

BEIT CHAVERIM

Jewish Community of Greater Zion

July 2025



Welcome All!

IN PERSON
SHABBAT
SERVICE
2ND FRIDAY
OF EACH MONTH
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

BEITCHAVERIMUTAH.ORG

Upcoming Events:

Thursday 3 & 17, 6:30pm - Torah Study Group.
St. George Downtown Library. Downstairs.

Friday, July 11, 7:00pm - In-person Shabbat Service.
Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church. Educational Building.

Monday, July 14, 10:00am - Breakfast with the Rabbi.
Liberty Cafe at 1684 S Dixie Drive, Unit K-102 in St George.

Monday, July 21, 1:00pm - Lunch with the Rabbi.
Wood Ash Rye at 25 W St George Blvd.

No Rosh Chodesh gathering this month - The month of Av begins July 26/7.
Please contact Deborah: aravahmidwife@yahoo.com if you would like more information.

Sunday, July 27, 5:00pm - The United Jewish Federation of Utah's Summer Celebration at Black Mountain Rock Resort in Park City.

Online REGISTRATION *instructions*: www.beitchaverimutah.org,
select Calendar and Events, then choose the event. Voila!

HELP WANTED!

Hospitality Committee: Ellen Margles ewmargles@gmail.com

Social Service Committee: need a ride or want to help? Liza Ness
socialservices@beitchaverimutah.org

Membership Committee: Lisa Bernath membership@beitchaverimutah.org

Board Member, marketing experience, accounting skills: Marilyn Kanas
president@beitchaverimutah.org

Tech skills: Mike Satter support@beitchaverimutah.org

Follow us on Facebook! [here](#)

Please consider becoming a sponsor-level member!



BEIT CHAVERIM

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from the desk of ... **Rabbi Helene Ainbinder**

As the war between Israel and Iran rages onward one may hear or view much distorted information from uneducated individuals that have no clue about the Middle East. As Jewish people we should have Judaic factual historical information to address anyone who can not comprehend news coming from the State of Israel or other correspondents. The war from October 7, 2023 was a new beginning and an awakening to the Jewish people. Three millennia of Jewish history would be a semester of university learning. I will endeavour to present this shortened version in a nutshell.

When reading most of the historical literature it will not be compared to religious literature, however it will have archaeological sources, writings from accredited individuals and sources throughout the three millennia about the Jewish people. Some historical literature will have editions mentioning Israel as Palestine during ancient times, which is improper and needs to be corrected. The Israelites conquered Canaan under Joshua's leadership in 1250 B.C.E., which then became known as Judea.

The word Palestine comes from the first known Greek historian and geographer, Herodotus in the fifth century B.C.E., not to be confused with Philistia (Philistines of Goliath). One learns that King David conquers a city on a hill and renames it "Yerusalem" (City of Peace) in 1010-900 B.C.E. The kingdom was united and then divided into two regions. However, in 928-721/732 B.C.E. the Northern Kingdom Israelites are exiled for the first time. The fall of Israel is in 721 and the Southern Kingdom in 586 B.C.E., the fall of Judah, the destruction of the First Temple of Jerusalem and the Babylonian Exile.

The edict of Cyrus, allowing the first group of exiles to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the Holy Temple (586 B.C.E.). The completion of the Second Temple was in 516. The Maccabean era was 165-138 B.C.E. Hanukkah may be found in the Apocrypha. While the Common Era starts around Jesus of Nazareth (who was a Jewish Zealot fighting for religious freedom and died a Jew) around 27-30 C.E., the word Christian does not appear until 100 years later. Islam appears with Muhammad in 632. He died in 634 and the Umayyad Caliph wrote Antisemitic text into the Koran. Notice that the real indigenous people for the three millennia are the Jewish people.

The fighting continues over whose land is it. The book I suggest people read is, "When the Stones Speak" by Doron Spielman (no spoiling the amazing history of our people). While the wall around Jerusalem is not the whole city of Jerusalem, the graves of King David and King Solomon are found outside the wall. The oldest area was just uncovered during Queen Victoria's reign, and Baron Rothschild purchased the land. Other lands up in the northern region of Israel were sold to the Jewish people after the 1929 stock market crash, which now gives Israel the rights to fresh water. The Jewish people purchased the land from Tel Aviv (Hill Spring) to Jerusalem!

Let us continue to support Israel in any way we are able.

Let us continue to pray for the return of the hostages in Gaza and for peace to come to Israel once again. May we one day soon travel to Israel together!

Am Ysrael Chai! Long Live Israel!

President's message... Marilyn Kanas



Summertime and the livin' is easy....

Some of you may remember this great song from the 60s. The message of this song is that times were good, an optimistic view of that era.

For Beit Chaverim, times are good! We have much to be thankful for.

Excited to say that several of our committees have new members, and the Board is undertaking a major project to upgrade our back-office systems. We are in the process of selecting a Synagogue management system that will replace our current system which requires extensive manual effort to track our finances.

While we made progress getting a single membership system, it didn't meet all our needs, particularly for accounting and finance.

In addition, Hospitality and Religious committees are getting ready for High Holidays, and we are planning another musical Chanukah celebration.

Lastly, please join Michael and me, along with Lisa Bernath and other congregation members, at the Federation Summer Party. It will be cooler in Park City than Southern Utah! And..the program looks terrific. Please let me know if you are interested (president@beitchaverimutah.org). We hope to put together a group to represent Beit Chaverim. Sign up and register at www.shalomutah.org.



You're Invited to an Evening of

Magic & Meaning

The United Jewish Federation of Utah
Summer Celebration

Sunday, 27 July 2025

5 PM Cocktail Hour • 6:15 Dinner & Program
Black Rock Mountain Resort, Park City, Utah

TORAH RESTORATION PROJECT

We have located a Judaic business in Los Angeles that can make the repairs needed. They also sell many Judaica items so that we will be able to purchase new Torah mantels and accoutrements.

We are very fortunate that a Beit Chaverim family has graciously offered to provide matching funds up to \$5000 for this special project. We hope you consider making donations to Beit Chaverim's Torah Fund. We are anticipating a cost of up to \$10,000 for the repairs together with the purchase of the mantels and accoutrements. With your help, we will be able to have the Torahs restored in time for the High Holy Days this fall.

To support the Torah Restoration Project you can donate [here](#)

ROSH CHODESH

In recent years New Moon observance has been rekindled by women's groups to foster community and personal spiritual growth. Every Hebrew month is thought to have unique meaning and significance, and Rosh Chodesh groups seek to honor the themes of the month, set intentions, and review important holidays and events on the Jewish calendar for that month.

Beit Chaverim offers Rosh Chodesh gatherings most months, open to both men and women, to learn about the upcoming month and enjoy group sharing and discussions. See the newsletter and weekly bulletins for upcoming events, or reach out to Deborah via email for more information: aravahmidwife@yahoo.com.

Rosh Chodesh, which literally translates as "head of the month", is the observance of the beginning of a new month on the Jewish calendar. In ancient times, the Sanhedrin established every new month by way of heralds who would report the first sighting of the waxing crescent moon. Special sacrifices were made in accordance with Torah (Numbers 10:10 and 28:11-15), and trumpets were blown to mark the occasion.

The Hebrew month follows the lunar cycle, which is 29.5 days, therefore months alternate between 29 and 30 days. Rosh Chodesh is a two day observance when a month has 30 days. This is the case in the book of 1 Samuel 20:5-42, which describes a 2 day feast to observe Rosh Chodesh during which King Saul's son, Jonathan, saves David from Saul's wrath. It is also always observed for two days in the diaspora.

According to tradition, Rosh Chodesh was a Yom Tov given to women because of their steadfast faith during the Exodus from Egypt, demonstrated by their refusal to donate jewelry for creating the golden calf. Another connection to the holiday's feminine aspect is that women's monthly cycles have long been associated with the phases of the moon. The Zohar, the kabbalistic book of Jewish mystical tradition, connects the moon to the Shekhinah, the feminine aspect of Divine Presence.

We hope to see you at the next Rosh Chodesh gathering!

SPOTLIGHT



We are pleased to “Spotlight” two of our newer members, Jeffrey and Julie Soncrant. Please acquaint yourself with them through this column and be sure to say “hi” when you next see either of them.

Jeffrey was born in Bloomington, Indiana but spent his childhood in Southern California. He went to a Baptist church with his friends, but wasn't raised to attend and had no religious affiliation growing up. Jeffrey got a Culinary Arts degree in the U.S. Navy and currently works at Utah Tech University in Dining Services as a Dishwasher. He has been married almost 20 years to his wife, Julie Soncrant. They had a honeymoon baby, a son, who lived five minutes, and HaShem (blessed be HE) took his ruach back. Joshua David. April 14, 2006. They moved to St. George on August 24, 2023 from Metairie, Louisiana because Julie got hired by Utah Tech University Dining Services. Jeffrey enjoys working out, body building, watching professional wrestling, and attending live Shul service. Jeffrey is Jewish by his mother and needed a Shul to attend where his goy wife would be accepted.



Julie was born in Dallas, Texas but spent her childhood in Lawndale, California. She was raised by her biological mother's sister, her aunt Liz and Uncle John. She was raised in a Southern Baptist church. Julie earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business, Food Management with a Minor in Spanish at Pensacola Christian College in Pensacola, Florida. She works at Utah Tech University in Dining Services as a Catering Lead. Julie loves to crochet, is a passionate baker and cook. She is also an avid reader. They joined Beit Chaverim because Jeffrey is Jewish and they needed a place to worship.



Shavuot celebration at Fire Lake



Shabbat Evening Service

BEIT CHAVERIM

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FUNNY SCHTICKS THANKS TO LEE MILLER



The Doorbell

This evening, the doorbell rang. We live in a predominantly Jewish suburban neighborhood of single family houses, a demographic fact known far and wide. I opened the door and was greeted by a nicely dressed man. "I have come to bring Jesus to your home," he said.

I reacted almost immediately and asked, "Is he coming for dinner?"

The man said, "He will come any time you are ready."

Aha, I had a live one. "Well, tonight we're having a stir fry. Does Jesus like chicken?" I asked.

The man's eyes glazed slightly.

"I don't know if he still keeps kosher, after all these years," I continued, "but this is a kosher home, so he'll be able to eat."

The man fumbled into a briefcase and handed me a printed brochure, which I ignored.

"If he wants to daven Mincha before he comes, the shul is only three blocks from here," I said.

He gulped, "What?"

I repeated my statement and added, "You mean Jesus Christ, don't you?"

He nodded.

I continued, "Born in Bethlehem?"

He nodded and started to back away from my door.

I smiled and said, "If that's the guy, he's Jewish."

As he started to turn away, I said, "You're invited too, but no butter on your dinner roll" and the guy almost ran down the walk.

My wife asked me who was at the door and I told her, "Some friend of Jesus."

She knows me. She shrugged. "And did you invite him in?" she asked.

I nodded, "Sure. I invited him and Jesus to dinner, but the guy ran away"

She walked back into her office, and said over her shoulder, "You don't speak Aramaic, dummy. Jesus would have a lousy evening here.."

I told you, she knows me. I forgot all about the language problem.

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**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

Linda Reinherz
Debbie Ranck
Julie Soncrant
Frederick Burk
Lee Miller
LaLonnie Swagger
Michael Kanas
Russ Robinson
Andrea Trott

Donations: many thanks!

Deborah Abner - Building Fund
Ellen Margles - in honor of
her grandson's graduation

Anniversaries

Trudi Sackey & Barry Scharf
Barry & Linda Reinherz
Gary & Elyse MacDonald
Lee Miller & Roland Luthi

New Member: welcome!

Bruce Eskenazi &
Cynthia Eschardies - Silver Family
Membership Sponsors