

**PASSOVER SEDER SUPPLEMENT 5779/2019**

*The Haggadah is a tool for transmitting the lessons of the past to the next generation. We are meant to apply the Biblical stories of oppression to the present so that we can create a future of equality, peace, and justice for all. The seder is about moving from oppression to liberation, from hatred to hope, from complacency to being committed to creating change. Jewish tradition teaches: "Whoever expands and expounds upon this story is worthy of praise!"*



Photo by Jon Boyle

Four questions to add after the youngest at your table shares the traditional four questions

**The Four Questions Often Asked of our Charlotte Holocaust Survivors**

*World War II ended 74 years ago. Our Charlotte Holocaust survivors, while aging, have worked tirelessly to share their stories and wisdom with our community's schoolchildren. We celebrate them tonight. Here are the most common questions asked and a sampling of their answers.*

What was the worst moment for you during the Holocaust?

"The first was Kristallnacht - the night of broken glass - on November 9, 1938. The mobs in the streets shouted, 'Juden Verecken - exterminate the Jews!' I didn't think we'd live through the night. The second was when I was leaving Germany with my mom on the train. As we arrived at the border of Germany and the Netherlands, an SS guard demanded my mother get off the train. That was the last time I saw her."

What was your moment of greatest hope?

"My mother's last words to me. 'Be brave,' she said. 'At the end, everything will be good.'"

How do you feel about forgiveness?

"Forgive? I don't think there is anyone alive now who condemned me to death. And I'm still here."

Did you ever lose your faith?

"My father died two days after liberation and if there were ever a time I'd lose faith, it would have been then. I talk to God every day. We have the same conversation. I have not gotten my answers yet. But I will talk to God again tomorrow."





**Maggid - Retelling the Story of the Exodus**  
**Celebrating the Long Journey of Women Toward Freedom**  
**by Rabbi Judy Schindler**

*As we celebrate the story of the Exodus and the Israelite journey to freedom, we also celebrate the long journey of women toward freedom. We invite women to our seder table:*

The unnamed women of our Torah...

*Noah's wife, Lot's Wife, Lot's Daughters, Pharaoh's daughter*

The invisible women of our Torah...

*At the moment of revelation at Mt. Sinai, Moses is recorded as speaking only to the men but we know the women were there*

The brave and bold women of Torah...

*Tzelophchad's five daughters who asked that their case be heard and as a result transformed inheritance laws for themselves and for the women who would follow them. Deborah, the judge, who led the Israelites in a successful battle. Esther who spoke out and saved our people.*

The courageous women without whom the Exodus would not have happened...

*Moses' mother, Yocheved, who had faith to have a child in a time of oppression; Shifra and Puah, the Hebrew midwives, who were told to kill those baby boys born into their hands and refused; Pharaoh's daughter who took pity on the Hebrew child and adopted him; Moses' sister, Miriam, who watched over Moses and arranged for Moses' mother to be his wet nurse.*

The pioneering Jewish women of American history...

*The first wave of Jewish feminists who fought for suffrage and won the women's right to vote; the second wave of Jewish feminists who fought for equality, among them Betty Friedan, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg & the first Jewish Congresswoman Bella Abzug who famously said, "A woman's place is in the house, the House of Representatives."*

Those who were the first rabbis...

*Rabbi Regina Jonas who served in Theresienstadt and died in Auschwitz and whose memory was almost forgotten. Rabbi Sally Priesand who paved the way as the first woman rabbi in America.*

Each generation's success was built upon the women before them who took bold steps. May we help the girls at our seders and in our lives to gain entry and gain equality... in compensation, in opportunity, and in living with safety.



*After pouring out our ten drops of wine reflecting the ten plagues  
we reflect on the plague of white nationalism that has led to  
so much hate and bloodshed today.*

**The Plague of White Nationalism  
by Rabbi Judy Schindler**



Photo by T. Chick McClure

Tonight, we think about the plague of white nationalism, built upon the plague of white supremacy. White supremacy is the false belief in the hierarchy of human value. White nationalism is a political movement aimed at keeping those who are white in power. Over the past four years, we have seen a resurgence of bloodshed by white nationalists. We remove additional wine from our cups as we weep over the immense loss of life:

- Mother Emanuel AME in Charleston, South Carolina, June 17, 2015.  
*Nine people were shot and killed in the midst of Bible study*
- Pulse, a gay bar in Orlando, Florida, June 12, 2016.  
*49 people were killed and 53 people were injured*
- The Unite the Right Rally in Charlottesville, Virginia, August 11-12, 2017.  
*One counter protestor was killed and dozens injured.*
- The Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 27, 2018.  
*Eleven people were killed and seven were injured.*
- Al Noor Mosque & Linwood Islamic Ctr. in Christchurch, New Zealand, March 15, 2019. *50 people were killed and 50 were injured.*

Eric Ward, an expert on the topic teaches that "White supremacy is about exploitation, white nationalism is about ethnic cleansing... It is committed to building political power. It must be defeated politically."



**It will be enough - Dayeinu & A Place to Call Home  
by Judy Seldin-Cohen**



Photo by Tim Mossholder

If we had enough shelter beds for all the men, women and children  
who are experiencing homelessness in our city,  
lo dayeinu, it will not be enough.

If we had enough homes for all but they are too expensive  
for Charlotteans who earn low wages,  
lo dayeinu, it will not be enough.

If we have enough homes but they are all in high poverty neighborhoods  
with poor performing schools,  
lo dayeinu, it will not be enough.

If we have enough investment in our city's struggling neighborhoods  
But those who live there can no longer afford to stay  
Lo dayeinu, it will not be enough.

Dayeinu - it will be enough...  
When we have homes that are affordable  
in neighborhoods that are diverse  
that offer a solid childhood education  
and share social capital to break the cycle of generational poverty  
and maintain historic, diverse and valued communities.  
Dayeinu - it will be enough.

