

Bnai Shalom Bulletin

Volume 5 – ISSUE 8

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April 2025
Nissan – Iyar 5785

SERVICES

Friday Shabbat Services 7:30 p.m.,
April 4 (7:15 p.m.), 11, 18 and 25

Saturday Shabbat Services 10:00 a.m.,
April 5 and 19

CLASSES

Exploring the Kaddish – Its History,
Significance and Meaning. Two identical
classes: In person, Saturday, May 3, from
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., or on Zoom, Monday,
May 5, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
(see page 7 for details)

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Ritual Committee Meeting, Tuesday, April 8,
at 7:00 p.m.

Board Meeting – Wednesday, April 16,
at 7:00 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Anti-Defamation League will present a special
program on Antisemitism following our Friday,
April 4, Shabbat Services beginning at 7:15 p.m.
This evening includes dinner beginning at
6:00 p.m. Dr. Stanley and Judy Walker are
graciously sponsoring dinner and this special ADL
presentation. (see page 6 for details)

Book Club – Sunday, April 6, at 10:30 a.m. (see
page 11 for details)

Bingo – Sunday, April 6, at 1:00 p.m. Doors open
at 12:00 p.m. (see page 11 for details)

Second Night Community Seder at Congregation
Bnai Shalom – Sunday, April 13, at 6:00 p.m.
Doors open at 5:30 p.m. (see page 3 for details)

Knitting Club – Wednesday, April 16, at
10:30 a.m.

Coffee and Conversation with the Rabbi –
Wednesday, April 16, at 3:00 p.m.

A Word From Rabbi Adrienne



Shalom to my Bnai Shalom Family!

Pesach is my favorite holiday! I love the
Seder, the special foods, even the
preparation! And I love the mitzvot
(commandments): telling the story of the
Exodus, eating matzah on the first night, refraining from eating
chametz, and not even owning chametz for a week.

This last mitzvah comes from both Exodus and Deuteronomy,
which specify that leaven is not permitted to be in our homes for
the duration of the festival. But it is almost impossible, let alone
expensive, to fully clean out our pantries and consume all of our
chametz so that we have zero chametz remaining before
Passover each year. What to do? *Mechirat Chametz*!

Mechirat Chametz is the act of selling chametz to someone
who is not Jewish so that we do not own it for the duration of
the holiday. Because of the complexities of the practice under
halacha (Jewish law), most people empower their Rabbi to
conduct the sale on their behalf. Throughout the holiday, the
buyer has full possession of the property, and has the right to
take any of the chametz for their personal use. (My buyers have
sometimes availed themselves of Girl Scout cookies!) In
Talmudic times, the sale was final, but the common practice
today is for the Rabbi to buy the chametz back at the end of
Passover, either by paying for it or by having a clause in the
contract that nullifies the sale if the final payment is not made.

Why am I telling you all this? Because as your Rabbi I am here
to sell your chametz! Not only is it a fun and easy way to fulfill
one of the primary mitzvot of Pesach, but it is a great way to
support the work we do in the greater community by supporting
the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund. I hope you will consider selling
your chametz this year!

Chag Pesach Sameach v'Kasher! A Happy and Kosher
Passover!

Kol Tuv – All good things,

Rabbi Adrienne :)
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P.S. If you would like to read a detailed discussion of the history
of *Mechirat Chametz*, you can do so at <https://www.koltorah.org/halachah/mechirat-chametz-the-source-of-the-deal-by-rabbi-chaim-jachter>