

Cantorial Message

March 2021

Chag Pesach sameach! I looked at the matzah while shopping in the grocery store and smiled when I realized that I still have two boxes from last year! Passover was one of the holidays my family celebrated as I was growing up. I'd help my mom with the cooking and setting the table. It was always a home celebration with matzah balls in the chicken soup, (unless I served my dad the matzah balls with the water they were boiled in), jarred gefilte fish, vegetables, and tzimmes. We used the Maxwell House haggadah and my dad led a beautiful seder. The prize for finding the afikoman was usually a large chocolate covered creamy coconut Easter Egg. That memory still makes me laugh. My brother and I took our matzah sandwiches to school for lunch. They were very messy and always got funny looks from any kid sitting at our lunch table. Their looks were usually followed by the question, "What is that?". Then I'd have to tell them the story of Passover. When we joined Temple Emanu-El, we started attending Passover Seders with our T.E. family. In fact, the first time I met Barbara Bentley Wolfe was at one of those seders! Sitting with the Goldsmith family for the seder was always a highlight for me. Our boys would crack jokes and see who could hang a spoon off their nose. To be honest, the adults tried it too. We would giggle our way through the haggadah and enjoy each other's company. Sharing Passover with such special friends was such a blessing. Memories that still make me smile and laugh out loud as tears remind me that March 3rd, will be 2 years since Terri left us. She did such creative things for Passover, like the Peep Passover Seder that she made with Amanda Rowe. She loved Peep art. Can't pass a Peep without thinking about her. Her memory is always a blessing. There were years that we were blessed to spend second seder with the Rosenberg's, their family and extended family. Those were also fun seders with great memories, many good laughs, and delicious food. I've also taken part in seders with the Feinstein family and friends. Andy's yearly creative haggadah, with a part for everyone, is always based on current issues, infused with humor, music, and fun, all while telling the story of Pesach. I'm always in awe of his creativity. Speaking of the haggadah, I'm looking forward to using our new haggadah, Mishkan HaSeder. My copy has arrived and I've enjoyed flipping through it. The pages are smooth and clean, waiting for their first drop of wine and matzah crumbs to add character. There's new poetry and colorful illustrations that are beautiful. I'm sure you will find it inviting. I'm looking forward to sharing Pesach with you and your family at our Temple Emanu-El seder on Zoom. I'm hoping this will be our last year solely on Zoom and that next year we will be done with the virus and able to be together in person once again. Have a sweet and healthy Passover!

A couple of things going on at Temple Emanu-El that I'd like to remind you about.

Every Friday in March, you will have a special opportunity to nourish your tummy with lunch, while Harvey Snitkin nourishes your soul with music. Please join us Fridays at 12:00 for an hour of munching and music.

Saturdays at 7:00 p.m., we join together to say good-bye to Shabbat with our havdalah service and welcome in the new week with some fun. Barbara Senges has come up with some great trivia questions, questions to solve, and the end of the month we have Cabaret. Barbara Senges has been great helping to create this program. Many thanks to her. If you are interested in being a part of Cabaret, please contact me. I'd love to have you in the line up.

B'shir,

Sherry