# NORTH SHORE CONGREGATION ISRAEL

## **The Bulletin**

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# Homecoming: Entering the New Year at Home

By RABBI WENDI GEFFEN page 3

"Judaism has always understood that whether staying at home or out along the way, we can begin by taking to heart that wherever we are, we have our tradition and its teachings to guide us."

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## Homecoming: Entering the New Year at Home

"You shall love Adonai your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your might. Set these words that I command you on your heart. Teach them to your children. Speak of them when you stay in your home (b'shivt'cha b'veitecha) and when you walk along the way, when you lie down and when you rise up." **DEUTERONOMY 6:4-7** 

## By RABBI WENDI GEFFEN



THESE WORDS from "V'ahavta" likely prove familiar, but this year, one particular phrase takes on new

meaning: "when you stay in your home."

Consider the role of home in our lives today, and how that role has changed over these last many months. For so many of us, our homes are no longer just the places where we "lie down and rise up," but also where we now work and go to school, shop, socialize, even pray.

Home has become the allencompassing picture of our lives, our truths, of ourselves and of our families, of what we have and what we don't, of who we are and who we aren't. Home has become a singular mirror reflecting back all the realities of our existence: the beautiful and ugly parts, our triumphs and challenges; each of these, previously likely understood as an individual facet of our life that we might have been able to compartmentalize under the title of work life, social life, spiritual life, now falls into the self safe category of home life. And like it or not, this amalgamation is not likely to revert back to how it was before March of 2020 any time soon.

Many experts counsel that we should let ourselves off the hook in this newfound reality, understanding that it is so surreal, so abnormal, so aberrational, that all we really need to do is get through it until things go "back to normal." There is certainly some wisdom in the importance of being gentle and forgiving of ourselves and our failings amidst what is, most likely, an utterly unfamiliar and highly stressful time for us all. Judaism supports this idea. Our tradition teaches that in emergency moments, what it calls Hora'at Sha'ah, we are permitted to override previously understood guiding principles in order to sustain existence.

But just how long can something be understood as an emergency moment? As we move into nearly half a year of the COVID-19 Pandemic in our country, can we still consider this an exceptional experience? Or, are we better served to accept that this experience is, in fact, reality, and until we hear otherwise, step into and live our lives as fully as possible, even amidst the incredible challenges we face?

After all, emergency moment or not, this is life. We do not live life in the past or in the future. The only time in which we can ever live our lives is now, and the only place we can ever live them in is here.

So what can we do to take this home lived reality and live our lives in a way that enables us to be accountable and grow and become better people?

Judaism has always understood that whether staying at home or out along the way, we can begin by taking to heart that wherever we are, we have our tradition and its teachings to guide us. But they won't guide us if we don't take them to heart—or as the Torah instructs us—place the teachings on our hearts ourselves.

As we enter Elul, the month preceding the High Holy Days, we are excited to be able to provide many opportunities to take the wisdom of our Jewish tradition, learn it more fully, and bring it into our lives and our hearts more deeply and meaningfully than ever before, detailed on p. 14. In doing so, each of us will be fully primed for the beckoning possibility of transformation that is the essential potential of the Days of Awe. It does not matter whether you've ever engaged this way before, or thought of yourself as interested or even capable of this before. This year, everything IS different. We are all going through something that none of us has ever experienced before, so why not see what possibilities might open up?

In truth, the High Holy Days have always been about home-coming for each of us and all of us. For the past 99 years, we've welcomed you back to your spiritual home with us. This year, our 100th, you'll welcome us into your most personal home with you. But either way, we pray, each of us and all of us will return to the home of our souls, the best of ourselves and our community, our people and our world, together.

## **President's Letter**



#### **DEAR FRIENDS,**

I hope this letter finds you and your families in good health and that your connection

to Judaism and NSCI are a source of comfort, support, and inspiration during this difficult time. With our thoughtful, painstaking decision to protect our community by worshipping virtually for the High Holy Days, we know that our congregation remains connected and strong. From start to finish, NSCI is here for you. Throughout our 100 year history, our congregation has been steadfast, adapting with changing times. I genuinely believe that we will emerge from this era of the pandemic with innovations and experiences that will take NSCI to its next best evolution.

You may wonder how NSCI is faring during this period when we can not gather in person and all of our offerings and life cycle events necessarily have been redesigned in new formats either virtually or in highly limited ways in person. Staff turned on a dime to partner with our clergy to completely shift the operating structure to support virtual engagement and remote operations. In fact, NSCI has increased avenues for worship, learning, healing, and connecting when other synagogues have had to eliminate or reduce the ways in which they can serve. Thank

Our programs and engagement were expanded to wrap our arms around our congregation with outreach and wellness check-ins to hundreds...

you so much to those of you who have recognized this and have already affirmed your financial commitment for 2020–21 and/or donated to the NSCI Annual Appeal.

Our programs and engagement were expanded to wrap our arms around our congregation with outreach and wellness check-ins to hundreds including the most vulnerable and isolated among us. Congregants have reached out to share their stories of how their lives have been affected, to offer support for others, or to inquire about the vitality of NSCI. Ultimately, NSCI is here to lift up the members of our community. Rabbis Geffen, Greene, Daniels, Cantor Goldstein, and Executive Director Todd Braman have been responding with compassion and financial assistance, arranging for tuition, food, emergency one-time micro-grants, dues relief and sensitive, intentional pastoral care to support and navigate losses and funerals. In addition, NSCI has partnered with JCFS and other agencies to provide channels for social service support.

Our clergy, staff, and Board of Trustees continue to wrestle with the many uncertainties of this time to be as proactive as possible with our financial position. With the sudden changes in operations and the needs of our congregation during this intense time of challenge, our clergy and staff have significantly increased their time and need for resources. Those necessary investments include increased costs to produce programming, acquire video equipment, production, PPE, and how we care for our facility. We work diligently to plan and manage expenses, making reductions where it is possible. Dues provide about 50% of the revenue for our annual operating budget. We anticipate a reduction in dues and tuition of more than \$250,000 and a loss of another \$200,000 in income from other sources.

So, more than ever, we thank you very much for your annual dues commitment and participation in our NSCI Annual Appeal. By far, our greatest investment is in people—our dedicated, exceptionally talented clergy and staff. When you maintain your relationship with NSCI, generously contribute to our fundraising efforts, and follow through on your dues commitment, you are supporting our extraordinary professional team so that they can provide us with expert, personalized pastoral care and create the highest quality worship and education.

Additionally, 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. Thank you for making that possible. If you need assistance with managing your dues commitment, please contact Todd Braman for a confidential conversation.

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we continue to adapt and rise to meet unique challenges. No doubt, this unprecedented time will be very memorable. We will look back with many stories to tell of hardship, resilience, newfound discoveries, and even joy.

Wishing you peace, blessings, and health this new year.

Gratefully,

Marilyn Perlman president@nsci.org

## **Mission Moment**

By JEFF ECHT, First Vice President



Let me introduce myself. My name is Jeff Echt. More frequently, I am known as Julie's husband (28 years) and Daniel (24),

Alexander (21) or Henry's (18) Dad. I am incredibly fortunate to have the love and support of my family. Julie and I started at NSCI like many young parents. We searched for a religious school (for the kids), a clergy team for life-cycle events and a place to celebrate the High Holy Days. We quickly realized that NSCI provided much more than the practical solution. We saw that a set of enduring values created, sustained and solidified NSCI as the nucleus of Jewish life for countless families and congregants.

Over the past few decades our family has developed wonderful relationships with the thoughtful clergy members that have led NSCI. Personally, I gravitated toward many adult education opportunities and Torah discussion during Saturday morning minyan services. The opportunity to sit, listen and learn from our incredibly thoughtful, profound and intelligent clergy has been very rewarding and a refuge from the tumult and tribulations of daily life. While the following thoughts originated from my keyboard, credit goes to the teachers—our rabbis and cantor. It is with respect and humility that I help lead NSCI as First Vice President and eventually President. However, fundamentally, I view myself as a student and as a grateful fellow NSCI congregant.

Do you need to be a religious scholar to be connected to Judaism? Do you need to dig very deep into the Torah to be connected? I believe that you need to know no more than a passage in the Torah that is familiar to all.

## Genesis Chapter 1: "G-d created Man."

Who is not familiar with this concept in the first verses of the Torah? The

remainder of the Five Books consists of stories and conveys messages and lessons that some consider compelling, interesting, and possibly life changing. While others may have never thought about the rest of the Five Books.

The text states that G-d created everything. Easy enough. Subtlety within the text presents itself as each day separates or categorizes items created by G-d: Heaven/Earth; Day/Night; Land/Sea; Plants; Animals; and then Man. As an aside, I would contend that one of the most powerful creations was not a thing, but a concept—the Sabbath. Peeling back the layers on the meaning and benefits of the Biblical "weekend" may be a topic for another day.

In this incredibly complicated and trying time, let us find comfort thinking about a simple, yet impactful, concept—the difference between animal and man. The distinction is not an accident.

The essential physical needs of animal and man are also most identical—food and water. However, the similarity of physical needs contrast with the vast difference in emotional needs and intellectual capacity of animal and man.

Man utilizes mental and physical capacity to learn, love, sympathize, empathize, seek higher learning of all sorts—academic, spiritual, professional—you name it. Man also uses its unique intellectual and physical capacity to acquire skills, learn, and help others do the same.

## In short—Man can pursue freewill, express free will, and assist others in pursuing or expressing free will.

What does Genesis Chapter 1 have to do with NSCI today? A Reform synagogue symbolizes and promotes the pursuit and expression of free will. For 100 years, NSCI has provided a venue (physically, emotionally and, most recently, virtually) for members of our community to pursue and express free will.

NSCI's existence is not an accident.

As we approach this unique High Holy Day season, let us focus on what matters most.

The evolution of NSCI reflects a foundation in values that endure. As we approach this unique High Holy Day season, let us focus on what matters most. I will start with a few things that matter most to me—an appreciation for the love and support provided by my family; the strength, resilience and vitality of our community; an everlasting appreciation and respect for the potential created by the physical and emotional capacity of each human; and the exponential potential of humans working together toward a common goal.

NSCI is one manifestation of focused human potential based on everlasting values. Rooted in these values, NSCI has evolved for 100 years and has the foundation to thrive into its next century.

## **Mazel Tov!**

PLEASE JOIN US AS OUR CHILDREN

## **Talia & David Polish**

WILL BE CALLED TO THE TORAH AS B'NEI MITZVAH

## on the first day of Sukkot, Saturday, October 3 10:30 am

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, Talia & David's service will be streamed on the NSCI streaming site: www.nsci.org/streaming

If you'd like to honor this simcha with a gift, please consider a contribution to either the Beth Emet Soup Kitchen (bethemet.org/social-justice/ soup-kitchen.html) or The ARK (arkchicago.org/donate), honoring David & Talia's mitzvah projects

Rabbi Lisa Greene & Jonathan Polish

## **WELCOME!**

## **Arik Drake Gerber BORN ON FEBRUARY 28, 2020**

Child of Maggie & Phillip Gerber Sibling of Asher Joseph Gerber Grandchild of Laura Gerber, Larry Gerber, Mary & Joseph Markovicz Great-grandchild of Joan Gilmore-Fesi

## Ziv Aryeh Bar-Ness **BORN MARCH 25, 2020**

Child of Dr. Jamie and Omer Bar-Ness Grandchild of Drs. Nancy & Gary Klein and Kimberlev Aaronson-Rubin and Levi Bar-Ness

Great-grandchild of Harriett & Morton Freedman, Dee Dee & Alan Klein and Bob Rubin

## **Callie Joy Donohue BORN MARCH 30, 2020**

Child of Betsey & Tim Donohue Sibling of Parker Donohue Grandchild of Bonnie & Peter Flanzer and Kathy & Tim Donohue Sr. Great-grandchild of Jane & Harold Sherman and Gloria Flanzer



## **Asher Wyatt Wolfe BORN ON APRIL 17, 2020**

Child of Drew & Brittany Wolfe Grandchild of Carol & Abbott Wolfe and Hope & Jory Gruenberg Great-grandchild of Howard & Noreen Feffer and Max & Arlene Wolfe

## Oliver Evan Cohn

## **BORN ON APRIL 20, 2020**

Child of Lena Cohn & Danny Spitzer-Cohn Grandchild of Helene & Michael Fishman and Susie & Donnie Spitzer-Cohn

## Noah Levi Witt

## **BORN ON APRIL 30, 2020**

Child of Emily & Zachary Witt Grandchild of Bruni & Gregg Witt and Amy & Joel Taub Great-grandchild of Diane & Robert Witt, Ana & German Gurfinkel and Muriel Marks



Meyer Rae Berger **BORN ON MAY 7, 2020** 

Child of Alexis & Catherine Berger Grandchild of Alice Berger & Michael Berger



## Nomi Mica Feldman **BORN ON MAY 17, 2020**

Child of Xani Pollakoff & Josh Feldman Grandchild of Jovce Pollakoff & Stanton Kramer, Barbara & Mark Feldman, Mitch Pollakoff & Margaret Pasiennik Great-grandchild of Roz Feldman

## Leona Sydney Schneider **BORN ON MAY 21, 2020**

Child of Julie & Spencer Schneider Sibling of Adeline Mollie Grandchild of Nancy & Gary Klein and Cathy & Joel Schneider Great-grandchild of Dee Dee & Alan Klein, Harriett & Morton Freedman, Eunice Lieberstein and Goldalee Latter



Eli Q. Savitt **BORN ON JUNE 8, 2020** 

Child of Jennifer & David Savitt Grandchild of Susan & Alan Ellenby and Hillary & Michael Savitt Great-grandchild of Helaine Ellenby, Karen & Allen Gerrard and Phyllis & Larry Savitt



**Taylor David Bouta BORN ON JUNE 23, 2020** Child of Rachel & David Bouta Grandchild of Jill & Robert Moss and Patricia Bouta & Robert Bouta Great-grandchild of June & Will Moss



**Remy Lewis Mandel BORN JULY 10, 2020** 

Child of Courtney Wilk-Mandel & Daniel Mandel

Grandchild of Miranda & Jed Mandel, Cindy Wilk and Greg Wilk Great-grandchild of Louis Beaubier

## **Benjamin David Millette BORN ON JULY 11, 2020**

Child of Allison & Ian Millette Grandchild of Tobey & Randy Sheridan, Kris Millette and Janet Bry



## **Booker Lawrence Libman BORN ON JULY 14, 2020**

Child of Lindsay (Lazar) and Daniel Libman Grandchild of Susan & Gary Lazar, Susan & Stu Ralsky and Paul Libman & Marcia Lacobucci Great-grandchild of Millie Libman



Nathaniel (Nate) Olian Burke **BORN ON JULY 27, 2020** 

Child of Alix & Khaki Burke Sibling of Ethan Burke Grandchild of Terri & Rob Olian and Mimi & Kevin Burke Great-grandchild of Doris & Bob Olian, Toddy Leavitt, Barbara & Jerry Ruther and Claire & Charlie Burke

## **B'NEI MITZVAH: RECENT AND UPCOMING**



Josh Duby May 23



**Arielle Shapiro** Mav 30



Jeremy Weisskopf June 8



**Bennett Boehm** June 11



Cayla Boehm June 11



June 13

Madelyn

Bloomberg

Zoe Finger June 20



**Zachary Torres** July 11



**Teddy Jack** August 15



Sami Silver

August 20

**Ethan Silver** August 20



**Konner Sayer** August 21



Rayna Karam August 22



Payton Greenberg August 29



Kobi Silver August 29



**Sumner Silver** August 29



**Brayden Port** September 12



**Noah Paul** September 12



Talia Polish October 3



**David Polish** October 3

**Avery Schecter** October 17



**Ellie Jarmel** October 24

## **NEWLYWEDS**

Zach Tischleder & Laura Chudnoff Jason Kopelman & Molly Selig on their March 7, 2020 wedding

Sydney Zimelis & Joey Kanengiser on their May 2, 2020 wedding

Jim Coleman & Wendy De Albuquerque

on their May 24, 2020 wedding

on their June 20, 2020 wedding

Ilana Rosin & Oren Amzaleg on their July 4, 2020 wedding

## We Remember

## THE CONGREGATION EXTENDS ITS HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILIES OF:

#### Rebecca Adelman

niece of Teri Adelman (Henry) Merens cousin of Miriam, Hannah and Jared

## Hugh Arnold

father of Paige (Steven) Farber grandfather of Laine, Spencer and Sloane

### Marjorie S. Barron

mother of Laurie Barron and Ellen Feldman

## Ralph B. Block

father of Dave (Ellen) Block grandfather of Benjamin and Emily

## Martin Richard Borden

brother of Ron (Barbara) Borden uncle of Mara (Peter) Delman great-uncle of Nathan and Brandon

#### Gordon Cohen

husband of Barbara Cohen

## John C. Colman, NSCI Past President

husband of Jane Colman father of Nancy Tudor grandfather of Michael

### Dr. Allen Don

brother of Frances Roston uncle of Peggy

## Jerry Don

brother of Frances Roston uncle of Peggy

## Linda S. Elbaum

mother of Larry (Jennifer) Elbaum grandmother of Sarah, Jack and Julie

#### Mark Fintel

father of Deena (Steve) Leonard grandfather of Sarah and Jacob

## Diane Fixler

wife of Sonny Fixler mother of Susie (Marc) Miller grandmother of Joey and Tony Shapiro and Jamie and Ross Miller

## Morton A. Freedman

father of Nancy (Gary) Klein grandfather of Jamie (Omer) Bar-Ness and Julie (Spencer) Schneider great-grandfather of Adeline & Leona Schneider and Ziv Bar-Ness

## **Doris Ginsberg**

aunt of Barbara Pinzur great-aunt of Garrett and Sydney

## Adele Goldberg

mother of Barbara (Larry) Mermerstein grandmother of Jordan and Dori

### Dr. Lawrence Gotkin

father of Tracy (Daniel) Boron grandfather of Katie, Molly and Chloe

## Betty Jane "Betts" Handmacher

mother of Sandi Chatz grandmother of David (Jessica) Waxman great-grandmother of Riley and Bradyn

## Jerome Harris

husband of Arlene Harris

## Leslie M. Hefter

father of Melissa (Howard) Silverman grandfather of Jordan and Amy

## Allen B. Horowitz

father of Bill (Mimi) Horowitz

#### **Claire Horowitz**

mother of Bill (Mimi) Horowitz

## Solly Isaacson

father of Mark (Susan) Isaacson grandfather of Isabel and Aiden

## Jacqueline "Jackie" Jaffe

companion of Clifford Moos

## **Suan Kentoff**

aunt of Steve (Stephanie) Sanderman great-aunt of Hannah and Julia

#### **Sherwin Jack Kolof**

father of Diane (Roger) Stein grandfather of Kevin and Jason

## Samuel Krasnik

grandson of Carol Cooke

### Jane Lipski

mother of Miriam (Richard) Glabman grandmother of Lindsay and Alexander

#### **Bob Luskin**

husband of Lynne Luskin father of Scott (Rebecca) Luskin and Alexis (Michael) Friedman stepfather of Cheri (Michael) Laser, Adam (Traci) Lava and Susan (Howard) Coleman grandfather of Jacob, Rikki, Drew, Alex,

Max, Aiden, Owen, Emma, Eve, Haley,

## Aaron and Hannah **Harriet March**

sister of Phyllis (Stuart) Applebaum aunt of Amy (Mark) Litner great-aunt of Jennifer and Marissa

## Norma Newberger

mother of Todd (Lori) Newberger grandmother of Sarah

## Harold Rabin

father of Janice Rabin Jones

## Despena "Dee" Raysses

mother of Naomi (Lee) Wolfson grandmother of Joshua and Daniel

### **Erwin Mark Rosenblum**

father of Angie (David) Weinberg grandfather of Ellie and Jenna

#### **Esther Lubar Sametz**

mother of Dave Sametz grandmother of Emma and Noah

## Bernard "Bucky" Schatzman

## **Ida Scully**

mother of Mickey (Cindy) Scully and Cissy (Bill) Greenspan grandmother of Elizabeth and James

planning. As an NSCI congregant, you are entitled to purchase from a selection of burial spaces at Shalom Memorial Park at a substantial discount. If you are interested in planning ahead or learning more about the congregational

### **Susan Sherman**

mother of Ed (Ilene Goldstein) Sherman grandmother of Matthew and Samuel

## Richard "Dick" Sigel

husband of Susie Sigel father of Andrew and Anthony

## **Alexander Smolovsky**

father of Eleanor Korneff grandfather of Dennis and Jessica

#### Allan Steinberg

father of Lisa (Eddie) Yastrow grandfather of Alex, Maggie, Jacqueline and Robert

### Laura Stern

mother of Sheryl (Marty) Sachman grandmother of Jason and Jenna

## Roslyn Claire Harteveld Stern

mother of Rick (Lauri) Stern grandmother of Emily, Noah, Amanda and Jamie

## **Christie Turpel**

daughter of Susie (John) Sultan stepsister of Becca and Josh

## Bernice "Bunny" Lillian Wallace

mother of Ellen Wallace (Steve Gould) grandmother of Aaron Paushter (Jennifer Brown), Daniel Paushter (Tuesday Hagiwara) and Rebecca Paushter

## Lynn Wisher Wasserman

mother of Dana (Michael) Blumberg and Aaron (Gayle) Wasserman grandmother of Noa, Lilah, Eli and Jonah

## Mary Jane Weirsh

grandmother of Andi Peinovich (Maria De la Calle) great-grandmother of Emerson and Marlo

#### **Coby Willner**

cousin of Rabbi Lisa Greene

#### **Lois Witt**

mother of Luann (Steve) Addis, Kurt (Julie Holman) Witt and Alan (Pam) Witt grandmother of David (Gwen) Gola, Melissa (Matt) LaPointe, Caryn Witt, Kenny (Emily) Witt, Taylor (Mike Smolka) Witt, Amy (Mitch) Perkal, Tara (Jeff Roeske) Witt and Jaron Witt great-grandmother of nine

#### Dr. Marion Wolf

wife of Aron David Mosnaim mother of Giselle (David) Buyer and Janet (Robert) Footlik grandmother of Michelle & Jennifer Buver and Ellie & Noa Footlik

## **Barbara Worsek**

wife of Leonard Worsek

## Melvin Worsek

husband of Betty Sandlow stepfather of Marjie (Barry Rosen) Sandlow step grandfather of Hillary (Jim) Kuperman, Peter (fiancé Kayla Johnson) Rosen, and Brian Rosen

## **Support**

North Shore Congregation Israel cares for all of our congregants and members of our community. We are particularly concerned for our most vulnerable congregants. Please let us know if you need assistance or to connect with us for emotional or tangible support. Additionally, please let us know if you are aware of someone who might benefit from this kind of outreach. Visit www.nsci.org/support to learn more about these resources or to request support.

## FIND SUPPORT THROUGH **JEWISH CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES (JCFS)**

NSCI is partnering with Jewish Child and Family Services in the coming year. Elizabeth Ury, LNHA and JCFS Chicago Director of Jewish Community Engagement will be available to work with individuals who are looking for resources to 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 Additionally, you can call 855-ASK-JCFS (855-275-5237) or email ask@icfs.org to access their other available resources including online grief support groups, counseling, 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**

North Shore Congregation Israel is a caring community for individuals struggling with addiction and in recovery, as well as for their friends and family.

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

- Alcoholics Anonymous (AA): for people who struggle with alcohol or other substances
- Alateen: for youth ages 13–18 impacted by a loved one's addiction
- Families Anonymous (FA): for family members impacted by a loved one's addiction
- Jewish Alcoholics, Chemically Dependent, and Significant Others (JACS): a peer-led support group for Jews in addiction recovery

**ARE YOU PREPARED?** Pre-arranging burial is part of sensible estate plots, please contact Micah Singerman at Shalom Memorial Park at 847.255.3520. Be sure to mention that you are a congregant of NSCI.

## **Youth & Family Community**



## **Goodman Center for Jewish Education**

## By DR. ROBERTA GOODMAN and SARA HOROVITZ

**WE ARE EXCITED** to share our progress and involvement with the JUF program on Shifting the Paradigm. We are one of only three selected congregations working with the JUF at this level, focusing on educational innovation. Our goal is to make a shift in the way the Goodman Center for Jewish Education serves our students, families, the congregation, and greater community. Why now? We want to stay relevant and responsive to the changing world in which our families find themselves. We seek to enhance and enrich the Jewish lives of Goodman Center families. We want this change to reflect their voices and realities of life, and to strengthen the partnership between home and the Goodman Center for Jewish Education.

We began this process by forming a Steering Committee that works alongside two coaches, provided by the JUF, who specialize in systemic change and updating Hebrew curricula. These committee members include parents: Lisa Erlich, Julie Hirschfeld, Jillian Segel, NSCI Past President, Judy Wexler, and staff members, Rabbi Greene, Sara Horovitz, and Dr. Roberta Goodman. Each member brings a unique voice and experience from their work in our community, with their families, and in their careers. Judy Wexler says:

"Participating in the Shifting the Paradigm steering committee process has been heart-warming. As I listened to our Goodman Center families share the experiences of their families, it reinforced all I know about our congregation—including its focus on connections, community, and finding meaning in our learning and celebration."

We started by looking inward, training facilitators and creating surveys to do what is most important—listen. An amazing group of facilitators and recorders led focus groups and helped create questions to guide our work. Our listening campaign sought out the voices of our community to serve as our guide for educational change. Lisa Erlich explains that:

"We spent a lot of hours listening to the families in our congregation. What struck me the most was the importance of meeting families where they are, today and in the future. That means being flexible in our offerings and relevant in their lives."

Thank you to the 60 plus parents and students that participated and lent their voices through focus groups, surveys, and phone calls!

Now that we have had the opportunity to listen to the needs of today's families and students, we are working on creating a new mission statement that better aligns with what we have learned so far in our listening campaign. Using this information we are offering new innovative pilots. The key message that emerged is that Jewish learning and living should be driven by choice, meaning, celebration, and joy in order to create a connected Jewish community that reflects our lives today and moving forward.

To learn about our new mission statement and pilots, go to nsci.org/paradigm

## Goodman Center for Jewish Education, Plan for Religious and Hebrew School Fall 2020

We have been working hard to design a meaningful, engaging, and joyful Jewish learning experience for our students and families that provides choices for how you engage with us. After thorough due diligence and great consideration, we are offering classes either in-person at NSCI or online. We will transition to fully virtual classrooms and individual instruction online if the recommended parameters become more restricted or we once again are given shelter in place directives. Please contact Dr. Roberta Goodman, robertag@nsci.org with any questions or to discuss the best approach for your child. **Our modified offerings are as follows:** 

GRADE	DAYS	ONLINE OR IN-PERSON AT NSCI
Preschool	Sunday	Only at NSCI
K-2nd Grade	Sunday	Online or at NSCI
3rd & 4th Grade	Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday	Online or at NSCI
5th & 6th Grade	Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday	Only Online
7th Grade	Tuesday	Only Online
Individualized Instruction (1 hour classes)	Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday	Online (all 3 days) or at NSCI
		(Tuesday & Wednesday only)

## **Important Goodman Center for Jewish Education Religious School Dates**

TUES.-WED., SEPT. 8-9:
First Weekdays of Religious & Hebrew School
SUN., SEPT. 13:
First Sunday of Religious
School

TUES.-WED., SEPT. 15-16: Third Grade Online Open House SUN., SEPT. 20: No School SUN., SEPT. 27: No School SUN., OCT. 4: Family Sukkot Experience FRI., OCT. 9: Simchat Torah & Consecration TUES., OCT. 13: No School SUN., OCT. 25: Family Challah Bake Preschool–2nd Grade Online Open House

## **Teen & Young Adult**

## **Elul Programs**

# THE CONCRETE QUILT WITH MADY FRISCHER SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 1:30 PM

IN THE PARKING LOT

Activity for High Schoolers: What does Rosh Hashanah mean to you? Show us! We'll be meeting together in the NSCI parking lot at a social distance to make a quilt in chalk on our parking lot. Let's make something "concrete" and make your very own square in our NSCI Rosh Hashanah quilt.

Advance registration required. Email jenniferm@nsci.org to register.

## THE REAL DANGERS OF "SOCIAL" DISTANCE PART 1 WITH NEIL RIGLER

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 1:30 PM

Class for College Students: The High Holy Days ask us to examine ourselves,

our actions, and our relationships. If all humans are created B'tzelem Elohim, we must ask ourselves: how do we see that image in everyone? Do we only get to know people similar to us? In the current cancel-culture, how can we build more bridges?

Advance registration required. Email jenniferm@nsci.org to register and receive the Zoom link.

## THE REAL DANGERS OF "SOCIAL" DISTANCE PART 2 WITH NEIL RIGLER

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 3:00 PM

Class for College Students: The High Holy Days ask us to examine ourselves, our actions, and our relationships. If all humans are created B'tzelem Elohim, we must ask ourselves: how do we see that image in everyone? Do we only get to know people similar to us? In the current cancel-culture, how can we build more bridges?

Advanced registration required. Email jenniferm@nsci.org to register and receive the Zoom link.

## WHAT DO I HAVE TO ATONE FOR? THE UNIVERSE OWES ME AN APOLOGY WITH MADY FRISCHER

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 3:00 PM

Class for High School Students: With the cancellation of camp, proms, graduations and countless other programs, this Yom Kippur it's easy to feel like we are the ones owed the apology. Together we'll talk about how we can still humble ourselves and bring light into this upcoming year despite how dark we feel.

Advanced registration required. Email jenniferm@nsci.org to register and receive the Zoom link.

Continued on page 12

## **Introducing This Year's Fielder Fellows**

At NSCI we are thrilled to present the inaugural year of the NSCI Fiedler Fellowship. The Fiedler Fellowship honors high school seniors for their involvement at NSCI for all four high school years, from 9th through 12th grades: learning in Goodman Center for Jewish Education classes, serving as a Machonik in our religious school, participating in Selah, and attending Teens @ NSCI retreats and trips. The Fiedler Fellows have each earned a \$1000 scholarship from the Louis P. and Saerree K. Fiedler Fund to apply toward college tuition. We are so grateful to each of them for all they have given to NSCI and immensely proud of all of their accomplishments.

### **Dillon Berlin**



For the past four years at NSCI, Dillon Berlin has been an enthusiastic Machonik on Sunday mornings,

making 7 consecutive years of a Berlin family member Machonking in Mrs.
Courtheoux's class. "I will remember all of the amazing classes I had the opportunity to work with every Sunday over the last four years," he said when asked what he will remember most about his time at NSCI. At New Trier, Dillon was a member of the DECA business club. He'll be taking those business skills with him next year to the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan.

#### **Laine Farber**



At NSCI, Laine Farber has been a stand out Machonik for the past four years. She was always willing to help and

first to jump in. When asked what she would remember most about her time at NSCI, Laine said "working with the kids and all of the special memories I made with my family." Outside of NSCI, Laine is an avid figure skater and has taken on impressive leadership roles as the Deerfield High School Hebrew Honors Society Executive Vice President and as her BBYO chapter Programming Vice President. After graduating from Deerfield High School this spring, Laine will be attending the University of Texas at Austin, Hook 'em Horns!

### **Adam Fishman**



Adam Fishman has accomplished many things in his four years in high school. At NSCI, he has been an enthusiastic Machonik

and an active participant in our high school teen classes. When reflecting on his time at NSCI, Adam said he would remember NSCI as, "a warm and caring environment where people of all ages can embrace their Judaism in multiple ways within a diverse community." At Highland Park High School, not only was Adam a member of the JV and Varsity golf teams and a member of the Giant Buddies special needs buddy program, but he also helped found a special needs sport program. The group has met weekly for the past two years, playing basketball in the winter and golf during the spring and summer. Next year, Adam will be attending Lafayette College.

## Zoe Hunt



Zoe Hunt is graduating this spring after four years of leadership at NSCI. She has served as a Machonik, been

a part of our high school class and served on the Teens @ NSCI Youth Group board. When asked what she'll remember most, she said, "I will most remember the leadership, problem solving, and creativity that comes from being on the board of the youth group. It was extremely fun to spend time with kids from all over the North Shore while helping plan activities and retreats." Outside of NSCI, Zoe is an avid babysitter, plays lacrosse, and volunteers with K9 Reading Buddies. After graduating from Highland Park High School this spring, Zoe will be attending The University of Wisconsin Madison.

#### **Rachel Miller**



For the past four years at NSCI, Rachel Miller's smile and positive attitude, not to mention her acting skills, have made her

an amazing Machonik. As a student at New Trier, Rachel has been active in musical theater. She also has a passion for inclusivity, and has been involved with Special Olympics and is a member of the High Five choir. High Five is a choir that brings students of all abilities together bonded by a shared love of music. We're sure that Rachel will bring this passion with her next year at The University of Wisconsin Madison. What will Rachel miss most about NSCI? She says "all of the amazing students I've had the opportunity to work with over the past four years. And, I'll definitely miss the sense of community I feel every time I walk through the doors of NSCI."

### **Zach Posner**



For the past four years, Zach Posner's enthusiasm and charm have been a staple in all facets of NSCI teen programming.

Zach has been a steady presence in our Machonik program, a stand out member of Selah sharing his piano playing talents, and a uniting force in our Teens @ NSCI youth group. With all of his commitments at NSCI, Zach has managed to also be an active member of the Highland Park High School stage crew and a member of the Highland Park High School Honors Society. While reflecting on his time at NSCI, Zach says, "I will remember the impact I made on the congregation as a part of Selah. I will also remember the friendships and amazing memories I have made from Selah and from the youth group." While we will miss him dearly, we wish him the best of luck next year at Bradley University.

## **Lucy Rowe**



Lucy is best known around our congregation for her beautiful singing voice with our Selah group. Her musical

skills don't stop when Lucy leaves the building. In 2018, Lucy won 1st in the Illinois Music Education Association (ILMEA) Composition Competition and came in 3rd in the ILMEA Composition Competition in 2019. She also performs in the Rochelle Zell Jewish High School Acapella Group, RZcapella. When asked what she'll remember most about her time at NSCI she says "I'll remember the people who I loved coming in and seeing every Sunday, as well as the staff that made NSCI so warm and the experiences so enjoyable."

## LASKY MEMORIAL ARTS WEEKEND WITH ELANA ARIAN

FRIDAY-SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16-18

Join us for the virtual 2020 Lasky Memorial Arts Weekend with Jewish musican Elana Arian! Stay tuned for more updates about this AWESOME weekend.

RSVP to Mady Frischer at mady@nsci.org.

## This Year's NSCI Teen Leadership Award Winners

## ILENE H. HERST YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARD

As we have done for many years, it's our pleasure to award the llene H. Herst Youth Leadership Award to a high school junior who has demonstrated strong leadership skills and embodies the values on which this sacred community was founded. This award was named in memory of Ilene Herst, long-time beloved Executive Director at NSCI, recognized by her colleagues around the country as a consummate professional and caring Jewish leader. In recognition of his dedication to North Shore Congregation Israel and all that we do, it is our honor to award Nathan Weisskopf with this year's Ilene H. Herst Youth Leadership Award.

## Nathan Weisskopf



Having participated in Selah for many years and now among its leaders, Nathan is no stranger

to our bima, leading us all in Shabbat and Holy Day worship throughout the year. He also currently serves on our synagogue's youth group board, helping to build community among NSCI's teens.

You might not know however that Nathan also helped create our Goodman Center for Jewish Education's music curriculum for preschool through 2nd grade, regularly facilitates weekly prayer services for our 3rd and 4th graders, and helped this year in the planning of many large celebrations, including Purim.

Congratulations, Nathan!

## JUNE BILD PINSOF AWARD

June Bild Pinsof was a long time member and supporter of NSCI. She made it possible to create recordings that presented the Holy Days at NSCI. These were broadcast on Public Radio and made available to those shut in during the Holy Days. Prior to getting married and having children, she was a dancer. Later she became a generous supporter of the arts, most notably, helping to support dance companies and commissions of new choreography. She also was a supporter of the CSO, and Ravinia. Her family continues to support many of these same causes.

In her honor, we present a scholarship to a graduating senior at NSCI who has displayed a consistent desire to give of their musical gifts to the temple community. We are honored to present this year's award to Zach Posner.

#### **Zach Posner**



We have been so blessed since Zach's Bar Mitzvah that he has been so generous with his musical

skills throughout our congregation. Zach has risen as a leader in our Selah musical group where Zach has played the piano throughout high school. At the many Teens @ NSCI retreats that Zach attended, he loved to share his gift with the youth community and often stepped up to help lead services.

Congratulations, Zach! Wishing you the best of luck at Bradley University this fall!

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## **Adult Learning**

## **Preparing for the High Holy Days Throughout Elul**

The month of Elul is all about preparing for the intensity of the Days of Awe. Think of it as a warm up for the spiritual marathon ahead. We hope you'll join us for some or all of our exciting learning opportunities.



## JEWISH TEXTS ON REPENTANCE AND TESHUVAH

MONDAYS, AUGUST 24, 31, SEPTEMBER 14 1:00 PM, ZOOM

Jewish tradition teaches that Teshuvah/Repentance was created even before the world itself, implying that acknowledgement of wrongdoing, expression of regret and ultimately change of one's conduct is possible for everyone. Join Rabbi Geffen to explore a few foundational Jewish texts that serve as the basis for our understanding of Teshuvah and discover how such ancient wisdom serves as fitting guidance to better ourselves and our relationships today.

Email sarahd@nsci.org for the Zoom link.

## **CONFESSION?! TEXT STUDY**

TUESDAYS, AUGUST 25, SEPTEMBER 1, 8 11:00 AM, ZOOM

Confession is a key part of the Yom Kippur liturgy, yet, to name it, is often to feel discomfort. Join Rabbi Greene to look to understand Vidui, or confession, better through familiar traditional prayer, contemporary Israeli text and poetic voices. As we explore their relevance to us today, we will turn to craft our own communal prayer of confession.

Email debbieh@nsci.org for the Zoom link.

## MINDFUL OR MINDLESS LIFE: HIGH HOLY DAY EDITION "YOUR SOUL'S REFLECTION—DO YOU LIKE WHAT YOU SEE?"

FRIDAYS, AUGUST 28-SEPTEMBER 25 (NO CLASS SEPTEMBER 18) 11:00 AM, ZOOM

Join Rabbi Wendi Geffen in exploration of ancient Jewish spiritual teachings surrounding the High Holy Days that can offer wisdom and opportunities to help improve ourselves, our relationships and our world. Sessions will include study, discussion and meditation. No experience necessary.

Email sarahd@nsci.org for the Zoom link.

## THE MUSIC OF THE HIGH HOLY DAYS

WEDNESDAYS, SEPTEMBER 2 & 9 7:00 PM, ZOOM

Join Cantor Goldstein in a preparation for the High Holy Days through our rich musical traditions. A wide variety of musical settings will be used to give a sense of how our worship continues to evolve. There will certainly be nostalgic sounds that will remind us of the majesty and beauty of the Holy Days.

Email sarahd@nsci.org for the Zoom link.

## HOW TO MAKE THE HIGH HOLY DAYS HOLY AT HOME

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 7:00 PM, ZOOM

Join Rabbi Geffen to explore Jewish wisdom and inspiration that offers practical advice for how to make this year's High Holy Days holy in your home.

Email sarahd@nsci.org for the Zoom link.

## **SELICHOT SERVICE**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 8:00 PM, STREAMSPOT, FACEBOOK, YOUTUBE

Don't miss this beautiful and inspiring service as we approach the Days of Awe. As is NSCI tradition, we'll change our Torah coverings from their regular adornments to pure white for the High Holy Days, and with melody and meditation, prayer and reflection, we will set the groundwork for this year's work of teshuvah together.

## STUDY OF THE AKEIDAH (THE BINDING OF ISAAC)

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 15 11:00 AM, ZOOM

Each Year we hear the Akeidah Story on Rosh Hashanah Morning. Join Cantor Goldstein in an exploration of this familiar portion; its significance and meaning. There may be a surprise or two as well.

Email sarahd@nsci.org for the Zoom link.

#### IS THIS THE FAST I DESIRE?

YOM KIPPUR, MONDAY, SEPT. 28 1:45 PM

Join Rabbi Daniels in conversation with Waukegan's Mayor Sam Cunningham about leadership, social justice and community.

This will be streamed at nsci.org/streamspot.

## OUR REFORM PRAYER BOOK YIZKOR MEMORIAL SERVICE: IT IS THE LONGEST AND MOST ELABORATE OF ANY OTHER YIZKOR SERVICE. WHY?

YOM KIPPUR, MONDAY, SEPT. 28 1:45 PM, ZOOM

Join our Senior Scholar Rabbi Herbert Bronstein for this group examination and discussion.

Advanced registration required. For NSCI Congregants only. Email sarahd@nsci.org for the Zoom link.

# JEWISH DIVERSITY DOESN'T PRECLUDE JEWISH UNITY: CHECKING IN WITH THE MASONS

YOM KIPPUR, MONDAY, SEPT. 28 3:00 PM, ZOOM

Join Rabbi Steve and Patty Mason for this unique opportunity to hear what they've seen and learned over the last five years about Judaism and Jewish people around the globe.

Advanced registration required. For NSCI Congregants only. Email sarahd@nsci.org for the Zoom link.



## **SUKKOT (FIRST DAY)**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2-SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3

## SIMCHAT TORAH/ SHMINI ATZERET

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9-SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

#### **SUKKOT AT HOME!**

Every year, Sukkot offers us the opportunity to celebrate one of the most beautiful and celebratory home-based Jewish experiences through the building/assembly and decoration of our own sukkah—a temporary home—outdoors. There are many pre-assembled kits you can buy online that make assembly very simple, or you can construct your own.

Check the Sukkot resources on nsci.org/hhd2020 for instruction guides and other great Sukkot tips.

## FOOD, CLOTHING AND SHELTER: A SUKKOT FAMILY EXPERIENCE

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4 (RAIN DATE: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11) IN THE NSCI PARKING LOT

It's the year of different. Let's show our gratitude for food, clothing, and shelter this Sukkot holiday. Shelter: Come "build" a sukkah. We invite all families to design and decorate your own sukkah using chalk in the NSCI parking lot. Make and shake your own Chicago style lulav. Designated, socially distance parking spots will be assigned to each family. Clothing: Bring new or gently used children's clothes to donate to Cradles to Crayons. Food: Bring offerings of food, freshly picked vegetables from your garden to donate to those in need and non perishable kosher food for The ARK.

We invite all families to participate. Sponsored by the Goodman Center Family Engagement task force, Goodman Center Partners, and the Brotherhood. RSVP required to jenniferm@nsci.org to reserve your parking spots.

## WNSCI'S ANNUAL SISTERS IN THE SUKKAH

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6 11:30 AM-12:30 PM

Gather virtually with women and Rabbi Greene for our potluck luncheon. We'll ask you to send us your favorite potluck recipe ahead of time, which we'll make available to all who attend.

RSVP to wnsci@nsci.org.

## BEGIN YOUR DAY A NEW WAY: MEDITATION UNDER THE SKY

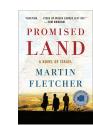
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7 7:30-8:30 AM

Whether you are new to meditation or have a regular practice, join Rabbi Wendi Geffen for a Sukkot inspired meditation session. Bring your own mat or chair. Generous physical distancing will be enforced. Masks must be worn entering and exiting the session.

Advance sign up required. Attendance is limited. (Program will be cancelled if raining.) Sign up at nsci.org/hhd2020.

While there is no charge for NSCI classes, recommended contribution for non-NSCI congregants is \$36.

## WNSCI BOOK CLUB RETURNS OVER ZOOM!



#### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8 1:00-3:00 PM, ZOOM

Promised Land by Martin Fletcher. A love triangle set against the founding of Israel. We look forward to catching up and discussing this sweeping saga.

Email WNSCI@NSCI.org to register and receive the Zoom link.

## CAROLE MARK GINGISS MEMOIR WRITING CLASS

MONDAYS, SEPTEMBER 14-FEBRUARY 15 9:30-11:00 AM, 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. You can write your Memoir at home from a suggested syllabus or choose your own topic. Memoirs are read aloud in class; class discussions are confidential. Friends welcome.

No fee, recommended donation for non-NSCI congregants is \$36. Contact Debbie at debbieh@nsci.org to register.

## **SENIOR CONNECTIONS**

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

 ${\it Email susane@nsci.org for Zoom\ link.}$ 

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 1:00 PM, ZOOM

Dr. Leslie Goddard will present Chicago's Sweet Candy History.

## WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21 1:00 PM, ZOOM

Rabbi Steve Mason "sings a little country music, some pop, and old songs that are new to me."

## STUDY THE TALMUD WITH RABBI WENDI GEFFEN

MONDAYS, OCTOBER 19-DECEMBER 14 1:00-2:00 PM, ZOOM

Join Rabbi Wendi Geffen as we continue the study of the Tractate Brachot, the section of the Talmud responsible for establishing what, when, how, and why Jews pray the way we do.

\$72 fee for non-members. RSVP to Sarah at sarahd@nsci.org.

## **ADULT B'NEI MITZVAH**

The current class will continue learning this year, moving toward their Shavuot service of b'nei mitzvah.

If you are interested in future Adult B'nei Mitzvah classes, please contact Rabbi Greene, rabbigreene@nsci.org.

## The Ruthie & Bill Katz Archives

## **MITZVAH GARDEN**

Jim Silver and Dr. Robert Levy gardening. The food from our Mitzvah Garden is donated to Moraine Township Food Bank and The ARK.

## **BETH EMET SOUP** KITCHEN UPDATE

On June 24, a small group of NSCI congregants gathered at the Beth Emet Soup Kitchen in Evanston to help package meals for those in need. We have partnered with the soup

kitchen for over 10 years, usually shopping, cooking and serving dinner to 120 guests. The soup kitchen has adapted and still provides food, but in a different way. While in the past we were able to prepare and serve the meals, we were happy that, in this time of COVID-19, we were still able to find a way to safely contribute.

**Tikkun Olam** 

## **THANK YOU FAMILY PROMISE VOLUNTEERS!**

'Thank You!' to all of NSCI's Family Promise volunteers who provided two weeks of meals to help families who are currently experiencing temporary homelessness and are being supported by Family Promise Chicago North Shore, as well as donated \$1,000 in gift cards for the current families and recent graduates of the program who are experiencing hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **BACK-TO-SCHOOL DONATION DRIVE FOR CRADLES TO CRAYONS**

#### SEPTEMBER 13-OCTOBER 9

Cradles to Crayons is collecting a variety of essential items children need to thrive at home, at school and at play. Help provide children's clothing, sneakers, toys, books, and more.

Please visit bit.ly/2B5dYld for a full list of needed items.

## **ANNUAL HIGH HOLY DAYS FOOD DRIVE**

#### SEPTEMBER 13-OCTOBER 9

Help stock The ARK's food pantry by donating kosher, non-perishable food.

Please visit nsci.org/HHDFoodDrive5781 for a full list of needed grocery items.

## Women of NSCI

As we start a new year together, we want to welcome everyone to WNSCI! Although our coming together as a sisterhood is virtual for the upcoming months, we have lots to offer! Please check out our WNSCI calendar of events and please plan to join us at our monthly board meetings, our annual SISTERS IN THE SUKKAH event, our coffee and conversation Wednesdays, our monthly Erev-Shabbat, pre-services get togethers and our December 2 Chanukah craft project! All events will be ZOOMed and you can preregister. There is no charge for any of these get togethers...you will be provided with a "to get" list for the crafting event!

We have so much to offer... We invite you to check out WNSCI, if you've not done so yet! Hope to see you all!

~Fran & Mimi. Co-Presidents

#### **WNSCI BOARD MEETINGS**

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15** 7:00-8:00 PM **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8** 9:00-10:00 AM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 9:00-10:00 AM

## **EREV SHABBAT GET TOGETHERS**

FRIDAYS AUGUST 28. SEPTEMBER 25. OCTOBER 23, NOVEMBER 27, **DECEMBER 25** 5:30-6:00 PM

## **COFFEE AND CONVERSATION**

WEDNESDAYS, SEPTEMBER 9. OCTOBER 14, NOVEMBER 11, **DECEMBER 8** 8:00-9:00 PM

#### SISTERS IN THE SUKKAH

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6 11:30 AM-12:30 PM

## **CHANUKAH CRAFT EVENING** TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2

7:00-8:00 PM

Peggy Rubenstein is our crafting leader!



## **WOMEN OF NSCI'S**

## Judaica **Gift Shop**

### THINK OF THE WNSCI GIFT SHOP FOR YOUR HOLIDAY NEEDS!

Please go to nsci.org for updated information about the shop. Even if we're not physically open, we can still assist you with your holiday and gift giving needs.

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

## A Look Back in the 100 Years of North Shore **Congregation Israel: The War Effort**

## By MERLE A. BRANNER

**ON DECEMBER 7, 1941,** the Sunday morning service was led by the Men's Club with guest speakers Dr. Woldenberg, Abel Fagen and Mr. Robert Koretz. By the time the service was over, life would be changed in the country forever as it became known that Japan had attacked Pearl Harbor, "December 7. 1941 A Date Which Will Live in Infamy," stated Franklin D. Roosevelt in his address to Congress asking that a State of War be declared between the United States and Japan on December 8, 1941. That same night 16 members attended the Board of Trustees meeting.

North Shore Congregation Israel was already active in the war effort. On March 10, 1941, the Board of Trustees appointed Sisterhood President Rose Grauer and Men's Club President Robert Koretz as heads of the Army & Navy Committee. They provided home hospitality for the service people at Fort Sheridan and Great Lakes, mostly for Sunday dinner invitations for those who attended services. Additionally, the Army & Navy Committee maintained a register of the young men and women in the congregation who were called to service. They established contacts for them in other communities and sent them Temple bulletins and announcements through the mail. The Army & Navy Committee also worked with the Young People's Club to provide the entertainment and hospitality for the men and women at Fort Sheridan and Great Lakes. The Men's Club Community Annual Dance on April 15, 1941 was called a Military Ball in honor of the 50 male guests stationed at Fort Sheridan and Great Lakes.

On May 12, 1941, Rabbi Charles E. Shulman convinced the Board of Trustees to extend services over the summer. He felt it was important that the temple have a brief service on Sunday mornings based on the fact that Jewish boys stationed at Fort Sheridan would be increasing in numbers. Cantor Landsman and Mr. Cookson were engaged to furnish the music and Assistant Rabbi Arthur Bluhm, whom the congregation had sponsored to gain his release from a concentration camp in Krefeld, Germany, conducted the service.<sup>1</sup>

On September 8, 1941, the Finance

Committee received the Board of Trustees approval to invest \$3000 from the Alschuler Memorial Fund and any future funds in United States Defense Bonds. Robert Adler and Rose Grauer served as co-chairpersons for the Jewish Welfare Board for the North Shore. November 10, 1941. On March 9, 1942, the Board unanimously "Resolved, that upon notification, we suspend for the duration of their service the dues of all members of the Congregation entering the armed forces of the United States; and that all of the privileges of Temple membership be made available to their families." Additionally, the Men's Club announced they would not have a community dance and would use the funds to provide entertainment for servicemen. Then, on March 13, 1942, there was an Executive Board Meeting to discuss what to do if Rabbi Charles Shulman accepted an appointment as a chaplain in the Armed Forces. The Board also unanimously approved the sale of defense stamps and bonds through the temple office.

In May of 1942, Robert S. Adler and Dr. Max Woldenberg were both were granted a leave of absence from the Board due to their entering military service.

The NSCI confirmands of the 1930s became the soldiers of World War II. By May 10, 1943, the NSCI Young People's group headed by Mrs. Schulman (Rabbi Schulman's wife) suspended all activities for the duration of the war due to the



From left: Dorothy Flesham and Rose Grauer.

fact that most of the young men were in military service. In fact, there were also four young women from NSCI who enlisted in the military: Dorothy R. Flesham (WAAC) Army, Alys L. (Eiseman) Moss (WAVE) Navv. Martha Anne Stein (WAVE) Navy, and Miriam Cohn (WAC) Army.

The Sisterhood was actively cooperating in all Red Cross and Civilian Defense work and conducted a first aid and home nursing classes at the temple. They also helped service people find housing for their families. Rose Grauer stated in her memories book that "Some of us would really just walk the streets and ring doorbells to find apartments for the servicemen. Some of the estates on Sheridan Road have separate garages and coach houses. The second floors were usually unused finished rooms because their help usually slept in the main house. So we asked people if they would furnish them just sparsely, but so a serviceman and his wife could live there. And they did. We had a lot of people who did."2 ■

1. Rabbi Bluhm and his family arrived in Glencoe on March 13, 1939. He became the assistant Rabbi at NSCI until October 10, 1941, until he became the Rabbi at Congregation Beth Israel in Amarillo, Texas. 2. Rabbi Bluhm and his family arrived in Glencoe on March 13, 1939. He became the assistant Rabbi at NSCI until October 10, 1941, until he became the Rabbi at Congregation Beth Israel in Amarillo, Texas. Grauer Casparv, R.L. (1988), A History, Tape Writer. Lincolnshire, p. 69.

## September 2020 • Elul/Tishrei 5781

## October 2020 • Tishrei/Cheshvan 5781

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		1 11:00 am Confession!? Text Study with Rabbi Lisa Greene via Zoom 7:00 pm FA Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support 8:30 pm Healing Service with Cantor David Goldstein on Facebook	6:00 pm AA Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support 7:00 pm The Music of the High Holy Days with Cantor David Goldstein	3 10:30 am Memoir Writing Class with Carole Mark Gingiss via Zoom	4 11:00 am Mindful or Mindless Life: High Holy Day Edition Your Soul's Reflection - Do You Like What You See? via Zoom 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Elul online*	9:15 am Shabbat Morning Experience on Facebook						1 10:30 am Memoir Writing Class with Carole Mark Gingiss via Zoom	2 Erev Sukkot 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service online*	3 First Day of Sukkot 10:30 am Shabbat Sukkot Morning Service - B'nei Mitzvah David & Talia Polish online*
6	7	8	9	10	11	12		4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Building Closed for Labor Day	11:00 am Confession!? Text Study with Rabbi Lisa Greene via Zoom 1:00 pm WNSCI Book Club via Zoom 7:00 pm FA Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support 8:30 pm Healing Service with Cantor Goldstein on Facebook	6:00 pm AA Meeting – nsci.org Hub of Support 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting – nsci. org Hub of Support 7:00 pm The Music of the High Holy Days with Canto David Goldstein via Zoom 8:00 pm Coffee & Conversation with WNSCI via Zoom	at Home with Rabbi	11:00 am Mindful or Mindless Life: High Holy Day Edition Your Soul's Reflection - Do You Like What You See? via Zoom 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service online*	Selichot 9:15 am Shabbat Morning Experience on Facebook 8:00 pm Selichot on Facebook & Streamspot	Sukkot		Sukkot 9:30 am Memoir Writing Class with Carole Mark Gingiss via Zoom	Sukkot 11:30 am WNSCI Sisters in The Sukkah via Zoom 7:00 pm FA Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support	Sukkot 7:30 am Begin Your Day a New Way: Meditation Under the Sky with Rabbi Wendi Geffen 6:00 pm AA Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting - nsci. org Hub of Support	Sukkot	Sukkot 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Simchat Torah Service online*	Shmini Atzeret Simchat Torah 9:15 am Shabbat Shmini Atzeret Morning Services including Yizkor online* 8:00 pm Havdallah and Hootenanny on Facebook
13	9:30 am Memoir Writing Class with Carole Mark Gingiss via Zoom 1:00 pm Jewish Texts on Repentance and Teshuvah via Zoom	15 11:00 am Study of the Akeidah (The Binding of Isaac) with Cantor Goldstein via Zoom 7:00 pm FA Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support 7:00 pm WNSCI Board Meeting via Zoom	16 6:00 pm AA Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting- nsci. org Hub of Support	17 10:30 am Memoir Writing Class with Carole Mark Gingiss via Zoom	18 Erev Rosh Hashanah	19 Rosh Hashanah		111	9:30 am Memoir Writing Class with Carole Mark Gingiss via Zoom	13 7:00 pm FA Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support	14 6:00 pm AA Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support 8:00 pm Coffee & Conversation with WNSCI via Zoom	15 10:30 am Memoir Writing Class with Carol Mark Gingiss	Virtual Jeffrey Lasky Memorial Arts Weekend <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service online*	17 Virtual Jeffrey Lasky Memorial Arts Weekend 9:15 am Shabbat Morning Experience on Facebook
20 Second Day of Rosh Hashanah	21	7:00 pm FA Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support	23 6:00 pm AA Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support	24 10:30 am Memoir Writing Class with Carole Mark Gingiss via Zoom	25 11:00 am Mindful or Mindless Life: High Holy Day Edition Your Soul's Reflection - Do You Like What You See? via Zoom 5:30 pm WNSCI Pre-Shabbat Mingle via Zoom 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Shuvah online*		Virtual Jef Memorial Weekend		19 1:00 pm Study the Talmud with Rabbi Wendi Geffen via Zoom	20 7:00 pm FA Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support	21 1:00 pm Senior Connections via Zoom 6:00 pm AA Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support	22 10:30 am Memoir Writing Class with Carol Mark Gingiss	23 5:30 pm WNSCI Pre-Shabbat Mingle via Zoom 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service online*	9:15 am Shabbat Morning Experience on Facebook 10:30 am Luncheon with Guest speaker Rabbi Andrea Weiss, PhD, Provost of HUC-JIR
27 Kol Nidre	28 Yom Kippur	7:00 pm FA Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support	30 1:00 pm Senior Connections via Zoom 6:00 pm AA Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support					225	26 9:30 am Memoir Writing Class with Carole Mark Gingiss 1:00 pm Study the Talmud with Rabbi Wendi Geffen via Zoom	27 7:00 pm FA Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support	28 6:00 pm AA Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting - nsci.org Hub of Support	29 10:30 am Memoir Writing Class with Carole Mark Gingiss	30 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service online*	31 9:15 am Shabbat Morning Experience on Facebook

\*Online services are on our website, Facebook and YouTube.



1185 SHERIDAN ROAD GLENCOE, ILLINOIS 60022

Admin. Office: 847.835.0724 School Office: 847.835.7258 NSCI.org

## 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.

## BIKUR CHOLIM (VISITING THE SICK)

In an effort to fulfill the mitzvah, Bikur Cholim (visiting the sick), our rabbis and cantor visit members who are hospitalized in the metropolitan area. This has become increasingly difficult, as hospitals cannot contact synagogues or churches when members are hospitalized.

Please feel free to call the synagogue office at 847.835.0724 to advise the rabbis and cantor when you, a relative or a friend is hospitalized in any hospital in the metropolitan area. In doing so, you will become a partner in the mitzvah of Bikur Cholim.



## Sacred Time in Our Sacred Space SEPTEMBER 8-17

NSCI congregants are invited to sign up for individual times, either alone or with members of your household, for personal contemplation and prayer in the Large Sanctuary in advance of the High Holy Days.

Advance sign up required. Visit nsci.org/hhd2020 to reserve your time.





## Havdalah & Hootenany: The Joy Continues Post-Simchat Torah

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

8:00 PM

Join some of your favorite NSCI guitar players and songleaders (and clergy too!) to come together to end Shabbat with Havdalah and rejoice through music as we look ahead into the new week with a festive song session filled with Jewish and American favorites.