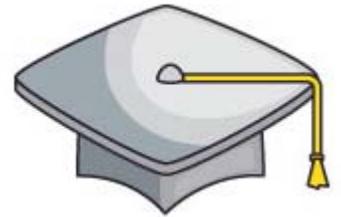




L'Chaim לחיים

DON'T MISS OUT!



Highlights:

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- FUSE—6
- Calendar—11

OHEV SHALOM OFFERS THE FOLLOWING SCHOLARSHIPS

Warwick Fund

Provides supplemental funding for teens of Ohev Shalom traveling to Israel in 2021.

Debby Silver Fund

Provides funding for children to attend Jewish summer overnight camp.

Ada and Jay Young Jewish Cultural Educational Fund

Provides funding to students 18 and younger planning to attend Camp Ramah or travel to Israel.

Deadline for all scholarship applications listed above is March 1, 2021

Philip J. and Shirley Daley Endowment Fund

Provides funding to those students who go on to further their Jewish education and attend programs approved by the Board of Directors. This includes but is not limited to Mekom Torah.

Deadline for applying is February 1, 2021

Families applying for scholarships must be in good standing with Ohev Shalom.

Payments will be made upon completion of the educational training program.



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Rabbi's Virtual Message – Lessons From the Chilly Sweedish Jews



"There's no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing."

That is an honest-to-goodness Sweedish expression. As many of you know, I grew up in Stockholm, Sweden, until I was nineteen. And yes, it was cold in the winter...

and dark. So your choices were often to either hunker down indoors for, say, three solid months, or make sure you had the right clothing for rain, wind, snow, sleet, and whatever else the elements had in store.

Some of you have heard me tell stories from my childhood, spending the holiday of Sukkot in our outdoor huts, even when it was pouring, snowing, and absolutely freezing outside. We sure did love our outdoor space heater! I guess we just embraced life as "The Frozen Chosen," because it was either that or potentially never spend time in our Sukkah! My point is, you have to be able to adjust. In Joel's article, he mentions embracing our inner Minnesotans; well, where do you think the original immigrants to Minnesota got their ruggedness from???

Sadly, indoor options just aren't available to us right now. God (and epidemiologists) willing, soon they will be. This moment is a serious test... for all of us. It may not be ideal, or anywhere even REMOTELY close to that, but nevertheless, it is our reality. Let us work together to get through this challenging winter, with outdoor gatherings, learning and praying over Zoom, and whatever other socially-distant, mask-covered, 6ft-apart measures we need to take. We CAN do this.

Our Jewish tradition has many stories - Biblical, medieval, and modern - that remind us how hard it is to appreciate something when you have it. The people, objects, and comforts in our lives get taken for granted until we discover how vital they really were. Let this be a learning opportunity for us all. May we remember to cherish singing together, hugging, sitting beside one another, and seeing each other's faces without masks or screens between us. Because right now it REALLY hurts to be missing all those things.

We get through it by embracing our inner Frozen Chosenness, by acknowledging what we've lost and how grateful we'll be when we eventually DO get it back, and by wearing better clothing. Double layers, people. And focus especially on keeping your feet and your head warm. You got this!

Sincerely,
Rabbi Gerber



L'Chaim is published 10X/Yr by Congregation Ohev Shalom, 2 Chester Road, Wallingford, PA 19086
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Rabbi Kelilah Miller, Education Director/Cantor
Missy Lowdermilk, Executive Director • Joel Fein, President
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President's Message—Staying Warm Together

I ended my last column with “winter is coming.” Winter is my least favorite time of year. I said it. Those of you who disagree, I respect that you have your reasons and they may be valid ones at that. But of all the seasons, winter is my discontent. Maybe it's because it gets dark so early. Or maybe it's because all of the outdoor activities that make me sane are difficult or impossible to do. Either way, it's here. Autumn was visually beautiful, nippy but tolerable, and fragrantly connected us with nature and frequently allowed us to be together-apart, outdoors. Without the indoors to protect us from the winter elements, we may have to pretend we are Minnesotans and really bundle up to make it happen. Our first attempt at this was on Saturday December 12, as we held our Menorah lighting event on the Ohev front lawn space. This event, video-streamed to multiple other synagogues in the area through our connection with the Jewish Federation, can hopefully set the tone for our wintertime outdoor activities.

We welcome ideas from congregants as to how we can continue to see each other – be it socially distanced skiing, tubing, dog sledding, or perhaps more realistically a brisk organized walk through a neighborhood. This is a year of innovation and adaptation so all ideas are welcome – send them to me at President@ohev.net and we can try to make it happen.

Speaking of being ready for winter cold snaps, I wanted to bring some attention to the behind-the-scenes work that has been occurring in order to “recondition” the house at the Ohev Shalom Cemetery in Brookhaven. Our beloved Steve Smith, who also serves as the cemetery caretaker, lives in this house with his wife, Mary. For those of you on the Board, this will not be news, as it took a number of years and many, many meetings to get us from house inspection to completed repairs. Those repairs included a new roof, heating and air conditioning system among other items. Thanks to our Facilities and Cemetery committees, especially Steve Levinstein (Facilities and Cemetery committees),

Stanton Myerson (Cemetery Chair), Don Abramowitz, Allan Baron, and Dan Stinson, we can now rest easy that the house is a more livable home for the foreseeable future. I also thank David Hoffman, our 1st VP for shepherding the last mile of this effort, and of course Steve Smith and Missy for their usual support and expertise. This is the teamwork that we need to harness to make things happen in the most prudent, if not the most swift manner.



I want to wish everyone a safe and healthy secular New Year. May 2021 be a year full of joy and (eventually) free of masks.

Warmly,
Joel

Netzach Fund

Ten years ago, the Netzach (Perpetuity) Fund was established as a result of a generous donation of \$500,000 by an anonymous congregant. Each year, the interest from the fund is designated for two purposes: 50% is to support social outreach programs inside and outside of Ohev Shalom, and 50% is to support the general operations of the synagogue. In 2019-2020, \$20,000 from the Netzach Fund was used for general synagogue operations, and \$20,000 was distributed among the following social outreach programs: FUSE, Chester Eastside, Media Food Bank, Heeding God's Call, Community Action Agency of Delaware County, and a \$1000 scholarship to a Chester High School senior. Additionally, \$2500 went to our own Helping the Community account which supports the important work of our Ohev Social Action Committee, under the able leadership of Elayne DeSimone. The need for food was particularly profound this spring as a result of the

COVID-19 crisis, and we focused much of our giving on organizations meeting this need in the community. At this point in time, we think it likely that these needs will continue or even increase in the coming year. Donations to the Netzach Fund are most welcome.



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- Ralph Waldo Emerson

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Men's Club

We hope everyone had a very Happy Chanukah and a healthy and happy New Year. As we have moved into 2021, Men's Club looks to continue the momentum started at the end of the year to engage with as many members as possible in the safest manner. The Club was busy in December with hosting the first ever virtual Zoom monthly meeting along with setting up the Menorah (thanks to Steve and Alan Baron for leading the charge) outside of the synagogue to bring a little normalcy to the holiday season. We continue to try to find times where the weather cooperates to allow us to have small, outdoor and socially distanced get-togethers. Softball season is just around the corner and after going undefeated last season, the Ohevvy Hitters are looking forward to getting back on the field this Spring and are always in search of new players (especially those that can run a sub 9 second 40 yard dash).

Martin Micklin

MERRILL JAY MIRMAN CRIA

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FUSE News

With this year being incredibly different, FUSE partnered with Making A Change Group to bring joy to children and find a safe way to enjoy the beauty of the season. Other sponsors included Media Fellowship House, Circle of Giving 2020, Occasionally Yours Restaurant, and Chester Upland School District.

Originally scheduled for Thursday, December 17th, but actually occurring on Tuesday the 22nd, due to the snow, a holiday season light show was held at Chester High School along with the Multicultural Holiday Toy Drive. Families were provided gifts for children between the ages of 3 to 15. The event recognized Kwanzaa, Chanukah, Nochebuena, and Christmas. Our generous donors enabled 200 gifts to be distributed. Thank you to our Ohevite donors.

Plans for MLK Day are underway. Safely physically distanced volunteer opportunities are being explored. Future Courageous Conversations are being scheduled as well.

Look for more information in the weekly announcements.





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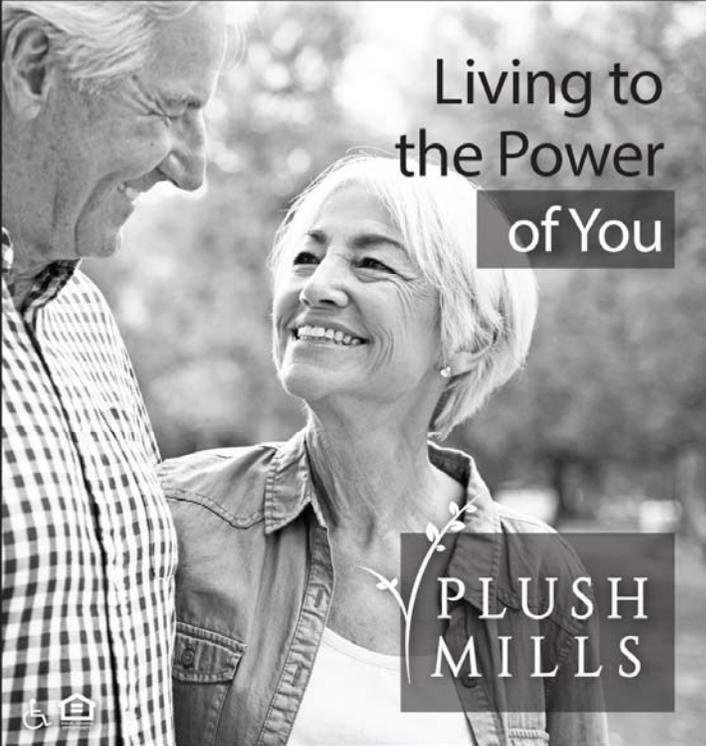
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Newish Member Brunch on Zoom!



Sunday January 10 from 11:00am-12:00pm

All members who joined Ohev in the past 3-4 years
and those who have never attended a Newish Member Brunch are invited!
Let's get to know one another over Zoom
with fun videos and conversation.

Please RSVP to Janean at 610-874-1465 or at office@ohav.net

Creating Challah with Phyllis



**Sunday, January 24th from
3:00pm—4:00pm
On Zoom**

Fun for all ages!

*Register
by calling the office
to receive the recipe beforehand.*

Ada & Jay Young Jewish Cultural Fund

- ..# To Shari and Allan Baron: Mazal tov on the birth of your granddaughter, Ruth Louise Baron Samlin, with fondness from the Stesis family. We wish you and your family good health and happiness
- ..# To Judy and Russ Young: Mazal tov on the birth of your grandson, Leo Elliott Young, with fondness from the Stesis Family. We wish you and your family good health and happiness.
- ..# To Missy Lowdermilk: Mazal tov on the birth of Noah Drake Lowdermilk Roberts, with fondness from the Stesis family. We wish you and your family good health and happiness.
- ..# To Judy and Russ Young: Mazal tov on the birth of your grandson, Leo Elliott Young, from Paula Cherner and Lisa Karlin
- ..# To Judy and Russ Young: Mazal tov on the birth of Josh and Emily's son, Leo Young, from Judy and Bruce Godick
- ..# To Brenda and Jakob Farkas in memory of your granddaughter from Karen and Louis Stesis
- ..# To Rebecca and Steven Reuben: Mazal tov on a wonderful evening. Thank you for your commitment to Ohev Shalom with fondness from the Stesis Family
- ..# To Lila Slovak in honor of receiving the Woman of the Year Award. Mazal Tov and thank you for your commitment to Ohev Shalom with fondness from the Stesis Family
- ..# To Allan Baron in honor of receiving the Man of the Year Award. Mazal Tov and thank you for your commitment to Ohev Shalom with fondness from the Stesis Family
- ..# To Matt Tashman in honor of receiving the Meritorious Service Award. Mazal Tov and thank you for your commitment to Ohev Shalom with fondness from the Stesis Family

November Tributes

- ..# To Cindy Hoffman in honor of receiving the Meritorious Service Award. Mazal Tov and thank you for your commitment to Ohev Shalom with fondness from the Stesis Family
- ..# To Rebecca and Evan Humble in memory of Evan's mother, Jane Humble, from Judy and Russ Young. May her memory be a blessing.
- ..# To Mr. and Mrs. Byron Jones: Congratulations on the birth of your beautiful grandson, Leo, from Judy and Russ Young
- ..# To Emily and Josh Young: Congratulations to the proud mother and father, Emily and Josh. Mazal tov on the birth of your beautiful boy, Leo, with love from Mom and Dad (Young)

Adult Enrichment

- ..# To Missy and Dave Lowdermilk: Mazal tov on the birth of your grandson, Noah, from Donna and Cliff Cohen. May he always be a light to brighten your lives.
- ..# To Frances Stier and Stephen Maurer: Mazal tov on the birth of your granddaughter, Inga, from Donna and Cliff Cohen. May she always be a light to brighten your lives.
- ..# To Matt Tashman: Congratulations and Yasher Koach on receiving the Meritorious Service Award from Donna and Cliff Cohen
- ..# To Cindy Hoffman: Congratulations and Yasher Koach on receiving the Meritorious Service Award from Donna and Cliff Cohen
- ..# To Lila Slovak: Congratulations and Yasher Koach on receiving the Woman of the Year award from Donna and Cliff Cohen
- ..# To Allan Baron: Congratulations and Yasher Koach on receiving the Man of the Year Award from Donna and Cliff Cohen

Archives Account

- ..# To Sheila Brandow and family in memory of old friend, Albie Brandow from Sandy Zalman
- ..# To Diane Rosset with many thanks for your help, with love from Aunt Sandy
- ..# To Sandra Zalman in memory of Bernard Zalman from Howard Namkin

Balin Chapel Fund

- ..# In honor of the good deeds done by Benjamin R. Balin (z'l) and in honor of the good deeds done by Sally K. Balin (z'l) from an anonymous donor

Daily Minyan Account

- ..# In memory of brother and uncle Jake Chazin from Al, Moe and Bernie Chazin and the Kroungold and Laster families

Donald & Ruth Levinstein Education Fund

- ..# In loving memory of Sidney Levinstein on the yahrzeit of his passing from Jodi Leshner and Steve Levinstein. May his memory always be for a blessing.
- ..# In loving memory of Gerrie Leshner on the yahrzeit of her passing from Jodi Leshner and Steve Levinstein. May her memory always be for a blessing.
- ..# To Irv Beerson in loving memory of Marcy Beerson from Jodi Leshner and Steve Levinstein. May her memory always be for a blessing.
- ..# To Matt Tashman: Mazal tov on receiving the Meritorious Service Award from Jodi Leshner and Steve Levinstein
- ..# To Cindy Hoffman: Mazal tov on receiving the Meritorious Service Award from Jodi Leshner and Steve Levinstein
- ..# To Lila Slovak: Mazal tov on receiving the Woman of the Year Award from Jodi Leshner and Steve Levinstein

November (cont.)

..# To Allan Baron: Mazal tov on receiving the Man of the Year Award from Jodi Leshner and Steve Levinstein

Helping the Community Account

..# To Fran Stier and Stephen Maurer: Mazal tov on the birth of your granddaughter, Inga L'ovvna Maurer from Paula Cherner and Lisa Karlin. We are very happy for all of you.

High Holiday Appeal

..# To Ohev Shalom in thanks for letting my mom join your Kol Nidre service from M.S. Scott

Joseph & Edith Godick Jewish History Lecture Fund

- ..# To Shari and Allan Baron: Mazal tov on the birth of your granddaughter, Ruth, from Judy and Bruce Godick
- ..# To Judy and Russ Young: Mazal tov on the birth of grandson, Leo Elliott Young, from Judy and Bruce Godick
- ..# To Matt Tashman in honor of receiving the Meritorious Service Award from Judy and Bruce Godick
- ..# To Cindy Hoffman in honor of receiving the Meritorious Service Award from Judy and Bruce Godick
- ..# To Lila Slovak in honor of receiving the Woman of the Year Award from Judy and Bruce Godick
- ..# To Allan Baron in honor of receiving the Man of the Year Award from Judy and Bruce Godick
- ..# To Rebecca and Evan Humble in memory of Jane Humble, from Judy and Russ Young. May her memory be a blessing.

Judy Brown Memorial Account

- ..# To Sheila Brandow in memory of Albie Brandow from Lew Rosenblatt
- ..# To Allan Baron: Mazal Tov and congratulations on being named Ohev Shalom's Man of the Year from Janet Seidel

Lax Sukkah Terrace Fund

..# In memory of Eli Lax from Jan and Michael Weiss

Netzach Fund

- ..# To Sarah Baron-Samlin and David Samlin: Mazal tov on the birth of Ruth Louise from Amy and David Pollack
- ..# To Elayne DeSimone in thanks for all your hard work accomplishing a great Food Drive from Myra Baylin
- ..# To Judy and Russ Young: Mazal tov on the birth of Leo Elliott from Myra Baylin
- ..# To Shari and Allan Baron: Mazal tov on the birth of Ruth Louise from Myra Baylin
- ..# To Amy and David Pollack in honor of your anniversary from Myra Baylin
- ..# To Sheila Brandow in memory of Albert "Albie" Brandow from Amy and David Pollack
- ..# To Judy and Russ Young: Mazal tov on the birth of grandson, Leo Elliott Young, from Amy and David Pollack
- ..# To Brenda and Jakab Farkas in memory of granddaughter, Avital Toubol, from Amy and David Pollack
- ..# To Julie Sturman in memory of Martin Sturman from Amy and David Pollack
- ..# To Matt Tashman: Congratulations on your well-deserved honor as Ohev Shalom's Meritorious Service Award recipient from Marie and Murray Berstein
- ..# To Cindy Hoffman: Congratulations on your well-deserved honor as Ohev Shalom's Meritorious Service Award recipient from Marie and Murray Berstein
- ..# To Lila Slovak: Congratulations on your well-deserved honor as Ohev Shalom's Woman of the Year from Marie and Murray Berstein
- ..# To Allan Baron: Congratulations on your well-deserved honor as Ohev Shalom's Man of the Year from Marie and Murray Berstein

- ..# To Matt Tashman: Congratulations on your well-deserved selection as this year's Ohev Shalom honoree at the Congregational Awards Event. With heartfelt thanks, Frances Sheehan and Rick Gelman
- ..# To Allan Baron: Congratulations on your well-deserved selection as this year's Ohev Shalom honoree at the Congregational Awards Event. With heartfelt thanks, Frances Sheehan and Rick Gelman
- ..# To Cindy Hoffman: Congratulations on your well-deserved selection as this year's Ohev Shalom honoree at the Congregational Awards Event. With heartfelt thanks, Frances Sheehan and Rick Gelman
- ..# To Lila Slovak: Congratulations on your well-deserved selection as this year's Ohev Shalom honoree at the Congregational Awards Event. With heartfelt thanks, Frances Sheehan and Rick Gelman
- ..# To Missy and Dave Lowdermilk: Mazal tov on the birth of your grandson, Noah Drake Lowdermilk Roberts, from Amy and David Pollack
- ..# To Frances Stier and Stephen Maurer: Mazal tov on the birth of your granddaughter, Inga L'ovvna Maurer, from Amy and David Pollack
- ..# To Regina Horden: Mazal Tov to you and Marty (z'l) on receiving an Honorary Master of Arts degree in Jewish Studies from Gratz College from Amy and David Pollack

Rabbi Louis and Mindell Kaplan Cultural Fund

- ..# To Cindy Flynn and family in memory of your beloved father and grandfather, Albie Brandow, from Sondra Rubenstein
- ..# To Lori Wilcox in memory of your beloved father and grandfather, Albie Brandow, with love from Sondra Rubenstein

December (cont.)

Rabbi's Discretionary Account

- ..# To Julie Sturman in memory of Martin Sturman from Shayna, Joel and Henrietta Petroff
- ..# In loving memory of Susan's parents, Louis and Irma Kohn, on the occasion of their yahrzeits from Susan and Robert Hale
- ..# In memory of Jay's uncle, Saul Broverman and Betty's father, Nathan Bard from Betty Bard and Jay Adelsberg

Rech Prayer Book Fund

- ..# To Brenda and Jakab Farkas: We know your hearts are breaking over the tragic passing of your granddaughter, Avital. We offer our deepest condolences. May you remember her with joy from Paula Cherner and Lisa Karlin

Robert Nichols Adult**Education Memorial Fund**

- ..# To Brenda and Jakab Farkas in memory of beloved granddaughter, Avital Toubol from Reisha Freedman

Simon Levin Torah**Restoration Fund**

- ..# To Brenda and Jakab Farkas and family in memory of Avital, beautiful granddaughter, from Ann and Jeffery Littman
- ..# To Brenda and Jakab Farkas in memory of your granddaughter, Avital Toubol from Donna and Cliff Cohen

Synagogue General Account

- ..# To Bev Dickson in gratitude and thanks from Sandy Zalman
- ..# To Allan Baron in honor of receiving the Man of the Year Award from Marge and David McHenry

- ..# To Shari and Allan Baron: Mazal tov on the birth of your granddaughter, Ruth Louise, from Paula Cherner and Lisa Karlin
- ..# To Sarah Baron-Samlin and David Samlin: Mazal tov on the birth of your daughter, Ruth Louise, from Paula Cherner and Lisa Karlin
- ..# To Lila Slovak: Mazal tov on receiving the Woman of the Year Award from Aunt Linda and Uncle Jim (Wimmer). We were so happy we could join in the festivities via zoom
- ..# To Bev Dickson in gratitude and thanks from Sandy Zalman
- ..# To Allan Baron in honor of receiving the Man of the Year Award from Sheila and Joe Behrman
- ..# To Cindy Hoffman in honor of receiving the Meritorious Service Award from Marty, Ted and Philip Bergman
- ..# To Missy and Dave Lowdermilk in honor of the birth of your grandson,

Gift Gallery Going Virtual?

The Gift Gallery at Ohev Shalom (aka the **Gift Shop**) is looking to form a committee, men and women welcome, in order to create a virtual shopping experience online at Ohev.net

We are interested in creating an interactive website, as well as soliciting vendors, local artisans and Judaica outlets, who would like to participate in this new enterprise.

If you interested in lending your expertise or energy, please contact me, Karen Stesis, giftshop@ohav.net

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December (cont.)

- Noah, from Reisha Freedman
- ..# To Missy and Dave Lowdermilk: Mazal tov on the birth of your grandson, Noah Drake Lowdermilk Roberts from Paula Cherner and Lisa Karlin. We are very happy for all of you.
- ..# To Missy and Dave Lowdermilk: Mazal tov on the birth of your first grandchild, Noah, from Wendy and Michael Dignazio
- ..# To Frances Stier and Stephen Maurer: Mazal tov on the birth of your granddaughter, Inga, from Wendy and Michael Dignazio
- ..# To Missy and Dave Lowdermilk: Mazal tov on the birth of your grandson, Noah Drake Lowdermilk Roberts from Janean and Bill
- ..# To Allan Baron: Congratulations on receiving the Man of Year Award with love from Heather and Joe
- ..# To Mary Ellen and Stefan Skalina in memory of Alexander Skalina from Jane and Ben-Zion Friedman

Yahrzeit/Yizkor Account

- ..# In loving memory of my beloved husband, Ben, from Sandy Zalman

January Save The Date

Recurring Events

- Minyan
- 9:00 a.m. Sunday
- 8:00 a.m. Monday – Friday
- Bible Study 9:30 a.m. Wednesday
- Shabbat Services
- 6:00 p.m. Friday (unless otherwise noted)
- 9:00 a.m. Saturday Shabbat

All activities via remote conferencing

Friday, January 1, 2021

- New Year's Day – Office Closed
- 9:00 a.m. Minyan

Sunday, January 3, 2021

- 9:00 a.m. Mispallelim Religious School
- 5:30 p.m. LifeCenter Dinner

Wednesday, January 6, 2021

- 4:15 p.m. Mispallelim Religious School

Thursday, January 7, 2021

- 12:00 p.m. Lunch n' Learn

Sunday, January 10, 2021

- 9:00 a.m. Mispallelim Religious School
- 9:15 a.m. Men's Club Meeting
- 10:30 a.m.
- 10:00 a.m. Newish Member Brunch

Monday, January 11, 2021

- 7:30 p.m. School Committee Meeting
- 7:30 p.m. FUSE Courageous Conversation (Virtual)

Wednesday, January 13, 2021

- 4:15 p.m. Mispallelim Religious School

Thursday, January 14, 2021

- Rosh Chodesh Shevat
- 7:00 p.m. Budget and Audit Meeting

Monday, January 18, 2021

- MLK Day - Office Closed
- 7:00 p.m. MT: Reading Hebrew

- 7:30 p.m. FUSE Courageous Conversation (Virtual)

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

- 4:15 p.m. Mispallelim Religious School

Thursday, January 21, 2021

- 7:00 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting

Sunday, January 24, 2021

- 9:00 a.m. Mispallelim Religious School

Monday, January 25, 2021

- 7:00 p.m. MT: Reading Hebrew

Wednesday, January 27, 2021

- 4:15 p.m. Mispallelim Religious School

Thursday, January 28, 2021

- Tu B'Shvat
- 7:30 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting

Sunday, January 31, 2021

- 9:00 a.m. Mispallelim Religious School

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