

4.14.17 • 18 Nissan 5777 • *Chol ha'mo'ed Pesach* • Omer 4

Shabbat shalom, and welcome to Mishkan.

Mishkan is a spiritual community on a mission to engage, educate, empower and inspire people in Chicago and beyond through dynamic experiences of Jewish prayer, study, music, social activism and community-building. We believe that Judaism is a vehicle for bringing more light, more goodness, more justice, and more joy into the world, and that inspired prayer and inspired living reinforce one another.

The ancient Mishkan was the traveling prayer tent in the desert that brought together Israelites from across the spectrum of the community, and so do we: young, young-at-heart, total novices in prayer and Jewish study alongside people with years of experience, LGBTQ Jews, Jews in interfaith relationships and from all denominational and religious backgrounds. We believe everyone's birthright is to connect to God, Torah and community in this way. The only thing needed is that your heart be in it. You in?

We're so glad you're here, and hope your shabbos with us brings you higher.

Rabbi Lizzi Heydemann

TEFILAH/Reflection: Chametz... a reminder of unrealized potential

Every Pesach a Jew becomes like a new person, like the newborn child each of us was as we came forth from Egypt.

The point implanted by the Source within our hearts is renewed. That point is called *lechem oni*– the bread of affliction– because it is totally unrealized. Matzah is just the dough itself, not having expanded.

Every person has this inner place, this gift of God, this unrefined, unmanifested point.

Our task is to expand that point, to let this point inspire all of our actions.

- Sefat Emet, Pesach 3:99

KEHILAH/Community

Register for all events (unless otherwise posted) @ www.mishkanchicago.org/events

livin' on a prayer • תפילה

Last Fridays @ AES

Friday April 28th, 6:30pm, **Anshe Emet Synagogue**, 3751 N. Broadway

We'll be wrapping up April with music and spirit, followed by the best darn vegetarian pot-luck anywhere... but only because YOU bring it. Help us continue to step up our potluck game this week!! If your last name begins with A-L bring a grain or nut-free side. If your last name begins with M-Z something veggie- or fruit-based. We've got the main!

learning + justice • לימוד וצדק

OM: Jewish Mindfulness Collective

Wednesdays, April 19th - May 10th, 7:30pm - 9:00pm, **Mishkan Space**, 4001 N. Ravenswood 108

Taught by seasoned meditation teachers from Mishkan and the Center for Jewish Mindfulness at Orot, the series includes teachings, meditations and mindfulness practices inspired by the weekly Torah portion. Session two taught by Cantor Aviva Katzman. \$10 per class.

S&M Bet Midrash Spring Session

Tuesdays April 25th - May 23rd, 6:45pm - 9:15pm, **Mishkan Space**, 4001 N. Ravenswood 108

You can learn Talmud! All levels, even beginners, can do it– armed with a dictionary, a hevruta (study partner), and the guidance of Rabbi Benay Lappe, founder of SVARA: A Traditionally Radical Yeshiva.

Interfaith Couples Class

Monday May 1st - May 22nd, 6:30pm - 8:30pm, **Mishkan Space**, 4001 N. Ravenswood 108

In these four sessions we'll be looking at case studies (yours!) as we explore the blessings and challenges of interfaith couplehood, from navigating holidays, beliefs, families, children, and our own senses of commitment and confusion to the traditions or identities in which we were raised. \$100 per couple, \$50 for Builder couples.

gather • ביחד

ManKind: The Men of Mishkan

Monday April 17th, 7:30pm - 9:00pm, **Maggie's Place**, 4001 N. Ravenswood 108

A monthly space for people who identify as men to connect. This group is open to all people who identify as men without regard to race, sexual orientation, disability or experience. No registration required.

Resistance During the Holocaust: Then & Now

Sunday April 23rd, 11:00am - 1:00pm, **Mishkan Space**, 4001 N. Ravenswood 108

On Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, join us for a survivor testimony from Judy Straus, and a discussion on resistance during the time of the Sho'ah. We are grateful to the Illinois Holocaust Museum for help connecting us with the survivor community.

Good Mourning Cafe

Thursday April 27th, 6:00pm - 8:00pm, **Maggie's Place**, 4001 N. Ravenswood 108

Join us for food, art and conversation around death and dying in an open and supportive space. Good Mourning Cafe is a traveling art installation, social experiment and community outreach program conceived by artist Connie Noyes. Come share your personal stories, process your experiences through drawing and spontaneous writing and explore how grief affects one's relationship to life and death in the present moment.

TORAH: Love and Liberation

"Pour out Your wrath on the nations that do not know You, and upon the kingdoms that do not call up Your name. For they devoured Jacob— his dominion they laid bare. Pour upon them Your indignation and let Your rage engulf them. Pursue them in anger and annihilate them from under the heavens of the Lord." – Traditional Haggadah

*Pour out your love on the nations who know You, and on kingdoms who call Your name.
For the good which they do for the seed of Jacob, and they shield Your people Israel from their enemies.
May they merit to see the good of Your chosen, And to rejoice in the joy of Your nation.*
– 16th Century Haggadah, from the estate of Rabbi Shimshon Wertheimer (1658-1724), published by Naftali Ben-Menachem

"You must not oppress the stranger. You know what it's like to be a stranger, for you yourselves were once strangers in the land of Egypt." – Exodus 23:9

"Love those who are strangers, for you yourselves were strangers in Egypt."

Deut 10:19

א שיר השירים אָשֶׁר לְשִׁלְמֹה: ב יִשְׁקֵנִי מִנְּשִׁיקוֹת פִּיהוּ כִּי־טוֹבִים דְּדִיךְ מֵיין

1:1 The song of songs, of Solomon's. 2 Let him kiss me with the kisses of his mouth; for your love is better than wine...

אֲנִי לְדוֹדִי וְדוֹדִי לִי הִרְעָה בְּשׁוֹשְׁנִים

I am my beloved's, and my beloved is mine, he pastures his flock among the lilies.

5:14 His hands are like circlets of gold set with emeralds, his belly is like polished ivory overlaid with sapphires. 15 His legs are like pillars of marble, set upon sockets of fine gold, his countenance is like Lebanon, excellent like the cedars. 16 His mouth is most sweet, and he is altogether lovely. This is my beloved, and this is my friend, O daughters of Jerusalem...

7:2 How beautiful are your feet in sandals, O prince's daughter! Your rounded thighs are like jewels, the work of the hands of an artist. 3 Your navel is like a round goblet, that never lacks blended wine, your belly is like a heap of wheat set about with lilies. 4 Your two breasts are like two fawns, twins of a gazelle. 5 Your neck is like a tower of ivory, your eyes like the pools in Heshbon, by the gate of Beit-Rabbim, your nose is like the tower of Lebanon which looks toward Damascus. ... 9 I said, I will go up to the palm tree, I will take hold of its boughs, may your breasts be like clusters of the vine, and the scent of your breath like apples; 10 And the roof of your mouth like the best wine for my beloved, that goes down sweetly, causing the sleepers' lips to murmur...

8:6 Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm, for love is strong as death; jealousy is cruel as hell. Its coals are coals of fire, which has a most vehement flame. 7 Many waters cannot quench love, neither can floods drown it; **if a person would give all the wealth of their house for love, it would be utterly scorned...**

Know any budding mensches?? **Registration for Mensch Academy 2017 - 2018 opens May 18th!**



HESED & HODA'AH/love and gratitude

Thank you to everyone who came out, volunteered & gave of themselves to make this year's **Love, Justice & Freedom** seder so incredible!

Love Teamers ON tonight: **James Evans, Adam Reisberg, Scott Hirsch and Benna Kesler**. THANK YOU for your hands, hearts & smiles. Thank you to Katie G for hosting a conversation table at dinner on Lent/using counting as a spiritual practice.

Don't be a wilde chaya (that's Yiddish, for wild animal). We love sharing shabbos dinner with you. **Please help us by cleaning up after** yourself. Thank you to the **anonymous angels** who have contributed to sponsor kiddish in recent weeks! If you want to contribute in this way, for a special occasion or just because you're feeling generous, contact Natalie at admin@mishkanchicago.org

Here for the first time? Come say hello to **Ellie Spitz, or any of our staff, or Love Team** on tonight so we can shower you with love and affection! Get on the Mishkan email list at www.mishkanchicago.org and get in our FB group and follow us on Instagram too. **Congrats? Condolences? Want to let us know that someone needs a little love?** Contact Hillary Gimpel at support@mishkanchicago.org. **Be a Lover!** Contact James Evans at LoveTeam@mishkanchicago.org to hear about the Love Team.

HOLY MOLY, YA HEARD?? Mishkan just got an amazing opportunity: a generous local foundation will **match any increase in donations this year**. Every little bit counts, and the bigger the numbers the bigger our ability to keep bringing inspired down-to-earth Judaism to Chicago! So consider...

- **Giving!** Make a donation online at mishkanchicago.org/donate Every dollar goes to engaging people in dynamic and deep Jewish spiritual practice regardless of background or denomination. Give for the first time or make a workable increase on last year's donation!
- **Becoming a Builder!** Builders make a monthly gift or annual gift to help sustain Mishkan, not out of guilt, but out of inspired co-creation of this community. (And if that's not convincing enough, you get cool perks, discounts and Mishkan swag.)
- **If you're already a Builder, consider increasing,** even by a few dollars a month. It all counts!

All the ways that you give are eligible for the match-- Buildership, High Holiday pledges, one-time donations and gifts from family trusts and foundations. If you've been holding out for that increase, this year is the year! We have till Dec 31, 2017 to make the match.

Contact Rachel Cort, Managing Director, if you want more information about supporting Mishkan: rachel@mishkanchicago.org.