

## Shabbat shalom, and welcome to Mishkan.

Mishkan is a spiritual community whose mission is to reimagine and breathe new life into Judaism, leading people toward more purposeful, more connected, and more inspired lives. We do this by creating radically inclusive spaces for Jewish spiritual practice and community that engage, educate, empower and inspire people in Chicago and beyond, across the spectrum of the identities, backgrounds, ages and beliefs. The ancient Mishkan was the traveling prayer tent in the desert that brought together all kinds of Israelites, and people who wanted to be in community with us. Similarly, we welcome you, whatever the story may be of how you got here. You'll see people who are young and older, total novices in prayer and Jewish study alongside people with years of experience, LGBTQ Jews, Jews of color, Jews in interfaith relationships, and from all denominational and religious backgrounds. We believe everyone's birthright is to connect to G-d, Torah, and community in this way, and that the intersection of these identities in intentional and non-judgmental Jewish space can create more light, more love, more justice, and more goodness in the world. Sound good to you?

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

– Rabbi Lizzi Heydemann

rabbi@mishkanchicago.org

### TEFILAH/prayer: Give Us the Longview

Our G-d and G-d of our ancestors, give us a vision that history is long.  
 Give us hands to join with on either side. Give us something different than hope—  
 give us fire: warm, bright, life-giving.  
 Give us memory. This moment in history is this moment in history— it is not  
 my Grandmother's house burning down.  
 It is not every loss of every people all at once.  
 This time we remember every other time; this time we have each other.  
 An intersecting, intersectional web. And no one is getting left behind.  
 My G-d... and G-d of our ancestors,  
 no one is getting left behind.  
 – Miriam Levia Grossman

### KEHILAH/Community

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

#### livin' on a prayer • תפילה

#### Sing, Pray, Study, Shabbos

**Saturday June 2nd** | 9:30am | **Second Unitarian** | 656 W. Barry

Rabbis Lizzi and Lauren are headed to Los Angeles for the culminating Jewish Emergent Network conference (open to all- registration still open!), so join our Davening Team and Leadership Fellows, Rachel Brustein and Rachel Goldberg for a chill morning of prayer, study and song, followed by kiddush. Join us!

#### gather (in order of date) • ביחד

#### Nava Tehila Concert

**THIS Sunday May 27th** | 7:00pm - 8:30pm | **Heartwood Center** | 1818 Dempster St

Mishkan co-sponsors with Orot for a concert with inspired Jerusalem musicians Nava Tehila. You might find some of their tunes strangely familiar ;)

#### Djembe: Drumming For The Soul

**Tuesday May 29th** | 7:00pm - 8:30pm | **Maggie's Place** | 4001 N. Ravenswood 101

Join master drummer Michael Taylor from Tam Tam Mandingue Djembe Academy for a West African drumming workshop. Learn to drum as a practice of self care, inspiration and centering. No experience necessary! This workshop is for all regardless of skill level, drums provided.

#### Windy City Ninjas

**Tuesday June 12th** | 7:30pm-9:00pm | **Windy City Ninjas** | 2500 W Bradley Pl

Feeling like a ninja warrior these days? Good, so are we. Join us for a physical wellness outing like none other at Windy City Ninja Gym— a gym set up in the style of the challenge course of American Ninja Warrior. We'll show up, get to know the elements, train in a mini class, and compete over the circuits. Push your physical and mental boundaries, laugh, and learn something new! \$15 dollars per person.

#### 40s+ Havdallah House Party

**Saturday June 16th** | 7:00pm | **Private Home** | River North (Address will be provided in the confirmation email.)

Join the 40s+ social team for a spirited evening to eat, drink, and connect with other Mishkanites over Havdallah, music, and great conversation. \$18 includes a delicious catered vegetarian Mediterranean dinner.

#### A Friend In Need

**Monday June 18th** | 6:30pm-7:45pm | **Maggie's Place** | 4001 N. Ravenswood 101

When friends and family are not at their best, it's our job to show up and support them. Sometimes, it's hard to know what that looks like and how to be there in ways that bring and spread comfort. Join us over dinner to learn about and explore how to provide love, support and joy to those we care about. We're excited to bring you this program in partnership with Journey Care.

## TORAH: The Brave Blessing of Complexity

וַיְדַבֵּר יְ-הוָה אֶל־מֹשֶׁה לֵאמֹר: כַּג דְּבַר אֶל־אַהֲרֹן וְאֶל־בְּנָיו לֵאמֹר כֹּה תְבַרְכוּ אֶת־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל אָמֹר לָהֶם  
כַּד יְבָרְכְךָ יְ-הוָה וְיִשְׁמְרֶךָ  
כֹּה יֵאָר יְ-הוָה | פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיַּחַנֶּךָ  
כֹּה יֵשָׂא יְ-הוָה | פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וְיָשֶׁם לָךְ שְׁלוֹם:  
כֹּז וְשָׂמוּ אֶת־שְׁמִי עַל־בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וְאֲנִי אֲבָרְכֶם

And G!d spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to Aaron and to his sons, saying,  
'Bless the people of Israel like this, saying to them,  
"May G!d bless you and protect you.

May G-d shine Her face upon you, and be gracious to you.  
May G\*d lift up Her face to you, and place in you peace."

And they shall put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them.

- Numbers/BaMidbar 6:22-24

Divine blessing is not generic but specific to each individual and his or her needs, dreams, and yearnings. God sees and cherishes us as individuals and we pray for blessings accordingly. 'May God protect you, lest the very blessing you receive turn into a stumbling block.' The blessings of wealth, for example, can lead to greed, or stinginess, or lack of empathy. Or to a perpetual anxiety that one does not have enough, or that one may lose what he has earned....

We know all too well that religion— and Judaism is no exception here— can constrict our hearts and minds rather than expand them, can legitimate cruelty instead of kindness, can turn God into an idol who hates precisely the same people we do.... When we pray for blessings, then, we pray that our blessings not become destructive curses. – Rabbi Shai Held, *The Heart of Torah*, 106

### המקום שבו אנו צדיקים – The Place Where We Are Right

From the place where we are right / Flowers will never grow / In the spring.

The place where we are right / Is hard and trampled / Like a yard.

But doubts and loves / Dig up the world / Like a mole, a plow.

And a whisper will be heard in the place / Where the ruined

House once stood.

– Yehuda Amichai

## HESED & HODA'AH/love and gratitude

**Massive mazal tov** to **Hayley Stokar and Alexander Fullam** on the birth of your beautiful baby girl, Clarissa Minerva Fullam!

**Very Happy Birthday** (this week) to: **Tim Graves, Celia Strauss, Peter Wagreich, Shalisha Erenberg, Michael Roth, & Aliza Becker**

**Love Teamers ON** tonight: **Sara Beth, Michael Kornick, Al Rosenberg, Lisa Goldstein, Amir Weg, & Jed Weiner**. THANK YOU for your hands, hearts & smiles.

**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. Want to contribute toward the cost of a meal for the community, for a special occasion or just because you're feeling generous? Write Natalie admin@mishkanchicago.org.

**Here for the first time?** Come say hello to **Ellie Spitz** or **any of our staff, or Love Team** so we can shower you with love! Get on the Mishkan email list at [www.mishkanchicago.org](http://www.mishkanchicago.org), get in our FB group and follow us on Instagram. **Congrats? Condolences? Does someone need 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.

**If you're thinking to yourself, "This community rocks! Someone should make sure this thing stays healthy!" be that someone by:**

- **Giving!** Make a donation online at [mishkanchicago.org/support](http://mishkanchicago.org/support) 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 an increase on last year's donation!
- **Becoming a Builder!** Builders make a monthly gift or annual gift on a sliding scale 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!

Contact Rachel Cort, Executive 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, Executive 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 • Tracey Morrison, Shabbat Coordinator • The Davening Team • Our Awesome Board • The Love Team • Every Single Builder and Giver • YOU!