NORTH SHORE CONGREGATION ISRAEL

The Bulletin

Vol. 91 No. 2

November/December 2020 ■ Cheshvan/Kislev/Tevet 5781

The Bulletin is supported by an endowment established by Jane R. Perlman.

Building Bridges. Connection. Purpose.

By RABBI RYAN DANIELS page 3

"We have enormous power, even more than we give ourselves credit for most of the time, to make the world a better place."

SENIOR STAFF

Wendi Geffen *Rabbi*

Lisa S. Greene Rabbi, The Susan C. Longo Associate Rabbi Chair

Ryan E. Daniels *Rabbi*

David M. Goldstein *Cantor*

Todd Braman *Executive Director*

Dr. Roberta Goodman, RJE *Education Director*

PRESIDENTS

Marilyn PerlmanPresident

David Cohen Brotherhood Co-President

David Rothschild Brotherhood Co-President

Frances Morof Women of NSCI Co-President

Marianne Horowitz Women of NSCI Co-President

WHAT'S INSIDE...

Building Bridges. Connection.	
Purpose	3
President's Letter	4
Treasurer's Report	4-5
Fundraising Update	5
Mission Moment	6
Mazel Tov!	7
We Remember	8
PROGRAMS	
Support	
Chanukah	9
NSCI Programming	10-11
Youth & Family Community	12
Teen & Young Adult	13
Women of NSCI	13
NSCI Calendar	14-15

Building Bridges. Connection. Purpose.

BY RABBI RYAN DANIELS



ON ROSH HASHANAH we not only welcomed the Jewish New Year, but a new era of Jewish worship.

The recent High Holy Days were a peek into what renowned liturgist, Rabbi Larry Hoffman, conjects is the very beginning of post-print culture and a new incarnation of public Jewish expression.

Like many things, the Jewish prayer experience is ever-evolving with time and the invention of new technology. As Rabbi Hoffman teaches, "Liturgy is always a product of technological competence and the culture that technology permits." Consider that until the destruction of the Second Temple in Jerusalem in 70 CE, our earliest ancestors' prayerful expression was animal sacrifice. Post-destruction, an oral culture lent itself to worship that depended on skilled leaders who spoke spontaneous prayers, inviting the congregation to repeat specific lines or respond with Amen. Much later those one-time spontaneous prayers were printed in prayer books, codifying a fixed liturgy that could be repeated at fixed times.

Just as the innovation of oral prayer and invention of the printing press did for past generations of worshipers, new digital technology enabled us this year to pray, learn and connect in new ways. Yes, we were forced to innovate because of COVID-19, but our pivot to almost entirely virtual services yielded results beyond what we initially imagined. Zoom, Facebook and our website allowed us to reach a virtual congregation multiple times greater than could fit in our Large Sanctuary; a congregation comprised of both High Holy Day regulars as well as so many who would never otherwise find themselves in a synagogue for the Jewish holidays. Beyond streaming

services, new offerings like this year's innovative Erev Rosh Hashanah Seder and Shofar Services in NSCI's parking lot opened new possibilities for experiencing the Days of Awe.

Now with the High Holy Days behind us, our clergy, staff and leadership are focused on crafting a program calendar that continues to engage congregants and the wider community in ways that are relevant and meaningful, all against a backdrop of the ongoing pandemic and the realities of life today. To the extent that it is possible, we will gather small groups for some in-person activities, and like during the High Holy Days, we will continue to invest in new technologies so that worship, learning and opportunities for tikkun olam are available to all, particularly now at this time when so many of us are seeking connection and a sense of purpose most.

As you will read in this Bulletin, our next few months of programs are organized under three guiding headings:

Building bridges. As I write this article our nation is engaged in what has become one of the most divisive presidential election seasons in our history. Worse, the extreme polarization and 'us vs. them' mentality extends beyond politics, impacting so many aspects of our lives. So, in these next few months, NSCI will strive to bridge the many divides that separate our families, friend groups and the larger community, modeling civil discourse and striving to find common ground for us to come together for the sake of the good and holy.

Connection. Despite an ongoing need to keep physical distance in order to minimize the risk of community spread of COVID-19, we invite you to join us for one or a few of our upcoming programs designed to strengthen relationships between and among our congregational community. Both in-person opportunities like the upcoming First Night Light Chanukah

celebration as well as virtual offerings like NSCI's Saturday Morning Shabbat Experience which is moving to Zoom for a more interactive experience.

...so many of us are seeking connection and a sense of purpose.

Purpose. We have enormous power, even more than we give ourselves credit for most of the time, to make the world a better place. Judaism teaches that while receiving is wonderful, there is also a potent benefit to us when we give of our time, money and know-how to help others. It is empowering, especially in times when we are not feeling so powerful. So, we invite you to partake in our menu of tikkun olam opportunities, both hands-on volunteering and other impactful opportunities to donate both cash and in-kind collections to benefit others all around Chicagoland.

Our worship during the recent High Holy Days was emblematic of a modern iteration of Jewish living beyond anything any of us imagined just a year ago. A response to our congregants' current needs to remain safe while seeking meaning during the pandemic, and also revelatory of new possibilities for how we can pray, learn and convene. All possible thanks to new digital technologies as well as a strong desire for connection and purpose in these uncertain and often chaotic times.

On behalf of our clergy team, staff and leadership, we invite you to step into 5781 with us, participating in one or many of the innovative and impactful programs we have planned. Together we will continue to nourish our kehillah kedoshah, "holy community," united by our common humanity and desire for growth.

President's Letter



DEAR FRIENDS,

Our NSCI centennial year certainly continues to challenge all of us to adapt and cope in unexpected ways, I

am grateful for how so many of you have expressed and demonstrated your care for one another and our congregational community. I'd like to share an amended version of my thoughts that I offered by video message for the High Holy Days as they remain top of mind:

Don't you find you are more aware now of the little things that we just took for granted before? We are so much more mindful now of what we really count on, what anchors us, when before we just assumed it always would be. We all have had these sorts of moments over the last several months; recognizing what really matters.

It has been heartening that so many of you have been participating in NSCI in ways that you never have before. Our congregation has remained connected and strong since the onset of the pandemic. Our clergy have provided a constant pastoral presence, responding individually and increasing opportunities for learning, healing, reflecting, worshipping and connecting. Volunteers offered outreach and wellness checkins to hundreds of the most vulnerable among us. Participation has grown exponentially since the transition to going virtual, online. Many of you have

reached out to share your stories of how your lives have been affected, to offer support for others, or simply to inquire about how NSCI is faring.

Ultimately, this is why NSCI is here: To lift us up Jewishly and in all ways, in all the times of our lives. NSCI is one of those anchors, here for us from start to finish, always here—everyday. So many of us cherish our memories of milestone events and our relationships with our rabbis and cantor. They companion us through difficulties and joys, inspire our faith and teach us the wisdom and practices of our tradition.

Sustaining this requires all of us, because relationships only work when everyone does their part. You may think, "I'm just one person; Just one family." What does it matter if we take a year off from the synagogue? Or, take a year off from enrolling in the school?

We need your partnership as we continue to wrestle with the many uncertainties of this time and our financial position. When you maintain your relationship with NSCI and encourage others to affiliate with our congregation, you are supporting our extraordinary professional team. Some of our congregants are facing financial challenges that hinder their ability to contribute their dues commitment this year. With our high value of inclusion for all who belong to NSCI, no one is turned away regardless of their ability or level of participation in dues.

Throughout our 100 year history,

our congregation has been steadfast, adapting with changing times. It is often said that although we may not be in the same boat, we are all in the same storm. It is only through your commitment and generosity that we can help each other weather that storm, and come out the other side with our sights set on a new and even better horizon.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we continue to rise to meet unique challenges. No doubt, this unprecedented time will be very memorable. Let's not take NSCI for granted. I believe that in partnership with you, NSCI can emerge from the period of this pandemic with innovations and experiences that will take our congregation to its next best evolution.

So, more than ever, thank you very much for following through with your annual dues commitment and participation in our NSCI Annual Appeal. Please take a look at Treasurer Michael Wexler's report and Development Chair Onnie Scheyer's article in this issue for more information on why your investment and reciprocity with NSCI is vital.

Thank you for being a part of our precious community.

Warmest Regards,

Manlyn

Marilyn Perlman president@nsci.org

Treasurer's Report

BY MICHAEL D. WEXLER



THE SYNAGOGUE continues to tirelessly respond to and support our community which is faced with

unprecedented health challenges, social

unrest, financial turmoil, mental anguish and yearning for religious inspiration. Yet, while the bricks and mortar of NSCI are less accessible to our congregation, the delivery of worship, programming, education, spiritual support and essential services are at their peak. How are we able to provide this continuity in our unpredictable world? Simply put,

talented clergy, staff and volunteers; dedication; elbow grease; passion and yes, financial resources.

We cannot excel at and continue our mission without your dues and support of our Annual Apeal. In short, more than ever, we are asking our temple community to please pay your dues now and, if possible, consider participation in

our Annual Appeal. Your direct support is the primary driver of our budget and the delivery of all that we do. And while we meticulously manage our budget and scrutinize expenses, there is no substitute for your timely participation.

Through our collective efforts we were nimble this past 2019-2020 fiscal year (July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020) and ended the year with a balanced budget. The final quarter of last fiscal year presented challenges, but we responded with sharpened pencils, sound management and good economic decision making. The 2020-2021 fiscal year presents new challenges.

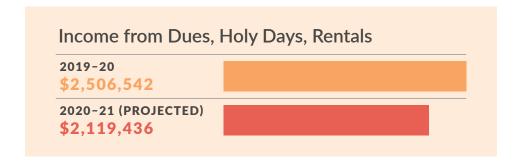
While we are currently recasting our budget, the majority of the budget for this fiscal year is generated from dues participation. Approximately \$2.000,000 must be raised from dues. That collection effort is on-going and is critical to our fiscal health. Further revenue for this fiscal year would have

been generated by facility rentals for life cycle events such as weddings, b'nei mitzvah and other uses, as well as High Holy Day passes. Due to state gathering restrictions and the safety of staff, clergy and congregants, we will have at least a \$100,000 shortfall from these line items that we must make up. Hence, your participation in our Annual Appeal is critical and needed.

Additionally, because of "virtual" synagogue demands, High Holy Day services and programming production

costs, we incurred approximately \$40,000 in additional expense for digital equipment and funds for production personnel. While it is true this equipment will continue to serve us well now and in the future, we must account for this expense.

We have a spectacular campus and an equally exciting and timely virtual presence. Your continued and timely support by paying dues and participating in our Annual Appeal will insure continued resources and a balanced budget. Thank you.



Fundraising Update

BY ONNIE SCHEYER



EVERY YEAR at this time, the chair of the **NSCI** Development Committee has an opportunity to reach out to our many

generous donors to the synagogue's Annual Appeal. You will remember that the Annual Appeal is a new initiative which replaced the previous Sustaining Dues and Elijah's Table efforts of years' past. The Annual Appeal supports NSCI congregants who find themselves in need of financial assistance to maintain their memberships and also ensures that we meet the daily expenses required to offer our robust programs and services. As the new Chair of the committee. I am truly honored to be in this role and to be able to share a few thoughts with you about this year's Appeal.

A request for donations to the Appeal was included in our Annual Dues statement last Fall, and the response was inspiring. However, if you have not yet had a moment to contribute to the Annual Appeal, please know that it is not too late for this year. Each and every donation, regardless of the size, is critical to the health of our synagogue community. As you can imagine, the synagogue's income is severely impacted by the limitations placed on holding events on-site—something that we hope to be able to do again soon—so every donation is valued. You can donate online at nsci.org/give or by sending a check to the synagogue office. I hope that you will take the time to make a generous donation to the fund today.

I want to thank those who have already contributed to the Annual Appeal. Indeed, in this most unusual of years, many NSCI members have sent

in new, renewed and/or increased gifts to the Appeal, and we are tremendously grateful. Such a response reflects a deep commitment from within the congregation — a true testament to the powerful connection we feel to that which continues to sustain us all.

While we may be limited in our ability to come together to experience the meaningful moments that we've come to treasure in our building—from programs and classes to life-cycle events, Shabbat services and more—we are proving every day that membership at NSCI is more than the building. It is being part of a community, indeed, a family, that continues to thrive, to grow and to celebrate together, even at a distance.

Please be sure to donate today. If you have any questions about the Appeal, or making a donation, you can reach Todd Braman at toddb@nsci.org or 847.835.0724.

Mission Moment

BY JODY WEINBERG



MY RELATIONSHIP with North Shore Congregation Israel has lasted longer than most of my other relationships

(with the exception of my husband and some long time friends). And like all relationships, at different times and different stages of our lives, we need different things.

One constant in my relationship with NSCI has been the connections I have made—to Judaism, to our clergy and, maybe most importantly, to other congregants.

As my commitment to NSCI grew, so did my involvement, and I took on several leadership roles including president of the congregation. During my term, one of my goals was to help others strengthen their relationship to NSCI as well. We adopted a people focused, relational approach aimed at getting to better know our congregants, creating programs that reflect our congregants' needs and, through that process, connecting congregants with

Judaism and the larger mission, vision, and values of our community. Never has this approach been more important than it has been this year!

I was able to continue this work this Fall, and enjoyed being involved with helping to organize and coordinate events this High Holy Day season. We intensified our reach and more than 100 volunteers came together to partner with clergy and staff to help ensure the worship and community experience was as thoughtful and meaningful as possible.

Through a variety of opportunities over 2/3 of our congregants engaged in some sort of activity at NSCI. By offering prayer book pick up, gift boxes, time in the Sanctuary or Sukkah, parking lot shofar blowing and more, we were able to create the connections that many of us have been missing. These connections not only benefited the individual but are also crucial to the sustainability of NSCI. The dedication of our volunteers, many of whom spent countless hours helping, and the appreciation of our community was extraordinary. This may have made these High Holy Days among

We often overlook the importance of community and connection to something larger than ourselves and this year really brought that idea home— we need our NSCI community as much as NSCI needs us.

the most meaningful ever to many of us. We often overlook the importance of community and connection to something larger than ourselves and this year really brought that idea home we need our NSCI community as much as NSCI needs us.

Like many of you, I look forward to the time when we are gathering together, but I am comforted knowing that many more opportunities are being planned by our wonderful clergy, staff and volunteers. I hope to see all of you soon, whether it is online or in our cars! Thank you for your continued support what makes NSCI special is all of you.









Thank You to Our High Holy Days Volunteers!

Mazel Tov!

WELCOME!



Ella Vivian Clamage **BORN ON JUNE 5, 2020**

Child of Marly & Chad Clamage Grandchild of Charlene & Bob Schuman and Cindy & Brett Clamage Great-grandchild of Gloria Schuman and Mae & Irwin Schmidt

Olivia Maeve Freilich **BORN ON JULY 24, 2020**

Child of Jessica and Jonathan Freilich Sibling of Alexandra and Isabelle Freilich Grandchild of Judy & Bob Freilich and Helen & Don Heiman Great grandchild of Shirley Freilich

Charlie Jules Zimmerman and Oliver Saul Zimmerman **BORN ON AUGUST 9, 2020**

Children of Rachel & Ryan Zimmerman Siblings of Emery Zimmerman Grandchildren of Holly & Lee Zimmerman and Marcia & Barry Auster Great grandchildren of Arlene Rosenstock



Leon Elias Caplan BORN ON AUGUST 18, 2020

Child of Nicole Garelick & Greg Caplan Grandchild of Deni & Mickey Caplan Great grandchild of Ronald Boorstein and Fred Caplan



Ari Rose Solomon **BORN SEPTEMBER 24, 2020**

Child of Dasha & Rob Solomon Grandchild of Sheryl & Joel Solomon and Steven Hentoff

Great grandchild of Norma & Joel Cohen and Helen Solomon and Ruth Gitlin

Eden Joy Bernstein BORN ON OCTOBER 16, 2020

Child of Carly & Scott Bernstein Sibling of Jake Grandchild of Fifi & Ron Levin and Jill & Irwin Bernstein Great grandchild of Barbara Eichner, Winnie Levin and Joy Horwich

NEWLYWEDS

Marissa Ellenby & Jeff Wineberg **AUGUST 6, 2020**

Jenna Weinstein & Reed Adler **AUGUST 8, 2020**

Lauren Cooper & David Mehlman **AUGUST 22, 2020**

Michelle Goldberg & Jon Weil **AUGUST 23, 2020**

Ari Gordon & Jim Brattin **AUGUST 30, 2020**

Julie Paskar & Jason Sachman **AUGUST 30, 2020**

Marcy Fischgrund & Scott Bagan SEPTEMBER 4, 2020

Laura Yastrow & Noah Helfand SEPTEMBER 5, 2020

Jessica Miller & Seth Friedman **SEPTEMBER 5. 2020**

Romy Posner & Seth Good SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

Emily Rus & Danny Rubenstein OCTOBER 16, 2020

B'NEI MITZVAH: RECENT AND UPCOMING



Evan Nagler NOVEMBER 5, 2020



Ronan Freeman **NOVEMBER 21,** 2020



Eva Bender NOVEMBER 7, 2020



Zachary Gordon **NOVEMBER 14,** 2020



2020



Oscar Breslow **NOVEMBER 21.** 2020



Devin Hazan DECEMBER 5, 2020



Singerman **NOVEMBER 14,**



Eliza Rothman DECEMBER 5. 2020

Alexa Rabin DECEMBER 5, 2020



And last but not least, a very special happy birthday to our congregant

Mickey (Miriam) Porte

who celebrated her 100th birthday in October!

We Remember

THE CONGREGATION EXTENDS ITS HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF:

Devin Belcher

Brother of Eric (Lisa) Belcher Uncle of Kyla and Mark

Dr. Marvin E. Cooper

Father of Joel (Cindy) Cooper Grandfather of Lauren (David) Mehlman and Benjamin (Amy) Cooper Great Grandfather of Sadie and Mae

Jeff Corbett

Brother-in-law of Steve & Debbie Dresner

Marcy P. Filinson

Mother of Laura (Joey) Bleiman Grandmother of Madeline, Russell, and Dylan

Molly Jordan Goldstein

Cousin of Andy & Steve Tick

Leonard Lichter

Father of Jonathan (Laura) Lichter Grandfather of Aaron and Emma

Fred Lowenthal

Father of Mark (Leanne) Lowenthal Grandfather of Jason and Brian

Joan Dilts Neumiller

Mother of Caroline (Jeff) Pfeffer Grandmother of Benjamin and David

Laverne "Mimi" Ontell

Grandmother of Lyle (Tracy) Gordon Great Grandmother of Zachary

Barbara "Bunny" Rosen

Mother of Andy (Lauren) Absler Grandmother of Ethan, Lucas, and Emmet

James M. "Buddy" Schreiber

Life partner of Mari Hirsh Father of David (Julie) Schreiber, Karen Schreiber, Laura (Adam Popham) Schreiber, Leslie (Adam) Randolph, Don Hirsh (Patty Griffin), Dr. Michael (Cheri) Hirsh, and Kave (Salomon) Pina Grandfather of twelve

Edith Trilling

Mother of Blythe Trilling

Melvin Rav Wark

Father of Jennifer (Jeff) Adler Grandfather of Ava, James, and Asher

Support

As a caring community, we strive to meet the growing needs of our NSCI family. Visit www.nsci.org/support for a full list of resources available to you.

HEALING SERVICES

WEDNESDAYS, NOVEMBER 4, 18, DECEMBER 2, 16 8:00-8:30 PM ON FACEBOOK/ **STREAMSPOT**

Join Cantor Goldstein for a quiet and contemplative Healing Service. Whether seeking support in navigating the circumstances in which we or our loved ones find themselves, together we can create a quiet, gentle time for prayer, meditation, and song that focuses on healing and wholeness.

IF YOU'RE IN NEED OF SUPPORT, EMOTIONAL **OR TANGIBLE**

Please visit our website www.nsci.org/ support to learn about the various ways that we can assist you or your family and to request support. Your confidential information will go to the NSCI Clergy and we will follow up when appropriate.

FIND SUPPORT THROUGH **JCFS CHICAGO**

Jewish Child and Family Services is offering free support to our congregants in this uncertain time. Elizabeth Ury, LNHA and JCFS Chicago Director of Jewish Community Engagement will be available for help with life events such as divorce, aging issues, mental health and parenting.

Please email ElizabethUry@JCFS.org. This service is free to NSCI members. Call 855-ASK-JCFS (855-275-5237) or email ask@icfs.org to access their available resources, their online grief support groups, counseling and response center programs.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Are you in need of emergency financial support due to the COVID-19 pandemic? Generous contributions from our congregants and JUF have made it possible for NSCI to provide one-time, confidential micro-grants to congregants who find themselves in need of emergency funds for housing issues,

medical support, and food. In addition, we can help congregants find longer-term support for ongoing, systemic challenges.

To apply for a confidential grant, please fill out the form at www.nsci.org/support and one of our clergy or executive director will get back to you as soon as possible.

ADDICTION AND RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUPS

As a caring community, we strive to meet the growing needs of our NSCI Family.

Please visit our website for information on how to access the following support groups www.nsci.org/support.

- Alcoholics Anonymous Virtual Meetings
- Al-Anon Electronic Meetings
- Alateen Chat Meetings
- Families Anonymous Virtual Meetings
- JACS (Jewish Alcoholics, Chemically dependent, and Significant others) a peer-led support group for Jews in addiction recovery, offering space for all Jews in addiction recovery.

Chanukah



FIRST NIGHT LIGHT: SAFELY-DISTANCED OUTDOOR CHANUKAH CELEBRATION

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10 (RAIN DATE: DECEMBER 17)

5:30-6:00 PM

IN THE NSCI PARKING LOT

NSCI congregants are invited to celebrate the first night of Chanukah with a communal menorah lighting using NSCI's new giant outdoor menorah. Help provide warmth to our community by bringing a sleeping bag or blanket for The Night Ministry to help Chicago's food insecure and transient population (see page 11 for more information). Leave with your gift of a 2020 NSCI Chanu-kit if you did not receive one at our drive up event on December 6. We invite you to bring your own menorah to light as well. Be sure to dress for the weather.

Advance registration required. Register at nsci.org/form/firstnightlight.

CHANUKAH CRAFTING

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2 7:00 PM

Get inspired by WNSCI's creative guru, Peggy Rubinstein, when she leads us in an easy craft project—something perfect to give as a Chanukah gift.

For teens and up. Sign up at nsci.org/wnsci.

CHANU-KIT DRIVE UP EVENT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Drive up and say hello to NSCI clergy, staff and friends and leave with your gift of a Chanu-kit. Volunteers will be available to collect blanket and sleeping bag donations from your car which will be donated to The Night Ministry.

CHANUKAH STORY & CRAFT FAMILY EVENT

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11 4:00-4:40 PM OVER ZOOM

Learn all about Chanukah with our beloved teacher Rachel Stein who will meet us over Zoom.

For 0- to 5-year-olds. Supply boxes can be picked up December 7-10 anytime between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm at North Shore Congregation Israel. Cost for each supply box is \$10. Register at nsci.org/form/totchanukah2020.

PARKING LOT MENORAH LIGHTING FAMILY EVENT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13 4:30-5:00 PM

Bundle up, don your mask, and come sing and light NSCI's giant menorah. Leave with a yummy Chanukah treat.

For families with preschool age children. Please bring a friend. There is no cost but registration is needed as space is limited to ensure social distancing. Register at nsci.org/form/totmenorah2020.html.









We invite you to share photos once again this year of your family lighting your hanukiyahs/menorahs to be added to our online photo album! Please send all submissions to Liz Madsen at lizm@nsci.org.

NSCI Programming

Building Bridges

Finding common ground for us to come together for the sake of the good and holy.

NOW MORE THAN EVER. WHY JUDAISM MATTERS



Three conversation with Rabbi Rami Shapiro, the Bernice and Seymour Nordenberg Memorial Scholar in Residence. Rabbi Rami M. Shapiro, commonly called "Rabbi Rami", is an author, teacher, and speaker on the subjects of liberal Judaism and contemporary spirituality.

Why Judaism Really Matters **NOVEMBER 1**

10:00-11:00 AM ON ZOOM nsci.org/form/NovDec2020adulted

SUNDAY. NOVEMBER 15 10:00-11:00 AM ON ZOOM nsci.org/form/NovDec2020adulted

Judaism as a Religion of **Argument and Doubt Sermon** FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4 2:30 PM ON FACEBOOK & **STREAMSPOT**

HOW TO BE COMFORTABLE HAVING UNCOMFORTABLE CONVERSATIONS W/ RABBI DANIELS AND BILLY PLANER

THURSDAY. NOVEMBER 12 7:30 PM ON ZOOM

In our deeply fractured society, trying to speak across the divide sometimes feels impossible. Join Rabbi Daniels and Billy Planer, Founder of Etgar 36, to discuss how to have these important and necessary conversations without "all the heat," how to practice self-care as we enter into uncomfortable conversations and even rethink what 'success' looks like during a difficult conversation.

Sign up: nsci.org/form/NovDec2020adulted

CLERGY IN CONVERSATION

WEDNESDAYS, NOVEMBER 4, 18, DECEMBER 2, 16

NOON ON FACEBOOK/STREAMSPOT

Join Rabbis Daniels, Geffen, Greene, and Cantor Goldstein as they discuss compelling topics of our time.

DANGEROUS RELIGIOUS IDEAS

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17 7:00 PM ON ZOOM

Our Nachman Scholar Rabbi Dr. Rachel S. Mikva will grapple with the ways in which all religious ideas are potentially dangerous—even those that lie at the heart of faith. Rabbi Mikva's newly released book takes on concepts that have been wielded to cause both harm and good throughout history. All are essential as we grapple with the power of religious ideas and the role of religion in society.

Rabbi Dr. Rachel S. Mikva serves as the Herman E. Schaalman Chair in Jewish Studies and Senior Faculty Fellow of the InterReligious Institute at Chicago Theological Seminary.

Sign up at nsci.org/form/ NovDec2020adulted to receive the Zoom link and text. First folks to sign up will receive a free copy of Rabbi Mikva's brand new book, shipped to you directly.

The Nachman Family Adult Education Series was conceived by Rosalind (z"l) and Dr. Adolph Nachman (z"l) as an opportunity to bring exciting outside scholars to teach adult learners at NSCI.

GRIEF IS THE WORD

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30 8:00-9:00 PM ON ZOOM

Join Rabbi Geffen in conversation with Rebecca Soffer, founder of Modern Loss, for this important conversation about navigating individual and shared grief in 2020. Participants will have the opportunity to share in conversation and ask questions.

Advance registration required at nsci.org/form/NovDec2020adulted by Friday, November 27.

Connection

Strengthening relationships between and among our congregational community.

MEDITATION UNDER THE SKY: NAVIGATING THE WORLD WITH CALM AND CENTERING

NOVEMBER 2, 11 7:30-8:30 AM

Whether you are new to meditation or have a regular practice, join Rabbi Wendi Geffen for seasonally inspired meditation sessions. Bring your own mat or chair. Generous physical distancing and masks will be enforced. Program will be moved inside into a large open space in case of inclement weather.

Advance registration is required at nsci.org/form/NovDec2020adulted. Space is limited.

THE MINDFUL OR **MINDLESS LIFE**

FRIDAYS, NOVEMBER 6, 13, 20, **DECEMBER 4, 11, 18** 11:00 AM-12:00 PM

Join Rabbi Wendi Geffen in exploration of ancient Jewish spiritual teachings that can strengthen our capacity to live with awareness, generosity and compassion even amidst the most uncertain of times. Sessions will include study, discussion and meditation.

No experience necessary. Sign up at nsci.org/form/NovDec2020adulted.

HAVDALAH AND JEFFREY LASKY MEMORIAL ARTIST IN RESIDENCE ELANA **ARIAN CONCERT**



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 7:30 PM ON FACEBOOK/STREAMSPOT

Close Shabbat with a teen-led havdalah service followed by a special concert by this year's Jeffrey Lasky Memorial Arts Weekend Artist in Residence, Elana Arian.

JEWISH JAMMERS!

MONDAYS, NOVEMBER 9, 23, DECEMBER 7, 21

7:00-8:30 PM

Gather together with Cantor Goldstein for an in-person, socially-distanced jam session at NSCI! Bring your guitar, bass, harmonica, or other instrument and a piece of music to play with the group. Masks must be worn at all times.

Sign up: nsci.org/form/NovDec2020adulted

CARING FOR LOVED ONES & OURSELVES, NOW

TUESDAY. NOVEMBER 10 7:30 PM ON ZOOM

A panel conversation with Elizabeth Ury, JCFS Director of Jewish Community Engagement, and Julie Fohrman, Gerontologist & Principal of North Shore Geriatric Care Management, moderated by Rabbi Lisa Greene. So many of us are caring for elder family and trying to balance this with self care. It's not easy. The realities of our pandemic make care of our loved ones and ourselves even more challenging.

Advance registration needed at nsci.org/form/NovDec2020adulted.

SENIOR CONNECTIONS

Let's connect for lively conversation, camaraderie and entertainment.

Register at nsci.org/event/seniorconnections-via-zoom4.html.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11 1:00 PM ON ZOOM

Professor David Chack from Depaul University's School of Theater will present: Chicago Theater & Comedy.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9

1:00 PM ON ZOOM

Chanukah Songs & More with Dr. Lee Freedman & Family

MEMOIR WRITING CLASS

MONDAYS. NOVEMBER 16 THROUGH FEBRUARY 15

9:30-11:00 AM ON ZOOM

Now is the time to write your stories for future generations of family and friends. Write your Memoir with Carole Mark Gingiss, a gifted teacher who has for 25 years brought countless students to craft pieces on key experiences of their lives.

nsci.org/form/monday-memoir-class2.html

Purpose

Finding empowerment in giving of our time, money and know-how to help others.

FEED THE HOMELESS UPDATE

For nearly three decades NSCI's Feed the Homeless program has helped to feed thousands of people around Chicago, and we're proud that the program is continuing during the pandemic. Since we are not gathering to prepare and serve meals, NSCI is sending bulk groceries for brownbag meals to both The Night Ministry and 4th Presbyterian Church's food programs. Instead of our famous chili that we have served for so many years at 4th Presbyterian Church, we are sponsoring a monthly restaurantprepared and delivered dinner for their Sunday evening dinner service.

Visit nsci.org/fth for more information.

ANNUAL FAMILY TO FAMILY THANKSGIVING MITZVAH PROJECT



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

Provide a Thanksgiving meal for a Whittier Elementary School (Waukegan, IL) student and their family. You can choose to participate "in person" or "drop off only" on Sunday, November 22.

Everyone must register online before November 18: nsci.org/thanksgivingbaskets2020

JCFS CHICAGO HOLIDAY GIFT DRIVE

Sign up online by the beginning of December to participate in JCFS Chicago's Holiday Gift Drive. JCFS Chicago will only be collecting e-gift cards this year.

Sign up at jcfs.formstack.com/forms/ holidaygift_copy.

NSCI VOLUNTEERS AT CRADLES TO CRAYONS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 8 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Sign up to volunteer with NSCI at Cradles to Crayons' Giving Factory (4141 W George St, Chicago)! NSCI has reserved a 2-hour block beginning at 10:00 am, with small-group volunteer orientations beginning at 10:00 am, 10:15 am and 10:30 am.

Space is limited. SignUp Genius: www.signupgenius.com/ go/70a0448aaa928a02-nsci2

17: NSCI'S REFUGEE **RESETTLEMENT PROJECT — WELCOMING A 3RD FAMILY!**

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2021

For two consecutive years NSCI has partnered with RefugeeOne to help resettle a refugee family here in Chicago. We are grateful for the opportunity again to work with RefugeeOne to settle a third family.

Visit nsci.org/17 to learn more about 17: NSCI's Refugee Resettlement Project, including many ways for you and your family to get involved!

SLEEPING BAG & BLANKET COLLECTION FOR THE NIGHT MINISTRY

NSCI is partnering in service with The Night Ministry, a non-profit organization dedicated to providing essential services to Chicago's food insecure and transient population. Many of The Night Ministry's clients are homeless. With winter approaching, blankets and sleeping bags are much needed items—NEW/ LIKE NEW ONLY. Your help in this effort to provide for some of our city's most vulnerable population will make a tremendous difference in their lives.

If purchasing online, please send sleeping bags and blankets to NSCI, ATTN: Rabbi Ryan Daniels, 1185 Sheridan Road, Glencoe, IL, 60022 OR call NSCI during regular business hours (Mon-Thurs, 9:00 am-5:00 pm and Fri, 9:00 am-4:00 pm) to schedule a time to drop off sleeping bags and blankets to NSCI's admin. office.

Youth & Family Community

Innovating: Prayer Workshop for 5th & 6th Graders

Prayer Seekers and Leaders for the Future

BY DR. ROBERTA GOODMAN

EVER VISIT A GOD MALL? Use

Playdough to create a symbol for a celebration you created for "twins" or "the end of the football season?" Create a word cloud from your friends' and your reactions to words like services and our rabbis? Share what your family and you did to celebrate the High Holy Days in this very different year?

The "playfulness" in these activities helps elicit some thoughtful responses, ideas and feelings they might not have shared even asked in a straightforward way. These are just a few of the activities our talented teacher, Sara Horovitz, is using with her 5th/6th grade students in the innovative "Prayer Workshop" taught online. Responding to some disgruntled students from last year who were struggling connecting to our midweek services, Sara designed this class focusing on "why pray" rather than "how to pray."

The goals we have for these students are to become prayer leaders, able to design prayer experiences, and eager to engage in a variety of prayer experiences. We want to motivate them, help them



bring prayer into their lives.

Of course, these students have their own ideas about what they wanted to get out of the class. They expressed them in terms of what they want to LEARN, FEEL, and DO-shared in a "sidebar." Our students are thoughtful and caring, open to bringing prayer into their lives. We have to empower them as seekers, helping them find meaning and relevance as they set a course for their

own prayer journey.

This 30-minute class is one of our pilot projects for the year spurred on by our participation in "Shifting the Paradigm," a JUF initiative. Despite finding ourselves in a challenging landscape, we continue to innovate this vear at the Goodman Center for Jewish Education. We look forward to sharing some of our other innovations in the coming months.

IMPORTANT GOODMAN CENTER FOR JEWISH EDUCATION RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DATES

WED, NOV 11:

No School

TUE, NOV 24-SUN, NOV 29:

No School

SUN. DEC 20-SUN. JAN 3:

No School

SUN, JAN 17:

PJs and Pancakes with a Purpose

SUN. JAN 31:

2nd Grade Tu B'shevat Family Seder



POP-UP TOT SHABBAT

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6 10:00 AM AT NORTH SHORE CONGREGATION ISRAEL

Join us for songs, stories and fun, led by Rabbi Lisa Greene and songleader Toby Pechner. Leave with a fun bag of do-it-at-home Shabbat supplies. We plan to be outside so please wear a mask, dress for the weather and bring a blanket to sit upon.

Registration is required. Space is limited. Cost: \$10 per family. Register at: nsci.org/ form/pop-up-tot-shabbat---nov6.html

Teen & Young Adult



This Rosh Hashanah, our teens gathered in the parking lot to make a "quilt" out of chalk! Everyone had a great time and our parking lot has never been more festive. Don't miss out on our next teen event and join in on the fun!

REAL LIFE CANDYLAND

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8 3:00-4:00 PM

Join Teens@NSCI for a game of socially distanced CandyLand in the south parking lot! Move from square to square and collect candy along the way! Make sure to bring a mask and a bag to collect all your treats.

RSVP to mady@nsci.org.

WINTER OLYMPICS

DECEMBER 8-10 7:00-8:00 PM

Cue the Olympic theme song. Put your skills to the test for a virtual extravaganza of challenges, games, and good fun! We'll have trivia, scavenger hunts and more. Come to one event or come to all!

RSVP to mady@nsci.org for the Zoom link.

Women of NSCI



SISTERS IN THE **SUKKAH VIA ZOOM!**

It was an inspiring WNSCI gathering. We discussed: Who would you invite to your sukkah, living or deceased, real or fictional, and what would you talk about?

EREV SHABBAT SCHMOOZE

FRIDAYS, NOVEMBER 27 & **DECEMBER 25**

5:30-6:00 PM

Since we can't be together in person, join us by Zoom to catch up with other Women of NSCI for a half hour before services.

Sign up at nsci.org/wnsci.

COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Join us on the second Wednesday of every month to discuss a variety of topics, learn from guest speakers and enjoy time in sisterhood.

Sign up at nsci.org/wnsci.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11 8:00-9:00 PM

Just eight days after the election, Molly Dillon, co-author of Yes She Can, ten stories by young female staffers of the Obama White House, will chat with us. Molly is the daughter of Karen and Robert Dillon.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9 8:00-9:00 PM

Join Kinneret Kohn, Associate Director for Students and Educators at the Art Institute of Chicago, in investigating how Marc Chagall confronted the topsy-turvy world of 1930s Europe in his painting White Crucifixion. Kinneret is the daughter of Karen Kohn.



WOMEN OF NSCI'S

Judaica Gift Shop

Even in this most unusual year, we're still going to be lighting our menorahs and spinning our dreidels! We have an exciting collection of everything you'll need to celebrate.

CHANUKAH 5781 1ST CANDLE ~ THURS., DEC. 10

Please go to nsci.org for updated information about the Shop. We are happy to assist you via remote shopping or by appointment.

Contact us at 847-835-4009 or giftshopnsci@gmail.com.

November 2020 • Cheshvan/Kislev 5781

S	М	т	W	Т	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10:00 pm Three Conversations with Rabbi Rami Shapiro, The Bernice and Seymour Nordenberg Memorial Scholar in Residence: Why Judaism Really Matters*	7:30 am Meditation Under the Sky with Rabbi Geffen: Entering the Week with Calm and Focus 9:30 am Memoir Writing Class with Carole Mark Gingiss* 1:00 pm Study the Talmud with Rabbi Wendi Geffen*	7:00 pm FA Meeting	12:00 pm Clergy Conversations** 6:00 pm AA Meeting* 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting* 8:00 pm Healing Service with Cantor Goldstein*		10:00 am Pop Up Tot Shabbat 11:00 am Mindful or Mindless Life with Rabbi Geffen* 2:30 pm Shabbat Sermon** 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service**	9:30 am Shabbat Morning Experience* 7:30 pm Havdalah and Jeffrey Lasky Memorial Artist in Residence Elana Arian Concert* •
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
9:00 am WNSCI Board Meeting*	9:30 am Memoir Writing Class with Carole Mark Gingiss* 1:00 pm Study the Talmud with Rabbi Wendi Geffen* 7:00 pm Jewish Jammers with Cantor Goldstein - In Person!	1:00 pm WNSCI Book Group 7:00 pm FA Meeting ⁴ 7:30 pm Caring for Loved Ones and Ourselves ⁴	7:30 am Meditation Under the Sky with Rabbi Geffen: Entering the Week with Calm and Focus 1:00 pm Senior Connections* 6:00 pm AA Meeting * 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting * 8:00 pm Coffee & Conversation with WNSCI*	7:30 pm How To Be Comfortable Having Uncomfortable Conversations w/ Rabbi Daniels and Billy Planer*	11:00 am Mindful or Mindless Life with Rabbi Geffen* 2:30 pm Shabbat Sermon** 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service**	9:30 am Shabbat Morning Experience
15 10:00 am Three Conversations with Rabbi Rami Shapiro, The Bernice and Seymour Nordenberg Memorial Scholar in Residence: Grace	1:00 pm Study the Talmud with Rabbi Wendi Geffen*	7:00 pm FA Meeting* 7:00 pm Nachman Scholar Series: Dangerous Religious Ideas with Rabbi Rachel Mikva, PhD*	18 12:00 pm Clergy Conversations** 6:00 pm AA Meeting* 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting* 8:00 pm Healing Service with Cantor Goldstein*	19	11:00 am Mindful or Mindless Life with Rabbi Geffen* 2:30 pm Shabbat Sermon** 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service**	9:30 am Shabbat Morning Experience
9:00 am Thanksgiving Baskets	9:30 am Memoir Writing Class with Carole Mark Gingiss* 1:00 pm Study the Talmud with Rabbi Wendi Geffen* 7:00 pm Jewish Jammers with Cantor Goldstein - In Person!	7:00 pm FA Meeting ⁴	1:00 pm Building Closes for Thanksgiving 6:00 pm AA Meeting ⁴ 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting ⁴	26 Building Closed – Thanksgiving	27 Office Closed – Thanksgiving 2:30 pm Shabbat Sermon** 5:30 pm WNSCI Pre- Shabbat Mingle* 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service**	9:30 am Shabbat Morning Experience
29	9:30 am Memoir Writing Class with Carole Mark Gingiss* 1:00 pm Study the Talmud with Rabbi Wendi Geffen* 8:00 pm Grief is the Word: Rabbi Geffen in conversation with Rebecca Soffer, Founder of Modern Loss*					

December 2020 • Kislev/Tevet 5781

S	М	т	W	т	F	S
		1 7:00 pm FA Meeting ⁴	2 12:00 pm Clergy Conversations 6:00 pm AA Meeting 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting 7:00 pm WNSCI Chanukah Craft Program 8:00 pm Healing Service with Cantor Goldstein 6	3	4 11:00 am Mindful or Mindless Life with Rabbi Geffen* 2:30 pm Shabbat Sermon: Three Conversation with Rabbi Rami Shapiro, The Bernice and Seymour Nordenberg Memorial Scholar in Residence: Judaism as a Religion of Argument and Doubt* 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service*	5 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Experience*■
6 9:00 am WNSCI Board Meeting	7 9:30 am Memoir Writing Class with Carole Mark Gingiss* 1:00 pm Study the Talmud with Rabbi Wendi Geffen* 7:00 pm Jewish Jammers with Cantor Goldstein - In Person!	8 10:00 am NSCI Volunteers at Cradles to Crayons 1:00 pm WNSCI Book Group* 7:00 pm FA Meeting*	9 1:00 pm Senior Connections* 6:00 pm AA Meeting* 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting* 8:00 pm Coffee & Conversation with WNSCI*	10 1st Night of Chanukah 5:30 pm First Night Light!	11 11:00 am Mindful or Mindless Life with Rabbi Geffen* 2:30 pm Shabbat Sermon" * 4:00 pm Chanukah Story & Craft with Rachel Stein* 6:15 pm Shabbat Chanukah Service *	9:30 am Shabbat Morning Experience
13 4:00 pm Program X	9:30 am Memoir Writing Class with Carole Mark Gingiss* 1:00 pm Study the Talmud with Rabbi Wendi Geffen*	7:00 pm FA Meeting	16 12:00 pm Clergy Conversations 6:00 pm AA Meeting 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting 8:00 pm Healing Service with Cantor Goldstein 6	17	18 11:00 am Mindful or Mindless Life with Rabbi Geffen* 2:30 pm Shabbat Sermon** 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service**	9:30 am Shabbat Morning Experience*
20	21 9:30 am Memoir Writing Class with Carole Mark Gingiss* 7:00 pm Jewish Jammers with Cantor Goldstein - In Person!	22 7:00 pm FA Meeting ⁴	23 6:00 pm AA Meeting ⁴ 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting ⁴	24 Building Closed – Winter Break	25 Office Closed – Winter Break 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service •	26 Building Closed – Winter Break 9:30 am Shabbat Morning Experience
27 Building Closed – Winter Break	28 Building Closed – Winter Break	29 Building Closed – Winter Break	30 Building Closed – Winter Break	31 Building Closed – Winter Break		

on Zoom on Facebook on Streamspot on nsci.org Hub of Support



1185 SHERIDAN ROAD GLENCOE, ILLINOIS 60022

Admin. Office: 847.835.0724 School Office: 847.835.7258

NSCI.org

DATED MATERIAL. DO NOT DELAY. CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED.

The Bulletin (USPS #072-800)
is published bimonthly by
North Shore Congregation Israel,
1185 Sheridan Road,
Glencoe, IL 60022.
Periodicals Postage paid at Glencoe, IL
and additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER:

Please send address changes to The Bulletin, 1185 Sheridan Road, Glencoe, IL 60022.

IN CASE OF AN AFTER-HOURS EMERGENCY—

death of a loved one, unexpected hospitalization or accident—please call the synagogue office at 847.835.0724 and follow the prompts for an emergency. One of our staff will call you back as soon as possible.

IMPORTANT BUILDING DATES

Please note that the NSCI office will be closed on Thursday, December 24, 2020 and will reopen at 9:00 am on Monday, January 4, 2021. Shabbat services will be streamed and, if needed, clergy will be available for funeral services and memorials. In case of an emergency, call 847.835.0724 and follow the prompts.



Shabbat Morning Experience

BEGINNING IN NOVEMBER

9:30 AM ON ZOOM

Beginning in November, our Shabbat Morning Experience will move to Zoom so that worshippers can more actively participate. Join one of our clergy for an abbreviated prayer experience and extended Torah study. This experience includes the reading of the Kaddish list as well as saying Kaddish.

Advance registration is required in order to receive the Zoom link: nsci.org/form/shabbatmorningexperience. The Experience will be streamed to our website for those who do not wish to be on Zoom.