

# FOUR MITZVOT CHECKLIST

△ **Give food to a friend.** *Mishloach Manot*, this *mitzvah* is traditionally performed by giving two ready-made food items to at least one friend on Purim. Make your own *Mishloach Manot* here in Simon Hall and gift it to a lucky friend tomorrow.

△ **Give money to someone who has none.** *Matanot La'evyonim*, this *mitzvah* is as simple as giving money to at least two people who are less fortunate on the day of Purim. Climb the ladder and drop a donation into the giant *tzedakah* box. The proceeds will be used to support OST's NEST (Norfolk Emergency Shelter Team) week where Ohef Sholom hosts guests each night for a week during the cold winter months, providing a nurturing meal and a warm place to sleep.

△ **Eat a festive meal!** A *Purim Seudah* (feast) is a *mitzvah*. Eat pizza, salad, and hamantashen at the dinner theater and fulfill this *mitzvah*. [It is also a *mitzvah* to drink until you can't tell the difference between Haman and Mordechai. Keep in mind it is also a *mitzvah* to avoid getting so drunk that you can't perform other *mitzvot*! If you do take up the drinking *mitzvah* challenge, PLEASE make sure you let someone else drive you home - call Lyft or Uber!]

△ **Read or hear the megillah – twice!** Listening to the Book of Esther on Erev Purim and then again the next day is a *mitzvah*. We will hear portions of the *megillah* during the Purimshpiel. Join us again tomorrow at noon in the library for *The Whole Megillah* with commentary by Kitty Wolf and chanting by Cantor Jen.



# PLAYBILL

OHEF SHOLOM THEATER

The OST Dinner Theatre Proudly Presents

## A Misérable Purimshpiel



# THE CAST

Ample Flash Photography, Please!  
Signings AFTER the Show  
#OSTPurim #miserable



Narrator,  
Elizabeth Danon



King A / Haman,  
Cantor Jen



Vashti,  
Rabbi Roz



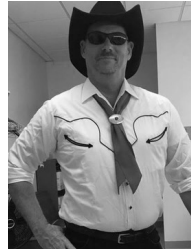
Mordechai,  
Paul Weiner



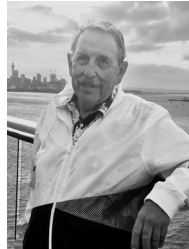
Esther,  
Liz Vincent



Announcer/Chorus,  
Eric Shoulta



Accompanist,  
William Neill



Chorus,  
Jay Lazier



Chorus,  
Nancy Lazier



Chorus,  
Jeanette Friedman



Chorus,  
David Titus



Chorus,  
Jay Legum

# THE STORY OF PURIM

The story of Purim, found in the Book of Esther, is set in the land of Persia (current day Iran) during the reign of King Ahashverosh. The King held a banquet in the capital city of Shushan and ordered his queen, Vashti, to come and dance before his guests. She refused to appear and lost her royal position... and her life.

To replace Vashti, the king held a pageant to choose a new queen. Mordechai, a Jewish man living in Shushan, encouraged his cousin, Esther, to enter the competition. Esther won, but following the advice of her cousin, did not reveal her Jewish identity.

One day, Mordechai overheard two men plotting to kill the king. He reported what he had heard to Esther. She then reported the information to the king. The matter was investigated and found to be true. The men were killed, and Mordechai's deed was recorded in the king's diary.

Meanwhile, the king's evil adviser, Haman, paraded through the streets, demanding that all bow down to him. Because Jews do not bow to anyone but God, Mordechai refused to bow down to Haman. Upon learning that Mordechai was Jewish, Haman plotted to kill all the Jews in the Persian empire—convincing King Ahashverosh to go along with the plan—and cast *purim* ("lots"), a kind of lottery, to determine the day on which he would carry out his evil deed: the 13th of Adar.

Mordechai alerted Esther to Haman's evil plot. Esther, in turn, revealed her Jewish identity to the King and convinced him to save the Jews. Haman was hanged, Mordechai received Haman's estates and royal position, and the Jews of Persia celebrated their narrow escape on the day after they were supposed to be annihilated, the 14th of Adar.

Source:  
*The Jewish Home (Revised Edition)* by Daniel B. Syme  
Adapted from [www.reformjudiasim.org](http://www.reformjudiasim.org)