



HaKol

HA KOL IS THE NEWSLETTER OF HERZL-NER TAMID CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATION

 HERZL-NER TAMID

THE 2025

GADOL GALA

— SPIRIT OF RENEWAL —

SUNDAY, MARCH 23 AT 5:00 PM

Learn more on page 6.

FOR AN INTERACTIVE, PRINTABLE CALENDAR OF ALL HNT EVENTS
HAPPENING THIS MONTH, VISIT [H-NT.ORG/CALENDAR](https://www.h-nt.org/calendar)





A Message from Rabbi Jacob Herber

As the joy of Purim fills our homes and communities, there's an often overlooked but significant extension of the holiday, Shushan Purim, which is observed on the 15th of Adar (this year that corresponds with March 15th). While most of us celebrate Purim on the 14th of Adar, in walled cities like Jerusalem, the holiday is commemorated one day later, in accordance with the events described in *Megillat Esther*.

In the time of Esther and Mordechai, the Jews of Persia defended themselves against their enemies on the 13th of Adar. In most places, they celebrated their victory on the following day, the 14th. But in Shushan, the capital city, the fighting continued an extra day, and the celebration was delayed until the 15th. To honor this distinction, our Sages established that Purim would be celebrated on the 15th in cities that, like Shushan, had been walled since the time of Joshua.

For most of us, Shushan Purim is a quieter day, a time to reflect on the miracles of Purim and experience a lingering sense of joy. In Jerusalem and other historically walled cities the full Purim celebration—including

the Megillah reading, festive meals, *mishloah manot*, and *matanot l'evyonim*—takes place on this day. Even outside these cities, many communities add an element of festivity, refraining from fasting or eulogies and maintaining an air of happiness.

Shushan Purim reminds us that while redemption sometimes comes swiftly, in other cases, patience and perseverance are what's required. Just as the Jews of Shushan needed an extra day before they could celebrate, we, too, may face delays on the path to personal and communal triumphs. But like in the Purim story, God's guiding hand is always present, even when hidden.

As we transition from Purim to Passover and the rest of the year, let's carry with us the joy, unity, and faith that this season inspires.

Purim Sameah!

-RABBI JACOB HERBER

Open Budget Meetings

Tuesday, March 25 & Tuesday, April 22 • 7:30 PM • In-Person at HNT

As members of the congregation, you are invited to come ask questions and give input on next year's budget.

Please email Melanie at MelanieM@h-nt.org to RSVP so that you can receive the relevant documents.

Selling Hametz

The Torah prohibits the ownership of leaven during Passover, therefore requiring the most preparation of any holiday. To sell your hametz, please complete the form below by 5:00 PM on Thursday, April 10.

<https://h-nt.shulcloud.com/form/hametz-selling-2025.html>





A Message From the President

Dear Friends,

With the approach of Purim and its festive celebration, I acutely feel the parallel of tragic losses in Israel and also the perseverance of the Jewish people. Purim gives us hope for the victory of the Jewish people over adversity and darkness. This powerful narrative resonates strongly with the spirit of spring, which is right around the corner. I personally cannot wait to see flowers blooming and warmer days.

Purim and the arrival of spring share common threads of survival and rejuvenation. In both, there is an unmistakable energy of beginning anew. In that spirit, I want to share a few wonderful new things happening at HNT.

After the devastating return of four dead hostages, including the young Bibas family, HNT hosted a memorial in partnership with [StandWithUs NW](#) and the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle. The feeling in the sanctuary was sad and also warm and communal. Our Herzl-Ner Tamid leaders spoke and sang beautifully and passionately about our feeling of loss and our ability to overcome. There is power in grieving together, and there was clearly a need to mourn as a community.

Secondly, we have started a new program, Shabbat K'tan, led by Nyssa and Mike Harris. A partnership with PJ Library, Shabbat K'tan occurs monthly during Saturday morning services and is geared towards children under age five and their parents. In February, 47 people attended! It is wonderful to see this energetic group in shul and sharing the kiddush lunch.

I hope you'll join us for the Purim Schpiel on March 13, themed "The Return of the Wicked Witch of West Mercer Way." We'll have a live band, a family dinner and home-made Hamentashen. [See page 5](#) for more details. It promises to be great fun!

With the arrival of Purim and spring, we also look ahead to an important event in our synagogue's calendar—the upcoming Gadol Gala on March 23. This special evening will not only be a fun celebration of all that we have

accomplished together, but also a critical moment to raise the necessary funds that will support the continued growth and vibrancy of our congregation.

The Gala promises to be an unforgettable night of festivities, food, and community spirit. We are deeply grateful for the dedication of all those involved in organizing this event. A special thank you to our wonderful co-chairs, Tamar Heyman and Kelly Piha, whose vision, passion, and tireless efforts have made this event possible. My gratitude also extends to the incredible volunteers, sponsors and staff members who have worked behind the scenes to bring this Gala to life. Your support and commitment to our synagogue are what make moments like this possible. From the planning to the execution, every detail is made better by your dedication to our community. Thank you for all that you do!

As we celebrate the joy of Purim and anticipate the new beginnings that springtime brings, let us also enjoy our community and the collective strength we share. Our synagogue thrives because of each of you—our dedicated volunteers and congregants and our passionate staff. Thank you for being part of this vibrant community, and for your ongoing support as we continue to build and grow together.

Wishing you a joyful and meaningful Purim and a spring season filled with new opportunities.

Warmly,

- DONNA PEHA,
PRESIDENT, HNT BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Rabbi Search Updates

We Welcome Rabbi Joshua Ratner

The Rabbi Search Committee is pleased to share that we have a senior rabbi candidate who we are excited about, Rabbi Joshua Ratner, and we have invited him to visit us in Seattle. Rabbi Ratner will be with us March 17-20 and we hope you take advantage of the opportunity to meet him while he is here.

Rabbi Joshua Ratner is the rabbi of [Or Hadash](#), a Conservative synagogue in Fairfield, CT. He also works as the Jewish Chaplain at [Sacred Heart](#). Rabbi Ratner previously functioned as the director of the Jewish Community Relations Council of New Haven, as Rabbi and Jewish Educator at Yale University, and as the rabbi of Congregation Kol Ami in Cheshire, CT.

Ordained by the Jewish Theological Seminary in May 2012, he was a Joseph Neubauer Fellow and, while at JTS, also earned a Master's Degree in Midrash, a Certificate in Pastoral Care, and received training in congregation-based community organizing. Rabbi Ratner is a graduate of Columbia University

and Columbia Law School, and he worked as an attorney for five years in New York City prior to entering rabbinical school.

Rabbi Ratner has served as a board member of Hazon (now called Adamah), a national Jewish environmental organization, a board member of Ezra Academy, and is an American Jewish World Service Global Justice Fellow. He is married to Dr. Elena Ratner and they are the proud parents of Dimitri, Eli, Gabby, and Sasha.

Can't join us in person? Watch two of Rabbi Ratner's sermons here:
Rosh Hashanah: <https://youtu.be/5iWWW4X7Ves>
Yom Kippur: <https://youtu.be/keNGV7xsCHo>

See below for opportunities to meet Rabbi Ratner.

Schedule of Events

Tuesday March 18 • 5:30 PM - 6:15 PM

FRS parents

Rabbi Ratner will be present at FRS. Join him while your kids are in class for informal conversation and ice cream treats.

Wednesday March 19 • 7:30 AM

Morning Minyan - Rabbi Ratner will join the regular morning minyan crew. Come by to introduce yourself and share a light brunch.

Wednesday March 19 • 11:30 AM

Daytimers - We are opening Daytimers up to the entire congregation. If you're coming for the movie, come early for lunch to meet Rabbi Ratner.

Wednesday March 19 • 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Please join us at HNT for an evening to meet, learn with and ask questions of Rabbi Ratner. 7:00 PM Meet and Greet. Refreshments will be served. 7:15 PM program begins

Please RSVP for planning purposes:

<https://h-nt.shulcloud.com/form/rabbi-ratner-visit>

 Purim Events



Hamantashen Baking

Hamantashen Baking Sessions

Sunday, March 2 • 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Sunday, March 9 • 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Volunteer to bake hamantashen for our Mishloach Manot this year! We are bringing back Eileen Mintz's z"l traditional recipe for everyone to enjoy.

Register here: h-nt.org/hb



HERZL-NER TAMID
Presents
A PURIM SHPIEL

THE RETURN OF THE
WICKED
WITCH OF WEST
MERCER WAY

Thursday
MARCH 13

6:00 PM FAMILY DINNER
6:45 PM COSTUME PARADE
7:00 PM MEGILLAH READING
AND PURIM SHPIEL

Herzl-Ner Tamid Presents - A Purim Shpiel The Return of the Wicked Witch of West Mercer Way

Thursday, March 13

6:00 PM Family Dinner

6:45 PM Costume Parade in Main Sanctuary

7:00 PM Megillah Reading and Purim Shpiel

Join us to celebrate a Wicked-themed Purim! We'll have an open bar, costume party, live band and Megillah reading! Registration is required for the Purim Dinner at <https://h-nt.shulcloud.com/event/purim-dinner.html>. The rest of the evening does not require registration.

THE 2025
GADOL GALA
— SPIRIT OF RENEWAL —

SUNDAY, MARCH 23 AT 5:00 PM
MEYDENBAUER CENTER

Join us for a special evening of philanthropy and community at our annual fundraiser, where we will proudly honor this year's Bob Zimmerman z"l Community Leadership Award recipients. The event will feature a cocktail reception with a raffle followed by dinner, an inspiring program, live auction, and the chance to raise your paddle to support Herzl-Ner Tamid.

Visit h-nt.org/GG25 for more information and to purchase tickets.

2025 Bob Zimmerman z"l Community Leadership Award

At this year's Gala, we will honor **Kennis Koldewyn, Joel Konikow, Amy Wasser, Craig Weinstein, and Alan Wilensky**. These exceptional lay service leaders stepped up in remarkable ways following Cantor Kurland's z"l passing, ensuring our ritual offerings remained accessible to all. We are deeply grateful for their dedication and for the contributions of all our volunteer lay leaders who support HNT. We will be displaying a dedication slideshow at the event with messages for the honorees.

[Submit a dedication →](#)

Donate Today!

Those who plan to attend are invited to raise their paddle in a meaningful way at the event. Those that are unable to join us are encouraged to make an online donation. You can still make an impact!

[Donate today →](#)

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Zane & Melissa Brown

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[Become a sponsor →](#)



Vote Mercaz

Voting in the next elections begins this month...

Every 5 years we have the opportunity to vote in the World Zionist Congress. Voting is a simple **online process** that **takes five minutes and five dollars**. Any American Jew (by self-identification, while not identifying as a member of another religion) over 18 can vote for MERCAZ USA in elections to the World Zionist Congress. The **voting period begins on March 10th**, and no preregistration or organizational membership of any kind beforehand is required. The five dollars is a small administrative fee covering the cost of administering the election, which also prevents voter fraud as each payment method can only vote a limited number of times.

When you vote for the Conservative/Masorti Judaism's official party, MERCAZ USA, you are voting to:

1. Make sure those hit hardest on October 7th get resources they need to rebuild
2. Protect democracy and democratic values in Israel
3. Secure over \$25 million in funding for Israel education at your congregation, Ramah, USY/NOAM, and more
4. Fight the ultra-Orthodox monopoly in Israel by funding the Masorti/Conservative Movement in Israel and preventing ultra-Orthodox extremists from erasing us.

For more information and to vote, go to votemercazusa.org

For questions contact HNT's campaign manager, [Ilyse Wagner](#).



Heather Batchelor

- CANTOR HEATHER BATCHELOR

Cantor's Playlist

Dardashti on Vashti

In honor of Purim, I want to share a little something from my colleague **Cantor Galeet Dardashti**. Galeet comes from a family of Persian musicians and cantors, and her song "Vashti" is a modern take on often overlooked female character from the Megillah:

<https://youtu.be/PvO9U2JQwhY?feature=shared>

To hear about the inspiration for this song, as well as reflections from another woman of musical midrash, watch Alicia Jo Rabins' interview with Galeet on her **Girls in Trouble** YouTube series: <https://youtu.be/E5Mlqnt0v24?feature=shared>

Finally, for more about the Dardashti family's fascinating story check out the award winning podcast produced by Galeet and her journalist sister Danielle Dardashti **The Nightengale of Iran**: <https://www.nightingaleofiran.com/>



Update on the Barnabie Point Project

As we hope most of you are aware, the Barnabie Point Project (BPP) is a joint HNT and JDS initiative that brings Jewish organizations together in an underutilized HNT space to share resources, programming, and security. In order to keep the HNT membership up to date on what is going on with the project, we sat down for an interview with Audrey Covner, Barnabie Point Project chair, to get her perspective on how things are going so far. While there is significant activity going on behind the scenes that cannot be publicly shared at this point, we wanted to at least address some of the questions we have been hearing from our members.

So, Audrey, how's the Barnabie Point project coming along overall?

Audrey: It's going really well! We're thrilled with the positive feedback we're getting from our key stakeholders and donors, from HNT members, and from the wider Jewish community. We are meeting our building and construction timelines and are on track toward achieving our goal of 80% of the needed funds raised by the time we are ready to break ground. Our efforts to reach out to local Jewish organizations about joining in as tenants in the building have generated a lot of interest! Consistent with our original goals, this building will be a space to address the needs of JDS, HNT and enhance access to sharing resources and space with other Jewish organizations.

How about the scope and timing – any changes there?

Audrey: So far, so good! No major changes to the scope or timeline. We are still expecting construction to start in October 2025 depending, of course, on the final approvals from the City of Mercer Island. We have a great working relationship with our JDS counterparts, the architect has been amazing, and our consultants have been exceptional in their understanding of what we need and helping to align costs. Most importantly, our dedicated volunteers have put in extraordinary hours of work to make this all happen.

Projected Timeline (subject to change):

- Late Summer/Early Fall 2025: Permit issued by City of Mercer Island to start construction; at least 80% of funds pledged needed for construction
- Fall 2025 – Fall 2026: Building Construction
- Fall 2026: Building ready for occupancy

That's great news! Speaking of JDS, how's our relationship with them coming along?

Audrey: That's crucial, and thankfully, they've been fantastic partners. Just like any relationship, we have had our differences, but we always come together in the end to work together and do what is right for our organizations and the Jewish community. For example, as we plow through the legal agreements, there have been a few negotiations, yet none have been insurmountable as we all see the future together. In addition, the relationship of the organizations is bolstered by many synergies between how both organizations operate allowing for the sharing of critical resources, as a lot of our programming dovetails with theirs. The new classrooms will be used by JDS during the weekdays, and Frankel Religious School will use them in the evenings and on weekends.

Okay, so assuming everything stays on track and construction starts late this fall, what impact will construction have on activities at Herzl-Ner Tamid?

Audrey: We've been working closely with the contractor to figure out the best way to manage construction during High Holidays, Shabbat, and special occasions like weddings and bar/bat mitzvahs. We'll have detailed plans in place well before construction starts to make sure everything runs smoothly for HNT activities during the project.

What about parking during construction? That's always a concern.

Audrey: We have approximately 110 parking spaces which, according to our Transportation Survey, is more than enough to service the uses in the new building as each organization is on site at different times. In addition, we currently rent 50 spots during the week to the French American School of Puget Sound (FASPS). This rental is on a year-by-year basis and will be terminated and/or amended if we need to reclaim these spots for our use. We have a great working relationship with FASPS and have already notified them of the upcoming construction.

With a new building, everyone worries about costs. Will there be a new building assessment for HNT members?

Audrey: We totally understand that concern! But no, we do not expect any building assessments for HNT members based on the new construction. All the funds for the BPP are being raised through a separate capital campaign. There are also financial sustainability provisions for HNT built into the building operations that will help support building maintenance and HNT operating costs.

Thank you, Audrey, for the helpful conversation. Any last things you would like people to know?

Audrey: This process has been incredibly rewarding, although at times challenging and time-consuming, yet all of us who have been at ground zero are extremely proud of how far we have come to making this dream a reality. This is the first project in the local Jewish community to have several Jewish agencies come together to create a Jewish space to enhance all of our operations. While Barnabie Point is a small parcel, we hope it will be a first step of bringing our community together and look forward to seeing how

other developments, particularly at the SJCC, can expand and support the vision of a Jewish space in Puget Sound. Working together we are stronger, better able to fight antisemitism, and empowered to create a positive Jewish environment.

We will continue to share details with the membership as we get them. If people have specific questions or comments, they can reach out to the project team at barnabiepoint@h-nt.org. Also, you can visit the [Barnabie Point website](#) for additional information.

Women's League Torah Fund Tea Party

Sunday, March 2 • 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM • Susan Glick's Home (Mercer Island)

Come celebrate Torah Fund & HNT Women's League while you enjoy a delicious potluck, a wide variety of teas, and a presentation by our special guest, **Cantor Heather Batchelor**. Bring a dairy or pareve dessert or snack to share.

RSVP to: wl-tf@h-nt.org

Learn more and contribute: <https://h-nt.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Torah-Fund-Tea-Invitation-March-2025.pdf>

Judaica Shop Open Hours

First Sunday of Each Month

March 2, April 6 • 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

We have everything you need, including tallitot, kippot, and kid-sized shofarot.



Join Our Greeter Team: Be the Warm Welcome at Shabbat Services!

As we continue to build a welcoming and vibrant community at HNT, we're seeking friendly faces to greet members and guests at our various services. Being a greeter is a simple yet impactful way to help everyone feel at home and part of our family. Whether it's your first time or you've been with us for years, your warm welcome can create a meaningful experience for all who walk through our doors.

Help us foster connection and joy by signing up to be a greeter today! Simply follow the link below to get involved. We look forward to seeing you there!

Learn more: h-nt.org/Greeter



B'nai Mitzvah

Ayelet Mazor • March 8



Ayelet is a seventh grader at Timberline Middle School, the daughter of Melissa and Yuval Mazor, sister to Ilan and Gili, and a delight to all who know her! Ayelet has a wide range of interests and fills her days with her many pursuits. She runs cross-country and track and plays basketball for her school. She is the captain of her club soccer team and has played piano for seven years. Ayelet loves spending time with her friends and family, playing games and watching Gilmore Girls.

Ayelet has always enjoyed working with children and helping them learn and grow. For her Mitzvah project, Ayelet volunteers at Ella Baker Elementary School teaching STEAM concepts to 4th graders.

Zachary Alpert • March 15



Zachary Alpert, son of Stanley and Heather Alpert will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on 3/15/25. He is the grandson of Cantor Benjamin and Arlene (who have passed) and Daniel and Margaret also little brother to Isaac. Zac is a 7th grader at Islander Middle School that loves to spend his time with family, friends and his dogs as well as playing basketball. He also enjoys any ocean time he can get back on the East Coast.

Samson & Simon Ahrendorf • March 22



Samson and Simon are the sons of Susan and Stefan Ahrendorf, and grandsons of Jacque Jensen and William Adler, and Ursula and Karl Ahrendorf. They are seventh graders at Kirkland Middle School.

Both Simon and Samson love spending summers at Camp Solomon Schechter and Boy Scout camps, including year-round hikes with their friends, carrying heavy backpacks with all their supplies 25 miles or more, into remote camping locations for several days at a time. In addition, they each enjoy playing golf, bass clarinet in the school concert band, and family time watching movies, cooking, traveling, and riding bikes on local trails. They are also avid readers.

Simon has competed in cross country at school and during the summer he competes on the swim team at a local club. He is also interested in game design, coding, and playing video games.

Samson enjoys playing soccer and has been on the same team with several of his friends for many years. He also likes to learn about history and science.

Volunteering is an important part of Simon and Samson's life. They love their time at The Friendship Circle of Washington, as well as working at food drives and conservation service projects.

We are incredibly proud of Simon and Samson and look forward to celebrating their B'nai Mitzvah.

AFFINITY GROUPS



Needlecraft Affinity Group

Thursdays, March 6, 13, 20, 27 • 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

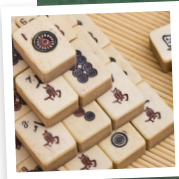
Knit, crochet and more with the HNT Needlecraft Affinity Group! This is a wonderful opportunity to socialize with fellow crafters. Bring your projects, learn a new craft or get better at what you know.



Mah Jongg Affinity Group

Thursdays, March 6, 13, 20, 27 • 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM

Dragons, Flowers, and Cardinal Directions, oh my! Please join us for Mah Jongg Affinity Group on Thursdays at HNT! The second Thursday of each month we will welcome new learners. Please contact Judy Weiser at weiserfam@comcast.net for more details.



Nosh n' Sing

Tuesday, March 25 • 12:30 PM - 2:00 PM

Join us on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 12:30 PM in the HNT Upper Foyer for a group-led Nosh n' Sing in the musical tradition of Cantor Kurland z"l. Please feel free to bring your dairy lunches and we will provide warm drinks and snacks. We will focus on group song choices and aim to be a relaxed and easy-going time.

MITZVAH CORPS

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

The mission of HNT's Mitzvah Corps is to provide a caring and compassionate resource to our fellow congregants while giving generously of ourselves. The Corps is always looking for new volunteers.

Please reach out to Judy Ziedman at jraez@comcast.net or 425-883-6482 to ask questions or to join the group.

Within the Shul Family

We Offer Condolences for:

- Harriet Mihalstn z"l beloved mother of Adam Mihalstn, mother-in-law of Marilyn Corets and grandmother of Brooke Mihalstn
- Lea Fuller z"l beloved sister of Marlene Burns and sister-in-law of Steve Burns
- Ilya Gringauz z"l beloved grandfather of Anne Pesenson, grandfather-in-law of Adam Szpiro, and great-grandfather to Caroline and Gabriel Szpiro

Refuah Shelemah to:

- Baila bat Gavriel v'Chaiya
- Lori Kaufman
- Shmuel ben Y'rachmiel v'Hannah
- Daniel ben Y'rachmiel v'Hannah
- Shayna Chaiya bat Enya
- Tzvi Hirsch
- Tom Livingston
- Sara bat Avner v'Shoshana
- Kathy Goff
- Michael Ben Sarah Rochel
- Shimon ben Shia v'Chanah
- Krendel bat Miriam
- Sara Rachel bat Yaakov Kopel v'Shifra
- Gill ben Bashah
- Rahel Rivka bat Gittel
- Levi Yitzchack ben Shifra
- Mackenzie Goldman
- Marie Field
- Levi Ben Hannah
- Baila bat Gavriel v'Chaiya
- David ben Sara
- Ruth bat Sara Fagel
- Efraim ben Sara Fagel
- Chanan Reuven ben Yosef HaLevi v'Tovah

* To add a name to the list email Aviva@h-nt.org

* If you or someone you know is on the Refuah Shelemah list and no longer needs healing prayers, please contact the office to request that a name be removed.

March T'filot

See this month's B'nai Mitzvah on [Page 10](#)

HNT offers both in-person Shabbat services in our Sanctuary, and a virtual option available to view at h-nt.org/youtube

Pre-negs: Fridays at 5:30 PM

Kiddush lunch: Saturdays following services

Sponsorship opportunities are available, please contact Melanie at Melaniem@h-nt.org for more information.

Saturday, March 1

9:30 AM Shabbat Service & Bar Mitzvah of **Ari Stoffer**

Friday, March 7

6:00 PM Birthday Shabbat Service

Saturday, March 8

9:30 AM Shabbat Service & Bat Mitzvah of **Ayelet Mazor**

Thursday, March 13

7:00 PM Purim Megillah Reading & Shpiel

Friday, March 14

6:00 PM Shabbat Service

Saturday, March 15

9:30 AM Shabbat Service & Bar Mitzvah of **Zachary Alpert**

Friday, March 21

6:00 PM Shabbat Service

Saturday, March 22

9:30 AM Shabbat Service

& B'nai Mitzvah of **Samson & Simon Ahrens Dorf**

Friday, March 28

6:00 PM Shabbat Service

Saturday, March 29

10:00 AM Shabbat Service

11:00 AM Shabbat K'tan

Morning Minyan:

Weekdays: 7:30 AM, Sundays & Secular Holidays: 9:00 AM

Morning Minyan is also offered both in-person and virtually at h-nt.org/services

Daytimers Lunch & Film Series

Wednesday, March 19: *Dough*

11:30 AM - 2:30 PM • HNT Feinberg Social Hall

Free during the day? Join us for good conversation, tasty lunch, and a Jewish-themed film!

Dough: An old Jewish baker struggles to keep his business afloat until his young Muslim apprentice drops cannabis in the dough and sends sales sky high.

This month, we invite you to meet HNT senior rabbi candidate Joshua Ratner during lunch before the film.

Pricing: \$10/per person early bird (register by March 12) or \$12/per person for lunch, served 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM, followed by the film.

Film only: free admission, but your registration is still appreciated. Because we pre-order food, refunds cannot be issued after Friday, March 14.

Register at h-nt.org/DT-M



March Anniversaries

Mar. 3	Michael & Nyssa Harris	6	Mar. 19	Lea Anne & Randall Ottinger	37
Mar. 5	Steve & Brenda Luper	31	Mar. 19	Mychael & Kat Lagbas	3
Mar. 6	Isaac & Carol Barmor	57	Mar. 22	Kelly & David Finkel	38
Mar. 6	Al & Rachael Moss	20	Mar. 23	Billy Howard & Mimi Sternberg	22
Mar. 7	Michael & Jo Anne Sandler	43	Mar. 25	Doug & Ellie Davis	41
Mar. 10	Craig & Michelle Walker	23	Mar. 25	Michael & Dafna Tarlowe	25
Mar. 11	Josie & Alan Bernstein	52	Mar. 26	Les & Denise Klaff	53
Mar. 12	Carl & Wendy Fjelsted	37	Mar. 27	Steve & Marlene Burns	59
Mar. 14	Ron & Cathie Furman	50	Mar. 29	Carl & Leanne Berkenwald	55
Mar. 14	Robin & James Parsons	32	Mar. 29	Bob & Janet Lackman	55
Mar. 14	Brian & Elysia Sloan	26	Mar. 30	Audrey Covner & Dianne Dougherty	41
Mar. 18	Marc & Sue Policar	58	Mar. 31	Michael & Stacy Vinnick	40
Mar. 19	Andrew Harris & Jenah Gold-Harris	25	Mar. 31	Patty Willner & Neil Martin	29

Todah Rabbah to...

- **Debra Mailman** for doing such a fabulous job leading the Tu B'Shevat Strolling Seder program for FRS and **Karen Lieberman** who helped facilitate our partnership with the SJCC for this program.
 - **Toby Israel** and **Ella Toker** for office help
 - **Jerry Weiser** for his Humashim book re-binding work

If we missed someone's name, please reach out to Cora@h-nt.org so we can properly thank everyone.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for the Tu B'Shevat Strolling Seder event on Sunday, February 9th!



Together & Apart: The Future of Jewish Peoplehood Taught by Rabbi Herber

Thursdays, March 20, 27 • 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM



In the aftermath of October 7th and Israel's military response to free its hostages and defeat Hamas, we have been attacked, besieged, and isolated at home. Join us for this compelling, text-based Shalom Hartman Institute video series which will explore and consider how to understand what it means to be a member of the Jewish people, the core values that animate Jewish peoplehood, and the contemporary challenges to Jewish unity in the face of unprecedented antisemitic and anti-Israel activism and hate.

Learn more and register:

<https://h-nt.shulcloud.com/event/adult-education-with-rabbi-herber.html>

NEW! Learn to Leyn Taught by Cantor Batchelor

Wednesdays 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM Starting March 26th. Please Note No Class on April 2nd

Always wanted to learn to chant Torah but thought it was too hard?

This fun and engaging class is designed to get you up on your feet and chanting Torah in time for the Shavuot holiday. For adult and post-b'nai mitzvah teens that have basic Hebrew reading fluency.

Registration required: <https://h-nt.shulcloud.com/event/torah-reading-class>



NEW! Introduction to Mussar

This class will be given by Mussar accredited teacher Hilary Abramowitz

Tuesdays, 4/1, 4/22, 5/13, 5/27, 6/10, 6/24 • 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM • HNT Skolnick Boardroom

This six session Mussar course focuses on the practical aspects of the practice of Mussar and how we manifest “Mussar Moments” in our daily lives. We will explore how we want to live and how we choose to live, while incorporating these principles and practices. The process consists of a journey into the awakening and deepening of our spiritual lives—how we live in relation to ourselves, others and the world. It includes personal exploration and the examination of our inner worlds with increasing insight. In a large part the process is also an aspect of Tikun Olam. Healing the world through the ongoing healing of ourselves.

Learn more and register:

<https://h-nt.shulcloud.com/event/introduction-to-mussar.html>



Year Round Hebrew Classes Taught By Janine Rosenbaum

Classes Available Now

Please reach out to Janine at janinerosenbaum@comcast.net to inquire about this years options.

A Message from Director of Education Irit Eliav Levin



“When the king’s order and edict was proclaimed, and when many girls were assembled in the fortress Shushan under the supervision of Hegai, Esther too was taken into the king’s palace... The girl pleased him and won his favor, and he hastened to furnish her with her cosmetics and her rations, as well as with the seven maids who were due her from the king’s palace; and he treated her and her maids with special kindness in the harem. Esther did not reveal her people or her kindred, for Mordechai had told her not to reveal it. Every single day Mordechai would walk about in front of the court of the harem, to learn how Esther was faring and what was happening to her.”

- Megillat Esther, 2.8-II

This passage from Megillat Esther, will be read aloud by Jews around the world this Purim. The story of a young woman forced to hide her Jewish identity - and then asked to speak up and save the Jews from annihilation - feels different in today’s complicated and trying times than it did even a few years ago.

But Judaism always teaches us to dive deeper into text, to look not only at the *p’shat* (the literal meaning of the text), but also to study the *drash* (interpretation or secret meaning of the text). In the passage above, *midrash* teaches us that the reason Mordechai was pacing in front of the court was because Esther was not actually his niece or cousin, but rather his wife. (The rabbis say to read the megillah as saying not *bat*, daughter, but rather *bayit*, home - a rabbinic expression meaning wife). He was heartbroken at losing his partner and wanted to find a way to be close to her and to protect her. While that interpretation changes the meaning of the story at a profound level, it also places Mordechai at the palace gate. This allowed him to hear the plot of Bigthan and Teresh and save the life of the King, setting in motion several other key aspects of the Purim story.

Similarly, it would be easy to just take at face value that

Esther was given seven maids. But the rabbis noted the significance of the number seven. Midrash teaches that the reason she had seven maids is so that she could behave differently with the seventh maid, and therefore she could observe Shabbat, without causing another maid to wonder at the change in her behavior.

When Esther feels frightened at being asked to speak on behalf of the Jews, Mordechai tells her “*Who knows, perhaps you have attained to royal position for just such a crisis.*” (Megillat Esther 4.14) It is easy to feel overwhelmed and exhausted by the current state of the world. But if we look deeper, we can find little sparks of hope, kindness, love, and friendship everywhere we look. It is up to us not only to find them, but to create them in as many ways and places as we can. Maybe we too are who we are and where we are for a purpose that we cannot yet see. May we all find a way to use our time, strength, and resources for the purpose for which we were intended.

- IRIT ELIAV LEVIN,
DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION



Tot Shabbat at SJCC

Fridays • 9:45 AM - 10:30 AM

In Person at SJCC

Grab your 'bim' and your 'bam,' along with your kiddos or grandbabies, and join us for Tot Shabbat at the J! Everyone is welcome. Thank you to the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle, PJ Library, and SJCC for co-sponsoring this program with HNT.

Thank God It's Shabbat!

Friday, March 28 • 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Please join us for TGIS services and dinner. We will begin at 5:30 PM with a Pre-Neg (some snacks and treats), followed by services in the sanctuary. Then, please stay for a lovely Shabbat dinner catered by Purple Beet Catering.

Registration for the dinner can be found here:

h-nt.org/TGIS-M

If you have any questions, please contact

Irit Eliav Levin, Director of Education at Irit@h-nt.org.

JEWISH DAY SCHOOLS

More important than ever.
More affordable than you think.





Social Action Opportunities



Teen Feed

Sunday, March 23 • 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Each month a dedicated crew of HNT volunteers prepares and serves meals to homeless youth in the University District. Email our Teen Feed leaders at TeenFeed@h-nt.org to help this month, for questions, or to be added to the Teen Feed volunteer list.

PORCHLIGHT

Porchlight

Sunday, March 30 • 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

“Porchlight,” is Bellevue’s new well-equipped shelter at Eastgate that can house 100 unhoused men each night. Women’s League of Herzl-Ner Tamid will be providing a dinner meal for approximately 100 residents on Sunday, March 30, and we need your help! Please take a look at the menu we will be providing and sign up below. With your support we can provide a beautiful meal to those who need it most. Please lend a hand and sign up today! On behalf of Women’s League, thanks for supporting this meaningful Tikkun Olam project!

Learn more and sign up: h-nt.org/PL-March



Social Action Shout Outs

Some of our members provided a Superbowl meal to the men at Porchlight shelter and it was a big hit! Thanks to all who contributed and to **Jerry and Judy Weiser** for organizing: **Dafna Tarlowe, Judy Ziedman, Herb Weisbaum, Andi Neuwirth, Nadine Strauss, Liz Director, Judy Heber, Deb Margolis, Ed Margolis, Karen Rosenzweig, Mindy Landsman, Tina Vinnick, Kelly Finkel, Brandy Moss, Judy Weiser, Jerry Weiser, Sari Schneider, Lorna Isenberg, Judy Schwarz, Amy Wasser, Linda Krisher, Myriam Feldman, Mark Feldman, Brian Moss**





IN SUPPORT OF ONE ANOTHER

These generous tributes were made from January 21 through February 20, 2025

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In Memory of

Mark Brashem from Alesa & Harvey Trager
Lois Glass from Ettie Davis

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For the Yahrzeit of

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Mark Brashem from Aaron & Aileen Okrent
Hugh Gladner from Aaron & Aileen Okrent
Harriet Mihlstin from Audrey Covner & Dianne Dougherty
Harriet Mihlstin from Louie Sanft
Hugh Gladner from Audrey Covner & Dianne Dougherty

CANTOR BATCHELOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Appreciation of

Cantor Batchelor from Ben & Brooke Pariser
Cantor Serkin-Poole from Bob & Sue Solomon
Cantor Batchelor from Darlene Fague
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In Memory of

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Mark Brashem from Gary & Sharon Constantine
Sema Angel from Aaron & Aileen Okrent
Hugh Gladner from Peter & Carol Michel
Harriet Mihlstin from Marv & Lisa Brashem
Harriet Mihlstin from Gail Wiener
Harriet Mihlstin from Mike & Cheri Levy
Faith Melman from Mike & Cheri Levy
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In Memory of

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In Memory of

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Hugh Gladner from Neil Clemmons
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In Honor of

Debbie and Ed Margolis' special birthdays
 from Efrem & Linda Krisher

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For the Yahrzeit of

Anna Silver from Bob Maslan
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SHABBAT OF Feb 28 / March 1

Mar. 1 *Bertram Blyden*
 Mar. 1 *Max Uhrmacher*
 Mar. 2 *Al Cohen*
 Mar. 2 *Esther Frankfurt*
 Mar. 2 *Rachel Kaplan*
 Mar. 2 *Rose Newman*
 Mar. 2 *Bessie Rosen*
 Mar. 2 *Jonize Senescu*
 Mar. 2 *Henrietta Szold*
 Mar. 2 *Constance L. Williams*
 Mar. 3 *Samuel Berch*
 Mar. 3 *Rose Geyer*
 Mar. 3 *Hyman Lerner*
 Mar. 3 *Ben Levine*
 Mar. 3 *Dody Norban*
 Mar. 4 *Irma Bieber*
 Mar. 4 *Max Jacobi*
 Mar. 4 *Charles Lipper*
 Mar. 5 *Else Katschke*
 Mar. 5 *Harry Pody*
 Mar. 5 *Karl Schiller*
 Mar. 5 *Rebecca Tobis*
 Mar. 5 *Martin Winant*
 Mar. 6 *Charles Glowitz*
 Mar. 6 *Sally Kaye*
 Mar. 6 *Esther Lott*
 Mar. 6 *Oscar Rosefield*
 Mar. 6 *Isaac Zetin*
 Mar. 7 *Lawrence Cigelnik*
 Mar. 7 *Rebecca Efron*
 Mar. 7 *Martin Klatzker*
 Mar. 7 *Wolf Leopold*
 Mar. 7 *Mildred Peha*

SHABBAT OF March 7/8

Mar. 8 *Sandra Glazer-Lake*
 Mar. 8 *Sophie Lemchen*
 Mar. 8 *Frank Schwartz*
 Mar. 8 *Julia Willner*
 Mar. 9 *Jacob Duvdvani*
 Mar. 9 *Selma Schwartz*
 Mar. 9 *David Shure*
 Mar. 9 *Anna Silver*
 Mar. 10 *Ethel Lerner*
 Mar. 10 *Marsha Paloy*
 Mar. 10 *Fannie Sender*
 Mar. 10 *Marion Shifrin*
 Mar. 11 *Samuel Kirschbaum*
 Mar. 11 *Nathan Lipets*
 Mar. 12 *Esther Schweitzer*
 Mar. 12 *Hayyah Silver*
 Mar. 13 *Ruth Canty*
 Mar. 13 *Fannie Kaminoff*
 Mar. 13 *Leo Kirstein*
 Mar. 13 *Amelia Tobias*
 Mar. 14 *David Boman*
 Mar. 14 *Reva Fine*
 Mar. 14 *Morris Finegold*
 Mar. 14 *Harry Lederman*
 Mar. 14 *Chaya Bellina Minkove*
 Mar. 14 *Alan Rappoport*
 Mar. 14 *Isadore Schuman*
 Mar. 14 *David Topolovitz*

SHABBAT OF March 14/15

Mar. 15 *Mary Colf*
 Mar. 15 *Mark Hodin*
 Mar. 15 *Sarah Joseph*
 Mar. 15 *Marvin Klass*
 Mar. 15 *Nina Pinch*
 Mar. 16 *Moshe Dahukey*
 Mar. 16 *Jacob Feinberg*
 Mar. 16 *Ethel Jaffe*
 Mar. 16 *Marie Lewinski*
 Mar. 16 *Victor Liff*
 Mar. 16 *Phil Paloy*
 Mar. 16 *Ludwig Rosenbaum*
 Mar. 16 *Sarah Walker*
 Mar. 18 *Marion Rubenstein*
 Mar. 18 *Burnie Sanft*
 Mar. 18 *Toba Thomas*
 Mar. 19 *Gertrude Auerbach*
 Mar. 19 *Julius Kahn*
 Mar. 19 *Jules Winikoff*
 Mar. 20 *David Coe*
 Mar. 20 *Ida Gerber*
 Mar. 20 *Anna Malakoff*
 Mar. 20 *Samuel Minsk*
 Mar. 21 *Morris Bensussen*
 Mar. 21 *Jack Goldman*
 Mar. 21 *Isadore Levy*



BELOVED DEPARTED

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SHABBAT OF March 21/22

Mar. 22 *Freda Perez*
 Mar. 22 *Samuel Sands*
 Mar. 23 *Hyman Block*
 Mar. 23 *Shirley Boman*
 Mar. 23 *Lillian Lipets*
 Mar. 23 *Ida Roffe*
 Mar. 23 *Louis Rosenberg*
 Mar. 23 *Sara Sadick*
 Mar. 24 *Max Cohen*
 Mar. 24 *Ann Etsekson*
 Mar. 24 *Albert Winters*
 Mar. 25 *Mary Barrat*
 Mar. 25 *Sarah Berch*
 Mar. 25 *Hannah Fenik Bernstein*
 Mar. 25 *Morris Fischler*
 Mar. 25 *Moshe Greenberg*
 Mar. 25 *Augusta Levinson*
 Mar. 25 *Henry Magdal*
 Mar. 25 *William Wienir*
 Mar. 25 *Dorothy Wittenberg*
 Mar. 26 *Samuel Asia*
 Mar. 26 *Mac Edelson*
 Mar. 26 *Fannie Gold*
 Mar. 26 *Manuel (Manny) Lott*
 Mar. 26 *George Silver*
 Mar. 27 *Abner Angel*
 Mar. 27 *Florence Gaponoff*
 Mar. 27 *Isabelle Malakoff*
 Mar. 27 *Philip David Maslan*
 Mar. 27 *Charles Michel*
 Mar. 27 *Max Oppenheimer*
 Mar. 27 *Robert Rosenfeld*
 Mar. 27 *Alan Rosenstock*
 Mar. 27 *Geula Gili Selzer*
 Mar. 27 *Gail Stulberg*
 Mar. 28 *Ida Balter*

Mar. 28 *Irving Boonov*
 Mar. 28 *Jacob Bovarnick*
 Mar. 28 *Abraham Cohen*
 Mar. 28 *Harry Friedman*
 Mar. 28 *Rose Grund*
 Mar. 28 *Max Tobias*
 Mar. 28 *Adolph Weinthrop*
 Mar. 28 *George Winston*
 Mar. 28 *Yetta Wolff*

SHABBAT OF March 28/29

Mar. 29 *Susan Friedman*
 Mar. 30 *Abraham Gottlieb*
 Apr. 1 *Goldie Cohn*
 Apr. 1 *Mendel (Max) Katz*
 Apr. 1 *Janet Wacks*
 Apr. 2 *Shimon Ben Ami*
 Apr. 2 *Harry Gold*
 Apr. 2 *Riva Emmerman Klein*
 Apr. 2 *Carl Rubinstein*
 Apr. 3 *Marie Friedlander*
 Apr. 3 *Vivian Ordell*
 Apr. 4 *Joseph Fisher*
 Apr. 4 *Louis Kolpack*
 Apr. 4 *Edith Polack*
 Apr. 4 *Dave N. Ross*
 Apr. 4 *Nathan Schwartz*
 Apr. 4 *Rachel Wise*

Herzl-Ner Tamid Conservative Congregation

Affiliated with The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

3700 East Mercer Way
 Mercer Island, WA 98040
 Phone: 206-232-8555
info@h-nt.org • h-nt.org

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 Heather Batchelor, Cantor / CantorHB@h-nt.org
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HERZL MEMORIAL PARK

16747 Dayton Avenue North, Shoreline, WA 98133

If there is a death in the family, contact the Seattle Jewish Chapel at 206-725-3067.

For more information about the Herzl Memorial Park, contact Elaine Weinstein at 425-455-4703.

In times of loss, or in need of pastoral care, HNT members should call the HNT office at 206-232-8555.



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To always have a well-maintained cemetery, please consider remembering Herzl Memorial Park in your Will, or by contributing to the cemetery's Endowment Care.