

NORTH SHORE  
CONGREGATION  
ISRAEL

# The Bulletin

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## Applesauce and the Seasons

By RABBI LISA S. GREENE

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“As we mark each holiday  
in its season and purpose,  
we can recognize that the  
meanings and actions  
they bear can intermingle  
and, together, accompany  
us into the new year.”

## SENIOR STAFF

**Wendi Geffen**  
*Rabbi*

**Lisa S. Greene**  
*Rabbi, The Susan C. Longo  
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*Rabbi*

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**Frances Morof**  
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*Women of NSCI Co-President*

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# Applesauce and the Seasons

By **RABBI LISA S. GREENE**



**I'M TAKING OUT** the Foley food mill today.

It's a life-changing kitchen tool. Not high tech or fancy, but basic, even

clunky. This tool is amazing for making applesauce. You don't have to peel or core the apples; you dump the whole hot mixture of cooked fruit into the food mill and stir—several turns clockwise, and then one counter-clockwise. And then again. And again. What happens? The skin and pits of the fruit stay on top in the bowl of the food mill, and the cooked fruit drops down into the bowl below. Voilà—applesauce!

In late summer when apples begin to appear at the Evanston Farmers' Market, I buy pounds and pounds in preparation for Rosh Hashanah and Sukkot, and, of course, the countless portions of warm after-school snacks. The Foley food mill (has to be Foley, Mom says) then comes up from the basement, and we are off! This is the season—of apples, of holidays.

In Ecclesiastes we read that everything has a season, a time for every experience under heaven.

**“We’re amidst an intense season of holidays, each of which bears a rich complexity of meanings.”**

A categorized list follows:

*a time for being born and a time for dying...a time for tearing down and a time for building up; a time for weeping and a time for laughing...a time for keeping and a time for discarding... a time for silence and a time for speaking...a time for loving and a time for hating...*

In response, the modern poet Yehudah Amichai writes:

*A man doesn't have time in his life to have time for everything. He doesn't have seasons enough to have a season for every purpose. Ecclesiastes was wrong about that. A man needs to love and to hate at the same moment, to laugh and cry with the same eyes...to make love in war and war in love. And to hate and forgive and remember and forget, to arrange and confuse, to eat and to digest what history takes years and years to do.*

Here we are in Sukkot. The tradition is to read this text during the holiday. The biblical words ask us to consider the times in our lives and the purpose given to them by us and by the season. At the same time, we know from experience that Amichai's words, too, bear profound insight. He reminds us that there is no guarantee of the length of our days, and rarely do we have the chance to focus on one discrete task or feeling at a time.

Ecclesiastes gives a reminder to focus on the deed or emotion of the

moment. Amichai carries a reminder that this is not so simple. Things are often mixed, even jumbled, and not everything comes in its own compartmentalized time. Both give us wisdom to carry with us.

We're amidst an intense season of holidays, each of which bears a rich complexity of meanings. Rosh Hashanah gives us a time to hear the shofar and focus on the sweetness of the new year, even as it calls us to engage in serious teshuvah. Yom Kippur calls us to repent and forgive, and stand in community as we confess privately to one another. Sukkot calls us out under the sky to recognize the fragility of life even as we offer gratitude for abundance and welcome guests. Simchat Torah will bring us to rejoice, at the same time as we conclude Torah with the story of Moses' death. As we mark each holiday in its season and purpose, we can recognize that the meanings and actions they bear can intermingle and, together, accompany us into the new year.

In the coming days we move from all of these holidays into a period that is remarkably empty of holidays. Perhaps that intermediate period can give us time and pause to reflect: What do we take from each holiday? How do we enter the seasons of this new year with aspirations and with the practicality of life each day? It's basic, maybe a little clunky... and life-changing. ■

# President's Letter



## DEAR FRIENDS,

We have worshiped together for the High Holy Days, taking stock of our year and engaging in *teshuvah*. We are blessed to have so many communities connected within our community. With that in mind, there is much to reflect on at NSCI.

At our Annual Meeting in June, I framed our past year in terms of the many collaborative opportunities NSCI has created and engaged. Now, more than ever, NSCI collaborates with other organizations, offering opportunities to serve our congregation and the community at large. We achieved meaningful new accomplishments with this strategic intention. I'd like to share a few highlights that mark this past fiscal year. NSCI creates and fosters many pathways to connect, worship, learn, and make a difference for ourselves and others.

## FAMILIES WITH YOUNG AND SCHOOL-AGED CHILDREN

- We have a flourishing early engagement initiative for families with children 0-5 years that continues to fill a niche in our community. Our Shabbat Class held at the Glencoe Park District has resulted in families choosing to enroll in religious school and joining NSCI. Our religious school has continued developing innovative choices and paths for Jewish education. The newest addition to our thriving young families' community is "The Childrenz Center." An independent preschool leasing space within our school quarters. This is a great opportunity to be a resource to the community for young families.
- We celebrated our Youth Advisor Neil Rigler's long dedication to our teens followed by an exciting new achievement. NSCI was chosen as a full partner congregation for the URJ (Union for Reform Judaism) CLASP (Camp Leader and Synagogue Professional) Fellowship, allowing us to invest in a full-time staff member

to meet the diverse needs of today's youth and teens. Mady Frischer, our new full-time Youth Engagement Coordinator, hit the ground running in August.

- In response to the tragedy at the Tree of Life Synagogue, NSCI offered opportunities to learn age-appropriate ways to talk with kids, gain support, and share concerns. Rabbi Wendi Geffen and Kathy Livingston, LCSW, Clinical Director of Family Service of Glencoe facilitated a conversation centered on "How do we talk to our kids about recent events in today's world?" And, *Parenting in Anxious Times: Talking about Anti-Semitism* featured Dr. Lara Trubowitz, ADL Education Director and Kathy Livingston, LCSW.

## TIKKUN OLAM

- NSCI supported 17: *NSCI's Refugee Resettlement Project* in partnership with RefugeeOne, welcoming the Mohamad Ayub Family, a mother and her two teenage daughters and helping them transition from Malaysia to life here in Chicago.
- We participated with Family Promise, hosting families who are experiencing temporary homelessness to achieve independence.
- Feed the Homeless, the Adult Mitzvah Corps, and volunteering at the Beth Emet Soup Kitchen are longstanding impactful ways we help others.
- We partnered with "Faith in Place", to operate our Winter Farmers Market. This organization empowers the people of Illinois of all faiths to be leaders in caring for the earth, providing resources to educate, connect, and advocate for healthier communities.
- Operation Backpack is still going strong, providing, packing, and delivering school supplies to the Jordan Elementary Community School in Chicago.

## MUSIC

- A variety of concerts throughout the year enhances our ability to engage a broad spectrum of our community.
- Our experience of music was expanded with the Bernstein Tribute Concert and collaborations with the Ravinia Steans Institute for post-

Kabbalat Shabbat Concerts thanks to Cantor David Goldstein and the generous sponsorship by Jim Stone and Madeleine and Harvey Plonsker.

## EXPANDING OUR CARING COMMUNITY

- NSCI set an intention to reach and support individuals struggling with addiction and those in recovery, along with their friends and family.
- We host weekly meetings of Alateen, Families Anonymous, and Alcoholics Anonymous. We partnered with local synagogues to organize a Community Recovery Seder on the second night of Passover.
- The Union for Reform Judaism (URJ) selected the Community Recovery Seder to receive the 2019 Belin Award for Audacious Hospitality. NSCI is one of eight congregations in North America being honored for a program demonstrating a high level of inclusion, impact, and innovation. A very special thanks to Rabbi Ryan Daniels who led this effort with our congregants Margo and Mark Peters.

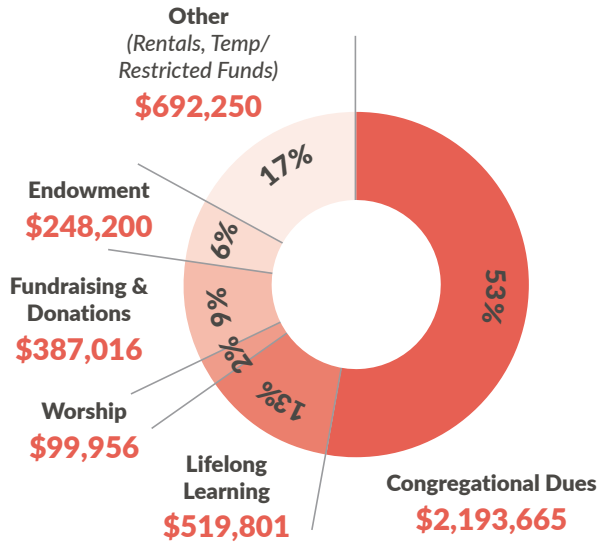
## WNSCI & BROTHERHOOD

- WNSCI is a dynamic part of our congregation, contributing generously to our resources. Rabbi Lisa Greene led a trip, "A Jewish Taste of Philadelphia" to explore and learn about this fine city and the WNSCI Shabbat Retreat in Lake Geneva. The retreat explored what it means to spend Sacred Time through Shabbat Services Friday Night and Saturday morning.
- Our Brotherhood contributes support to NSCI programs such as Feed the Homeless and Early Childhood engagement. This past year, the Brotherhood softball team brought together a diverse group of men. They had a fun win this past year!

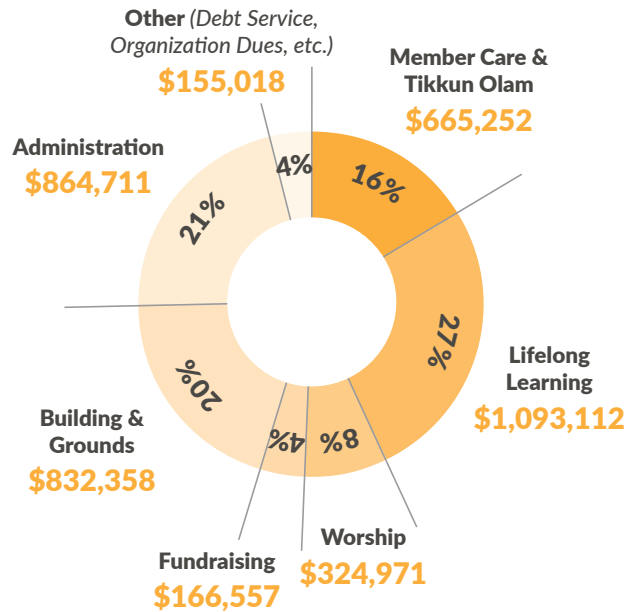
## SACRED PARTNERSHIPS

- These efforts are stellar examples of the sacred partnership between our clergy, staff, and congregants who lead and volunteer. Many thanks to our outstanding clergy Rabbis Wendi Geffen, Lisa Greene, and Ryan Daniels, Cantor David Goldstein, the rest of our Senior Staff, Todd Braman, Dr. Roberta Goodman, and Sheryl Cohen Solomon and the entire staff at NSCI.

## 2018-2019 REVENUE\* \$4,140,888



## 2018-2019 EXPENSES \$4,101,979



\*Year-end close by NSCI Controller Per NSCI policy, any surplus is allocated to the building reserve fund.

• Our Board of Trustees is hard-working and dedicated to stewarding our resources and supporting all our endeavors. This past year, we focused on developing a protocol for connecting and engaging new congregants, evaluating and improving our governance, proactively caring for our building, grounds, and security, meeting our fundraising goals and honing financial oversight.

• I am pleased to say that we have continued to manage a balanced budget. Please take a moment to review our financial information.

With this strong foundation, we can look forward to our Centennial Celebration activities in 2020, co-chaired by Rachel Stein, Jody Weinberg, and Charlie Winternitz. We are poised for the forward-thinking goals of "Imagine the

Possible: The Campaign for Our Centennial." This campaign invites us all to imagine and participate—a sacred partnership with you, our congregants.

B'Shalom,

*Marilyn Perlman*

Marilyn

## Facility Improvements 2018-2019

### DEAR CONGREGANTS,

From our sanctuaries to our trees, I'm sure we can all agree that our building and grounds contribute to the overall experience at NSCI. Preserving and improving our facilities takes tremendous care, time, and resources. Here is a list of major repairs or improvements over the past fiscal year, supported in large part by your one-time Building Fund contributions. Thank you for helping to ensure that this treasure of a facility is properly maintained for this and future generations.

- Replaced lights in the Large Sanctuary with LEDs
- Extended the paging system from the religious school throughout the entire facility
- Replaced and reinforced storm drains in parking lot
- Replaced all steel hot water pipes with copper
- Installed locking mechanisms (security bolts) on the inside of doors throughout facility
- Installed new steel fire doors in religious school
- Installed new networking switches and Wi-Fi system throughout facility
- Installed new sound system in Large Sanctuary
- Installed technology to enable streaming of minyan services in the Perlman Sanctuary
- Replaced fire sprinkler piping
- Sealed cracks, coated and re-stripped both parking lots
- Installed additional security cameras on facility perimeter
- Removed 15 dead trees throughout property. Pruned and planted additional trees.
- Partnered with Village of Glencoe to reinforce banks of ravine on south side of NSCI
- Installed protective safety film on windows throughout facility
- Replaced two air conditioning unit compressors
- Repaired cracked or crumbling areas of sidewalk

Dean Weinberg, NSCI Vice President and Chair of Building & Grounds

Todd Braman, Executive Director

# Imagine the Possible: The Campaign for Our Centennial An Invitation

**FOR MANY OF US**, the most meaningful moments of our lives are interwoven with our North Shore Congregation Israel family. As our synagogue celebrates 100 years, we are called upon to preserve and strengthen what past generations have built. *Imagine the Possible: The Campaign for Our Centennial* has one goal for NSCI: to be a synagogue that is flexible, adaptable and responsive to all, for now, and for the future. We invite you to participate in sustaining our vital traditions and shaping our vibrant innovations.

The Campaign will build resources for maintaining our beautiful facility, upgrade our security with a central entrance, reinvent space for multi-purpose use and collaborative learning, and enhance

experiences whenever we gather. We have identified four priority needs:

- Expanded Arcade and Office Renovation
- Sustaining the Synagogue
- Rebecca K. Crown Social Hall
- Increase the Endowment Fund

We hope you have reviewed the materials that were sent to all congregants which describe our plans. We invite you to attend one of the many events this fall where Rabbi Wendi Geffen will explain the vision that launched the goals of this campaign. You will have the opportunity to see renderings of potential new space and be apprised of our progress. Campaign leaders will welcome your questions.

The first three events will be held at NSCI. This campaign is for all of us. Please join us for one of these gatherings to mingle, connect, and learn the thoughtful planning that will ensure the continuity of NSCI and prepare us to adapt and thrive for generations to come.

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29**

**7:00 PM WINE AND APPETIZERS**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3**

**9:30 AM BAGELS AND SWEETS**

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6**

**7:00 PM DESSERTS AND COFFEE**

Please visit our website for more information and details, or contact Sheryl Cohen Solomon, Director of Development at sheryls@nscl.org to **RSVP** to one of the events, answer your questions, or arrange a personal meeting for you to learn more.

Now is your moment to Imagine the Possible. Please join us! ■

## Mission-Driven Teen Engagement

By **RABBI RYAN DANIELS**

**ON HIS EXPERIENCE** at NSCI, sophomore at Miami University, Max Nguyen, reflected, "[My involvement in youth group] was the first time in my high school career that I felt like I could be my true self, where there is no judgement from anyone and no one telling me to be someone that I'm not." Like so many teens, NSCI was home for Max throughout high school, and the relationships he built with peers and our staff in youth group and NSCI's Goodman Center for Jewish Education will last. Max cared, and continues to care deeply for this congregation, and he knows that our clergy, staff, and lay leadership genuinely care about him, cheering and supporting him along his way. That's the essence of NSCI's model for teen engagement, our strategy for how we welcome teens to remain connected post-b'nei mitzvah.

We realize youth engagement occurs one soul at a time. The engagement needs to be personal, relational, authentic, and meaningful. We strive to encourage and empower each teen on their journey, seeking purpose and fulfillment in their lives. Our focus is on the depth and significance of the

engagement and not merely numbers. We aim to provide a space where our youth find their own path by:

- Exploring real-life questions and situations that matter to them through a Jewish lens.
- Growing skills, knowledge, and leadership, contributing to personal growth and connection to our congregation, the Jewish community and the world.
- Developing competency and finding relevance in celebrating the daily, weekly, and yearly lifecycle.
- Creating an appetite for future discovery, advocacy, involvement, and action.

Our clergy and staff are so excited to welcome Mady Frischer to our full-time professional team. In her role as NSCI's Youth Engagement Coordinator, Mady will partner with our professional staff and lay leaders to steer a model of teen engagement that is guided by NSCI's mission and history of excellence. In collaboration with clergy and staff, she will revitalize long standing programs and launch new efforts to further engage youth approaching b'nei mitzvah and beyond.

We know what sufficient human resources, teamwork, and a long-

term commitment can do for our teen population. One of our best examples of teen engagement presently is Selah, our musical prayer and songleader program, which was created and is led by Cantor Goldstein and Alan Goodis. Selah builds community among 6th-12th graders—a feat given the age range. Selah successfully sparks the interests and talents of these teens, growing their skills, knowledge, and abilities, while connecting the teens more deeply to the NSCI community. Similarly, our Machonik teacher assistant program is the largest of our teen offerings, and it, too, provides opportunities for teens to grow as leaders and see the real impact they make while working in our religious school classrooms. An added incentive for 9th-12th graders who participate in the Machonik program is that they are paid for their work. For most, they view this leadership program as a chance to 'give back' to their school, stay connected with their beloved religious school teachers and mentor younger students.

We are proud, but not content. We recognize that there is potential for even more. And we set out into this New Year with that goal in mind, aspiring to build strong relationships with each teen at NSCI and creating as many diverse pathways for engagement as possible. ■

# Sacred Partnership

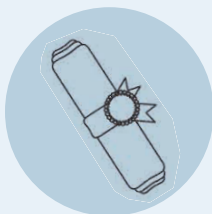


**1920**

First Shabbat service held for the North Shore Branch of Sinai Congregation

**1926**

The name of the synagogue is changed to North Shore Congregation Israel, and the first class is confirmed.

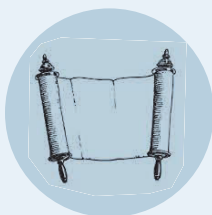


**1964**

The Minoru Yamasaki building is dedicated at 1185 Sheridan Road in Glencoe, Illinois.

**2001**

North Shore Congregation Israel commissions the writing of a new Torah.



**2020**

**NSCI celebrates 100 years!**

## JOIN US

to help plan "100 Days" of festivities to celebrate our 100<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary!

Rachel Stein, Jody Weinberg, and Charles Winternitz  
~ NSCI Centennial Celebration Co-Chairs ~

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

## IT'S GOING TO BE A GRAND AFFAIR

**It's time to plan our 100<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary soiree!**

We're planning a swell weekend packed with fun, food and frolic. A little something for everyone—from very young to the very young at heart.

Having a little help putting it all together would be the cat's pajamas. So, come on Dollface and Old Sport, bring your ideas and your sense of humor to our first planning meeting on

**WEDNESDAY. DECEMBER 4  
7:00PM at NSCI**

And remember ... A little party never killed nobody ...

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

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

# Mazel Tov!

## WELCOME!

### Brando Hendrix Smith

**BORN JULY 19, 2019**

child of Rachel Drescher Smith & Zach Smith

grandchild of Donna & Dennis Drescher and Bonnie & Norman Finkel  
great grandchild of Ann Krasnow



### Eshan Maaravi Marcus

**BORN ON JULY 21, 2019**

child of Aravinda Tota & Mason Marcus  
grandchild of Jacqueline & Harvey Marcus and Padma & Ranga Prasad Tota



### Piper Adeline Scott

**BORN ON AUGUST 8, 2019**

child of Alison & Keith Scott  
sibling of Finley Harper Scott  
grandchild of Margot & Mark Peters and Jeanette Scott



### Hudson Jack Jania and Raegan Jean Jania

**BORN ON AUGUST 21, 2019**

children of Samantha & Adam Jania  
grandchildren of Susan & Perry Stricker

### Margot Ayelet Weiss

**BORN ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2019**

child of Seth & Abigail Weiss  
sibling of Max, Ruthie and Jordan  
grandchild of Judy & David Weiss

### Asa Rye Pollakoff

**BORN ON SEPTEMBER 2, 2019**

child of Nancy Rosenbloom and Zach Pollakoff  
sibling of Maia  
grandchild of Joyce Pollakoff & Stanton Kramer, Miriam & Steven Rosenbloom and Mitch Pollakoff & Margaret Pasiennik



### Max Bennett Olian

**BORN ON SEPTEMBER 16, 2019**

child of Maggie & Drew Olian  
sibling of Eli Olian  
grandchild of Terri & Rob Olian, Nancy Doldus & Phillip Chaitman  
great grandchild of Toddy Leavitt, Barbara & Jerry Ruther and Doris & Bob Olian

## UPCOMING B'NEI MITZVAH

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2**

10:30 AM SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE

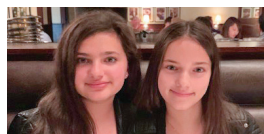


### Zoe & Benjamin Smollar

Son & Daughter of Leigh & Justin Smollar

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9**

10:30 AM SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE



### Shira & Carly Palmer

Daughters of Loren & Brandon Palmer

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9**

4:30 PM SHABBAT AFTERNOON SERVICE

### Anne Manaster

Daughter of Hillary & Jason Manaster

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16**

10:30 AM SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE



### Spencer Slavick

Son of Joanna & Scott Slavick

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16**

4:30 PM SHABBAT AFTERNOON SERVICE



### Dylan Lansky

Son of Anat & Todd Lansky

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23**

4:30 PM SHABBAT AFTERNOON SERVICE



### Ian Peters

Son of Shana & Ashley Peters

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7**

10:30 AM SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE



### Dylan & Sloane Haber

Daughters of Samantha & Brad Haber

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14**

10:30 AM SHABBAT MORNING SERVICE



### Tobi Kleinman

Daughter of Marcie & Jason Kleinman

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14**

4:30 PM SHABBAT AFTERNOON SERVICE



### Mia Vaughn

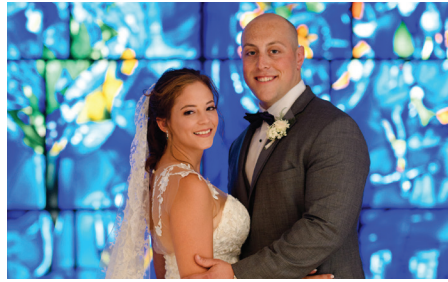
Daughter of Noell Vaughn



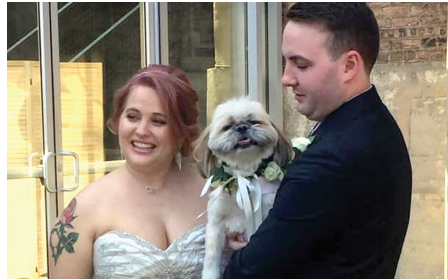
**Lauren Richman & Blake Brownstein**  
on their July 13, 2019 wedding



**Stephanie Newman & Joey Dickstein**  
on their July 19, 2019 wedding



**Melanie Frank & Elliot Marion**  
on their July 20 wedding



**Bethami Moore & Kyle Jones**  
(and their dog, Peach)  
on their July 27, 2019 wedding

**Jennifer Sherman & Chris Cooling**  
on their July 27 wedding

**Allison Rein & Brian Hartman**  
on their July 27 wedding

**Julie Becker & Daniel Gordon**  
on their August 17 wedding

**Ariel Kraut & Jake Schneider**  
on their August 31 wedding

**Niki Levy & Josh Simons**  
on their September 1 wedding

**Allison Sheridan & Ian Millette**  
on their September 7 wedding

**Olivia Brown & Eric Clamage**  
on their September 14 wedding

**Janet Klein-Wright & Jon Zieve**  
on their September 14 wedding

**Natalie Anderson & Rob Share**  
on their September 20 wedding

## We Remember

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

**Larry Goodman**

husband of Lillian Goodman, z"l

**Claire A. Greenspon**

mother of Dr. James (Renee) Greenspon  
grandmother of Mallory and  
Marc Greenspon

**Marvin Hecht**

father of Linda (Peter) Karmin  
grandfather of Charlie, Katie, William,  
and Dusty

**Burton Gerald Herman**

uncle of Jackie (Steve) Chilow

**Rabbi Peter Knobel**

father of Jeremy (Alyssa) Knobel  
grandfather of Heather and Stephen Knobel

**Andrew Kotz**

son of Debora & Richard Kotz  
father of Aaron Kotz  
brother of Kenneth (Tue) Kotz,  
and David (Laurie) Kotz

**James H. Levi**

brother of Rabbi Charley (Sandy) Levi

**Jared Levy**

grandson of Dr. Robert and Cecile Levy

**Esther Matthew**

mother of Marilyn (Michael) Vender  
grandmother of Meredith and  
Jonathan Vender

**Barbara Rottenberg**

mother of Liz (Chuck) Taylor and  
David Addis (Sharon Teplinsky)  
grandmother of Megan, Owen, Sydney,  
and Jake

**Ruth Schwechter**

mother of Ron Schwechter  
grandmother of Brandy (Mark) Deshur  
great grandmother of Zachary  
and Lindsey Deshur

**Sara Silverstein**

mother of Marilyn (Jeffrey) Lazar

**Mark Spitz**

father of Jimmy (Joyce) Spitz  
grandfather of Justin, Daniel,  
and Ilana Spitz

**Elaine Klein Wallace**

mother of Stacey Kruger Birndorf  
(Robert Birndorf)  
grandmother of Stephanie Birndorf

# New Engagement Opportunities

## URJ BIENNIAL 2019



URJ BIENNIAL 2019

**DECEMBER 11-15**

Join Jews from across North America at the McCormick Place in Chicago to learn, pray, and share ideas all while helping the future of the Reform movement.

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

## SPIRITUALITY HIKE WITH RABBI WENDI GEFFEN

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20**  
10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Join Rabbi Wendi Geffen and Sierra Club volunteers to explore nature through a Jewish lens. We will meet at Ryerson Woods in Riverwoods for a morning of spiritual engagement.

*RSVP to [nsci.org/event/SpiritualityHike](http://nsci.org/event/SpiritualityHike).*

## SENIOR CONNECTIONS

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23**  
FEATURING MUSIC HISTORIAN JIM KENDROS

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20**  
FEATURING DAVID CHACK, YIDDISH THEATER IN AMERICA

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11**  
TBD

11:45 AM-2:00 PM

Foster new friendships and enrich your life. Conversation, camaraderie, lunch and entertainment. Invite a friend to join you.

*\$12 per person per program date. Register at [nsci.org/event/SeniorConnections2019](http://nsci.org/event/SeniorConnections2019) or email Lois Davis at [SeniorConnections@nsci.org](mailto:SeniorConnections@nsci.org) with any questions.*

## #SHOWUPFORSHABBAT

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25**  
6:15 PM

We invite the collective community to join us for Shabbat services on the one-year anniversary of the horrendous attack at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh. Let us come together to honor the victims and raise our collective voices for a world free of antisemitism, hate, and bigotry.

## MEET UP FOR SHABBAT DINNER!

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25**  
AFTER OUR REGULAR KABBALAT SHABBAT SERVICE MAX AND BENNY'S IN NORTHBROOK

*RSVP at [rsvp@nsci.org](mailto:rsvp@nsci.org) with the total number of guests attending. Please note: each individual party is responsible for their own meal cost.*

## 2019 MICHIGAN AVENUE FORUM

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5**  
7:00 PM AT FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN BUCHANAN CHAPEL

Rabbi Wendi Geffen will join Cardinal Blase Cupich and Eboo Patel at this year's Michigan Avenue Forum, a council which promotes civic formation within the Chicagoland community by featuring public leaders in live lecture. This year's focus will be "Jews, Muslims, and Christians: Loving God, Loving Neighbor." More information will follow closer to the event.

## COMMEMORATION OF KRISTALLNACHT—THE NIGHT OF BROKEN GLASS



**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5 AND**  
**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6**  
4:20-5:15 PM

The entire congregation is invited to join with our 5th through 7th graders for this annual commemoration of the Holocaust. Come hear Ralph Samuel's compelling story as one of the 20,000 Jews who settled in Shanghai, China fleeing the Nazis. After the presentation, we will light yahrzeit candles, recite Kaddish, and sing Hatikvah. Please visit [nsci.org/streaming](http://nsci.org/streaming) or our Facebook page to watch the speech live on Tuesday, November 5.

*RSVP to Jennifer McKeag at [jenniferm@nsci.org](mailto:jenniferm@nsci.org).*

## MIND-OPENING MEDITATION SERIES WITH RABBI ROB JURY

**MONDAYS, NOVEMBER 25 & DECEMBER 2**  
7:00 PM

*Quieting the Chaos of Our Lives*—The ancient mystical tradition of Kabbalah utilizes three forms of Jewish meditation. In this session, we will learn about all three meditation practices and experience the benefits of Jewish meditation for body & soul.

*The Serenity Prayer*—We will study the Serenity Prayer in English, Hebrew, and Yiddish, unlocking the deeper meaning of this powerful text. After a short study, we'll use the Serenity Prayer as inspiration for a guided serenity meditation.

*RSVP [nsci.org/event/MeditationSeries](http://nsci.org/event/MeditationSeries)*

# 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.*

## 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.*

## 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.*

# Youth & Family Community

## STROLLERS, STORIES & CELEBRATIONS

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18:  
SUKKOT & SIMCHAT TORAH  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15:  
THANKSGIVING  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6:  
CHANUKAH**

**10:00–10:45 AM AT NSCI**

Interactive play with a Jewish twist for children birth to 3 years old with an adult. Stories, music, movement and Shabbat. Free and open to the community.

*Please contact Susan Ellenby with any questions, [susane@nsci.org](mailto:susane@nsci.org) or 847.835.0724.*

## PJ LIBRARY FAMILY CHANUKAH SHABBAT

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 5:30 PM**

Celebrate Shabbat and experience the story of Chanukah. Light dinner will be served.

*More information at [NSCI.org](http://NSCI.org).*

## EIGHT NIGHTS OF JOY: A CHANUKAH WARM-UP CONCERT

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15 10:15 AM**

Join strumming rabbi and songwriter Joe Black with the Maxwell Street Klezmer Band for some foot stomping, hand clapping Chanukah songs. Our own Selah group of talented 6th–12th graders will be leading the fun too. All ages are welcome! Bring friends and relatives.

## IMPORTANT GOODMAN CENTER RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DATES

**Friday, October 18:** Simchat Torah Observance and Consecration Shabbat

**Sunday, October 20:** No School

**Saturday, November 2:** 3rd & 4th grade Undernighter

**Friday, November 22:** Family Shabbat featuring 3rd & 4th grade, Selah & Nashir

**November 26–December 1:** No School

**Friday, December 6:** Family Shabbat featuring Selah

**December 22–January 5:** No School

# Teen & Young Adult

## JEFFREY LASKY MEMORIAL ARTS WEEKEND

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25–  
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27**

Calling all 9–12th graders to come and explore Judaism through art with artists in residence Rabbi Shawna and Isaac Brynjegard-Bialik from Paper Midrash. We will spend the weekend at Camp OSRUI in Wisconsin with plenty of good times, good snacks, and good friends.

*This weekend retreats costs \$250. RSVP to Mady Frischer at [mady@nsci.org](mailto:mady@nsci.org).*

## L'TAKEN SAVE THE DATE!

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 24–  
MONDAY, JANUARY 27  
DEADLINE TO SIGN UP IS  
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27.**

Come pray with your feet and take action in Washington, D.C. NSCI teens are heading to L'Taken and will take on the nation's capital to speak with our representatives and advocate for the issues we care about with the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism.

*This trip will cost around \$850. RSVP to Mady Frischer at [mady@nsci.org](mailto:mady@nsci.org).*

## HOLIDAY GREETINGS & GIFTS FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

NSCI's clergy would like to keep in touch with your child or grandchild while they are away at college or gap year program.

*Please share their email address with us so that we can send them holiday greetings and gifts throughout the year at [nsci.org/post-high-school/college](http://nsci.org/post-high-school/college).*

# Adult Learning

## Music Learning & Leadership

### HOLY CHANTERS

**MONDAYS, OCTOBER 28, NOVEMBER 4, DECEMBER 9, 16, JANUARY 6, 13, FEBRUARY 17, 24, MARCH 9, 16, APRIL 13, 20, MAY 11, 18**  
6:00-7:00 PM

Learn to chant Torah and 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).**

### SHIR CHADASH REHEARSALS

**MONDAYS, OCTOBER 28, NOVEMBER 4, DECEMBER 9, 16, JANUARY 6, 13, FEBRUARY 17, 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 context of the prayers we sing during our Shabbat Service.

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

### 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, please contact Cantor David Goldstein at 847.835.0724 ext. 645**

## Fall 2019

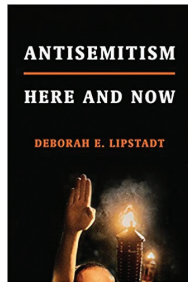
### UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM COMMUNITY PROGRAM FEATURING MICHAEL DOBBS

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16**  
7:00-8:30 PM

Join Michael Dobbs, author of *The Unwanted: America, Auschwitz and a Village Caught in Between*, as he describes individual stories of escape and tragedy and explores Americans' response to the refugee crisis in the 1930s and 1940s. This program is part of a groundbreaking educational initiative at the Museum that includes the new "Americans and the Holocaust" exhibition.

**To register, contact [RSVP@nsci.org](mailto:RSVP@nsci.org).**

### BOOK DISCUSSION ON ANTISEMITISM HERE AND NOW BY DR. DEBORAH LIPSTADT



**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22**  
7:00 PM

Join the NSCI clergy for a discussion on this critically acclaimed, best-selling book by Dr. Deborah Lipstadt. Please read the book in advance of the discussion.

**RSVP at [nsci.org/event/AntisemitismHereAndNow](https://nsci.org/event/AntisemitismHereAndNow)**

### NACHMAN FAMILY ADULT EDUCATION SERIES\*: A NEW JEWISH CANON: DEFINING JUDAISM AND JEWISHNESS SINCE 1980



**MONDAYS, OCTOBER 28, NOVEMBER 4, 11 & 18**  
7:00 PM

Dr. Claire Sufrin, Associate Professor of Instruction and Assistant Director of Jewish Studies at the Crown Family Center for Jewish Studies at Northwestern University, will discuss the process of choosing material for the forthcoming book, *The New Jewish Canon 1980-2015*. She will present examples of key texts from each of the book's four sections: Jewish Politics and the Public Square; History, Memory and Narrative; Religion and Religiosity; and Identities and Communities.

**To register, contact [RSVP@nsci.org](mailto:RSVP@nsci.org).**

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

### WISE AGING: LIVING WITH JOY, RESILIENCE, AND SPIRIT

**FIVE CONSECUTIVE WEDNESDAY MORNINGS IN OCTOBER & NOVEMBER**

Join Bev Shurman Lavitt, LCSW and Rabbi Nina J. Mizrahi to learn through engaging questions, texts, and practices that reveal our wisdom and cultivate resilience and joy. Wise Aging helps people ages 55+ make the transition from fear to a deeper appreciation of the next phase of life.

**Space is limited and registration through the facilitators is required. \$72 fee for non-members. Please contact Bev Shurman Lavitt at [bevshurmanlavitt@gmail.com](mailto:bevshurmanlavitt@gmail.com) or Rabbi Nina Mizrahi at [ninajanemizrahi@gmail.com](mailto:ninajanemizrahi@gmail.com).**

## THE DAVIS FAMILY FORUM—ANTISEMITISM HERE AND NOW: OLD TEXT. NEW BINDING. WITH DR. DEBORAH LIPSTADT

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 7:00 PM

There is no question that we are seeing a distinct rise in antisemitism. It confronts us from the right and from the left. How do we explain this phenomenon? Is it something new or traditional antisemitism in a new guise? How might we respond? Will responding accomplish anything?

Dr. Deborah E. Lipstadt, Dorot Professor of Holocaust Studies at Emory University in Atlanta, has published and taught about the Holocaust and antisemitism for close to 40 years. She is widely known because of the libel lawsuit brought against her (1996) by a Holocaust denier.

The motion picture "Denial" tells the story of this legal battle. She has held Presidential appointment to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council (from Presidents Clinton and Obama) and was asked by President George W. Bush to represent the White House at the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz.

This program is co-sponsored with the American Jewish Committee.

To register, please contact Houston Harris at [harrish@ajc.org](mailto:harrish@ajc.org) or 312.646.6112.



## STUDY THE TALMUD WITH RABBI WENDI GEFFEN

MONDAYS, OCTOBER 28,  
NOVEMBER 4, 18, 25, DECEMBER 2,  
9, 16

1:00–2:00 PM

Join Rabbi Wendi Geffen as we continue the study of 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.*

To register, contact [RSVP@nsci.org](mailto:RSVP@nsci.org).

## INTRO TO JUDAISM

MONDAY NIGHTS, 18 SESSIONS,  
BEGINNING LATE OCTOBER

This basic Judaism course is perfect for interfaith couples, those from different faith backgrounds considering conversion, and Jews looking for an adult-level introduction course. NSCI's clergy is partnering with clergy from other local Reform congregations to host Intro to Judaism.

To register and pay, please visit [reformjudaism.org/intro/IL](http://reformjudaism.org/intro/IL)

## ETHICS OF THE TORAH WITH BUDDY SCHREIBER

MONDAYS, NOVEMBER 4, 11 & 18  
11:30 AM–12:30 PM

There are over 600 commandments in the Torah—about 450 dealing with one's relationship to God, and about 150 dealing with one's relationship to others. Join us to discuss these 150 moral and ethical laws.

RSVP [nsci.org/event/EthicsOfTheTorah](http://nsci.org/event/EthicsOfTheTorah)

## LEGACY LETTERS WITH CAROLE MARK GINGISS

MONDAYS, NOVEMBER 11, 18, 25,  
DECEMBER 2, 9 & 16  
9:30–11:00 AM

Legacy Letters share the life lessons and values that made you who you are today and allow you to pass on those lessons and values to future generations. Join us in a class that will guide you to write your own Legacy Letter, with easy-to-understand handouts throughout the six-week session.

*\$36 fee for non-members. If you have questions, please contact Carole Mark Gingiss at [cmgingiss@att.net](mailto:cmgingiss@att.net). To register, contact [RSVP@nsci.org](mailto:RSVP@nsci.org).*

## MELTON CORE CLASS WITH JUDY WEISS



MONDAYS, NOVEMBER 11, 18,  
DECEMBER 2, 9, 16, JANUARY 6, 13,  
20 (8-SESSIONS)  
12:00–1:00 PM

Examine a variety of ancient and modern texts that reveal the depth of meaning found in our Jewish holiday practices. Inspiring for individuals of all backgrounds. No homework, no tests, no pressure! Students guided by recognized scholars from the award-winning BJE Chicago Melton School developed at Hebrew University, Jerusalem.

*\$125 Fee (textbook included). To register, visit [bjechicago.org](http://bjechicago.org) or call Rolly Cohen with questions at 847.291.7788 ext. 1304.*

## Winter 2019-2020

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

MONDAY EVENINGS BEGINNING  
WINTER 2020

Adult B'nei Mitzvah is a transformative, community-building group learning experience. Study Hebrew, prayer and so much more with your NSCI classmates of any age and background, culminating in a group service in which you will be called to the Torah. Mark your own journey and create new community.

*If you are even thinking about Adult B'nei Mitzvah a little, contact Rabbi Lisa Greene today at 847.835.0724 or [rabbigreene@nsci.org](mailto:rabbigreene@nsci.org). She wants to talk with you!*

# Tikkun Olam

## THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN OPERATION BACKPACK!



With your family's help, we packed & delivered all of the pencils, notebooks, folders, and other school supplies that the 500+ students of Chicago's Jordan Community School will use to thrive in the classroom this year.

## ADULT MITZVAH CORPS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25**  
10:30 AM-1:00 PM AT THE ARK,  
6450 N. CALIFORNIA, CHICAGO

Serve at a "Welcome Shabbat" luncheon for ARK clients, sponsored by the WNSCI.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6**  
10:30 AM-12:00 PM AT THE  
HIGHLAND PARK TARGET

Shop for winter wear for JCFS clients at Target.

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 9**  
10:00 AM-12:00 PM AT THE ELAINE  
KERSTEN CHILDREN'S CENTER  
IN NORTHBROOK

We will be the JCFS Holiday Gift Drive clean-up crew, sorting through leftover gifts and packing them up to go to various JCFS locations to be used for therapy incentives & birthday gifts throughout the year.

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

## FEED THE HOMELESS

**SUNDAYS, OCTOBER 27,  
NOVEMBER 10 & DECEMBER 8**  
1:00 PM SETUP 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.

*To register, contact Dave Rothschild at [FTH@nsci.org](mailto:FTH@nsci.org).*

## BETH EMET SOUP KITCHEN

**LUNCH & DESSERT MAKING**  
**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29**  
3:30-4:15 PM (BEFORE HEBREW  
SCHOOL)

NSCI Families: Come before class & help feed the hungry. We'll make lunches and decorate desserts for the Beth Emet Soup Kitchen. Each family will be asked to bring items for lunch/dessert making.

*Sign up to bring a food item via the Signup Genius link [bit.ly/2lv3wHy](https://bit.ly/2lv3wHy), by October 22. Questions? Ask Leslie Rosen, [leslie.n.rosen@gmail.com](mailto:leslie.n.rosen@gmail.com).*

**SERVING**  
**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30**  
4:00-7:00 PM

Adults & families will cook and serve at the Beth Emet Soup Kitchen in Evanston. This mitzvah of feeding the hungry involves food shopping, cooking and serving, and welcoming Soup Kitchen guests. Children must be 7 or older.

*Space is limited. To sign up, contact Karri Rosenthal, [karri\\_rosenthal@yahoo.com](mailto:karri_rosenthal@yahoo.com). Advance sign up is necessary.*

## HOLIDAY GIFT DRIVE

**NOVEMBER 17-DECEMBER 8**

We're collecting NEW unwrapped children's gifts and gift cards to be donated to Jewish Child & Family Services and Mary Lou's Place (Evanston). Please place donations in the white collection bin located near the religious school office.

## WINTER COAT DRIVE FOR CPS STUDENTS

**NOVEMBER 17-DECEMBER 8**

Help keep Chicago Public Schools students warm this winter by donating GENTLY USED or NEW winter coats, hats, mittens, and boots. Please place donations in the white collection bin located near the religious school office.

## FAMILY TO FAMILY THANKSGIVING MITZVAH PROJECT

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24**  
10:00 AM-12:00 PM

Provide a Thanksgiving meal for a Waukegan's Whittier Elementary School student and their family. Pre-register before November 20, then shop and bring the groceries to North Shore Congregation Israel on Sunday, November 24 to assemble and decorate Thanksgiving packages. This mitzvah opportunity takes approximately 20 minutes.

*Volunteer space is limited. Please sign up at [nsci.org/ThanksgivingBaskets2019](https://nsci.org/ThanksgivingBaskets2019)*

## SAVE THE DATE: MITZVAH DAY 2020!

**SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2020**

Do you have a volunteer activity that you would like to lead on Mitzvah Day? Tell us about the idea, and Rabbi Daniels or one of the Mitzvah Day 2020 Coordinators will contact you to discuss further at [nsci.org/form/MitzvahDay2020](https://nsci.org/form/MitzvahDay2020).

## 17: NSCI'S REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROJECT



We are excited to announce a new NSCI call to action: Once again, with the assistance of RefugeeOne, an approved UN Refugee Agency, we will help to settle a second refugee family this fall.

*Please visit [nsci.org/17](https://nsci.org/17) to learn how you and your family can help!*

# Women of NSCI

## WNSCI VOLUNTEERS AT GIGI'S PLAYHOUSE

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25**  
9:30–11:00 AM  
GIGI'S PLAYHOUSE, 2511  
WAUKEGAN RD. UNIT 106-7,  
BANNOCKBURN, IL 60015

October is Down Syndrome Awareness month. Please join WNSCI as we volunteer at GiGi's Playhouse, a Down Syndrome Achievement Center in Bannockburn. We will be assisting with their LMNOP program for infants. The morning includes a tour of the facility, a quick rundown of the program, set up, working with participants to stay on task, and a quick clean up.

*To participate, please email Amy Litner at [litaim@comcast.net](mailto:litaim@comcast.net).*

## WOMEN OF NSCI BOOK GROUP

**TUESDAYS, NOVEMBER 12,  
DECEMBER 10, JANUARY 14,  
FEBRUARY 11, MARCH 10, APRIL 4,  
MAY 12 & JUNE 9**  
1:00–3:00 PM

Join the Women of NSCI's book group throughout the year. New members are always welcome to join! Participants will read *After the Fire* by Lauren Belfer in November and *Three Floors Up* by Eshkol Nevo in December.

*RSVP Cindy Aminoff  
at [cinamino@gmail.com](mailto:cinamino@gmail.com).*

## BOTTLES, BRUSHES, AND BUDDIES WITH WNSCI

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5**  
6:30–9:00 PM  
PINOT'S PALETTE, 2011 TOWER  
DRIVE, GLENVIEW

Please mark your calendar for a fun evening out.

*Questions? Email Mimi Horowitz at [horowitz.marianne1@gmail.com](mailto:horowitz.marianne1@gmail.com)*

## SAVE THE DATES

**JANUARY 20, 2020**  
MLK DAY MORNING BUS TRIP TO  
STONE TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH  
**FEBRUARY 7–9, 2020**  
WNSCI RETREAT  
**MARCH 5–8, 2020**  
WNSCI WOMEN'S TRIP TO D.C.

# Music



**SUSAN MERDINGER  
AND HER QUARTET,  
SHERIDAN SOLISTI,  
PERFORMED AT NSCI ON  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2019.**

*From left: Steinway Artist Susan Merdinger and concert co-sponsors Jim Stone, Madeleine Plonsker and Harvey Plonsker.*

## UPCOMING POST-KABBALAT SHABBAT CONCERTS

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8**  
7:45 PM

***The Crisis of Identity.*** In commemoration of Kristallnacht, we welcome Pianist Carolyn Engers as she recounts her identity journey as well as the stories of composers who struggled with their own Jewish identity. A light supper will be provided to those who attend the Kabbalat Shabbat service, which begins at 6:15pm.

*Please register at [nsci.org/event/Mischlinge2019](https://nsci.org/event/Mischlinge2019).*

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

***The King of Instruments.*** This concert features the extraordinary Casavant Frères organ as well as talented organists Paul Vander Weele and Patrick Godon. A light supper will be provided to those who attend the Kabbalat Shabbat service, which begins at 6:15pm.

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

*These concerts are free and have been graciously sponsored by Jim Stone and Madeleine & Harvey Plonsker.*

# Brotherhood



## FROM THE BROTHERHOOD CO-PRESIDENTS

Please watch your email for a survey from Brotherhood shortly after Yom Kippur. The Board of NSCI's Brotherhood would like to find meaningful opportunities to re-engage with the male members of NSCI. The survey is a chance to share with us what you would like to see Brotherhood provide to its congregants.

# The Ruthie & Bill Katz Archives

## Our Immigration Stories: Ralph Samuel

By **ELLEN (KATZ) BLOCK**

*We continue to document the stories of our congregants who immigrated to the U.S. The following story about Ralph Samuel and his family is compiled from an interview with Merle Branner on April 15, 2019 and Ralph's presentation talks for the Holocaust Museum.*

**RALPH SAMUEL'S** immigration story is similar to others from our congregation but distinctively unique. What makes Ralph's story unique is the journey his parents, Hilda Zimack Samuel and Adolf Aron Samuel, took which led them to Shanghai, China, where Ralph was born, before they emigrated to the United States.

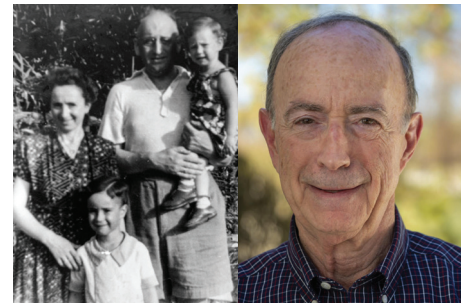
The Samuel family were well established in northern Germany. Several generations of Samuel families had a granary business, Samuel Brothers, in Rostock, Germany, for the early 1800s. The family sold seed on credit to farmers in the spring, then purchased and distributed the crop when it was harvested in the fall. Ralph's paternal grandfather had become very wealthy by 1900, though he downplayed his prosperity and his Judaism. When he died, the estate was divided among his five children, all of whom then became affluent themselves. Four of the five children, unhappy with what was happening in Germany in the early 1920s, left for other countries—three to London and one to Mexico. Adolf thus inherited the family business and stayed in Germany to help his mother run it. The business was dissolved in the 1930's as Hitler's noose tightened around the Jews. Along with other edicts, Hitler declared that all debts to Jews were cancelled. Since the business was run on credit, they were forced to close.

Hilda grew up as an only child in her family in Strelitz, Germany, where her family had a retail store selling dry goods. Her father died young and Hilda helped her mother run the small business. Along with growing inflation and an economic

depression, Nazis papered the windows of the Jewish shops and declared that non-Jews could not buy there, forcing the store to close. Hilda realized there was no future for her in Strelitz and was invited by friends to live in Rostock where she met and married Adolf. As the situation for Jews deteriorated in Germany, they still hoped people would come to their senses and that things would calm down.

In 1938, right after Kristallnacht, Hilda and Adolf decided they had to leave Rostock. They knew the Nazis were looking for Jewish men and taking them to detention centers. Though they had no specific plan, they tried to maintain a low profile, moving from town to town nearly every day. Tall, blond and blue-eyed, Adolf was able to pass as a non-Jew, once even having a "friendly" conversation with a Nazi SS Officer, and though Hilda appeared a little more Jewish, when she was with Adolf, no one questioned her. The two secretly phoned their mothers from time to time with a code established in advance, because the phone lines were being monitored. They never told their mothers where they were in order to protect them. They maintained communication with their mothers until October 1942 when it suddenly stopped. Later, they learned both of their mothers had been transported to concentration camps.

By happenstance, Hilda and Adolf were walking on the street in Hamburg, when they encountered a couple they knew who had four tickets on an ocean liner, The Victoria, which was sailing from Genoa, Italy to Shanghai, China. The couple had intended to take their parents, but the parents had decided they were too infirm to travel. They offered the tickets to Hilda and Adolf who immediately bought them. Eventually, they made their way by train from Berlin to Genoa and boarded the ship traveling in first class accommodations. Though they had money, they were so late in leaving Germany that the Nazi restrictions, which had previously been



more lenient, only allowed them to take \$4 apiece and their wedding rings. Their documentation—all legitimate—identified them as Jews with a big red "J".

The two-month sea journey followed a route across the Mediterranean, through the Suez Canal to the equator and then north to the hot and humid city of Shanghai. No visas, passports or entry papers were required for entry into Shanghai which had many foreign residents, including Americans, British, French, Russians and middle-Easterners. At the time of the Samuels' arrival, Shanghai was home to approximately 700 Sephardic Jews whose families had arrived from Iraq, comprising a very wealthy segment of the population. There were also several thousand Ashkenazi Jews, a far less affluent population, earning their living as small businessmen, who had fled to China from Russia following the Russian Revolution in 1917. About 17,000 refugees, like Hilda and Adolf, arrived in Shanghai fleeing persecution in Germany and Austria. HIAS—the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society—as well as the Committee for Assistance of European Jewish Refugees in Shanghai, formed by prominent local Jews, met the Jewish refugees as the ships arrived from Europe and transported them to the Heim, a reception center providing temporary shelter and basic necessities. Conditions were crowded and difficult. Since Ralph's parents had not been allowed to take money out of Germany, most of the Jewish refugees settled in the impoverished Hongkou neighborhood. It was here, on October 2, 1941, that Ralph was born. ■

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

# October 2019 ■ Tishri/Cheshvan 5780

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		<b>1</b> <b>Second Day of Rosh Hashanah—Office Closed</b> <b>10:00 am</b> Second Day Rosh Hashanah Service	<b>2</b> <b>2:00 pm</b> Cookies From the Heart <b>6:00 pm</b> AA Meeting <b>6:00 pm</b> North Shore Alateen Meeting	<b>3</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> WNSCI Mah Jongg Game	<b>4</b> <b>11:00 am</b> Becoming our Best Selves <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service	<b>5</b> <b>9:15 am</b> Shabbat Minyan Service
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> Study the Talmud <b>7:00 pm</b> Jews Have Confession?	<b>8</b> <b>Kol Nidre—1:00 pm Office Closes</b>	<b>9</b> <b>Yom Kippur</b>	<b>10</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> WNSCI Mah Jongg Game	<b>11</b> <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service	<b>12</b> <b>9:15 am</b> Shabbat Minyan Service
<b>13</b> <b>Erev Sukkot</b> <b>10:00 am</b> NSCI and JCC Chicago Celebrate Sukkot	<b>14</b> <b>1st Day of Sukkot—Office Closed</b> <b>9:15 am</b> Sukkot Experience	<b>15</b> <b>Sukkot</b> <b>11:30 am</b> WNSCI Sisters in the Sukkah <b>7:00 pm</b> Board of Trustees Meeting <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Meeting	<b>16</b> <b>Sukkot</b> <b>6:00 pm</b> AA Meeting <b>6:00 pm</b> North Shore Alateen Meeting <b>7:00 pm</b> United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Community Program	<b>17</b> <b>Sukkot</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> WNSCI Mah Jongg Game	<b>18</b> <b>Sukkot</b> <b>10:00 am</b> Strollers, Stories & Celebrations—Sukkot & Simchat Torah <b>6:15 pm</b> Simchat Torah Observance and Consecration Shabbat with Selah, October Birthday Blessing	<b>19</b> <b>Sukkot</b> <b>9:15 am</b> Shabbat Minyan Service
<b>20</b> <b>Sukkot</b> <b>10:00 am</b> Spirituality Hike with Rabbi Wendi Geffen	<b>21</b> <b>Sh'mini Atzeret Simchat Torah—Office Closed</b> <b>7:30 am</b> Alternative Early Morning Yitzkor Service <b>9:15 am</b> Shemini Atzeret Simchat Torah Service with Yitzkor	<b>22</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> Book Discussion on "Antisemitism Here and Now" <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Meeting	<b>23</b> <b>11:45 am</b> Senior Connections <b>6:00 pm</b> AA Meeting <b>6:00 pm</b> North Shore Alateen Meeting	<b>24</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> WNSCI Mah Jongg Game	<b>25</b> Jeffrey Lasky Memorial Arts Weekend <b>9:30 am</b> WNSCI Volunteers at GiGi's Playhouse <b>10:30 am</b> Adult Mitzvah Corps at the ARK <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service <b>7:45 pm</b> Meet Up for Shabbat Dinner	<b>26</b> Jeffrey Lasky Memorial Arts Weekend <b>9:15 am</b> Shabbat Minyan Service
<b>27</b> Jeffrey Lasky Memorial Arts Weekend <b>1:00 pm</b> Feed the Homeless	<b>28</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> Study the Talmud <b>6:00 pm</b> Holy Chanters <b>7:00 pm</b> Nachman Family Adult Education Series	<b>29</b> <b>3:30 pm</b> Beth Emet Soup Kitchen Lunch & Dessert Making <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Meeting	<b>30</b> <b>4:00 pm</b> Beth Emet Soup Kitchen Serving <b>6:00 pm</b> AA Meeting <b>6:00 pm</b> North Shore Alateen Meeting	<b>31</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> WNSCI Mah Jongg Game		

# November 2019 ■ Cheshvan/Kislev 5780

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					<b>1</b> WNSCI A Taste of Jewish Cincinnati Trip Jeffrey Lasky Memorial Arts Weekend Reunion <b>5:30 pm</b> Challah Baking & Tzedakah <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Selah	<b>2</b> WNSCI A Taste of Jewish Cincinnati Trip <b>9:15 am</b> Shabbat Minyan Service
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <b>11:30 am</b> Ethics of the Torah <b>1:00 pm</b> Study the Talmud <b>6:00 pm</b> Holy Chanters <b>7:00 pm</b> Nachman Family Adult Education Series	<b>5</b> <b>4:20 pm</b> Commemoration of Kristallnacht-The Night of Broken Glass <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Meeting	<b>6</b> <b>10:30 am</b> Adult Mitzvah Corps at Target <b>4:20 pm</b> Commemoration of Kristallnacht-The Night of Broken Glass <b>6:00 pm</b> AA Meeting <b>6:00 pm</b> North Shore Alateen Meeting	<b>7</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> WNSCI Mah Jongg Game	<b>8</b> <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Shir Chadash <b>7:45 pm</b> Post Kabbalat Shabbat Concert "The Crisis of Identity" featuring Pianist Carolyn Engers	<b>9</b> <b>9:15 am</b> Shabbat Minyan Service
<b>10</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> Feed the Homeless	<b>11</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Legacy Letters with Carole Mark Gingiss <b>11:30 am</b> Ethics of the Torah <b>12:00 pm</b> Melton Core Class <b>7:00 pm</b> Nachman Family Adult Education Series	<b>12</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> WNSCI Book Group <b>7:00 pm</b> Board of Trustees Meeting <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Meeting	<b>13</b> <b>6:00 pm</b> AA Meeting <b>6:00 pm</b> North Shore Alateen Meeting	<b>14</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> WNSCI Mah Jongg Game	<b>15</b> <b>10:00 am</b> Strollers, Stories & Celebrations—Thanksgiving <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service	<b>16</b> <b>9:15 am</b> Shabbat Minyan Service
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Legacy Letters with Carole Mark Gingiss <b>11:30 am</b> Ethics of the Torah <b>12:00 pm</b> Melton Core Class <b>1:00 pm</b> Study the Talmud <b>7:00 pm</b> Nachman Family Adult Education Series	<b>19</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Meeting	<b>20</b> <b>11:45 am</b> Senior Connections <b>6:00 pm</b> AA Meeting <b>6:00 pm</b> North Shore Alateen Meeting	<b>21</b> <b>10:30 am</b> Memoir Writing Class with Carole Mark Gingiss <b>1:00 pm</b> WNSCI Mah Jongg Game <b>7:00 pm</b> Davis Family Forum with Dr. Deborah Lipstadt	<b>22</b> Nashir Weekend <b>5:30 pm</b> Challah Baking <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Alan Goodis, Selah and Nashir, November Birthday Blessing, 3rd/4th Grade Shabbat	<b>23</b> Nashir Weekend <b>9:15 am</b> Shabbat Minyan Service
<b>24</b> Nashir Weekend <b>9:00 am</b> WNSCI Board Meeting <b>10:00 am</b> Family to Family Thanksgiving Mitzvah Project	<b>25</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Legacy Letters with Carole Mark Gingiss <b>1:00 pm</b> Study the Talmud <b>7:00 pm</b> Mind-Opening Meditation Series	<b>26</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Meeting	<b>27</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> Building Closed—Thanksgiving Break	<b>28</b> Building Closed—Thanksgiving	<b>29</b> Building Closed—Thanksgiving Break <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service	<b>30</b> <b>9:15 am</b> Shabbat Minyan Service

# December 2019 ▪ Kislev/Tevet 5780

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
<b>1</b> <b>Building Closed—Thanksgiving Break</b>	<b>2</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Legacy Letters with Carole Mark Gingiss <b>12:00 pm</b> Melton Core Class <b>1:00 pm</b> Study the Talmud <b>7:00 pm</b> Mind-Opening Meditation Series	<b>3</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Meeting	<b>4</b> <b>6:00 pm</b> AA Meeting <b>6:00 pm</b> North Shore Alateen Meeting	<b>5</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> WNSCI Mah Jongg Game <b>6:30 pm</b> Bottles, Brushes, and Buddies with WNSCI	<b>6</b> <b>10:00 am</b> Strollers, Stories & Celebrations—Chanukah <b>5:30 pm</b> PJ Library Family Chanukah Shabbat <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Alan Goodis and Selah, December Birthday Blessing	<b>7</b> <b>9:15 am</b> Shabbat Minyan Service
<b>8</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> Feed the Homeless	<b>9</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Legacy Letters with Carole Mark Gingiss <b>10:00 am</b> Adult Mitzvah Corps at the Elaine Kersten Children's Center <b>12:00 pm</b> Melton Core Class <b>1:00 pm</b> Study the Talmud <b>6:00 pm</b> Holy Chanters	<b>10</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> WNSCI Book Group <b>7:00 pm</b> Board of Trustees Meeting <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Meeting	<b>11</b> <b>11:45 am</b> Senior Connections <b>6:00 pm</b> AA Meeting <b>6:00 pm</b> North Shore Alateen Meeting	<b>12</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> WNSCI Mah Jongg Game	<b>13</b> <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service	<b>14</b> <b>9:15 am</b> Shabbat Minyan Service
<b>15</b> <b>10:15 am</b> Eight Nights of Joy: A Chanukah Warm-Up Concert	<b>16</b> <b>9:30 am</b> Legacy Letters with Carole Mark Gingiss <b>12:00 pm</b> Melton Core Class <b>1:00 pm</b> Study the Talmud <b>6:00 pm</b> Holy Chanters	<b>17</b> <b>7:00 pm</b> FA Meeting	<b>18</b> <b>6:00 pm</b> AA Meeting <b>6:00 pm</b> North Shore Alateen Meeting	<b>19</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> WNSCI Mah Jongg Game	<b>20</b> <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Shir Chadash	<b>21</b> <b>9:15 am</b> Shabbat Minyan Service
<b>22</b> <b>Chanukah 1st Candle</b>	<b>23</b> <b>Chanukah 2nd Candle</b>	<b>24</b> <b>Chanukah 3rd Candle</b> <b>Building Closed—Winter Break</b>	<b>25</b> <b>Chanukah 4th Candle</b> <b>Building Closed—Winter Break</b>	<b>26</b> <b>Chanukah 5th Candle</b> <b>Building Closed—Winter Break</b>	<b>27</b> <b>Chanukah 6th Candle</b> <b>Building Closed—Winter Break</b> <b>6:15 pm</b> Kabbalat Shabbat Service "Ask the Rabbi"	<b>28</b> <b>Chanukah 7th Candle</b> <b>9:15 am</b> Shabbat Minyan Service
<b>29</b> <b>Chanukah 8th Candle</b> <b>Building Closed—Winter Break</b>	<b>30</b> <b>Building Closed—Winter Break</b>	<b>31</b> <b>Building Closed—Winter Break</b>				



**NORTH SHORE  
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## **IMPORTANT BUILDING DATES**

Please note that the NSCI  
office will be closed on  
**Tuesday, December 24, 2019**  
**and will reopen at 9:00 am**  
**on Thursday, January 2, 2020.**  
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.*



## **NSCI at 100!**

# **Multi-Generational Israel Trip**

**MARCH 19-29, 2020**

Led by Rabbi Wendi Geffen. Don't miss this opportunity of a lifetime.  
**The deadline to sign up is extended to Sunday, December 1.**  
*Questions? Contact Sarah Duffin at [sarahd@nscl.org](mailto:sarahd@nscl.org).*