



BEIT CHAVERIM

Jewish Community of Greater Zion

October 2025



Upcoming Events:

Wednesday, October 1, 7:00pm - Kol Nidre. Registration is required.
The Escape at Brio.

Thursday, October 2, 4:00pm - Yom Kippur/Yizkor followed by Break the Fast. Registration is required. The Escape at Brio.

Friday, October 10, 7:00pm - In-person Shabbat Service.
Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church. Educational Building.

Saturday, October 11, 5:00pm - Sukkot. Registration is required.
Location will be provided after RSVP.

Thursday, October 16, 11:30am - Lunch with the Rabbi.
Capeletti's on 36 E. Tabernacle in downtown St. George.

Thursday, October 16, 6:30pm - Torah Study Group.
St. George Downtown Library. Downstairs.

Monday, October 20, 10:00am - Breakfast with the Rabbi.
George's on St. George Blvd.

Wednesday, November 5, 7:00pm - Interfaith Choir "Simple Gifts"
Gratitude Concert.
St. George Tabernacle, 18 S. Main St.

Saturday, November 8 - Crop Walk for Hunger. More info to follow.

Wednesday, November 12, 3:00pm - Annual Congregational Meeting.
Light refreshment will be served.
Zions Bank Community Room, 40 E. St. George Blvd.

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

**Let's give a big warm welcome to Ed Seltzer
for joining the Beit Chaverim Board of Directors!**



President's Message - Marilyn Kanas

Many thanks to our special guests, Liz Paige and Maya Skurnik for their visit at our in-person Shabbat service last month. What an uplifting weekend. Liz is the Associate Director of the United Jewish Federation of Utah and Maya is the Shlichah, Emissary from Israel. After the Shabbat service, we were treated to a special catered Oneg.

On Saturday morning, members Hope and Larry Grabarnick hosted a brunch and discussion group. The food was yummy, and we had burekas from the Hippea, an Israeli chef whose pastries are sold at the St. George farmer's market. Liz and Maya prepared a discussion about Israel that everyone enjoyed. Here is a summary for those of you who missed it:

What is controversial about Zionism? Nothing. Unfortunately, having an opinion on any topic, especially as it relates to Israel doesn't require knowledge, background, or critical thinking these days. Social media "likes" and reposts happen in a split second, and most have no idea what they are assenting to.

Criticism of Zionism has existed for decades. Remember the UN Resolution sponsored by the Arab League and Soviet Union that said, "Zionism is racism"? The catchy rhetoric continues today despite the resolution being revoked in 1991.

What can we do in the face of criticism of all-things-Israel? Educate ourselves and ask our friends and neighbors to do some learning and independent thinking. If those who criticize Israel's existence because they believe in the right of self-determination for Palestinians, then why wouldn't they extend the same right to Jews?

As always, if you have a suggestion of something you would like to see Beit Chaverim do, or would like to get involved, please email me, president@beitchaverimutah.org.

Please note that all new programs, whether religious, social or educational, need to provide a proposal to the Board for discussion, and then approval.



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

When some of us hear certain words, we sometimes do not truly comprehend their meaning. Throughout the ages, Jewish people have had too many events that were caused by false accusations; Jews caused the Plague, Jews killed Christ, and Jews killed children for their blood to make wine or matzah for Passover. Even during the Darkest eras, the Jewish people adapted, survived and brought LIGHT back into the world.

Today, this inflammatory verbiage we hear about our people may be overwhelming. As Jews, we need to comprehend the actions and words everyone is witnessing, experiencing and hearing. Certain terminologies are taken totally out of context and used against our people to incite hatred and cause harm.

Antisemitism is prejudice containing certain perceptions of the Jewish people expressed as pure hatred, whether rhetorical or physical, words or actions, directed toward Jews and their homes or synagogues. Fascism is a strong nationalistic regime characterized by regimentation, rigid censorship, and suppression of its opposition. During WWII, the Italian Regime started this ideology and movement. Today, Fascism has adapted a different direction, using modern words like xenophobia or ultranationalism, which are hateful words.

What is Genocide? It is being promoted in the media, individuals are spewing this term of radicalized anti-Israel and Antisemitic hatred toward the Jews because of the actions taken by Israel in Gaza. The correct terminology of Genocide is the partial or entire destruction of religious, racial or national groups. Throughout the history of the Jewish people, empires, countries and other groups have tried to rid the world of the Jewish people. What is interesting is that according to our Torah and Halakah (Jewish Laws), we are forbidden to kill human beings! When our ancestors would go into battle against another nation they offered peace first. If they went to war, they issued a warning to the enemy - which they do even today - to protect the women, children, and elderly. We still follow these laws, and to that end ISRAEL even helped move civilians to a safe zone, provided them with shelter, food, water, and medicine, which is seldom reported in the news.

October 7, 2023 ended a ceasefire with Hamas when they attacked our people. The war could end if Hamas returns or releases all of our hostages and the bodies of all victims that were killed. Yet, the victim is now the evil one. (Short term memory loss, no continued hatred of the Jewish people here.)

The Holocaust; as Jews, we KNOW this Terminology, and this recent horrific event and current era can Never be compared to any other horrific event! The destruction of 6 Million innocent Jews by the Nazis (National Socialist German Workers Party) controlled Germany 1933-1945 and their followers under Adolf Hitler) who advocated a totalitarian government, territorial expansion, Antisemitism and Aryan Supremacy, led directly to WWII and the Holocaust; a time when Jewish people had few places to enter or escape to, and humanity was lost and SILENT!

What is Zionism? Who started this terminology? Theodor Herzl, who lived in Vienna Austria in 1896, was a newspaperman and journalist who wrote a book called "The Jewish State." He envisioned a future "to secure the Jewish people", a home in Palestine. He created an international organization called the "World Zionist Organization", of which Herzl was made the head. The diaspora Jews and Israeli Jews need each other and we will stand strong together.

Hazak, Hazak, V' Nitzchazak! Strength, Strength and Stronger Together!

SPOTLIGHT



We are pleased to “Spotlight” one of our newest members, Kendji Azalée. Please acquaint yourself through this column and be sure to say “hi”!



Shalom. I am originally from California, born in Riverside but grew up in the Tahoe National Forest, in a small town called Foresthill. I did not grow up in a religious household but my parents always encouraged me to find a religion that I love. I first found Judaism as a teenager, listening to Israeli music like Ishtar Alabina and Kobi Peretz, and since then my love for Judaism and Israel has grown so much!

I found Beit Chaverim in May and have been attending services ever since. It is my hope to become Jewish and I have found a deep love for this community which has welcomed me with open arms!

I moved to Utah about five years ago with my parents. I now attend SUU with the goal of earning my Bachelors in French and Political Science with a certificate in International Relations. I currently work at SUU as a parking attendant - giving parking tickets makes me very popular on campus - and live with my parents who are now retired. I am not married (yet) but am hoping for the best in this wonderful community.

My hobbies are various; I love studying languages, hiking or sight seeing around southern Utah and enjoying the natural wonders of this land. I speak French and am currently learning Hebrew. I also speak a little German and Catalan (but not a lot) and hope to also learn Judeo Arabic, Yiddish and Italian one day. I also love playing DND (Dungeons and Dragons) with my friends.

Right now it is my hope to take a more active role in the community and help out however I can while finishing my degrees, and hopefully one day move to St. George to be closer to the community. À bientôt!



Shabbat Service with Liz Paige and Maya Skurnik (Israeli Emissary)



Rosh Hashanah - to see more photos click [here](#)

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FUNNY SCHTICKS THANKS TO ANDY MARGLES & LEE MILLER



Dreamin'...

During a meeting with the President, the Supreme Leader of Iran boasted "Mr. President, I had a dream that I visited the United States and there were banners on all the houses that said "Tehran".

That's funny, replied the President, I had a dream that I visited Iran, and all the houses had banners on them as well.

"Really?", queried the Supreme Leader. "What did they say?"

"I don't know", replied the President, "I don't read **Hebrew**."

-Andy

Bee-havin'...

Two bees met in a field. One said to the other, "The weather has been cold, wet and damp, and there aren't any flowers, so I can't make honey."

"No problem," said the first bee, "Just fly down five blocks and turn left. Keep going until you see all the cars. There's a Bar Mitzvah going on and there are all kinds of fresh flowers and fresh fruit."

"Thanks for the tip," said the second bee, and flew away. A few hours later the two bees ran into each other again. The first bee asked, "How did it go?"

"Great!" said the second bee. "It was everything you said it would be. There was plenty of fruit and, oh, such huge floral arrangements on every table."

"Uh, what's that thing on your head?" asked the first bee.

"That's my yarmulke," said the second bee. "I didn't want them to think I was a wasp."

-Lee

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**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

Bruce Eskenazi
Carolyn Bagner
Rabbi Ainbinder
Kim Blackman
Paul Nowak
Mike Satter

Donations

Michael & Marilyn Kanas -Torah fund
Andy & Ellen Margles -Torah fund
Evan Sanders -Torah fund
Jeffrey & Julie Soncrant -General fund
Michael & Rabbi Ainbinder -Building fund

Anniversaries

Evan & Lorraine Sanders
Michael & Rabbi Ainbinder
Jeffrey & Julie Soncrant
Paul & Laurie Nowak

Mazel Tov!

Andrea Trott's daughter
Ashley is getting married!