

# Quarterly Newsletter - Nisan Iyyar Sivan 5782



## Nisan: New Year, New Growth, New Possibilities

The month of Nisan marks the first month of the Jewish calendar. Yes, we change our calendar year in the Autumn at Rosh Hashanah in the seventh month of Tishrei, however the Spring month of Nisan is the actual beginning of the year. It is not by coincidence that the Jewish tradition celebrates Passover and the mythic narrative of moving from the restriction and repression of servitude to the expansive wilderness of liberation in the month of Nisan. Spring holds the promise not only a new year, but with it the opportunity for new growth and new possibilities.

In the mystical tradition, the month of Nisan is associated with Speech. The Torah imagines the universe created through Divine speech. Speech is the moment between thought and action - in other words, we have the opportunity in the Winter months to ease into slowness and contemplation so that in Spring, with the reemergence of new growth, we can give voice to the insights which emerged during the past season. As the soil continues to warm and life revives from the darkness of Winter we receive a new sense of hope and a new sense of inspiration. Nisan is the time that we tell the stories of our hopeful actions for the rest of the season. Just how we tell the story of liberation under the full moon of this month, we see how sharing story leads to collective action.

Nisan 5782 marks the exact midway point of the Shmitah year. It is a perfect time to reflect on lessons learned in the experience of rest and release. This time of year is usually dedicated to intense preparations for the coming growing season. What lessons do the new growth and opportunities of Spring have to offer those who are striving to experience the release of the Shmitah year?

We are very excited to share with you some of the new things that are happening here at Yesod Farm+Kitchen this Spring!

[visit our website](#)

## Support Yesod Farm+Kitchen

[Donate Here](#)

We are now officially a non-profit and can receive tax-deductible donations. Your support will help build the capacity of Yesod Farm+Kitchen to provide impactful educational experiences on the farm and provide supplemental food support to local people experiencing food insecurity through our community partners. To make a donation today click below



## Upcoming Events



Join us along with our friends, Jennifer Lapidus (Carolina Ground Flour) and Scott Unfried (Flatrock Village Bakery, etc) in baking matzah! Everything you'll need is provided for you. This event is free but reservations are required and we welcome donations. Click below to learn more.

[Find Out More](#)

To stay up-to-date on future events, check the [Events](#) page of our website, or follow us on [Facebook](#).

## Happening this Season



Spring, of course, is a busy time for farmers as the world wakes up anew. This year being Shmitah, we are continuing to allow most of our land to rest. In alignment with our vision for Shmitah 5782, we are currently preparing for transitioning what has been fallow land to be planted once the frosts conclude (around Mothers Day). Once we are safe from mountain frosts, we will be looking forward to planting a Cherokee heritage variety of seed corn as a celebration of the rightful ancestral holders of the land which we steward.

Following Pesah we will be in the season of the Counting of the Omer. Last year our Scholar-in-Residence, Justin, sat daily for a full seven weeks with a stalk of emmer wheat. Since we did not plant any wheat in the month of Heshvan at the beginning of the year because of Shmitah, we will find other ways to ground ourselves into the moments between liberation and revelation.

A few weeks after Shavuot, we will mark the summer solstice toward the end of the month of Sivan by harvesting the garlic we planted last Autumn -- keep your eyes peeled for details on our solstice summer garlic harvest event! Once the garlic is harvested and curing, we will turn those beds over and plant summer and fall vegetables.