



Dear Friends,

Thank you for being part of our community *regardless of where you live!* At the historic Walnut Street Synagogue, we aim to serve a growing audience for our educational and cultural programs. We are the center for Jewish history, education and culture and we serve Chelsea, Greater Boston and beyond. We are also the historic home of Congregation Agudas Sholom.

Your support has been critical in helping us to expand our program offerings and to preserve, maintain and secure our 116-year-old building that is on the National Register for Historic Places. We have served the community since 1909 at the corner of Walnut and Fourth Streets, but our reach now extends well beyond Chelsea.

We are pleased to report on the following highlights from the past year -

- We hosted **Chelsea Jewish Heritage Day** last September that featured tours, exploration of our artifact collection and a talk by American Jewish historian Dr. David E. Kaufman. We had an encore online version of his talk in May titled **Revisiting (the History) of Jewish Chelsea** in May.
- This past June, we recognized close relationships between the Jewish and Black communities during the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s with our screening of **Shared Legacies** and a discussion with Janna Kaplan and Chelsea City Councilor Leo Robinson. Janna's late husband Edward and his father Kivie, who were lifelong residents of Greater Boston and were key players in the Civil Rights movement, appeared in the film. Kivie's wife Emily was from Chelsea and her family was affiliated with the Walnut Street Synagogue.
- During our online **Four Lesser-Known American Jewish Communities** series we visited Alaska, Hawaii, New Mexico and Puerto Rico and learned about the past and present of those communities.
- We headed to the Orient in our online **Jewish Journeys to the Far East** series and explored the Jewish communities in South Korea, Taiwan, Indonesia and China.
- We studied Israel's rich diversity in society and culture during our three-part **Israeli Mosaic Film Series**. Each screening was followed by a live discussion with the filmmakers for each film in Israel.
- We opened our doors for **tours** of our historic synagogue for groups, families and individuals from our neighborhood, Greater Boston and travelers to our area from around the country and around the world.
- Our **High Holiday services** were held in our 1,109-seat sanctuary and were led by Cantor Steven Dress and Saadia Weisenberg.
- We jointly **celebrated Chanukah** in Chelsea Square and **Purim** in Winthrop with area synagogue partners.
- We **continued our partnerships** with the Lappin Foundation, the Chelsea Chamber of Commerce, the Wyner Family Jewish Heritage Center at American Ancestors, Boston Jewish Film, Yad Chessed, Combined Jewish Philanthropies and the Orange County Jewish Community Scholar Program (CSP).

Our four-part **Tel Aviv: Tel to Towers** online urban exploration series with award winning Tel Aviv-based tour guide Gila Levitan begins in August.

Soon we will be releasing details of our **Chelsea's Immigrant Jewish Artists and Artisans** program that will be held in the synagogue on September 7. If you are not receiving our **Email announcements with upcoming program listings, please contact us at [central.walnutstreetshul@gmail.com](mailto:central.walnutstreetshul@gmail.com)**.

**Please help us to continue to provide high-quality programs and to preserve, maintain and secure our 116-year-old building. Our maintenance, insurance and utility costs continue to increase. Your financial support at any level really will make a difference!**

Enjoy the rest of the summer. We hope to see you online or in-person soon!

Herb Kupersmith  
Chairman, Walnut Street Synagogue

Edward Medros  
President, Walnut Street Synagogue

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