



HA'KEHILAH

THE COMMUNITY VOICE קול הקהילה



HONOURING THE DARKNESS

Rabbi Boris Dolin

Usually around this time of year as winter approaches, we begin the seasonal reflection on the power of light to overcome darkness in our world. We use the age-old symbol of Hanukkah to inspire us to dedicate ourselves to a more hopeful future, gathering with joy as we light the candles of the menorah. It is a powerful idea that forms the core of the story of holiday and has helped us for many generations to overcome the challenges and tragedies of Jewish life. This hope has inspired us to look forward to better times instead of dwelling on the pain and the darkness, and it could be argued that this positive outlook has kept our people alive and connected through all that we have encountered. The light of Hanukkah needs to always inspire us.

Yet, as I write these words, our world feels too dark for even the candles of Hanukkah to fully illuminate. The war in Israel which began in October has devastated the Jewish community and the pain, loss and the darkness are almost too much to bear. All the light that we had been gathering for generations simply doesn't

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Ellayne Kaplan

During a season marked by terror and tragedy, it might seem strange to be writing about gratitude.

Settling quietly into the role of congregational president, getting comfy in the position I once held a long time ago – I'm not naive enough to imagine a presidential rocking chair and monogrammed slippers.

Summer at Dorshei Emet is not a languid season of iced drinks and gorgeous sunsets. Processing membership renewals, welcoming new members, organizing the High Holy Days.... Besides complex planning, these tasks require meticulous attention to detail, long hours and lots of patience. Add the launch of an afternoon school and the coordination of one of our largest Jewish Journeys groups ever.... You get the picture.

And then, on July 13, there was water.

My paternal grandmother, my bobbe, Hinda Osherovitz Kaplan, was born around 1876. Though she most likely had little or no education, she did not lack

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CONGREGATION DORSHEI EMET

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Executive Director, Cynthia Weinstein

The Blue Zone concept has been around since its publication in 2004 by Gianni Pes and Michel Poulain. They identified areas of the world where people live longer than average. Recently, the new popular Netflix documentary series *Live to 100: Secrets of the Blue Zones* has brought this concept to the forefront. My teenage and young adult children brought the series to my attention, and we excitedly watched the entire series.

In the series *The Blue Zones*, author and educator Dan Buettner covers areas where this phenomenon occurs: Okinawa, Japan; Ikaria, Greece; Sardinia, Italy; Nicoya, Costa Rica; and Loma Linda, California. The residents' longevity is attributed to habits and lifestyle choices common in these areas. Of course, the gorgeous scenery in these locations makes the series a pleasure to watch.

According to Buettner, the long lifespan in Blue Zones is due to the following four factors:

- Moving naturally and often.
- Eating wisely.
- Maintaining a positive outlook, which includes religious practice.
- Connection with others.

Dorshei Emet offers numerous opportunities to integrate the last two items in the list above into your lifestyle by making the shul part of your life. I won't guarantee anything, but it may increase your chances of becoming part of our 90+ club.

Our shul is not an "official" Blue Zone. However, we do have many healthy members over 90 years of age. The son of our most senior member recently told me that his mother is looking forward to her 106th year! That's maintaining a positive outlook! While some of our "experienced" members don't come to shul anymore, they can maintain relationships with other members and attend services and programs on Zoom.

Several times in the Blue Zones documentary series, the importance of having a purpose was raised. The benefits of volunteering, community involvement, and participating in joyous occasions all have benefits that can contribute to a long life. We have always known that integrating the shul into your life has many benefits, including meeting interesting people, expanding your horizons, and immersing yourself in the richness of the Jewish calendar. Now, we can add extending your lifespan to the list!

The season of Chanukah is a great time to get involved in shul life! We have numerous programs planned for this time of the year: holiday parties, cooking workshops, and much more. You can participate in the book club or our new film club. There are many great ways to connect. You can always join one of our fabulous committees. Winter can be depressing and isolating, but your Dorshei family has you covered!

On behalf of the office staff and my family, I wish you all a very happy Chanukah!





Tal Maayan

Shalom to all. My name is Tal Maayan. I am the shinshinit this year at Dorshei Emet, Solomon Schechter school and Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom. I was born in Haifa and grew up in Zikhron Ya'akov, Singapore, then Emek Hefer, a quiet cluster of villages near Netanya.

I always had an appreciation for different cultures and ways of life. Experiencing international school in Singapore granted me the opportunity to develop English speaking skills and meet friends from all over the world. In addition, I grew up in a very Zionist home. My dad's parents were Holocaust survivors from Romania and hearing their stories as a child helped me understand the importance of a Jewish homeland. My mom's father and my dad were both pilots in the IDF and my grandfather was a prisoner of war in Egypt around 1973..

Growing up in this reality, I knew from a young age how important Israel was to me and, despite being secular, how meaningful my Jewish identity is. Thus, when I found out about the Shinshinim program, I knew I had to try my best to take part, despite the very low acceptance rate. During the 9-month long screening process, I learned a lot about myself and my mission for this year. To me, the bottom line, more relevant than ever these days, is that in order to ensure our safety and quality of life as Jews in the 21st century, we must create meaningful connections with each other and develop a unified, modern, Zionist worldwide community.

Before the war began, I found Montreal a wonderful, international, vibrant city. As I have an ambition to study architecture, I find being surrounded by arts and culture very important, Montreal seems like the perfect fit. Since October 7th, I have discovered how amazing, intelligent and caring the Montreal Jewish community is. I feel incredibly lucky to be part of this community and pray that I will get to know it further under better circumstances in the future.

Chair, High Holy Days
Coordinating Committee,
Howard Berger

Once again this year, we were able to gather in person to welcome and celebrate the New Year, offering a streamed service to those who could not attend.

As most of you well know, our services are warm, intimate and welcoming, especially for our newest members. As per Dorshei Emet tradition, Rabbi Boris generously shares the Bimah with many of our congregants, an aspect that lends itself to engaging many talented members who lead the davening, chant the Torah and haftarah readings, sing in the choir and blow the shofar. How fortunate we are to experience the talents of so many members this way. We are grateful to our Rabbi and all these volunteers who devote their time and energy so enthusiastically.

Additionally, we acknowledge the efforts of our Parnassim, security ushers and office staff who all had a hand in seeing that the holiday experience was well-organized.

Keeping with another tradition, we enjoyed our sharing homemade honey cake as we left the building at the end of Yom Kippur.

As we look forward to the future, we invite you to reflect on how you might play a role in the celebration of our High Holy Days. Most of our participants would be very pleased to mentor and teach anyone who would be so inclined. Think it over - if you would like to explore this possibility, please contact Rabbi Boris.

Shana Tovah!



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AT
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/DORSHEIEMET1 OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE
DORSHEIEMET.COM FOR UPDATED NEWS AND PROGRAM CALENDAR



Scholar-in-Residence Weekend September 30: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

The Indigenous Learning Chevruta began another year of programming for Dorshei Emet and the community at large.

The Chevruta organized a Scholar-in-Residence Weekend to mark September 30th, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, which coincided with the Festival of Sukkoth. During the Shabbat service, the congregation listened to a d'var Torah by our guest scholar, Don Nicholls, an International, national and local representative from Eeyou Istchee (Cree Nation). We were also joined by Joshua Iserhoff, a talented drummer from Mistissini who contributed to the service and shared a moving drum and song performance with us. After the kiddush, there was a fascinating talk and discussion on the origins and current state of Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and members of the audience were able to ask Don a whole range of interesting questions.

The next day, Don and Rabbi Boris prepared a program for our young teens of B'nei Mitzvah age. Don described Cree coming-of-age rituals, rites and their meanings, relating them to parallel Jewish milestones. The event was complemented by a Cree game of skill and traditional foods which all the participants enjoyed.

One of the teens commented, "It was cool to learn about a new culture that's so different from ours."



In this series of informal conversations, we meet First Nations, Métis and/or Inuit people, often residents of the Montreal/Tio'tia:ke region, who are leading interesting lives and doing meaningful work. Members of the Chevruta host the discussions with a Q & A after the talk. In November, we kicked off our second "Indigenous Lives" series with a talk by Alex McComber.

Later in the season, we will welcome Jason Sikoak, a multi-media Inuk artist from Rigolet, Nunatsiavut (Labrador). A recent graduate of Fine Arts at Concordia University, Jason was one of three designers of a Royal Canadian Mint commemorative medallion to honour residential school survivors and victims and was also commissioned to design a coin displaying Sedna, the sea goddess.



We will also meet Adrienne Campbell, Community Development Advisor - Indigenous Relations with the SPVM (Montréal police). Adrienne, whose father is from the Cree Nation and whose mother is Lebanese, was one of the founders of the Projets Autochtones du Québec shelter for unhoused Indigenous people in Montréal.





Dorshei Emet member,
David Gerchicoff

At the beginning of October, I headed to Israel to begin my Master's in Urban Planning at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Full of nerves and excitement, I set out on a new adventure far from home but in a place very meaningful to me. The previous school year I had spent volunteering as an English teaching assistant in an elementary school in Bat Yam, near Tel Aviv, through a Masa Israel Journey Program. That year, full of rich experiences, new friends and healthy amounts of *balagan*, left me not quite ready to say goodbye to the chaotic and heartwarming country.

So, when I woke up on October 7th on my friend's couch to air raid sirens, unfortunately, I was not that surprised. I thought everything to be another 'routine' rocket attack that permeates Israeli life. It soon became clear that this day did not mark another skirmish but a horrific massacre. To me, Israel is a land full of contradictions and this could not have been truer as I saw the incredible unity and love that came out of the collective trauma and grief that the country had experienced.

Everywhere I stepped, I saw people coming together and leading initiatives to help those who need help the most. Dizengoff Square went from a place to sunbathe and chill to a

place to donate and pack supplies; the restaurant at which you can't get a reservation became a kitchen which makes hot meals for displaced families and soldiers; the glitzy hotel reception hall became a makeshift day camp for kids who have lived through horror and cannot go home. It was very impactful to see so many people show up for each other - treating strangers like family and doing everything they can to help without expecting anything in return. Witnessing and participating in these examples of *tikkun olam* helped bring me some hope in this period of darkness as I believe it has to many other Jews in Israel and across the world.

I am currently back home in Montreal. The beginning of the academic year has been pushed to the beginning of December for now, with many students and faculty members being reservists. The coming weeks will be rife with uncertainty. On a personal note, when will it be safe to go back to Israel, restart an apartment hunt, begin a new year? More broadly, how will the war progress and how will its outcomes change the status quo in Israel, in Gaza, in the West Bank? As we watch news reports filled with suffering, I pray for quieter and more peaceful days in the region. I hope someday we might be able to break this endless cycle of violence.

Dorshei Emet Bookclub

Wednesdays @ 1:00 PM. In-Person.

To join us, email: programdirector@dorshei-emet.org.

March 13, 2024

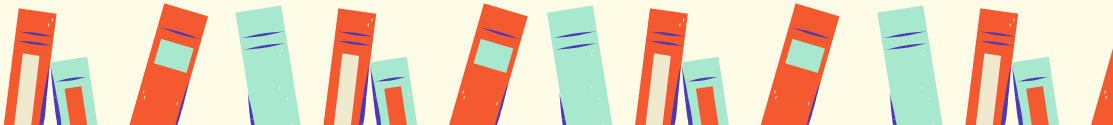
The Oppermanns by Lion Feuchtwanger

April 10, 2024

The Midnight Library by Matt Haig

May 8, 2024

Half A Yellow Sun by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie





Co-Chairs, Susan Stock and Deena Roskies
Contact email: DE-SJC@outlook.com



The efforts of the members of Dorshei Emet's Social Justice (Tikkun Olam) Committee (SJC) were honoured at this year's Simchat Torah celebration and at a kiddush on Oct 28, 2023. The SJC members greatly appreciated this recognition.

This year the activities of the SJC focused on the following projects and events:

- The **Ukraine Support Working Group**, chaired by Susan Stock and including Carmela Aigen, Mariam Bowen, Debbie Carroll, Rebecca Katz and Ila Novak, continued to raise money for humanitarian aid in Ukraine organised by the Canada Ukraine Foundation and for Ometz's program providing camp supplies to Jewish Ukrainian children in Quebec who attended Camp B'nai Brith last summer.
- **Dorshei Keshet, the LGBTQ+ Support and Action sub-committee**, headed by Beth Blackmore with the help of Laura Yaros, was recently formed to maintain and enhance DE's welcome and sensitivity to LGBTQ+ Jews and their families. A well-attended Pride Shabbat was held on August 12, 2023.
- The **Greening the Shul sub-committee**, led by former member Maureen McArar, included Eva Echenberg, Ellayne Kaplan, Barry Lazar and Adrienne Sklar. It carried out an energy audit of the synagogue and made recommendations to reduce energy use and water waste. The Building Committee and Board are following up on these recommendations.
- **Empty Bowls**, under the leadership of Sarah Dolin, with the participation of Bluma Goldberg, Paula Lehrman, Andrea Majnemer, Ila Novak and Gaby Orbach, organised

an innovative event this past spring to raise money for Le Depot Community Food Centre, in which participants created their own bowls.

- **MATl event:** Under the leadership of Deena Roskies, the SJC helped organize a moving evening with two Jerusalemite women, one Palestinian-Israeli, the other Jewish-Israeli, from MATl, the Jerusalem Business Development Center. They spoke about their experiences fostering women's entrepreneurship and supporting underserved communities in east and west Jerusalem.
- **My Green Life** is an environmental education project to integrate environmental concerns into our daily lives, chaired by Susan Stock and previously co-chaired by Maureen McArar. The group carried out a survey of synagogue members to identify priorities for presentations and information resources to be made available on the DE website. It is actively seeking a co-chair and new members to act on these priorities. Anyone interested in working on this project is welcome.
- **Sponsorship of a new Syrian refugee family** who, after a 3-year process, finally arrived in Montreal last September. They are the sister and her family of a Syrian family we sponsored in 2016, who have integrated very well into Quebec. Susan Stock heads the DE sponsorship of this family and, in collaboration with their relatives in Montreal, is helping them settle.

If we had more members we could accomplish much more. So do consider joining the SJC or one of its sub-committees. If you have a social justice project you'd like to carry out, please contact us and we can help set up a sub-committee to carry out your vision.





Communications
Committee Chair,
Lewis Lurie



In case you missed the announcement the first time, The Writing Wall, a new addition to our website (www.dorsheiemet.com/writingwall) is an opportunity for writers among us - those already established and those aspiring - to "show their stuff". You are all encouraged to submit your literary creations - fiction, fantasy or factual, friendly or fearsome (poetry, as well as free verse) - to be posted on The Writing Wall (which can be found in the "Events and Programs" section of the shul's website), to be perused, contemplated, discussed, and enjoyed by the Dorshei Emet membership and beyond. Themes and subject matter should be Judaism-related, should have a yiddishkeit flavour: for example, Dorshei memories, Reconstructionism, life-cycle events at the synagogue and in the wider community, Israel (cultural and historical), stories about the unique, personal and special ways congregants celebrate the Jewish holidays (suggested by member Bernie Weinstein), and general religious and spiritual musings.

Also, one or two photographs relevant to the topic presented would be welcome!

Needless to say, this is a family- and child-friendly site, rated "G"! It is only open to Dorshei congregants (though the website is accessible to the public-at-large). This being a Reconstructionist synagogue, editorial guidelines are quite fluid and flexible, chances therefore being very good that your offering will be accepted. There is a limit of two submissions per member annually, with a maximum of 500 words per article.

And who knows, you could be saluted on Shabbat, honoured at Rosh Hashanah, awarded a prize at Purim, extended kudos on Kol Nidre, applauded on the 15th of Av, touted at Tashlich, recognized on Rosh Chodesh, celebrated at Chanukah, lauded on Lag B'omer, or feted at the Feast of Gedaliah.

A wall - any wall - can only stand if it is supported. Please support your DE Writing Wall!

Send your submissions to "de-comms@hotmail.com"

Taib Morwa Bouricha & Salma Boudinar
Suzana & Yonel Greemberg
Ron & Greg Poole-Dayana
Uri Ravel & Ilana Ben Yehoshoua
Lia Raykhlin
Daniel Azuelos
Bridget O'Connor
Yaron Avsker
Lisa Mintzberg
Fabiana Pereira & Gabriel Lasry
Samantha Torkin & Jeremy Frohlich

Karen Biskin & Robert Altman
Leetal Superman & Dan Spiegelman
Erica Cuthbertson & Ben Abecassis
Lev Deich & Maria Fishman
Deborah Golberg & Scott Broadbent
Dana Schnitzer
Andrea Sepinwall & Oded Guttman
Kelly Solti & Kristofer Laing

Nina Bolivar & Jason Silver
Zoe Freedman & Nathaniel Port
Hyman Griner & Caroline Labelle
Sarah Yahyaoui & Corey Lesk
Michelle Mann & Francois Prevost
Françoise Roth & Ernest Zelniker
Julia Smoley & Jonathan Sidel
Allison Taylor & Zachary Goldig
Andrea Wahba & Nicholas Czuzoj-Shulman
Elizabeth Weissberg & Ella Jacobson
Tamara Zeitz & Joseph Taylor



Mark Rabinovitch

Co-Chairs, Mark Rabinovitch and Marcelo Ciecha

Medical Ethics is a branch of medicine aimed at providing physicians with a set of guideposts for treating their patients in situations that are potentially confusing and ambiguous. It upholds the value to defend human dignity and autonomy at all times. Judaism has had a lot to say about this topic as it has evolved over the millennia, most notably in Talmudic sources and in the writing of Maimonides.

We began planning a series devoted to the study of Jewish Medical Ethics in the Spring of 2023 after the co-chairs Mark Rabinovitch and Marcel Ciecha met with members of our committee - Andrei Kelner, David Hill, Miki Harrar and Ronit Yarosky. We have contacted several experts who we believe could ably cover key topics from beginning to end of life.

Our first event, presented on October 26, featured Rabbi/Professor Mira Wasserman of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, who gave an introduction to Jewish Medical Ethics

and an in-depth presentation on reproductive ethics, including birth control, abortion and artificial insemination.

The second event will be devoted to the topic of circumcision. We are finalizing a panel discussion with Max DuBoff, a PhD candidate in Classics and Philosophy at Yale University, who will discuss the ethics of male circumcision from a Jewish perspective and present an alternative ritual called Brit Shalom. He will be followed by a Jewish urologist who strongly advocates for Brit Mila.

For part three of our series, we plan to tackle the varied Jewish approaches to gender dysphoria and gender transitioning. In our last presentation, we will turn our attention to Jewish approaches to end-of-life medical care.

We anticipate lively dialogue surrounding each topic in the series.

RABBI'S MESSAGE, CONTINUES FROM PAGE 1

feel as strong anymore. The feeling that we were safe from antisemitism, the belief that Israel was a safe haven in which to be Jewish, and the idea that war was rare and that peace was strong, these ideas are no longer as clear. This Hanukkah, the light of the candles will give us a flicker of the hope we need to move forward but there may not be enough light to give us full faith in the future.

This Hanukkah, I think we need to turn things around and not only bring in the light but also do our best to honour the darkness. We still need to put all of our effort into ensuring that our world is filled with more hope and light. We can still look forward to a more hopeful future but we also can remind ourselves to hold on to the lessons that the darkness holds for us.

In times of challenge, there is a very real danger of being a "serial optimist", a role that I feel I sometimes take on myself as a rabbi. How many times have I uttered the words, "moving forward", or "finding the light in the darkness"? In any faith community, this can and should be one

of the goals, to offer a place of support and a guiding light to bring people out of their pain and challenges. Faith and community by their very nature should work to guide people to something more hopeful and brighter.

Yet, always looking forward can lead to ignoring the realities that people are experiencing in the moment. When confronting pain, trauma or loss, we can't just be told that "things will get better," because while deep down we know this may be true, we need our emotions and the darkness to be acknowledged and honoured for their powerful hold on us. Darkness, physical and spiritual, is something that we often fear because it represents the unknown. A place where we can't see what is right before our eyes, let alone how we will be able to live in the days that follow. We know that all life begins in darkness, but we also know that from darkness something is trying to be born and to change. Whether it is the loss of a loved one or the horror and pain of war, we know that darkness leads if not to light, to something even more expansive, change.

In the story of Hanukkah, the Jews find their Temple, find their world in ruins. Their way of life is no more and they have to begin the hard work of rebuilding the physical and spiritual spaces of their community. They rededicate themselves to recreating, mourning the losses, but also knowing that from the darkness, they have the opportunity to build something even better. With loss, they can build something more stable that will guide the community into the future

This holiday season, let us never give up on bringing light into this world, but at the same time honour the fact that in darkness the world is full of potential and anything is possible. In the book of Proverbs we learn, "*ner Adonai nishmat adam*" — "the lamp of God is the soul of the individual" (20:27). When there is a challenge, we need to rededicate ourselves to each other, to life, and to doing all that we can to fix the brokenness we find around us. The light that will guide us forward can be found in how we confront the darkness.



Daniel Chonchol

When you read this, it will have been a year since the passing of my father, Ernest Chonchol z"l. I still miss him a great deal.

How could I not, though? He was an absolutely remarkable man.

It is hard to know where to begin in summing up my father's life, especially when that life lasted almost 103 years...

He was a loving, warm and wise parent, and an incredibly devoted husband to Odette Chonchol, z"l, to whom he was married for 63 years. He was resilient: he survived internment in Egypt in 1956 during the Suez Canal crisis, he earned a master's degree in translation at the age of 64, he read *haftarah* at Dorshei Emet impeccably at the age of 95, and he beat COVID at the age of 101.

But I think what touched me and members of Dorshei Emet the most was his thoughtfulness and attention to others. I lost count of the number of times someone said of my father, "He is the nicest person. What an extraordinarily kind person."

He would inquire about everyone's health, the health of their spouses and children too (and he remembered every name, as well). He treated everyone with respect.

He was like that everywhere. At his residence, he would wish each person he passed a good day, usually in both official languages. He sometimes threw in a *Boker Tov* for good measure.

He and my mother—who was just like him, which is perhaps why they made such a good pair — donated to dozens of charities every year, because it was the right thing to do.

He was a cultured man who probably should have been a professor rather than the commercial analyst he was for 30 years. He flourished when, at the age of 75, he found a community at Congregation Dorshei Emet. For him, faith was a source of strength, but also his way of exploring and understanding the world, and simply connecting with other people.

Even in the last days of his life, his generosity and humanity continued to touch people. When he passed away, hospital staff who had known him for only 10 days were in tears.

He left us the way he lived, peacefully and in dignity. He passed away just before the start of the month of Kislev, the month of Chanukah (my mother had passed away a day after that, 8 years earlier). It's a month that symbolises light. I will miss him, and I miss her, but I am extremely grateful that their light shone on me for so long.

Happy HANUKKAH

I DONUT KNOW HOW TO MAKE THESE

COME AND LEARN, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 7:00 PM

REGISTRATION REQUIRED: [HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/DEDONUTS](https://tinyurl.com/dedonuts)

Dorshei Emet Families

Winter 5784 Events

DEC



02 FAMILY SHABBAT
SA 10:30am - Noon

08 CHANUKAH PARTY
FR 6:15 pm



10 CHANUKAH PJ PARTY
SU 4pm - 5pm



FEB



03 FAMILY SHABBAT
SA 10:30am - Noon

09 TOT SHABBAT
FR 11am - Noon



09 KABBALAT SHABBAT
FR 6:30 pm

17 FAMILY SHABBAT
SA 10:30am - Noon



JAN



12 TOT SHABBAT
FR 11am - Noon

19 KABBALAT SHABBAT
FR 6:30 pm



20 FAMILY SHABBAT
SA 10:30am - Noon

28 TU BISHVAT PJ PARTY
SU 4pm - 5pm

MAR



02 FAMILY SHABBAT
SA 10:30am - Noon

15 TOT SHABBAT
FR 11am - Noon



23 PURIM PARTY
SA TBD

24 PURIM PJ PARTY
SU 4pm - 5pm



FOR MORE INFO, VISIT

www.dorsheiemet.com/friends-and-family.html

Get to know our Family Programs

Don't forget to register!



FAMILY SHABBAT SERVICES

The centerpiece of our family programming, join us for regular Shabbat Services for the whole family! Led by an experienced service-leader and educator, these services will walk you through some of the traditional Shabbat prayers and what they mean, while also including some new songs, stories, and games along the way!

TOT SHABBAT AND PJ PARTIES

In our unique Toddler Play Room

Our offering for our youngest congregants, these events offer a time for songs, stories, and play for kids 0-4 and their grown-ups. Connect with other young families in our community and celebrate together!



Email Ilana to find out more!

TEEN TRAILBLAZERS



New this year, our teen group is self-led space for youth ages 13-17 to explore what Judaism means to them! Outings, movie night, games lounge, cooking class... the possibilities are endless, and it's up to you!

Bring the whole mishpacha!

KABBALAT SHABBAT AND HOLIDAY PARTIES

For all ages, these events are times when our entire community can gather and celebrate together! Join us for food, entertainment, crafts, and more as we welcome Shabbat or usher in a new holiday.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, CONTINUES FROM PAGE 1

wisdom. One of her sayings (in Yiddish) was, "Water can be as devastating as fire". Believe me, I am not interested in comparing the destruction caused by fire vs. water, but I think Bobbe had a point. Water infiltration during a near-tornado storm caused damage to our elevator, meaning that many members of our congregational family were unable to participate in the High Holy Days, Shabbat services and activities for too many months.

And then, on October 7, there was war.

Words fail.

So what about that gratitude?

I am deeply grateful for the consistent, unflagging efforts made by Davina, Linda, Oria, Ilana, Rabbi Boris and Cynthia.

I am deeply grateful to the many members who made the High Holy Days so joyful by chanting, singing, ushering, parnassing, baking cake – and by attending, in person and via streaming.

I am deeply grateful to the individuals who provided critical assistance in dealing with the water damage and its ramifications.

I am deeply grateful to the many members who have acted as door monitors, contributing to our members' security.

I am deeply grateful to the Executive and Board, who share a serious responsibility to the congregation.

I am deeply grateful for the support of so many of you who have wished me well, offered to help and, most importantly, have continued to support our synagogue community.

And to my bobbe, for imparting her wisdom to her children and grandchildren.



THE CINEMATES

THURSDAYS @ 1:00 PM

SAVE THE DATES

MARCH 21, 2024
APRIL 18, 2024
MAY 16, 2024
JUNE 20, 2024

MOVIES - TO BE DETERMINED

IN-PERSON, VIEWING ON BIG SCREEN
DISCUSSION TO FOLLOW VIEWING
POPCORN WILL BE SERVED
REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Dorshei Emet
SAGES
OF ALL AGES

CHAG HABANOT WITH CARMELA AIGEN

JOIN US AS WE REVIVE
A BEAUTIFUL TRADITION
HONORING WOMEN
ON THE 7TH NIGHT OF
CHANUKAH. WE WILL
CELEBRATE JEWISH WOMEN
THROUGHOUT ANCIENT
AND MODERN HISTORY.

**HEROISM
LEADERSHIP
DEVOTION**

**WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 13
7:00 PM**

Registration Required
<https://tinyurl.com/chaghabanot>

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 Barry Lazar
 Jesse Lehrman
 Andrea Majnemer
 Rami Negev
 Diane Sasson
 Marilyn Takefman

Please feel free to contact Cynthia Weinstein, Executive Director, to learn about the many opportunities in our dynamic committees.
executivedirector@dorshei-emet.org
 or (514) 486-9400.

Finance Committee:

Chair – Eric Shostak

Fundraising Committee: *Open*

Yizkor Book Subcommittee:

Chair – Bernie Weinstein

House & Maintenance Committee:

Chair – David Hill

Security Subcommittee:

Chair – David Hill

Minhag Committee:

Chair – Jodi Lackman

Communications Committee:

Chair – Lewis Lurie

Human Resources Committee:

Chair – Ilana Shiller

Cemetery Committee:

Chair – Howard Berger

Nominating Committee:

Chair – Liz Freedman

Social Justice Committee/Tikkun Olam:

Co-chairs – Susan Stock & Deena Roskies

Greening Your Life Subcommittee:

Chair – Susan Stock

Ukrainian Support Working Group

Chair – Susan Stock

Membership Committee:

Chair – Marilyn Takefman

Gemilut Hasadim Subcommittee:

Chair – Toby Shainbaum-Pollak

Yahrzeit Subcommittee:

Chair – Ellayne Kaplan

Children's Programming Subcommittee: *Open*

Indigenous Chevruta:

Chair – Diane Sasson

Speaker's Series:

Co-chairs – Mark Rabinovitch & Marcelo Ciecha

Kiddush Committee:

Chair – David Hill

Governance Committee:

Co-chairs – Martin Boodman & Nora Kelner

Layners and Haftorah Scheduling:

Jack Goldberg

Shabbat Shira Committee:

Chair – Olga Gross

@ DORSHEI EMET

DECEMBER

Family Shabbat - 10:30 am
Chanukah Party - 6:15 pm
Chanukah PJ Party - 4 pm
Chag Habanot with Carmela Aigen - 7 pm
Family Shabbat - 10:30 am

FEBRUARY

Family Shabbat - 10:30 am
Tot Shabbat - 11 am
Kabbalat Shabbat Winter Blues - 6:30 pm
Family Shabbat - 10:30 am
Indigenous Lives - 7 pm (Zoom)

JANUARY

Tot Shabbat - 11 am
Movie night and Havdallah - 7:30 pm
Indigenous Lives - 7 pm (Zoom)
Family Shabbat - 10:30 pm
Tu Bishvat program - 7 pm
Shabbat Shira Concert - 7:30 pm
Tu Bishvat PJ Party - 4 pm

MARCH

Family Shabbat - 10:30 am
Book Club - 1 pm
Hot Topics with Rabbi Boris - 7pm (ZOOM)
Tot Shabbat - 11 am
Cinematics - 1 pm
Purim Party - TBA
Purim PJ Party - 4 pm

Dates are subject to change, and more events may be added. Please check our Weekly Announcements, Facebook page or Website for updates.



TU BISHVAT CELEBRATION

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 7:00 PM

PRESENTATION WITH BONSAI ARTIST – RAFAEL NAJMANOVICH
MALIDA – INDIAN TU BISHVAT RITUAL
PLANTING OF PARSLEY SEEDS FOR PASSOVER
TU BISHVAT RECIPES

IN-PERSON, REGISTRATION REQUIRED
[HTTPS://TINYURL.COM/DEBONSAI](https://tinyurl.com/debonsai)



Shabbat Shira at Dorshei Emet presents

Josh Dolgin & Yenne Velt

Featuring Dolgin's new arrangements
of Yiddish song repertoire

Zafer Mamilli, violin
Eden Glasman, violin
Dan Wolfe, violin
Dan Kunda Thagard, tsimbl



Saturday January 27th, 2024
at 7:30 p.m.

Dorshei Emet



18 Cleve Rd. Hampstead
514-486-9400

Supported in part by the Shulamis Yelin Fund

Advance

adults \$36
students \$25

tinyurl.com/dorsheishira

At the door

adults \$54
students \$36
(Student ID required)



***Megillah Reading
Carnival For Kids
Dance Party For Everyone***



**Saturday,
March 23**



***Lace up your dancing shoes
and dance the night away !***



CONGREGATION DORSHEI EMET

5784 (July 14 - October 26, 2023)

Natalie Amar & Mark Lesk

Anonymous

Mitzi & Hillel Becker

Reva Bercovitch, in memory of her father, Meyer Israel Kastner z"l

Helen & Irv Binik, to wish a refuah shlema to Yaffa Handel

Stephen Jacobson & Glenna Uline, in honour of the 50th wedding anniversary of Daniel & Deborah Kraus

Ellayne Kaplan & Howard Berger, in memory of Harvey Levitt z"l

Ellayne Kaplan & Howard Berger, on the Bat Mitzvah of Charlotte Magonet

Ellayne Kaplan & Howard Berger, on the Bat Mitzvah of Rachel Gomberg

Ellayne Kaplan & Howard Berger, in honour of the Dorshei Emet Social Justice Committee

Annie Koenig & Sam Yates, to mark the yahrzeit of Magda z"l & William Koenig z"l

Leanne Lieblein, in honour of Deena Roskies and Susan Stock and all the members of the Social Justice Committee

Lois Lieff, in memory of Micha Karpfen z"l

Lois Lieff, in memory of Dr. Harvey Levitt z"l

Ina Matthews

Leonard Miller, in appreciation of Monday night's singalong

Carole Rubenstein Klein & Michael Schleifer, on the wedding of Barbara Leiter & Howard Richler

Marilyn Takefman & Teddy Goloff, in memory of Shuah Roskies z"l

Frances Schanfield, in memory of Shuah Roskies z"l

Norma Singerman, in honour of the wedding of Barbara Leiter & Howard Richler

Brigitte Albert, in memory of Shuah Roskies z"l

Brigitte Albert, in appreciation of DE volunteers

Brigitte Albert, in appreciation of all DE staff

Brigitte Albert, in memory of Yoav Malayev z"l, Grandson of Miriam and Robi Cohen

Lois Lieff, on the Bat Mitzvah of Rachel Gomberg

Lois Lieff, in honour of Charlotte Magonet becoming Bat Mitzvah

Dorothy Stober

Carmela Aigen, in honour of Cynthia Weinstein

Carmela Aigen, in honour of Patrizia Di Cori, for doing an excellent job.

Carmela Aigen, to wish a refuah shlema to Teddy Goloff

Carmela Aigen, in memory of Shuah Roskies z"l

Carmela Aigen, in honour of Susan Stock, Simchat Torah honouree

Carmela Aigen, in honour of David Hill

Alan & Yaffa Handel, in appreciation of Carmela Aigen and for their granddaughter Libby's Bat Mitzvah

Ilana & Brahm Shiller, to mark the yahrzeit of Sara Sela z"l, mother of Carmela Aigen

Ilana & Brahm Shiller, on the birthday of Carmela Aigen

Myra Shuster, in loving memory of her father, Abraham Shuster z"l

Eva Kuper, in thanks for allowing me to participate in your newly-formed film club.

Natalie Amar & Mark Lesk

Sally Ayrton & David Hill

Linda & Gary Axler

Anna Barber

Mona Baumgarten

Audrey & Mark Berner

Helen & Irv Binik

Sharon & Michael Bond

Sima Brockstein

Neil Caplan

Sheila Caplan & Maurice Krystal

Rosana & Eric Caplan

Paola Ciambella

Peggi Cohen & Mark Rabinovitch

Joelle Dayan & Harvey Mandelker

Judith Farovitch

Wally Fish

Liz Freedman & Avrum Warshawsky

Mark Freedman

Pearlann Goldenberg

Sheila Greenberg

Ruth & Gershon z"l Hundert

Elaine Kalman & Archie Fineberg

Naomi Lapin & Jeffrey Rother

Lois Lieff

Barbara Leiter & Howard Richler

Ellayne Kaplan & Howard Berger

Micki Keesal

Carole Rubenstein Klein & Michael Schleifer

Elana & Jonathan Levy

Valerie & William Lipnick

Tara Maharaj & Rami Negev

Yolande Martel

Gaby Orbach

Lori Rabinovitch & Paul Horowitz

Myra Rabinovitch & Robert Klein

Shara Rosen

Bryna Rosman Rubinger

Kitty Samberg

Frances Schanfield

Rita & Joseph Schulman

Sharron Schwartz & Syd Stepner

Barbara Sherwin

Ilana & Brahm Shiller

Naomi Stein & Gerald Ahronheim

Dorothy Stober

Vivian Squire & Barry Nadel

Marilyn Takefman & Teddy Goloff

Sandy & Bernie Weinstein

Laura Winer

Paula & Gerald Wiviott

Marilyn Wolfe

Brigitte Albert, in appreciation of Rabbi Boris
Carmela Aigen, in honour of Rabbi Boris in appreciation of making the baby naming a beautiful simcha.
Jason Bond & Louis Bondaz, in appreciation of Rabbi Boris for his beautiful & welcoming Simchat Ha'Ben ceremony for their son, Xavier
Sharon & Michael Bond, in appreciation of Rabbi Boris creating a sensitive & inclusive Simchat Ha'Ben for their grandson, Xavier Dorian (Matan) Bondaz

Eric & Rosana Caplan, in memory of the dearly beloved daughter of Deena Roskies, Shuah z"l
Lois Lieff, to wish a refuah shlema to Brigitte Albert
Andrei Liveanu & Vanessa Muraca
Sharron Schwartz & Syd Stepner, in memory of Jojo Gelfand z"l
Shira Ronn
Ilana & Brahm Shiller, welcoming Ilana Teitleman to the DE team
Dalia Witkowski & Daniel Fagan

Sally Ayrton & David Hill, in appreciation of Oria Lissak, for the wonderful Supper in the Sukkah
Eleanor Bonder
Liz Freedman & Avrum Warshawsky, in honour of the Social Justice Committee, our Simchat Torah honourees
Donna & Irwin Kuzmarov, in appreciation of Oria Lissak
Maureen McArane, in appreciation of Oria Lissak
Lois Lieff, on the wedding of Ari and Sabrina Dabora
Gaby Niloff
Harriet Nussbaum, in honour of Oria Lissak and for the wonderful online programming
Ilana & Brahm Shiller, in appreciation of Gaby Orbach, for volunteering and her contribution to DE programming
Stan Shapiro, in appreciation of Sarah Segal-Lazar and the launch of her new album, Valleys
Myra Shuster, in memory of her mother, Dinah Shuster z"l
Dorothy Stober, on the occasion the wedding of Ariel & Sabrina Dabora
Paula & Gerald Wiviott
Cynthia Weinstein

Natalie Amar & Mark Lesk
Edie Austin, in honour of the Social Justice Committee
Becker Newpol Family Foundation, in memory of Edith z"l and Adrian Shulimson z"l
Sarah Binder
Peggi Cohen & Mark Rabinovitch
Elizabeth Blackmore & Laura Yaros
Pearlann Goldenberg, in honour of our dedicated Social Justice Committee for their incredible work.
Ellayne Kaplan & Howard Berger
Tricia Kelly
Naomi Lapin & Jeffrey Rother
Lois Lieff, to wish a refuah shlema to Teddy Goloff
Terrye & Irv Perlman, in honour of the birthday of Pearlann Goldenberg
Lori Rabinovitch & Paul Horowitz
Sharron Schwartz & Syd Stepner, in appreciation of our President, Ellayne Kaplan

Sharron Schwartz & Syd Stepner, in honour of Susan Stock and Deena Roskies & the whole Social Justice Committee
Ilana & Brahm Shiller, to mark the yahrzeit of Ruth Kaminsky z"l, dear mother & mother-in-law to Shelley and Ely Bonder
Ilana & Brahm Shiller, to mark the yahrzeit of David Negev z"l, father of Rami Negev
Ilana & Brahm Shiller, on the birth of Xavier, son of Jason Bond & Louis Bondaz
Ilana Shiller & Brahm Shiller, in honour of the birthday of Pearlann Goldenberg
Ilana Shiller & Brahm Shiller, to mark the yahrzeit of Carole Schnaiberg, dear mother & mother-in-law to Romy Schnaiberg & Brian Rocklin
Ilana & Brahm Shiller, to mark the yahrzeit of Marjorie Klarer
Ilana & Brahm Shiller, to mark the yahrzeit of Aladar Katz z"l, father & father-in-law of Ilana & Brahm Shiller
Ilana & Brahm Shiller, to mark the yahrzeit of Max Weinstein z"l, father & father-in-law of Bernie & Sandy Weinstein
Ilana & Brahm Shiller, to mark the yahrzeit of Sarah Stepner z"l, mother of Syd Stepner
Ilana & Brahm Shiller, to mark the yahrzeit of Sala Bonder z"l
Ilana & Brahm Shiller, on the Bat Mitzvah of Rachel Gomberg
Ilana & Brahm Shiller, on the birthday of Mark Rabinovitch
Marilyn Takefman & Teddy Goloff, in honour of Beth Blackmore and Laura Yaros for organizing Pride Shabbat
Sandy & Bernie Weinstein, in honour of Pearlann Goldenberg's special birthday and her inspiring singing of Sim Shalom
Sandy & Bernie Weinstein, in memory of Max Weinstein z"l, a wonderful father, father-in-law & Zaidie, on the occasion of his yahrtzeit.
Sandy & Bernie Weinstein, in memory of Jenny Prefer z"l, a great grandmother.

Frances Schanfield

Frances Schanfield

Brigitte Albert, in honour of the Social Justice Committee
Judith Farovitch, in memory of Shuah Roskies z"l
Ruth & Gershon Hundert, in honour of the marriage of Lewis Cohen & Alem Sklar
Lois Lieff, in memory of Marilyn Caplan z"l
Lois Lieff, in memory of the beloved daughter of Deena & David Roskies, Shuah Roskies z"l
Sharron Schwartz & Syd Stepner, in memory of Shuah Roskies z"l, the dear daughter of Deena Roskies
Stan Shapiro, in honour of Erika Sasson being selected as a 2023 David Prize Winner for her work in restorative justice.
Myra Shuster, in memory of her sister, Sharon Joy Shuster z"l

Lois Lieff, on the wedding of Bunny Gaon's granddaughter
Lois Lieff, to wish a refuah shlema to Louis Small

Renee Wolanski, in appreciation of the Bees

Neil Caplan, in honour of Donnie Frank, on her making ALIYA, and for the pleasure of her warm presence at Dorshei Emet over the years

Brigitte Albert, in honour of Ellayne Kaplan becoming President of DE

The deadline for the Donations page for the Spring newsletter is Jan. 25, 2024.





A vertical poster for a Chanukah Party. The background is light blue with a dark blue wavy border on the left and right. In the center, a large black menorah with nine lit candles is shown. Below the menorah, two cartoon Maccabee warriors are depicted: one on the left in a yellow tunic and helmet, and one on the right in a white tunic and helmet. Both are holding swords and shields with a Star of David. Below the characters is a dark blue rectangular box containing the text 'CHANUKAH PARTY' in large white letters, followed by 'Modern Day Maccabees' in smaller white letters. Below this box, the text 'Friday, December 8, 6:15 PM' is written in dark blue. Further down, the text 'Kabbalat Shabbat, Chanukah Candle lighting, Potluck Dinner' is written in dark blue. At the bottom, the text 'Dress Up As Your Favorite Hero' is written in dark blue. At the very bottom, the text 'Registration Required: <https://tinyurl.com/DEchanukah>' is written in dark blue.

CHANUKAH PARTY
Modern Day Maccabees

Friday, December 8, 6:15 PM

Kabbalat Shabbat,
Chanukah Candle lighting
Potluck Dinner
Dress Up As Your Favorite Hero

Registration Required: <https://tinyurl.com/DEchanukah>