

YEAR	WORLD EVENTS	WOMEN'S LEAGUE EVENTS
1918	National Women's League of the United Synagogue founded January 21, 1918	Mathilde Schechter first president (1918-1919)
	Germany and Allies sign the armistice ending WW I —the War to End All Wars	January: Mathilde Schechter calls for establishment of <i>Women's Religious Union of the United Synagogue</i>
	The Spanish Flu epidemic kills 20 million people--about twice as many as died in World War I.	Name changed to National Women's League. Mission "to stimulate religious sentiment among Jewish women by stressing the observance of Sabbath and Festivals, religious ceremonies in the home, Jewish dietary laws and advancing Jewish education among women."
		·Per capita 10 cents
		·Individual Members - \$3.00
		*First Annual National Joint Convention of the United Synagogue of America (its 6 th) and National Women's League (NYC): New York, NY
		·Women's Religious Union join Red Cross Auxiliary in knitting and rolling bandages, collecting funds and providing food for soldiers; collected matzah for soldiers
		First publications:
		· <i>Aims and Ideals of the Women's League</i> (Mathilde Schechter)
		· <i>Prayers and Blessing Cards</i>
		· <i>Friday Night Stories</i> (Series I) Adapted by Shulamith Ish-Kishor from <i>Legends of the Jews</i> by Dr. Louis Ginzberg, translated from German by Henrietta Szold
		Kosher Canteen at Columbia University opens to Jewish soldiers and students in military training.
1919	Russian pogroms kill thousands.	Jewish Student House established after the war [sisterhoods sponsored Student Houses at Hunter and Barnard Colleges (NY) and Philadelphia at University of Pennsylvania and Temple; Cornell University and University of Michigan]
	Jewish educational summer camping launched in US; what was later known as the Cejwin Camps.	1919 Fanny Hoffman assumes presidency when Mathilde Schechter becomes ill and can no longer serve
1920	Women granted the right to vote in U.S. with the 19th Amendment	Kiddush Cards
	Prohibition begins in the U.S.	Daily Prayer Cards
	League of Nations established	Women's section of <i>United Synagogue Recorder</i>
	First commercial radio broadcast aired	Convention, Philadelphia, PA
1921	U.S. immigration laws effectively exclude Eastern European Jews and other immigrants.	WLCJ branches established Convention, New York, NY

1922	Britain granted Mandate for Palestine by League of Nations.	Convention, New York, NY
	Jewish Agency representing Jewish community to Mandate authorities set up.	
	Insulin discovered	
1923	Overthrow of Ottoman Muslim rule and the establishment of secular state.	Delegates to convention in Pittsburgh, PA, vote to support all agencies building Palestine
	Technion, first institute of technology, founded in Haifa.	
	Charleston dance becomes the rage	
1924	J. Edgar Hoover appointed FBI Director	WEAF-WIN radio show focuses on Jewish holidays and customs, musical performers, actors, poetry, literature. Later radio shows are introduced in Philadelphia and other cities
		Bok Peace Award presented to Women's League by American Peace Committee in recognition of Education for Peace Program
		Begins work in Addis Ababa School providing Jewish education for Ethiopian (Falasha) Jews
		September 15, 1924 Mathilde Schechter passes away
1925	Hebrew University of Jerusalem opened on Mt. Scopus.	230 sisterhoods with membership of 20,000
	Flapper dresses in style	Annual observance of Sisterhood Sabbath established in December, near 29 Kislev, Mathilde's Hebrew birth date.
		First joint annual convention with United Synagogue at which Women's League holds separate sessions Atlantic City, NJ
		Branches organized in Metropolitan (NYC); Chicago, Philadelphia, New York State, New England and Toronto
		Each Branch focus on pioneering projects
		·New England, circulating library for area religious schools
		·Chicago radio show for adult education and Deborah schools
		·Philadelphia Student Houses
		·NY State establishes Jewish/Hebrew reading rooms
1926	Henry Ford announces 40-hour work week	Joins with United Synagogue in Jerusalem Synagogue Center Fund Campaign to beautify sanctuary of Yeshurun Synagogue (United Synagogue project in Jerusalem);
		Convention, Baltimore, MD

		Gives to Keren Kayemet L'Yisrael (Project first recommendation of Dr. Judah Magnes and Henrieta Szold)
1927	Lindbergh flies solo across the Atlantic	<i>The Three Pillars</i> by Deborah Melamed: first book published in English about religious observance, prayers, and mitzvot for women (9 printings)
	The first talking movie, <i>The Jazz Singer</i>	Passover seder records recorded by JTS rabbinical students
		Convention, Atlantic City, NJ
1928	Penicillin discovered	Dora Spiegel becomes president
	Bubble gum invented	Convention, Chicago, IL
	First Mickey Mouse cartoon	
	Sliced bread invented	
1929	Stock Market crashes and the Great Depression begins	New Jersey Branch established
	First Academy Awards	Convention, New York, NY
	Car radio invented	
1930	Pluto discovered	First issue of <i>Outlook</i> magazine in September (Mrs. Israel [Carrie] Davidson is editor. She serves for 23 years.)
		Convention, New York, NY
1931	Empire State Building completed to become world's tallest building	Convention, Atlantic City, NJ; Chairs: Mrs. Leo M. Abrahams and Mrs. Leon S. Lang Resolutions:
	U.S. officially gets National Anthem	·oppose change to calendar endangering “fixity of Shabbat” (in response to Reform Judaism’s suggestion to change the Sabbath from Saturday to Sunday)
		·dissuades affiliates from holding meetings and social events on the Sabbath or Jewish holidays;
		·supports/encourages federal policies promoting immigration;
		·per capita raised to 20 cents
		Connecticut Branch established
		Women’s Institute of Jewish Studies at JTS (Metropolitan Branch in conjunction with Hadassah, <i>Ivriah</i> , National Council of Jewish Women and Federation of Jewish Women’s Organizations)

		March 27, 1931 Women's League of United Synagogue of America incorporated by State of New York , with approval of Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt, “ <i>An act to incorporate the Women’s League of United Synagogue of America an association for promoting, in affiliation with the United Synagogue of America, traditional Judaism .. and for furthering Jewish education among women</i> ”
1932	Etzel (the Irgun), Jewish underground organization, founded.	Convention, Atlantic City, NJ; Chair: Mrs. Louis Gottschall
	Scientists split the atom	
	Air conditioning invented	
1933	FDR launches New Deal	Convention, New York, NY; Chairs: Mrs. Carrie Simon and Mrs. Jacon Minkin Resolution commends President Roosevelt for his efforts “to restore normal conditions...and continued work of rehabilitation of the affairs of the country...”
	Prohibition ends in the U.S.	Supports government policies ameliorating the condition of Jews in Germany; encourages all affiliates including national office to funnel already stretched funds to Joint Distribution Committee for Germany
	Adolf Hitler appointed Chancellor of Germany	
	First Nazi concentration camp established	
1934	The Dust Bowl	Last joint convention with United Synagogue, Washington, D.C.; Chairs: Mrs. Isaac Potts & Mrs. Robert Ginns Convention Resolution: “... <i>in cooperation with the Jewish Theological Seminary ... to assist [it] financially to the best of our ability.</i> ”
		Establishes Education Fund for JTS with an annual goal of \$2,000; (renamed Torah Fund in 1942)
1935	Social Security enacted in U.S.	<i>Adventures of K’tonton</i> , from earlier short stories in <i>Outlook</i> by Sadie Rose Weilerstein published by Women's League <i>What the Liberty Bell Proclaims</i> , children’s stories by Rabbi Leon Spitz published by Women's League
	Alcoholics Anonymous founded	Hanukkah song records
		Members become Jewish Braille transcribers
		Affiliates with National Conference of Christians and Jews
1936	King Edward VIII abdicates	First solo Women’s League convention in Washington, D.C.; Chairs: Mrs. Jacon Minkin, Miss Sarah Kussy, & Mrs. Leon S. Lang

	Leon Blum becomes the first Jew elected premier of France, enacts many social reforms.	
	<i>Gone With the Wind</i> first published	
1937	Amelia Earhart vanishes	Western Pennsylvania Branch established
	Golden Gate Bridge opened	Convention, Pittsburgh, PA; Chairs: Mrs. Jesse Bienenfeld & Mrs. Morris Klein
	Japan invades China	
1938	Kristallnacht—The Night of Broken Glass—German synagogues and Jewish businesses destroyed.	Convention, Chicago, IL; Chairs: Mrs. Jacob Minkin & Mrs. Simon J. Winer
	March of Dimes founded	
	<i>Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs</i> Is the first full-length animated cartoon	
	Superman, created by two Jews, first appears in comic books	
1939	President Roosevelt appoints Jewish Felix Frankfurter to U.S. Supreme Court.	100,000 members throughout US and Canada
	S.S. St. Louis, carrying 907 Jewish refugees from Germany, refused entry everywhere	Texas Branch established
	WWII begins	Convention: New York, NY; Chairs: Mrs. George Levy & Mrs. Barnett E. Kopelman
	First commercial flight over the Atlantic	Theme of 21st convention at Hotel Commodore, NY, is “The Jew in the World Tomorrow” presents New York World’s Fair “Temple of Religion” pageant, <i>My Country ‘Tis</i> by Mrs. Morris Silverman
	Helicopter invented	
	The movie <i>Wizard of Oz</i> premieres	
	Jewish Irving Berlin introduces his song "God Bless America."	
1940	Auschwitz opens	Convention: Atlantic City , theme: “Jewish Home Beautiful”; Chairs: Mrs. A.H. Kavovitz & Mrs. Jacob Weisberg
	Battle of Britain	September 17, 1940 closing day of World's Fair, “Temple of Religion” pageant, WL presents “The Jewish Home Beautiful” by Althea O. Silverman and Betty D. Simon Greenberg
	Bugs Bunny debuts in “A Wild Hare”	
	Nylons go on the market	

1941	Japanese attack Pearl Harbor and US joins Allies fighting WWII	Convention: Detroit, MI “We Hold These Truths to Be Self Evident”; Chairs: Mrs. Jacob S. Minkin, Mrs. Simon Greenberg, & Mrs. L.B. Schwartz
	Babi Yar Massacre	Eleanor Roosevelt speaks on “Women in Defense”
	Jeep invented and M&Ms created	<i>The Jewish Home Beautiful</i> (Silverman and Greenberg) published (14 printings)
	Cheerios first introduced	
		1941-45 involvement in war effort: first aid, nutrition and home nursing workers; air raid wardens, switchboard operators, ambulance drivers, spotters, Red Cross workers; synagogue social halls became emergency hospitals, kosher kitchen units; sisterhoods donate mobile kitchen units, ambulances, station wagons and organize blood donor days, sell savings stamps and war bonds.
1942	Japanese-Americans held in US camps	1942 Torah Fund established with annual goal of \$10,000; minimum contribution \$6.11 (numerical value of Hebrew word <i>Torah</i>)
	T-shirt introduced	
1943	Warsaw Ghetto uprising	25 th anniversary
	Zionist Biltmore Conference, at Biltmore Hotel in NYC, formulates new policy of creating a "Jewish Commonwealth" in Palestine and organizing a Jewish army.	No convention because of wartime travel restrictions; simultaneous conferences held in Kansas City, Chicago, Pittsburgh, Rochester, Boston, Hartford, NYC, Philadelphia, and Montreal. Delegates heard President Dora Spiegel speak coast to coast on national radio hookup announcing The League’s endorsement of the Emergency Committee to Save the Jews of Europe
1944	D-Day	Sarah Kopelman president
	Jewish Brigade formed as part of British forces.	
	Ballpoint pens go on sale	
1945	United Nations established.	Major initiatives following conclusion of WWII: continuation of Red Cross groups formed during the war to aid and assist; active participant in the SOS (Supplies for Overseas Survivors) Drive, collecting clothing and food for Joint Distribution Committee; collecting medical supplies, household items and canned goods, layettes, and <i>sefarim, sifrei Torah, siddurim, mahzorim and tefillin</i> .
	U.S. drops atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki	Koppelman convenes first Leaders Conference “How to Reconvert the Wartime Energies of our Women Into Sisterhood Activities”
	Germany and Japan surrender ending WWII	Torah Fund Chai Club establishes \$18.00 donation
	First computer built (ENIAC)	
	Microwave oven invented	

1946	Dr. Spock's <i>The Common Book of Baby and Child Care</i> Is published	First biennial Convention: Chicago, IL(first since 1941) “We Will Do and We Will Heed”; chair: Mrs. Samuel Glassman
	Bikinis Introduced	Girl Scout Affiliation: Adele Ginzberg encourages Women's League to support Girl Scouts of America, creates Girl Scout Jewish Advisory Committee and creation of Menorah Award for Jewish Girl Scouts
1947	UN approves the creation of a Jewish state and an Arab state in the British mandate of Palestine; partition plan rejected by Arab Higher Committee for Palestine .	Sponsors National Program conference and Program clinics
	Dead Sea Scrolls discovered	<i>The Women’s League Handbook and Guide</i> by Sarah Kussy
	Jackie Robinson joins the Dodgers, the first Afro-American baseball player in the major leagues	
	Polaroid Camera invented	
1948	David Ben-Gurion proclaims Israeli independence below a portrait of Theodor Herzl	Convention: Atlantic City, NJ “ <i>Am Yisrael Chai</i> ”; Chairs: Mrs. Emanuel Siner & Mrs. David A. Goldstein
	Jewish exodus as up to a million Jews flee or are expelled from Arab and Muslim nations including thousands of Yemenite Jews during "Operation	Convention Resolutions:
	Resettlement of almost 250,000 Holocaust survivors in Israel begins.	·urge abolition of poll tax
	Berlin Airlift	·support Federal Fair Employment Practices Act;
	Arab-Israeli War	·support elimination of discrimination and segregation in Armed Forces; federal anti-lynch law;
		·elimination of discrimination in public transportation and hotels, restaurants and places of amusement;
		·end discrimination in US against immigration and naturalization laws
		Joins Conservative movement-wide effort to bring Jewish learning and living to smaller, non urban communities; supports United Synagogue Commission on Jewish Education, Camp Ramah and Leaders Training Fellowship.
		Affiliates with Jewish Braille Institute, National Jewish Welfare Board, United Jewish Appeal, Israel Bonds campaign, National Jewish Women’s organizations
		Leadership Training: Year 1: 452 women from 71 sisterhoods, four branches came for training.
		May 14, 1948 League celebrates creation of State of Israel
		announces the \$300,000 it raised with United Synagogue since 1935 transferred to Jewish National Fund to build Yeshurun Synagogue in Jerusalem

1949	China becomes Communist	Leadership Training, Year 2: 1,270 women, from 227 sisterhoods in 14 of 18 branches complete training
	NATO established	February 7, 1949 Articles of incorporation amended.Name change to The National Women's League of United Synagogue of America
	Soviet Union fires atomic bomb	
1950	Korean War begins	Marion Siner president
	Senator Joseph McCarthy begins Communist Witch Hunt	Convention: Minneapolis, MN (farthest west convention to date) “To Learn, to Teach, To Do”; Chair: Mrs. Simon Greenberg
	First organ transplant	focus to renew commitment to Jewish learning and observance
	First "Peanuts" cartoon strip	Resolutions:
	First modern credit card introduced	·support United Nations;
		·control of nuclear weapons;
		·urge US to withhold aid from Franco Spain;
		·ratify Genocide Convention;
		·expel Nazis from government positions in Germany;
		·prevent remilitarization of Germany;
		·must be alert to infiltration by groups “wishing to undermine our democracy” But also abhor “witch hunting” ...
		·Call on Rabbinical Assembly to relieve agunah problem; eliminate halitza; equalize women in ability to obtain a <i>get</i> .
		· All subsequent conventions would sponsor kosher meals at the hotel (previously, conventions delegates would go out in search of their own kosher food)
		1950: 495 sisterhoods
1951	Truman signs peace treaty with Japan, officially ending WWII	JTS citation to National Women’s League at 1951 Commencement “... <i>To each Sisterhood President and to each Torah Fund Chairman here present, and particularly to the noble women, who represent the National Women’s League and Torah Fund in accepting this citation, the Jewish people and the community as a whole owe a debt of gratitude which cannot be evaluated.....</i> ”
	Color TV introduced	
1952	Princess Elizabeth becomes Queen of England at age 25	Convention: Philadelphia, PA “How Beautiful Our Heritage”; Chair: Mrs. S. Joshua Kohn
	Car seat belts introduced	1,058 delegates and guests in Philadelphia (largest convention to date)

		Dr. Chaim Weizmann's death announced at opening Ma'ariv service, thirteen hundred people
		Resolutions: petition Congress to repeal The Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952 (McCarran-Walter Law) that discriminates against immigrant and naturalized citizens.
		New departments: Adult Education to provide guidance and study materials; Ceremonial Objects and Gift Shop Department; Bookshop, Library and Publications.
		Granted NGO Status at the United Nations.
		Practice of starting each meeting with <i>d'var Torah</i> established.
		Participate in Women's Organizations' Services of the National Jewish Welfare Board to send packages and gifts to servicemen in 65 countries.
		"League Notes": instructional sheets for sisterhood presidents and activity chairs
		First professional Executive Director, Naomi Flax
		Joins with United Synagogue to create United Synagogue Youth (USY)
1953	DNA discovered	Mrs. Baruch Treiger is National Director of Field Work (program and education)
		Oneg Shabbat programs (based on Torah portions)
1954	Segregation ruled illegal in U.S.	Helen Sussman president (1954-1958)
	Jonas Salk's Polio vaccine given to children in massive trial	Convention: Cleveland, OH "Open My Heart Unto Thy Torah"; Chair: Mrs. Simon Greenberg
		Resolution again petitions Congress to repeal the McCarran-Walter [anti-immigrant] law
		League sponsors publication of the first Hebrew-English prayer book in Braille. Subsequent Braille publications include <i>haggadot and haftarot</i> .
		Becomes member of National Community Relations Advisory Council (NCRAC)
		National Parliamentarian to develop policies used by all sisterhoods and branches
1955	Montgomery Bus Boycott begins	Jewish Book Council gives special award to Sadie Rose Weilerstein, author of <i>K'tonton</i> books for "her cumulative contribution to Jewish Juvenile Literature. Her books have greatly enriched the cultural and spiritual life of American Jewry."
	Rosa Parks refuses to give up her seat on a bus	
	Warsaw Pact signed	
	The Conservative Movement's Rabbinical Assembly decide that women may be allowed to offer blessings (<i>aliyot</i>) on the Torah.	
	Disneyland opens	

1956	Suez Crisis and the Egypt-Israeli Suez War as Egypt blockades the Gulf of Aqaba, closing the canal to Israeli shipping.	First convention at the Concord Hotel (Kiamesha, NY) “Let Us Rejoice in Thy Mitzvot”; Chair: Mrs. David A. Goldstein
	Elvis first gyrates on Ed Sullivan's Show	Convention Resolutions:
	Velcro introduced	·sisterhood members observe Shabbat and holidays and dietary rules;
		·no sisterhood business conducted on the Sabbath;
		·modesty and decorum at religious service;
		·petition Congress third time to repeal the discriminatory parts of the McCarran-Walter Law
		·abolition of Attorney general’s list of “so-called subversive organizations”;
		·demand wiretapping illegal;
		·urge end to secret informers;
		Commits to raise funds for Mathilde Schechter Residence Hall for female students – project goal: \$500,000.
		National Women’s Division of State of Israel Bonds present Ayshet Hayil award to five League women, each of whom sold over \$100,000 worth of Israel Bonds.
1957	Soviet satellite Sputnik launches Space Age	First Torah Fund pin: Burning Bush
	Dr. Seuss publishes <i>The Cat in the Hat</i>	
1958	NASA founded	40th anniversary
	Peace symbol created	Syd Rossman president (1958-1962)
	Hula Hoops become fad	Convention: Miami Beach, FL “In Thy Light Do We See Light”; Chair: Mrs. Joseph Kolodny
	LEGO Toy Bricks first introduced	Resolution: compulsory Sunday Observance Laws violate the principle of religious liberty
		Plans for Mathilde Schechter Residence Hall officially presented at convention, each Branch accepts its fundraising quota. Annual goal: \$100,000; members purchase “bricks” for \$10.00.
		Torah Fund Ha’yay Olam donor category of \$100; Patrons Society for gifts of \$500 and \$1,000.
		Leadership Training Program expands to include Speakers Training Program.
1959	Castro becomes dictator of Cuba	Proposal for publication of calendar diary (initiated by Hadassah Nadich)
	International treaty makes Antarctica scientific preserve	
	U.S. quiz shows found to be fixed	
1960	First televised presidential debates	700 sisterhoods in 27 Branches.

	The birth control pill is approved by the FDA	Convention, Kiamesha, NY “Remember and Fulfill All My Commandments”; Chairs: Mrs. H.H. Rossman & Mrs. Saul I. Teplitz
	Lasers invented	Resolutions:
		·abolition of capital punishment;
		·urge repeal of McCaran-Walter Law (third resolution)
		·sisterhoods resolve to be bound by and conform to national policy
		Coordinated Education Activities Committee (CEAC) comprised of Adult Education; Books, Libraries and Publications; Ceremonial and Gift Shop; Judaism-in-the-Home; Program; Publicity and Public Relations
		First Calendar Diary
		<i>Kosher Cookery Unlimited</i> (Ruth and Milton Perry), <i>The Bas Mitzvah Treasury</i> , ed. Azriel Eisenberg and Leah Ain Globe
		Mexico joins
		Eleanor Roosevelt speaks at National Social Action Conference
1961	Adolf Eichmann on trial for role in Holocaust	Representatives attend White House Conference on Aging
	Bay of Pigs Invasion	<i>Outlook Magazine</i> sent directly to members’ homes
	Berlin Wall built	
	Soviets launch first man in Space	
	Freedom Riders challenge segregation on interstate buses	
	Peace Corps founded	
1962	Cuban Missile Crisis	Helen Fried president (1962-1966)
	James Meredith admitted into the segregated University of Mississippi	Convention, Kiamesha, NY “Show Them the Way Wherein They Must Walk and the Work That They Must Do”; Chairs: Mrs. H.H. Rossman & Mrs. Saul I. Teplitz
	Rachel Carson publishes <i>Silent Spring</i>	Resolution: Congress to repeal McCaran-Walter law
	First Wal-Mart opens	Torah Fund Residence Hall Campaign funds combined into Torah Fund/Residence Hall Campaign
1963	JFK assassinated	Torah Fund Campaign expanded to support University of Judaism, Neve Schechter, the Institute for Religious and Social Studies, the Jewish Museum, the External Light TV program, and the JTS Library.
	First woman in space, Russian Valentina Tereshkova	
	March on Washington	
	Betty Friedan publishes <i>The Feminine Mystique</i>	

1964		Convention: Chicago, IL. “Heed My Child The Guidance of Your Father and Forsake Not the torah of Your Mother”; Chair: Mrs. Saul I. Teplitz
	Jewish-Christian relations revolutionized by the Roman Catholic Church's Vatican II.	Resolution: Congress to repeal McCaran-Walter law
	Cassius Clay (a.k.a. Muhammad Ali) becomes World Heavyweight Champion	150 delegates attend the 1964 Biennial Convention in Jerusalem. (First international conclave of synagogue women in Israel.) Address by Foreign Minister Golda Meir; reception with President Shazar and Prime Minister Levi Eshkol.
	Civil Rights Act passes in U.S.	
	Beatles invade U.S.	
1965	U.S. sends troops to Vietnam	150 delegates attend the 1964 Biennial Convention in Jerusalem. (First international conclave of synagogue women in Israel.) Address by Foreign Minister Golda Meir; reception with President Shazar and Prime Minister Levi Eshkol.
	Los Angeles Riots	
	New York City Great Blackout	
	Miniskirt first appears	
1966	Mass draft protests in U.S.	Evelyn Henkind president (1966-1970)
	National Organization for Women (NOW) founded	Convention, Kiamesha, NY “Lift Up they Voice With Strength”; Chairs: Mrs. Saul I. Teplitz & Mrs. Sol Henkind
	S.Y. Agnon becomes the first Hebrew writer to win the Nobel Prize in literature.	1700 delegates; 770 sisterhoods in 28 Branches in US, Canada and Mexico and Puerto Rico at Concord for Jubilee Year; tribute paid to founders and earliest leaders
		Mobilizes hundreds of workers to preserve books after JTS Library fire
1967	Six-Day War	
	Three U.S. astronauts killed during simulated launch	
	First heart transplant	
	First Super Bowl	
1968	Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert F. Kennedy assassinated	200,000 members; 800 sisterhoods; 28 Branches
	My Lai Massacre	Convention, Kiamesha, NY “ <i>Hineni</i> ” Here Am I”; Chair: Miriam Teplitz (Mrs. Saul)
	Tet Offensive	Simultaneous study sessions in New York and Los Angeles with 1,000 participants in commemoration of Jubilee
1969	First group of African Hebrew Israelites begin immigration to Israel	Moves out of Seminary (housed since 1918) and purchases the Jewish Braille Institute Building at 48 E. 74th Street in NY.

	Neil Armstrong becomes the first man on the moon	
	Yasser Arafat becomes leader of the PLO	
	Concert at Woodstock	
	ARPANET, the precursor of the Internet, created	
	Sesame Street first airs	
1970	Palestinian group hijacks five planes	Selma Rappaport president (1970-1974)
	Kent State Shootings	Convention, Kiamesha, NY “Veahavta” And Thou Shalt Love; Chair: Miriam Teplitz (Mrs. Saul)
	Beatles break up	
1971	VCRs introduced	
1972	Sally Priesand became the first female rabbi ordained in America.	1972 Jubilee Year
	Terrorists attack at the Munich Olympics	Convention, Kiamesha, NY “ <i>Na’aseh</i> ” We Will Do!”; Chair: Ruth Perry (Mrs. M. Milton)
	Watergate Scandal begins	- Unanimous vote to change name to Women's League for Conservative Judaism
	Mark Spitz wins seven Olympic gold medals	· Remove husbands names from rosters (Mrs. Solomon Schechter now Mathilde Schechter)
	Pocket calculators introduced	· <i>Ezrat Nashim</i> invited to convention (after turned down by Rabbinical Assembly)
		· Convention opinion poll: majority support women elected to congregational boards; serving as Torah readers; initiate divorce proceedings; 60% called for women to be counted in a minyan
		Recruit-Activate-Retain (RAR) Conference and National Board meeting In Los Angeles, first on the West Coast
		First Masorti women’s groups established in Israel
1973	The Yom Kippur War.	President Selma Rappaport attends Soviet Jewry conferences in Washington and Brussels
	Roe vs Wade legalizes abortion in the U.S.	Rappaport goes on mission to Israel during Yom Kippur War
	Skylab, America's first space station, launched	March 29, 1973 Articles of Incorporation amended. Name changed to Women's League for Conservative Judaism
	U.S. pulls out of Vietnam	
	U.S. Vice President Spiro Agnew resigns	

1974	U.S. President Nixon resigns	Ruth Perry President (1974-1978)
	Civil war in Lebanon	Convention, Kiamesha, NY “Layv HadashVeru’ah Hadashah” A New Heart and New Spirit; Chair: Ruth Perry (Mrs. M. Milton)
	Helsinki accords signed	Becomes independent member of Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish
	Microsoft founded	Organizations, World Zionist Organization, World Council of Synagogues
	<i>Saturday Night Live</i> premiers	National Study Days at JTS instituted; Judith Hauptman, first female Talmud instructor (JTS)
		Endorses the recent Committee on Jewish Law & Standards decisions that gave women greater equality in their synagogues
1975	Jackson-Vanik amendment ties U.S. trade benefits to freedom of emigration for U.S.S.R. Jews.	
1976	Soweto Uprisings in South Africa	Convention, Kiamesha, NY “Hazak Ve-ematz Me’od!” Be Strong and Very Courageous; Chair: Goldie Kweller (Mrs. Murray)
	Apple Computer founded	Resolutions
		· freedom of choice is inherent in the civil rights of women
		· freedom of choice as to birth control is inherent in the civil right of women
		·
		NGO Adele Leaf first member of Jewish religious organization to sit on Executive Committee of the Council of NGO Representatives at the United Nations
		World Affairs Department: combines Social Action, Israel Affairs, United Nations and Canadian Public Affairs
		BA’OLAM published
		Furnish Resource Center Library in Bernstein Youth Center at the Agron Street complex (Center for Conservative Judaism – now Fuchsberg Center for Conservative Judaism)
		Resolution in support of universal health care: “ <i>adequate health care is a basic right of all, regardless of age or ability to pay</i> ”.
		Vote to endow Seminary sukkah as lifetime gift honoring Adele Ginzberg
		Mathilde Schechter Residence Hall opens, 415 W. 120th St. Attended by President Ruth Perry and Past Presidents Evelyn Henkind, Helen Sussman, Helen Fried Kirschblum and Selma Rapaport; Adele Ginzberg, celebrating 90 th birthday, recites <i>Sheheh’yanu</i>
		For American bicentennial celebration, publishes <i>Justice By the Book</i> (Helene Schwartz) and reissues <i>What the Liberty Bell Proclaimed</i> (Rabbi Leon Spitz)

		Offers response, "Resolution of Solidarity," to UN Zionism is Racism resolution, signed by thousands of participants of Branch conferences, presented to Simcha Dinitz, Israeli Ambassador to the United States
1977	Israel rescues hostages taken to Entebbe, Uganda.	Establishes Women's League Institute at JTS
		President Ruth Perry becomes the first female delegate to the World Zionist Congress from Conservative movement
1978	The Camp David Accord signed included the withdrawal of Israel from the Sinai.	Goldie Kweller president (1978-1982)
	Yiddish writer Isaac Bashevis Singer receives Nobel Prize	Convention, Kiamesha, NY "Ve'he'yaya V'rakhah" And Be Thou a Blessing; Chair: Goldie Kweller (Mrs. Murray)
	First test-tube baby born	Resolutions
		· support funding of child care centers and related services, enabling women for employment on a more nearly equal basis.
		· support plight of Soviet Jews, encourage greater advocacy and pressure from US
		· to USSR to restore rights to Soviet Jews, either to live peacefully or be allowed to emigrate
		President Ruth Perry first woman to be given <i>aliyah</i> at United Synagogue convention
		Goldie Kweller attends signing of Camp David Peace Treaty at White House (September 17, 1978)
1979	Iran takes American hostages in Tehran	Sisterhoods begin financial support of kehillot in Israel
	Margaret Thatcher becomes first woman Prime Minister of Great Britain	
	Nuclear accident at Three Mile Island	
	Menachem Begin and Anwar Sadat are awarded Nobel Peace Prize.	
	Operation Elijah, Rescue of Ethiopian Jewry begins.	
	Sony introduces the Walkman	
1980	Ted Turner establishes CNN	Convention, Kiamesha, NY "U'Vaharta" Therefore Choose Life; Chair: Selma Weintraub
	Pac-Man video game released	Resolution supporting ordination of women rabbis
		Bernice Balter named Executive Director
		Becomes autonomous member of National Jewish Relations Advisory Council (previously under the banner of United Synagogue)

1981	First woman appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court	
	AIDS identified	
	Personal computers (PC) introduced by IBM	
1982	Falkland Islands invaded by Argentina	Selma Weintraub president (1982-1986)
	Israel invades Southern Lebanon to drive out the PLO.	Convention, Kiamesha, NY “K’nay Hahmah, K’nay Binah” Get Wisdom, Gain Understanding; Chair: Dolly Moser
	Vietnam War Memorial opened in Washington, DC	Creation of "special relationships" matching sisterhoods with Masorti congregations in Israel
		Torah Fund dedicates the <i>Mo’adon</i> at Goldsmith Hall
1983	Reagan announces Defense Plan called Star Wars	Study Days instituted by many Branches.
	Sally Ride becomes the first American woman in space	
	The faculty of the Jewish Theological Seminary votes to accept women as candidates for ordination. Amy Eilberg becomes the first woman ordained as a Conservative rabbi.	Expanded publication department produces audio cassettes and video tapes and new program guides to prepare women for participation in synagogue ritual.
	Cabbage Patch Kids are popular	
1984	Operations Moses and Joshua, rescue of Ethiopian Jewry, by Israel begins.	Convention, Kiamesha, NY “L'ma'an tizk'ru V'asitem" Remember and Do; Chair: Helene Schachter
	PG-13 movie rating created	Torah Fund surpasses two million dollar goal.
1985	Hole in the Ozone Layer discovered	Welcome to the World: A Jewish Baby's Record Book, First edition published
	First Internet domain name is registered	Joint Leadership Conference within the Conservative Movement instituted.
	Amy Eilberg becomes the first woman ordained as a Conservative rabbi.	
1986	Space shuttle Challenger Explodes	Evelyn Auerbach president (1986-1990)
	Chernobyl nuclear disaster	Convention, Kiamesha, NY “Lkhol Z’mān V’et” For Everything There is a Season and a Time; Chair: Evelyn Auerbach
	Iran-Contra Scandal	Resolution urges the National Youth commission of United Synagogue to provide full egalitarian <i>tefillot</i> as an official option at all gatherings
	U.S. bombs Libya	January 11, 1986: broken water pipe floods basement and entire first floor of the 74 th Street office
	U.S.S.R. launches Mir Space Station	Joint leadership conference with United Synagogue and FJMC paves way for Leadership Council of the Conservative Movement

	Elie Wiesel wins the Nobel Peace Prize	Former President Syd Rossman (1958-62) is the first woman to receive the JTS Seminary Centennial Medal (for chairing the successful Mathilde Schechter Residence Hall Campaign)
1987	Beginning of the First Intifada against Israel.	President Evelyn Auerbach makes several trips to Israel to participate in the “Who is a Jew?” debate fueled by large influx of Soviet Jewry
	DNA first used to convict criminals	First biennial World Affairs Conference held in Washington, D.C.
1988	Pan Am Flight 103 Is bombed Over Lockerbie, Scotland	Convention: Kiamesha, NY “ <i>Lev Ehad V’derekh Ehad</i> ” One Heart, One Purpose; Chair: Evelyn Seelig
		Fundraising project: “Flowers of Israel” cards, one of its most successful development campaigns
1989	Berlin Wall falls	
	Exxon Valdez spills millions of gallons of oil on coastline	
	Students massacred in China's Tiananmen Square	
	World Wide Web established	
1990	USSR allows emigration of three million Jews; many choose to move to Israel.	Audrey Citak president (1990-1994)
	Iraq invades Kuwait,	Convention, Kiamesha, NY “Emet Tzedeh V’Shalom” Truth, Justice & Peace; Chair: Ruth Rosenfeld
	Germany reunited	Resolution applauds decision to grant degree of hazzan and encourage all congregations to consider women cantorial candidates “without prejudice.”
	Hubble Telescope launched Into Space	First book in the Celebration series published: Celebration: Hanukkah
	Cantor Marla Rosenfeld Barugel becomes first woman to be admitted into the Cantors Assembly.	Bylaws changed to allow women outside the 100 mile radius of the Women's League office to be president.
1991	Collapse of the Soviet Union	President Audrey Citak joins mission to Israel during Gulf War
	Israel airlifts 14,000 Jews from Ethiopia during Operation Solomon in a 24-hour airlift.	New Training Services department created
	Operation Desert Storm/Gulf War during which Israel is hit by 39 Scud missiles from Iraq.	First national Shabbaton and open board meeting, Chicago, Il.
	South Africa repeals Apartheid Laws	

1992	Bosnian Genocide begins	Convention, Kiamesha, NY “Evtah v’lo Efhad” I am Confident and Unafraid; Chair: Janet Tobin
	Riots in Los Angeles after the Rodney King verdict	Hundreds of members join 500,000 women in the March on Washington in support of women’s reproductive rights
1993	World Trade Center bombed	Kolot BiK’dushah established to acknowledge women who can lead services, read from Torah and recite a haftarah
	The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum dedicated.	Sponsors first Elderhostel (University of FL, Gainesville)
	Israel and PLO sign the Oslo Accords.	Joint response to Hurricane Andrew with FJMC provides meals and other necessities to homeless victims
1994	Israel and Jordan sign official peace treaty.	Evelyn Seelig president (1994-1998)
	Arafat, Rabin, and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres share the Nobel Peace Prize.	Convention: Kiamesha, NY, " <i>Walk in the Path of Understanding</i> "; Chair: Lila Nass
	Rwandan Genocide	Resolution expresses concern for the reluctance (and even hostility) toward female rabbis and cantors; encourage gender neutral interviewing and hiring Women's League realignment from 28 to 25 Branches
1995	Oklahoma City Bombing	Torah Fund dedicates refurbished Women’s League Seminary Synagogue (WLSS)
	Yitzhak Rabin assassinated	
	O.J. Simpson found not guilty of double murder	
	Auction Website eBay Is founded	
1996	Centennial Olympic Park Bombing during the Olympic Games	Convention: Kiamesha, NY. " <i>And the World Is Entrusted to Us</i> "; Chair: Marion Mohl
	Dolly the Sheep, the first cloned mammal, is born	Last Convention at Concord
		WLCJNet (online Sisterhood Without Walls) established by a handful of savvy members, offering a way to maintain friendships and exchange ideas
1997	First Harry Potter book released	
	Princess Diana dies in car crash	
1998	U.S. President Clinton impeached	Janet Tobin president (1998-2002)
	Viagra goes on sale	Convention: Philadelphia, PA " <i>Ask and Learn</i> "; Chair: Gloria Cohen
		Dr. Ruth Westheimer closes the Convention
		Lois Silverman introduced her and wrote in the NY State Branch newsletter:

		She was wonderful and I relaxed as soon as she started using the language of her field—words like “sex”; who would have thought just a few years ago that such words would be heard at a WL Convention?
1999	Fear of Y2K Bug	
	Killing spree at Columbine High School	
2000	The world celebrates the turn of the millennium	Mitzvat Torah campaign launched to raise funds to write a Torah and provide an opportunity for all members to participate in this mitzvah.
	Israel unilaterally withdraws remaining forces from its security zone in southern Lebanon	<i>Etz Hayim He</i> , Adult Bat Mitzvah Curriculum written by Dr. Lisa Grant
	The al-Aqsa Intifada begins	Convention, Washington, DC " <i>What We Do This Day Can Change Our Lives</i> "; Chair: Cory Schneider Debbie Friedman concert, first time convention programming open to local community
	Camp David Summit.	
	Senator Joseph Lieberman the first Jewish-American to be nominated for national office (Vice President) by a major U.S. political party.	
	Unclear winner in U.S. Presidential Election	
	The dot-com bubble bursts	
	USS Cole Bombed	
2001	World Trade Center, Pentagon, and PA terrorist attacks	Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies to sponsor Days of Study for hundreds of Masorti women in Israel, in collaboration with Alice Shalvi, rector
	Wikipedia is launched	Sale of townhouse at 48 East 74th Street Ny, NY and move to 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 820, NY, NY
2002	The Euro becomes the official currency of twelve of the European Union's Members	Gloria Cohen president (2002-2006)
	George Bush creates the Department of Homeland Security to fight threats of terror	Convention: Philadelphia, PA " <i>Lift Our Voices with Strength</i> " ; Chair: Janet Arnowitz
		WLCJ Torah dedicated
2003	Space Shuttle Columbia disaster	Orpah's Club, national book club: first selection <i>The Singing Fire</i> , by Lillian Nadell
	Invasion of Iraq	Leadership Institute (3-day) developed and begun in different locations in North America
	The Human Genome Project is completed	
2004	Facebook is launched	Convention: Orlando FL " <i>Kulanu B'Yahad</i> " <i>All of Us Together</i> ; Chair: Rita Wertlieb

		<i>Beauty, Brains and Brawn: The New World Balabuste</i> , exhibit commemorating 350 th anniversary of Jews in United States
		Education Pavilion at The Jewish theological Seminary dedicated on October 3, 2004
2005	Hurricane Katrina floods New Orleans	<i>Sisterhood Planner</i>
	Angela Merkel becomes the first female Chancellor of Germany	Women in Law, Women in Halakhah Symposium (NY)
	Israel officially recognizes the Bnei Menashe people of North-East India as one of the Ten Lost Tribes of Israel, opening the door to immigrate to Israel.	
	Israel withdraws its military forces and settlers from the Gaza Strip.	
	YouTube is launched	
2006	Saddam Hussein is executed	Cory Schneider president (2006-2010) First president beyond 100-mile radius of NYC
	A military conflict in Lebanon and northern Israel.	Convention: Philadelphia, " <i>Praise Her for Her Works</i> "; Chair: Sandra Schwartz
	Twitter is launched	resolution supporting fair legal immigration policies and refugee protection
		convention Social Action Project: Philadelphia Laurel House (women's shelter)
		convention committee creates new Eishet Hayil Award, focusing on one woman per sisterhood. Hundreds of recipients attend convention award ceremony
		Individual membership reintroduced after bylaws change
2007	Global economic downturn	KOL ISHAH: A WOMAN'S VOICE A Concert in Celebration of 20 Years of Women Cantors Sunday, December 16, 2007: Jewish Theological Seminary, New York
	Arctic sea ice hits a record low	website, www.wlcj.org, launched
	Apple debuts the iPhone	WLCJ realignment, from 25 Branches to 13 Regions
	Amazon releases the Kindle	Outlook: final issue published (Spring/Summer 2007; Vol 77 No 3)
		CJ: Voices of Conservative/Masorti Judaism, joint publication with FJMC and United Synagogue introduced
		70,000 members; 13 Regions
2008	Oil prices hit a record high	Convention: Detroit, MI <i>Lev V'Nefesh Heart and Soul</i> ; Chair: Carol Simon
	Israel Defense Forces (IDF) launches Operation Cast Lead against Hamas in the Gaza Strip.	Convention social action project: WLCJ members knit and crochet 15,000 hats and scarves for homeless in Detroit
	Global financial crisis spurred by the U.S. subprime mortgage market crash	Publication of <i>With Strength and Splendor: Jewish Women as Agents of Change</i> (author: Director of Education Lisa Kogen)
		Mitzvah Yomit Project

		BookMarks, books newsletter first printed
		First Vashti's Banquet, New York, March 9, 2008
2009	Barack Obama is sworn in as 44th president and first Afro-American POTUS	Distance Workshops introduced, enabling women to participate in study and training sessions via conference call
		<i>Va'ani Tefillati</i> : Jewish Women in Prayer Conference (historic gathering of Jewish women from all movements including Women of Reform Judaism, and the Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance)
2010	Haiti is struck by a devastating earthquake	Rita Wertlieb president (2010-2014)
	BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico worst marine environmental disaster in US history	Convention: Baltimore, MD <i>Kehillah Kedoshah</i> : Celebrating Community Woman to Woman; Chair: Sandy Myers
		Convention Social Action Project: Books for Baltimore, Purchase of 14,000 books for children in Baltimore Public Schools, Jewels in the Crown Awards established
		<i>Yom Yarok Project, A Tu B'Shevat</i> Celebration
2011	Death of Osama bin Laden	Women's League assumes financial responsibility for United Synagogue's Koach kallah
		Regions begin sending weekly or biweekly Shabbat emails
2012	Scientists discover the existence of the Higgs boson or God particle	Convention: Las Vegas, <i>Uri, Uri Awake! Greet the New Dawn</i> : Chair: Faye Laveson
	Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting leaves 27 dead	Resolutions:
		·support full civil equality for GLBT Jews
		·support full access for all women to the entire spectrum of reproductive healthcare and opposition to policies limiting full access
		Convention Social action project: Value Our Vets collects \$40,000 in gift cards for West LA Fisher House
2013	The first creation of human embryonic stem cells by cloning	Mishpachah I: The Modern Jewish Family – program to create inclusiveness for all family types
	Black Lives Matter movement begun	
2014	NATO ends combat operations in Afghanistan	Carol Simon president (2014-2017) (first president from outside Northeast corridor)
		Convention: Whippany, NJ <i>Kodesh V'chol</i> : Balancing the Sacred and the Everyday; Chair: Margie Miller
		Resolutions

		·in favor of gun control: background checks, bans on assault weapons, and federal legislation against gun trafficking
		·support women's autonomous control over personal reproductive health, and advocate for continued funding for organizations and institutions that support personal choice.
		WLCJ <i>megillah</i> completed, commissioned by President Rita Wertlieb, written by Rabbi Hannah Klebansky (Israel)
		Executive committee and Board meetings conducted using Zoom instead of via conference call.
		Initiated sending Shabbat greetings electronically from the Women's League president to all members
2015	NASA spacecraft New Horizons becomes the first human-made object to fly past and observe the dwarf planet Pluto.	Mishpachah II: the Modern Jewish Family
	US Supreme Court rules same sex marriage a right.	Last issue of CJ published
		April 28,2015 Obtained IRS status as a religious/church organization. Added a dissolution clause to Articles of Incorporation.
		Women's League Reads begins, a worldwide conversation about books of interest to today's Jewish women.
2016	Completion of the Panama Canal expansion project	<i>New Outlook for Women's League</i> , newsletter sent to all members to replace CJ.
	Hillary Rodham Clinton becomes the first woman to be a major party's nominee for president.	Bold Steps Strategic Plan developed giving each region the ability to restructure dependent on their needs.
2017	Web-connected video devices exceed the global population	Margie Miller president (2017-2020)
	Donald Trump becomes first US President without prior military or government service.	First triennial convention: Crystal City, Virginia <i>A Bold New Outlook</i> ; Chair: Barbara Ezring Service project: Mathilde's Mentionables collects over 8000 bras for "Support the Girls"
	#MeToo movement became Time Magazine Person of the Year	
2018	Mass Shootings at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, FL and Tree of Life Synagogue, Pittsburgh, PA	Women's League celebrates its centennial and raises \$54,000
	Death of George HW Bush, Barbara Bush and John McCain	1 st Annual WLCJ Chanukah virtual candle lighting service
		WL hires new Executive Director: Rabbi Ellen Wolintz-Fields
2019	Notre Dame Cathedral fire	Torah Fund Legacy Society planned giving campaign is initiated
	President Trump impeached by the House of Representatives	Joint Women's League/Torah Fund Major Gifts trip to Argentina

		Updated WL logo announced “We are Women’s League”
2020	World Wide Covid-19 Pandemic	Debra Kaner Goldich president (2020-2023)
	Black Lives Matter movement gains strength after death of George Floyd	First “Virtual” convention: “Sisters Journeying Together”; Chair: Debra Kaner Goldich
	Shuly Rubin Schwartz becomes first woman chancellor appointed at JTS	Daily psalm reading and kaddish done virtually (Makom b'Yachad)
	The Abraham Accordson Arab–Israeli normalization signed between Israel and the United Arab Emirates and between Israel and Bahrain.	New nominations and election timeline allows for greater transition period between administrations.
		Resolution passed on LGBTQ acceptance and awareness.
2021	United States Capitol is breached by pro-Trump mob protesting outcome of presidential election on January 6th	Focus on modernization of program delivery such as updating the database and access to zoom session recordings on WLCJ.org
	Kamala Harris becomes first woman vice president of the U.S.	Zoom sessions are now recorded and available on WLCJ.org
	By May 1, Covid-19 vaccine available to all	Sichot Beyn Achayot programming created to foster a deeper mutual understanding between Women's League members and the Masorti women from Israel.
	Rise of Antisemitism in USA more than doubles. Synagogues hire security guards	Resolution on Racial Justice
	SpaceX launches first all-civilian spaceflight	World Engagement-Sisterhood Affiliate in Uganda joins Women's League
	America withdraws from Afghanistan	33,000 members; 323 affiliates
2022	Russia invades Ukraine	During and continuing after the pandemic a dramatic increase of online programming is developed to service members and international relationship groups.
	US Supreme Court overturns Abortion Rights (Roe vs Wade)	Environmental Committee works with FJMC to promote Reverse Tashlich in Women's League affiliates
	Artificial Intelligence (AI) becomes wide spread	Update of many materials making them more relevant for today's members including a coordinated central calendar.
	Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom dies after a reign of 70 years.	Women's League 's archives are organized and now catalogued and stored at the Jewish Theological Seminary.
		Moved offices from 475 Riverside Drive to 520 Eighth Avenue
2023	Illegal immigration in USA reaches historic levels	Julia Loeb president 2023-2026
	Global temperatures shatter historic records	First hybrid convention: Sisters Celebrating Together, July 16-19, 2023, Schaumburg, IL, Chair: Edna Schrank
	Hamas attacks Israel on October 7	
	March for Israel, Washington, DC on November 14 (290,000 attend plus 250,000 watch virtually).	

2024	Pro Palestinian riots on college campuses	Resolution passed on transforming US criminal justice system