A few years ago, our clergy team noted a shared observation of the following “conversation” between any number of B’nei Mitzvah students and their parents. At a point of challenge, the child would inevitably turn to their parent and say: “I don’t want to do this!” To which the parent would respond firmly: “Oh, you are doing this whether you like it or not!” The child would then escalate: “But why? Why does it matter?” At which point, the parent, with raised voice, would say: “I don’t know; because it just does!”

In his well-known Ted Talk, leadership and organizational thinker Simon Sinek discusses why knowing and articulating the why matters so much, but also, why so many have a difficult time knowing and articulating it. One reason our why is hard to articulate is because it sources from one part of the brain, whereas language comes from another part, thus expressing our why requires significant intentional effort. Ultimately, the effort is worth it, as why is all about our purpose and serves as the primary motivator for our actions in the world.

If we are to make the claim that Judaism matters, then we need to be able to answer the question why. We might take a prompt from the Torah itself. When offering the Israelites a ritual for when they reap their first good harvest, Moses instructs them to take the first and best produce to the Temple as a donation and offer the following proscribed words:

“My father was a fugitive Aramean. He went down to Egypt in meager numbers and sojourned there, but there became a great and very populous nation. The Egyptians dealt harshly with us and oppressed us; they imposed heavy labor upon us. We cried to God, the God of our ancestors, and God heard our plea and saw our plight, our misery, and our oppression. God freed us from Egypt by a mighty hand, by an outstretched arm and awesome power, and by signs and portents. God brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. Which is why I now bring the first fruits of the soil which You, God, have given me.”

Imbedded here is the literal articulation of the why. Because we are part of a thousands of years old tradition and people, we have known profound suffering and have experienced miraculous redemption, and that compels us to be grateful for what we have and give back.

At the end of the day, each of us can choose our own Jewish why. Perhaps we will choose the why of the Torah or some part of it. Perhaps we will choose one more personalized and particular to who we are and our own experience. To me, Judaism matters because the electric pulse of Jewish wisdom inspires me. It connects me with the generations of old, and enables me to do my part in Jewish sacred practice to heal the sick, clothe the naked, help the poor, pursue peace, love the neighbor and the stranger, and to animate the Divine in all people. In doing that, we can transform the world from the way it is to the way it can yet be.

That is my Jewish why, what is yours? I hope you’ll give it some thought and consider sharing it with your loved ones and fellow community members as inspiration for us all as we make our way into the fullness of the New Year.
Our Congregational Family
Welcome to our new and returning members (through September 14):

Melvin Oscar Brill
born on July 8, 2018
son of Allison Tick Brill and David Brill
grandson of Andrea & Steven Tick and Susan & Alan Brill

Alaia Samantha Teven
born on July 11, 2018
daughter of Jillian & Chad Teven
granddaughter of Jodi & Paul Loeb and Dayle & Dennis Teven
great granddaughter of Joan & Herbert Loeb and Reta Cohen

Maria Lindaura Cabral
born on July 12, 2018
daughter of Meghan Greenebaum and Paulo Marcio Cabral Filho
granddaughter of Robert F. Greenebaum & V. Ferris Todd and Marcilia & Paulo Marcio Cabral
great granddaughter of Lilli & James E. Greenebaum, II

Aiden Jack Blaustein
born on July 24, 2018
son of Dena & Ryan Blaustein

Eloise Scarlett Briggs
born August 15, 2018
daughter of Amy & Dan Briggs
little sister of Vivian
granddaughter of Lynn & Mark Shapiro and Russ & Eva Briggs
great granddaughter of Beatrice Colburn

Sepideh Maya Kohn
born on August 18, 2018
daughter of Daniella Farah and Asher Kohn
granddaughter of Karen Kohn, Saeideh & Behzad Farah
great granddaughter of Fahimeh Farahmandpour

John Scott Hunter
born on August 20, 2018
son of Jaclyn and Jeffrey Hunter
grandson of Susan Longo and Marlow Hunter

Mallory Blair Hirschfeld
born on August 21, 2018
daughter of Julie & Judah Hirschfeld
sister of Mason & Jonas Hirschfeld
granddaughter of Steven Hirschfeld and Nancy & Jim Jonas

Charlie Leonard Robbins and William Buddy Robbins
born on August 26, 2018
sons of Elizabeth & Mark Robbins
brothers of Zoe Rebecca Robbins
grandsons of Gail & Ralph Robbins, Marcy Miller, Larry Miller
great grandsons of Sarah Jody and Harriet Miller

Mazel Tov to:
Gaby Katz & Jonathan Goldman
on their July 28 wedding

Amy Nadell & Brett Caplan
on their August 4 wedding

Casey Leiser & Morgan Marcus
on their August 24 Aufruf/Wedding Blessing

Brittany Gruenberg & Drew Wolfe
on their August 25 wedding

Jennifer Litner & Brad Mueller
on their September 1 wedding

Michelle Lerman & Samuel McClandish
on their September 2 wedding

Melissa Slavin & Jonathan Hirsch
on their September 15 wedding

Melissa Weiner & Zach Smith
on their September 16 wedding

Jamie Lasky & Zach Hirsch
on their September 29 wedding

Michelle Scheinkopf
on becoming the WRJ Midwest District President

Dr. Andrew & Cathy Scheman
(Loren & Nicole)

Donald Schwartz & Meredith Ilg
(Camille & Leah)

Regina Schwartz & William Davis
(Alexander)

Bradley & Kristin Sheftel
(Camilla)

Ryan Starr
(Harper)

Gary & Joyce Stetson
Leslie & David Storch
(Julie, Samantha & Michael)

Igor Strasko & Zoya Nudelman
(Julia & Max)

Michael Swedlow
(Mason & Ashley)

Sanford & Karen Teplitzky
Mark & Juli Walton
(Jorie, Adam & Allie)

Sean & Amanda Weil
(Asher, Marin & Zachary)

Welcome to:
Jen & Matthew Bergman
(Eliza & Manning)

Leo & Jill Bleiman

Pamela & Steven Bloomberg

Dana & Jeremy Bokor
(Nola, Everly & Remi)

Stefanie & Lane Boron
(Sophia & Ava)

Marc & Beverly Breslow
(Oscar & Jax)

Lindsey & Michael Delrahim
(Alexa & Zachary)

Steve Eisman

Aaron & Amy Galvin
(Mia & Lana)

Seth & Jodie Gastwirth
(Tali & Libbi)

Julie & Jeff Heller
(Zoe & Chase)

Steven & Sarah Horowitz
(Dalia, Shuli & Levi)

Jonathan & Marissa Kaelter
(Jax & Owen)

Andrew & Janice Kass
(Lillian & Sergio)

Judith Kleiman

Amy & Steven Klein
(Gregory & Lauren)

Niki Levy & Josh Simons

Deborah & Michael Miller
(Jordan)

Debbie & Mark Ori
(Billy & Lucy)

Ori & Kristine Orinstein
(Amelia & Saige)

Elan & Lisa Peltz
(Savannah & Dylan)

Allison & Robert Rabin
(Benjamin & Daniel)

Robbyn & Jason Ratskoff
(Cooper, Charlie & Jocelyn)

Robin & Michael Richman

David & Morgan Rosenberg
(William, Adam & John)

Chris & Jessica Rusch
(Madeline & Juliania)

Lauren Russ & Miguel Torres
(Jacob & Zachary)

Jonathan & Margaux Sayer
(Konner, Maxwell, Rose & Spencer)

Dr. Andrew & Cathy Scheman
(Loren & Nicole)

Donald Schwartz & Meredith Ilg
(Camille & Leah)

Regina Schwartz & William Davis
(Alexander)

Bradley & Kristin Sheftel
(Camilla)

Ryan Starr
(Harper)

Gary & Joyce Stetson
Leslie & David Storch
(Julie, Samantha & Michael)

Igor Strasko & Zoya Nudelman
(Julia & Max)

Michael Swedlow
(Mason & Ashley)

Sanford & Karen Teplitzky
Mark & Juli Walton
(Jorie, Adam & Allie)

Sean & Amanda Weil
(Asher, Marin & Zachary)
In Memoriam
The congregation extends its heartfelt condolences to the families of:

Robert Chatz
husband of Sandi Chatz,
father of Barbara (Keith) Bank, Julie (Mark) Lerman, and Cathy Smith, stepfather of David (Jessica) Waxman and Joey (Meg) Waxman

Allan Coleman
husband of the late Jacqueline, father of Debbie (Peter) Leeb, Jim (the late Jeanie) Coleman and Cindy (Neil Frankel) Coleman, grandfather of Hillary (Jason) Manaster, Daniel (Jori) Leeb, Elizabeth (Matthew) Berry, Emily (Brandon) Nagler, David (Kristyn) Coleman and Emanuela Frankel, great-grandfather of 12

Sidney Dorfman

Martin Faier
husband of Kathleen Faier, father of Dr. Melinda Faier and James (Deborah Schwartz) Faier, grandfather of Aaron, Zev, and Isaac

Joanne S. Fox
mother of Susan (Max) Reiswerg

Carol Lee Mehlman Friedman
mother of Neal (Susan) Mehlman, grandmother of Jacob and Rachel Mehlman

Jennifer Blatt Gabel
sister of Riva (David) Lipman, aunt of Abby and Jonathan Lipman

Murry Ginsburg
uncle of Enid Brick

Robert A. Glass
husband of Margie Glass, father of Caryl Mae (David) Noble and Marcy (Manny) Brown, grandfather of Joseph Noble and Joshua Noble, Bryan (Katie) Brown, Meredith (Matthew) Juszczak, and Madeline (Andrew) Perlman

Barb Hondros
sister of Larry (Jody) Dickstein

Pauline Bartlett Pinkus
wife of the late Daniel C. Pinkus, mother of Janice (Larry) Fern, Eileen (Donald) Weil, and Ann Dee (Edward) Holland, grandmother of Brian (Danielle) Fern, Marc (Irene) Fern, Jori (Danny) Leeb, Lindy (Aaron) Resnick, and Bradley (Elana Harris) Holland, great-grandmother of 10

Rosa Vargas
dear to Carmela Jimenez

Rhonda Pressley
mother of Alec (Michael) Covey

Peggie Saka
mother of Richard (Bonnie) Tolan, grandmother of Joshua (Lori) Tolan and Jeremy Tolan

John Schlossman
husband of Shirley Schlossman, father of Marc (Nicola Johnson) Schlossman, Gail (Donald) Mewhort, and Peter (Sara Zimmerman) Schlossman, grandpa and papa of Ben, Theo, Sara, Jack, Jane, Noah and Ava

Upcoming B’nei Mitzvah

Saturday, October 6
4:30 pm Shabbat Afternoon Service
Shaina Lynn Handelman
daughter of Trayci Handelman and Jeff Handelman

Thursday, October 11
10:30 am Daily Morning Service
Zachary Melinger
son of Jody & David Melinger

Saturday, October 13
4:30 pm Shabbat Afternoon Service
Bayla Freeman
daughter of Sean & Ami Freeman

Saturday, October 20
10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service
Gabriel Cohen
son of David & Debra Cohen
4:30 pm Shabbat Afternoon Service
Hope Kirchheimer
daughter of Stacy & Mike Kirchheimer

Saturday, November 3
10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service
Jacob Starr
son of Olga & David Starr
4:30 pm Shabbat Afternoon Service
Joseph Kevin Baba
son of Carolyn Bergen Baba and Mark Baba

Friday, November 9
10:30 am Rosh Chodesh Morning Service
Emma Dylan Eisenberg
daughter of Amy & Peter Eisenberg

Saturday, November 10
10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service
Lucas Elowe
son of Jeffrey & Randi Elowe
4:30 pm Shabbat Afternoon Service
Joshua Noble
son of Caryl & David Noble

Saturday, November 17
10:30 am Shabbat Morning Service
Chloe Boehm
daughter of Laura & Brett Boehm
4:30 pm Shabbat Afternoon Service
Jenny Neiman
daughter of Lori Kohn

Saturday, November 24
12:30 pm Shabbat Morning Service
Jacob Levi Hirsh
son of Jill & Douglas Hirsh
Hello Friends—In this season following Sukkot, celebrating Simchat Torah, and reflecting on thanksgiving: thanks + giving, I’ve asked Carol Wolfe, Vice President of Development on our Board of Trustees, to share her perspective on what it can mean for each of us to feel empowered to participate in sustaining our synagogue.

Several months ago, Marilyn Perlman asked me to take on the role of Development Committee Chair. The Development Committee is responsible for creating and implementing a fundraising plan for the immediate year and potentially long term. I was flattered that Marilyn thought that I was capable of filling the big shoes that she was leaving, but I was also concerned that I was not the right person to lead the committee because Abbott and I do not have the capacity to give a substantial gift to NSCI.

Ultimately, I chose to take this on for two reasons. First, I understand that annual fundraising is currently necessary to ensure NSCI’s continued success and viability. Secondly, I hope to bring a different perspective to the development conversation at NSCI. It is important to me that each member of our community feels that they are a stakeholder in our congregation no matter how much or how little they are able to give. I will be working with our staff and leadership team to determine how we can best do that with our annual fundraising.

Speaking of annual fundraising, initial discussions about the Spring Event have already started. I know we will come up with a plan for another successful and fun evening. However, at this time of year we are focused on our Elijah’s Table campaign. Contributions to Elijah’s Table allow all members of our community to fully participate in all aspects of temple life regardless of their ability to pay full dues. This year we are planning an Elijah’s Table Shabbat which will be held on Friday, November 30. At our Shabbat service, we will recognize those who donate to Elijah’s Table and learn firsthand about its impact and what supporting this program means to those who contribute. I hope you will join us for this special evening. And, when you receive our letter or email in November asking you to contribute to Elijah’s Table, please consider making a donation because you value our inclusiveness at NSCI. Whether you choose to contribute $18, $180 or a full $3,070, we appreciate your support of this campaign.
From Our Executive Director

Dear Congregants,

Welcome! Welcome to a new year and a new season. I hope that each of you was able to take the time to pause, reflect, and set your sights on your intentions for the year 5779. My first High Holy Days season at NSCI was truly inspiring. A whole team of clergy, staff, and volunteers, including ushers and greeters, Board members, florists, police, artists, educators, Torah readers, musicians, photographers, and many others came together to create a truly remarkable experience. A heartfelt thank you to each of you who helped make these services so meaningful.

Personally, a highlight was having the opportunity to meet so many of the long-time congregants as well as to welcome the new families joining us for the first time (including my own). In the last few months we’ve welcomed over 200 people to our synagogue community. It’s exciting to see our congregation continue to grow and evolve, as each person brings a new perspective, interest and personality.

We have set our sights high for the coming year, with new programs, more social action projects, and creative new ways for you to engage with us and one another. We’re also focused on ensuring that our internal operations help create the best possible experience for our congregants. I look forward to sharing specific details about our efforts in the coming weeks.

Until then, please stop by, pick up the phone, or send me an email. I’d love to connect.

L’shalom, and a sweet New Year to you all.

Todd Braman
Executive Director
toddb@nsci.org

2018 Shabbat Meet Up Dinners at Max & Benny’s
on Friday, October 19 and Friday, November 30 at 7:30 pm
after our regular Kabbalat Shabbat service. All are welcome!

Come celebrate Shabbat with clergy and others from the NSCI community at Max & Benny’s in Northbrook. This is a great opportunity to meet new people and ask the clergy questions in a welcoming atmosphere. Please RSVP at rsvp@nsci.org with the date you will be attending and the total number of guests in your party. Please note: each individual party is responsible for their own meal cost.

Max and Benny’s
Restaurant~Deli~Bakery

Are You Prepared?

Pre-arranging burial is part of sensible estate planning. As an NSCI congregant, you are entitled to purchase from a selection of burial spaces at Shalom Memorial Park at a substantial discount. If you are interested in planning ahead or learning more about the congregational plots, please contact Micah Singerman at Shalom Memorial Park at 847-255-3520. Be sure to mention that you are a congregant of NSCI. Please note that prices will rise in 2019.
Music at NSCI

North Shore Congregation Israel, the NSCI Elaine N. Sherman Fine Arts Fund and Kol Zimrah proudly present:

LEONARD BERNSTEIN
“The American Jewish Experience”

featuring

Kol Zimrah Jewish Community singers
Cantor David Goldstein
Cantor Pavel Roytman
Cantor Susie Louis Friedman
and Laurie Akers

Performing some of Bernstein’s signature compositions including Chichester Psalms for choir, soloists, organ, harp, and percussion. Selections from musicals and other vocal works

November 11, 2018 at 3:00 pm
The concert is free and open to the public

Nava Tehila Shabbat
Featuring Renowned Israeli Musician & Prayer Leader Yoel Sykes
Friday, November 9 during Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Join us for a musical Kabbalat Shabbat journey that invites us to travel into the landscape of holiness and joy. Through chanting Psalms and Shabbat prayers with original melodies and guided intentions, we will connect to the spirit and allow it to fill our hearts, uplift our souls, and welcome the Shabbat. Yoel Sykes will lead the music.

Yoel Sykes
Yoel studied music at the Center for Eastern Music in Jerusalem and flamenco guitar in the Fundacion de Christina Heeren school of Flamenco Arts in Seville, Spain. He is a main prayer leader in the Nava Tehila Jewish Renewal community in Jerusalem, and has traveled through the years with the Nava Tehila band to many Jewish communities around the U.S to lead musical prayer. He has composed many new melodies to traditional prayers, that can now be heard and sung in synagogues across Israel and throughout the globe.

Nashir Performing at NSCI
November 16 during Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Nashir is a national retreat for high school students interested in becoming better worship and song leaders.

Save the Date: Honigberg Trio at NSCI
December 14 following Kabbalat Shabbat Service

More details to follow in the December/January Bulletin.
Do a Mitzvah: Feed the Homeless

Feed the Homeless is back and looking for those to help us give food and support to those in need. We are looking for volunteers to help make hot and cold meals, deliver, and serve meals to 750 people in the Lake & Cook County area. If you are not already signed up to be a volunteer in the Feed the Homeless Program and would like to participate, please e-mail FTH@nsci.org. You will then receive information and project dates for 2018-2019. Volunteers of all ages are welcome.

Upcoming Sunday Fall Dates:
October 21, November 4 and December 9 and November 4 at the Ronald McDonald House.

Thank you for participating in this year’s High Holy Days collections for & Cradles to Crayons

NSCI will continue to collect kosher non-perishable food for The Ark and children’s toys, clothing & shoes, books, hygiene products, and other essentials for Cradles to Crayons throughout the year. Please bring your donations to NSCI, and place in the appropriately labeled white collection bins.

Provide household items to help the refugee family acclimate to life in their new home:

bit.ly/17Give

Adult Mitzvah Corps

Join our Adult Mitzvah Corps, where our congregants have fun volunteering together during the week. There is no ongoing commitment required; just feel free to join us as your time allows.

On Friday, October 12 from 12:30 pm-2:00 pm, we will be sorting food at The ARK’s food pantry, 6450 N. California Ave., Chicago. Due to kosher food drives at area synagogues during the High Holy Days, The ARK will have many donations for us to shelve. Carpooling is available from NSCI.

Our second October Mitzvah Corps event will be on Friday, October 26 from 10:30 am-1:00 pm at The Ark located at 6450 N. California in Chicago. We will be volunteering for a Women of NSCI sponsored “Welcome Shabbat” luncheon at The ARK for their clients.

In November, we will be helping Jewish Child & Family Services with their Winter Warmth project. This is the project where we normally shop for coats, boots, gloves, etc. for their clients at Target. This year, they have decided to try something new. JCFS will be doing the shopping online, and we will help unpack, sort and then shop the room according to the clients’ wish slips. The exact date has not been finalized yet, so check the NSCI emails for an update.

In addition, we will help with the NSCI Refugee Resettlement Project, in helping settle in a new refugee family. Adult Mitzvah Corps will help with the decorating/organizing part of the project. We do not have a date for this yet, but it will be posted in a NSCI email as well.

If you would like to volunteer at any of these events, contact Tracey Meyers at 847-242-1234.

NSCI’s Cookies from the Heart

Wednesdays, October 3, November 7 and December 5,
2:00 pm-4:00 pm
Ronald McDonald House near Lurie Children’s Hospital

Join us one Wednesday a month to prepare homemade cookies for children and their families returning from the hospital. 6-8 volunteers needed. Carpooling from NSCI is available.

For more information and to sign up, please email Lois Davis: cookies@nsci.org.

NSCI will continue to collect kosher non-perishable food for The Ark and children’s toys, clothing & shoes, books, hygiene products, and other essentials for Cradles to Crayons throughout the year. Please bring your donations to NSCI, and place in the appropriately labeled white collection bins.
NSCI Tikkun Olam Collection Drives
(white collection bins located near the religious school office)

Cradles to Crayons*  September 4-October 2
Provide children (ages 0-12), living in homeless or low-income situations, with the essential items they need to thrive:
- Children’s clothing sizes 0-20 and child appropriate adult clothing sizes
- Children’s sneakers, sandals and boots
- Baby & children’s books, toys, arts & crafts and school supplies
- NEW safety, feeding, bedding, diapering and health supplies
- NEW socks, underwear and pajamas for babies and children

The Ark’s Annual High Holy Days Food Drive**
Help stock The ARK’s food pantry by donating kosher non-perishable food, toiletries and household paper goods.

Winter Coat Drive for CPS Students  November 5-December 10
Help keep Chicago Public Schools students warm this winter by donating GENTLY USED or NEW winter coats, hats, mittens and boots.

Holiday Gift Drive
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).

Book Drive for Bernie’s Book Bank  January 13-February 24, 2019
Donate NEW or GENTLY USED books for children, ages 0-6th grade. Together, let’s help Bernie’s Book Bank ensure every child has a book of their own!

Family Promise Housewarming Baskets  March 3-April 28, 2019
Family Promise Chicago North Shore is dedicated to helping families who are homeless get back on their feet and provide a stable lifestyle for their children. Donate the following household items: cooking & serving utensils, kitchen trash bags, potholders & oven mitts, sponges, clothes hangers, flashlights, batteries, paper towels, toilet paper, food storage containers, brown paper lunch bags & sealable plastic bags.

* Large collection pod at the east side of NSCI’s north parking lot, between the parking lot and building. After October 2, this collection will move inside year-round to a labeled white collection bin near the religious school office.

**Large collection pod on the south side of NSCI’s front lawn. After October 2, this collection will move inside year-round to a labeled white collection bin near the Large Sanctuary.

Questions? Contact Rabbi Ryan Daniels:
RabbiDaniels@nscli.org or 847-835-0724
Thank you to all who participated in Operation Backpack 2018!

With your help, we provided & packed school supplies for all 500 students of Chicago’s Jordan Elementary Community School.
North Shore Congregation Israel Adult Civil Rights Journey
February 21-24, 2019
Journey with Rabbis Geffen & Daniels to America’s Deep South!

Visit the Rosa Parks Museum, Voter Rights Museum, Edmund Pettus Bridge, The National Memorial for Peace and Justice & The Legacy Museum, Freedom Park, Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, and The Names Project—AIDS Memorial Quilt. Learn about the struggles of African Americans in the 1950s-60s, discover how the Jewish community helped to shape the Civil Rights Movement, and meet American heroes who participated in the Movement and remain committed to pursuing justice today.

COST:
4 in a room: $745 per person + flights  |  3 in a room: $775 per person + flights  |  2 in a room: $845 per person + flights

Includes all meals (Friday breakfast-Sunday lunch), ground transportation, hotels (3-nights), as well as all admissions & programming costs. Participants are responsible for own flight.

Important Dates:
• **Registration Deadline:** November 2, 2018
  Please send completed Registration Form to Lisa Goosmann—lgoosmann@nsci.org—along with a check for $400 (non-refundable deposit) made out to North Shore Congregation Israel.
• **Balance Due:** December 14, 2018
  Please pay the remainder of your balance by December 14, 2018. Please make checks payable to North Shore Congregation Israel. If you would prefer to pay with a credit card, please add 3% processing fee.
• **View our full itinerary and registration form at nsci.org/travel**

---

**NSCI in the Community**

**Election 2018**
North Shore Jewish Community Candidate Forum

**Sunday, October 14, 2:00 pm-4:00 pm**
B’nai Jehoshua Beth Elohim (BJBE)
1201 Lake Cook Road, Deerfield

North Shore Congregation Israel will be partnering with over 25 local synagogues, Jewish communal groups, and day schools to host a candidate forum at Congregation BJBE.

Meet face-to-face and hear from the candidates running for Congress in the 9th and 10th congressional districts, as well as State Reps and Senate Candidates in those areas. They will address the hottest issues facing our country, our neighborhoods, and our Jewish community.

For more information, please contact NSCI’s liaison to the planning committee, Marissa Hopkins: marissa@marissahopkins.com

---

**Chicago Jews for Refugees Assembly**
Sunday, October 28, 2:00 pm-4:00 pm
at Anshe Emet Synagogue,
3751 North Broadway, Chicago, IL

After eighteen months of attacks on the U.S. refugee and asylum program, the number of refugees entering the country has dramatically slowed and asylum seeking families have been torn apart at our southern border. This event is intended both to send a strong message to elected officials and the general public about our obligation to welcome the stranger. The Assembly will feature elected officials, refugee speakers, policy experts, and community leaders. North Shore Congregation Israel will Co-Sponsor the event along with twelve Chicago area congregations. Together, we will demonstrate the Jewish community’s deep and broad support for refugees and asylum seekers and our commitment to fight every attempt to prevent them from finding safety and welcome in our country. This event is free and open to the public. To learn more and to register, please visit www.hias.org/events/chicago-jews-refugees-assembly
For more information, please contact NSCI's liaison to the planning committee, Marissa Hopkins: marissa@marissahopkins.com
Our faculty members are the most valuable resource in the Goodman Center for Jewish Education. In the Spring 2018 survey, 87% of our parents stated they are very/satisfied with the quality of our teachers. We expect the learning experiences our teachers provide to achieve these four outcomes from our mission statement: content, character, community, and continue. Continuing education plays an integral role for our teachers as it does for professionals in every field. Every year we provide opportunities for strengthening our teachers’ abilities to provide hands-on, experiential learning tapping into children’s interests, talents, and ways of learning.

Professional development is a year-round endeavor—summer included. I want to share with you some of the highlights of the professional development offered over this past summer and scheduled for the remainder of the year. As always, we try to optimize our efforts and the dollars we have budgeted by taking advantage of grants which help fund the costs of this essential element—both costs for the presenters and for our teachers’ time, key to the pursuit of excellence.

**Summer Professional Development**
- A teacher received a scholarship to attend a week-long Israel seminar in Atlanta offered by the Center for Israel Education. She is part of the Sunday 5th/6th grade Jewish studies team who will be exploring how Israel is responsible for its citizens, the Jewish people, and the world.
- 8 educators, 7 teachers and I, attended a workshop on “Experiential Education” held at OSRUI funded by a grant from the CFJE. We explored the concept of experiential education with two outstanding Reform congregational educators from Florida. We brought back many new ideas and activities.
- The K/1 teachers participated in a workshop on how to expand their usage of different features on the smartboard.
- All teachers at Orientation participated in security and safety training.

**Year-long Professional Development Offerings on Inclusion**
At our teacher orientation, we launched a year-long 3-part series for our teachers on Inclusion, meeting the needs of students with learning differences. We want to create a common language, understanding, and set of skills among our teachers. All teachers are expected to participate regardless of their background so we can benefit from the knowledge and experience of our teachers who hold credentials in special education and related fields.

We are fortunate to have Ann Weisberg, an experienced educator, as our Inclusion Counselor who leads the 3-sessions. In addition, we have encouraged other faculty members to offer sessions sharing their expertise. Machoniks will go through a similar session on inclusion with Ann Weisberg. Over the summer, Lynn Friend, our long-time Director of our Individualized Instruction program, met with Hebrew teachers to help them incorporate some of the techniques and tools into their classrooms. We had a cadre of teachers and machoniks making materials for the students.

Our focus on expanding our inclusion efforts is made possible through a grant from the Community Foundation for Jewish Education. These efforts are another example of how we continue to innovate, to better meet the needs of our students and families, making an excellent Jewish education accessible to all in the ways our students can learn.

**A Final Note**
Professional development offerings like those shared above are just some of the opportunities and ways our faculty continue to learn and grow. Through meetings, coaching, observation, and exchanging ideas, our teachers continue their commitment to learn and grow, modeling for our students and families the importance of lifelong learning and the pursuit of excellence.

---

**Important Goodman Center Religious School Dates:**
- October 12: Selah Shabbat
- October 20: 3rd & 4th Grade Undernighter
- October 30-31: No School
- November 4: Intergenerational Games Family Experience, 11:00 am-12:00 pm
- November 16: 3rd & 4th Grade Family Shabbat with Selah and Nashir
- November 20-25: No School

---

**First Day of School**

---

**Page 11 OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2018**
Sunday, November 4-12:30 pm

North Shore Congregation Israel
1185 Sheridan Road, Glencoe

By interweaving a Passover Seder with personal stories of addiction, Freedom Song poses one stark question, “What are you a slave to?”

The cast of this original musical are not actors; they are actual addicts in recovery that have broken off the shackles of drugs, alcohol, gambling, and other destructive behaviors. Using song and dance, tears and laughter, and a powerful post-show discussion with the cast, Freedom Song will open your eyes to the real life struggle against the ‘bondage of self’ that many fight every day.

nsci.org/event/freedomsong
Youth and Family Community

Strollers, Stories & Celebrations

Friday, November 16-Thanksgiving
10:00 am-10:45 am

Join us with your little ones as we explore Jewish holidays and Shabbat. Free and open to the community. Park in the north lot. RSVP to Susan Ellenby at susane@nsci.org

Jeffrey Lasky Memorial Arts Retreat:
Torah Study Through the Arts for NSCI Teens

By Neil Rigler

While I remember going to arts-based NFTY regional (JFTY) conclaves growing up in New Jersey, I haven’t heard of many synagogue youth groups who offer a similar experience. In my twenty-five years as the youth advisor of North Shore Congregation Israel, I have been honored to help create and run what is now a 40+ year tradition at our synagogue: The Jeffrey Lasky Memorial Arts Weekend.

The concept of the weekend is relatively simple: students leave the busy world of school behind for three days to enter a environment of workshops, programs, creative worship, and bonding experiences. Our guest artist for the weekend guides us through a series of experiences and opportunities to help us learn not only about the theme of the weekend (often linked to the weekly Torah portion), but also about the particular art form in which they have expertise. We then share a sense of the process we go through and the resulting creations back with the NSCI community the following Shabbat.

This year we are thrilled to have Alan Goodis join us as our guest artist. Many of our students know Alan through his work with Selah, our student musical ensemble. Others may have seen him at summer camp as Alan travels each year, sharing his teaching and performing talents with teens and synagogue across the country. Working along with Rabbi Daniels and Cantor Goldstein, we’ve been working hard to create a weekend of workshops that embrace both seasoned musicians and singers as well as those who’ve never before tried either!

The Lasky weekend this year is October 26-28, and will again take place in the wonderful facilities of Olin-Sang-Ruby Union Institute in Oconomowoc, WI. Students leave from the synagogue Friday morning and return Sunday mid-day. The weekend also features fun programs and services planned by our teens-everyone who participates in the weekend is invited to be part of the planning and leading of the programs. NSCI teens are from a variety of area high schools and bring a wide range of backgrounds to their time together. The opportunity to get to make new friends, of various ages, from across the area, is not-so-secretly a key part of the Lasky weekend magic. Registration forms are available on the NSCI website-please contact me if you have any questions!

Neil Rigler-neilrigler@gmail.com

Celebrating Together*

Saturdays, October 20, November 17 & December 8,
4:00 pm-5:00 pm, at Chicago Sinai
15 West Delaware Street, Chicago

Meet new friends and explore Jewish opportunities in the Chicagoland area. Each session includes songs, stories, and activities centered on the Jewish Holiday we are exploring. Questions or to register, contact Susan Ellenby, susane@nsci.org

*This program is made possible by a grant from jBaby Chicago, a program of the Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago

Save the Date: NSCI Family Chanukah Shabbat

Friday, December 7

Hands on mitzvah service projects, challah braiding and dinner.

Stay for Kabbalat Shabbat services with Selah or watch the story of Chanukah come to life with the “Big Balloon Show”.

More details to follow at nsci.org.
Cinema@NSCI is back!

Rabbi Geffen will introduce both films. Please RSVP to RSVP@nsci.org indicating which film(s) you are planning to attend.

**When the Smoke Clears:**
*A Story of Brotherhood, Resilience and Hope*
Monday, October 8, 6:30 pm
*When the Smoke Clears: A Story of Brotherhood, Resilience and Hope* tells the true stories of young Israeli soldiers whose injuries leave them fighting for the strength to live. Making breakthroughs and finding meaning by reaching out to those in need, they discover that what didn't kill them really did make them stronger. A special thank you to Cathy & Joel Schneider for bringing this film to NSCI.

**GI Jews**
Monday, November 12, 6:30 pm
In honor of Veteran’s Day, we will be screening, *GI Jews*, the story of of 550,000 Jewish American men and women who fought in World War II. In their own words, veterans both famous and unknown (from Hollywood director Mel Brooks to former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger) bring their war experiences to life. How they fought for their nation and their people, struggled with anti-Semitism within their ranks, and emerged transformed, more powerfully American and more deeply Jewish.

Midday Mondays
11:30 am-12:30 pm
Midday Mondays this year opens the door to myriad of topics–music, literature, current events–and more! This year Midday Mondays will include mini-series taught in multi-week increments and offered at different times throughout the year. These sessions will be taught by Rabbi Greene, Rabbi Daniels, Cantor Goldstein, Dr. Goodman, Buddy Schreiber and other guest teachers. Please RSVP to RSVP@nsci.org.

**Judaism’s “20 Questions”**
with Buddy Schreiber
October 8, 15 & 29
“Is it okay to be angry with God?”, “What good does prayer do?”, “Do I have to love my neighbor, always?” Explore these tough-to-answer inquiries through our Jewish lens.

**The Wandering Jew: A Look at Jewish Immigration Across the Ages**
with Dr. Roberta Goodman
Part I–Early Years: Babylonia, Spanish Inquisition, and Eastern Europe November 5, 12, 19
We earned the name “Wandering Jews” from our history of immigration and have survived and thrived as a people. We will examine some of the major waves of immigration considering why we left, where we went, and what each wave of immigration contributed.

**Study the Talmud** with Rabbi Wendi Geffen
Fall: Mondays, October 8-December 17
(no class-November 12 & December 10), 1:00 pm-2:00 pm
Join Rabbi Geffen as we continue the study of Tractate B’rachot, the section of the Talmud responsible for establishing what, when, how and why Jews pray the way we do. All are welcome. If you want to purchase your own copy of the Talmud translation we use for class it is Koren Talmud Bavli, *Berakhot* by Rabbi Adin Even-Israel Steinsaltz, available on Amazon.com.
To register, contact RSVP@nsci.org.

**Holy Chanters**
with Cantor David Goldstein
Mondays, 6:00 pm-7:00 pm
Torah: October 8, 15, 29, November 5, December 3, 10, January 7, 14, February 4 & 11
Haftarah: February 25, March 4, April 1, 8 & 29
In this class you will learn to chant Torah and Haftarah with the traditional cantillation. Cantor Goldstein teaches Holy Chanters, a practical knowledge of cantillation. Students in this class have successfully chanted on Shabbat and holiday services here at NSCI. You, too, can learn to do this! This year’s class begins with Torah cantillation in the fall and moves into Haftarah in the spring. A basic knowledge of Hebrew is helpful. RSVP Sarah Duffin, sarahd@nsci.org.

**Prayer for Beginners**
with Rabbi Wendi Geffen
Mondays, October 15, 22, 29,
7:00 pm-8:30 pm
So many of us attend services from time to time, and often find ourselves feeling awkward or embarrassed when we are unable to join in or don’t understand what is being said. Join Rabbi Geffen for informative sessions on three fundamental Jewish prayers. This class is an introductory level class and assumes participants have little to no prior knowledge or experience with prayers. Participants are welcome to attend, 1, 2 or all 3 classes. Class dates & topics are: October 15-Shema; October 22-Amidah; October 29- Aleinu. To register, contact RSVP@nsci.org.
The Betrayers and Other Stories: Writing for the Page and the Screen
David Bezmozgis
Tuesday, October 23
6:00 pm Wine and Cheese Reception
7:00 pm Lecture and Discussion
Award-winning author and filmmaker David Bezmozgis will talk about creating stories about Russian-Jewish immigrants in books and films, how he decides which form a story will take, and what it’s like to adapt and direct his own work for the screen. RSVP to RSVP@nsci.org.

David Bezmozgis is an award-winning writer and filmmaker. He is the author of the story collection, Natasha and Other Stories (2004), and the novels, The Free World (2011), and The Betrayers (2014). David’s stories have appeared in numerous publications including The New Yorker, Harpers, Zoetrope All-Story, and The Walrus.

A graduate of the University of Southern California’s School of Cinematic Arts, David’s first feature film, Victoria Day, premiered in competition at the Sundance Film Festival in 2009. Born in Riga, Latvia, David lives in Toronto where he directs the Humber School for Writers.

Taste of Mussar with Marsha Cohn

Thursdays, October 18, 25, November 1 & 8, 1:00 pm-2:30 pm
Fee is $36 per person

Have you ever wondered why you’re here...on the planet? Why the same annoying things happen to you over and over again? Mussar is a 1000-year-old Jewish spiritual tradition with the keys to unlock the answers to those questions. Join Marsha Cohn for A Taste of Mussar to learn about and experience how this ancient tradition can help you discover the answers to those questions and give you a roadmap for becoming the person you’ve always wanted to be. To register, contact Lisa Goosmann, lgoosmann@nsci.org.

Marsha Cohn has been facilitating Mussar groups since 2009. She is trained through the Mussar Institute, has led most of their classes, and has contributed to the development of the curriculum for Manchim, the group through which new Mussar facilitators are trained. Marsha brings this experience, her skills from 25 years as a therapist, and learning from her prior nursing career to her Mussar work. Marsha’s involvement in Mussar learning began in Dallas, where she taught at Temple Emanu-El. We are thrilled to welcome her back to NSCI where she left her mark with warmth and wisdom over a decade ago through teaching, music and co-leading the Women’s Seder.

Thank you to the Nachman Family for helping us continue the work of Dr. Nachman. Through your generous support of the Nachman Family Adult Education Series, we are able to bring exciting outside scholars to teach adult learners here at NSCI. The Nachmans, themselves eager students of Jewish learning, were extremely proud and lucky mother of Judah, Sophie and Harel.
The 2018 Davis Family Forum: Israel, Beyond the Headlines

Yossi Klein Halevi
Thursday, November 1, 7:00 pm

Yossi Klein Halevi is a senior fellow at the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem. Together with Imam Abdullah Antepli of Duke University, he co-directs the Institute’s Muslim Leadership Initiative. Yossi has been active in Middle East reconciliation work, and serves as chairman of Open House, an Arab Israeli-Jewish Israeli center in the town of Ramle, near Tel Aviv. Yossi was one of the founders of the now-defunct Israeli-Palestinian Media Forum, which brought together Israeli and Palestinian journalists. Yossi was born in New York. He has a B.A. in Jewish studies from Brooklyn College and an M.S. in journalism from Northwestern University. He moved to Israel in 1982, and lives in Jerusalem with his family. To register, contact Melanie Goldberg, goldbergm@ajc.org, 312-646-6124.

During the evening AJC will also be presenting German Consul General Herbert Quelle with the Laurence M. Adelman Memorial Award for all of his work in Chicago and beyond in promoting equality and democratic values, and combating anti-Semitism and all forms of hate.

After Adult B’nei Mitzvah: Onward!
with Judy Weiss
Mondays, October 29, November 5, 12, 19, 26 & December 3, 6:30 pm

For adults who have already been called to the Torah as adult B’nei Mitzvah in our NSCI Adult B’nei Mitzvah program, here is an opportunity to continue learning Hebrew and prayer with our beloved teacher Judy Weiss. Judy will lead students in more depth using the text Bechol Levavcha: With All Your Heart. You wondered what to do with your Monday nights? Now you know. If you were in our most recent Adult B’nei Mitzvah class or a prior one, you are welcome to participate in this course. Interested? Contact Rabbi Greene, rabbigreene@nsci.org. To sign up contact Lisa Goosmann, lgoosmann@nsci.org.

Technologies and the Jewish Community
with Author Bonnie Rochman, Rebecca Wang, MS, CGC of the Norton & Elaine Sarnoff Center for Jewish Genetics
Thursday, November 8, 7:00 pm at North Suburban Synagogue Beth El (1175 Sheridan Road, Highland Park)

Doors open at 7:00 pm for an appetizer reception. Program begins promptly at 7:45 pm.

How are genetic technologies shaping the Jewish community? From screening to beat Tay-Sachs and to shielding ourselves from cancer, genetic technologies are changing the way we think about inherited disease—and inspiring ethical, legal and social debates about the decisions we make to protect our health and the health of future generations. Bonnie Rochman, award-winning author of The Gene Machine, and genetic counselor Rebecca Wang, MS, CGC, will explore the relationship between a new frontier of genetic technologies and our families and community at large. For more information or to register, contact Sarah Goldberg at SarahGoldberg@juf.org.

Please note: North Suburban Synagogue Beth El holds a minyan nightly from 7:30 to 7:45. Guests are welcome to a ųend this optional minyan.

Taste of Judaism
with Rabbi Lisa Greene
Tuesdays, November 27, December 4 & 11, 7:00 pm

This engaging class on Jewish spirituality, ethics, and community is designed for the curious beginner. Individuals from all faith backgrounds are welcome. Please tell your friends in the community about this exciting class, sponsored by our Reform Movement to allow folks to get just that--a taste of Judaism. Pre-registration is required. Contact: Joy Wasserman, Jbwasserman@urj.com, 872-256-1818.

Ritual in Our Lives
with Rabbi Lisa Greene
Mondays, November 26, December 10 & 17, 7:00 pm

For all of the sacred moments in our lives that we mark in Jewish ways—births, bar/bat mitzvah, weddings, funerals, so much happens in our lives that is unmarked in a Jewish way, either because there is no ritual (yet), what exists doesn’t meet our needs, or we don’t even know that Judaism offers. Explore with Rabbi Greene opportunities to make times of joy and times of struggle, the great and the small, meaningful in a Jewish way. We will look at ritual theory, traditional life cycle rituals and innovative new ritual and consider how to re-engender prayer and action for new purposes. Creating ritual is a favorite pursuit of Rabbi Greene whose ELI talk on creating new Jewish ritual for divorce is now available on elitalks.org. She will empower you to make your own moments sacred and Jewish. To register, please contact RSVP@nsci.org.
Upcoming Adult Education

Parenting Book Group - The Gift of Failure
with Tracey Lipsig Kite, LCSW & Rabbi Lisa Greene
Sundays, October 14, November 11, December 16 & January 20, 9:15 am-10:45 am
Raising children has always been demanding, and our current culture has its own challenges (social media, competition, culture of protecting kids from discomfort). Meet monthly with other parents, using a parenting book and discussion to keep trying to be the best parent you can be. In this four-part series, we will read *The Gift of Failure: How the Best Parents Learn to Let Go So Their Children Can Succeed* by Jessica Lahey and use it as a springboard to discussions about major and minor issues in family life. Please purchase the book; we will tell you which chapters to read for each session. To register, contact RSVP@nsci.org.

Sex and Deception in the Weekly Parashah: Lessons for the #MeToo Moment
Saturday, December 1, During the Minyan Service Beginning at 9:15 am
Rabbi Carole B. Balin, Ph.D.
Carole Balin is Professor Emerita of History at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion and a member of the team at Auburn Seminary, the cutting-edge leadership training institute for clergy of all faiths. A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Wellesley College, Professor Balin is an ordained rabbi and earned a Ph.D. in history at Columbia University.
Rabbi Balin has trained and mentored over 500 beloved rabbinical, cantorial and education students—including Rabbi Daniels!—and published prodigiously on topics ranging from Jewish women under the Tsars to the Maxwell House Haggadah. She curated the national traveling exhibit “Bat Mitzvah Comes of Age” and wrote and narrated the animated short “The Click Moment: Jewish Feminism 101.” She appears on PBS’ regularly-aired “The Jewish People: A Story of Survival,” blogs for the Huffington Post and lectures at synagogues and universities throughout the world.

Women of NSCI

WRJ Midwest Convention 2018
Join us on October 20 in Milwaukee to honor WNSCI’s Michelle Scheinkopf as she is installed as the new Midwest District President. Judy Wexler and Karen Dillon are also on the District Board. Karen Kohn will be honored as our Woman of Valor at the Kavod Luncheon, and WNSCI is being honored with the Rhoda Hauptman Award for Social Action for our MLK Day celebration at the Stone Temple Baptist Church in Lawndale.

Prices are: $50 for Kavod Luncheon only; $36 for the installation service & reception; $105 for installation & reception, as well as dinner & the Saturday evening entertainment, and $175 for all day Saturday. For more information go to wrj.org/wrj-midwest-district-convention.
Women of NSCI

We want YOU in the WNSCI picture!

Can you see yourself in the Picture?

Upcoming WNSCI Board Meetings
Tuesday, October 16, 7:30 pm and Saturday, November 18, 9:30 am
Our general board meetings are held at NSCI and are open to any women interested in getting involved in the Women of NSCI. If you plan to attend, want us to add a friend to our mailing list, or if you have any questions, email Eileen Weil at pinkeweil@yahoo.com or Beth Tross at iagal1@comcast.net.

WNSCI Community Service Event
Wednesday, October 10, 9:30 am-11:30 am
Join us for a morning of community service at Feed My Starving Children, 742 E Park Avenue, Libertyville. The non-profit organization provides nutritionally complete meals specifically formulated for malnourished children around the world. Volunteers from WNSCI will be hand-packing meals. Please contact Amy Litner at litaim@comcast.net if you would like to help.

A Taste of Jewish Philadelphia Trip
Thursday, November 1- Sunday, November 4
A few more spots are available. If you’d like to join us, please contact Karen Kohn at karnie18@aol.com.
An Important Reminder from the WNSCI’s Judaica Gift Shop

The High Holy Days are over, but Chanukah 5779 is just around the corner!  
*The first candle is Sunday, December 2.*  
Let us help you be prepared!

**Menorahs galore**

**Kids~Traditional~Contemporary**

Candles, dreidels, books for kids, and gifts for everybody!

See our ad on the back of this *Bulletin* for the Gift Shop hours or contact us at 847-835-4009, or giftshopnsce@gmail.com, to make an appointment.
North Shore Congregation Israel
Legacy Circle

“As my ancestors planted for me, so I too plant for my children.”
—Pirke Avot, Sayings of the Fathers

Iris Anosov
Judith and Robert Appelbaum
Stuart and Phyllis Applebaum
Phylis and Kenneth Bagan
Debra R. Bauer
Barbara and Ronald Borden
Jane B. Colman
John C. Colman
Ludmilla Ross Cover
Karen and Robert Dillon
Peter and Ann DuBois
Larry and Pam Faulkner
Glenn L. Felsner
Rabbi Wendi Geffen
Carole Mark Gingiss
Jody Gingiss
Cantor and Mrs. David Goldstein
Dr. Roberta Louis Goodman
Rabbi Lisa S. Greene
James E. Greenebaum II
Lilli M. Greenebaum
Martin Grusin
The Robert E. Herzog Family
Robert W. Kaufman & Janice A. Kaufman
Lore B. Kirchheimer
Adele P. Kleine
Alyssa and Jeremy Knobel
Karen Mindlin Kohn and Family
Judith K. Kubert
Laurie F. Lieberman
Steven A. LeVine, MD
Eunice Lieberstein
Judith Louis
Anne and Mitch Macknin
Miranda and Jed Mandel
Patrice and Rabbi Steven S. Mason
Jeff and Barbara Mazur

Dr. Stuart Meyer in memory of Sandy Meyer
Diane and Jim Moore
Cathy Nachman
Leslie Reskin Neilan
Seymour Nordenberg z”l
David Novick
Rob and Terri Olian
Martin and Carole Parker
Harriette and Ted Perlman
Marilyn Perlman and Harry Epstein
Edgar Rose
David Rothschild and Merle Branner
Inge R. Rothschild
Herbert H. Rozoff
Cathy and Joel Schneider
Larry Sherman z”l
Sheryl Cohen Solomon
Ronald and Kathy Sonenthal
Andrea and Steven Tick
Beth and Nathan Tross
Shirley Tross
April and Thomas Victor
Dean and Jody Weinberg
Arthur and Marciene Weiner
Carol and Abbott Wolfe
Sylvia Wolfson

To create your Jewish legacy contact:
Sheryl Cohen Solomon,
Director of Development at
847.835.0724 or sheryls@nsci.org

What aspects of Jewish life do you cherish the most—learning, community, worship, caring for those in need or social justice? Whatever you care about most, by leaving a legacy you ensure the things you value are sustained for future generations.
Our Immigration Stories: Part One of Ruth Herzog’s Story
By Ellen (Katz) Block

Last month’s article featured Lore Kirchheimer’s story of her path to the U.S. from Germany. This month’s article is about Ruth Herzog (nee Schorsch), a venerable fixture at our Friday night services as well as a long-time NSCI congregant with her late husband, Bob. Ruth was born in Prague on September 26, 1920, and lived there with her parents, George and Martha, and her younger sister, Marianne. Ruth describes Prague as a wonderful place to grow up. As a child, she and other Jewish families had a lot of freedom in Czechoslovakia, a “new” country, founded in 1918. Ruth’s family was highly educated and cultured, having, for example, a box at the opera and being bilingual, speaking German at home and Czech with their help and in public. Ruth attended a Czech elementary school from grades 1-5, then a German gymnasium, an 8-year school with a strong emphasis on academic learning, but after four years, her parents considered the school too German, tending toward Naziism, and she switched to an all-women’s Czech school. Sports such as skiing, skating, tennis, were part of her life.

In 1939, it became apparent that Hitler was not interested in only expanding to a “Greater Germany” but was eyeing Czechoslovakia as his next conquest. Ruth says she will never forget when the Germans marched into Prague on March 15, 1939, just a few months before she was to take intensive tests for her baccalaureate degree in June. There were one or two Jewish girls in her school and the principal said that since no one knew what restrictions the German regime would impose, the Jewish girls should take their tests early, so they would have proof that they had finished their degree. Ruth had two weeks to learn all the material she would ordinarily have learned between March and June and then had two days of intensive written and oral testing in front of the entire faculty. Ruth met this challenge admirably and passed all her exams.

As the situation in Prague worsened for Jews, her family friends began leaving Prague. Ruth’s father was encouraged by friends in England to register Marianne for the kindertransport, a rescue operation for Czech children, organized by a British humanitarian, Sir Nicholas George Winton. There were painful discussions at home about whether to split the family, but Marianne, her younger sister, was finally sent on the kindertransport. She made it to England and lived there for the duration of the war. (Ruth brought her to the United States when the war ended.)

Ruth, however, was 19 and too old for the kindertransport. Young people her age could get out of Prague by taking jobs as nannies in England, but Ruth wanted to go to school. Through a friend, Gisbert Flanz, who was a Teaching Assistant at Princeton, she was accepted through the International Student Service as an exchange student to Sweet Briar College in Sweet Briar, Virginia. The packet offering her a scholarship, to begin on September 1, arrived on September 26, too late for her to ostensibly take advantage of it. Her father ignored the date, took her to the city hall and declared her of legal age. To travel, Ruth also needed a German passport (hers was Czech), which was not easy to get, but her perfect German enabled her to obtain one.

Part 2 of Ruth Herzog’s Story will be featured in the December/January 2019 Bulletin.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Shemini Atzeret Simchat Torah - Office Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:30 am Alternative Yizkor Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:15 am Shemini Atzeret Simchat Torah Service with Yizkor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:30 pm WNSCI Welcome Event</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3:30 pm Beth Emet Soup Kitchen Lunch Making</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 pm FA Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>10:30 am Hand In Hand: A Support Group for Spouse/Partner Loss for Older Adults, North Suburban Synagogue Beth El, Highland Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2:00 pm Cookies From The Heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4:00 pm Beth Emet Soup Kitchen Serving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:00 pm AA Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>10:30 am Legacy Letters with Carole Mark Gingiss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00 pm WNSCI Mah Jongg Game</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>10:00 am Strollers, Stories &amp; Celebrations-Sukkot &amp; Simchat Torah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>9:15 am Shabbat Minyan Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:30 am JBaby Wigglesworns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>11:30 am Midday Mondays - Judaism’s “20 Questions” with Buddy Schreiber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00 pm Study the Talmud with Rabbi Wendi Geffen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:00 pm Holy Chanters-Torah with Cantor David Goldstein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 pm North Shore Aleaten Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 pm Prayer for Beginners-Shema with Rabbi Wendi Geffen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>1:00 pm WNSCI Book Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 pm FA Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10:30 am Hand in Hand: A Support Group for Spouse/Partner Loss for Older Adults, North Suburban Synagogue Beth El, Highland Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:00 pm AA Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>10:30 am Legacy Letters with Carole Mark Gingiss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00 pm WNSCI Mah Jongg Game</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>12:30 pm Adult Mitzvah Corps-The ARK Food Pantry, Chicago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Alan Goodis and Selah, October Birthday Blessings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>9:15 am Shabbat Minyan Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:30 am JBaby Wigglesworns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>9:15 am Parenting Book Group-The Gift of Failure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00 pm Study the Talmud with Rabbi Wendi Geffen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:00 pm Holy Chanters-Torah with Cantor David Goldstein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 pm North Shore Aleaten Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 pm Prayer for Beginners-Shema with Rabbi Wendi Geffen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>7:00 pm FA Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 pm Nachman Scholar Series: The Workings of Body &amp; Soul: A Jewish Conversation with Rabbi Eleanor Smith, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 pm Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning-Combined Core Year 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:30 pm WNSCI Board Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>10:30 am Hand in Hand: A Support Group for Spouse/Partner Loss for Older Adults, North Suburban Synagogue Beth El, Highland Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:00 pm AA Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>7:00 pm Book Discussion on Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor by Yossi Klein Halevi with Rabbi Wendi Geffen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>10:30 am Hand in Hand: A Support Group for Spouse/Partner Loss for Older Adults, North Suburban Synagogue Beth El, Highland Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:00 pm AA Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>1:00 pm Taste of Mussar with Marsha Cohn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00 pm WNSCI Mah Jongg Game</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service with Shir Chadash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:30 pm Shabbat Meet up Dinner, Max &amp; Bernys, Northbrook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>9:15 am Shabbat Minyan Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:30 am JBaby Wigglesworns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>1:00 pm Feed the Homeless</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:30 am Midday Mondays - Judaism’s “20 Questions” with Buddy Schreiber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00 pm Study the Talmud with Rabbi Wendi Geffen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 pm North Shore Aleaten Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 pm Prayer for Beginners-Amidah with Rabbi Wendi Geffen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>6:00 pm Reception for Professor David Bazrnagis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 pm FA Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 pm The Betrayers and Other Stories: Writing for The Page and The Screen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>10:30 am Hand in Hand: A Support Group for Spouse/Partner Loss for Older Adults, North Suburban Synagogue Beth El, Highland Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:00 pm AA Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>10:30 am Legacy Letters with Carole Mark Gingiss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00 pm Taste of Mussar with Marsha Cohn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00 pm WNSCI Mah Jongg Game</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Jeffrey Lasky Memorial Arts Weekend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30 am Adult Mitzvah Corps-WNSCI Sponsored Luncheon at The ARK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Jeffrey Lasky Memorial Arts Weekend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:15 am Shabbat Minyan Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Jeffrey Lasky Memorial Arts Weekend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:15 am Shabbat Minyan Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Jeffrey Lasky Memorial Arts Weekend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11:30 am Midday Mondays - Judaism’s “20 Questions” with Buddy Schreiber</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:00 pm Study the Talmud with Rabbi Wendi Geffen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:00 pm Holy Chanters with Cantor David Goldstein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:30 pm After Adult Bnei Mitzvah: Onward! With Judy Weiss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 pm North Shore Aleaten Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 pm Prayer for Beginners-Amidah with Rabbi Wendi Geffen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>7:00 pm Board of Trustees Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 pm Nachman Scholar Series: The Workings of Body &amp; Soul: A Jewish Conversation with Rabbi Eleanor Smith, MD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>6:00 pm AA Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Cinema@NSCI with Rabbi Wendi Geffen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Monday, October 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The time and dates of listed events are subject to change. Please check our website, www.nsci.org or call the office, 847-835-0724 for our current event schedule.
# Thanksgiving Baskets

**Sunday, November 18**

**10:00 am**

## Details
- **Event:** Thanksgiving Baskets
- **Venue:** North Shore Congregation Israel
- **Time:** 10:00 am

### Event Information
- **Description:** A gathering to prepare Thanksgiving baskets for those in need.
- **Location:** Inside the synagogue

### Schedule
- **11:30 am - 12:30 pm**: Midday Mondays - The Wandering Jew: A Look at Jewish Immigration Across the Ages with Dr. Roberta Goodman
- **1:00 pm - 2:00 pm**: Study the Talmud with Rabbi Wendi Geffen
- **6:00 pm - 7:00 pm**: Community Potluck with Cantor David Goldstein
- **7:00 pm - 8:00 pm**: North Shore Alateen Meeting

### Additional Information
- **Fees:** Free event but donations accepted.
- **Accessibility:** All Abilities Accessible.
- **Contact:** For more information, call 847-835-0724 or visit www.nsci.org.
Bikur Cholim—Visiting the Sick and Privacy

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

Please feel free to call the synagogue office at 847-835-0724 to advise the rabbis and cantor when you, a relative or a friend is hospitalized in any hospital in the metropolitan area. In doing so, you will become a partner in the mitzvah of Bikur Cholim.

In Case of an After Hours Emergency...

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