



*Congregation Shaarey Zedek Men's Club invites you to
share in three special mitzvot as you prepare for Passover*

Three special mitzvot are traditionally part of our Passover preparation. The Men's Club of Congregation Shaarey Zedek extends the opportunity for you to share in these mitzvot, enhance your own Passover and help the needy in our community.

Bedikat Chametz: On the night before the first seder, after dark, **Tuesday, April 7, 2020**, we gather with our families to search the house for any remaining chametz. This search, called *Bedikat Chametz*, is a powerful ritual which symbolizes not only cleansing our homes of leaven, but cleansing our souls of sin, temptation and hubris. *Bedikat Chametz* kits are available for pick-up at the Synagogue office. While incumbent upon everyone, this custom is especially meaningful for grandparents, parents and children to perform together.

Mekhirat Chametz: Often ridding our homes of all *chametz* products would entail a significant financial loss. For this reason, tradition permits Jews to "sell" their *chametz* food and all related dishes to a non-Jew for the duration of Passover. After Passover, ownership reverts to the Jewish seller. The "sold" items remain behind closed, taped cabinet doors in your home during the holiday, out of sight and out of reach. **We have enclosed a legal form which you may use to authorize Assistant Cantor Leonard Gutman to sell your *chametz* on your behalf. Please complete the form and mail it to the address provided.** Some choose to make a donation to the synagogue for this service.

Me'ot Chetim: The term *Me'ot Chetim* is Hebrew for "wheat money." It refers to the collection of funds to ensure that the needy are able to properly celebrate Passover. Traditionally, Jews make a contribution to *Me'ot Chetim* at the time they authorize the sale of their *chametz*. There are many needy families in our community who depend upon these funds in order to celebrate Passover. This year the Men's Club has set a goal of raising funds to feed 500 families. Yad Ezra has determined that to feed a family of two persons for the eight days of Passover costs approximately \$36. We hope you will help us meet our goal. Please make checks payable to *CSZ Men's Club*, and return to CSZ as soon as possible.

The sale of *chametz* form and your check must be received no later than Friday, April 3, 2020.

CSZ Men's Club

Rabbi Aaron L. Starr

Rabbi Yonatan Dahlen

Hazzan David Propis

Assistant Cantor Leonard Gutman

**CSZ Men's Club *Me'ot Chetim* Project
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