover, even, if every window isn't washed and the bathtub isn't scrubbed.

**VII. What about (oy, gevalt) the kitchen?**

Shelves, counters, tables and drawers should be well cleaned. They can be Kasheried by pouring boiling water over them. An easier solution (and less messy) is to cover them with shelf paper or just tape them shut if you don't need them. The refrigerator should be defrosted and cleaned (no shelf paper is necessary here). To "kasher" a stove, clean it well with a commercial cleanser, do not use it for 24 hours, then heat it to maximum temperature for one hour. If you plan to use the broiling pan, cover it with heavy foil. For a self-cleaning oven, run it through one self-clean cycle. Electric burners should be treated in a similar manner: clean, don't use for 24 hours and then heat until they are red hot for at least five minutes.

For gas burners, either heat them to the hottest possible temperature for 15 minutes or immerse the burners in a pot of boiling water.

For a microwave oven, place a utensil with boiling water inside until thick steam fills it.

**KITCHEN UTENSILS:**

Laundry dishtowels and cloth tablecloths.

In general, items are "kashered" according to how they are used: Ovens and oven racks require high heat, pots and silverware require immersion in boiling water. Items used only for cold may be "kashered" by rinsing. Dishwashers should be run through one cycle with soap after laying idle for 24 hours.
ITEMS THAT CANNOT BE MADE KOSHER (IN ANY PRACTICAL WAY):

- Meat spits
- Metal baking pans
- Earthen ware
- Toaster ovens
- Porcelain
- Items that will be damaged by hot water
- Items which cannot cleaned (for example, graters, pots and pans with burned on food)
- Silverware and cooking utensils of more than one piece
  (for example, knives with wooden handles; Chametz can be stuck in the crack)

ITEMS THAT CAN BE KASHERED:

- Metal pots, frying pans (including those glazed or enameled, Teflon is questionable).
- One piece wooden utensils (in theory)
- One piece silverware
- Glass (no boiling necessary, for dishes and glasses, just a thorough scouring)
- Pyrex, Duralex and Corelle ware
- China: if it hasn’t been used in a year, it is Kosher if scoured and cleansed with hot water
- Hard plastic
- Nylon
- Bakelite
- Rubber that can be immersed in boiling water briefly

POINTERS:

1. Don’t forget to also immerse the lids of jars and containers.
2. Use a big pot for boiling, dip items with tongs or tied to a string, while the water is actually boiling.
3. For the largest pot (too big to be dipped) boil water in it, then fill it to the brim with more water. Later, pour boiling water on the outsides and handles.
4. Remove handles of pots and pans before boiling (if possible) and boil separately.

Of course, it is, in many ways, easier to use a separate set of kitchenware and dishes for Passover. But this is not necessary.

For questions on specific items, feel free to call.

VIII. What foods can I buy?

Please beware. Many foods are marked up for profit to take advantage of the consumer who is unaware that not all items need rabbinic supervision. If you buy the following before Passover and leave it unopened, no rabbinic supervision is needed:

- Coffee
- Tea
- Sugar
- Pepper (Pure herbs and spices, not garlic salt)
- Dried fruit (with no preservatives)
- Honey
- Hard cheese (preferably sealed in the factory)
- Butter
- Fruit juice (no additives, sweeteners or preservatives)
- Kosher meat, chicken, fresh or frozen (not breaded or in sauce)
- Detergents (may also be bought on Passover)
- Fresh milk
- Eggs
- Vegetables, fresh or frozen
- Nuts in their shells
PASSOVER PREPARATIONS
A GUIDE FOR THE PERPLEXED

IX. Above all, what does all this come down to?

Common sense. When you heat an oven or boil a pot, strict safety measures should be employed. Remove all soft plastics from the area.

X. Miscellaneous

The situation regarding cheese requires a fuller explanation. The Conservative Movement allows for the consumption of hard cheese that is not supervised, while Orthodox practice is to require supervision, whether on Passover or not. This has to do with the dispute over the nature of rennet, an animal by-product used in the formation of cheese.

Vodka may or may not be kosher for Passover; you must check the label. Usually, vodka is made from potatoes. Most Israeli wines and brandies are produced kosher for Passover the year around, for simplicity’s sake. But some liqueurs may not be Pesach friendly, so, again, label reading is a must.

A perennial question is whether one can use ordinary alcohol based perfumes, aftershaves and other scents, which might contain grain alcohol. There are two distinct schools of thought on this subject. The stricter school says that only approved for Passover cosmetics of any type may be used. The more lenient school holds that since these products are inedible, the source of the alcohol does not matter. Anything “not fit for a dog to eat” is classed as an inedible. Both views are valid ones.

XI. Conclusion

In the end, Passover is purely a personal experience. For some it is a game, as exemplified by the search for leaven, a favorite of children, which takes place the evening before the seder. For others, it is a dreaded chore. And others have long since given up preparing for it so elaborately. What I’ve presented here are, for the most part, the strictest requirements of Jewish law. Many people go way beyond these requirements, others are more selective. On this festival of freedom, we are free to question tradition, but just as powerful, is our freedom to enrich our lives by turning just another spring evening into a night different from all other nights.
THE SALE OF CHAMETZ

Halacha requests no Jew own any chametz after 11:28 a.m. on Wednesday, April 8, 2020. Rabbi Hausman is authorized to prepare a bill of sale, and arrange for the transfer of ownership of your chametz to a non-Jew. Members of ATC may arrange to appoint Rabbi Hausman as their agent to sell their chametz after daily minyan or at any other mutually arranged time. You may mail the following contract making sure that it reaches the synagogue office no later than Tuesday, April 7, 2020, at 2 p.m.

Please detach and return to Rabbi Jonathan Hausman
Ahavath Torah Congregation, 1179 Central Street, Stoughton, MA 02072

Contract for Authorization to Sell Chametz

I/we understand that Rabbi Hausman is willing to act as my agent for the sale of any chametz which I shall still have in my possession by Wednesday April 8, 2020. Rabbi Hausman is authorized to sell such chametz to a non-Jew of his choosing, and the buyer has free access to the chametz acquired by him.

I/we hereby authorize Rabbi Hausman to sell my/our chametz, which is in my/our possession, knowingly or unknowingly, or at my address (please print clearly):

Name _______________________________________________________
Signature ____________________________________________________
Address _____________________________________________________

Rabbi Hausman is fully authorized to sell, lease, dispose of and conduct all transactions that he deems fit and proper in accordance with Torah and rabbinic regulations and in conformity with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. I/we undertake to store these items under lock and key and NOT to make use of them, or the places in which they are stored, during the Pesach period. I/we understand it is customary to make a donation to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund at this time. I/we understand that this donation is not obligatory. Donations are used for the local Maot Chittim Fund.

If possible, please itemize your chametz possessions. Please include the contents of your liquor cabinet. You may list the closets in which your chametz has been placed. You may make this listing on the back of this contract.
A Taste of Passover
ATC’s Pre-Passover Cooking Demonstration and Wine Pairing

Sunday, March 15
4 p.m. with dinner to follow
$18 for adults
No charge for school-aged children

Your Hosts: ATC members and cookbook authors Rob Yunich and Elana Milstein

Take part and learn to prepare:

Slow-roasted apricot chicken thighs
Rob’s sticky honey-glazed boneless skinless chicken breasts
Pan-roasted North Atlantic salmon with a special spice rub
Not-Your-Grandma’s matzah farfel stuffing
Yankele’s Israeli salad
Elana’s snickerdoodle cinnamon cookies

Each entree will be paired with a kosher varietal wine. Every participant is sure to have just the right wine for those special four glasses at the seder.

Contact Sabine in the ATC office to make a reservation TODAY! There is limited seating for this event. Please reserve by March 10.

Pay via cash, check, or credit card.
ATC members may pay via their monthly statement.
There will be no ticket sales at the door.
Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund

Melissa Crane, in memory of beloved grandparents, Rose and Isadore Crane
Melissa Crane, in memory of beloved aunt, Annette Crane Tobin Feldman
Melissa Crane in memory of beloved great aunt, Sarah Moishel Kreinowicz
Dottie and Joe Spivack, in memory of beloved father, Solomon Hesed
Dottie and Joe Spivack, in memory of beloved stepfather, George Kay
Donna and Rich Sandler, in memory of loving parents, Judy and Bob Gold
Donna and Rich Sandler, in memory of loving parents, Rosalyn and Hank Sandler
Marge and Allan Slotnick, in loving memory of Adam Slotnick
Arnie and Roz Goralnick, in memory of beloved father, Samuel Goralnick
Linda Rudman, in memory of beloved brother, Arnie Lipshires
Nancy Swartz, with thanks

Diane and Bob Cohn, in memory of Goodie Safer, mother of Susan Bernstein
Benita and Larry Barbell, with great thanks
Milton Crane, in memory of beloved father, Isadore Crane
Dottie and Joe Spivack, in memory of Goodie Safer, mother of Susan Bernstein
Roz Nadler, in memory of beloved father, Sidney Nadler
In honor of Millie Berman's special birthday, from her family
Susan and David Bernstein, in memory of beloved father, Myer Bernstein
Eileen and Neil Nager, in memory of Gary Rudman
Diane and Ed Thaler, in memory of beloved mother, Bella Druksman

Donations received after February 20th will be acknowledged in the next issue.

March-April Calendar (cont.)

Shabbat Rosh Hodesh/
 Tazria-Metzora

Friday, April 24
Candle lighting ...........................................7:18 PM
Kabbalat Shabbat .......................................7:30 PM
Saturday, April 25
Tefillah .........................................................9:30 AM

Shabbat Acharei Mot-Kedoshim

Friday, May 1
Candle lighting ...........................................7:26 PM
Kabbalat Shabbat .......................................7:30 PM
Saturday, May 2
Tefillah .........................................................9:30 AM
SOMETHING FOR EVERY JEWISH OCCASION!

Come by and check out our new merchandise!

ATC Sisterhood Judaica Shoppe

The Judaica Shoppe is now open by appointment. This is a great place to shop for all your bar and bat mitzvah needs as well as for gifts, holiday items, and the other beautiful things on display in the showcase in the lobby. Contact Sandy Stogel (M_Stogel0101@msn.com) or Lynne Rosenbloom for information and an appointment. Sandy is also at ATC most Tuesday mornings.
Plan to attend our March 9 Purim Megillah Reading. Of course, desserts will follow. Make this night special. Your best 1920s attire suggested, but not necessary. $10.00 per adult, no cost for children.
There were a lot of games to choose from. We played bumper pool, air hockey, and corn-hole. Good food was served. We loved the pizza. A lot of kids came. It was so much fun, and if we had more kids, it would be even more fun.

Scrip sellers:

Wendy Schulze  781-856-1409
Sheryl Asnes  781-915-4131
Helayne Magier  781-344-7566
Donations

Eleanor Gallerani, in memory of Eli Kaminsky
Joyce and Marc Goldstein, in memory of Arthur Karp
Irene and Richard Goldman, in memory of Harry Goldman
Michael Metrick, in memory of Bessie Corr
Michael Metrick
Warren and Marjorie Freshman, in memory of Alane Freshman and Samuel Freshman
Toby and Paul Barbell, in memory of Rebecca Barbell
Sheila and Israel Livingstone
Judith and Alan Litwack, in memory of Jack and Phyllis Shulman
Beverly Barbell, in memory of Rebecca Barbell
Elaine Robinson, in memory of John Lefkovith
Lee and Bonnie Policow, in memory of Hilda Policow
Paula Manburg, in memory of David Feinstein
C. Ben Lofchie, in memory of Rose Lofchie
Alan Paskind, in memory of Harry Paskind
Ron and Hinda Gorin, in memory of Goodie Safer
Richard Nadler, in memory of Sidney Nadler
Warren Keller, in memory of Evelyn Figure
Vera Burtman, in memory of Isadore Crane
Beverly Barbell, in memory of Samuel Barbell and Gertrude Goodman
Elaine Robinson, in memory of Richard Robinson
Karl and Marcia Flanzer, in memory of Nathan Flanzer
Karl and Marcia Flanzer, in memory of Goodie Safer
Laurence Perlmutter, in memory of Marion Speyer
J.K. Spindell, in memory of Hyman Kaminsky
Michael Metrick, in memory of Francine Metrick
Suzanne and Jeff Blacker, in memory of Goodie Safer
Myrna and Bob Lipsky, in memory of Our Parents
Toby and Paul Barbell, in memory of Samuel Barbell, Gertrude Goodman, and Arthur Lifritz
Harry and Beverly Levin, in memory of Max Waxman
Marsha Sadow, in memory of Rose Sadow
Marilyn and Marty Franklin, in memory of Gary Rudman
Maxine L. Bloom, in memory of Gary Rudman
Ron Shufrin
Michael Shain
Michael Metrick, in memory of Stephen Metrick
Howard Swerdlick, in memory of David Swerdlick
Annette and David Williams, in memory of Raymond Kushinsky

Donations received after February 20th will be acknowledged in the next issue.

Ta'anit Bechorot/Fast of the Firstborn - April 8

It is an ancient and widespread custom for the firstborn to fast on the day before Passover. This commemorates the miracle that spared the firstborn Jewish sons from the plague that struck down the firstborn sons of the Egyptians.

By right, this fast should be held on the anniversary of the day on which the miracle occurred: on the night of the fifteenth of Nisan. However, since the fifteenth is already Passover, and we do not fast on festival days, the fast is pushed back to the fourteenth.

There is an additional reason why we fast specifically on 14 Nisan. The firstborn of the Jews were saved in Egypt because they humbled themselves before G-d, admitting and declaring that all greatness, power, and sovereignty are His alone.

This stood in contradistinction to the Egyptians who, filled with foolish pride and egotism, declared: "I am, and besides me there is none other."

Thus, the fast of 14 Nisan commemorates the fact that the firstborn of Israel humbled themselves on that day and accepted the yoke of G-d's sovereignty. Abstention from food and drink is a sign of a heart subdued before G-d.
MONDAY NIGHT BINGO

DOORS OPEN
4:30 PM
GAMES START
6:30 PM

PROGRESSIVE JACKPOTS UP TO $3,000
DOOR PRIZES · WINNER TAKE ALL
50/50 GAMES

MEALS, DRINKS, and SNACKS ARE AVAILABLE
NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR DRINKS ALLOWED
LIKE US ON FACEBOOK AT ATC BINGO

Rosh Chodesh Shevat
February’s Rosh Chodesh gathering not only celebrated the month of Shevat, but enjoyed the fruits of Tu B’Shevat
March Yahrzeit Calendar

March 1
Herbert L Bornstein
David Feldman
Esther Norris
Irving Snetsky

March 2
Max L. Andelman
Irma Cohen
Lillian Markofsky
Pearl Pachter

March 3
Sadie Chefitz
George Fisher
Harvey Freedman
Eva Schneiderman
Morris Shultz
Julius L. Sussman
Hyman Wolf

March 4
Gloria Bromberg
Robert Griffing
Louis Silverman
Samuel Steinberg

March 5
Coleman Goldstein
Marvin Steingart
Thea Winter

March 6
Hyman Frank

March 7
Arnold Warshauer

March 8
Raymond Gootzit
Ruth S. Gootzit
Arlene Kamin
Lina Nogin

March 9
Bonnie Gertrude
Goldowsky
Rose Ruderman

March 10
Jeffrey Evenson
Fay Goldstein

March 11
Helen Altman
Minnie Davis
Celia Friedman
Saul Parker

March 12
Sylvia Close
Joseph Meltzer

March 13
Constance Bernstein
Ruth Bornstein
George Bress
Ethel Carlin
William Goldstein

March 14
Eleanor Azerrad
Isaac Cohen
Mary Halpern
Leon Rudman
Irving Spivack
Oscar Thaler

March 15
Frances Opper

March 16
Sarah Denbo
Daniel Lipsky
Marilyn Selby
Rose Silverman

March 17
Jacob Goldstein
Stephen Metrick
Lawrence Shifman
Rachel Singer

March 18
Spencer Cox

March 19
Jeanette Berman
Aron Fisher
Louis Rosenberg
Sarah Spivack
Frank Stacey

March 20
Mary Chandler
Martha Fogel
Abraham Harfield
Nathan Kramer
Elizabeth Lipman

March 21
Blanche Drobnis
Dora Smith

March 22
Charles Pearlstein
Richard Barry Wallace
Lt. Bernard Wilensky

March 23
Louis Rostoff

March 24
Donald Mark Berkovitz
Sally Lemkin
Jacob Lipsky
William Lipson
Sheldon Murray Moonay
Samuel Slotnick
Martin Stroll

March 25
Deborah Jane Gould
Alex Kostick
Martin Lerner
Paul E. Policow
Albert Rosen

March 26
David Weiner

March 27
Irv Dembling
Morris Heller
Mary Zeidman

March 28
Sylvia Kandler
George Litwack
Howard Weinstein

March 29
Fannie Adleman
Milton Bailet
Steven Slotnick

March 30
June Dulman
Lillian Figure
Sam Komrower

March 31
Solomon Franklin
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<tr>
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Board of Directors Meetings:

Wednesday, March 11, at 7:30 PM
Tuesday, April 14, at 7:30 PM