



Israel Congregation
of Manchester
*Enriching Jewish Community
in the Northshire*

the Shofar

7 Adar—8 Iyar 5772/March & April 2012

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From the Rabbi

New Opportunities at ICM in March

March is chock-full of opportunities for you to participate in life at ICM. New classes, workshops, and programs are all on the calendar.

Deepen Your Passover Experience

Join us on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 am for four one-hour classes on deepening your Passover experiences. Each week we will explore Passover in all of its manifestations leading up to the celebration of the miracle of our redemption from Egypt. Class on March 6 will be: "So You Think You Know *Pesach!*"

ICM Healing Service to Begin March 13 at 7

In every community there are moments of brokenness. We turn to each other and to prayer for sustenance. Beginning March 13 at 7:00 pm is ICM's new monthly service for healing, *Refa'einu*, "Heal Us." We will sit in a circle and use a combination of healing prayers, poems, and songs to promote wholeness. We will also offer up a *Mishabayarach* for healing, a prayer for healing. No matter what the hurt is, whether it is you or someone you love who is hurting, *Refa'einu* will be a safe place offering an opportunity to gather your intentions toward healing.

Lead Services on Shabbat at ICM

Leading fellow congregants in services is a great opportunity for every person in the ICM community. ICM uses two prayer-books; service leaders have their choice of which book to use and how to lead the service. If you would like to lead a Friday evening or Saturday morning Shabbat service, please contact me at rabbi@icmvt.org or 362-4578. **No Hebrew skills necessary.**

Extraordinary Ruth Gruber Documentary

Featuring a Discussion With Executive Producer Kenner

Israel Congregation of Manchester announces the screening of *Ahead of Time: The Extraordinary Journey of Ruth Gruber* as the concluding feature of our Jewish Film Festival on Sunday, March 11, at 4:00 pm.

For seven decades, foreign correspondent and photojournalist Ruth Gruber didn't just report the news. . . she made it! Born in Brooklyn in 1911 to Russian Jewish immigrants, Gruber defied tradition from the beginning, becoming the world's youngest PhD at age 20. In a trailblazing career that included authoring 19 books, Gruber reported from the Soviet Arctic, escorted Holocaust refugees on a secret wartime mission, and stunned the world with dispatches from the Palestine-bound ship *Exodus* in 1947.

Patti Kenner, one of the film's executive producers, will be at ICM to speak of her motivation for making this documentary. Directed by noted cinematographer Bob Richman, the film is a production of the National Center for Jewish Film and is a multiple award-winner from film festivals around the country.

CCAR Convention

As a member of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR), I will be attending this annual meeting of rabbis in Boston the third week of March (18—22).

As ever, please contact me at any time for any reason.

Rabbi David Novak

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www.icmvt.org

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Calendar of Events

MARCH

APRIL

3/2	6:30 pm	Family Shabbat followed by Community Potluck Dinner	4/1	10:30 am	Matzoh Baking
				6:00 pm	ICM Chorus Rehearsal
3/3	9:30 am	Shabbat Worship; <i>Parashat Tetzaveh</i>	4/3	10:30 am	Adult Education: Passover
3/4	9:00 am	Purim Gift Assembly	4/4	3:50 pm	Religious School
3/6	10:30 am	Adult Education: Passover	4/6	5:00 pm	Shabbat Worship & <i>Oneg</i>
3/7	3:50 pm	Religious School			Passover Begins; First <i>Seder</i>
3/8	10:00 am	Purim Reading of Book of Esther	4/7	9:30 am	Shabbat Worship
3/9	6:30 pm	Shabbat Worship & <i>Oneg</i>		6:00 pm	Community Second <i>Seder</i>
3/10	9:30 am	Shabbat Worship; <i>Parashat Ki Tisa</i>	4/8	6:00 pm	ICM Chorus Rehearsal
	6:00 pm	X-country Ski/Snowshoe Evening	4/11	3:50 pm	Religious School
3/11	4:00 pm	<i>Ahead of Time:</i> Ruth Gruber Film	4/13	9:30 am	7th Day Passover Service & Yizkor
3/13	10:30 am	Adult Education: Passover		6:30 pm	Shabbat Worship & <i>Oneg</i>
	7:00 pm	<i>Refa' einu:</i> Healing Service	4/14	9:30 am	Shabbat Worship; 8th day of Passover
3/14	3:50 pm	Religious School	4/15	6:00 pm	ICM Chorus Rehearsal
3/15	7:00 pm	Board of Directors Meeting	4/17	7:00 pm	<i>Refa' einu:</i> Healing Service
3/16	6:30 pm	Shabbat Worship & <i>Oneg</i>	4/18	3:50 pm	Religious School
3/17	9:30 am	Saturday Morn. Family Shabbat <i>Parashat Vayakhei-Pekudei</i>	4/19	7:00 pm	<i>Yom ha Shoah</i> Commemoration Film: <i>Into the Arms of Strangers</i>
3/18	6:00 pm	ICM Chorus Rehearsal	4/20	6:30 pm	Shabbat Worship & <i>Oneg</i>
3/20	10:30 am	Adult Education: Passover	4/21	9:30 am	Saturday Morn. Family Shabbat <i>Parashat Shmini</i>
3/21	3:50 pm	Religious School	4/22	6:00 pm	ICM Chorus Rehearsal
3/23	6:30 pm	Shabbat Worship & <i>Oneg</i>	4/25	3:50 pm	Religious School
3/24	9:30 am	Shabbat Worship, <i>Parashat Vayikra</i>	4/27	10:00 am	Tot Shabbat
3/25	6:00 pm	ICM Chorus Rehearsal		6:30 pm	Shabbat Worship & <i>Oneg</i>
3/27	10:30 am	Adult Education: Passover	4/28	9:30 am	Shabbat Worship; <i>Parashat Tazria-Metzora</i>
3/28	3:50 pm	Religious School			
	6:00 pm	Interfaith <i>Seder</i>			
3/30	6:30 pm	Shabbat Worship & <i>Oneg</i>			
3/31	9:30 am	Shabbat Worship, <i>Parashat Tzav</i>	4/29	6:00 pm	ICM Chorus Rehearsal

Please Note: Rabbi Novak will be out of town March 18—March 22 attending the annual meeting of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. In an emergency, he will be available by cell phone; 802-688-3555.

President's Message

“Christianity is not a spectator sport.” I saw this statement on a billboard outside of a church in Albany recently and realized that the same is true of Judaism. Just look at all of the events taking place at Israel Congregation and I'm sure that you will agree. Sunday movies, cross-country skiing, a trip to the theatre in Albany, the Purim fundraiser, *Tu B'shvat seder*, and Talmud classes are just a few of the opportunities available. As with most things you benefit most by participating.

I encourage you to take advantage of the many programs offered at ICM. If you have any ideas for programming that you feel would be of interest to your fellow congregants please feel free to contact me or any of the committee chairs. This is *your* synagogue and we want you to feel welcome and involved.

Cathy Kimmel

Interfaith Passover *Seder*

It's time, once again, for the annual Interfaith *Seder*, held this year at ICM on March 28, at 6:00 pm. As in previous years, we expect a large turnout from the interfaith community as well as a substantial number of members from ICM. And this year the children from the Religious School will help us set up and participate in the service. The interfaith community greatly appreciates the effort that we make to share our rituals. Come support our interfaith effort again this year. Everyone contributes to the success of the *seder*. Each of the participating congregations bring one or more Passover dishes prepared according to recipes that we provide. The members of Israel Congregation, together with the children from the Religious School, set up the tables, a *seder* plate for each table, and contribute more of the desserts we all love. We like to have some members of ICM at each table to help the others and explain the service. Rabbi Novak will be conducting the Passover service, and Passover *haggadahs* will be distributed to each table. If you're interested in helping set up, bake, cook, and/or attend the *seder*, contact **Micki Lisman** at 362-4332 or msloane.esq@mindspring.com.

Festive Communal Second Night *Seder*

Celebrate our journey to freedom by joining your ICM family and friends for our annual Passover second night communal *seder* to be held Saturday, April 7, at 6:00 pm at ICM. The cost for adults is \$18.00, and children under the age of 18 may attend free of charge. The *seder* will feature a lively mix of singing, storytelling, questions, and of course food.

This year, Marlene and David Skulnik will be in charge of our culinary delights. David's restaurant and chef experience will bring some new delectable surprises to our table. We'll provide the main dish with lots of extras. We need you to bring a dessert or side dish to share. This is an outstanding opportunity to participate in this most special Passover meal. **Reservations must be received by March 28** and can be made by calling 362-4578.

Matzoh Baking Returns

Come one and all to Earth Sky Time Community Farm to try your hand at matzoh baking on Sunday, April 1. **Bonnie and Oliver Levis** have generously offered to take the reins for this fun event and have invited us to come to their farm, 1547 Main Street (Route 7A South) in Manchester, at 10:30 am. **This is NOT for children only, and guests are welcome.** Please bring a rolling pin and an apron (or clothes you don't mind getting messy). Please contact **Alison Hill** at 362-7220 (not on *Shabbat*) for more information.

Library Notes

Please stop by the library to browse our collection of **Passover books**. They are full of ideas to enrich the discussions, as well as the good times, at your *seders*. And don't forget we also have lots of books on Jewish holiday cooking. Enjoy!

Moonlight X-Country Ski and Snowshoe Event

Think snow, everyone! The rescheduled date for ICM's annual snowshoe and cross-country ski evening is Saturday, March 10. We will meet in one of the toasty warming huts at Viking Nordic Center for a potluck dinner at 6 pm and then take to the 3 km of lit, groomed trails until 9 pm. The cost is \$10 per person, \$20 maximum per immediate family. Rental equipment is available from Viking for \$5 per person. ICM members and nonmembers are welcome. **Please RSVP to Karen.**

Got Music?

ICM's new musical group is still looking for people who like to sing (or always thought that they should sing), and those who play instruments (especially piano, flute and guitar), to join us as we bring our musical offerings to enhance ICM's services. We meet weekly on Sundays at 6:00 pm in the ICM sanctuary under the direction of **Joanne Beck**. Joanne warmly welcomes and enthusiastically encourages congregants to participate—whether you can sing, hum, play a kazoo, or have any sense of rhythm: **this group is open to all.**

For more information, contact Joanne at 297-9460 or at vtbecks@gmail.com. Please CALL Joanne by noon on Sundays if you plan on attending a rehearsal. Most importantly: come, sing, play an instrument, enjoy the camaraderie and elevate our prayer experience together.

Summer Time Fun! Actors & Stagehands Needed

Playwright and congregant **Evelyn Mayerson** has written a musical comedy especially for Israel Congregation. Called "Intermazzoh," this production will feature professionals such as **Harvey Flaxman** as director, **Joanne Beck** as musical director, **Mindy Bloom** as set designer, and **Margaret Conner** as producer. The search is on for synagogue actors and stage hands.

Performance Dates: July 28 and 29.

Auditions will take place on Thursday, May 3 at 7:00 pm and on Sunday, May 6, at 10:00 am. If you are unavailable at these times, call Harvey at 362-0651 for an alternative date.

Harvey is looking for good actors who love to sing and act. Actors should be able to play roles in the age ranges listed below. If you are 70 and can play 50 or 60, that would be great. If you are 50 and can play a young 70, that is also good.

HARRIET: Widow 55—65

VICTOR: 50—65

GRANDSON: 11—12

HOWIE: Mid to late 30s

DONNA: Mid to late 30s

JANET: 50—65

JEHOVAH'S WITNESS: Male 30—40

FBI: Male 30—50

GAME WARDEN: Male 40s

BRIDGE PLAYER #3: Female over 40

BRIDGE PLAYER #4: Female over 40

Mazel Tov

Cookie & Israel Mac on the birth of their second grandchild, Samuel Nathan Mac, born February 4

Carole & Billy Gold on the engagement of their son Erik to Debra Aisanstein

Ronald & Susan Chernow on the birth of their grandchild

Ilse Fuchs on her 96th birthday, March 18

Purim Fun at ICM

When Adar enters our joy is increased! That is what the Talmud says about Adar, the month of Purim, perhaps the most joyous of all of our holidays. This year at ICM there are two ways you can join in the celebration: on Wednesday, March 7, at 5:00 pm, join the students of our Religious School for hamantaschen baking and a Purim skit along with much merriment. Thursday, March 8, at 10:00 am we will gather for our annual reading of the Book of Esther in English (no Hebrew skills needed!). We will also have hamantaschen, tea, and coffee. Come, participate, have fun! That's Purim.

Feinstein Challenge for Local Food Cupboard

This March and April, the CFC will again be participating in the Feinstein Challenge. For the fifteenth consecutive year, the Feinstein Foundation of Rhode Island is putting up a million dollars to help fight hunger across the country. Your gift of food or funds will help the CFC to bring a portion of that grant here to the Northshire.

During the past few years, the number of families seeking help from the CFC has increased dramatically. Your gift at this time will go even further to help these neighbors who are struggling. If you would like to take up the challenge, send your contri-

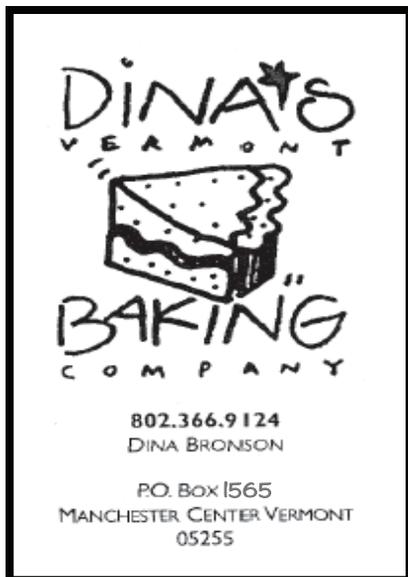
Marking *Yom ha Shoah*

Special Screening of *Into the Arms of Strangers*

Yom ha Shoah, the annual commemoration of the Holocaust, falls on Thursday, April 19. ICM will observe *Yom ha Shoah* beginning at 7 pm that evening with a brief memorial service followed by a screening of the 2001 Academy Award-winning Best Documentary, *Into the Arms of Strangers*. This film, narrated by Dame Judi Dench, tells the stories of children who escaped Nazi Germany to Britain during the war. **David Heisler** tells us, "I was a child in the Bronx when my parents told me the wonderful story of my father's two cousins who were part of the Kindertransport and had come to America after spending years in England taken in by a benevolent "stranger." This remarkable story is told in this award-winning film!"

Please note *Yom ha Shoah* on your calendar and join fellow congregants in remembering this greatest tragedy of our people.

tribution to CFC, PO Box 864, Manchester Center, VT 05255. Donations of non-perishable food are counted as one dollar per pound for the grant and may be left in the collection boxes located in the ICM lobby, Shaw's Supermarket, and the Manchester Town Office Building. Donations of instant oatmeal, low-sugar cereal, juice, peanut butter, and granola bars would be especially appreciated.



College Connections

We like to keep in touch with our college-aged congregants and let them know the members of Israel Congregation are thinking of them. Send your child's school mailing address to Karen at office@icmvt.org and we will send your child a "Thinking of You" gift for the High Holy Days and *Pesach* (Passover). Be sure to send addresses to Karen by **March 15** to ensure delivery of Passover gifts.

If you'd like to help us continue this wonderful outreach program, now in its sixth year, please call Karen at 802-362-4578 or email office@icmvt.org.

Share Your *Naches*

Has someone you know had a special event or earned an achievement to be proud of? We want to *kvell* with you! Send your news to Karen at office@icmvt.org by the 15th of each month for inclusion in *the Shofar*.



The Grave Subject Your Estate Planner Doesn't Discuss

Remove the burden from your heirs and choose your final resting place.

The Israel Congregation of Manchester burial section in Bennington Park Lawn Cemetery was chosen not only for its spectacular views, but also because of its fine reputation and reasonable prices, including perpetual care. Moreover, the management has a proven sensitivity in honoring our service with the dignity, sanctity and modesty required of a Jewish funeral. Double and single plots are available.

For more information please contact Mark Aronowitz, Cemetery Committee Chair, at 802-362-1205 or Karen Dreiblat in the synagogue office at 802-362-4578.

Ma'aser Sheni



When the Temple functioned in Jerusalem, the Jewish community supported it and its priests with a system of tithes in the form of food and/or money. Today we feed our communal needs by offering financial gifts that strengthen and enhance Jewish religious and communal life in the Northshire.

GENERAL FUND

Cookie & Israel Mac in memory of Betsy Chase • **Merrily & Frank Lewis** in memory of Craig Whitcomb and in memory of Barbara Kane's mother, Bubbles Kaswiner • **Sylvia & Carl Dolitsky** in honor of Karen & Michael Dreiblatt, John Sobel, Doris Bass, Judith Kane, Carol Schoenwetter, Rabbi Novak, and the ICM membership • **Evelyn & Don Mayerson** • **Carroll & Frederick Tobin** • **Anonymous** • **Eric Zinner** in memory of Frieda Zinner • **Mindy & Alan Bloom** wishing a speedy homecoming to Helena & Neil Davidoff's grandson • **Barbara & Robert Friedman** in honor of the engagement of Mindy & Alan Bloom's granddaughter • **Fran & Mark Aronowitz** in memory of Arthur Aronowitz and Etta Rein • **Lana & Ben Hauben** in memory of Frida Hauben • **Susan & Herb Donner** in memory of Susan's parents, Syd & Albert Cohen • **Donna Karpen** in memory of Joseph Miller • **Laney & Larry Davis** in memory of Bertha Levine • **Nancy & Larry Steinberg** in memory of Sally Rummel Phillips, David Rummel, Lillian Steinberg, and Joel Steinberg • **Paula & Harvey Alpart** in memory of Anne Simon Alpart • **Judith & Hank Kaplan** in memory of Celia Levine • **Jeffrey & Roseanne Clark** in memory of Betsy Chase • **Helene & Leonard Glaser** in memory of Len's father, Jacob Glaser • **Herbert Sackett** in memory of Evelyn Sergy Sackett

MERKADO LIBRARY FUND

Carmel Furtado • **Ellen & Raymond Lipshutz** in memory of Samuel Cutler and Bubbles Kaswiner
Stephanie & Ron Weiss

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Stephen Cohen • **Sandy & Marty Castelbaum** in memory of Rae Weinberger and Bernard Weinberger • **Ilse Fuchs** in memory of Hanna Gidron, Karl Gradwohl, and Avishai Gidron • **Marilyn Rice** in memory of Marilyn's father, Henry Noreck • **Sheryl & Robert Tepper** in memory of Betsy Chase

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

Mickey Kent in honor of Carol Goldsmith's birthday • **Marilyn Rice** in honor of Carol Goldsmith's birthday • **Phyllis & Steve Gottdiener** in honor of Carol Goldsmith's birthday • **Judy & Stewart Katz** in honor of Carol Goldsmith's birthday • **Barbara & Robert Friedman** in honor of Carol Goldsmith's birthday • **Merrily & Frank Lewis** in honor of Carol Goldsmith's birthday • **Judy Hirschberg** in honor of Carol Goldsmith's birthday • **Rob Giunta** in honor of Carol Goldsmith's birthday • **Mindy & Alan Bloom** in honor of Carol Goldsmith's birthday • **Sandy & Marty Castelbaum** in honor of Carol Goldsmith's birthday • **Fran & Mark Aronowitz** in honor of Carol Goldsmith's birthday • **Helena & Neil Davidoff** in honor of Carol Goldsmith's birthday • **Cathy & Saul Kimmel** in honor of Carol Goldsmith's birthday • **Ruthie & Norm Ellenbogen** in honor of Carol Goldsmith's birthday • **Irene & Ed Glazer** in honor of Carol Goldsmith's birthday • **Stephen Cohen** in honor of Carol Goldsmith's birthday • **Anita & Stephen Jacobson** in honor of Carol Goldsmith's birthday

PETER JANNKE MAINTENANCE ENDOWMENT FUND

Cheryl Ullman in memory of Peter Jannke

SHABBAT DINNER FUND

Ruth & Stanley Gilbert in memory of Blanche Shapiro

CHILDREN'S EDUCATION FUND

Phyllis Teplitz in memory of Harold Teplitz

Please Note: Donations received after the 15th of February will appear in the May edition of *the Shofar*.

Israel Congregation has about 200 member families of diverse Jewish backgrounds, both full-time and part-time residents of southern Vermont. We provide weekly *Shabbat* and holiday services, a religious school, adult education, life cycle events, and cultural and social programming in a warm and welcoming environment.

An integral part of Jewish life in the Northshire for almost 90 years, Israel Congregation has been at its current location on Rte 7A, 1.2 miles north of Rte 11/30, since 1985. Our building is ADA accessible.

David Novak, Rabbi

Michael Cohen, *Rabbi Emeritus*

Karen Dreiblatt, *Administrator*

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Arnold Katz, *Vice President*

Marlene Skulnik, *Treasurer*

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Mark Aronowitz, *Recording Secretary*

Morty Bunis, *Immediate Past President*

Marisa Eisemann, *Member-at-large*

Ed Glazer, *Member-at-large*

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Sandy Castelbaum, David Heisler,

Georgette Levis, Micki Lisman, Bev Rokes,

David Sischy, Jen Weinstein, Rob Zeif

Shofar Editorial Board: Doris Bass,

Marisa Eisemann, Karen Dreiblatt, Bev Rokes,

Laurie Sullivan, Cheryl Ullman

Kabbalat Shabbat Service:

6:30 pm, Friday

(followed by Oneg or Congregational Dinner)

Shabbat Service:

9:30 am, Saturday

Religious School:

4:00 pm to 6:00 pm, Wednesday

Office Hours:

8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday-Thursday

8:00 am to 12:00 pm, Friday

Telephone: 802.362.4578

Rabbi Cell Phone: 802.688.3555

Rabbi's Email: rabbi@icmvt.org

Office Email: office@icmvt.org

Website: www.icmvt.org

P.O. Box 1050 Manchester Ctr. VT 05255



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