

RABBI'S COLUMN:

In most cultures there are special days of remembrance for the dead. The festive Mexican Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead), really three days of celebration, involves family and friends gathering sometimes in cemeteries, sometimes at home, to pray and to party. It's an occasion to remember friends and family members with love.



We Jews remember the death of someone loved with prayers not just annually, on the Yahrzeit, the anniversary of the Hebrew date of death, but four additional times a year during the Yizkor service--on the eighth day of Passover, the second day of Shavuot, Yom Kippur, and Shemini Atzeret. In Judaism we say: "May the person's memory be a blessing [in our lives]." This means: May the memory of the person's good qualities inspire how we live going forward.

In some countries there is a memorial day for those who died during military service. In the US, Memorial day is a federal holiday celebrated on the last Sunday in May. This month in Israel both Memorial Day (Yom haZikaron) and Independence Day (Yom ha'Atzmaut) are observed one day apart beginning the night of April 14. Memorial Day, wherever it is celebrated, ties the death of its citizens to the well-being of the country. As long as wars continue, there will be a Memorial Day for those who fight them. On the other hand, Yom haShoah v'ha'g'vurah (Holocaust Remembrance Day), also observed this month, is a day of both mourning and teaching: What happens when individuals, government, and national service go terribly wrong--never forget and never repeat.

We have had a year of remembering people who have died from this unbridled virus Covid-19, more than half a million in the US and more than two-and-a-half million world-wide. The lessons we learn from this are mixed. Families and friends remember the individual deaths however their tradition dictates. As citizens, we remember initial responses by most governments--too little, too late--with an exception of Israel. We remember and continue to admire the heroic responses by the pharmaceutical industry.

When, hopefully, the virus is contained, and we look back on these times, how will we see them? Does Judaism have a response?

In terms of our personal relationship with God, we may sing kinot (dirges) but God cannot be blamed. In terms of our practical lives, tragedy is a call to action.

Rabbi Joseph Soloveichik (1903-93), an American Orthodox rabbi, Talmudist, and modern Jewish philosopher known as “the Rav,” taught that the proper Jewish response to tragedy is not “why did that happen?” but “what do I do in the face of that tragedy; how do I use suffering in a productive manner?” The Rav tells us that Jewish law teaches us that we commit a grave sin if we allow our troubles to go to waste and remain without meaning or purpose.” (Kol Dodi Dofek, given first as an address at Yeshiva University in NY on the occasion of Israel’s Independence Day, Yom HaAtzmaut, 1956, page 56).

Going forward, besides avoiding Covid-19 what do you plan to do?

Rabbi Peggy Berman de Prophetis

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PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

This first week of April Pesach continues and ends on Sunday at sundown. Observance of a Yizkor service on Sunday morning April 4 at 9:30 am will be conducted by Steve Schwartz.

You are probably eating leftovers from your seder, finishing off a box or two of matzahs, and putting away your Passover dishes and equipment that you had to get out for the holiday. I ‘religiously’ do not buy matzah products or gefilte fish during the rest of the year. This helps us to create a more exciting anticipation for the tastes and smells, memories and mission of the Passover seder and 8 day observance. And it does well to heighten our spirits and preparations during the weeks before this big event.

This year having had our shots we decided to invite a few very close friends as well as family, who had also had their shots, to join us for our seder. We enjoyed the first night with one of our sons and his family, but the second seder was at our house.

Last year we were just back from a trip to the Mediterranean and had to be quarantined for the next few weeks because of the Covid outbreak. So, feeling very worried about the situation we were unhappy and observed the seder by simply sitting together and reading the Haggadah.

This year I was more determined and excited to create a better and more celebratory environment and meal and have willing friends and family join us. As well as cooking our very traditional

favorites, I added some new dishes from collected recipes. My lemon almond cake disappeared almost immediately. I am sharing that recipe with you in this bulletin for your enjoyment. It is easy and tastes good anytime. No matzah meal needed. (Recipe on page 10)

Holiday celebrations should be part of the heritage we pass on to the younger generations of our families. Only one of my children has taken on hosting a seder and now my daughter is thinking about next year at her house. She saw the value of having the youngest ones at the table and entertaining them throughout the evening with age-appropriate questions, stories, and games that were connected to the Exodus story. Seders remind us of our past experiences with our parents, and other friends, especially the close friends who have come into our lives and are part of our celebrations. We shared many funny stories of people and places from our past and made more memories for the future. The stories, the company, the food, and the kids were fabulous.

Not every family affair works well for everyone because of attitudes, frictions, or resentments. And that is a tragedy because sometimes it requires everyone to leave their personal issues at the door and think of the happiness and all the hard work the host has intended and worked hard to put together. It is also important to surround ourselves with those who share our purpose and good will, and who commit to helping make the occasion happy and sincere. Life is too short to hold resentments. Unfortunately, it takes a lot of extra energy to control our negative feelings, compared to relaxing and determining to have and help others have a good time. We do not choose the people in our family. We do choose spouses, who come with their own set of family members. We are responsible to raise our offsprings. Together families should realize the big picture is to try to work for the good of the whole, just as we ask our membership to consider the universal goals and commandments dealing with personal actions within our Jewish beliefs. We do not need to endure friction or animosity, selfishness or self-service. We need truly kind and generous people who take us at face value and embrace our differences with love and kindness. It takes considerate attitudes and actions to create those relationships. In any case, for the shortness of our times together, we can try our best to seek the good in each and accentuate the positives. Do the best we can to get to know each other, forgive and forget, and move on to other higher paths for happy living.

I am happy to report that in the past month a lot has been happening behind the scenes. We continue to offer Friday evening Shabbat services conducted by great leaders. We are also having two Saturday morning Shabbat services a month. Zoom continues to be our vehicle to bring these to you. Renovations in the building are continuing to become reality. Another Bar Mitzvah is preparing to dazzle in May. And new classes, programs, and social dates are in the works for the coming months. The Congregation meeting will be held in early June to include voting for the 2021-2023 Board of Directors and renewal of Rabbi deProphetis' contract. Watch for that date.

Please get your Covid shots. Even if you do not believe it will help, it does give the rest of us the comfort and hope that with everyone being inoculated we have a better chance of surviving this pandemic. It may give us more encouragement and feel safer when we get together. The reference in the media to ‘herd’ immunity should not conjure up thoughts of the German historical events of the past century, but should mean that if the majority of the people have some immunity, the virus will not be as rampant as it is currently. The media reports do not elicit confidence in our medical leadership and seem more confusing than informative. The most reassuring thing I believe is that Israeli scientists are at the forefront of the leadership for the scientific discovery and development of the serum. And from all indications, we are on the way past this plague, (although we still have a long way to go!)

Caroline B. Schwartz

TREASURER’S MESSAGE

Please continue to send in your dues payments. Member statements will go out in April for those that have a balance. The response this year has been terrific and I thank you for that.

Continue to bring your Redner’s receipts into the synagogue. There is a basket at the window in the office, I am usually at the office at some point everyday so if you have receipts just contact me and I’ll collect them from you. We receive a percentage of the total amount of purchases. This is a terrific way to help C.B.S fund raise! Remember we need the entire receipt, don’t tear any section off.

As always, if there are any questions or concerns please contact me.

Stu Handler

APRIL SIMCHAS

Anniversaries: Stephen and Debra Weiner April 4, Nancy and Erik Frank April 20, Jerry and Marianne Abrams April 29.

Birthdays: Harriet Auerbach April 6, David Jaffe April 19.

Email your B-days, anniversaries, all simchas to lucky ladyanne@gmail.com to be included each month.

APRIL 2021

19 NISAN – 18 IYAR 5781

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 19 Nisan	2 Shabbat Svc 7:00 pm By Zoom Leader: Steve Schwartz 20 Nisan	3 21 Nisan
4 9:30 am Yizkor Memorial Service By Zoom Leader: Steve Schwartz 8 th Day Pesach 22 Nisan	5 6:30 pm Board Mtg 23 Nisan	6 Tea & Talk 11am Choir 6:00 pm 24 Nisan	7 25 Nisan	8 Yom Hazikaron LaShoah Holocaust Remembrance Day Program 7pm see info Page 8 26 Nisan	9 Shabbat Svc 7:00 pm By Zoom Leader: Geo & Carole Mason 27 Nisan	10 28 Nisan
11 29 Nisan	12 30 Nisan	13 Tea & Talk 11:00 am Choir 6:00 pm 1 Iyar	14 Yom Hazikaron Israel Remembrance Day 2 Iyar	15 3 Iyar	16 RABBI Shabbat Svc 7:00 pm By Zoom Leader: Rabbi Peggy 4 Iyar	17 RABBI 9:45 am Shabbat Svc By Zoom Leader: Rabbi Peggy 5 Iyar
18 RABBI 9:30 am Morning Minyan 10:30 am Class Siddur study 6 Iyar	19 7 Iyar	20 Tea & Talk 11:00 am Choir 6:00 pm 8 Iyar	21 9 Iyar	22 10 Iyar	23 Shabbat Svc 7:00 pm By Zoom Leader: Barry Brill 11 Iyar	24 9:45 am Shabbat Svc By Zoom Leader: Steve Schwartz 12 Iyar
25 13 Iyar	26 14 Iyar	27 Tea & Talk 11:00 am Choir 6:00 pm 15 Iyar	28 16 Iyar	29 20 Iyar	30 Shabbat Svc 7:00 pm By Zoom Leader: tbd Lag Ba-Omer 21 Iyar	

Yahrzeits for APRIL

20 Nisan	Mollie Rosenblatt	Bd 3 R4
20 Nisan	Sarah Konowitz	Bd2 R2
21 Nisan	Zelda Nelson	Bd 3 R2
21 Nisan	Gae Gellman (non Jew)	No Pl
22 Nisan	Bessie Gordon	Bd 1 R2
22 Nisan	Anna Mae Goldberg	No Pl
22 Nisan	Marvin Mesibov	Bd 3 R4
22 Nisan	Morris Jacobson	Bd 2 R1
23 Nisan	Phyllis Barros	Bd 2 R1
25 Nisan	Sam Auerbach	Bd 3 R3
26 Nisan	Abraham Albert Golden	No Pl
27 Nisan	Sadie Golden	Bd 3 R4
28 Nisan	Rae Brill Ambrose	No Pl
28 Nisan	Sally Lipmanson	No Pl
28 Nisan	William Lippman	No Pl
28 Nisan	Rebecca Hanovice	Bd 3 R2
29 Nisan	Jacob H. Schiff	Bd 2 R2
29 Nisan	James Krauss	No Pl
29 Nisan	Morris L. Sheinblum	No Pl
30 Nisan	David Eskenazi	No Pl

IYAR

1 Iyar	Jane Rosenfeld	No Pl
1 Iyar	Evelyn Dubin	No Pl
2 Iyar	Lena Rigberg Axel	Bd 2 R4
3 Iyar	Dora Markowitz	Bd 3 R1
4 Iyar	Arthur Schenkein	No Pl
6 Iyar	Sheila Kratenstein	No Pl
8 Iyar	Joseph Vogel	No Pl
8 Iyar	Michael Brown	No Pl
9 Iyar	Selda Mersky	No Pl
10 Iyar	Rose Glass	No Pl
12 Iyar	Harriet Herbin	No Pl
13 Iyar	Isidore Gelof	Bd 1 R5
13 Iyar	Joseph Dubin	No Pl
15 Iyar	Emre Krauss	No Pl
15 Iyar	Joseph Tonick	Bd 2 R5
17 Iyar	Emanuel Barros	Bd 3 R1
18 Iyar	Rayzella Spector	No Pl

In case you are unaware on the Yahrzeit list within the bulletin, if there is a plaque in memory of a relative, the board (**Bd**) and row (**R**) number has been listed for your convenience. **No pl** means there is no plaque.

It is a time-honored custom when recalling a memory of a loved one to perform the mitzvah of tzedakah (righteous giving). A contribution to Congregation Beth Sholom helps maintain our synagogue activities and programs.


Yom HaShoah Program

Thursday, April 8, 2021

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

[Register](#)

[Add To My Calendar](#)





VIRTUAL
YOM HA'SHOAH
HOLOCAUST DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

THURSDAY
APRIL 8, 2021
12-1PM

THIS EVENT IS SPONSORED BY:

 Jewish Federation
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 HALINA WIND
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HOLOCAUST
EDUCATION
COMMITTEE

DERECH:
THE DELAWARE
RABBINICAL
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ASSOCIATION

Yom HaShoah program sponsored by DERECH and Holocaust Education Committee of the Jewish Federation of Delaware. The program will also feature messages and addresses from several dignitaries including: Senator Carper, Senator Coons, Congresswoman Blunt Rochester, County Executive Matt Meyer, Representative Jeff Spiegelman and Mayor Purzycki.

New Yahrzeit Memorial Plaques

Our Memorial Wall is the rear wall of the main sanctuary. If you would like to remember a loved one with a permanent memorial plaque, please contact Religious Vice President Steve Schwartz. These take a few weeks to arrive. The cost is \$450.00. If you wish, Steve Schwartz will arrange with you to conduct an unveiling and pay homage to your relative at a subsequent Friday evening service. You may also choose to host the oneg in conjunction with the unveiling.

What is LAG BA-OMER?

Lag BaOmer—this year, Friday, April 30, 2021—is a festive day on the Jewish calendar, the 33rd day of the Omer count, celebrating the anniversary of the passing of the great sage and mystic Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai, author of the *Zohar*. It also commemorates another event. In the weeks between Passover and Shavuot, a plague raged amongst the disciples of the great sage Rabbi Akiva. On Lag BaOmer the dying ceased.

Lag BaOmer is always on the 18th day of the month of Iyar. So what's up with the name? The word "Lag" is made of the Hebrew letters *lamed* (ל) and *gimel* (ג), which together have the numerical value of 33. "BaOmer" means "of the Omer." The Omer is the counting period that begins on the second day of Passover and culminates with the holiday of Shavuot, following day 49. Hence Lag BaOmer is the 33rd day of the Omer count, which coincides with 18 Iyar. What happened on 18 Iyar that is worth celebrating?

Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai, who lived in the second century of the Common Era, was the first to publicly teach the mystical dimension of the Torah known as the Kabbalah, and is the author of the classic text of Kabbalah, the *Zohar*. On the day of his passing, Rabbi Shimon instructed his disciples to mark the date as "the day of my joy."

The chassidic masters explain that the final day of a righteous person's earthly life marks the point at which all their deeds, teachings and work achieve their culminating perfection and the zenith of their impact upon our lives. So each Lag BaOmer, we celebrate Rabbi Shimon's life and the revelation of the esoteric soul of Torah.

Lag BaOmer also commemorates another joyous event. The Talmud relates that in the weeks between the Jewish holidays of Passover and Shavuot, a plague raged among the disciples of the great sage Rabbi Akiva (teacher of Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai), "because they did not act respectfully towards each other." These weeks are therefore observed as a period of mourning, with various joyous activities proscribed by law and custom. On Lag BaOmer the deaths ceased.

Thus, Lag BaOmer carries the theme of loving and respecting one's fellow (*ahavat Yisrael*).

All over the world, it is customary to spend the day outside, enjoying the natural beauty of G-d's world.

The mourning practices of the Omer period (see above) are lifted for this day. As a result:

- music is playing and people are singing and dancing with abandon.
- little boys who turned three during the Omer period but did not have their first haircut (*upsheren*) due to the mourning laws, have them today.
- weddings are held.
- Recognizing the fiery spirit of the mystical teachings that are celebrated today, bonfires are kindled. Get some friends (and a guitar) together, and it becomes a wonderful opportunity for singing, sharing and enjoying each other's camaraderie.
- Customary foods for the day include carob (which miraculously sustained Rabbi Shimon and his son when they were hiding from the Romans) and eggs (a sign of mourning).

Source for these notes and to read more:

https://www.harfordchabad.org/library/article_cdo/aid/679300/jewish/What-Is-Lag-BaOmer.htm

Not just for Passover **LEMON ALMOND CAKE**

5 eggs separated, best at room temperature

Pinch of salt

1 C superfine or granulated sugar,

1 teaspoon vanilla extract

2 C blanched almond meal (almond flour)

Grated zest of one lemon (or orange depending on your preference)

½ C sliced almonds

Set oven 350 degrees. Oil 9 inch springform pan. Line bottom and sides with parchment, lightly oil as well.

Separate eggs into separate bowls. Beat whites with salt until they hold stiff peaks. In a separate bowl, beat yolks until creamy and thick, slowly beat in sugar. Fold in almond flour and lemon or orange zest, mix well. Gently fold in egg whites. Pour into prepared pan. Bake about 1 hour, monitoring for doneness with toothpick after 45-50 minutes.

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Not just for Passover **MATZAH BRITTLE OR MATZAH CRACK**

INGREDIENTS

- 4 to 5 matzo pieces (See Recipe Notes)
- 1 cup firmly packed dark brown sugar
- 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter
- 1 cup chopped bittersweet chocolate or semi-sweet chocolate chips
- Toppings, like chopped nuts, candied ginger, sea salt, peanut butter chips*, and chocolate chips

1. Preheat the oven to 375°F and line a baking sheet with aluminum foil or parchment paper. Place the matzo in one layer on the baking sheet, breaking it when necessary to fill the pan completely.
2. In a large sauce pan, melt the butter and brown sugar over medium heat, stirring constantly. Once the mixture reaches a boil, continue to cook for an additional three minutes, still stirring, until thickened and just starting to pull away from the sides of the pan. Remove from heat and pour over the matzo, spreading an even layer with a heat-proof spatula.
3. Put the pan in the oven, then immediately turn the heat down to 350°F. Bake for 15 minutes, watching to make sure it doesn't burn. If it looks like it is starting to burn, turn heat down to 325°F.
4. After 15 minutes, the toffee should have bubbled up and turned a rich golden brown. Remove from the oven and immediately sprinkle the chocolate over the pan. Let sit for five minutes, then spread the now-melted chocolate evenly over the caramel with a spatula.
5. You can leave it just as is, enjoying the simplicity, or sprinkle the brittle with toppings while the chocolate is still melted. Let the brittle cool completely, then break it into smaller pieces and store in an airtight container.

RECIPE NOTES:

When it's not Passover, you can use unsalted saltine crackers instead of matzo. During Passover, avoid *toppings of peanuts, as many Ashkenazi Jews abstain from legumes during Passover. You can substitute margarine for the butter to make it parve or vegan. Be aware that some Jews won't eat foods made in a non-kashered kitchen, or those made with non-Kosher-for-Passover ingredients.

Rabbi Peggy de Prophetis' remaining 2020-2021 Schedule

Shabbat 9 May 21 – 23 Naso

Shabbat 10 June 11-13 Korach

CHOIR PRACTICE SCHEDULE

April 6, 13, 20, 27

May 4, 11, 18, 25

Call the office with your contact information if you are interested to join choir at practices by Zoom. Unfortunately, we are not helping to conduct services at this time, but FORTUNATELY we are still hanging together. ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪

Donations to Congregation Beth Sholom

When donating to Congregation Beth Sholom, your generosity will be acknowledged in the bulletin and letters sent to the honorees. Rabbi Peggy maintains a confidential Rabbi's Discretionary Fund for special needs of members or charitable causes within our Jewish and secular community. You can specify your donation be applied to her fund and if you wish to specifically direct that money, please contact Rabbi to discuss it with her.

We are especially thankful for the generous donation received from **David and Pam Kaplan and Family**.

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New to Delaware and Kent County?

Know someone who is looking to rekindle their inner Jewish identity?

Please complete this form to receive a free welcome packet with lots of information about Congregation Beth Sholom. Or submit the information online to schwartzcaroline@verizon.net. We will look forward to making your acquaintance and inviting you to join our community.

Name	Spouse Name	Address	Phone	Email	Children/ages

Shalom from Beth Sholom

Congregation Beth Sholom
340 North Queen Street
Dover, DE 19904

Beth Sholom's staff and clergy continue to work from home to keep everyone as safe and as healthy as possible. The building is closed, PLEASE CONTACT US ON LINE OR LEAVE A PHONE MESSAGE

Stay safe, be well. Thank you.

We're on the Web!

Visit us at

www.cbsdover.net



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