2018 Liberation Seder

Our liberation Seder is back for 2018 taking place in more cities with more Rabbis. We are pleased to announce that the Seder will take place in Hamilton, London, and Toronto. This year we will remember the Nakba as well as Land Day. Rabbi David Mivasair has kindly agreed to return from Vancouver to lead the Seder in Hamilton. The Seders in London and Toronto will be led by our very own Rabbi Lucia Pizarro.

We are pleased to confirm the venues for all three cities.

In Toronto:
When: Saturday, March 31, 2018 @ 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Location: Steelworkers Hall, 25 Cecil Street Toronto
Price: $25 (more if you can, less if you can't).
Tickets can be purchased online: www.jelithin.ca or reserved through email: seder@jelithin.ca or ijancanada@gmail.com

Please note: Grape juice (fruit of the vine) and/or a limited amount of wine will be included for the ritual part of the Seder. If you think you and your friends may want to share a bottle of wine during dinner, we are pleased to offer you the opportunity to preorder a bottle for $20.

In Hamilton:
When: Monday, April 2, 2018 @ 6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Location: New Vision United Church Big Hall, 24 Main St.West, Hamilton
Price: $20 (more if you can, less if you can't).
Tickets are available online https://www.jelithin.ca and Bryan Prince Bookseller, 1060 King Street West, (Cash Only).
You can also reserve tickets through email: seder@jelithin.ca

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In London:
When: Friday, April 6, 2018 @ 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm
Location: Unitarian Fellowship of London, 557 Clarke Road, London
Price: $20 (more if you can, less if you can't).
Tickets can be purchased online: www.jelithin.ca and Bread & Roses Books, 870 Dundas St.
https://www.facebook.com/Breadandrosesbooks/
You can also reserve tickets through email: seder@jelithin.ca

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We are also pleased to announce that we will have childcare available at all three Seders. If you would like to take advantage of the childcare service, please email us in advance at: seder@jelithin.ca.
About Rabbi David Mivasair

Rabbi David Mivasair is motivated by the commandments "justice, justice you shall pursue" and "seek peace and pursue it". For over 25 years, David served as the spiritual leader of synagogues in the US and in Vancouver, where he lives. David is active in the leadership of Independent Jewish Voices in Canada and Jewish Voice for Peace in the US. He lived in Israel for four years and in May went with 130 other Jews to support Palestinian activists defending their communities from destruction.

About Rabbi Lucia Pizarro

Lucia was born in Mexico City, where she became qualified to practice law. She completed an M.A. and a Ph.D. in Philosophy at the University of Essex in the UK. She followed her academic passion for Jewish thought with four years working for social justice in Palestine. She recently became a mother and a Rabbi. Her dream is to provide a space for Jewish activists, who stand in solidarity with the Palestinian people, to be able to act Jewishly.

Definitions of "Passover" and "Liberation Seder"

We offer the following definitions of "Passover" and "liberation seder": At Passover ("Pesach" in Hebrew), Jewish families celebrate with a ritual family dinner at which the story of the liberation of the ancient Hebrews from oppression in the land of Egypt ("Mitzrayim"), is recited. Seder means "order"—the order of the meal and ritual of Pesach that Jews all over the world have participated in for centuries. It is customary among Jews to invite guests, both Jewish and non-Jewish, to join their Passover celebration.

Our Liberation Seders draw on the legacy of Rabbi Akiva who used the Pesach Seder to plan a revolutionary struggle against the Romans, and of the many Jews in every generation who have used the Seder for political purposes, including the Partisans of the Warsaw Ghetto who began their revolt on the first night of Pesach, not only because the tactical need of the moment, but also because their understanding of the meaning of the Passover story.

As Jews committed to current liberation struggles, we enact this ritual to honour our history of resilience and participation in diverse movements for human emancipation across time. The ritual of the Seder gives us an opportunity to contend not only with legacies of oppression but also with current suffering that we survive, that we perpetrate and in which we are complicit.

Our Seders are dedicated to a free Palestine and the liberation of all peoples.

If you have any questions, please email: info@jelithin.ca.