

# CENTER FOR SMALL TOWN JEWISH LIFE

**March 2021/Nisan 5781**

Dear Friends,

Winter is waning, and though it's hard to believe, it is definitely time to finish up those leftover hamentaschen and get ready for Passover. Here at the Center, we have many programs on the calendar to help shift thoughtfully into this new season. Whether you're a teen, a baker, a family seder leader, or a community member seeking a moment of healing prayer, we know you'll find something in these offerings to soothe, inform, and inspire.

See you soon,  
The Center Staff

Learn to lead your own seder with  
Rabbi Isaacs and Madeline Cooper

## Seder Craft

SUNDAY, MARCH 7, 10-11:15 A.M.



As our Purim revels fade into the past, it's time to start imagining Passover! Join Rabbi Rachel Isaacs and Rabbinical Student Fellow Madeline Cooper to learn and discuss tips and tricks for running your own Zoom-based seders this year. You will leave with materials and strategies to lead your own seder with your families, friends, and communities. This program is geared toward those who are newer to leading seders (or newer to leading on Zoom), but all are welcome! Please register to join us on Sunday.

[Register Here](#)

Renewing hope and strength

## A Healing Service with Cantor Sheila Nesis

MONDAY, MARCH 8, 6:30 P.M.



Prayers, music, and the warm embrace of friends help us renew our sense of hope, strength, and healing as we continue to navigate these unprecedented times. This service is for those of us struggling with our physical or spiritual health, those of us struggling with sadness and grief, and those of us who are caregivers seeking inspiration as we pray for the welfare of loved ones. Special prayers will be recited for a *refuah sh'leimah* for our dear Rabbi Darah Lerner of Congregation Beth El in Bangor, as she faces health challenges. Register to receive an email with the Zoom log-in information.

[Register Here](#)

Saturday, March 13, 7 p.m.

## Havdalah, Together

LED BY RABBIS LISA VINIKOOR  
AND JARED SAKS



Our March Havdalah, led by Rabbi Jared Saks of Bet Ha'am, Portland, and Rabbi Lisa Vinikoor of Beth Israel, Bath, comes at the one-year anniversary of the beginning of the pandemic. Grounded in story, reflection, and song, we'll lift our voices to bring comfort, gratitude, and hope. Join us with your candles, spices, and wine or juice. Please register to receive the Zoom log-in information.

[Register Here](#)

The Jewish Youth Connection

# Go Look!

SUNDAY, MARCH 14, 7-8:30 P.M.



The Jewish Youth Connection teen program is beginning the year with an evening focused on searching. First we'll learn about *bedikat hametz*—the search for leavened items that takes place right before Passover. After that, we'll sharpen our searching skills with a crazy scavenger hunt! This is a great chance to connect with friends from across the state. Click the link below to sign up!

[Register Here](#)

Tuesday, March 16, 7:15 p.m.

## Who Counts and Why It Matters with Ilana Kaufman

UNDERSTANDING OUR MULTIRACIAL  
JEWISH COMMUNITY



Ilana Kaufman, Executive Director of the Jews of Color Initiative, will discuss growing racial diversity in the Jewish community and the implications for the Jewish now and the Jewish future. Ilana Kaufman's work, which sits at the center of Jewish community, racial equity, and justice, is anchored by the voices and experience of Jews of Color and is focused on grant making, research and field building, and community education.

[Register Here](#)

Sunday, March 21, 3 p.m.

## Passover Pâtisserie

BAKING WITH DANIEL HEINRICH



Facing the prospect of a second year of seders in relative isolation, we could all use some delectable treats—and ways to make the holiday special and meaningful. Daniel Heinrich, a former chef who is currently a student at Brandeis University's Hornstein Program for Jewish Professional Leadership, returns to the kitchen to lead us in making delicious, kosher-for-Passover desserts to brighten the Pesach table. No experience necessary!

Please register to receive the Zoom details. After you sign up, you'll receive a confirmation email with the link for the class, and an ingredient list. See you in the kitchen!

[Register Here](#)

Berger Family Holocaust Lecture

## Jewish Responses to the Rise of Hitler with Michael Brenner

TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 7 P.M.



Join Professor Michael Brenner of American University for the annual Berger Family Holocaust Lecture. The challenges that Jews faced with the rise of the Nazi party in Germany remain relevant today amidst dramatic political and social changes in Europe and the United States. How did German Jews of different political and religious stripes respond to the rise of the Nazi threat from Hitler's rise in the early 1920s to his final appointment as chancellor in 1933? When do *we* recognize political danger, and how do we react to it?

[Register Here](#)

**"One Happy Camper" Scholarships Available!**



The Jewish Federations®  
OF NORTH AMERICA

The Network  
of Independent  
Communities

Thanks to the generosity of The Michael and Anita Siegal One Happy Camper Fund, limited \$1,000 incentive grants are now available to any Jewish child who would like to have a first-time experience at a Jewish overnight camp and who lives in a community that is part of JFNA's Network of Independent Communities. Members of the Maine communities served by the Center for Small Town Jewish Life are eligible to apply.

To apply online for the One Happy Camper grant, [click here](#). For a printed application, [click here](#) and follow the instructions on the application. These grants are first come, first served. Applications are due by Friday, March 12, 2021. Applicants will be notified by Friday, April 2, if they have been awarded a grant.

To learn more about the One Happy Camper scholarship initiative of the Foundation for Jewish Camp or explore the numerous Jewish camp possibilities [click here](#).

If you have questions regarding the application process, please contact Edward Finkel, JFNA Network Regional Director, at 212-284-6530 or by e-mail [edward.finkel@jfna.org](mailto:edward.finkel@jfna.org).

[Learn More](#)

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[The Center for Small Town Jewish Life](#)



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