

BEIT CHAVERIM

Jewish Community of Greater Zion

APRIL 2024!



Welcome All!

IN PERSON
SHABBAT
SERVICE 2ND
FRIDAY
OF EACH MONTH
AT 7:00PM
GOOD SHEPHERD
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH
611 N 2450 E.
ST. GEORGE.
(EDUCATIONAL BLDG. IN
REAR)

ZOOM SHABBAT
SERVICES ALL
FRIDAYS @7:00PM.
LINK WILL BE SENT A
FEW DAYS BEFORE
EACH SERVICE.

SAVE THE DATE

Monday, April 1, 10:00 am – Breakfast With The Rabbi. ***Bishops Grill West**, 1973 W Sunset Blvd. [RSVP arneen@infowest.com](mailto:arneen@infowest.com).

**Please note new location.*

Friday, April 12, 7:00 pm – In-person Shabbat service and Oneg. Special guest, Liz Paige, Associate Director UJFU will be giving the D'var Torah. Come join us for this special Shabbat.

Saturday, April 13, 4-6pm – **Meet and Greet**, “How Do We Talk About Israel Today?” See details inside. [RSVP arneen@infowest.com](mailto:arneen@infowest.com).

Tuesday, April 23, 5:00 pm – Congregational Seder, The Escape at Brio, 230 West Clubhouse Dr. [RSVP by 3/12/24, events@beitchaverimutah.org](mailto:events@beitchaverimutah.org). Details inside.

Thursday, April 25, 6:00 pm – Annual Pride Seder, SLC. Hosted by United Jewish Federation of Utah. For information: YYaccoby@shalomutah.org or 801-581-0102.

COME WELCOME OUR SHABBAT GUEST:

Beit Chaverim invites you to attend a special in-person Shabbat service on Friday, April 12 at 7:00 pm to welcome our special guest from Salt Lake City, **Liz Paige**. Liz serves as Associate Director for the United Jewish Federation of Utah. We are so pleased to have Liz attend our Shabbat service and present the D'var Torah. The D'var Torah is a talk based on the parashah, the weekly Torah portion. As always Kiddush, Hamotzi and our delightful Oneg Shabbat will follow. We welcome sweets from all who wish to contribute to the Oneg

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SPOTLIGHT

Spotlight's focus this month is on Lois and Ben Farb. Hope you enjoy reading about our recent new members. Be sure to say "hi" next time you see them.

Lois was born and raised in Chicago, while Ben was born in Poland. He immigrated with his family to Chicago when he was 13 years old, not speaking any English. Today, Ben still blames his older brother, who knew some English, for enrolling him in 7th grade instead of high school! Lois grew up in a neighborhood that was 95% Jewish. Her family was not very religious but observed all the holidays. Living in Poland under Communist regime, Ben did not have a religious upbringing. The nearest synagogue was over 100 miles away, so his father attended the High Holy Days by himself. Prior to WWII Ben's paternal family was Orthodox. By joining the Russian army, Ben's father was the only survivor. After arriving in America, his family started to celebrate the Jewish holidays. Lois did not have a Bat Mitzvah; very common in the 60's. Since neither Lois nor Ben be important that their children did. synagogue. Lois became active in ORT,

Lois received her bachelor's degree Northern Illinois Univ. She returned to MBA from the University of Illinois. Ben mechanical engineering from the spent most of her career in public telecommunications and automotive at a Jewish dance and were married in lovely daughters, Heather and Michelle



They first came to St. George in 2006 on a vacation package to Red Mountain Spa, returning to the spa several more times. On their last trip in 2011, they bought a home in Entrada. Lois searched and found Beit Chaverim online, surprised to find out there was a small Jewish population here in St. George. They both retired in 2018, now spending their winters here in SG. "We love the outdoors and staying active, and we never get tired of looking at the red mountains." As Ben says, "I love looking at the snow on the distant mountains, knowing I don't have to shovel it!" Ben & Lois love to travel; their favorite trips were to Thailand, Peru and a cruise to Patagonia. They are looking forward to many adventures still left on their bucket list. They also enjoy hiking, biking, pickleball, and reading. After having recently joined Beit Chaverim, they are happy to see the growth in the congregation.

had a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, they felt it to Their family belonged to a Reform following in her mother's footsteps.

in elementary education from school a few years later to get her received his bachelor's degree in University of Illinois. As a CPA, Lois accounting. Ben's career was in electronics design. Ben & Lois met Chicago in 1982. They have two who both live in Chicago.

on a vacation package to Red



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HAG SEMEACH!

On **Tuesday, April 23rd at 5:00 pm**, we can all wish each other Hag Semeach (Happy Festival). Beit Chaverim hopes to see you at our annual congregational Seder on this second night of Passover. The Seder will take place at **The Escape at Brio, 230 W. Clubhouse Dr.** As this is our most heavily attended holiday event each year (72 attended last year) and our room maximum is 100, we urge you to **RSVP by Friday, April 12** to events@beitchaverimutah.org. We cannot guarantee seats for late responses.

Our Seder will be followed by a delectable, traditional seder meal, catered by Chef Jeremy of Snow Canyon Catering. The meal will feature favorites such as matzah ball soup, gefilte fish, herbed roasted chicken, glazed carrots and broccoli. A vegetarian main dish option is available when reserved with RSVP. Members and guests have always enjoyed the unique Passover dishes made by our congregants. It makes our Seder meal so much more special. So, we invite those of you with a special family Passover recipe to bring it to share. Popular Passover sides like potato kugel, tzimmes and other wonderful options along with Passover desserts, are especially encouraged. Please ensure that your dishes adhere to Passover restrictions, avoiding grains, flour and leavening agents. We are also seeking a few members to make charoset (about 1 qt) to have on each table for the Seder.

Cost for the Seder meal is \$36 for members and \$50 for guests; no cost for children under 13 years. Payment can be made via our website at beitchaverimutah.org ([donate holiday](#)) or by sending a check to Beit Chaverim, PO Box 380012, Ivins 84738. Please indicate with your RSVP if you plan to bring a side dish, dessert or charoses. A committee member will follow up with you by phone call for details.

We look forward to seeing you at this joyous Seder celebration.

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MEET AND GREET

“How Do We Talk About Israel Today?”

For our first program of 2024, Beit Chaverim is pleased to invite you to attend a “Meet and Greet” with Liz Paige and Maya Skurnik on **Saturday, April 13th, 4-6pm** at the home of one of our congregants. Liz and Maya will **lead a discussion on “How Do We Talk About Israel Today”**. In a **supportive environment, gain confidence to talk about Israel with loved ones and friends about the current events in Israel and the rise in antisemitism.**



Liz Paige is a Jewish and Israel educator as well as a passionate advocate for the Jewish people. Her goal is for each person to find their personal connection and commitment to Israel and to be able to share their “Israel story.” A lifelong learner, Liz holds two master’s degrees as well as a Master’s Certificate in Israel Education from George Washington University. She serves our community as the Associate Director for the United Jewish Federation of Utah.

Maya Skurnik comes to Utah from Israel as the Shlichah (Israeli Emissary). In her capacity she serves as an educational, cultural and social resource, in addition to acting as a bridge between Israel and Utah. Everything she shares comes simply from her perspective as a young Israeli citizen. Maya grew up in a kibbutz in central Israel where she spent most of her life. She served in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) for six years as an infantry platoon commander and later as an IDF Intelligence officer.

We hope you will join us in what looks to be an enlightening event. RSVP to arneen@infowest.com to attend. Location will be sent once RSVPs have been received. Light appetizers will be served.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



In real estate it's *location, location, location*. For our small Jewish congregation, it's *growth, growth, growth*. I am excited to report that we recently reached 62 families and 100 members!

So, what does all this mean? For one, it means that we have a more diverse membership who come from varied Jewish backgrounds; from those with a non-Jewish partner (who love our food) to members who come from an Orthodox home and are more observant. We welcome everyone, regardless of denomination, who has an interest in our congregation.

Our growth spurt began in 2022, which started me thinking about what we needed to manage a larger organization. One thing I felt we needed was to form committees. So, I volunteered to establish a Hospitality Committee and that was the start of getting other members involved in helping to manage Beit Chaverim. The Hospitality Committee gave us the opportunity to better plan for more upscale events. The work of committees allows us to provide more for you.

We now have a strong Religious Committee that recently upgraded our Shabbat prayer book (Siddur). Other committees include: Building, Finance, Security, Membership, Social Service, Programming and Fundraising. We welcome additional volunteers to serve on our various committees. If you have any skills that can help as we continue to improve our services to you, please let us know.

As your new President, my goal is to grow our membership to 100 families over the next year or so..., and plan for future facility needs. If you know of Jewish families or individuals who are not members, be sure to invite them to come to an event.

I look forward to sharing my thoughts with you in future newsletters.

Marilyn Kanas, President Beit Chaverim Board of Directors

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PENNY FOR YOUR THOUGHTS

May 5, 2024, is the national observance of Holocaust Remembrance Day (Yom HaShoah), also known as Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day. In Israel it is a very solemn day beginning at sunset on the 27th of the month of Nisan and ending the following evening, May 6th. Places of entertainment are closed and memorial ceremonies are held throughout the country. On the morning of May 6th, a siren will sound across all of Israel for two minutes. For the duration of the sounding work is halted, people walking in the streets stop, cars pull off the side of the road and everybody stands at silent attention in reverence of the victims of the Holocaust. This year will also be in remembrance of the 1200 who were brutally killed on October 7th.

Being an avid reader, I will choose to observe the Day by lighting a yizkor candle for both sets of my grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins whom I lost in the Holocaust. I will also read a book related to the Holocaust. There are so many books out there on the subject; the book I want to share with you is "Beyond Courage: The Untold Story of Jewish Resistance During the Holocaust", by Doreen Rappaport.

Each and every book on the Holocaust adds to the documentation of that unimaginable period and is of infinite importance. This book brings to light the lesser known fully deserving acts of remembrance. This non-fiction writing describes the courage of Marianne Cohn who was caught leading 28 children across the border of France to safety. It tells of a 12-year-old boy, an orphan partisan in occupied Ukraine, who masqueraded as a violin playing beggar in front of a church to watch for suspicious happenings. His playing was so good that a German officer, after hearing his music, had him perform in a German restaurant popular with German soldiers where he was able to provide partisans with information. Hitler and his ruthless cohorts destroyed a Jewish world of learning, of culture, of dreams and of courage. This book plays its part in memorializing those we lost. NEVER FORGET!

***Let me know what you think of this book or if you have books you would recommend and whether you are interested in more book recommendations: pennylea22@gmail.com**

Ellen: As a side note, I was in Israel one year during Yom HaShoah. The sounding of the siren and the immediate halt of activity and silence was awe inspiring and tear producing.

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“For seven days, leaven shall not be found in your house...” Exodus 12:19

Nissan is the month for Pesach (Passover) and spring cleaning. Jewish families are busy cleaning out their homes of all **Chametz!** Jewish law prohibits the possession of any leaven foods (**chametz**) during Passover. Traditionally Jews have disowned their chametz by selling it through an intricate legal document called Mechirat Chametz which is executed by a Rabbi. This special form has the rabbi selling all items NOT KOSHER FOR PASSOVER to a non-Jewish person as defined by Torah and Rabbinic Law. The monies collected from the sale of chametz are used to either help those in the congregation or Jews in the community who cannot purchase Kosher for Passover items. Chametz items that are sold include dry goods (cereal, pasta, cakes & cookies for example), refrigerated items (like beer) and everyday pots, pans, dishes and utensils.

In 2015, the legal body of the Conservative movement passed two papers allowing many of the previously prohibited foods, called **Kitiniyot**, to be permitted. Kitiniyot includes legumes (beans, peas, lentils), rice, seeds and corn. While each Jew may practice Judaism differently, this holiday is one most observed by the majority of Jews around the world. During Passover Jews traditionally eat the special foods: unleavened bread, Matzah; gefilte fish, traditional ground fish combined with eggs, onions, seasonings and matzah meal; and chicken soup (Jewish penicillin), usually with matzah balls. Did you know that Jews even have their own cocaine? Can you guess what it is? If you guessed horseradish, you are correct! The strong horseradish (without beets) will kill most infections, or so I was told. Caution, as this horseradish brings tears to the eyes! Ahhh... TRADITION! TRADITION! The Passover Seder is comprised of much singing, the four questions, the counting of the 10 plagues and so much more!

There are many beautiful customs (**minhagim**) that individual Jewish groups, Ashkenazi and Sephardi, practice. The Ashkenazi Jews are mostly from Eastern Europe while the Sephardim are from Spain and the Mediterranean region to Turkey. The Sephardim always allowed Kitiniyot while the Ashkenazi did not. During the Spanish Inquisition Jews were persecuted and killed for practicing their religion. So, they practiced secretly, needing to partake of the forbidden foods so as not to be identified.

Passover is a Major Festival. You are required to follow doctor's orders and eat or take medicines that may not be Kosher for Pesach. The Jewish law, *Paducah Nefesh*, “to save a soul”, takes precedence. **CAUTION!** “Make sure you NEVER let the children hide the Afikomen!” I heard that there are still some seders that have never ended! LOL! If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

A Zissen Peseach!

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Andy Margles

AN OLDIE BUT GOODIE: THE PAINTED PONY

The first question people ask me when they discover I am the world-famous **Mr. Foodie** is “What’s the best restaurant in town?” My answer has been the same for the last eight years, **The Painted Pony**. I find it to be amazingly consistent, with its’ friendly, yet professional service, nice wine list and delicious food. I have eaten there many times over the years and have always enjoyed it immensely. However, as the menu never changed, I dined there less often. Two years ago, their head chef purchased **The Painted Pony** from its’ previous owners. I incorrectly assumed that the former tried-and-true menu would still be the same.

WRONG! The selections were now a combination of some of the oldies but goodies plus several exciting new items! Additionally, there are now seasonal changes and specials. I couldn’t wait to try the new dishes!

For appetizers, Mrs. Foodie and I shared crab cakes with an apple fennel slaw and steamed mussels in a curry broth (YUM!). For our main dish we had the chipotle-cherry glazed chicken breast, served with blue cheese stuffed gnocchi and the honey-glazed scallops with curried cauliflower couscous; also both delicious. Other new menu items include: duck breast with bread pudding, red wine-braised short ribs, salmon with sun dried tomato cream sauce and a chorizo stuffed quail on wild rice waffle (appetizer).

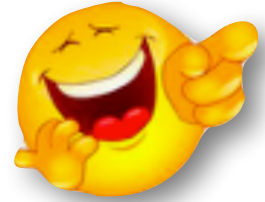
As **The Painted Pony** is fine dining, the pace of service is leisurely, allowing plenty of time to socialize and enjoy their fine wine. Expect dinner to last at least an hour and a half. I consider **Painted Pony** one of the classier restaurants in SG, so you may like to dress up a little more for dinner. Prices are higher than most restaurants in the area, with appetizers priced around \$15 and mains in the \$35-45 range. However, lunch prices are quite reasonable, with dishes averaging around \$15. There are some interesting choices on the lunch menu, making it a way to dine there without breaking the bank. **Painted Pony** has the bonus of a nice, covered deck for outside dining, with heaters for when it gets chilly.

VERDICT: The “King” still reigns after all these years. Long live the King!

Contact me, Andy Margles andymargles@gmail.com with comments or suggestions.

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JEWISH SCHTICKS

“Special for Passover”

Moishe returned home from Hebrew school and his father asked, “What did you learn today?”

Moishe answered, “The Rabbi told us how Moses led the children of Israel out of Egypt.”

“How?’ his father asked.

Moishe said “Moses was a big strong man and he beat Pharaoh up. Then while he was down, he got all the people together and ran towards the sea. When he got there, he had the Corps of Engineers build a huge pontoon bridge. Once they got on the other side, they blew up the bridge while the Egyptians were trying to cross.”

The father was shocked. “Is that what the Rabbi taught you?”

Moishe replied, “No. But you’d never believe the story he DID tell us!”

It seems a group of leading medical people have published data that indicates that Seder participants should NOT partake of both chopped liver and charoses. It is indicated that this combination can lead to **Charoses of the Liver**.

What’s the difference between matzoh and cardboard??

Cardboard doesn’t leave crumbs in the rug!

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Temple Bulletin Board

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Richard Chodroff
Penny Lindenbaum
Christina Schwarz
Herb Schwarz
Kevin Ranck

Donations

Book Fund:
-Carolyn Williams

New Members

Jim Esserman &
Suzanne Parry

HELLO!

New Members!

CORRECTION: Please note name correction from March newsletter for Silver Sponsors: Barbara and Robert Weinstine.