

### 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: Circle of Life

*And the old shall dream dreams, and the youth shall see visions,  
And our hopes shall rise up to the sky.  
We must live for today; we must build for tomorrow.  
Give us time, give us strength, give us life.*

-Debbie Friedman, "And the Youth Shall See Visions"

### KEHILAH/Community

Register for all events (unless otherwise posted) @ [www.mishkanchicago.org/events](http://www.mishkanchicago.org/events)

### livin' on a prayer • תפילה

#### Last Fridays @ AES

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

Our signature Friday night services - music, prayer, learning, intentionality and inspiration, followed by the best darn vegetarian pot-luck anywhere. Help us continue to rock the potluck! If your last name begins with A-L bring something veggie- or fruit-based. If your last name begins with M-Z bring a grain or nut-free side. We've got the main!

### learn • לימוד

#### Social Justice Bet Midrashb

**Tuesdays July 11th-July 25th**, 6:30pm - 9:00pm, **Mishkan Space**, 4001 N. Ravenswood #108

Mishkan Chicago, Jewish Council on Urban Affairs and Avodah team up to bring Chicago the third installment of our all-levels, open-to-everybody Social Justice Beit Midrash (learning space). This installment is taught by Aryeh Bernstein, and will examine Jewish sources on pressing social issues, facilitate deep thinking, constructive debate, and greater facility with Jewish text. We'll explore themes of homelessness and exile, leading toward the holiday of Tisha B'Av on the evening of July 31st. No prior experience is necessary, though you must attend all 3 sessions.

#### Breaching the Walls: From Destruction to Renewal

**Thursday August 3rd**, 7:00pm - 8:30pm, **Maggie's Place**, 4001 N. Ravenswood 108

Destruction: one of the dominant themes of where we stand in the calendar – a three week trudge from a breach of the walls to Tisha B'av and the destruction of not only the First Temple, but the Second as well. But – is destruction always a bad thing? And, as our text tells us– after destruction, there will also be rebuilding. What needs to be destroyed? How do we rebuild? Do we have to destroy something in order to change? And just where is God in all of this? Join us to explore these concepts through the lens of text and poetry.

### gather • ביחד

#### Meeting our Fragility: A Mindfulness Meditation Retreat

**THIS Sunday July 9th**, 9:00am - 1:00pm, **Mallinckrodt Community Center**, 1041 Ridge Rd in Wilmette

Through seated and walking meditation and text study, we will cultivate habits of heart and mind that support greater courage, compassion, and resilience in the face of impermanence and the fleeting nature of our lives. This 1/2 day Jewish mindfulness meditation retreat hosted by Orot is suitable for beginners and experienced practitioners. No prior experience required. Taught by R'Lauren Henderson & R'Sam Feinsmith. \$36

#### Pop-up Giving Circle

**THIS Monday July 10th**, 6:30pm - 9:30pm, **Mishkan Space**, 4001 N Ravenswood 108

Join us as we host a one night Giving Circle— an opportunity to make a bigger impact to a charity of our choosing, because when we pool our resources we have more giving power! We will gather, eat dinner, discuss philanthropy, and vote to give to an organization of our choosing.

#### Trivia Night @ The Globe Pub

**Tuesday July 18th**, 7:30pm, **Globe Pub**, 1934 W Irving Park Rd

Join us for a little Maggie's Place field trip in the neighborhood. We'll be checking out Chicago's #1 pub trivia at Globe Pub in North Center. We'll meet for snacks, drinks and some healthy competition. Meet at the the Globe at 7:30pm, trivia at 8:00pm.

## TORAH: The One with the Talking Donkey

והוא רכב על אֶתְנוּ וְשָׁנִי נֶעְרִיו עִמּוֹ: {כג} וַתֵּרָא הָאֵתוֹן אֶת מִלְאָךְ יִי נֹצֵב בְּדֶרֶךְ וַחֲרָבוֹ שְׁלֹפָה בְּיָדוֹ וַתֵּט וַתֵּרָא הָאֵתוֹן מִן הַדֶּרֶךְ וַתֵּלֶךְ בְּשֶׁדָּהּ וַיֵּךְ בִּלְעָם אֶת הָאֵתוֹן לְהִטָּהּ הַדֶּרֶךְ: {כד} וַיַּעֲמֵד מִלְאָךְ יִי בְּמִשְׁעוֹל הַכְּרָמִים גֹּדֵר מִזֶּה וְגֹדֵר מִזֶּה: {כה} וַתֵּרָא הָאֵתוֹן אֶת מִלְאָךְ יִי וַתֵּלֶחֶץ אֶל הַקִּיר וַתֵּלֶחֶץ אֶת רֹגֶל בִּלְעָם אֶל הַקִּיר וַיִּסֹּף לְהִכָּתֶה: {כו} וַיִּסֹּף מִלְאָךְ יִי עֲבוּר וַיַּעֲמֵד בְּמָקוֹם צָר אֲשֶׁר אֵין דֶּרֶךְ לְנִטוֹת יָמִין וּשְׂמָאוֹל: {כז} וַתֵּרָא הָאֵתוֹן אֶת מִלְאָךְ יִי וַתִּרְבֹּץ תַּחַת בִּלְעָם וַיַּחֲרֹף אֶף בִּלְעָם וַיִּךְ אֶת הָאֵתוֹן בְּמַסָּל: {כח} וַיִּפְתַּח יִי אֶת פִּי הָאֵתוֹן וַתֹּאמֶר לְבִלְעָם מָה עָשִׂיתִי לָךְ כִּי הִכִּיתָנִי זֶה שְׁלֹשׁ רַגְלִים: {כט} וַיֹּאמֶר בִּלְעָם לָאֵתוֹן כִּי הִתְעַלְלָתְּ בִּי לֹא יֵשׁ חֶרֶב בְּיָדִי כִּי עָתָה הִרְגָתִיךְ: {ל} וַתֹּאמֶר הָאֵתוֹן אֶל בִּלְעָם הֲלוֹא אֲנִכִּי אֶתְנֶךָ אֲשֶׁר רָכַבְתָּ עָלַי מֵעוֹדָךְ עַד הַיּוֹם הַזֶּה הִסְכַּנְתָּ הַסִּכְנָתִי לַעֲשׂוֹת לָךְ כֹּה וַיֹּאמֶר לֹא: {לא} וַיִּגַּל יִי אֶת עֵינֵי בִלְעָם וַיֹּרֶא אֶת מִלְאָךְ יִי נֹצֵב בְּדֶרֶךְ וַחֲרָבוֹ שְׁלֹפָה בְּיָדוֹ וַיִּקְדּוּ וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ לֵאמֹר:

Bilaam was riding on his she-donkey, with his two servants alongside, when the donkey caught sight of the angel of the Lord standing in the way, with his drawn sword in his hand. The donkey swerved from the road and went into the fields; and Bilaam beat the donkey to turn her back onto the road. The angel of the Lord then stationed himself in a lane between the vineyards, with a fence on either side. The donkey, seeing the angel of the Lord, pressed herself against the wall and squeezed Bilaam's food against the wall; so he beat her again. Once more the angel of the Lord moved forward and stationed himself on a spot so narrow that there was no room to swerve right or left. When the ass now saw the angel of the Lord, she lay down under Bilaam; and Bilaam was furious and beat the donkey with his stick.

Then the Lord opened the donkey's mouth, and she said to Bilaam, "What have I done to you that you have beaten me these three times?" Bilaam said to the donkey, "You have made a mockery of me! If I had a sword with me, I'd kill you!" The donkey said to Bilaam, "Aren't I your donkey, that you've been riding all along until today? *Have I been in the habit of doing this to you?*" And he answered, "No."

Then the Lord uncovered Bilaam's eyes, and he saw the angel of the Lord standing in the way, his drawn sword in his hand; thereupon he bowed right down to the ground. (**Bamidbar/Numbers 22:22b-31**)

**Motivated Reasoning:** As we listen to facts or evidence that go against our beliefs, we go to great lengths to find ways to dismiss, undermine, or ignore them even in the face of overwhelming evidence.

*"Have I been in the habit of doing this to you?"*

The sages said that Bilaam wasn't receptive to the donkey's critique, because Bilaam thought that everything that the donkey was doing to him was just some random occurrence, rather her direct critique of him. And so, one should pay attention to everything that comes your way: it isn't just happenstance, but rather, everything is coming from the heavens to awaken you to turn and change your ways. (**Commentary of Ye'arot D'vash, "The Forests of Honey"**)

## HESED & HODA'AH/love and gratitude

**Massive Thank You** to our hosts the Selfhelp Home for having us and providing delicious dessert!

**Very Happy Birthday** (this week) to: **Sonia Jaffe, AnnMerle Feldman, Sara Sandmel, David Blumenthal & Scott Hirsch!**

**Love Teamers ON** tonight: **Benna Kessler, Christy Cook, Sara Beth Hoffman, Alexis Graves & Scott Hirsch.** THANK YOU for your hands, hearts & smiles.

**Don't forget: We are now composting!** What is compostable you ask? **EVERYTHING** from the forks, plates and cups to the napkins (& food of course). The green composting bin is your friend.

**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 **Selfhelp Home** and the **anonymous angels** who have contributed to sponsor dinner tonight. 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](mailto:admin@mishkanchicago.org)

**Here for the first time?** Come say hello to **Rachel Gray, or any of our staff, or Love Team** on so we can shower you with love and affection! Get on the Mishkan email list at [www.mishkanchicago.org](http://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](mailto:support@mishkanchicago.org). **Be a Lover!** Contact James Evans at [LoveTeam@mishkanchicago.org](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:rachel@mishkanchicago.org).

**Thank you and bless you for building this community with us!**

Mishkan is co-created by Rabbi Lizzi Heydemann, Founder • Rachel Cort, Managing Director • Ellie Spitz, Director of Community Engagement & Wellness • Ilana Gleicher-Bloom, Vision Director, Mensch Academy • Rabbi Lauren Henderson: Jewish Emergent Network Rabbinic Fellow • Rachel Gray Alexander, Marketing & Communications Manager • Natalie Dibo, Rabbinic & Admin Assistant • The Davening Team • Our Awesome Board • The Love Team • Every Single Builder and Giver • YOU!