



# THE SHAARE TORAH Scroll

A Conservative Shul in Gaithersburg, Maryland

## Thank You!

High Holiday services, babysitting, the yizkor book and all of the pieces that make the holidays special would not be possible without the tireless work of our hundreds of volunteers. A huge thank you to:

**Rachael Spiegel** for all her efforts in organizing this very complex project and seeing to every detail.

**Rabbi Jacob Blumenthal** for leading our congregation in the ruach filled services.

**Amanda Katz** for her beautiful Shaharit morning services, as well as to our gabbais, **Ken Dretchen** and **Ted Hopp**. Many thanks to **Irwin Slonin** for organizing our Torah readers, Haftarah readers, and shofar blowers. Many thanks to our Torah readers: **Julianna Nechin, Gary Robinson, Rachel Margolis, Julian Tash, Gilad Kempenich, Frances Lasday, Neila Kline, Seth Cohen, Kate Hamelburg, Harold Katz, Jory Harris-Blumenthal, Benita Cohen, Mike Fox, Ryan Spiegel, David Levy, Mike Fox, Rena Strauss, Ted Hopp, and Adam Polsky**. Also our gratitude goes to **Irwin Slonin, Beryl Feldman, Andrea Singer** and **Jamie Hamelburg** for reading Haftarah, and to our shofar blowers: **Jay Horowitz, Ted Hopp, Valerie Greenfeld, Adam Simon, Eric Singer, Jeremy Cubert, Bonnie Prissman, Judah Flum, and Ryan Spiegel**. Many thanks also to those who led English readings, opened the ark, and took aliyot to the Torah.

All those who organized and led our children's services, including our staff -- **Rabbi Jeremy Fierstien, Lisa Pressman** and **Pam Gorin** -- as well as our service leaders: **Deb Geiger, MollyBeth Rushfield, Bonnie Prissman, Ariel Lanes, Kate Hamelburg, Meredith Polsky, Bari Handelman, and Yonat Lurie**.

**Rebecca Weisman** for organizing and leading our Interactive Family Service, to her able assistant **Hannah Weisman**, and to our Torah readers: **Hannah Nechin, Hannah Weisman, Mira Tash, Yael Bilsky, and Sarah Hallam**.

**Pepe Strauss** for making such a complicated operation run so smoothly.

**Gary Robinson** for doing a phenomenal job coordinating honors, and to **Jon Abbett** and **Kevin McGowan** for helping during services.

*(Continued on page 10)*

## Upcoming Activities

- January 5th:** Shaare Torah 20/20 Community Conversation, 8pm
- January 8th:** Family Bingo Event, 3-6pm
- January 15th:** Club 1409 Poker
- January 16th:** 2nd Annual Mitzvah Day and Open House, 1-4
- January 29th:** Third Annual Shaare Torah Mini-Golf Invitational, 2-6pm
- February 5th:** New Member Parlor Meeting, 4pm
- February 12th:** Club 1409: Mahj Jong Madness!
- February 24th:** A Celebration of Jewish Humor
- March 4th:** **Save the Date!** Purim Carnival

## Welcome New Members!

- Ilan & Svetlana Archavsky & Family
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- Hillary & Daniel Rosenberg & Family
- Laurie Rosenblatt & Family
- Barry Shay & Janet Wolk-Shay & Family
- Adam & Lori Simon & Family
- Norma Tash



# Rabbi's Message

By Rabbi Jacob Blumenthal

## Rabbi

Jacob Blumenthal

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## Director of Early Childhood Education

Pamela Gorin

## Facilities Director

Pepe Strauss

## SCROLL NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION

**Managing Editor** Nicki Walter

**Design** Jessica Smith

Winter 2011, Vol. 15, Number 4

The Scroll is published quarterly by Shaare Torah, Inc. P.O. Box 83598, Gaithersburg, MD 20883.

## Shaare Torah Message Line

301-869-9842

Check out our website at:

[www.shaaretorah.org](http://www.shaaretorah.org)

e-mail us at: [Info@ShaareTorah.org](mailto:Info@ShaareTorah.org)

One of the things I enjoy most about the rhythm of Jewish life is our weekly encounter with a section of the Torah – the parashat hashavua. Just after the beginning of the Jewish year, we start again from Genesis-Bereisheet, and read week by week as the earliest stories of humanity and our people unfold.

A dramatic moment occurs right at the beginning of our cycle of readings, in the very first portion, as Adam and Eve defy God and eat from the forbidden tree. We assume that God knows what has happened, but when God goes to challenge the first couple on their behavior, God does not begin by accusing them. Instead, God calls out to Adam and says, "Ayekah – Where are you?"

I love the fact that from the very beginning of God's tumultuous relationship with humanity, God reaches out with a question! Questions invite conversation and allow for learning to take place. In fact there is an old Jewish tradition that says that a parent should greet a child after school by inquiring, "Did you ask any good questions today?"

Asking questions and creating conversation is the first step towards wisdom, and it is an important tradition we try to honor at Shaare Torah. In our education programs at every level, our first priority is to open a dialogue by encouraging students of every age to ask good questions. At our leadership meetings, we try to limit presentations, and encourage a culture of respectful questioning and dialogue. And almost every week, one of the central aspects of Shabbat morning experience is Torah study through questions and dialogue.

Our experience with open and honest inquiry will be an important strength as we move into our next steps in planning for Shaare Torah's future through a process of long term planning. I hope we will have the courage to ask ourselves challenging questions about our community – where we have come from, what we love about our religious community, and what we might change to allow it to grow and to have even greater impact on ourselves and in our world.

We need to follow God's example in the Torah by not assuming that we know the answers, but instead ask ourselves, "Ayekah – Where are we?" I hope each person in our community will take the opportunity to participate in this process, as we seek to ask and answer questions in a process that will move our community forward and upward. ☆

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**For more information, contact Amie Cogan at [coganamie@yahoo.com](mailto:coganamie@yahoo.com)**

# President's Message

By Barbara McGowan

There aren't very many things I don't enjoy about being president of Shaare Torah. But the very worst thing is writing these Scroll articles. I really suffer over it. I have no idea what to write about and who wants to hear from me anyway? In fact, I am so late getting this article written that I can now tell you about this past weekend, when we held our Club 1409 Party, dedicated our memorial board at a lovely ceremony, and celebrated Hanukkah at our fantastic Hanukkah party. What a weekend! The building was alive and teeming with people, the way it should always be. If you weren't there, you really should have been.

But don't worry, if you missed this weekend, we have lots more fun and meaningful events in store for you over the coming months. Winter will not be boring at Shaare Torah!

You can start by participating in our First Responders Appreciation Event on Christmas Day, where we will assemble and deliver baskets of baked goods for the first responders in our community who must work on Christmas. This is a wonderful way to say thank you to those who work so hard all year to keep us safe.

You can also join us for Shabbat services next weekend, December 31, New Years Eve. We're having a special Crock-Pot Shabbat with a New Year's Champagne Mimosa Toast.

On January 8, join us for Family Bingo. This was a nursery school event last year and this year we have opened it up to the entire community. Come play bingo, eat hot dogs, meet new friends, and best of all, win prizes!

Next up, our second annual Mitzvah Day. It will be held on January 16, which is the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday. In addition to holding a blood drive, we will be making crafts for sick children at NIH, blankets for people undergoing chemotherapy, planters and flowers for seniors, muffins for homeless shelters, and get well cards and video messages for US soldiers. Please drop in and do a mitzvah on your day off.

And if that wasn't enough, on January 29, we will hold our third annual Shaare Torah Invitational Mini-Golf Tournament. If you haven't been to the first two, you really don't want to miss this one. You have no idea how much fun it is to play mini-golf in our building.

One last thing you can do over the winter is to join us for our Shaare Torah 2020 long range planning effort. Our next "Community Conversation" will be held at Shaare Torah on January 5. If you missed the first meeting, this is your chance to dream big with us about Shaare Torah's future. We can't do it without your input.

Whew! That's a lot of events. And that only got us through January! So, hang out at Shaare Torah this winter. I promise you'll be glad you did.

Gee, that wasn't that hard. Another Scroll article written. Only one more to go! ☆



Mazal tov to our b'nai mitzvahs, Laura Wagner, Alec Abraham, Isabella Abraham and Julia Horowitz. Way to go!

The congregation extends its condolences to Steve Greenfeld and his family on the death of his beloved mother, Brenda Greenfeld, z"l.

The congregation extends its condolences to Terri Brown and her family on the death of her beloved mother, Edith Kale, z"l.

The congregation extends its condolences to Kathy Abbett and her family on the death of her beloved mother, Kathryn Barkley, z"l.

The congregation extends its condolences to Sherry Nachbar and her family on the death of her beloved husband, Jay Nachbar, z"l.

## Join Us For A Shaare Torah Shabbat!

Junior Congregation  
**January 14 & February 11**  
at 10:15 am

*Children in grades 3-6. Led by MollyBeth Rushfield.*

Gesher  
**January 14 & 28, February 11 & 25**  
at 10:15 am

*Children in grades K-2. Led by Debra Geiger.  
(parents of kindergarteners are encouraged to attend)*

Tot Shabbat  
**January 14 & 28, February 11 & 25**  
at 10:15 am

*Children ages 2-4 with parents. Led by  
Meredith Polsky and Bari Handelman.*

# Nursery School Notes

By Pamela Gorin, Director of Early Childhood Education

Hanukkah is coming and I know that many parents are anxiously shopping for their children, wanting to get them the best toys and games. In an article in "Wired Magazine" (wired.com), in a section entitled "Geek Dad", the following was written:

"Here at GeekDad we review a lot of products – books, toys, gadgets, software – and I know it's impossible for most parents to actually afford all of the cool stuff that gets written up. Heck, most of us can't afford it either, and we're envious of the person who scored a review copy of a cool board game or awesome gizmo. (Disclosure: that person is probably me.) So while we love telling you about all the cool stuff that's out there, I understand that as parents we all have limited budgets and we sometimes need help narrowing down our wishlists.

So to help you out, I've worked really hard to narrow down this list to five items that no kid should be without. All five should fit easily within any budget, and are appropriate for a wide age range so you get the most play out of each one. These are time-tested and kid-approved! And as a bonus, these five {Stick, Box, String, Cardboard Tube, Dirt} can be combined for extra-super-happy-fun-time."

Not too long ago, I read that the number one favorite toddler toy was...an iPhone. So, reading this article, which was probably written a bit tongue and cheek, was actually music to my ears. Since this article has come out, many early childhood educators have weighed in on the list and given their own suggestions, including switching "ball" for "cardboard tube".

I have an enduring memory of my daughter's third birthday. My sister came over to the house to bring my daughter, Emma, her present. She had gotten a very large gift bag, put a box of duplos inside of the bag and then filled the bag with shredded paper. Emma pulled out all of the shredded paper, pulled out the box of Duplos, which we immediately opened for her and then she proceeded to run throughout the house with the shredded paper, shrieking in delight. As a young mom, it taught me so much about how children see the world—that a mound of shredded paper, or a box or cardboard tube can be a source of endless fascination and wonder.

As we enter into this holiday of lights, may all of you have a joyous Hanukkah, filled with the warmth of your children's smiles.

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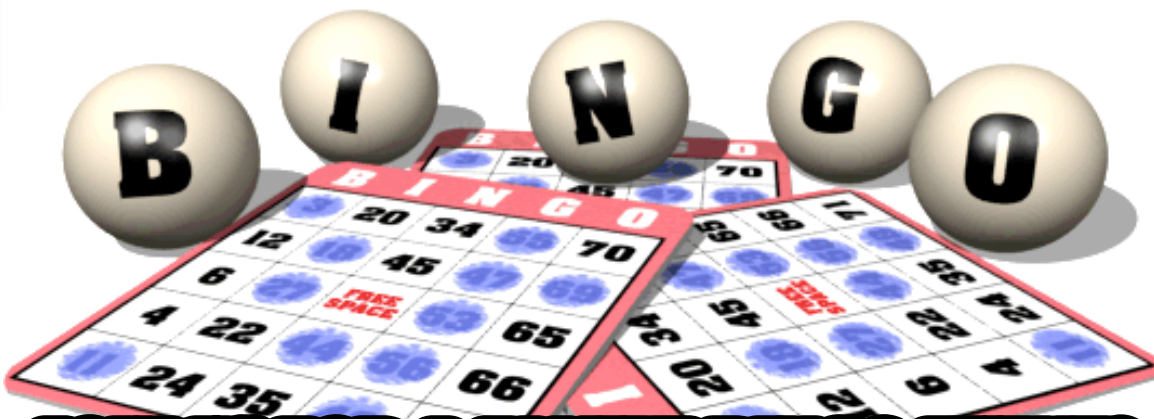


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at Shaare Torah, 1409 Main Street, Gaithersburg, MD

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# Religious School Notes



Primary Education: 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th Grades

By Lisa Pressman, Director of Primary Education

“Rabbi Mani taught - commenting on a verse from Psalms which says “All my bones shall say ‘Adonai, who is like you?’” - that the lulav and etrog resemble different parts of the body. The lulav, palm branch, is like the spine, the hadas, myrtle, corresponds to the eyes, the aravah, willow, is like the mouth, and the etrog, citron, is like the heart. Just as the four species must come together to fulfill the command, so too must the different parts of the self, come together to live a Jewish life.”

-VaYikra Rabbah 30:14, Midrash Tanchuma, Emor 19

As Director of Primary Education I see myself as a Jewish relationship builder; as I build relationships with my students, families and teachers, and build bridges (another form of relationship building) to our history and heritage. Building Jewish bridges involves relying on thousands of years of history, values, ethics, rituals and heritage that inform my world view. There is also an educational component of teaching, learning and experiencing the Jewish world and passing that along to the next generation, l'dor v'dor. Learning takes place when we make personal connections to the information that is encountered. When we make personal Jewish connections, we build bridges to Judaism that will be with us for a lifetime.

The quote above, from the Talmud, encapsulates a truly Jewish learning experience. The Rabbis of the Talmud were amazingly wise teachers who knew - I want to say intuitively - that learning was retained when it was a full body experience; If you compare a lulav to your body than you have a better chance of remembering the different parts of the lulav. But the essence of the teaching isn't that it is just a body part, but that it represents our standing tall and acting ethically in the world. We call this learning style today, Whole-Person

## Alternative Musaf Service

***Please join us on the third Saturday of every month for an Alternative Musaf Service. This lay-led, participatory and experimental service is held in an intimate and relaxed setting on the third floor of the building. Each of these traditional, egalitarian services may include elements like a full repetition of the Amidah, creative teachings, and innovative tunes.***

Learning or Social Emotional Learning. It is cutting edge in 2011 and is being written about in the latest educational journals. We need to make learning more “real” and “experiential” for our students and we need to help our students connect to the learning in a personal way.

Whole-Person learning asks us to create powerful experiences that speak to a learner's entire being, including their minds, their sense of purpose, sense of community and their values.

Rabbi Jeni Friedman, LOMED Consultant: The Jewish Education Project, NY

Rabbi Jeremy, Pam Gorin and I taught an in-service to our teachers in August on Whole-Person/Social-Emotional Learning and we will continue this in-service education in December. This is not a one-shot workshop that will change how “things are done.” It is a process of evaluating how we see our classrooms, our learners, the educational process and our curriculum and the experiences that our students and families have in our congregation. Over the year, we hope to learn more from Jewish educators in other parts of the country who are specifically piloting these programs in congregational schools.

We are very excited to be beginning a process of visioning and rethinking the learning environment at Shaare Torah this year. Whole-Person/Social-Emotional Learning is one way that we are considering a new approach to the educational process. Our Primary Advisory Committee will be meeting throughout the year to discuss the school and its vision as will other committees. You will be hearing more about this visioning process in the upcoming months. I hope that you will lend your voice to our discussions as we dream and plan for the future.

## Machar Dates

- 1/29/12 – Machar by ourselves for a winter fun outing
- 3/25/12 – Machar with USY and Kadima for a fabulous Shaare Torah Chocolate Seder run by the Junior and Senior Youth Groups
- 4/29/12 – Bowling with Kehilat Shalom's Youth Group, our amazing closing event

## Many Thanks!

Many thanks to Meredith Polsky and Sara Gorfinkel for creating new Shabbat bags for our children, ages 0-12. The blue bags with the white logos contain books and games for children to use during services. We also appreciate generous donations by the Polsky and Gorfinkel families. Ron and Sara Gorfinkel dedicate the bags in loving memory of Sara's twin brother, Samuel Jared Kushnick. (You'll find the bags on Shabbat and holidays in a box right outside the sanctuary).

Many thanks to Carl and Sonya Udler and Monty and Staci Yolles for donating small Torahs as “door prizes” for our children on Simhat Torah.

## Secondary Education

*By Rabbi Jeremy Fierstien, Director of Secondary Education and Youth Engagement*

It is hard to believe that it is already December and 2012 is around the corner. Our sixth and seventh grade classes are progressing nicely with two new Tuesday electives this semester. We have started a class called The Art of Jewish Cooking in which the children explore Jewish food and rituals around eating through a cooking class. For their first "course" they made Challah French Toast where they learned about what many Jews do with leftover challah's from Shabbat as well as the blessing over bread/meals known as the Hamotzi and its role in the eating rituals. The other new elective is called Lights, Camera, Action! In it the students explore different Jewish values and are given the opportunity to create and shape the in class activities based on their conversations around the particular values of the week.

Just a week ago we held our first bi-annual STRS Yom Sport competition. It was a day where the students were split into two teams, Basar v' Chalav (Meat and Milk) and they competed against each other in various activities. We played dodge ball, Jewpardy, tug of war, Ga-ga, had a banner making party,

cheer off, and learned about Kashrut (Jewish dietary laws) and the separation of milk and meat in a kosher kitchen.

We are also starting a few new programs for our youth on Shabbat mornings. This coming Shabbat we will have our first Un-adulterated Un-adult Breakaway Minyan for our 6-7th graders. This is a chance for us to explore different modes of Jewish prayer and see what they all have to offer ranging from meditative services to prayer through movement and even a service based entirely on pop songs and poetry! This program will meet the first Shabbat of every month.

December 10 we are experimenting with a Youth Shabbat where many of our Shaare Torah teens will take leadership roles in our Shabbat morning services. We hope to hold this program more often so please come out and support our youth!

There is plenty more to come with our youth programming. Please feel free to stop by my office in the youth lounge, drop me an email, or give me a phone call if you have any questions, comments, thoughts, or programming ideas that you think would engage our kids.

Thank you! Shabbat Shalom and have a happy and healthy winter!

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Free initial consultation for all Shaare Torah members

## Partnership with JSSA

Shaare Torah's exciting partnership with JSSA, the Jewish Social Service Agency, is now in its fifth year. The Synagogue Liaison Program offers congregants an opportunity for a free and confidential consultation with an experienced JSSA clinician.



Susie Rosloff has worked with many families and can help with questions about a variety of issues from raising children to aging parents. Susie is available to all members, either by telephone or through an in office visit to discuss any issues that face individual synagogue members.

While this service is not meant to be ongoing therapy, Susie can offer strategies and guidance for specific issues and provide referrals to JSSA and other community resources.

Please call Susie at 301-610-8329 or srosloff@jssa.org. JSSA's office is in Fallsgrove at 200 Wood Hill Road in Rockville. Feel free to set up a private and completely confidential consultation with Susie about any issue you or your family is encountering – individual or couples counseling, parenting, students with special needs, advice or resources regarding aging parents, or any other topic of concern. Initial consultations are at no cost.

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# Committee News

## Hazak

In June 2011, Sheila and Sy Harnik stepped down as Chairpersons of the Shaare Torah Hazak Chapter after serving for over five years. Our sincere thanks and appreciation goes out to Sheila and Sy and their group of volunteers who met and created the Shaare Torah Hazak Chapter. Throughout these years they devoted much of their time and effort in making Hazak successful. They planned many exciting programs and interesting trips.

At the recent Hazak brunch held in Rabbi Jacob and Marci Harris-Blumenthal's Sukkah, Sheila and Sy were honored for their dedication to Hazak.

Accepting the position of chairperson, Eugene Blacher said, "Filling the shoes of Sheila and Sy will be hard but I am going to make every effort to keep Hazak active and growing."

In the last four months of 2011 Hazak programs have included: The Little Traitor movie in September, Hazak Brunch in the Sukkah in October, Meet, Greet, and Tell Us What You Think in November (a program where Hazak members can express their ideas for the direction they wish to see Hazak follows in 2012), and in December a program titled "TOMBEES DU CIEL (Fallen from the Sky)". This is a documentary movie about the experience of two Jewish sisters who survived the Holocaust.

## Communications Committee

The communications committee is looking to expand! If you are interested in joining, please email Jessy Smith at [jd@90ndesign.com](mailto:jd@90ndesign.com). Specifically our committee is looking for people to work with us on some of the following tasks:

- **Internal Ad Coordinator** – coordinate selling ads for our publications (scroll, directories, weekly email) – contacting potential vendors, creating final agreements, arranging for billing, following up on payment, obtaining camera-ready copy (or arranging for design for an extra charge) and ensuring placement in the correct publication.
- **Advertising Manager** – develops an advertising plan for our events, develops copy, works with designer to develop an ad, gets it placed in appropriate publication,

deals with any payment issues

- **Scroll Editor** – helps determine timing, format, and distribution plan for the publication, collects and edits materials, forwards materials to designer for layout, oversees printing and distribution.
- **Website Coordinator** – Someone (with experience with HTML) to update web site home page and other pages and events on the site. Training on the system can be provided.
- **HTML Email Coordinator** – Someone to coordinate, create and send out one-off HTML emails. Training on the system can be provided.

**We would also like to thank Nicki Walter for her many years as editor for this newsletter!**



### THE HEART OF SHAARE TORAH:

## *An Invitation to You!*

We feel very blessed to be able to be there for our members, lend a helping hand, provide a listening ear, and extend hesed to our families in times of joy, challenge or sorrow. Shaare Torah is proudly reflected through this wonderful committee.

*Know of a congregant in need of hesed or interested in joining?*

PLEASE CONTACT:

Elissa Ehrenstein at [Ehrenstein4@verizon.net](mailto:Ehrenstein4@verizon.net)  
or 301-540-0771



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*(Continued from page 1)*

**Barbara McGowan** for the beautifully printed tickets and **Ziona Swigart** for handling the mailing.

Our phenomenal setup/cleanup crew, led by **Judah Flum**, and his team of schleppers, **Josh Weintraub, Lila Bilsky, Yael Bilsky, Jeff Lang, Laurie Roshfeld, Paul Calem, Lew Fontek, Joel Schnur, Ken Beecher, Irwin Slonin, Monte Yolles, Devin Yolles, Cameron Yolles, David Horn, Beryl Feldman, Ernie Feldman, Alexander Flum, Lisa Itkin** and everyone else who lent a hand.

**Matt Ratz** for designing all the signs.

**Francesca** for her incredible organization skills.

**Elissa Ehrenstein** and **Lara Hausman** for coordinating babysitting, and **Amie Cogan** for helping with children's services.

**Jessy Smith** for coordinating the new online ordering system and the website.

**Robin Schuldenfrei**, who even though she has moved away, still so graciously coordinated our building rental and designed the beautiful yizkor book.

**Sara and Ron Gorfinkel** for their gift of the beautiful flowers and trees.

**Tracey Alalouf, Loren Rodwin** and **Julie Weber** for organizing our Operation Isaiah efforts, and to all those who helped load the truck and contributed food for the benefit of the clients of Gaithersburg HELP.

**Rachael Spiegel** for the wonderful photographs that graced the entryways.

The over 60 greeters, including members of the board and the Men's Club, who welcomed our members and guests.

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# Herb's Holidays

By Herb Baum

## What do I need to know about Hanukkah

The first thing you need to know is that there is no agreement on how it is spelled. Both Hanukkah and Chanukah are acceptable. Either is a Hebrew word meaning "dedication". Though Hanukkah is one of the most widely celebrated holidays by Jews, it is not noted in the Bible. The story commemorates events that occurred around 200 BCE (Before the Common Era). Though the days that we celebrate Hanukkah vary according to the secular calendar, the observance of Hanukkah is for eight nights and begins on the 25th of Kislev.

The holiday reminds us of the revolt, the desecration of the temple, and the miraculous kindling of the lights. In Jewish tradition we do not celebrate war, and thus the holiday commemorates the miracle of the oil lasting for eight days, and our traditions are based upon that.

The most visible symbol of the holiday is the Hanukiah (This term is used because a Hanukiah has 9 candles and thus is not the same as a menorah which has 7 candles). On each night of the holiday we light one more candle (begin at the far right). There is an extra candle, called the shamash, which has a distinct location separate from the other candles. This is used to light to the other candles (In the prayers after lighting the candles we say "We may not make use of their light..." Thus there is the need for a shamash). It is customary to light one candle the first night and then increase the number until eight candles are lit. It is done this way as opposed to the reverse because we are to increase our joy rather than diminish it each night. When lighting the candles the newest one is lit first.

Because the traditions are based on the oil lasting for eight days, we eat foods cooked in oil. The first is the making of latkes. Though my mother only made potato latkes, today there are recipes for all different kinds of latkes. In Israel the tradition is to eat doughnuts, because they are also made in oil, and that tradition is catching on here as well.

There are two other traditions related to the holiday. The first, and the one kids love the best, is the giving of presents. This is typically limited to family only and in many families to only the children. Some households give one small present each night.

The other tradition is playing dreidel. The traditional explanation of this game is that during the time of Antiochus' oppression, those who wanted to study Torah (an illegal activity) would conceal their activity by playing gambling games with a top (a common and legal activity) whenever an official or inspector was within sight.

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A dreidel is marked with four Hebrew letters: Nun, Gimel, Hei and Shin. These letters stand for the Hebrew phrase "Nes Gadol Hayah Sham", a great miracle happened there, referring to the miracle of the oil.

There are some variations in the way people play the game, but the way I learned it, everyone puts in one coin. (Growing up we used pennies and later with my children we used gelt or M&Ms) A person spins the dreidel. If it lands on Nun, nothing happens; on Gimel (or, as we called it as kids, "gimme!"), you get the whole pot; on Hei, you get half of the pot; and on Shin, you put one in. When the pot is empty, everybody puts one in. Keep playing until one person has everything. Then redivide it, because nobody likes a poor winner.

Hanukkah is joyous holiday, so sing, eat, and play games, but remember the reason we do that is because of G-d's hearing our cry and performing a miracle.

Hag Sameach!!!!

# Donations

## General Fund

- Marvin & Roslyn Arluk
- Marcus Aron in memory of Murray Kemp, z"l
- Svetlana & Ilan Arshavsky
- Idell Corson in memory of Helen Liptz, z"l
- Sheila & Jerome Danoff in memory of Helen Liptz, z"l
- Barbara, Norman, & Sarah Friedlander in memory of Helen Liptz, z"l
- Paul Fronstin in memory of Helen Liptz, z"l
- Barbara & Allan Ginsberg in honor of Adam Kass becoming a bar mitzvah
- Ron & Sara Gorfinkel
- Valerie Greenfeld in memory of Gerald Leiser, z"l
- Sheila Harnik in memory of Dotty Spector, z"l
- Sheila & Seymour Harnik in memory of Helen Liptz, z"l, and in honor of Louise Corso on her first Torah reading!
- Michael & Judy Herman in honor of their granddaughters Arielle and Danielle Wassertzug's b'not mitzvah

- Sarah Jacobson
- Kelli Kahalas in memory of Gerald Leiser, z"l
- Bryna Kahalas in memory of Gerald Leiser, z"l
- Fran Kemp in memory of Leo Hernes, z"l
- Ira Kemp in memory of Murray Kemp, z"l
- Linda Kraner in memory of Helen Liptz, z"l
- Connie & Alan Liss in memory of Emily Corso, z"l, Paula Myers, z"l, & Gerald Leiser, z"l
- Barbara & Kevin McGowan in memory of Kathryn Barkley, z"l, Helen Liptz, z"l, and Gene McGowan, z"l
- Heather & Aaron Rosenberg
- Bernard Segal
- Samuel & Gabriela Silberstein
- Robin & Seth Tolin
- Harriet & Benjamin Waldman

## Hesed Fund

- Kelli & Rich Kahalas in memory of Helen Liptz, z"l
- Adiva Sotzky in memory of Helen Liptz, z"l

## Nursery School Fund

- Paula Rush-Smith in appreciation of Irwin Slonin

## Prayer Book Fund

- The Fox Family in memory of Philip Machnikoff, z"l, & in honor of Irwin Slonin
- Gail Newman in memory of Philip Machnikoff, z"l

## Youth Program

- Sheri Barnett in honor of Amanda Katz
- The Fisher family in honor of Rabbi Jeremy Fierstein
- Bernard & Shirley Gershen in honor of Rabbi Jacob Blumenthal
- Sara & Ron Gorfinkel

## Rabbi's Fund

- Jamie & Mark Hamelburg in memory of Gerald Leiser, z"l
- Idell Corson in honor of the new year
- Edith Millman in memory of her husband, Leon Milman, z"l
- Sy & Sheila Harnick in honor of the Hazak group
- Kenneth Nechin & Annette Bicher in memory of Herbert & Henrietta Nechin, z"l
- Charles Surber & Mark Troen
- Steven Greenfeld in memory of his mother, Barbara Greenfeld, z"l
- Michal Strom
- Norbert & Rhoda Eckstein in memory of Helen Liptz, z"l, & Ruben Eckstein, z"l

## Social Action Fund

- Brian Gould

## Education Excellence Fund

- Adiva Sotzky in honor of her granddaughters Rebecca & Hannah Weisman's Torah reading

## Kiddush Sponsors

- Bernice Blumenthal in memory of Werner Blumenthal, z"l
- Monty & Staci Yolles
- Paul & Edith Calem in honor of their son Andrew's bar mitzvah
- Jeff & Michele Shulman in honor of their son Jacob's bar mitzvah
- Guy & Valerie Wassertzug in honor of their daughters' b'not mitzvah
- Marc & Paula Rush-Smith in honor of their son Brandon's bar mitzvah
- Heinan & Melissa Landa in honor of their son Adam's bar mitzvah
- Betsy & Steven Meltzer in honor of their daughter Julia's bat mitzvah
- Julie & Howard Kass in honor of their son Adam's bar mitzvah
- Isaac & Fay Adato in honor of their son Aaron's bar mitzvah
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- **General Fund** – Supports synagogue activities.
- **Building Fund** – Provides for acquisition and maintenance of physical space.
- **Education Excellence Fund** – Supports education programs and teacher retention.
- **Prayer Book Fund** – Provides for prayer book requirements. Hardcover books contain a dedication bookplate.
- **Library Fund** – Maintains and grows our library resources.
- **Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund** – Assists members of the congregation who are in need (confidentially), initiates programs and provides other benefits to the congregation.
- **Hesed Fund** – Supports members in times of need (such as a birth or death in the family). In addition to making sure there are minyans during shiva, we provide a mea during shiva. On the happier side, we provide a Shabbat meal for families with a new baby.
- **Social Action Fund** – Supports the activities of the Social Action Committee. Some funds may also be donated to tzedakah in the congregation’s name.
- **Nursery School Fund** – Supports nursery school programming.



# Happy Birthday!

Laylie Smith	12/2	James Hitt III	1/18
Jory Harris-Blumenthal	12/4	Sonya Berlinger	1/18
Jonathan Fontek	12/7	Renana Harris-Blumenthal	1/18
Gabriel Beckerman	12/8	Sarah Palatnik	1/19
Derya Kravitz	12/9	Lilah Ashery	1/20
Joshua Resnicow	12/9	Elenor Stasko	1/20
Braden Walter	12/10	Lily Sokobin	1/21
Alexis Edick	12/10	Emily Schreck	1/21
Sara Renzi	12/10	Jonathan Nachbar	1/22
Logan Judelsohn	12/11	Jordyn Petroff	1/22
Allyson Meltzer	12/13	Samuel Navarro	1/24
Reuben Ellinport	12/16	Kimberly Brown	1/25
Michael Recker	12/17	Daniel Kline	1/30
Julian Tash	12/18	Laura Wagner	1/31
Stephanie Levine	12/19	Sam Hurwitz	1/31
Micah Weber	12/21	Rachel Goury	2/3
Ethan Chelf	12/22	Danielle Goury	2/3
Janel Berlinger	12/22	Hannah Nechin	2/5
Aaron Waldman	12/23	Marleigh Kass	2/9
Melissa Gold	12/23	Graeham Galler	2/12
Ryan Kramer	12/24	Ethan Feldman	2/13
Benjamin Stoller	12/24	Taylor Hausman	2/15
Dean Isaacson	12/24	Sophie Schnur	2/20
Jack Silber	12/25	Jacob Weil	2/20
Ezra Trost	12/29	Zachary Weisman	2/21
Julianna Nechin	12/29	Sydney Galler	2/22
Lillian Straus	12/30	Madeline Gross	2/24
Lily Judelsohn	1/1	Allison Udler	2/25
Avidan Godsey	1/1	Benjamin Robinson	2/25
Gabriel Kempenich	1/1	Bennett Greenfeld	2/25
Aidan Godsey	1/2	Elena Katz	2/26
Joshua Bernstein	1/2	Lena Beckerman	2/26
Audrey Aron	1/2	Samuel Gross	2/28
Asher Kotok	1/3	Sarah Hallam	2/28
Eden Kotok	1/3		
Ben Weiner	1/5		
Jaida Weisel	1/6		
Zachary Zaiderman	1/6		
Zoe Nechin	1/7		
Jeremy Brooks	1/7		
Jeffrey Morse	1/7		
Bradley Pasekoff	1/8		
Matthew Hausman	1/9		
Hailey Kessler	1/9		
Adam Rosen	1/10		
Jack Rosenberg	1/10		
Nora Gorfinkel	1/11		
Ella Kotok	1/11		
Scott Kahalas	1/11		
Hallie Maytin	1/15		
Davis Recker	1/17		

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