

THE SHOFAR

Farmington Valley Jewish Congregation-Emek Shalom
Simsbury, Connecticut

A word from:

RABBI BEKAH GOLDMAN

Friends,

I hope your Pesach has been filled with family, frogs, freedom and delicious recipes! As we near the other side of the tunnel we've been traveling through for the last year, we can see a little light at the end of it and taste hope again. Hope has not always been easy to find for our people. Even though we are in the midst of Pesach, a holiday filled with hope, right around the corner looms Yom HaShoah, also known as Holocaust Remembrance Day. Shoah, which means "catastrophe" or "utter destruction" in Hebrew, refers to the atrocities that were committed against the Jewish people during World War II. It is hard to find hope when your world has been utterly destroyed. Today, we mark Yom HaShoah by lighting yellow candles (sent out by our Men's Club) to keep the memories of the victims alive. We spend 24 hours reading the names of as many victims as we can, and we gather together at the beginning and the conclusion of those 24 hours to pray, sing and hear the stories of survivors. This year, we will be marking Yom HaShoah from 6pm on Wednesday, April 7th until 6pm on Thursday, April 8th. I hope you'll join us and sign up below to read names. Please do not forget to light your yellow candle in memory of all those whose lives were lost. Together, we remember the victims and are reminded that hope can light up even the darkest nights.

With Blessings,

Rabbi Bekah



Yom HaShoah Commemoration



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All are welcome!

PROGRAMMING

*Join us on
Facebook LIVE*

YOM HASHOAH

**APRIL
7-8TH
6PM-6PM**

**OUR 24 HOUR READING OF THE VICTIMS NAMES
A MEMORIAL EVENT**

**WE WILL
NEVER FORGET**



Please click [HERE](#) to Sign Up if you'd like to participate in our Virtual 24 Hour Memorial Reading of names of the victims of the Holocaust.

YOM HaSHOAH

LIGHT A YELLOW CANDLE TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO PERISHED

Please remember to light your Yom HaShoah candle on Wednesday evening, April 7. Yom HaShoah is the holiday to remember the Holocaust. Each Yellow Yahrzeit Candle that is lit will perpetuate our commitment to remember the Holocaust. The yellow color recalls the badges Jews were forced to wear in Nazi-occupied Europe, and their flame inspires hope for our world to be a more tolerant place for all.

These candles were provided to members of our congregation by the Men's Club and were included this year with your Passover Bags.

In addition to lighting your candle, please join our congregation this year as we commemorate Yom HaShoah by reading names of those who perished in the Holocaust. This reading will take place, virtually, over a 24-hour period from Wednesday, April 7, 6:00 pm through Thursday, April 8, 6:00 pm.



Yom HaZikaron & Yom HaAtzmaut

Yom HaZikaron is Israel's Memorial Day for the Fallen Soldiers of Israel and Victims of Terrorism. It is the day of national remembrance in Israel to commemorate all those who lost their lives during the struggle to defend the State of Israel. Yom HaZikaron starts this year on Wednesday evening, April 14, 2021. Yom HaAtzmaut is Israel's Independence Day which marks the anniversary of the establishment of the modern state of Israel in 1948. Yom HaAtzmaut begins this year on Thursday evening, April 15, 2021.

Yom HaZikaron (Memorial Day) comes right before Yom HaAtzmaut (Independence Day) to remind us of the sacrifices that were made for Israel's independence and security. Please take some time over these two days to learn more about Israel and its importance as the spiritual homeland for the Jewish people.



WELCOME BACK

BINGO BASH!

SAVE THE DATE AND JOIN US FOR OUR BINGO BASH*

(*This event will be held pending prevailing COVID circumstances at the time. All COVID protocols will be enforced)

Do you miss seeing your friends at FVJC? Would you like to make some new friends?

The Bingo Bash will be a safe and fun remedy for the whole family. Food, games and music.

This year our annual spring event will be held on Saturday, June 5, 2021 from 5:30pm - 8:30pm.



Our entire FVJC community is welcome. Join us at Simsbury Farms Ice Rink (an outdoor venue with a covered roof, rain or shine event)

We are having a catered, individually packaged, BBQ chicken dinner for adults or hot dog dinner for kids including sides and drinks. (Gluten free and vegetarian options are available)

Join us for an evening of "Jukebox Bingo". Music will be part of the evening too!!! Prizes will be awarded at both sessions:

5:30 - 6:30PM Children (up to age 14) and their parents

7:30 - 8:30PM Adults and older Teens

Seating will be in "pods" for couples, a family, or small groups of vaccinated friends. Each grouping will have an assigned space. (Facilities are available during the event). Masks are required.

Invitations will be going out shortly with all the details. Be sure you save the date so we can enjoy being together safely with friends and family.



PROGRAMMING



Sunday, April 4th, 7:30PM

PASSOVER YIZKOR

LINKS WILL FOLLOW



Rabbi's Hour

*Our program
meets
every Monday at
11AM!*

To join our group visit:

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/f21DK6b>

PROGRAMMING

COUPLES BOOK GROUP

**April 21st is
our next
meeting!**

**Contact Suzanne Schloss at:
suzyandjohn@comcast.net. or
Sandra Bourke:
sandrabourke@yahoo.com**

**ATTENDANCE ID'S
WILL BE SENT
BEFORE THE
MEETING.**

Mini Minyan

**For families with
children
aged
birth - 5.**

**Holidays,
Songs,
Crafts,
and more!**

**SUNDAY:
April 25th
&
May 16th
10-10:45AM**

BYO
PICNIC BLANKET
OR CHAIR!



55 Bushy Hill Road, Simsbury
www.fvjc.org



SAVE THE DATES!



ALL MEMBERS
ARE INVITED AND
ENCOURAGED
TO ATTEND.

ZOOM
ATTENDANCE
LINKS WILL
FOLLOW



COMMITTEE NEWS

We hope you had a wonderful Passover. Thanks to your help the diaper drive was VERY successful!

All the contributions were delivered to Gifts of Love, who support families in need throughout the Valley. As you can see, when we work together we can accomplish so much.

Please consider joining us at our next meeting, Wednesday, April 14th at 7:30PM.

If you are interested
in learning more
about our
Committee, please
reach out.

Vivianne Rubin

vmrubin@aol.com



COMMITTEE NEWS

On Sunday March 21st members of our Membership and Outreach Committee side by side with Men's Club handed out Passover Goody bags that contained unique plagues bags, a special Haggadah compiled by Rabbi Bekah and a yellow Yom HaShoah remembrance candle. In conjunction with our Social Action Committee a mountain of diapers was also collected for donation.



The weather cooperated and volunteers cheerfully greeted members as they drove up to make their donations and get their treat bags in a now familiar, socially distanced manner. The sun was shining and the mood was little brighter than it has been in a while.



Treat bags that were not picked up during the drive through event were delivered by our fabulous volunteers on our two committees, MORE and Men's Club.

Be on the lookout for more information regarding the upcoming Yom HaShoah virtual event. Instructions for lighting your candle and a donation form are inside the candle box. It is more important than ever to teach tolerance and remember all those lost in the Holocaust.



Special shout out to the entire Zall Family for being the backbone of this entire event for our community.

Do you have any ideas for our Outreach Committee? Would you like to volunteer?

We would love to hear from you! Please contact Ruth or Marlo at membership@fvjc.org



As March comes to its end, I feel grateful. I am grateful for all of the Religious School staff, our students and their families. We are just a few Sunday sessions from the end of this religious school year. As "abnormal" as the 2020/2021 school year has been, we at FVJC's Religious School have managed to hold our in-person school with success. Holidays, history, Hebrew, crafts and activities have all been enjoyed while in school, as well as our beautiful Family Education day at Roaring Brook Nature Center. In addition, our Mishpacha families have read, studied and shared through our Zoom sessions, as they will continue to do in April and May. As the weather gets warmer again, our students will spend time outside during our school sessions. If we have learned nothing else, it is that proper clothing merges wonderfully with fresh air!

As always, we thank you all for supporting the RS. Our feeling of community is powerful and truly appreciated.

Liddy Boyle



JTConnect Celebrates Purim by Giving Back



JTConnect teens celebrated Purim in a meaningful way this year. One of the major aspects of Purim is helping those in need (the mitzvah of Matanot L'evyonim - gifts for those in need). Teens made around 60 bagged lunches including a sandwich, chips, fruit, a granola bar, and water. These bags were donated to Loaves and Fishes Ministries in Hartford, an organization that works tirelessly to feed the hungry in our community. They also made care packages to keep in their cars to give to those in need who they see on the streets. Everyone took a couple of bags with them. The bags contained water, crackers, a granola bar, apple sauce, and socks. As the number of homeless and struggling people has increased dramatically in our area, this is a great way to make a difference when driving around. Projects like this enable our community's teens to give of themselves in a meaningful way, and JTConnect is excited to do more.

RESOURCES & COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING

Hillel College Fair April 5-7th



Spring is right around the corner, which means the Hillel College Fair will be here before you know it! The virtual Hillel College Fair will connect Jewish high school students and their families with Hillel students and staff from hundreds of campuses across the U.S. and Canada.

High school students, parents and anyone who wants to learn more about Jewish college life are invited to **CLICK BELOW** to register for this free event today!



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Dream Israel: Teen Travel Initiative

We are thrilled to announce that a new and exciting era in long-term teen travel to Israel has begun with the launch of Jewish National Fund-USA's Dream Israel: Teen Travel Initiative. Supported by the JNF Boruchin Center, Dream Israel will enable students to earn up to \$7,500 for their trip by fundraising for critical projects in Israel. The initiative will reignite long-term Jewish teen travel to Israel while bringing leading Zionist movements together with the Conservative and Reform movements serving as inaugural program partners.

How It Works

It's easy: Teens select a trip provider — Alexander Muss High School in Israel, Roots Israel, URJ Heller High, or Ramah TRY; additional partners will be added soon. Then they choose a JNF project — from helping those with disabilities, supporting fire fighters, improving the environment, and more — register, and the fundraising begins! Dream Israel awards grant amounts based upon minimum fundraising goals.

CLICK TO
LEARN MORE!

YOUR
DREAM
TRIP TO
ISRAEL IS
NOW IN
REACH



RESOURCES & COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING

WORK AT CAMP THIS SUMMER!

Eisner & Crane Lake Camps still have open staff positions! We're looking for:

- ✓ Nurses
- ✓ Doctors
- ✓ Program Specialists
- ✓ Counselors

Working at camp you can...

- ✓ Make a difference
- ✓ Be part of a one-of-a-kind community
- ✓ Do something you love

Learn more at URJNortheastCamps.org



Click [HERE](http://URJNortheastCamps.org) to learn more!

DONOR	MESSAGE	FUND
Shafer Nanette	In Memory of: Glen Shafer	Caring Community Fund
Cohen Judith, Michael	In Honor of: Barbara and Ted Fichtenholtz, in appreciation of their kindness	Caring Community Fund
Goldblatt Loel, Ruth	In Memory of: William Lichtler	College Outreach Fund
Lebetkin Gloria	In Memory of: Doug Lewanda, husband of Jean	Dr. Peter Lebetkin Memorial Fund
Sheiker Siegfeld Alisa, Samuel	In Memory of: Eliot Balaban	Operating Fund
Brownstein Martin, Phyllis	In Memory of: Rose Rosen, Lewis Rosen	Operating Fund
Kasnetz Bruce	In Memory of: Patty Kasnetz, sister of Bruce, William Kasnetz, father of Bruce	Operating Fund
Blackbaud Giving Fund	Donation: Company Match	Operating Fund
Rothschild Gideon and Jeryl	Donation:	Operating Fund
Lescher Ellen, Mark	In Memory of: Jeannette Cohen	Operating Fund
Sheiker Siegfeld Alisa, Samuel	In Memory of: Alexander Siegfeld	Operating Fund
Ruderman Jan, Tom	In Memory of: Alfred Lederman, father of Jan	Operating Fund
Siegel-Wong Helen, Herbert	In Memory of: Lenora Tripp	Operating Fund
Shafer Nanette	In Memory of: Philip Shafer	Rabbi Bekah's Discretionary Fund
Congregation FVJC	Donation: Community donations	Rabbi Bekah's Discretionary Fund
Berman Barry	In Memory of: Phyllis Berman	Rabbi Bekah's Discretionary Fund
Wolfe Barbara, Charles	Donation:	Rabbi David Sobel Fund
Bourke Robert, Sandra Lynn	In Honor of: Bob's 75th birthday!	Rabbi David Sobel Fund
Maltz Allen and Fran	In Memory of: Shirley Maltz	Religious School Discretionary Fund
Maltz Allen and Fran	In Memory of: Adele Friedman	Religious School Discretionary Fund
Cohen Judith, Michael	In Memory of: Doug Lewanda	Religious School Discretionary Fund
Kravet David	In Memory of: Kenneth Urquhart	Sandra L. Kravet Woman of Courage Fund
Kravet David	In Memory of: Anne Cattanach	Sandra L. Kravet Woman of Courage Fund



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www.instagram.com/fvjcsimsbury
www.fvjc.org.org
membership@fvjc.org

All are welcome...

CONTACT INFORMATION

Rabbi Bekah Goldman: 860-256-9822, rabbibekah@fvjc.org

Temple President: Tracy Smith Cell 860 751-9418 president@fvjc.org

B'nai Mitzvah Coordinator: Marci Levin, mitzvahcoordinator@fvjc.org

FVJC Sisterhood: President, Lisa Cooperman, lisa.cooperman@outlook.com

Membership: co-Chair's: Marlo Zall & Ruth Goldblatt, membership@fvjc.org

Men's Club: President, Dan Kessler, dkessler13@hotmail.com

Religious School Education Chair: Liddy Doyle, school@fvjc.org

Ritual Committee: co-Chair's: Robin Bergman & Ken Weinstock, ritual@fvjc.org

Treasurer: Paul Honig, treasurer@fvjc.org

White and Katzman:

for account questions: Ann Wilson: 860-291-8777, ext. 117

Temple website: www.fvjc.org

Temple Calendar: www.fvjc.org/calendar/

Temple fax number: 860-658-4273

Temple Mailing Address: 55 Bushy Hill Road Simsbury, CT 06070

Administrator: Chrisi Bonchick 860-658-1075, admin@fvjc.org

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 10AM- 2PM

Wednesday's 4-6PM Sunday's 9-11:30AM (when school is in session)