



# Hillcrest

## JEWISH CENTER BULLETIN



Vol. 86, No. 7

12 Adar 5786

March 1, 2026

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Shortly we will begin a season of renewal, buds will sprout and nature will be reawakened after a bitter cold winter. This month, here at Hillcrest Jewish Center, we will transition between the joyous world of Purim and the preparation for Passover. There will be high energy in our sanctuary as we are reminded of Queen Esther's courage to save her people. The Talmud states, "When Adar comes joy is increased..." (Ta'anit 29a). There is so much joy that our community shares!

This year the HJC leadership enabled our community to *come together* and connect in so many ways. In preparation for the High Holy Days, the Hillcrest Anderman Lecture Fund presented a featured program with guest speaker Rabbi Shai Held, author of *Judaism Is About Love, and So Is Repentance*. (Further insight was gained in two pre/post sessions led by our member, Elaine Soffer.) Under the guidance of Rabbi Kogan and the spirited davening of Cantor Rachel, we held two successful congregational Kabb Shabbat Friday night services and dinners and the Hanukkah Havdalah with attendance beyond our expectations. We will once again break bread together at our annual Shabbat Across America service and dinner on March 13th.

Under the leadership of Cantor Rachel, Youth and Family has grown in numbers and in programming. Our youth and teens share monthly Shabbat dinners together, attend bi-monthly services, learn together at our monthly teen group, and perform acts of Chesed. One such act of Chesed at Thanksgiving was to assemble and bring innovative Shabbat-in-a-Box packages to our homebound members in memory of longtime member, Shirley Domber. At our January Shabbat Shir Chadash dinner, the Y&F youth and teens thanked the congregation for investing in the next generation.

New classes and programs abound – check out our website for our updated *continued on page 2*

### SHABBAT AND HOLIDAY SERVICES

#### Monday, March 2 – Fast of Esther – Erev Purim

Fast begins .....	5:03 A.M.
Morning Service.....	7:00 A.M.
Mincha - Torah: Exodus 32:11-14, 34:1-10, Haftarah: Isaiah 55:6-56:8	5:30 P.M.
Fast ends .....	6:16 P.M.
Maariv .....	6:30 P.M.
Megillah Reading and Purim Celebration (see page 2).....	7:00 P.M.

#### Tuesday, March 3 – Purim

Morning Services – Torah Reading: Exodus 17:8-16 .....	7:00 A.M.
Megillah Reading followed by breakfast .....	8:00 A.M.
Maariv .....	7:00 P.M.

#### Friday, March 6

Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat/Maariv.....	5:30 P.M.
Candle Lighting.....	5:35 P.M.

#### Saturday, March 7 – Ki Tissa – Shabbat Parah

Torah Reading: Exodus 30:11-34:35, Numbers 19:1-22	9:00 A.M.
Haftarah: Ezekiel 36:16-38	
Kindershul and Junior Congregation.....	10:30 A.M.
Mincha.....	5:15 P.M.
Shiur/Snacks .....	5:45 P.M.
Maariv .....	6:15 P.M.
Shabbat ends .....	6:34 P.M.

*Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 8. Turn clocks ahead one hour.*

#### Friday, March 13 – Shabbat Across America – Shabbat Dinner

Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat/Maariv.....	6:00 P.M.
Candle Lighting.....	6:42 P.M.

#### Saturday, March 14 – Vayakhel-Pekudei – Shabbat HaChodesh

Birkat HaChodesh .....	9:00 A.M.
Torah Reading: Exodus 35:1-40:38, Exodus 12:1-20	
Haftarah: Ezekiel 45:16-46:18	

We welcome the new month Nisan – Rosh Chodesh is Thursday, March 19

Mincha.....	6:15 P.M.
Shiur/Third Meal .....	6:45 P.M.
Maariv .....	7:30 P.M.
Shabbat ends .....	7:42 P.M.

#### Friday, March 20

Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat/Maariv.....	6:00 P.M.
Candle Lighting.....	6:50 P.M.

#### Saturday, March 21 – Vayikra

Torah Reading: Leviticus 1:1-5:26 Haftarah: Isaiah 43:21-44:23	9:00 A.M.
Kindershul and Teen Minyan.....	10:30 A.M.
Mincha.....	6:15 P.M.
Shiur/Third Meal.....	6:45 P.M.
Maariv .....	7:30 P.M.
Shabbat ends .....	7:50 P.M.

*schedule continued on page 4*

Manes Kogan ..... *Rabbi*  
 Rachel Black ..... *Cantor*

Helene Jacob ..... *President*  
 Karen Rothman ..... *Sisterhood President*  
 Martin Guttman ..... *Men's Club President*  
 Esther Tokarz ..... *Youth/Family President*  
 Nadine Kochavi ..... *Executive Director*  
 Joan Hausmann ..... *Managing Editor*  
 Contact HJC Office.... *Bulletin Advertising*

Dr. Israel Mowshowitz ..... *Rabbi Emeritus*  
 Moti Fuchs ..... *Cantor Emeritus*

Hillcrest Jewish Center  
 183-02 Union Turnpike  
 Flushing, NY 11366-1623

Affiliated with

United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

Hillcrest on the Web

[www.HillcrestJC.org](http://www.HillcrestJC.org)

Phone (718) 380-4145 Fax (718) 380-4665

E-mail: [info@hillcrestjc.org](mailto:info@hillcrestjc.org)

## CENTER FAMILY

### Condolences to:

Paul Gershon on the passing of his sister Judith Kaufer.

May the family be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

### March Milestone Anniversaries:

Carol & David Zolondek (55)

Eva & Leonard Zimmerman (50)

**Family- Friendly  
 PURIM PARTY  
 with Cantor Rachel**  
 for HJC children and their families

**MONDAY  
 MARCH 2 – 5:30 PM**

Magician  
 Pizza and Snacks  
 Costume Parade...and more!

**RSVP REQUIRED**

Sponsored by the  
 Edith & Aaron Goldberg Fund  
 for Youth and College Activities

**PURIM CELEBRATION  
 7:00 PM**

Megillah Reading  
 Purim Costume Party  
 Delicious Purim Treats  
*Everyone is invited!*

**Tuesday, March 3 at 7:00 AM**  
 Megillah reading, morning  
 service and a festive breakfast  
**RSVP to HJC office**

## From Rabbi Kogan

Dear Friends of Hillcrest Jewish Center,

Sherry Reinsner shared with me a column in *The Commentator*, written by Yechiel Amar, a Yeshiva University student (You can find his column by searching online: “But We Did Not Speak Up” + “Yechiel Amar”).

The article decries President Trump’s anti-immigration policies, in which, “...the DHS has engaged in a cruel and ruthless campaign to capture and deport as many people as they can in whatever way they can. They arrest parents picking up their children from schools, lay in wait at courts for people coming out of mandated immigration appointments, and illegally raid homes without a warrant. Their victims are then detained in gulag-like centers — and they can be moved to new locations in such a manner that they effectively disappear in the system.” Yechiel Amar points out the similarities between some of these to those perpetrated towards the Jews, before and during the Shoah.

His column was addressed to the Orthodox community, but I felt he was talking to me: “Why does the American Orthodox Jewish community not decry this injustice? Why is it ignored? What benefit is gained by our silence? Is it because the Trump administration bends slightly more towards our community’s favor on certain issues, and we are willing to sacrifice America’s vulnerable for its promise of security for Israel?”

While reading the column (too long to be quoted here but worth reading in its entirety), I realized that I have been, at least until today, part of the silent majority of Jews who didn’t speak up against President Trump’s policies and actions on immigration.

In the past, I had said to myself, that because many of the organizations that oppose the policies of the Trump administration are also antisemitic, I didn’t want to give them ammunition by criticizing the administration’s policies and actions.

Yechiel Amar’s column changed my perspective. While reading it, I concluded that I can, and should, be critical of the immoral policies and actions of my President, even if my president is “good for the Jews.”

I do find the ICE methods, including the fatal shootings of Renée Good and Alex Pretti in Minneapolis deplorable, and I do hope that a thorough and independent investigation will take place. While I do believe in regulating immigration, I also believe in fairness and in compassion. Moreover, I am appalled by the debased and degraded discourse that is taking place in our country, coming from the left and from the right, from the administration, and from the opposition, from the old and new antisemites, as well as from those who support Israel and Jewish values as I do.

What can I do about it? What am I planning to do about it? To begin with, I am sharing with you my thoughts and my feelings. I don’t write or speak very often on political topics, but I concluded, not unlike Yechiel Amar, that my silence was speaking as well.

Second, I am embracing the complexity of our world, our country, the State of Israel, and the nature of human beings. Things are what they are, not what I want them to be. I wish I was proud of every policy of my President, and the State of Israel. I am not. And I don’t have to be. I can love my country and protect it, and I can love the State of Israel and defend it, without lending my seal of approval to each of their policies, especially to the policies I consider immoral and wrong.

Lastly, I am inviting all of us to rededicate ourselves to the ideals of truth, love, justice, fairness, and compassion. Remember what we once were, who we are, and what we stand for. Hoping for better days ahead....

*Rabbi Manes Kogan*

## President *continued from page 1*

Winter/Spring guide, *What’s Happening at HJC?*

In 2026, addressing issues triggered by the continuing rise of antisemitism is a high priority. Our staff and leadership, together with our security personnel, work hard to enhance our safety by keeping our protection systems up-to-date and operational at all times.

We are all aware of rising costs and the importance of building a resilient future. The success of this year’s Kol Nidre Campaign belongs to each of YOU! You heard the call and responded. Todah Rabah!

I would be remiss if I did not thank our clergy, staff, officers, trustees, committee chairs, and volunteers, who make Hillcrest Jewish Center a second home for many. Two well-deserved volunteers are being recognized at this year’s Israel Bond Breakfast on March 15 - Iris Schachter and Esther Tokarz. Join us to support the event!

As we prepare for Passover – our festival of freedom – I am reminded of our commitment to *come together* this year. Our communal first-night Seder is open to all. If you are hosting a Seder this year, perhaps you can find one more place at your table. Let us enter this much anticipated spring season with hearts open, ready to support one another and celebrate our shared traditions. Wishing you and your loved ones a joyful and meaningful Pesach.

B’Shalom, *Helene Jacob, President*

**HJC MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

The next HJC **General Membership Meeting** will take place on Sunday, March 1st at 10:00 AM, in person and online. A light bagel breakfast will be served.

Members are required to register by Thursday, February 26th, the latest for in-person and online Zoom attendance. After registering for online attendance, you will receive a confirmation email from Zoom containing the information about joining the meeting. Please note that all online participants will be muted. Submit your questions in advance by emailing [info@hillcrestjc.org](mailto:info@hillcrestjc.org) or by calling the office at 718-380-4145. You may also send questions through the Zoom chat during the meeting.

The agenda will include:

- President's Welcome
- Treasurer's Report
- Year-to-date Budget Review
- Dues for April 1, 2026-March 31, 2027
- 2026 Election of Officers and Members of the Board of Trustees
- Security Assessment
- Update on the Sale of the Building
- Report from the Executive Director
- Recognizing Volunteers
- Upcoming events
- Question/Answer

*Helene Jacob, President*

**From Cantor Rachel**

**Do You Feel Engaged?**

So, your Cantor is also a Director of Engagement, but what exactly does it mean? Seven months into my dual role, I am diving deep into my understanding and exploration of the term "engagement." Of the many uses of the verb "to engage," two particular definitions resonate with me: "To induce to participate" and "to bring together." If I had to craft my own personal mission statement, it might read something like this: "to serve those of our membership who are not otherwise served, through the love of music and deep respect of the Jewish tradition." In other words, no Jew left behind! If there is any way in which you may have felt unseen before, your congregation wants to see you now. Our community is diverse, dynamic, and haimish. What unites us are common values of chesed, ruach, and community. Through the universal language of music and our cross-generational traditions, we can exist together as one community.

In January, we celebrated our second Shabbat Shir Chadash and dinner, in honor of Shabbat Shirah and the parashah of Beshallah. Despite the bitter cold,

snow-banked cars, and a very early start time, we again had nearly 100 attendees over the course of the evening. We sang melodies, new and old, enjoyed musical instruments before sunset, lit Shabbat candles together, davened, shared a wonderful meal, and even broke out into dancing after dinner. What I noticed was an increase in participation: in our voices, in our attendance, in our actions, and in our spiritual selves. I am seeing your quiet reflection during our moment for meditation. I am delighted when we have too many volunteers to serve the food! I enjoy seeing each other's faces for Kabb Shabb in-the-round. I am incredibly proud of our youngsters who performed with us with such poise and talent. The continued goal is to offer an entryway to Jewish observance, whether it be through community, music, food, dancing, ritual, or scarf dancing.

Last Thanksgiving, Youth and Family came together to assemble and deliver Shabbat boxes to those members who we miss at in-person services. In March, we will be sending digital gifts to our young adults away at college, in loving memory of Manny Kanro. Whether you are homebound, away at college, an overwhelmed parent, a navigator of a life transition, or a regular who seeks a deeper connection, I see you. If you feel "engaged," please share it with me! If you have an idea for how you might feel more engaged, schedule a 1:1 session with me so we can talk. Most importantly, I hope you'll join me in both strengthening and celebrating our precious community.

*Cantor Rachel*

**SHABBAT AND HOLIDAY SERVICES**

**Friday, March 27 – last day Delegation of Authority Sale of Chametz to office**

Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat/Maariv ..... 6:30 P.M.  
Candle Lighting..... 6:57 P.M.

**Saturday, March 28 –Tzav – Shabbat Hagadol..... 9:00 A.M.**

Torah Reading: Leviticus 6:1-8:36 Haftarah: Malachi 3:4-24

Junior Congregation ..... 10:30 A.M.  
Mincha ..... 6:30 P.M.  
Shiur/Third Meal ..... 7:00 P.M.  
Maariv..... 7:45 P.M.  
Shabbat ends ..... 7:57 P.M.

**Tuesday, March 31 - Bedikat Chametz, Search for Chametz in evening**

**Wednesday, April 1 – Siyum – Fast of the First Born (Erev Pesach)..... 7:00 A.M.**

The fast applies to the first born of either a mother or father. It is customary, after Shacharit, to have a Siyum, completion of study of a tractate of rabbinic literature. A "Seudat Mitzvah" follows after which all first born may eat.

**Stop eating Chametz by 10:51 A.M.**

**Sell and Burn Chametz before 11:55 A.M.**

Mincha/Maariv ..... 6:30 P.M.  
Candle Lighting (Pesach starts)..... 7:03 P.M.  
Community Seder by reservation only..... 7:15 P.M.

**Thursday, April 2 – First Day of Pesach – Second Seder at night..... 9:00 A.M.**

Torah Reading: Exodus 12:21-51, Numbers 28:16-25

Haftarah: Joshua 3:5-7, 5:2-6:1, 6:27

Mincha/Maariv ..... 7:00 P.M.  
Light candles from pre-existing flame ..... after 8:03 P.M.  
**Second Seder at Home**

**Friday, April 3 – Second Day of Pesach..... 9:00 A.M.**

Torah Reading: Leviticus 22:26-23:44, Numbers 28:16-25

Haftarah: 2 Kings 23:1-9, 21:25

Mincha..... 6:45 P.M.  
Kabbalat Shabbat/Maariv..... 7:00 P.M.  
Light Shabbat candles from pre-existing flame ..... 7:05 P.M.  
Second Day Pesach ends and Shabbat begins ..... 7:05 P.M.

**REPORT FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

*Shalom everyone. Here are some highlights from our January meeting:*

We continued our work to build a board vision using a PACT activity to develop our goals. The nominating committee was formed for our new year beginning in April 2026. There are 4 board members and 4 members-at-large who will serve on the committee. The slate will be proposed at our March 1 general meeting.

**Executive Committee Report:** The Havdalukah celebration included 120 people and was a huge success.

*continued on page 5*

**Adult Education Committee**  
presents  
**DR. PAUL ENGEL DHL, LCSW**  
**The World of the Cult**  
**SUNDAY, MARCH 22**



How can millions of people, many of whom are well-educated, find themselves willing to sacrifice family, friends, and careers, and follow anyone, particularly a leader of a destructive cult?

Dr. Paul Engel, as one who found himself inside a cult, will share both his personal and professional experiences over the past fifty plus years in relation to the myths and realities of the cultic experience, to dystopias described in books such as *1984*, as well as coercive control and the resulting relational trauma that is so pervasive in our culture.

Dr. Engel is Executive Director of the Flushing Jewish Community Council where he oversees operations and grant-run programs, such as a food pantry and QLICS (Queens Long Island Counseling Services) counseling program.

A light breakfast will be served at 10:00 am, followed by Dr. Engel's presentation at 10:30 am.

Please RSVP to the Hillcrest office (718-380-4145). This event is free for Hillcrest Jewish members. The fee for non-members is \$5. *Sherry Reisner*

### SISTERHOOD

When the Sisterhood Program Committee schedules our yearly programs, we always think of the months in which we are scheduling them. During the winter we provide programs that can easily be cancelled or postponed due to weather conditions. That is just what happened with Men's Club and Sisterhood's "When in Rome" with Rabbi Kogan. We are sorry for any inconvenience that the postponed program may have caused, but our primary concern is the safety of our membership.

On Monday afternoon, March 9th, our program will be *Purim Shpiel*. This is a lively retelling of the Purim story. Share with us a fun and spirited Purim Shpiel performed by our very own Hillcrest

Jewish Center members. Snacks will be provided. This program is free and open to all Hillcrest Jewish Center members. Please fill out the tear-off registration form and leave it in the Sisterhood mailbox in the office.

Sisterhood has made a donation to LEKET – The National Food Bank of Israel – in honor of Purim.

Congratulations to Ilan Kogan and Sara Merkin on their upcoming wedding.

Sisterhood congratulates Iris Schachter and Esther Tokarz as honorees at the Israel Bond Breakfast.

Congratulations to Connie Solomon, one of our Sisterhood Stitchers, on becoming a great-grandmother.

*Happy Purim.*

*Karen Rothman, Sisterhood President*

### WORLD WIDE WRAP – SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8



**Not bad for a 5 degree morning!**

### MEN'S CLUB

GOOGLE suggests there could be over 1,500 different musical instruments in the world – strings, woodwinds, brass, percussion and keyboard, including both traditional cultural instruments and modern electronic ones. May 17th is Men's Club's targeted date for an extravaganza talent event showcasing the musical talents of our Hillcrest Jewish Center family. Response for this event thus far is most encouraging. Anyone out there interested in showcasing his or her instrumental and/or vocal aptitude, please contact HJC member Ronald Moskowitz at [rmbm@att.net](mailto:rmbm@att.net), or if by phone, 917-217-3682. Further information is forthcoming via flyer, email, texts, phone and Shabbat Service announcements.

On February 8th, World Wide Wrap, sponsored by Men's Club, was sparsely attended due to the severe snow, wind and cold. The brave 20 or so troubadours who did attend were treated post-service to a scrumptious and warming bagel-and-shmear breakfast, juice, coffee, tea and dessert in the Morejda Auditorium. Rabbi Kogan's report to the Congregation on his recent conference trip to Rome, Italy and meeting with Pope Leo, will be rescheduled to a later date due to the weather on February 1st.

Get your RSVPs in for Men's Club's annual fishing trip off Captree State Park, Long Island scheduled for Sunday, June 28th. This will be an opportunity for late risers to join us for an afternoon event. Stay tuned for updated information soon. Please address any questions or suggestions for this outing to Steve Zellman, [sandszell@verizon.net](mailto:sandszell@verizon.net).

Questions, comments or suggestions on Men's Club in general? Contact President Marty Guttman at [mppguttman@gmail.com](mailto:mppguttman@gmail.com).

Spring and summer are just around the corner. I can't wait!!

*Joel Berkowitz, Men's Club Co-VP, [joelberkowitz50@gmail.com](mailto:joelberkowitz50@gmail.com)*

### Pre-Pesach Mindful Meditation – Wednesday, March 25

led by Mark Solkoff

Get ready for the holiday with a mindful meditation that will prepare you for Passover through breathing and song. Passover prep can be daunting, and you deserve a chance to refocus your energy in a calm and uplifting environment. No previous experience is necessary, just bring a positive attitude and a willingness to pause and take a breath. The program will last approximately 30-45 minutes. It will be immediately following the 7:00 pm minyan in the Sanctuary. **Registration is mandatory and must be received before Monday, March 23.** Go to <https://tinyurl.com/HJCMeditation> or contact the office.

**Board of Trustees***continued from page 3***Executive Committee Report:**

Our Kol Nidre Campaign has brought in over \$224,000 to help the shul continue to thrive. Thanks to all who contributed.

The TV screen in the upper Moreida has been reactivated with a slide show of HJC presidents. We are asking presidents post 2013 to provide pictures so the slide show can be updated.

Our next Kabb Shabb will be on Shabbat Shira, January 30. It will begin rather early so that we can have musicians playing before Shabbat starts.

**Executive Director's Report:**

Building repairs and maintenance were discussed. Gates in the backyard must be replaced. There is an issue with the Mack Boiler. The Cantor's office was updated.

**Sisterhood Report:**

Sisterhood and Men's Club will hold a joint program during which the Rabbi will speak of his recent trip to Rome on Feb 1st. There will be a game afternoon on February 9th.

**Men's Club Report:**

Feb 8th will be the World Wide Wrap. We are planning an open mic/talent show/karaoke event with Cantor Rachel. Our annual Fishing trip will take place in June.

**Youth and Family Report:**

There will be a dinner on Shabbat Shira. Teen keshet will take place on Feb 8th. We are going to a hockey game on Feb 22nd.

**Old Business:**

Review of security procedures. We are asking people to cooperate and be respectful of the security staff.

Shabbat Greeters has been going well but we need more people to volunteer.

The Cantor's Installation Concert will take place on April 26 from 3-5 PM. A collation will follow. Flyers and invitations will go out soon.

Please make sure to RSVP to all events in a timely manner so that we can plan security and food properly.

**New Business:**

There was a discussion about planned giving (putting Hillcrest in your will).

There was a request by a non-member to rent the Moreida for a student performance. The board suggested a fee structure and approved the request.

**Good and Welfare:**

Our condolences to Frank Diaz on the loss of his mother Linda McCue. Mazal tov to Rabbi Manes and Silvia Kogan on the marriage of Abby to Yoni.

*Mark Solkoff*

**SHABBAT ACROSS AMERICA**  
**New Member Appreciation Shabbat**  
**Friday, March 13**  
**Services at 6:00 PM – Dinner at 7:00 PM**  
**Special Youth Services at 6:00 PM**

*Join Hillcrest along with 700 synagogues across the continent to celebrate Shabbat together*

**THIS EVENT IS FREE FOR NEW MEMBERS WHO JOINED MARCH 2025-FEBRUARY 2026**

**ADULTS through March 5: \$36 members - \$42 non-members**  
**After March 5, call the office for availability:**  
**\$45 members - \$50 non-members**

**CHILDREN & TEENS (0-18) – Members Free**  
*Sponsored by the Edith & Aaron Goldberg Fund for Youth and College Activities*

**\$21 non-members (teens 13-18) Free non-members (children 0-12)**

Sponsorships \$78 \$90 includes 1 Dinner \$180 includes 2 dinners

The form is available in the Daily Digest and the weekly Shabbat Shalom  
 The form must be returned with payment by **March 5**

**ISRAEL BONDS BREAKFAST****March 15 – 10:00 AM***honoring***IRIS SCHACHTER and ESTHER TOKARZ**

**GUEST SPEAKER SAM FRIED**  
**IDF Paratrooper & Activist**

An Israel bond purchase is encouraged.

Bonds can be purchased with personal check or online at [Israelbonds.com](http://Israelbonds.com)  
[arnie.schweitzer@israelbonds.com](mailto:arnie.schweitzer@israelbonds.com) 516-726-2307

**RSVP TO BREAKFAST IS REQUIRED****YOM HASHOAH 2026**

Our Yom Hashoah program, taking place on the evening of Monday, April 13th, will include a special presentation by Laura and Karen Leon, daughters of Holocaust survivor and internationally renowned columnist Masha Leon. She and her mother received life-saving transit visas from Japanese diplomat Chiune Sugihara, who was stationed in Kaunas, Lithuania in 1940. Sugihara's courageous mission saved over 3,000 Jewish lives, by making it possible to find safety in Japan. Included in this presentation will be the piano piece, "Masha's Arigato: Warsaw to Japan (1939-1941)."

*Carol Greenberg*

## FIRST NIGHT OF PASSOVER COMMUNITY SEDER

**Wednesday, April 1**

**Services at 6:30 PM - Seder at 7:15 PM**

Join us for a joyful and meaningful Community Seder

led by

**Rabbi Manes Kogan and Cantor Rachel Black**

### MEMBERS

**\$72 per person**

**\$36 per child (ages 5-12)**

### NON-MEMBERS

**\$95 per person**

**\$47.50 per child (ages 5-12)**

**Free for children under 5**

***SPACE IS LIMITED – PLEASE RESERVE EARLY***

**SORRY, NO REFUNDS**

***RESERVE YOUR SEAT BY MARCH 18***

## SYNAGOGUE OFFERINGS

*As a member-in-good-standing, you may phone the office with your donation and the amount will appear on your next HJC bill.*

### Reminder

There is a \$25 minimum donation required for the listing to be printed in the Bulletin (one name per yearzeit listing).

### General Fund:

Tina Schnell wishes Mazal Tov to Rabbi Kogan and Silvia on the marriage of Abby to Yoni Bierig.

Elaine Soffer & Richard Kass wish Mazal Tov to the Kogan family on the marriage of Abby to Yoni.

Sela & Steve Zellman extend Mazal Tov and happy birthday to Bertha Strauss on her 90th birthday.

Jane Fuerst-Marco wishes Mazal Tov to Rabbi and Silvia Kogan on the marriage of their daughter Abby to Yoni Bierig.

Drs. Bobbi & Barry Coller in honor of Mimi & Ed Coller.

Betty Kaplan and daughters wish Mazal Tov to the Kogan family on the marriage of Abby & Yoni.

Bertha Strauss in honor of the marriage of Abby Kogan to Yoni Bierig.

Bertha Strauss thanks Sisterhood for the leaf in her honor.

Bertha Strauss thanks everyone who contributed to her Simcha Tree leaf in her honor.

Susan & Ralph Straus wish Happy Birthday to Sela & Steve Zellman on their special birthdays.

Susan & Ralph Straus wish happy special birthday to the Reisners.

Nora Kozuch and Louis Kleiman wish Mazal Tov to Abby & Yoni on their marriage, and also to the Kogan family.

Joel Berkowitz in honor of Mark Rothstein's complete recovery from recent surgery.

Susan Duze for yearzeit of husband Lawrence Duze.

Susan & Paul Diamond in memory of Frances Hury, beloved sister of Sela Zellman.

Larry Schonfeld for yearzeit of mother Esther Schonfeld.

Iris Schachter for yearzeit of husband Harvey Schachter.

Gail Keren for yearzeit of beloved mother Blanche Friedman.

Elaine Soffer & Richard Kass send condolences to Sela Zellman on the passing of her sister Frances.

Regenstreif family for yearzeit of beloved mother and grandmother Jeannette

## RECENT SIMCHA TREE LEAVES

Our Simcha Tree is growing, and we have been remiss in not listing the following ones in our Bulletin.

Cheryl & Richard Meyer in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Benjamin Meyer, September 6, 2025

Sisterhood and Men's Club honor Helene Jacob

BQLI Women of Achievement 2025 for her commitment to Hillcrest and Sisterhood

Helene Jacob BQLI Woman of Achievement in honor of her outstanding commitment and service to Hillcrest

In honor of Bertha Strauss Holocaust Survivor

for her courage, wisdom, and dedication to sharing her story

Roberta & Leslie Sufirin in honor of their beautiful granddaughter's Bat Mitzvah – Alexa Hannah Solomon – May 11, 2024

Kenny, Amy, Danny, Rachel, Ilana, Jacob in honor of our Tata, Bertha Strauss

All funds collected through our Simcha Tree are allocated to the Hillcrest Jewish Center Capital Improvement Fund which helps sustain the structural needs of our beloved synagogue.

The cost of a leaf is \$360. You can also begin a group leaf with a minimum pledge of \$25. Each donor should contact the office to add their pledge. Once \$360 has been pledged, the leaf will be ordered. The leaf will be announced in the Bulletin following its mounting,

**General Fund***continued from page 6*

Susan Stolov & Howard Weiss in memory of Sol Karsch.

Kathy & Gerry Lewis send condolences to Sela Zellman on the passing of her sister Frances Hury.

Kathy & Gerry Lewis send condolences to Michael Brofman on the passing of his father Howard Brofman.

Richard Meyer for yearzeit of father Louis Meyer.

Zane Tenenbaum for yearzeit of father David Tenenbaum.

Zane Tenenbaum for yearzeit of wife Sima Tenenbaum.

Susan Varga for yearzeit of mother Mina Srebrolow.

Lisa and Ellen Hochstein for yearzeit of mother Sarah Hochstein.

Elaine Soffer for yearzeit of mother Norma Soffer.

Marcella Miron for yearzeit of mother-in-law Pauline Miron.

Marcella Miron for yearzeit of mother Etta Kessler.

Marcella Miron for yearzeit of husband Herbert Miron.

Myra Feder for yearzeit of daughter Carey Feder-Pek.

Myra Feder for yearzeit of mother Mae Anderman.

Eva Zimmerman for yearzeit of mother Betty Greenberg.

Len Zimmerman for yearzeit of father Benjamin Zimmerman.

Miriam Feldman for yearzeit of father William Feldman.

Priscilla Nathanson for yearzeit of mother-in-law Mary Nathanson.

Priscilla Nathanson for yearzeit of father Bernard Harris.

Larry Schonfeld for yearzeit of father William Schonfeld.

Michael Silver for yearzeit of mother Florence Silver.

Carol Zolondek for yearzeit of mother Celia Fish.

Toby Wind for yearzeit of mother Edith Morris.

Ira Lilien for yearzeit of father Sidney Lilien.

Hariette Wittenberg Saturn for yearzeit of grandmother Bertha Essig.

Arlene Goodman for yearzeit of grandmother Anna Lubin.

Arlene Goodman for yearzeit of grandmother Eve Liebowitz.

Michael Goodman for yearzeit of father Lennard Goodman.

Steven Rosenhaus for yearzeit of father Lawrence Rosenhaus.

Paula Schoen for yearzeit of aunt Frieda Steinberger.

Paula Schoen for yearzeit of cousin Sue Oremland.

Paula Schoen for yearzeit of uncle Bruce Powers.

Richard Morris for yearzeit of mother Edith Morris.

Beth Ritter for yearzeit of beloved grandfather Herman Zuckerman.

Beth Ritter for yearzeit of grandmother Ida Zuckerman, from whom she learned to love shul.

Elaine Soffer & Richard Kass in memory of Howard Brofman, beloved father of Michael.

Phyllis Rosenthal in memory of Judith Kaufer, sister of Paul Gershon.

Ruth Rosenhaus thanks the HJC community for their kindness on the passing of her mother Stella Schaffer Kluger.

Tiffany and Craig in memory of Sol Karsch.

Mark Solkoff for yearzeit of aunt Helen Goldberg.

Debbie Solkoff for yearzeit of father Victor Allen Rubenstein.

Joel Berkowitz for yearzeit of sister Marcia Berkowitz Bunze.

Norman Mickenberg for yearzeit of beloved wife Betsy Mickenberg.

Stephen Liebman for yearzeit of mother Elaine Liebman.

Joan Hausmann in memory of niece Elise Raphael.

Susan & Cliff Hamburger in memory of Sela Zellman's sister Frances Hury.

Susan Hamburger for yearzeit of beloved grandmother Rebecca Gainer.

Susan Hamburger for yearzeit of beloved sister Candee Plotkin.

Gwen Jones-Cintron in memory of grandmother Bea Schmutter.

Abby Belson for yearzeit of mother Mollie Avin, Malke Ruchel bat Shlomo haCohen.

Betty Kaplan in memory of brother-in-law Eli Greenberg.

Michael Cantor for yearzeit of grandmother Ida Cantor.

Michael Cantor for yearzeit of grandfather Simon Cantor.

David Mack in memory of mother Ruth Mack.

Sam Bahn for yearzeit of father Coleman T. Bahn.

Esther Tokarz for yearzeit of father Harvey Schachter.

Nora Kozuch for yearzeit of mother Ruth Rebecca Kushner.

Jared Rifkin in loving memory of father Samuel Rifkin upon his yearzeit.

Jacob Schraeter for yearzeit of mother Chaya Sara Schraeter.

Nitza Schraeter for yearzeit of father Elisha Turner.

Gary Darche for yearzeit of brother Al Darche.

Ellen Buchbinder-Berman for yearzeit of grandmother Mary Silberstein.

**Rabbi's Discretionary Fund:**

Dina Yakar in honor of the weddings of Ilan and Abby with Mazal Tov to the Surazski and Kogan families.

Judith & Marty Guttman wish Mazal Tov to Rabbi & Silvia Kogan on the marriage of Abby to Yoni.

Eleonora & Dmitriy Kogan and family wish Mazal Tov to Abby and Yoni on their wedding.

Joel Berkowitz in honor of the marriage of Rabbi & Silvia Kogan's daughter Abby to Yoni Bierig.

Lillian & Joe Krochak wish Mazal Tov to Silvia & Rabbi Kogan on the marriages of Abby to Yoni and Ilan to Sara.

Sheila Chustek wishes Mazal Tov to Rabbi & Silvia Kogan in honor of Ilan's aufruf and Ilan's forthcoming marriage to Sara Merkin.

The Steven Bacharach family thanks Rabbi Kogan for his call of concern and well wishes for Steven and family.

Susan & Ralph Straus thank the Rabbi for the prayer he did for Ralph's father.

Marcia & Henry Rabinowitz offer deep condolences in memory of Sol Karsch.

Meir Lederman in memory of Yehuda Yidl Ben Harav Yakov Yitzhak Julio Lederman, father of Mario Lederman and Raquel Lederman.

**Edith & Aaron Goldberg Fund for Youth and College Activities**

Adele Rothstein for yearzeit of father Hyman Leichter.

**Prayer Book Fund:**

Betty Kaplan in memory of beloved sister Charlotte Teig.

Betty Kaplan in memory of father David Zausmer.

**Anderman Lecture Fund:**

Rosanne Druckman & Larry Scherzer send condolences to Sol Karsch's wife Marcia and the entire family.