

NORTH SHORE  
CONGREGATION  
ISRAEL

# The Bulletin

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## Imagine the Possible A Conversation about the 2020 Campaign

with RABBI WENDI GEFFEN and PRESIDENT MARILYN PERLMAN

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“This is the greatest opportunity  
to pay it forward—to pass on to  
the next generation what we have been  
blessed to experience and receive.”

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# Imagine the Possible:

## A Conversation about the 2020 Campaign with Rabbi Wendi Geffen and President Marilyn Perlman



### WHAT HAS BEEN ESPECIALLY ON YOUR MIND AS WE APPROACH OUR CENTENNIAL AND THIS CAMPAIGN?

**Rabbi Wendi Geffen:** In today's siloed and tribal world, a world that elevates the sovereign-self over all else, the synagogue matters now more than ever. Our synagogue enables people across viewpoints, ages, and backgrounds to come together by shared belonging to this community. In any other context, these differences would keep us separated and at odds with each other, but here, we connect with each other through our shared community, history, Torah—all of which inspire us to be better people, better friends, better citizens, better Jews.

### AS WE APPROACH OUR CENTENNIAL, HOW DOES THE CAMPAIGN OPTIMIZE OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR NEXT CENTURY?

**Marilyn Perlman:** "Imagine the Possible: The Campaign for Our Centennial" will open space for collaboration, learning, enhanced programming, and modern technology. We will capitalize on opportunities to learn, engage, educate, and connect in ways that may not exist today. This campaign is the outcome of our commitment to manifesting our prudent, forward-looking plan to be resilient and poised to meet the challenges we know will come. I'm proud of our Board of Trustees for their dedication to taking on the big questions. It's bold! There's never been a better time to go for it.

### HOW DID YOU DECIDE ON THE GOALS OF THE CAMPAIGN?

**Marilyn Perlman:** Previous Boards of Trustees have worked diligently to deeply and broadly understand where we have been, where we are now, and what is especially meaningful to our congregants to inform where we are going. With that in mind, combined with the opportunity of our Centennial, our Board of Trustees commissioned a study to assess the potential needs, interests, and goals for a major fundraising campaign. From there, we formed a Campaign Executive Committee to help vet the optimal approach.

### WHAT IS THE FIRST PRIORITY OF THE CAMPAIGN?

**Marilyn Perlman:** This initial component of our campaign is the vital starting point for us to imagine the possible. The funds raised have been applied to essential building upgrades and critical infrastructure repairs already completed or underway. This component also provides for acquiring new technology and creating a substantial building reserve fund. *Sustaining the Synagogue* is not only the foundation of this campaign but the future of NSCI. With this investment to bring our facility to top grade condition, we arrive at the place of proactive care rather than reactive urgent fixes.

### WHAT HAS INFLUENCED DESIGNING THE NEXT PRIORITY OF THE CAMPAIGN?

**Rabbi Wendi Geffen:** Our next priority addresses the most pressing challenge of 21st century synagogue life—security. As a rabbi, there is no way I can help spiritually elevate our congregants and community if people do not feel safe. I so wish this did not

**"Our synagogue enables people across viewpoints, ages, and backgrounds to come together by shared belonging to this community."**

have to be a concern, no less THE key concern of our efforts, however, this is the demand and reality of the era in which we live. At the very same time, we cannot let our fears govern all we do. That is why, at the very same time as we address our most critical safety issue, we will also double down on creating space and opportunity to gather and connect as a community.

**Marilyn Perlman:** Our goal is to create a *A Welcoming Home for All*. A new central entryway for monitored access will have upgraded security, a priority for every 21st century synagogue. The long glass arcade will be expanded and transformed into a gathering place with space for entertaining and connecting.

This component also includes reconfiguring the office suite to incorporate the Senior Rabbi's study with the clergy and staff together to promote efficiency and collaboration. The reception area will be redesigned to provide a secure, warm and welcoming area for congregants and visitors, including a more accessible WNSCI Gift Shop. Very exciting!

**TOTAL CAMPAIGN GOAL:**  
**\$12,000,000**



as of December 1

**WHY DOES THE CAMPAIGN AIM TO MAKE CHANGES TO REBECCA K. CROWN SOCIAL HALL?**

**Rabbi Wendi Geffen:** That's the third priority of the Campaign: **A Community Resource for Celebration & Programs.** The world in which we live is one where everything is changing, faster than it ever has before. The need for flexible, nimble environments that can adapt to a regularly shifting reality is more important than ever.

**Marilyn Perlman:** That's one of the major reasons we would like to renovate Rebecca K. Crown Social Hall where our congregants can look forward to coming together to engage, learn, and celebrate. Adding removable dividers will create a truly flexible, easily partitioned, multi-purpose social hall. This component also includes a new "Meet the Moment Fund" available to our clergy for programming and guest experts in response to pressing, real-time events.

**GROWING THE ENDOWMENT IS THE FOURTH AND FINAL GOAL OF THE CAMPAIGN?**

**Rabbi Wendi Geffen:** NSCI is fortunate to have an endowment, an important and reliable source of revenue distributed annually to help support our congregation's ongoing operations. So, the fourth component is **Ensuring our Proud Legacy.** Although our annual endowment contribution to our operating budget covers only 6% of our total operating cost, building upon the existing endowment is an opportunity to support the synagogue

more significantly in perpetuity, something more and more valuable in our increasingly uncertain world.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE IS FOR THIS CAMPAIGN?**

**Rabbi Wendi Geffen:** Like many challenges, they are also our greatest opportunities. The plans for this campaign including our ambitious fundraising goal are founded on inviting the entire congregation to join us. Spreading the word and engaging our congregation is one of those key challenges and an extraordinary opportunity.

**Marilyn Perlman:** This Campaign invites us all to invest in our community. It's not how much time you spend here, it is truly the relationship you have with NSCI and the community; not how much you "use" this *place*, but the *place* NSCI and synagogues have in our lives and for the continuity of the Jewish people. Whether you are here once a year for the High Holy Days or weekly for programs and worship; or you tend to connect only for lifecycle events—weddings, b'nei mitzvah, and sadly but necessary, a funeral, we welcome it all and are grateful for the many facets that make up the beautiful prism of our total community. This is the greatest opportunity to pay it forward—to pass on to the next generation what we have been blessed to experience and receive.

**Imagine if each person gave their best gift—whatever that may be. ■**

**Can I pledge now but pay my gift later?**

Absolutely! Pledges may be paid over one to five years. Pledges may be fulfilled in one single payment or multiple installments.

**What forms of payment do you accept other than cash gifts?**

Many donors are gifting appreciated stock. Donors over 70 ½ years old can make tax-free cash gifts directly from their IRAs.

**How can I find more information?**

Please visit our website for "Imagine the Possible: The Campaign for Our Centennial" at [nsci.org/imagine](http://nsci.org/imagine) for more information and to make your pledge or payments online. Sheryl Cohen Solomon, Director of Development, is available at [sheryls@nsci.org](mailto:sheryls@nsci.org) or 847.835.0724. We will continue to offer Informational Events and other opportunities to learn about the campaign firsthand.

**I've contributed to the campaign. How can I help?**

Please help us spread the word about the campaign. Share your own story about why you feel it was important to participate. We are happy to meet with small groups and connect to congregants!

# Mission Moment

By **PAM FAULKNER**



**THE IMAGINE  
THE POSSIBLE  
CAMPAIGN** for  
the future of NSCI  
spoke to me and  
my family right

away. When we first moved into the community, we came from a place where there were few Jews and even fewer choices of synagogues. We lived on a small Navy base in a rural part of Ventura County and drove 40 minutes to the closest Reform congregation. The idea that we would have a number of choices for a congregational home was both liberating and intimidating.

I originally thought NSCI was going to be too big. How does one find a niche in such a large environment? Can we really "belong"? Nevertheless, one Saturday morning, my daughters and I jumped in with both feet and unwittingly walked into the Shabbat Minyan Service at 9:15 am. After being welcomed by nearly everyone

in the room, we experienced the next few hours each from our own perspective. When we left after the Oneg, the girls were carrying art projects and I was carrying contact information for several new friends.

In the parking lot, my daughter Molly looked at me and said, "Do we really need to try anywhere else?" In that moment, I imagined a life at NSCI. The girls would engage with a peer group. Our family would celebrate b'nei mitzvah, weddings, baby namings. It was all so clear. So I looked at Molly and said, "I guess not." That was twenty years ago. We have experienced all of those wonderful things, and so many more—the embrace of friendship and fellowship in times of celebration and despair, and myriad opportunities to learn, breathe and grow as a family and individuals.

In that moment in the parking lot, I was able to imagine the possible. What I cannot do in this moment is to imagine what my now adult daughters'

"possible" will look like. I know they will continue to hold NSCI close to their hearts, but what do they need NSCI to become? The Imagine the Possible Campaign will allow us to preserve and sustain our physical structure, but also to adapt it to the needs of today and provide for its metamorphosis as the needs of our community change.

Our children, and theirs, should see NSCI as an anchor—not a burden—and as a springboard from which they can launch projects and visions and build a community which we can't even begin to visualize today. More than anything else, NSCI now and then will be a home for all of us, with every person as an individual partner and stakeholder. I hope you will join my family in ensuring our children and theirs can continue to imagine the possible secure in the knowledge that their community home will provide a base for the best and biggest aspirations of their hearts. ■

## 100 DAYS OF FESTIVITIES TO CELEBRATE NSCI'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY!

**FEBRUARY 28–JUNE 6, 2020**

Activities will include special shabbat programming and speakers, Mitzvah Day with hands-on volunteer opportunities for all ages, events highlighting our rich history and bright future, a roarin' 20s inspired Centennial Weekend including a multi-generational Shabbat experience, as well as the annual Spring Event, and so much more!

*Details coming soon! [nsci.org/100](http://nsci.org/100)*

SAVE THE DATE

## NSCI'S CENTENNIAL WEEKEND

**Friday, June 5 & Saturday, June 6, 2020**

Join us for a swell "Roarin' 20s" weekend packed with fun, food, and frolic. A little something for everyone from the very young to the very young at heart.

Pam Faulkner and Laurie Lieberman  
~ Centennial Spring Event Co-Chairs ~

*\*Coming Soon\* Information about corporate  
sponsorship, event ticket, and ad opportunities!*

*Questions? Contact Dena at [denab@nsci.org](mailto:denab@nsci.org)  
or 847.835.0724 ext. 633.*

# Mazel Tov!

## SPECIAL CONGREGATION MOMENT

We are thrilled to announce that  
Rabbis Ryan and Carlie Daniels  
welcomed their daughter Amalia Sage Daniels  
to the world on November 7, 2019.



## WELCOME!

### Cyrus Judlo Swilky

**BORN ON FEBRUARY 12, 2019**

child of Alyssa Judlo & Jesse Swilky  
grandchild of Jodi Sheffield



### Jade Frances Friduss and Emma Rose Friduss

**BORN ON MAY 5, 2019**

children of Stacy & Kevin Friduss  
siblings of Lucy Charlotte Friduss  
grandchildren of Betsy & Michael Friduss  
and Susie & Gary Heller

### Marvin Joule Zacher

**BORN ON SEPTEMBER 25, 2019**

child of Miranda & Chase Zacher  
grandchild of Amy & Bret Zacher and Julie  
Greenberg, Israel Paluch and Steven Lang  
great-grandchild of Enid Brick and Sharon  
Greenberg



### Lily Barbara Kholodovsky

**BORN ON NOVEMBER 1, 2019**

child of Brandy Graff & Brian Kholodovsky  
grandchild of Karyn & Marty Graff and  
Yelena & Val Kholodovsky

### Harold Basant Kaufman

**BORN ON NOVEMBER 8, 2019**

child of Alka & Andrew Kaufman  
grandchild of Jan & Bob Kaufman and  
Satjeet & Inder Ahluwalia

### Brody Levi Winterstein

**BORN ON NOVEMBER 15, 2019**

child of Michelle & Brett Winterstein  
sibling of Logan and Hayden  
grandchild of Laurie & Grant Bagan and  
Janet & Robbie Winterstein  
great grandchild of Seymour Bagan

### Milo Rafael Mason-Barkin

**BORN ON DECEMBER 11, 2019**

child of Rabbi Sara & Joshua  
Mason-Barkin  
sibling of Charlie and Sela Mason-Barkin  
grandchild of Patty & Rabbi Steven Mason  
and Caryn & Steven Barkin Hope

## UPCOMING B'NEI MITZVAH

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 11**

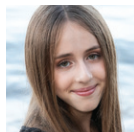
10:30 AM SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE



### Myles Wexler

son of Beth & Michael  
Wexler

4:30 PM SHABBAT AFTERNOON SERVICE



### Sloane Zoe Farber

daughter of Paige &  
Steven Farber

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 18**

10:30 AM SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE

### Dayla & Madison Rosen

daughters of Leslie & Stuart Rosen

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 25**

4:30 PM SHABBAT AFTERNOON SERVICE

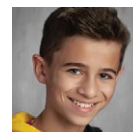


### Sydney Field

daughter of Shari & Jim Field

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1**

10:30 AM SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE

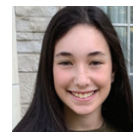


### Andrew Ethan Rosenfeld

son of Rob & Eileen Sharkey  
Rosenfeld

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

10:30 AM SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE



### Liana Jane Epstein

daughter of Marilyn Perlman  
& Harry Epstein

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22**

10:30 AM SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE



### Allyson Rose Shapiro

daughter of Beth Shapiro

## NEWLYWEDS

### Carol Ring & Adam Gooze

on their October 6, 2019 wedding

### Jennifer Weitzman & Zachary Cylinder

on their October 12, 2019 wedding

### Emma Goodman & Jonathan Bulwa

on their November 2, 2019 wedding

### Alex Sloan & Lindsay Chick

on their November 23, 2019 wedding



# We Remember

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

### **Cecile L. Birndorf**

mother of Bob (Stacey) Birndorf  
grandmother of Stephanie Birndorf

### **Lawrence H. Brown**

father of Bonnie (Peter) Flanzer  
grandfather of Betsey (Tim)  
and Julie (Derek)

### **Glenn Burdeen**

son-in-law of Sonya Olex  
brother-in-law of Wendy (Ben) Roth

### **Reta Cohen**

mother of Jodi (Paul) Loeb  
grandmother of Justin (Hannah),  
Jillian (Chad) and Ryan

### **Lillian Altman Courtheoux**

mother of Rick (Perri) Courtheoux  
grandmother of Suzanne Courtheoux  
and Karen (Rob Weinstock) Courtheoux  
great grandmother of Rena Courtheoux  
and Miles and Lydia Weinstock

### **Larry H. Fern**

husband of Janice Fern  
father of Brian (Danielle) Fern  
grandfather of Dylan, Alex, and Maya Fern  
brother-in-law of Eileen (Donald) Weil

### **Stuart Wolfe Fine, M.D.**

father of Debbie (Bill) Lewin  
grandfather of David and Andrea Lewin

### **Norman Fording**

father of David (Julia) Fording  
grandfather of Eli & Hannah Fording

### **Donald Goldsmith**

husband of Alice Goldsmith

### **Irving Hazan**

father of Gary (Brooke) Hazan  
grandfather of Devin and Madeline

### **Renee Hecht**

mother of Linda (Peter) Karmin  
grandmother of Charlie, Katie, William,  
and Dusty

### **Ruth Herzog**

mother of Martha Herzog (Darrell Farley),  
Lauren Herzog Schwartz (Rick Schwartz),  
and Roger Herzog (Kathryn Madden)  
grandmother of Georgia Farley,  
Madelyn Herzog, and Norah Herzog

### **Dr. Richard Just**

brother of Mark (Lois) Just

### **Lore B. Kirchheimer**

mother of Opal Lynne (Jeff) Rosenfeld,  
James Kirchheimer, and  
David (Sherry) Kirchheimer  
grandmother of Julia Rosenfeld,  
Amy (Anthony) Trojan, Brooks (Catherine)  
Kirchheimer, Meredith Kirchheimer,  
and the late Daniel Rosenfeld  
great-grandmother of Hannah, Elizabeth,  
and Callen

### **Esther Lauwasser**

mother of Jill (John) Mandel  
grandmother of Jeremy and Jacob Mandel

### **Arnold K. "Arny" Leavitt**

brother-in-law of Ellen (Stuart) Goldin  
uncle of Jackie Goldin

### **James Levy**

father of Debbie (Chuck) Frank  
grandfather of Nicky (Adam) Friedman  
and Melanie (Elliot) Marion  
great grandfather of Julian and  
Hayden Friedman

### **Judith L. Lewin**

mother of Stanton (Terri) Lewin  
grandmother of Alexa and Matthew Lewin

### **Michael Sachs**

husband of Louella Sachs  
father of David (Diana Liu) Sachs  
and Laura (Jordan) Fisher  
stepfather of Cooper and Camyrn Kanew  
grandfather of Juniper, Annabella,  
and Axel Sachs

### **Aaron S. Sak**

father of Barry (Susan) Sak  
zayde of Andrea and Jamie Sak  
uncle of Brian (Stacy) Rothman

### **John "Jack" Sayer**

father of Jonathan (Margaux) Sayer  
grandfather of Konner, Maxwell, Rose,  
and Spencer Sayer

### **Sandra P. Schaeffer**

mother of Tammy (Terry) Max  
grandmother of Adam, Michael, David,  
and Joshua Max

### **Minnie Solomon**

mother of George (Helen) Solomon  
and Deborah Solomon  
grandmother of Andrew Solomon  
(Courtney Essenpreis), Diana  
Solomon (Flavio Avila), and  
Jane Solomon (Jeremy Smith)  
great-grandmother of Judah Solomon  
and Reverie Solomon

### **Ian "Mike" Swibel**

brother of Stuart (Cynthia Martin) Swibel  
uncle of Elise, Elaine, Daniel,  
and Melissa Swibel



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

# New Engagement Opportunities

## ANNUAL JUF DESSERT RECEPTION FEATURING SARAH HURWITZ

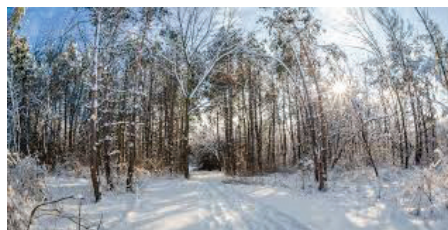


**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4**  
**7:00 PM**

This event will feature guest speaker Sarah Hurwitz, author of *Here All Along: Finding Meaning, Spirituality, and a Deeper Connection to Life—in Judaism (After Finally Choosing to Look There)*.

*There is no cost to attend this event. Please RSVP at [juf.org/NorthSub](http://juf.org/NorthSub).*

## WINTER SPIRITUALITY WALK WITH RABBI LISA GREENE



**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23**  
**9:30 AM**

Join Rabbi Lisa Greene and Sierra Club volunteers to explore winter nature through a Jewish lens. We will meet at the Fort Sheridan Forest Preserve for a one-hour spiritual engagement.

*For more information and to RSVP, please visit [nsci.org/event/SpiritualityWalk](http://nsci.org/event/SpiritualityWalk).*



We are so delighted that many people participated in the inaugural sessions of Senior Connections this fall. We loved lunching, learning, catching up with old friends and making new connections. A special thank you to Lois Davis, Maxwell Klezmer Trio, Jim Kendros, David Chack, and Dr. Lee Freedman and Family for sharing their time and talent with NSCI. We look forward to getting together again starting in March. More details to come in the March/April *Bulletin*.

## SAVE THE DATE: LONG-TIME CONGREGANT SHABBAT

**FRIDAY, MARCH 6**  
**DURING KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE**

With a special sermon by Rabbi Herbert Bronstein for his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday.

## Support

As a caring community, NSCI is a source of support for anyone navigating life's challenges. We offer educational and professional resources for those or their loved ones struggling with addiction or in recovery, so they know they are not alone.

### FAMILIES ANONYMOUS (FA) MEETING

**TUESDAYS 7:00–9:00 PM**

FA is a Twelve Step Program for people concerned about drug/alcohol abuse and behavioral problems of a relative. Meeting is in Kersten on the first floor of the school wing.

*For more information, call 847.835.0724.*

### ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS (AA) MEETING

**WEDNESDAYS 6:00–7:00 PM**

Do you struggle with addiction? Do you want or need support? AA is an anonymous Twelve Step Program for people who struggle with alcohol or other substances. Meeting is in the Abe and Vera Cohen Family Room.

*For more information, call 847.835.0724.*

### NORTH SHORE ALATEEN MEETING

**WEDNESDAYS 6:00–7:00 PM**

Alateen meetings are for teens (12–19 years old) who are concerned about a family member's or friend's drinking or drug use.

*For more information, call 312.409.7245.*

### NEW: NAMI FAMILY-TO-FAMILY EDUCATION PROGRAM

**WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 15–APRIL 1**  
**6:00–8:30 PM**

This free 12-session course is for families and close friends of adults living with mental illness. This course is taught by trained teachers who have provided thousands of families with information, understanding, and support.

*Commitment to attend the 12-week class is mandatory. Registration is required, please call 847.716.2252.*

### SAVE THE DATE: COMMUNITY RECOVERY SEDER

**THURSDAY, APRIL 9**  
**6:00–7:30 PM**

This alcohol-free experiential seder (Passover meal and ritual) is intended for all who are journeying toward recovery, those in recovery, their loved ones, and allies, to celebrate Passover in a safe environment, among others who speak the language of recovery.

*This event is open to the community; all are welcome and attendance is confidential. \$20.*



# Youth & Family Community

## NSCI LAUNCHES NEW FIEDLER FELLOW SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR NSCI HIGH SCHOOLERS

We are thrilled to announce an exciting new opportunity for our 9<sup>th</sup>–12<sup>th</sup>-grade students. Any student who, by their high school graduation, has participated every year in our NSCI post-B'nei Mitzvah youth education offerings will merit the title of "Fiedler Fellow" and earn a \$1000 scholarship from the Louis P. and Saerree K. Fiedler Fund to apply toward college tuition. Applicable programs include:

- Learning in Goodman Center for Jewish Education classes
- Serving as a Machonik in our religious school
- Participating in Selah
- Attending Youth Group retreats and trips

Each year, Fiedler Fellows will be featured in the *Bulletin* and recognized at our annual Youth Celebration in the spring.

For more information, contact Dr. Roberta Goodman at [robertag@nsci.org](mailto:robertag@nsci.org) or 847.835.0724.

## STROLLERS, STORIES & CELEBRATIONS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17:  
SHABBAT & HAVDALAH  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7:  
TU B'SHEVAT  
10:00–10:30 AM

Celebrate Shabbat with your little ones from ages birth to three years at this free drop-in experience.

Please register with Susan Ellenby at [susane@nsci.org](mailto:susane@nsci.org).

## PJS, PASTA & PLANTING

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31  
5:30–6:45 PM

Celebrate the birthday of the trees with Rabbi Lisa Greene. Stay for dinner and hands-on activities. Best for kids age 7 and under with an adult. Siblings and grandparents welcome.

\$20/family. Please register at [nsci.org/event/PlantingShabbat2020](https://nsci.org/event/PlantingShabbat2020).

## IMPORTANT GOODMAN CENTER FOR JEWISH EDUCATION RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DATES

DECEMBER 22–JANUARY 5  
No School

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7  
Classes Resume

MONDAY, JANUARY 20  
Cradles to Crayons MLK Day Program

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31  
Family Shabbat with Selah

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2  
Winter Farmer's Market

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9  
2nd grade Tu B'shevat Seder

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16  
No School

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21  
Family Shabbat featuring Kindergarten–2nd grade & Selah

# Teen & Young Adult

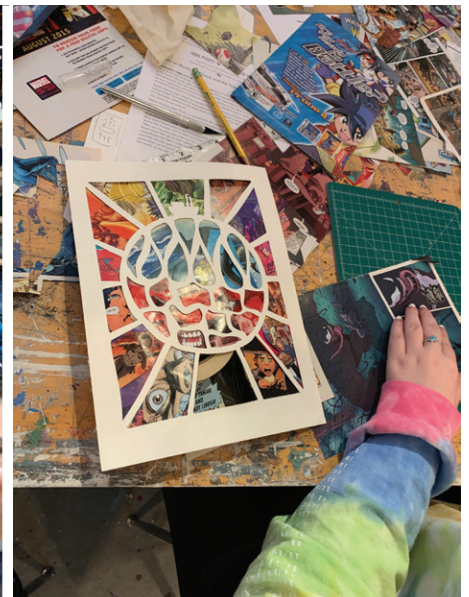


## JEFFREY LASKY MEMORIAL ARTS WEEKEND

From left: The gang's all here! We had an amazing weekend eating, laughing, singing, creating and building a kehilah (community).

We SPARE-d no time and got right to bowling as soon as we got to Wisconsin!

We worked with Rabbi Shawna and Isaac Bryjegaard-Bialik to make beautiful paper midrash art out of comic books.



# Adult Learning

## ADULT B'NEI MITZVAH WITH RABBI LISA GREENE & JUDY WEISS



### MONDAY EVENINGS BEGINNING WINTER 2020

A new class is starting soon and will run Winter 2020 through Shavuot of 2021. Adult B'nei Mitzvah is a transformative community-building group learning experience. Study Hebrew prayer and so much more with your NSCI classmates of many ages and backgrounds.

*If you're thinking about embarking on this powerful journey, call Rabbi Lisa Greene today at 847.835.0724.*

## NEW POETRY WITH RABBI LISA GREENE

**MONDAYS, JANUARY 6, 13, 27**  
11:30 AM–12:30 PM

*Birthright*, an insightful collection of poetry hot off the press, is authored by Erika Dreifus, who wrote the short story collection *Quiet Americans*. Join Rabbi Lisa Greene in conversation, and our author will join us too, virtually! You may purchase the book or borrow one of our copies. To borrow a book, see Stacey Shrago in the synagogue office.

**\$36 fee for non-members.**  
RSVP at [nsci.org/event/NewPoetry](https://nsci.org/event/NewPoetry).

## HOLY CHANTERS

**MONDAYS, JANUARY 6, 13,  
FEBRUARY 10, 24, MARCH 9, 16,  
APRIL 13, 20, MAY 11 & 18**  
6:00–7:00 PM

Learn to chant Torah & Haftarah with Cantor David Goldstein. Holy Chanters will gain a practical knowledge of cantillation that will allow you to successfully chant on Shabbat and holiday services here at NSCI. Basic knowledge of Hebrew is helpful.

**\$72 fee for non-members. To register, contact Sarah Duffin at [sarahd@nsci.org](mailto:sarahd@nsci.org).**

## THE POETRY AND SHORT STORIES OF DELMORE SCHWARTZ WITH NEIL RIGLER



**MONDAYS, JANUARY 13, 20,  
FEBRUARY 3, 10, 24**  
7:00–8:30 PM

Join us to read and discuss the stories and poems of Delmore Schwartz, an author who wrote in the years leading up to and beyond WWII. Schwartz's writing is known for the philosophical exploration of Jewish life and the divide between his (Depression-era) generation and the largely immigrant one before it. Texts will be provided for each class.

**\$72 fee for non-members.**  
RSVP at [nsci.org/event/DelmoreSchwartz](https://nsci.org/event/DelmoreSchwartz).

## STUDY THE TALMUD WITH RABBI WENDI GEFFEN

**MONDAYS, JANUARY 27–MARCH 16  
(NO CLASS FEBRUARY 17),  
APRIL 6–MAY 18**  
1:00–2:00 PM

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 at [nsci.org/StudyTheTalmud](https://nsci.org/StudyTheTalmud).

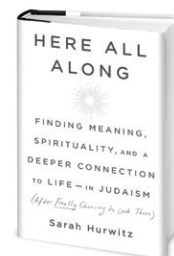
## CREATING A LIFE OF MEANING IN THE NORTH SHORE BUBBLE WITH RABBI WENDI GEFFEN

**WEDNESDAYS, FEBRUARY 5 & 12**  
7:00–8:00 PM

Parents of school-age children: explore with Rabbi Wendi Geffen how ancient Jewish wisdom can help us to live with greater intentionality, helping us to be better parents, partners, friends, and neighbors.

**\$36 fee for non-members. RSVP at [nsci.org/event/CreatingALifeOfMeaning](https://nsci.org/event/CreatingALifeOfMeaning).**

## BOOK DISCUSSION: HERE ALL ALONG: FINDING MEANING, SPIRITUALITY, AND A DEEPER CONNECTION TO LIFE IN JUDAISM WITH RABBI LISA GREENE



**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11**  
7:00 PM

Rabbi Lisa Greene will lead a conversation on this compelling new book and how we relate to the author's journey. Hurwitz, a former White House speechwriter, will be the speaker for our annual JUF event on Wednesday, March 4. The book is widely available.

**\$36 fee for non-members.**  
RSVP at [nsci.org/event/BookDiscussion](https://nsci.org/event/BookDiscussion).

## THE MINDFUL OR MINDLESS LIFE: CHOOSING JOY WITH RABBI WENDI GEFFEN

**TUESDAYS, FEBRUARY 25,  
MARCH 3, 10**  
10:00–11:00 AM

We will delve into the profound and spiritually uplifting practice of study and contemplative practice with traditional Jewish teachings that will make you think differently about yourself, your relationships, and your world. No experience necessary; bring a willing heart and an open mind.

**\$36 fee for non-members.**  
RSVP at [nsci.org/event/ChoosingJoy](https://nsci.org/event/ChoosingJoy).

## MORAL RESISTANCE AND SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY WITH RABBI RYAN DANIELS



### MORAL RESISTANCE AND SPIRITUAL AUTHORITY

**SATURDAYS, MARCH 14, 21, 28, APRIL 4**  
11:15 AM–12:30 PM (AFTER SHABBAT MORNING MINYAN SERVICE)

How would our Sages react to today's most pressing social issues? We will explore Jewish responses to a variety of today's most pressing social justice issues, inspired by the new book, *Moral Resistance and Spiritual Authority: Our Jewish Obligation to Social Justice*.

**\$36 fee for non-members.**  
RSVP at [nsci.org/event/MoralResistance](https://nsci.org/event/MoralResistance).

## Save the Dates for Spring Learning

### NEW MEMOIR WRITING CLASS WITH CAROLE MARK GINGISS

**MONDAYS, APRIL 13, 20, 27, MAY 11, 18 (NO CLASS MAY 25), JUNE 1, 8**  
9:30–11:00 AM

Now is the time to record your stories for future generations of family and friends! Write your memoir with a gifted teacher who has taught countless students to record key experiences of their lives over the past 22 years. You can write your memoir at home from a suggested syllabus or choose your own topic. Class discussions are confidential.

**\$72 for non-members.**  
To register, contact [RSVP@NSCI.org](mailto:RSVP@NSCI.org).

## DEATH OVER DESSERT WITH RABBI LISA GREENE

**TUESDAY, APRIL 28**  
7:00 PM

We will gather over good dessert with folks of different ages for a conversation about one of the most important conversations to have, one which Americans tend to not have. Rabbi Lisa Greene will facilitate these conversations which will be interactive, insightful, and empowered, and which can even be uplifting!

**\$36 fee for non-members.**  
RSVP by Tuesday, April 21 at [nsci.org/event/DeathOverDessert](https://nsci.org/event/DeathOverDessert).

### REFORM REALLY IS A VERB WITH RABBI STEVEN MASON

**MONDAYS, MAY 4, 11, 18**  
7:00 PM

NSCI: 1920–2020—Reform really is a verb. We will study highlights of the evolution of Reform Jewish thinking and practice over the last one hundred years, a text-based discussion of our history.

RSVP at [nsci.org/reform](https://nsci.org/reform).

## Honoring Martin Luther King, Jr.

### SHABBAT TZEDEK: A SHABBAT IN TRIBUTE TO THE LEGACY OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.



**FRIDAY, JANUARY 17**  
6:15 PM

Join us as we honor the legacy of Martin Luther King, Jr. with guest preachers Bishop Derrick Fitzpatrick and Pastor Reshorna Fitzpatrick of the Stone Temple Baptist Church. A light supper will follow the service.

RSVP for dinner to [nsci.org/event/ShabbatTzedek](https://nsci.org/event/ShabbatTzedek).

### MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY OBSERVANCE AT STONE TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH

**MONDAY, JANUARY 20**  
10:00 AM–2:00 PM

Stone Temple Baptist Church was once the Romanian Jewish synagogue serving a community of 250,000 Jews. After it was sold to a Baptist congregation and became Stone Temple Baptist Church, its pulpit was host to Martin Luther King during the Chicago Freedom Movement. Let's join hands together at Stone Temple for a community interfaith celebration. The bus will leave the NSCI parking lot at 10:00 am and return at 2:00 pm.

Questions? Email Diane Moore at [diane.moore815@gmail.com](mailto:diane.moore815@gmail.com) or Susan Schencker at [slhs41@aol.com](mailto:slhs41@aol.com). Fee: \$18 for round-trip bus transportation. Register at [nsci.org/event/MLK2020](https://nsci.org/event/MLK2020).

### CRADLES TO CRAYONS MLK DAY PROGRAM

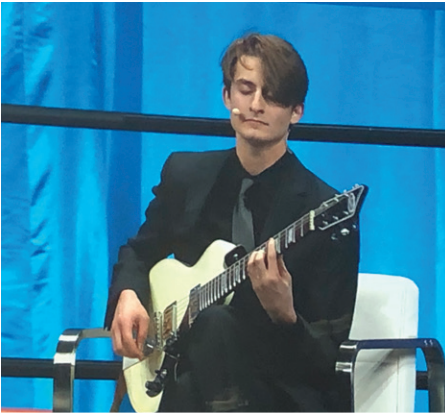
**MONDAY, JANUARY 20**  
10:45 AM–4:00 PM

Attention all 3rd–8th graders, come and participate in a day of service honoring the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. NSCI is going to serve as the North Side collection site and hub for Cradles to Crayons on MLK day. Come and help us make a real difference! Afterwards, we will head to DAVE AND BUSTERS for a late lunch and lots of fun!

This event costs \$40. RSVP to Andrea Dalinka (advisor) at [andread@nsci.org](mailto:andread@nsci.org) by Thursday, January 9.



# Music



## Taking A Chance On Change

Amy Asin      Sara Knizhnik      Joey Noble  
@Amyasin18      @lilgvpcoalition      @Joeynoble\_blues



NSCI congregant  
**JOEY NOBLE**  
inspired thousands  
at the URJ Biennial to think  
differently about the pathway  
to synagogues and Judaism.

## Upcoming Post-Kabbalat Shabbat Concerts

*A light supper will be provided to those who attend the Kabbalat Shabbat service, which begins at 6:15 pm. These concerts are free and have been graciously sponsored by Jim Stone and Madeleine & Harvey Plonsker.*

### THE KING OF INSTRUMENTS

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 24**  
7:45 PM

This concert features the extraordinary Casavant Frères organ as well as talented organists Paul Vander Weele and Patrick Godon.

*Please register at*  
[nsci.org/event/kingofinstruments2020](https://nsci.org/event/kingofinstruments2020).

### 2020 STRINGS FROM STEANS

**FRIDAY, APRIL 10**  
7:45 PM

Ravinia's Steans Music Institute's (RSMI) program celebrating Beethoven's 250th Birthday. Featuring violinist Miriam Fried (RSMI Program Director), violinist Maria Ioudenitch, violinist Geneva Lewis, violist Tanner Menees, cellist Timotheos Petrin, and pianist Sahun Hong.

*Please register at*  
[nsci.org/event/SteansApril2020](https://nsci.org/event/SteansApril2020).

### SILENCED VOICES

**FRIDAY, APRIL 24**  
7:45 PM

In commemoration of Yom HaShoah, the Black Oak Ensemble, featuring violinist Desirée Ruhstrat, cellist David Cunliffe, and violist Aurélien Fort Pederzoli, will perform their deeply personal program dedicated to mid-20th Century Jewish composers, most of whom lost their lives during the Holocaust.

*Please register at*  
[nsci.org/event/BlackOak2020](https://nsci.org/event/BlackOak2020).

## Music Opportunities

### SHABBAT PRAYER-LEADING ENSEMBLES

**FRIDAYS**  
5:15-7:15 PM

NSCI is looking for congregants who are singers and instrumentalists to join us each week to lead our Kabbalat Shabbat Service.

*If you are interested, contact Cantor David Goldstein at 847.835.0724 ext 645.*

### SHIR CHADASH REHEARSALS

**MONDAYS, JANUARY 6, 13,  
FEBRUARY 10, 24, MARCH 9, 16,  
APRIL 13, 20, MAY 11, 18**  
7:30-9:00 PM

Join Shir Chadash, NSCI's adult volunteer choir to help lead worship at NSCI. Shir Chadash serves monthly as a collective group of leaders in our congregational Shabbat worship. During our Monday rehearsals, we will explore the music of worship and the meaning and the context of the prayers we sing during our Shabbat Service.

*To register, contact Cantor David Goldstein at 847.835.0724 ext 645.*



### PIANIST CAROLYN ENGER

entertained a crowded sanctuary on November 8 with her multimedia and piano performance of "The Mischling Exposé."

# Tikkun Olam



## THANK YOU

to everyone who helped prepare and serve desserts for the Beth Emet Soup Kitchen on Wednesday, October 30! We were able to provide over 120 meals for Soup Kitchen guests.

## COOKIES FROM THE HEART

**WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 8 & FEBRUARY 5**

**2:00–4:00 PM**

**RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE NEAR LURIE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL**

Join us to help prepare homemade cookies for children and their families returning from the hospital.

*For more information and to sign up, please email Lois Davis at [cookies@nsci.org](mailto:cookies@nsci.org).*

## FEED THE HOMELESS

**SUNDAYS, JANUARY 12 & FEBRUARY 23**

**1:00 PM SET UP IN THE**

**REBECCA K. CROWN SOCIAL HALL**

**3:00 PM SERVERS DEPART NSCI**

Join us to prepare 750 hot and brown-bag meals, then deliver and/or serve at shelters and food pantries in Lake and Cook counties.

## BOOK DRIVE FOR BERNIE'S BOOK BANK

**JANUARY 12–FEBRUARY 23**

Donate NEW or GENTLY USED books for children ages 0–6<sup>th</sup> grade. Together, let's help Bernie's Book Bank ensure every child has a book of their own!

*Please place donations in the white collection bin located near the religious school office.*

## ADULT MITZVAH CORPS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22**

**10:00 AM–12:00 PM**

Help shelve food at The ARK food pantry.

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12**

**10:00–11:30 AM**

Help shelve food at the Chicago Chesed Fund food pantry.

*If you would like to volunteer with the Adult Mitzvah Corps, please contact Tracey Meyers at 847.242.1234.*

## WINTER FARMERS MARKET

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2**

**9:00 AM–12:00 PM**

Farmers markets aren't just summertime activities! Enjoy a wide range of seasonal, sustainably-produced goods and support local farmers and vendors at NSCI's fourth annual winter farmers market.

## TOILETRIES COLLECTION FOR THE NIGHT MINISTRY

**MARCH 15–APRIL 26, 2020**

We're collecting unused travel and full-size toiletries—soap, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste/brush, mouthwash, feminine hygiene—to donate to The Night Ministry, a Chicago-based organization that works to provide housing, healthcare, and human connection to people who are struggling with poverty or homelessness.

*Please place donations in the white collection bin located near the religious school office.*

## SAVE THE DATE: MITZVAH DAY 2020

**SUNDAY, MAY 3**

Participate in any number of drop-in social action activities here at NSCI or preregister for meaningful service projects happening at NSCI and all around Chicagoland! Projects are being planned to give everyone a chance to participate.

*Learn more at [nsci.org/MitzvahDay2020](http://nsci.org/MitzvahDay2020).*



# Women of NSCI

## LADIES' NIGHT OUT WITH WNSCI

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 9**

Join us for a casual evening of dinner and friends, new and old. Location to be determined.

RSVP to Fran Morof at [frannydm4@gmail.com](mailto:frannydm4@gmail.com).

## WNSCI WOMEN'S RETREAT IN LAKE GENEVA, WI

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7 –  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9**

For more information, contact Peggy Rubenstein at [pf5449@gmail.com](mailto:pf5449@gmail.com).

## WNSCI TRIP: A TASTE OF JEWISH D.C.

**FRIDAY, MARCH 6 –  
SUNDAY, MARCH 8**

For questions or to indicate interest, email Karen Kohn at [kjmkohn@gmail.com](mailto:kjmkohn@gmail.com).

## VOLUNTEER AT BERNIE'S BOOK BANK



**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24  
9:30-11:30 AM**

What a fun morning we had on October 25 volunteering at Gigi's Playhouse. Be sure to join us on our next outing to Bernie's Book Bank. We will meet up at Bernie's in Lake Bluff at 917 North Shore Drive, hear about Bernie's legacy and then sort, sticker, and inspect donated books.

RSVP to Amy Litner at [litaim@comcast.net](mailto:litaim@comcast.net).

## VASHTI'S BANQUET PURIM CELEBRATION



**MONDAY, MARCH 9**

More details to follow.

## WNSCI GAME DAY: MAH JONGG AND CANASTA

**SUNDAY, JUNE 28**

For more information, email Debra Bauer at [debrabauer@gmail.com](mailto:debrabauer@gmail.com) or Eileen Weil at [pinkeweil@yahoo.com](mailto:pinkeweil@yahoo.com).



## WOMEN OF NSCI'S Judaica Gift Shop

**MAKE IT A PRIORITY IN 2020 TO VISIT THE WNSCI JUDAICA GIFT SHOP,  
THE NORTH SHORE'S BEST SELECTION OF JUDAICA AND GIFTWARE  
THAT YOU'LL BE EXCITED TO USE AND PROUD TO SHARE.**

### WINTER HOURS:

MON, TUES, WED & FRI 10:00 AM–1:00 PM  
TUES\* 4:00–5:30 PM SUN\* 9:00 AM–12:00 PM

*\*when religious school is in session*

### WE ARE A FULL LINE MICHAEL ARAM DEALER!

We carry Michael Aram Judaica and can order ANYTHING from the catalog.

To make an appointment, call 847.835.4009 or email [giftshopnsci@gmail.com](mailto:giftshopnsci@gmail.com).

# Sacred Partnership

## Thank You to Our Goodman Center Partners

Anonymous  
Barbara and Ron Borden  
Brotherhood  
Jeanie Cooper  
Jeffrey and Debra Crane  
Judy and Lloyd Falk  
Rabbi Wendi Geffen  
Larry A. Gerber  
Judy and Mike Goodman  
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Jill and Douglas Hirsh  
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Liz and Jason Kunreuther  
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Bruce Menkes and Judy Wexler  
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Lorelei Rosenthal and Family  
Alan Gordon Rottman  
Susan and Rick Schenker  
The Segel Family  
Sheryl Cohen Solomon  
Kathy and Ronald Sonenthal  
Barbara and Victor Weisskopf  
Women of NSCI

**OUR THANKS GOES OUT** to our Goodman Center Partners, many of whom were honored at the Simchat Torah Observance and Consecration Shabbat this year. It is our top priority to ensure that each student has a positive Jewish learning experience and meets the goals that we have set together. We are only able to do this with the support of our Goodman Center Partners who contribute \$500 or more.

School tuition and fees paid by our families cover approximately 53% of the Goodman Center for Jewish Education's budget. The congregation's annual budget supplements another 42%. Each year we look to supporters of the Goodman Center to help us close the 5% gap.

Funds received from Goodman Center Partners support so many of the special things we are able to do:

- Tap the talents of specialists to enliven our curriculum
- Support family holiday and Shabbat experiences
- Provide ongoing professional learning for our teachers aimed at innovating and strengthening our school

Thank you Goodman Center Partners for helping the Goodman Center for Jewish Education continue to be on the cutting edge of Jewish education in the Reform movement.

If you would like to become a Goodman Center Partner or want more information, please contact Sheryl Solomon, Director of Development, [sheryls@nsci.org](mailto:sheryls@nsci.org) or Dr. Roberta Goodman, Education Director, [robertag@nsci.org](mailto:robertag@nsci.org). ■



(From left) Dena Blaustein and Goodman Center Partners David Novick, Barbara Weisskopf, and Barbara Borden hold the Torah scroll during the Simchat Torah Observance and Consecration Shabbat on Friday, October 18.

## NORTH SHORE CONGREGATION ISRAEL Legacy Circle

*"As my ancestors planted for me,  
so I too plant for my children."*

—Pirke Avot, Sayings of the Fathers

Iris Anosov	Anne and Mitch Macknin
Barbara Appelbaum	Miranda and Jed Mandel
Judith and Robert (z"l)	Patrice and Rabbi
Appelbaum	Steven S. Mason
Stuart and Phyllis	Jeff and Barbara Mazur
Applebaum	Dr. Stuart Meyer
Phylis and Kenneth	in memory of
Bagan	Sandy Meyer
Debra R. Bauer	Diane and Jim Moore
Barbara and Ronald	Cathy Nachman
Borden	Leslie Reskin Neilan
Jane B. Colman	Seymour Nordenberg (z"l)
John C. Colman	David Novick
Ludmilla Ross Coven	Rob and Terri Olian
Karen and Robert Dillon	Martin and Carole Parker
Peter and Ann DuBois	Harriette and Ted
Larry and Pam Faulkner	Perlman
Glenn L. Felner	Marilyn Perlman and
Gary Friend	Harry Epstein
Rabbi Wendi Geffen	Edgar Rose
Judith D. Geleerd Kitzes	David Rothschild and
Carole Mark Gingiss	Merle Branner
Jody Gingiss	Inge R. Rothschild
Cantor and Mrs. David	Herbert H. Rozoff
Goldstein	Onnie and Steven
Dr. Roberta Louis	Scheyer
Goodman	Cathy and Joel
Rabbi Lisa S. Greene	Schneider
James E. Greenebaum II	Larry Sherman (z"l)
Lilli M. Greenebaum	Sheryl Cohen Solomon
Martin Grusin	Ronald and Kathy
Doug and Laurie Hart	Sonenthal
The Robert E. Herzog	Andrea and Steven Tick
Family (z"l)	Beth and Nathan Tross
Robert W. Kaufman &	Shirley Tross
Janice A. Kaufman	April and Thomas Victor
Lore B. Kirchheimer (z"l)	Dean and Jody
Adele P. Kleine	Weinberg
Alyssa and Jeremy	Arthur and Marcine
Knobel	Weiner
Karen Mindlin Kohn	Ann and Chuck
and Family	Weisberg
Judith K. Kubert	Carol and Abbott Wolfe
Laurie F. Lieberman	Sylvia Wolfson (z"l)
Steven A. LeVine, MD	Joe and Alison Yastrow
Eunice Lieberstein	Nancy Zadek
Judith Louis	

**Join the North Shore Congregation Israel Legacy Circle by remembering NSCI in your will or estate plan. Contact Sheryl Cohen Solomon, Director of Development, at 847.835.0724 for more information.**

# The Ruthie & Bill Katz Archives

## Our Immigration Stories: Fortunee Massuda

By ELLEN (KATZ) BLOCK

*We continue to document the stories of our congregants who immigrated to the U.S. The following story about Fortunee Massuda and her family is compiled from an interview with Merle Branner on October 27, 2019 and subsequent conversation with Ellen Katz Block on November 15, 2019.*

**MOST OF US** don't think of Jewish refugees as coming from Egypt but for Fortunee Massuda and her family, Cairo is the place from which they emigrated and, as for those who escaped Nazi Germany, leaving their home would not have been their choice.

Fortunee was born in Cairo, as was all of her family: her father, Lietto (Eliyahu), her mother, Rachel, her two older brothers, Jacob and Ben, an older sister, Donya and a younger sister, Sylvia. They were among the relatively small community of about 2,500 Jews segregated from the larger Cairo population of about 3.3 million people. As Jews, they were not allowed to have citizenship or a passport; they were not allowed to work for the government; their identification cards were stamped "Jewish." Within Jewish society, there were doctors, lawyers, independent entrepreneurs and a thriving community, self-contained and surrounded by life centered on the synagogue. The family, like many in the community, were Karaite<sup>1</sup> Jews, and married within their own religious group. Lietto owned a business manufacturing scales and weights. Rachel, like all Egyptian women, did not work; Jacob was in medical school; Ben was in engineering school; Fortunee and her sisters attended private school. During WWII, Rachel's father, Fortunee's grandfather, had purchased a passport and citizenship from Italy, thus the



family had documentation as Italian nationals, a happenstance which would save their lives.

The Six Day War began on Monday, June 5, 1967. Fortunee recalls vividly that by 11 am, the government began picking up Jewish men, nearly 600 in all, including her two brothers, Jacob and Ben, and taking them to the local police station where they were held. They did not return home and were not heard from. On Monday, Lietto went to work and was told by a friendly policeman to close his factory and go home. By 9 pm, with still no word from his sons, Lietto, with a shamas from the temple, went to the local police station. He and the shamas did not return home either and also were not heard from. On Tuesday, June 6, Rachel went to the Italian embassy, asserting her Italian citizenship and learned the whereabouts of the detained Jews. Of the hundreds of Jewish men who were imprisoned, about 40, in Fortunee's recollection, were

"Italian" men, destined to be deported. On Thursday, June 8, Lietto was released as the Egyptian government was not holding foreign nationals over 50 years old. The government did, however, confiscate his factory, his bank accounts and his home so the family had no possessions of value, no income and no way to earn a living. That night, a policeman came to the Massuda's door and told them that Jacob and Ben had been expelled from the country and taken, in handcuffs, to the port city of Alexandria where they were put aboard a ship bound for Italy.\* He did not know exactly where the ship was going but he told them their sons had told him that if he went to their home and told their parents what had happened to them, the family would give him money.

About two weeks later, in mid-June, the family received a call from Jacob and Ben, who were in a refugee camp run by the Italian government. Donya, who was over 18, left to join her brothers.



Although Rachel and especially Lietto, did not want to leave Egypt, they knew they had no choice. Before they could do so, however, the Egyptian government demanded they pay taxes on the business which the government had already confiscated. Lietto used the last of his money to do so, leaving them with no money for passage on an Italian ship. In October 1967, they were able to depart (with one suitcase and five Egyptian dollars each) on a ship for which the Italian government paid. When they arrived in Italy, Jacob and Ben were at the port to meet them along with a representative from HIAS, all three of them telling the family not to get off the boat but to go straight to France because the United States quota for Italians was full. HIAS paid for the family to continue on by ship to Marseilles and then by train to Paris. They somehow arranged for Jacob, Ben and Donya to get to Paris as well, where they all lived in a hotel for 3 ½ months, paid for by HIAS.

The family now had a choice as to whether to emigrate to Israel or the U.S. Lietto was afraid that if they went to Israel, the boys would immediately be taken into the Israeli army and would not be able to finish their education. Rachel's mother and sister were living in Boston and with their help and that of HIAS, an apartment was waiting for the Massudas when they arrived there. HIAS further helped by getting Lietto a job as a mechanic at Beth Israel Hospital; they helped Rachel obtain a job as a typist; they helped Fortunee and Sylvia go to school. As all four of them spoke only Arabic and French, they all had to learn English, and all eventually became U.S. citizens. The Dean of Georgetown University, who was Jewish, gave Jacob a chance to enter the medical school there. He ultimately graduated from Georgetown and did his residency at Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Evanston. Ben finished his education at M.I.T. Donya married and settled down to raise a family which left Fortunee and Sylvia at home.

Fortunee finished her remaining 2½ years of high school, then went to

college, working various jobs to finance her education. She wanted to go to medical school, but her father did not think girls should become doctors so she became a pharmacist, as did Donya. Fortunee completed a five-year work/study program at Northeastern College in Boston, living at home and saving every dollar she could, graduating as a pharmacist in 1975. She decided to go to Chicago and told her parents she would live with Jacob while he was doing his residency at Northwestern but instead, got her own apartment, working at Northwestern Memorial Hospital as a pharmacist and holding a side job at Osco. She discovered that she truly disliked being a pharmacist but, during this time, met a resident in podiatry who interested her in his field. She applied and was accepted to podiatry school at the Illinois College of Podiatric Medicine in Chicago, working night and weekend jobs and teaching pharmacology until she graduated at age 28. Following her surgical residency, Fortunee opened an office in a storefront in Hyde Park which grew into an enormously successful practice with 12 clinics, a staff of 65, and a surgery center in Hyde Park. She also managed a successful school of podiatry clinics for four years in a field in which women were not very visible.

In 1986, when she was 37, Fortunee met her husband, Charles Hannon, who was Catholic but converted, under Rabbi Mason's tutelage, to Judaism in 2001, 11 years after their marriage in 1990. Fortunee's parents, devout Jews, didn't want to come to her wedding and in fact, her brother, Ben, "disowned her" as his sibling. Her brother, Jacob, however, convinced her parents to come to the wedding for which she is extremely grateful. A few years ago, she and Ben began talking again.

The family still has strong attachments to Israel. Lietto wanted to be buried near his mother in the port city of Ashdod, a center for Karaite Jews. Ben sold his very successful engineering business, emigrated to Israel and lived there for 22 years, only recently returning to be nearer to his children.

Rachel lived in Israel with Ben for the last few years of her life and is buried there as well.

Fortunee, now retired, completed Adult B'nei Mitvah at NSCI in 2018, finally having some time in her life to do so. Because girls in Egypt were groomed only for housewife tasks and were not allowed to learn music, play sports or study Hebrew, exploring her Jewish roots and being part of the Jewish community was and is extremely important to Fortunee. She is very empathetic to the plight of immigrants, recalling her own overwhelming feelings of being "lost" and "ungrounded" when the family had to move abruptly and says that the U.S. gave her "everything"—unlimited opportunities—as a Jew and as a woman. She believes we need to help people establish a stable life in their own countries so as to prevent the discombobulation and up-rootedness of emigration though she recognizes this may not always be possible. She believes in legal—definitely not illegal—immigration and that the U.S. should open its doors even more than it does at present to welcome hard-working immigrants who, like her, can make a great contribution to their communities. ■

<sup>1</sup>Karaite Judaism or Karaism is a Jewish religious movement characterized by the recognition of the written Torah alone as its supreme authority in halakha and theology. Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karaite\\_Judaism](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karaite_Judaism)

*\*The Massuda family was lucky. Many Jews who didn't have a foreign nationality were sent to the Abu-Zaabal prison, a notoriously brutal military facility outside of Cairo, where they were held sometimes for three years or more. The Red Cross came to the rescue with the aid and support of the French and Spanish governments which provided passports to help liberate those imprisoned.*

# January 2020 ■ Tevet/Shevat 5780

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1 Building Closed New Years Day	2 1:00 pm WNSCI Mah Jongg Game	3 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service	4 9:15 am Shabbat Minyan Service
5 No Hebrew School—Winter Break	6 11:30 am New Poetry with Rabbi Lisa Greene 6:00 pm Holy Chanters	7 7:00 pm FA Meeting	8 2:00 pm Cookies from the Heart 6:00 pm AA Meeting 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting	9 1:00 pm WNSCI Mah Jongg Game	10 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service	11 9:15 am Shabbat Minyan Service
12 1:00 pm Feed the Homeless	13 11:30 am New Poetry with Rabbi Lisa Greene 6:00 pm Holy Chanters 7:00 pm The Poetry and Short Stories of Delmore Schwartz	14 7:00 pm Board of Trustees Meeting 7:00 pm FA Meeting	15 6:00 pm AA Meeting 6:00 pm NAMI Family-To-Family Education Program 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting	16 1:00 pm WNSCI Mah Jongg Game	17 10:00 am Strollers, Stories & Celebrations—Shabbat & Havdalah 6:15 pm Shabbat Tzedek: A Shabbat in Tribute to the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.	18 9:15 am Shabbat Minyan Service
19 10:30 am WNSCI Board Meeting	20 10:00 am MLK Day Observance at Stone Temple Baptist Church 10:45 am Cradles to Crayons MLK Day Program 12:00 pm Melton Core Class 7:00 pm The Poetry and Short Stories of Delmore Schwartz	21 7:00 pm FA Meeting	22 10:00 am Adult Mitzvah Corps at The ARK 6:00 pm AA Meeting 6:00 pm NAMI Family-To-Family Education Program 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting	23 1:00 pm WNSCI Mah Jongg Game	24 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service 7:45 pm Post Kabbalat Shabbat Concert "The King of Instruments"	25 9:15 am Shabbat Minyan Service
26	27 11:30 am New Poetry with Rabbi Lisa Greene 1:00 pm Study the Talmud 7:00 pm The Poetry and Short Stories of Delmore Schwartz	28 7:00 pm FA Meeting	29 6:00 pm AA Meeting 6:00 pm NAMI Family-To-Family Education Program 6:00 pm North Shore Alateen Meeting	30 1:00 pm WNSCI Mah Jongg Game	31 5:30 pm Families with Young Children-PJs, Pasta & Planting 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Selah, January Birthday Blessing	



# February 2020 ■ Shevat/Adar 5780

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						<b>1</b> <b>9:15 am</b> Shabbat Minyan Service
<b>2</b> <b>9:00 am</b> Winter Farmers Market <b>9:15 am</b> 4th Grade Parent B'nei Mitzvah Meeting <b>11:00 am</b> Pancakes & Purpose Family Experience	<b>3</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> Study the Talmud <b>7:00 pm</b> The Poetry and Short Stories of Delmore Schwartz	<b>4</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Meeting	<b>5</b> <b>2:00 pm</b> Cookies from the Heart <b>6:00 pm</b> AA Meeting <b>6:00 pm</b> NAMI Family-To-Family Education Program <b>6:00 pm</b> North Shore Alateen Meeting <b>7:00 pm</b> Creating a Life of Meaning in the North Shore Bubble	<b>6</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> WNSCI Mah Jongg Game	<b>7</b> Women of NSCI Retreat <b>10:00 am</b> Strollers, Stories & Celebration-Tu B'shevat <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service	<b>8</b> Women of NSCI Retreat <b>9:15 am</b> Shabbat Minyan Service
<b>9</b> Women of NSCI Retreat	<b>10</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> Study the Talmud <b>6:00 pm</b> Holy Chanters <b>7:00 pm</b> The Poetry and Short Stories of Delmore Schwartz	<b>11</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> Book Discussion: <i>Here All Along: Finding Meaning, Spirituality, and a Deeper Connection to Life in Judaism</i> <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Meeting <b>7:30 pm</b> WNSCI Board Meeting	<b>12</b> <b>10:00 am</b> Adult Mitzvah Corps at the Chicago Chesed Fund <b>6:00 pm</b> AA Meeting <b>6:00 pm</b> NAMI Family-To-Family Education Program <b>6:00 pm</b> North Shore Alateen Meeting <b>7:00 pm</b> Creating a Life of Meaning in the North Shore Bubble	<b>13</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> WNSCI Mah Jongg Game	<b>14</b> <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Alan Goodis	<b>15</b> <b>9:15 am</b> Shabbat Minyan Service
<b>16</b> <b>No School—Presidents Day</b>	<b>17</b> <b>Building Closed—Presidents Day</b>	<b>18</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> Board of Trustees Meeting <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Meeting	<b>19</b> <b>6:00 pm</b> AA Meeting <b>6:00 pm</b> NAMI Family-To-Family Education Program <b>6:00 pm</b> North Shore Alateen Meeting	<b>20</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> WNSCI Mah Jongg Game	<b>21</b> <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Selah & February Birthday Blessing	<b>22</b> <b>9:15 pm</b> Shabbat Minyan Service
<b>23</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Winter Spirituality Walk <b>1:00 pm</b> Feed the Homeless	<b>24</b> <b>9:30 am</b> WNSCI Volunteer at Bernie's Book Bank <b>1:00 pm</b> Study the Talmud <b>6:00 pm</b> Holy Chanters <b>7:00 pm</b> The Poetry and Short Stories of Delmore Schwartz	<b>25</b> <b>10:00 am</b> The Mindful or Mindless Life: Choosing Joy <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Meeting	<b>26</b> <b>6:00 pm</b> AA Meeting <b>6:00 pm</b> NAMI Family-To-Family Education Program <b>6:00 pm</b> North Shore Alateen Meeting	<b>27</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> WNSCI Mah Jongg Game	<b>28</b> <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Shir Chadash	<b>29</b> <b>9:15 am</b> Shabbat Minyan Service



**NORTH SHORE  
CONGREGATION  
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## **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.



**The Bernice and Seymour  
Nordenberg Memorial  
Scholar In Residence Weekend  
with Rabbi Rami Shapiro**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 3 AT 6:15 PM**

**"Why Judaism Matters: What We Bring  
to the Table of Civilizational Change"**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 4 AT 10:30 AM**

**"Judaism as a Religion of Argument and Doubt"**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 5 AT 9:00 AM**

**"JudaismNext: Envisioning Judaism for the 24th Century, a Manifesto"**

Program admission is free. Please RSVP to: [nsci.org/nordenberg2020](https://nsci.org/nordenberg2020)