



Passover is coming up.

For many, it will be a difficult one...

Dear Friend,

Imagine the very first Passover over 3,000 years ago...

For 11 months, Egypt had suffered from terrible plagues and pestilence. Then the final plague was upon them – the slaying of the firstborn. And every Jewish person was told to seek shelter, mark their doorposts, and stay at home.

But what about people who had no home – the poor, the orphans, the neediest among us? Would you have helped, or would you have turned them away?

You, our Shul family, would help. I can see it in my mind's eye right now. Families opening their doors and their hearts. Caring for each other, taking in strangers, and people who didn't have other places to go. As Jews, we always take care of each other.

We were all family and we shared what we had—helping with Matzah, the *maror*, and the rest. Giving our fellow Jews love, acceptance, and comfort by sharing the little we had... And today, we are needed once again.

That's why I am reaching out to you today - to help with our Passover campaign.

Because today, we are all experiencing a modern-day plague. We are hopeful for "back to normal" in the near future, **but we remain unsure, some alone and isolated.** We yearn for connection and community. But this pandemic is not over yet. Some need help knowing how to run their own seder. Others need help with seder supplies like *Matzah*.

You can help. Your gift will help your fellow Jews celebrate Pesach in a dignified way. We have helped each other for centuries, ever since the very first time. And I'm asking you to do it again today.

With your help, we will assist your fellow Jews in welcoming Pesach with everything necessary for a beautiful seder. Mouthwatering soup, four cups of bubbly wine, and melt in your mouth brisket. Charoset, maror, egg, bone, and shmurah matzah.

They will cry over the maror and celebrate with the wine. You will give them exactly what they need: a wonderful Passover experience.

People love receiving our Jewish "to-go" packages.

They feel the joy of the holiday. They recreate and remember their childhood Passovers. They love to connect with their heritage and their people. They know they are appreciated and accepted, and feel the welcoming warmth from this support.

Passover is so important to us Jews. Because it's when we became an "us." It's the birth of our nation and the celebration of our freedom.

And it happens when people like you step up and take action.

There are so many stories of Passovers that tug at our heart. Celebrating during the Holocaust, during the Inquisition, Wartime in Israel, Undercover in Russia, and on and on. And now we are celebrating our second Passover during Covid-19.

We can't change history. We can remember them, tell their story, and help Jews today celebrate. Because we are one family.

Organizing Passover during Covid-19 is a lot of work and does not come cheap... in fact, the entire week of Passover will cost nearly \$9,000! All of which will be given by people who care. People like you.

Can you give? That's all it will take to give the special Seder experience.

While they enjoy Passover in their homes, you will be caring for them and enhancing their Passover greatly.

As we have done for each other, ever since the very first one!

You can give online right now at www.shulcenter.org/donate or you can send your gift in with the enclosed envelope.

Thank you for caring enough to read my letter. I hope it touches your heart, and I'd like to wish you and your loved ones a happy and joyous Passover!

Warmly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Cheski Edelman', written in a cursive style.

Rabbi Cheski Edelman

