

NORTH SHORE  
CONGREGATION  
ISRAEL

# The Bulletin

Vol. 93 No. 1

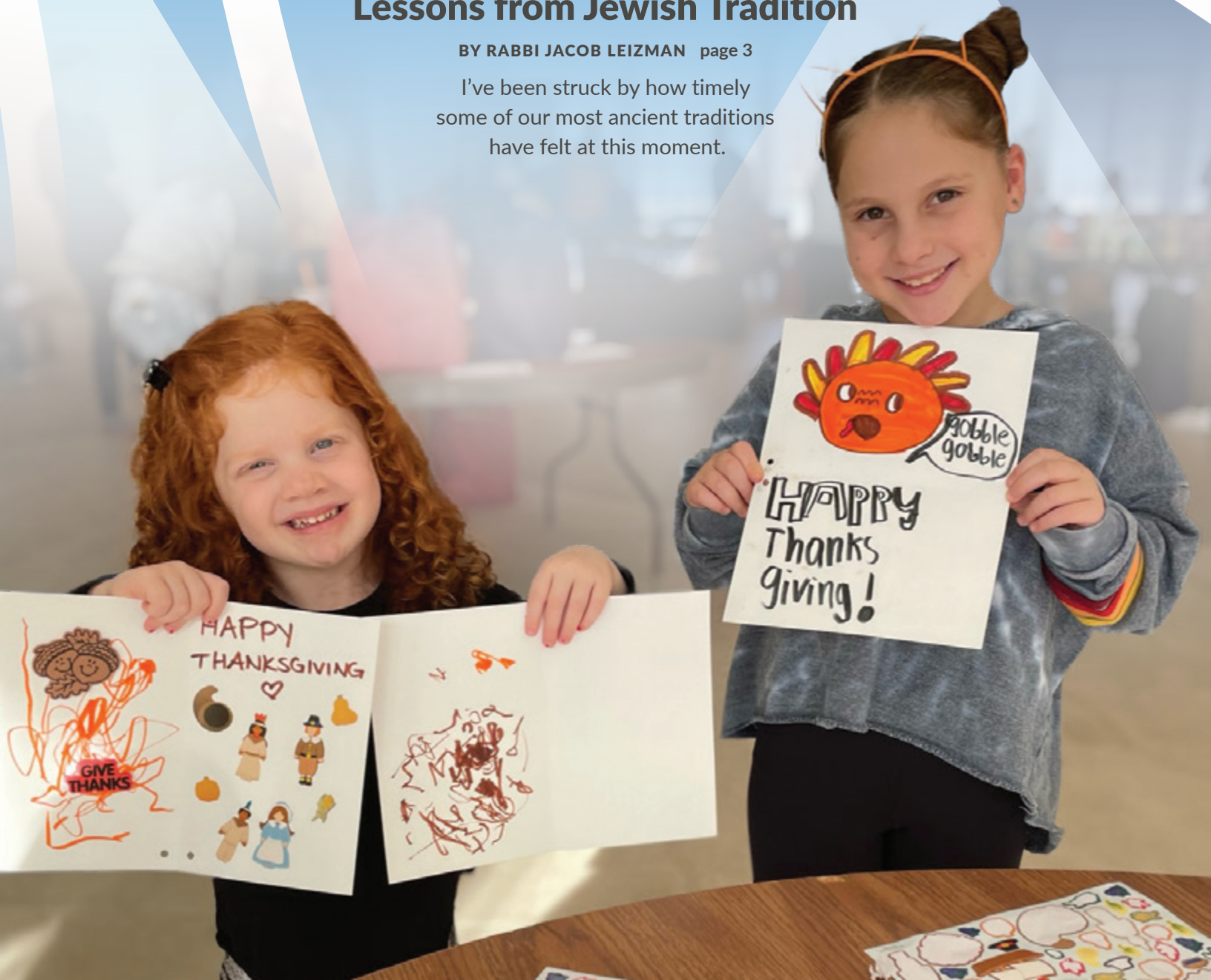
January/February 2024 ■ Tevet/Sh'vat/Adar 5784

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## Timely and Timeless: Lessons from Jewish Tradition

BY RABBI JACOB LEIZMAN page 3

I've been struck by how timely  
some of our most ancient traditions  
have felt at this moment.



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Associate Rabbi Chair*

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## WHAT'S INSIDE...

Timely and Timeless:	
Lessons from Jewish Tradition .....	3
We Are Stronger Together .....	4
Thanksgiving Baskets .....	4
March for Israel .....	5
Mazel Tov! .....	6-7
We Remember .....	8
Congregant Spotlight .....	9

## PROGRAMS

Support .....	10
Youth & Family Community .....	11
Adult Learning & Programs .....	12-13
Music .....	14
Women of NSCI .....	14
Tikkun Olam .....	15
Celebrating Chanukah .....	16
The Ruthie & Bill Katz Archives .....	17
NSCI Calendar .....	18-19

# Timely and Timeless: Lessons from Jewish Tradition

BY RABBI JACOB LEIZMAN



**AS I WRITE** this in mid-November, I am entirely preoccupied with the ongoing warfare in Israel and Gaza as well as its resounding effects around the world in the form of antisemitism. I dearly hope that by the time this reaches you in six weeks, the hostages have been released and returned home, progress has been made toward peace in Israel, and Jews around the world feel a renewed sense of safety, community, and partnership.

In the days since October 7th, I've been struck by how timely some of our most ancient traditions have felt at this moment. And for all of our sakes, I wish that the sharp resonance of these traditions soon subsides. I wish that the commandment and prayer to redeem captives won't fill us with the chilling urgency that it does right now. I wish our prayers for peace would represent our collective and spiritual aspirations and not a call to protect our loved ones in immediate danger. I wish the rules of war in the Book of Deuteronomy were just a text to study and not a guide to the reality with which we are contending. And I wish that publicizing our Judaism would no longer require a calculation of safety.

All of these values from Jewish tradition—redeeming captives, pursuing peace, engaging in warfare responsibly, and publicizing our Judaism—have been extremely timely this fall. One of the most awe-inducing aspects of Jewish tradition is the fact that there is precedent somewhere for nearly all of life's emotions and experiences. In challenging times or celebratory ones, or just about anything in between,

chances are someone from the millennia of Jewish civilization faced similar circumstances and recorded it in a talmudic discussion, Torah commentary, or legal responsa. While the timeliness of these Jewish texts can feel sharp, they are also an ever present reminder that we are truly never alone. We are always standing on and with thousands of years of Jewish history.

In addition to the timely nature of Jewish study, prayer, and tradition in specific moments, there is also an element of timelessness that has enabled Judaism to endure for generations. A few weeks into the war, I faced a decision preparing for Torah study. In the Torah portion that week there were both timely excerpts relating to war and conflict and timeless excerpts introducing the practices of visiting the sick and welcoming guests. Do we study the verses that are most poignant, reminding ourselves that the Jewish people have faced conflict before and our spiritual tradition accounts for the wholeness of our lives? Or do we study the verses that contain eternal lessons, comforting ourselves that even when the world feels upside down, there are Jewish values that infuse our lives with holiness and connection no matter the circumstances?

The decision I made about which verses to study is ultimately not the point—what was most meaningful to me was the fact that those two options were both equally important and available to all of us. The timeliness and timelessness of Jewish tradition deepens our potential to experience each moment with sacred connection to the past, present, and future. We trace

**One of the most awe-inducing aspects of Jewish tradition is the fact that there is precedent somewhere for nearly all of life's emotions and experiences.**

the instruction to observe Shabbat all the way back to the Book of Exodus, and it will continue long after our own lives, and yet, we have the opportunity to celebrate Shabbat each week. We participate in the timeless practice of learning together and contributing to the discussions around our most sacred texts, while each week rabbis, cantors, educators, and b'nei mitzvah extract timely messages that resonate for our day. We perform acts of kindness and justice that help heal a fractured world, actions that are relevant to every time and place, while each action is attuned to the moment in which it is performed. These timeless practices give structure to our lives and ethical guidance to our everyday behaviors, regardless of whatever else is going on at its moment in history.

I pray that the world changes for the better by the time that you read this. Whether or not it does, however, there will be timely and timeless lessons from our tradition to fortify us with meaning and connection. Whether it's Shabbat, learning, or acts of kindness, or another relevant and time-tested tradition here at NSCI, I look forward to experiencing both the prescient and everlasting wisdom Judaism has to offer with you soon. ■

# We Are Stronger Together

BY JEFF ECHT, PRESIDENT



## A SYNAGOGUE

community is greater than the sum of its parts. NSCI, like other synagogues, provides a space for communal gatherings, prayer, and learning as well as opportunities for volunteering, charity work, and education. Our congregation also plays a crucial role in preserving Jewish traditions, culture, and values. Connecting as an individual is rewarding in and of itself; however, sharing those connections with others, in community, is what makes this such a strong and vibrant congregation.

People of all ages and varied backgrounds come together to learn, grow, celebrate, and mourn. Younger generations learn from the wisdom

and experience of older generations, while older generations learn from the energy, enthusiasm, and, yes, the wisdom of younger generations. We hold a safe space to exchange ideas, sometimes conflicting ideas, with respect and open minds. Our bond strengthens exponentially as the number of congregants increases. We are emboldened and strengthened while standing as a community.

When you contribute your time to a tikkun olam project, help to organize an event, study Jewish text, or attend a Shabbat or a holiday service, I hope you derive personal satisfaction from the experience. But beyond the personal benefits, know that your presence in this community contributes to the greater whole that allows NSCI

to continue to flourish as a resilient, adaptable, and formidable home of Jewish life in our community.

This theme of community and togetherness resonates in the Shehecheyanu blessing, recited upon experiencing new or special moments in our lives. We do not express thanks that you or I have reached this day. The prayer uses the pronoun “us” to convey appreciation that we have reached this day. By doing so, Jews voice gratitude that our community locally, and the Jewish community globally, experiences our most sacred moments together.

*Blessed are You Adonai our God, Sovereign of the universe, who has given us life, sustained us, and allowed us to reach this day.* ■

## Thanksgiving Baskets

### Grateful To Our Community

**FOR OVER A DECADE** NSCI families have come together the weekend before Thanksgiving to provide Thanksgiving meals to those in need—and this year we broke our own record! In the past, we prepared 200 baskets to share with the families of Whittier Elementary School. This year, Rabbi Leizman and the Thanksgiving Baskets team set out to not only provide for these families, but to provide a Thanksgiving meal for as many families at Whittier Elementary School as possible. 271 baskets were made and delivered to the recipients. We are so incredibly grateful to everyone who helped us accomplish something so much larger than ourselves. ■



# March for Israel

Rabbi Wendi Geffen and Rabbi Lisa Greene met up with congregants in Washington, DC, at the March for Israel, on Tuesday, November 14th.

"Beyond the incredibly diverse population of Jews in attendance, a broad swath of allies were also there standing by our sides. The crowd cheered together, prayed together, wept together, and hoped for a better future together. The gathering was inspiring, affirming, and unifying, as Natan Sharansky declared: 'How do we keep going? We keep going by going together!'"

—Rabbi Geffen & Rabbi Greene



"The last 5+ weeks have been exhausting, and it's easy to lose steam in this fight that seems never ending. But being at this rally rejuvenated me and I hope it rejuvenates everyone else to keep fighting the good fight."

—Rachel Stein

"People I knew from all aspects of my life were there joining in their support for Israel, their fears of antisemitism, and their calls to release the hostages. It was incredible to see so many of us, in the middle of Washington, DC, fighting for our futures and safety and security of Israel."

—Dana Gordon

"It was an extraordinarily uplifting experience to be surrounded by peaceful people united together with the same goal. The prevailing mood was a mixture of pride and resolve, not anger or hatred."

—Jonathan Quinn



"Bob and I experienced one of the most powerful and profound days in our lives! A tsunami of mishpachah unlike nowhere else except in Am Yisrael. We went with feelings of despair and a need to do anything we could to stand up for Israel, the hostages, and their families, and to take a stand against escalating antisemitism. We returned with a remarkable sense of being part of a worldwide Jewish community and family—which fills us with hope."

—Jill Moss

# Mazel Tov!

## WELCOME!



**Lillian Michaela Carlitz**  
**BORN AUGUST 8, 2023**  
 Child of Miriam and Phil Carlitz  
 Grandchild of Debbie Carlitz,  
 Stuart Carlitz, and Debbie &  
 Steve Dresner  
 Great Grandchild of Madeline  
 Caplan and Carol Farber



**Blake Evan Sloan**  
**BORN OCTOBER 6, 2023**  
 Child of Lindsay & Alex Sloan  
 Sibling of Sophie Sloan  
 Grandchild of Bonnie & Eric  
 Sloan and Rhona & Ira Chick  
 Great Grandchild of Stuart  
 Meyer, Arlene Chick, and  
 Millie & Harvey Pine



**Ethan Issac Stone and  
 Connor Jacob Stone**  
**BORN OCTOBER 9, 2023**  
 Children of Kristin & Alex Stone  
 Grandchildren of Julie & Loren  
 Stone and Kathy & Bill  
 Gatzendorfer  
 Great Grandchildren of  
 Ferne & Howard Stone,  
 Sharon & Jim Schmidt,  
 Bill Gatzendorfer, and  
 Kathleen & Herbert  
 Passineau



**Lincoln Sender Good**  
**BORN OCTOBER 12, 2023**  
 Child of Romy & Seth Good  
 Sibling of Maya, Ethan, &  
 Palmer Good  
 Grandchild of Abby & Ken  
 Good, Caron & Lawrence  
 Posner, and Adele & Dan  
 Harlacher  
 Great Grandchild of Audrey &  
 Philip Posner



**Eli Benjamin Schur**  
**BORN NOVEMBER 3, 2023**  
 Child of Rebecca & Robert Schur  
 Grandchild of Donna Fletcher  
 & William Schur



**Winnie Sage Lebovic**  
**BORN NOVEMBER 7, 2023**  
 Child of Ashley & Ken Lebovic  
 Sibling of Hayes, Tyson, and  
 Pierce Lebovic  
 Great grandchild of Lori & Larry  
 Weisman, Wendy Weisman,  
 Rita Lebovic, and Carmella &  
 Harold Lebovic  
 Great Grandchild of Miriam  
 Weisman



**August ("Auggie") Gray  
 Fish**  
**BORN NOVEMBER 8, 2023**  
 Child of Julie & Derek Fish  
 Sibling of Rory Arthur Fish  
 Grandchild of Bonnie &  
 Peter Flanzer and Susan &  
 Austin Fish  
 Great grandchild of Jane &  
 Harold Sherman



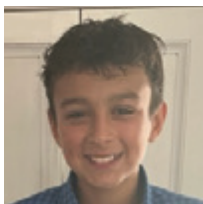
**Grant Bennett Olian**  
**BORN NOVEMBER 9, 2023**  
 Child of Ashley & Jared Olian  
 Sibling of Jacob and Amaya  
 Olian  
 Grandchild of Jill & Greg Lapin  
 and Julie & Jeff Olian  
 Great Grandchild of Doris &  
 Bob Olian



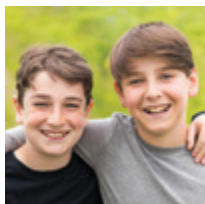
**Cameron Nathan Conen**  
**BORN NOVEMBER 18, 2023**  
 Child of Andrea & Jared Conen  
 Grandchild of Debra & William  
 Lewin and Beth & Richard  
 Conen  
 Great Grandchild of Roberta  
 Fine and Joan Miller

**Arthur Camp Glabman**  
**BORN DECEMBER 1, 2023**  
 Child of Maja & Alex Glabman  
 Grandchild of Miriam & Richard  
 Glabman

## B'NEI MITZVAH



**Gavin Felsenthal**  
**JANUARY 13, 2024**  
*Child of Jeri & Stephen Felsenthal*

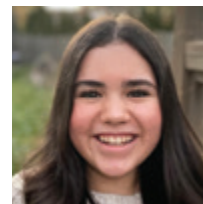


**Benjamin Miller**  
**FEBRUARY 3, 2024**  
*Child of Lindsie & Paul Miller*

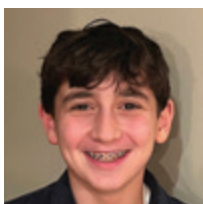
**Brandon Miller**  
**FEBRUARY 3, 2024**  
*Child of Lindsie & Paul Miller*



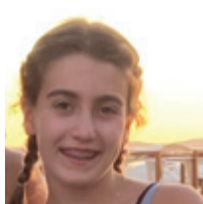
**Ellie Avadek**  
**FEBRUARY 3, 2024**  
*Child of Nicole & Steven Avadek*



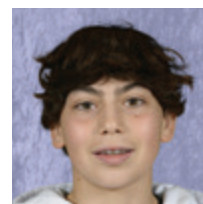
**Ava Fishman**  
**FEBRUARY 24, 2024**  
*Child of Karina & Jaret Fishman*



**Eitan Levin**  
**JANUARY 20, 2024**  
*Child of Elizabeth & Eric Levin*



**Sophie Carrel**  
**FEBRUARY 10, 2024**  
*Child of Lisa Carrel and Mitch Carrel*



**Ryan Been**  
**FEBRUARY 24, 2024**  
*Child of Marissa & Paul Been*

## WEDDINGS



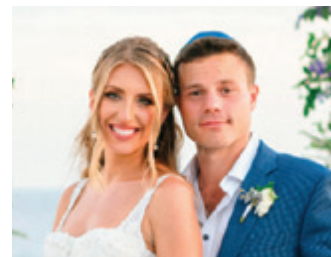
**Olya Kats & Geoffrey Schwartz**  
**OCTOBER 7, 2023**



**Mia Goodman & Ross Bessinger**  
**OCTOBER 21, 2023**



**Morgan Handwerker & Jesse Parritz**  
**NOVEMBER 11, 2023**



**Nicole Wergiles & Danny Spitz**  
**NOVEMBER 11, 2023**

**We would love to share your good news!** Is there a new baby or wedding in your family?  
Please email Susan Ellenby, [susane@nsci.org](mailto:susane@nsci.org) so that we can share your simchas/celebration in an issue of The Bulletin.

# We Remember

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

### **Boris Anisi**

Father of Karen (Marc) Sperber  
Grandfather of Iris, Joey, & Sophie

### **Brian Bruggeman**

Brother of Jay (Abby) Bruggeman  
Uncle of Jack & Molly

### **Nancy Zadek Cohrs**

Mother of Kathi (Tom) Lind & Craig (Linda)  
Umans  
Grandmother of Jesse (Meg) Lind  
Great Grandmother of Owen & Ellie Lind

### **Glenn Felner**

Husband of Bonnie Felner

### **Gloria Flanzer**

Mother of Peter (Bonnie) Flanzer  
Grandmother of Elizabeth (Tim) Donohue &  
Julie (Derek) Fish  
Great Grandmother of Parker, Callie,  
Maisie, & Rory

### **Jarvis Friduss**

Brother of Michael (Betsy) Friduss  
Uncle of Kevin (Stacy) Friduss & Caroline  
(Jason) Chess

### **Marshall Hammersley**

Father of Howard (Tami), Bruce (Carol), &  
Susan Hammersley  
Grandfather of Michael, Scott (Hannah),  
Lauren, Paige, Jessica, & Evan

### **Lawrence Lauwasser**

Father of Jill (John) Mandel  
Grandfather of Jeremy & Jacob

### **Michael Moss**

Father of Greg (Julie) Moss  
Grandfather of Max, Judd, & Maddy

### **Loren Palmer**

Wife of Brandon Palmer  
Mother of Carly & Shira Palmer  
Sister of Mitchell Susser  
Sister-in-law of Stephen & Sharon Palmer  
Aunt of Jason (Yoori), Michael, & Jaclyn  
(Kenny)

### **Barry Parker**

Brother of Howard (Janice) Parker

### **Merle Reskin**

Mother of Leslie R. (Paul) Neilan & Jim  
(Rhonda) Reskin  
Grandmother of Sean (Chelsea), Spencer  
(Leah), Melanie, Hillary, Sophie, & Eric  
Great Grandmother of Carly, Liam, Erez, &  
Riley

### **Marcia Schneider**

Mother of Andrew (Robin Blackwell)  
Schneider & James (Robin Verdug)  
Schneider  
Sister of Evan (Linda) Goodman  
Aunt of Katy Shapiro

### **Joyce Solomon**

Mother of Stacy (Charlie) Winternitz  
Grandmother of Sarah & Ellie

### **Audrey Spak**

Mother of Craig (Hildy) Spak  
Grandmother of Veronica (Nicolas) de  
Bontin

### **Russell Thomashow**

Grandson of Judith & Saul Thomashow  
Nephew of Nancy & Jeffrey Lichten



## Discounted Burial Plots for NSCI Congregants

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.*

# Congregant Spotlight: Tracey Meyers

*Mia Drelich, our communications and marketing coordinator, sat down with Tracey Meyers for an interview about her involvement in tikkun olam at NSCI, the impact service can have, and her journey starting and maintaining the Adult Mitzvah Corps.*

## **What led you to get involved in tikkun olam projects at NSCI? Do you have a service background?**

Truthfully, my oldest son was in the 8th grade mitzvah corps, and they would go on Sundays and do these great projects and I thought, "Well, why are the kids having all of the fun?!" So I approached Rabbi Mason about us creating an Adult Mitzvah Corps. After he and I met and discussed my proposal, it was ready to go! April Victor asked me how long I've been doing it, and together we figured out that it's been about 18 years! I actually have a marketing background, but I guess I kind of always was involved in volunteering. My parents were always big in volunteering as well. It makes you feel good as well as those you're helping.

## **What do you like about running the Adult Mitzvah Corps?**

One of the things that's so wonderful about this congregation is that the size leads people to look at our congregation and question how you get to really know people; I think the opposite. I feel that it allows you to do a lot more because we offer so many options that a smaller

congregation just would not be able to offer. If there's a niche that you like—that's how I found my thing—there's space to create it. I feel like we have this little community within a big community.

## **It helps to make a big space feel much smaller.**

It does. It's a really nice way to find people. We only do it once a month, and no one is obligated to come every time so they just come when they come and it's an easy way to do something good for someone else.

## **Speaking of doing something good for someone else, what about tikkun olam speaks to you so strongly?**

I just feel like we can all do our own part to help the world, and maybe it sounds silly, but I do really feel like we are able to make a difference. Even if it's just one person at a time, that is one person that maybe wasn't getting the help they needed before but are now.

## **Absolutely! Everyone has the ability to give something back; no matter the size, the impact can be immense.**

I believe that dignity is so important. All people deserve to be treated with dignity.

## **You are certainly promoting that belief through Adult Mitzvah Corps. What's an important Jewish memory in your life?**

I can remember as a small child, going to services, I used to fall asleep when the rabbi's sermon would come and my mom would just kind of nudge me, even though that's what little kids do. Even



**"We can all do our own part to help the world..."**

when I'm going to services now, I end up singing the songs on the way home and I don't even think about it sometimes.

**You don't necessarily think about the impact that the prayers and their melodies can have, but it lives within you. It lives within all of us.**

You know, it really does. ■

*If you are interested in being interviewed and featured in a Congregant Spotlight in the future, please contact Mia Drelich at [www.nsci.org/form/CMD](http://www.nsci.org/form/CMD)*



# Support

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

## HANDS OF CHESED, NSCI'S CARING COMMUNITY



Chesed is Hebrew for kindness. Hands of Chessed is a group of NSCI volunteers who spread kindness. We want to help

you during a difficult time. If you're dealing with illness, divorce, mourning or other challenges, let us drop off dinner or groceries and the warmth of our NSCI community! If we can help you, or if you want to join our team to spread kindness, please tell our volunteers so they can reach out.

**Hands of Chessed is led by Leslie Rosen. For more information or to contact Leslie, visit [nsci.org/support](http://nsci.org/support).**

*"I received the generous gift you sent for Rosh Hashanah—two round loaves of challah and two candles. What a kind and thoughtful thing to do. Hands of Chessed has been so welcome throughout my husband's illness and death. This is a wonderful organization and I thank you for all your wonderful and meaningful gifts when least expected."*

## HEALING SERVICES WITH CANTOR GOLDSTEIN ON FACEBOOK

**WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 3, 17, FEBRUARY 7, 21  
8:00 PM ON FACEBOOK**



Join Cantor Goldstein for a quiet and contemplative Healing Service. Together we can create a gentle time for prayer,

meditation, and song that focuses on healing and wholeness. Watch on Facebook (no account necessary): [facebook.com/NSCIGlencoe](https://facebook.com/NSCIGlencoe).

**You can now submit a name to be included in the upcoming service. Submissions will be used as long as they have been received by 11:59 p.m. on the Tuesday (day) before the service. Submit to [nsci.org/form/healing-service-submissions](http://nsci.org/form/healing-service-submissions)**

## NEED SOMEONE TO TALK TO?

Elizabeth Ury, LNHA, and JCFS Chicago Director of Jewish Community Engagement is available to talk with you and help 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](mailto:ElizabethUry@JCFS.org). There is no cost for NSCI members.

**Call 855-ASK-JCFS (855-275-5237) or email [ask@jcfs.org](mailto:ask@jcfs.org) to access their available resources, their online grief support groups, counseling, and Response Center programs.**

## ADDICTION AND RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUPS

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

**Please visit our website for information on how to access the following support groups [www.nsci.org/support](http://www.nsci.org/support).**

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

## FAMILIES ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

**TUESDAYS  
7:00–8:30 PM IN THE FAMILY ROOM**

For family members impacted by a loved one's addiction.

**For information, contact Margot at 847.738.0306 or [mkpeters81@aol.com](mailto:mkpeters81@aol.com).**

## ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS MEETINGS

**WEDNESDAYS  
6:00–7:00 PM IN THE FAMILY ROOM**

**For information, contact Mark at 847.738.1919 or [mopeters21@gmail.com](mailto:mopeters21@gmail.com).**

## NSCI CONGREGANT DIRECTORY

***"Loving thy neighbor begins with knowing thy neighbor"***

A large aspect of belonging to a congregation, for many of our members, is the ability to connect with like-minded individuals and develop meaningful lasting relationships. This is where your personal NSCI Congregant Directory comes into play. This is a safe, password-protected, congregant-only directory. You can manage your own member profile and view other congregants' info. This may come in handy if you want to send a thank you or condolences card, grab a cup of coffee with a fellow congregant, or find a buddy to conquer your New Year's resolutions with. You can quickly and easily find someone and a way to contact them through your NSCI Directory. It's just another congregant perk!

**If you have any questions, please contact Mia Drelich by visiting [nsci.org/form/CMD](http://nsci.org/form/CMD) or call the office during office hours (Mon.–Thurs. 9–5; Fri. 9–4) at 847.835.0724. To access the Directory, you must be logged into your NSCI account.**

## CLERGY REPRESENTATION AT LIFECYCLE EVENTS: BEFORE YOU BOOK A DATE

We would like to remind congregants that the only way to ensure one of our clergy can officiate an important event in your life is to reach out to us before booking a specific date and time for your event. We do our best to accommodate all requests, but there are many times when we cannot change our schedules and may, unfortunately, be unable to accommodate an officiation request.

**To inquire about the availability of our clergy, please reach out to Sarah Duffin by visiting [nsci.org/form/CSD](http://nsci.org/form/CSD).**

# Youth & Family Community

## Early Childhood



### CHALLAH FOR ISRAEL

Over 60 families participated in our Challah for Israel drive, making over 100 challahs for peace! Tots and their families participated in the Jewish tradition of making challah and the ancient ritual called “Taking Challah – Hafrashat Challah” that invites us to “set aside” something that we would have enjoyed to give or dedicate to someone or others in need. They made challah with the intention of praying for healing for those who are hurt, people to be safe, comfort for people who are sad, for Israel and for peace.

**We raised almost \$2,000 for American Friends of Magen David Adom**, enough to sponsor a complete first-responder's bag that has the necessary supplies to provide crucial lifesaving treatment.

### TOT SHABBAT POP-UP SERIES

**SATURDAYS, JANUARY 13, 20, 27**  
**10:00–11:00 AM**

Mark your calendars! Join Rabbi Leizman and Sara Horovitz, M.Ed., for an exciting new Tot Shabbat Pop-Up Series. We'll enjoy a Shabbat singalong, adult discussion, kids' story time, and family art activity. Come celebrate Shabbat with us!

### SAVE THE DATE: TU B'SHEVAT TOT MUSIC, MOVEMENT, & SMOOTHIES

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4**  
**9:30–11:00 AM AT NSCI**

## Elementary & Middle School-Age Children

### MITZVAH DAY FOR MLK FOR 3RD TO 6TH GRADERS

**MONDAY, JANUARY 15**  
**10:45 AM–4:00 PM**

Join the NSCI Youth Group for a day of service honoring the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Please bring donations for Cradles to Crayons to help children in need. We will collect and sort donations, then head out for lunch and fun at Dave & Busters. Come and help us make a real difference!

**\$45 (scholarships available). Register at [www.nsci.org/event/M4MLK](http://www.nsci.org/event/M4MLK).**

### FAMILY SHABBAT EXPERIENCE



**FRIDAY, JANUARY 19**  
**6:00–7:30 PM, TROSS FAMILY  
EDUCATION CENTER**

All families with children in grades K–5 are invited to celebrate the end of the week with us—come as you are! We are lifting up the Jewish practice of avodah (sacred service) through adult learning, children's programming, and Shabbat.  
6:00 pm: Shabbat blessings;  
6:15 pm: Kids enjoy pizza and activities while adults join for drinks, apps, and learning  
7:00 pm: Come together for a musical Shabbat experience

*The cost of attendance is \$36 per family and includes dinner. Visit [nsci.org/event/FSE11924](http://nsci.org/event/FSE11924) to register.*

## Teens

### YOUTH GROUP WINTER KICKOFF PROGRAM

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 28**

Reach out to Ben Reingold at [www.nsci.org/form/CBR](http://www.nsci.org/form/CBR) for more information and to register.

### MIDDLE GRADES WINTER UNDERNIGHTER

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2**  
**4:30–7:30 PM**

Calling all NSCI 5th through 7th graders! Come celebrate Shabbat, sip hot chocolate, and play games at our winter undernighter!

Email [BenR@nsci.org](mailto:BenR@nsci.org) to RSVP.

### KARAV TEEN RETREAT PLANNING PARTY

**SUNDAY, MARCH 3**

Want to get more involved in Teens @ NSCI? Looking for an opportunity to put your creativity and planning skills to use? Please join us for our first planning party for the Karav Teen Retreat, which will take place at NSCI in May.

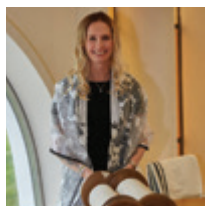
Email [BenR@nsci.org](mailto:BenR@nsci.org) for more information.

# Adult Learning & Programs

## SAVE THE DATE—ADULT B'NEI MITZVAH: NEW CLASS STARTING FALL 2024

Adult B'nei Mitzvah is a meaningful journey of learning and community that takes place over two years and culminates in a group service of b'nei mitzvah. You'll learn to read Hebrew, read Torah, deepen your learning, and explore your beliefs. And you'll meet new people! Over 140 NSCI adults, ages 28–95, have gone on this life-changing journey. Now it's your turn! To learn more, contact Rabbi Greene, who's looking to start a new class autumn of 2024.

To tell Rabbi Greene you're interested, or to speak with her about the class, visit [www.nsci.org/form/email-rabbi-greene](http://www.nsci.org/form/email-rabbi-greene).



"The Adult Bnei Mitzvah class at NSCI is the experience of a lifetime. It is a magical journey of learning, faith, and friendship.

This class gave me confidence and understanding to feel connected and a part of the service." —Lindsay Emalfarb, Adult B'nei Mitzvah class, 2021

## INTRO TO JUDAISM

**WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 17–MAY 29**  
7:00–8:30 PM

Several Reform synagogues on the North Shore of Chicago are coming together to offer another year of Introduction to Judaism. Class will be held in person at BJBE in Deerfield, Am Shalom, and NSCI in Glencoe, Sukkat Shalom in Wilmette, and Jeremiah in Northfield, which both invites participants to experience a range of Reform Jewish communities on the North Shore and also builds close connections with all of our participating clergy. The class is grounded in the URJ's Introduction to Judaism curriculum, and together we will explore some of the essential pillars of Jewish life, including Jewish texts, beliefs and values, holidays and rituals, and history.

Rabbi Lily Goldstein, Cantor Julie Staple, Rabbi Jacob Leizman, Rabbi Brian Immerman, Rabbi Ally Tick Brill, and Rabbi Rachel Heaps will share in instructing the course on a rotating basis. Reach out to Rabbi Leizman with any questions and register by visiting [www.bit.ly/I2JRJ](http://www.bit.ly/I2JRJ).

## SENIOR CONNECTIONS

**Lucille Ball: Queen of Comedy**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10**  
1:00–2:00 PM, VIA ZOOM

Presented by Dr. Anette Bochenek

Lucille Ball is celebrated as one of the top comedians of classic television. In addition to a career spanning from radio to the screen, Ball also possessed a strong business acumen that impacted classic television. Join us over Zoom to learn more about Ms. Ball's career, legacy, and early years in entertainment.

Visit [nsci.org/event/SCJan2024](http://www.nsci.org/event/SCJan2024) to register.

**A Look Inside Outsider Art**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7**  
1:00–2:00 PM, VIA ZOOM

Presented by NSCI congregant Barbara Weisskopf

A magnificent storyteller, Barbara highlights works from Mr. Imagination, Howard Finster, and Jimmy Lee Sudduth. Join her on a tour of outsider and self-taught artists, including Jewish folk artists illustrating Jewish holidays.

Visit [nsci.org/event/SCFeb2024](http://www.nsci.org/event/SCFeb2024) to register.

## ISRAEL BOOK DISCUSSION

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 21**  
9:30 AM AT NSCI

Led by Rabbi Lisa Greene

We all wish we knew more about Israel, its history and complexities. Pick up a copy of *Israel: A Simple Guide to the Most Misunderstood Country on Earth*, by Noa Tishby, from your favorite library or bookseller, read, and learn with Rabbi Greene. Please read the book in advance of January 21 and come with your questions and discussion points.

*Hadassah Magazine* says, "This is a book well worth the read for anyone who cares about, or needs a crash course on, the Jewish state."

Visit [www.nsci.org/event/BDwRG](http://www.nsci.org/event/BDwRG) to register. This course is free for congregants.

## CURRENT TRENDS IN JEWISH MUSIC

**MONDAYS, JANUARY 22, 29, FEBRUARY 5**

**11:30 AM–12:30 PM, AT NSCI**

Led by Cantor David Goldstein

Over the past 25 years there has been a wealth of new Jewish music composed for worship here in the United States and in Israel. These sessions will focus on listening to and discussing some of these prevailing trends.

Visit [www.nsci.org/event/CTM2024](http://www.nsci.org/event/CTM2024) to register.

## HOW TO BUILD A SYNAGOGUE: TALMUD STUDY

**MONDAYS, JANUARY 22, 29, FEBRUARY 5**

**1:00–2:00 PM AT NSCI**

Led by Rabbi Jacob Leizman

Now that the beautiful renovations in Rebecca K. Crown Social Hall and Frank Memorial Hall are complete, come learn and discuss what the rabbis of the Talmud considered when they thought about synagogue renovations! We will study chapter 4 of tractate Megillah in the Babylonian Talmud, which brings up issues involved in building a synagogue, such as sources of funding, ownership, prioritization among synagogue materials, and more.

Visit [www.nsci.org/event/TSWJ](http://www.nsci.org/event/TSWJ) to register.

## READING ISRAELI SHORT STORIES

**MONDAYS, JANUARY 29, FEBRUARY 5, 12, 19, 26**  
7:00 PM, VIA ZOOM

Led by Neil Rigler

Explore historical and current issues in Israel through the lens of fiction. Each week we will read and discuss a different classic or contemporary short story by an Israeli author (and perhaps a poem or other text). Texts will be emailed to you each week; pre-reading the story is optional.

Visit [nsci.org/event/RISS](http://www.nsci.org/event/RISS) to register.

Neil Rigler is a beloved teacher of literature here at NSCI with a devoted following. Come join him on a journey through contemporary Israeli short fiction during this time when Israel is especially on our hearts and minds.

## HEBREW CLASSES

Participants will receive a bag of materials and supplies before the first class. \$72 for congregants, \$144 for non-congregants. Confidential scholarship available for NSCI congregants; please contact Rabbi Greene.

### Hebrew Reading Like a Snail

**TUESDAYS, FEBRUARY 6, 13, 20, 27**

**11:00 AM - 12:15 PM, VIA ZOOM**

Led by Rabbi Shira H. Joseph

Learn how to read prayers more fluently while learning basic vocabulary and prayer history. In order to participate, you might remember most of your Hebrew letters and vowels. We'll start with V'ahavta and move to Kaddish.

Visit [nsci.org/event/Hebrewsnail#](https://nsci.org/event/Hebrewsnail#) to register.

### Hebrew in a Hurry (New Learners)

**TUESDAYS, FEBRUARY 6, 13, 20, 27**

**7:00-8:00 PM, VIA ZOOM**

Led by Rabbi Shira H. Joseph

Finally ready to learn Hebrew? Here's your chance! Study with an expert Hebrew teacher over Zoom. In four sessions, you can learn the Hebrew alphabet and begin to read Hebrew! Yalla! Let's go!

Visit [nsci.org/event/HinHN](https://nsci.org/event/HinHN) to register.

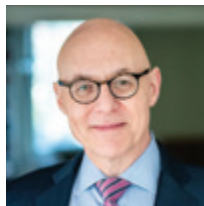
Rabbi Shira H. Joseph was ordained by Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion and holds an MA in Secondary Education with a specialty in special needs. She served as the spiritual leader of Congregation Sha'aray Shalom in Massachusetts from 2003-2022 and is now the temple's first Emerita.

## JUSTICE IN A TIME OF WAR: SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE DR. ANDREW REHFELD

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9**

**6:15 PM KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE**

**7:30 PM DINNER AND DISCUSSION**



This year's annual Bernice and Seymour Nordenberg Memorial Scholar-in-Residence will be Dr. Andrew

Rehfeld, President of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

October 7th was a watershed moment for Israel and the Jewish people, unleashing barbaric terror and global antisemitism that stand among the worst tragedies of the Jewish people. The unfolding war against Hamas, however necessary, is unsettling and concerning even if Israel is fighting a just war. How do we make sure our commitment to the security of Israel, and the flourishing of the Jewish people, achieve our aim of justice, even and particularly at a time of war? The answer is suggested by our liturgy that calls on us to commit to our own people as a means to achieving justice, so long as that commitment is limited by the very principles of justice we seek to achieve.

**The sermon will be followed by a discussion after dinner with Dr. Rehfeld, a political scientist by training, addressing how Israeli politics (both internal and external to the Jewish state) are likely to shape Israel's future. Visit [nsci.org/event/Nordenberg24](https://nsci.org/event/Nordenberg24) to register.**

Andrew Rehfeld, Ph.D., is the 10th President of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR), where he leads the four-campus international institution of Jewish higher education and seminary for Reform Judaism. Dr. Rehfeld is an insightful scholar and accessible teacher with a passion for Reform Judaism, Israel, and social justice.

## GREATEST HITS OF THE TALMUD

**MONDAYS, FEBRUARY 12-MARCH 18 AND APRIL 8-MAY 20**

**(NO CLASS 2/19 AND 4/22-4/29)**

**1:00-2:00 PM AT NSCI**

Led by Rabbi Wendi Geffen

Study a selection of the most well-known or important sugiyot (talmudic discussions) scattered throughout a variety of talmudic tractates. No experience necessary. Texts will be provided.

Visit [www.nsci.org/event/GHTS24](https://www.nsci.org/event/GHTS24) to register.

## ROOTS OF ANTISEMITISM IN EARLY JUDAISM

**TUESDAYS, FEBRUARY 20, 27, MARCH 5, 12**

**7:00 PM (2/20 AT NSCI; 2/27, 3/5, 3/12 VIA ZOOM)**



Led by Dr. Malka Simkovich

Where did antisemitism start? This question is often asked, especially of late. We will study

with a scholar of early Judaism and learn about the history of Jews in the Second Temple Era, their relationships with one another and with other peoples in ancient Israel. We'll learn about the Second Temple and Hellenistic eras, what the Greeks and Romans were saying about Jews, and how our Jewish forebears responded to anti-Jewish accusations.

Visit [nsci.org/event/nachman2024](https://nsci.org/event/nachman2024) to register.

Dr. Malka Z. Simkovich is the Crown-Ryan Chair of Jewish Studies and director of the Catholic-Jewish Studies program at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. She is the author of *The Making of Jewish Universalism: From Exile to Alexandria* (2016) and *Discovering Second Temple Literature: The Scriptures and Stories That Shaped Early Judaism* (2018), which received the 2019 Association of Jewish Libraries Judaica Reference Honor Award. Simkovich speaks widely to audiences across North America and beyond on the topics of the Hebrew Bible, Jewish history, and contemporary Jewish-Christian relations. Her forthcoming book, *Letters From Home: The Creation of Diaspora in Jewish Antiquity*, will be published in June 2024.

# Music



Susan Merdinger, American Steinway Artist, performed at the Post Kabbalat Shabbat concert on October 13th in the Perlman Sanctuary

## POST KABBALAT SHABBAT CONCERTS

All Post Kabbalat Shabbat Concerts follow a light dinner for those attending the concert after Kabbalat Shabbat services. These concerts are generously sponsored by Madeleine and Harvey Plonsker, Jim Stone, and Bobby Takiff.

### Nefesh Mountain

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 26**  
8:00 PM



Dubbed a "powerhouse unit" by *Rolling Stone Magazine*, and led by married couple Doni Zasloff and Eric Lindberg, Nefesh

Mountain has shared the stage with rock greats such as The Punch Brothers and Mike Gordon of Phish. Their innovative musical style is infused with Jewish soul, blending smokey vocals with masterful banjo and guitar performances and blurring the lines between Americana, bluegrass, folk, jazz, and blues.

Visit [bit.ly/NefeshMt2023](https://bit.ly/NefeshMt2023) to RSVP.

## Piano 4 Hands, Featuring Gregory Shifrin & Irina Kotlyar

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23**  
8:00 PM



Piano 4 Hands, composed of Gregory Shifrin & Irina Kotlyar, is one of the most sophisticated and in-demand

ensembles among the new generation of Israeli musicians. The duo has won several international prizes and awards and have performed throughout Israel, Europe, and America.

Visit [bit.ly/PKSPiano4](https://bit.ly/PKSPiano4) to RSVP.

# Women of NSCI

## WOMEN'S SHABBAT RETREAT

**JANUARY 26-28**  
RENAISSANCE CHICAGO NORTHBROOK



Gather with other NSCI women of all ages for a spiritual, reflective retreat, led by Rabbi Greene and WNSCI retreat leaders. We'll mark Shabbat and create community with interactive learning, meaning, and fun. Attendees must make their own hotel reservations.

For more details and to register, go to the WNSCI page at [www.nsci.org/wnscli](https://www.nsci.org/wnscli).

## BOOK GROUP

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 9**  
1:00-3:00 PM, AT NSCI

*Signal Fires*, by Dani Shapiro

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13**  
1:00-3:00 PM, AT NSCI

*The Chateau*, by Jaclyn Goldis

Contact us at [wnscli@nsci.org](mailto:wnscli@nsci.org) to be added to the book club email contact list.

# Tikkun Olam

## FEED THE HOMELESS

### New! Fill a Heart 4 Kids



We are thrilled to add Fill a Heart 4 Kids to the organizations we serve each month. Fill a Heart 4 Kids provides homeless, at risk, and foster children with food, critical necessities, life skills, and educational support. Weekends are a critical time for children without access to food pantries, school meals, or a consistent place to sleep at night. We will be preparing 300 snack packs per month to ensure these children have food every weekend of the month. It costs \$450 to fund 300 snack packs. Please consider contributing toward this monthly goal by donating to the overall Feed the Homeless fund.

Visit [www.nsci.org/fth](http://www.nsci.org/fth) for more information and to make a donation.

### Sandwich Making at Home for the Night Ministry

**WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 10, FEBRUARY 14**

**DELIVERY BY 10:00 AM**

Sign up to purchase ingredients and make sandwiches for the Night Ministry, a non-profit organization that provides essential services to Chicago's food-insecure and transient population. We make 125 sandwiches on each date listed. Sign up to make a minimum of 25 sandwiches or make all 125! Please deliver your sandwiches to NSCI on the above dates by 10:00 am.

To register, visit [www.nsci.org/fth](http://www.nsci.org/fth).

## Sunday Meal Prep



**SUNDAYS, JANUARY 14, FEBRUARY 11**

**11:30 AM-2:30 PM**

For nearly three decades NSCI's Feed the Homeless program has helped to feed thousands of people around Chicago. Join us one Sunday a month to prepare 750 hot and brown-bag meals, then deliver and/or serve at shelters and food pantries in Lake and Cook Counties.

To register, visit [www.nsci.org/fth](http://www.nsci.org/fth).

## ADULT MITZVAH CORPS



**THURSDAY, JANUARY 11**

**2:00-3:30 PM AT BERNIE'S BOOK BANK**

We will help sort, sticker, and pack books for underserved Chicagoland children. Bernie's provides access to high quality, culturally relevant books and strives to create pathways to success through book ownership.

Reach out to Tracey Meyers by visiting [nsci.org/form/VAMC](http://nsci.org/form/VAMC).

## TZEDAKAH TABLE

The "Tzedakah Table" is a Sunday morning opportunity for 6th and 7th graders to raise money and collect items for the causes that are important to them.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss a Tzedakah Table idea, email Rabbi Jacob Leizman, or if you are ready to submit a proposal, visit [nsci.org/tzedakahtable](http://nsci.org/tzedakahtable).

## BETH EMET SOUP KITCHEN



**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21**

**4:00-6:00 PM**

Volunteer to provide meals to food-insecure individuals at the Beth Emet Soup Kitchen. You can package meals, prepare food on-site, or prepare food at home and deliver it to the soup kitchen. Advance signup is necessary.

To sign up or ask questions, contact Brooke Hazan, our NSCI Beth Emet Soup Kitchen liaison at [www.nsci.org/form/CBH](http://www.nsci.org/form/CBH).

## 17: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROJECT

Join us in supporting refugees arriving in Chicago and helping them become self-reliant. The name "17" reminds us that 17 years is the average time a refugee spends in a camp, in limbo, around the world. As Jews, we have a special obligation to participate in this important mitzvah of welcoming the stranger.

We are sponsoring another refugee family to the Chicago area in mid-January. We are looking for more volunteers to mentor and/or tutor the members of that family periodically over their first six months here as they adjust to life in Chicago.

If you're interested in being a mentor for the refugee family, or are looking for more information about getting involved, email Rabbi Leizman or visit [nsci.org/form/17Interest](http://nsci.org/form/17Interest).

# Celebrating Chanukah

The Festival of Lights was full of joy and excitement for all ages! Families with young children had a special Encanto-themed party, WNSCI led a scrumptious cookie decorating event, Senior Connections came together for sufganiyot, sweet conversation, and marvelous music by the Maxwell Street Klezmer Band, the congregation honored Judy Weiss at our Shabbat Chanukah service, concert goers were serenaded by Chicago A Cappella at the Chanukah A Cappella concert, and of course we can't forget about Family Chanukah Fest! We are already looking forward to sharing the joy and light of the holiday together next year.



# The Ruthie & Bill Katz Archives

## The Meaning Behind Perlman Sanctuary

BY ELLEN KATZ BLOCK

*This article is a summation of a Feb. 16, 2005, video of Rabbi Herbert Bronstein (recorded by Dave Rothschild) explaining the symbolism of the Perlman Sanctuary, an article published in the Architectural Record, 1983, and our NSCI archival material. An appreciative nod to our NSCI clergy for assistance with translation and transliteration.*

**IN OUR LAST** Bulletin article highlighting the building of Perlman Sanctuary, we mentioned the urgent necessity of creating a space for community, a place for worship less august and more intimate than the Large Sanctuary, yet retaining a sense of holiness and spiritual awe. The firm of Hammond, Beeby, and Babka, with Thomas Beeby as the lead architect for our project, had been unanimously chosen by the Architectural Selection Committee. In our May/June 2023 bulletin, John Clark, who had been a young apprentice in the firm at the time, spoke of Mr. Beeby's "steeping himself in the Bible, Hebrew theology and traditional Hebraic culture" to create underlying symbolism and meaning to his vision.

Rabbi Bronstein worked closely with Mr. Beeby to expand and enhance that vision. The essential idea was to blend the "elegant Classical Sephardic synagogues of Spain, Venice and Amsterdam" and the "rustic, vernacular Ashkenazic synagogues of Eastern Europe."<sup>1</sup> As Rabbi Bronstein says in the video, "America, like Israel, is a place where all groups of Jews come together," thus the desire to create an interior comprised of the warm woods and elegant materials of Eastern European synagogues, with the circles, drapes, cushions, and colors represented in Sephardic synagogues. Even the original Torahs in Perlman reflected this blend of cultures with one Torah in Sephardic script and the other in Ashkenazic script. The Torah ornaments are from Israel, more modern, symbolizing

the connection between the traditional and the contemporary. The eternal light, *ner tamid*, is a real candle. The ark at the front of the worship space with its very dark wood and entwined carving harkens to the dark wood of the traditional Polish synagogues. Their arks often had gilded metal work; ours, according to our NSCI archival records, was designed by Raphael Ferrer, and is constructed of wood, plaster, marble, and gold leaf.

Rabbi Bronstein also remarks that it seems that in our busy secular lives, the sense of the sacred has been squeezed out of our world. Even human life is no longer sacred, but we need to remember that all space, all time comes from God and is sacred. Thus, Perlman Sanctuary was designed to encircle us with a sense of the holy.

Entering through the glass doors, one can view, standing just in front of the entrance to the synagogue itself, pillars on either side of the doorway inscribed in Hebrew with the phrase *zecher tzadik livrachah* ("Remember the righteous for a blessing"). Beneath the words are plaques in honor of those who contributed to the Arise and Build campaign. On each side of the interior of Perlman are holy words such that a sense of sanctity surrounds the worshiper. Above the Ark are the words *kadosh* (on the right side) *l'Adonai* (on the left side): "Holy unto God," words written on the original Ark of the Covenant. On the north wall, to the left of the Ark as one faces it, the written words are *kadosh ani Adonai eloheichem*, which Rabbi Bronstein translates to "I am Holy, Holy am I, the Lord your God." This phrase, he also notes, is in first person, the ultimate "I," God.

The west wall, opposite the Ark, reads *v'atah kadosh yoshev tehilat yisrael*, in the second person, addressing God, "You are Holy. You are enthroned on the praises of the worship of Israel." The south wall, to the right as one faces the Ark, speaks in the third person, *kadosh hu v'norah*



*shmo*, "He is Holy and Awesome is his name." We are embraced by the holy.

One realizes that from the outside, Perlman Sanctuary is a rectangular building with a large, rounded center. Its formal, elegant columns are suggestive of colonial American Sephardic synagogues such as the Touro Synagogue, with its twelve original columns, in Newport, Rhode Island, the oldest synagogue (dedicated in 1792) in the United States. Step inside from the outside doors and the enclosed area has the rounded walls of the synagogue in front of you and the curved walls of the hallway extending to your right and left. Step further inside and the worship space is square with actual corners. This play of circles within squares and squares within circles is no accident. A square, inside or outside a circle, is a principal element of sacred geometry from sites as varied as Stonehenge to Gothic cathedrals. Circles represent the spiritual because they are infinite and eternal like the heavens. Squares are symbols of the earth—material, stable, and orderly entities—four seasons, four directions, four physical elements (earth, wind, fire, water).<sup>2</sup> The configuration of the seats in the Perlman space is flexible, sometimes with the congregation surrounding the service which is being led from the middle. ■

**For the full article, visit [nsci.org/archives](https://nsci.org/archives).**

1. The Architectural Record, 1983, p. 106 (reprinted on our NSCI archives page).

2. [symbolsage.com](https://symbolsage.com). Article by Rose Mulu, Feb. 3, 2022.

# January 2024 - Tevet/Sh'vat 5784

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	<b>1</b> <b>New Year's Day</b> <b>Building Closed</b>	<b>2</b> <b>Building Reopens at 9:00 am</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Meeting	<b>3</b> <b>6:00 pm</b> AA Meeting <b>8:00 pm</b> Healing Service with Cantor Goldstein on Facebook	<b>4</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> Mah Jongg with WNSCI	<b>5</b> <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service	<b>6</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Interactive Torah Study <b>10:15 am</b> Saturday Morning Minyan Service
<b>7</b> <b>No Religious School - Winter Break</b>	<b>8</b> <b>6:30 pm</b> Adult B'nei Mitzvah	<b>9</b> <b>Religious School Resumes</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Meeting	<b>10</b> Delivery by <b>10:00 am</b> Sandwich Making at Home <b>1:00 pm</b> Senior Connections <b>6:00 pm</b> AA Meeting	<b>11</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> Mah Jongg with WNSCI <b>2:00 pm</b> Adult Mitzvah Corps at Bernie's Book Bank	<b>12</b> <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service	<b>13</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Interactive Torah Study <b>10:00 am</b> Tot Shabbat Pop-up Series <b>10:15 am</b> Saturday Morning Minyan Service
<b>14</b> <b>11:30 am</b> Feed the Homeless	<b>15</b> <b>MLK Day</b> <b>10:45 am</b> Mitzvah Day for MLK	<b>16</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Meeting	<b>17</b> <b>6:00 pm</b> AA Meeting <b>8:00 pm</b> Healing Service with Cantor Goldstein on Facebook	<b>18</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> Mah Jongg with WNSCI	<b>19</b> <b>6:00 pm</b> Family Shabbat Experience <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service	<b>20</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Interactive Torah Study <b>10:00 am</b> Tot Shabbat Pop-up series <b>10:15 am</b> Saturday Morning Minyan Service
<b>21</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Israel Book Discussion	<b>22</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> Current Trends in Jewish Music with Cantor Goldstein <b>1:00 pm</b> How to Build a Synagogue: Talmud Study <b>6:30 pm</b> Adult B'nei Mitzvah	<b>23</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Meeting	<b>24</b> <b>6:00 pm</b> AA Meeting	<b>25</b> <b>Tu B'shevat</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> Mah Jongg with WNSCI	<b>26</b> <b>6:15 pm</b> WNSCI Retreat <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service <b>8:00 pm</b> Post Kabbalat Shabbat Concert - Nefesh Mountain Band	<b>27</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Interactive Torah Study <b>10:00 am</b> Tot Shabbat Pop-up Series <b>10:15 am</b> Saturday Morning Minyan Service
<b>28</b> <b>12:00 pm</b> WNSCI Retreat <b>TBD</b> Youth Group Winter Kickoff Program	<b>29</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> Current Trends in Jewish Music with Cantor Goldstein <b>1:00 pm</b> How to Build a Synagogue: Talmud Study <b>6:30 pm</b> Adult B'nei Mitzvah <b>7:00 pm</b> Reading Israeli Short Stories with Neil Rigler	<b>30</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Meeting	<b>31</b> <b>6:00 pm</b> AA Meeting			

# February 2024 ■ Sh'vat/Adar 5784

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1 1:00 pm Mah Jongg with WNSCI	2 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service	3 9:30 am Interactive Torah Study 10:15 am Saturday Morning Minyan Service
4 7:00 am Tu B'shevat Tot Music, Movement, and Smoothies 7:00 am Camp @NSCI Undernighter	5 11:30 am Current Trends in Jewish Music with Cantor Goldstein 1:00 pm How to Build a Synagogue: Talmud Study 6:30 pm Adult B'nei Mitzvah 7:00 pm Reading Israeli Short Stories with Neil Rigler	6 11:00 am Hebrew Reading Like a Snail 7:00 pm FA Meeting 7:00 pm Hebrew in a Hurry: New Learners	7 1:00 pm Senior Connections 6:00 pm AA Meeting 8:00 pm Healing Service with Cantor Goldstein on Facebook	8 1:00 pm Mah Jongg with WNSCI	9 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service 6:15 pm Nordenberg Scholar	10 9:30 am Interactive Torah Study 10:15 am Saturday Morning Minyan Service
11 11:30 am Feed the Homeless	12 1:00 pm Greatest Hits of the Talmud 6:30 pm Adult B'nei Mitzvah 7:00 pm Reading Israeli Short Stories with Neil Rigler	13 11:00 am Hebrew Reading Like a Snail 7:00 pm FA Meeting 7:00 pm Hebrew in a Hurry: New Learners	14 Delivery by 10:00 am Sandwich Making at Home 6:00 pm AA Meeting	15 1:00 pm Mah Jongg with WNSCI	16 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service	17 9:30 am Interactive Torah Study 10:15 am Saturday morning Minyan Service
18 No Religious School	19 Building closed for Presidents Day 7:00 pm Reading Israeli Short Stories with Neil Rigler	20 No Religious School 11:00 am Hebrew Reading Like a Snail 7:00 pm FA Meeting 7:00 pm Hebrew in a Hurry: New Learners	21 No Religious School 4:00 pm Beth Emet Soup Kitchen 6:00 pm AA Meeting 8:00 pm Healing Service with Cantor Goldstein on Facebook	22 1:00 pm Mah Jongg with WNSCI	23 6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service 8:00 pm Post Kabbalat Shabbat Concert – Piano 4 Hands	24 9:30 am Interactive Torah Study 10:15 am Saturday morning Minyan Service
25	26 1:00 pm Greatest Hits of the Talmud 5:00 pm The Youth Group Board Meeting 6:30 pm Adult B'nei Mitzvah 7:00 pm Reading Israeli Short Stories with Neil Rigler	27 11:00 am Hebrew Reading Like a Snail 7:00 pm FA Meeting 7:00 pm Hebrew in a Hurry: New Learners	28 6:00 pm AA Meeting	29 1:00 pm Mah Jongg with WNSCI		



**NORTH SHORE  
CONGREGATION  
ISRAEL**

**1185 SHERIDAN ROAD  
GLENCOE, ILLINOIS 60022**

Admin. Office: 847.835.0724

School Office: 847.835.7258

**NSCI.org**

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**DATED MATERIAL.  
DO NOT DELAY.  
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As you may have heard, Rabbi Geffen will be on a sabbatical through February 8th. During the time she is away from the synagogue, our clergy team will of course be here for all of our congregational needs. Rabbi Geffen will not be checking her email or returning calls, so please make sure to direct your communications to our clergy assistants Sarah Duffin and Jennifer McKeag so that they can help best address your needs.

### **IMPORTANT BUILDING DATES**

The office will also be closed for Winter Break until January 2nd at 9:00 am.

The building will still be open for Shabbat services and, if needed, funeral services and memorials. In case of an emergency, please contact Todd Braman at 847.835.0724.

### **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.

## Post Kabbalat Shabbat Concert featuring **Nefesh Mountain Band**



FEATURED IN:  
*RollingStone*  
**billboard**  
songwriter  
THE GREAT - MUSIC

THERE WILL BE DINNER  
PROVIDED TO THOSE ATTENDING  
THE KABBALAT SHABBAT  
SERVICE BEFOREHAND.

THIS FREE CONCERT IS  
GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY  
JIM STONE, MADELEINE &  
HARVEY PLONSKER,  
& BOBBY TAKIFF.

**RSVP at [www.bit.ly/NefeshMt2023](http://www.bit.ly/NefeshMt2023)**

## **January 26th at 8:00 pm**

Perلمان Sanctuary  
1185 Sheridan Rd. Glencoe, IL 60022