
Shalom from Rabbi Adam Chalom *The Paradox of “Love Your Neighbor”*



There are many versions of the so-called “Golden Rule” in human cultures around the world; there are even many versions within Jewish tradition alone!

- “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Leviticus 19:18
- “The stranger living with you shall be treated as the native born, and you will love them as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.” Leviticus 19:34
- “You shall love the stranger for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.” Deuteronomy 10:20
- “That which is hateful to you do not do to another; that is the entire Torah, and the rest is its interpretation.” Rabbi Hillel in Babylonian Talmud, Shabbat 31a

Even if we assume that we DO love ourselves in a healthy enough way that we can be generous to others by caring for them as well, there is an inherent paradox in this commandment: how do we know how THEY themselves would want to be treated?

We could simply take the statement more generally – we should treat them as just as important, worthy of respect and care and consideration as we do ourselves and as we want to be treated by others. In that sense, these rules are early expressions of human rights, personal dignity, and social justice. We also know that these rules appeared alongside other, more objectionable laws and in societies that accepted slavery, gender discrimination, and further injustices.

The essential truth, however, is that no one person can think or feel exactly what another person thinks or feels. We can hear what they say and watch what they do, which we will interpret in our own way, which may or may not be close to what they meant. In the end, the individual freedom to say what one thinks, to express how one feels, and to pursue what one desires is vital to our treating them as we would be treated.

The paradox is that to truly love our neighbor, we have to let our neighbor be themselves and tell us HOW they want us to love them! Too often we think that caring for others is like magic – positive intent covers any unintended or unforeseen collateral damage, and we “just know” what is good for them even if they disagree. We may feel a need to give them a hug, but they may not want it – whose needs are we really meeting?

Rather than assume, we should first listen carefully, and then offer to help in the way they prefer; that is the best way to love our neighbor as themselves.

Development Committee

David Hirsch (development@KolHadash.com)



I know Thanksgiving was last month, but I can't say thank you enough for your support, for the generosity that has allowed Kol Hadash to expand during the pandemic. Thank you for all the ways you contribute to Kol Hadash, keeping the connections going and our community thriving.

We are not a huge congregation with faceless members. Every Kol Hadash member counts. Every contribution helps. Every service, event, Zoom meeting, song, class, and committee meeting weaves the fabric of our community – thanks to you being "on the team," our partner, sharing our simchas and tsuris, our joys and tears together.

When you make your end of the year contributions to charities that are important to you, please include Kol Hadash. Know that your donation, whatever the amount, is critical to keeping our wonderful community going. We couldn't do it without you.

One more thing: we are planning an in person celebration for the congregation's twenty-first birthday. It will be on the evening of **Saturday, May 14th**. Please mark it on your calendar now, in ink! If you want to help plan our twenty-one'derful birthday bash, please email development@kolhadash.com and join the team. We have some fantastic ideas and will be sharing them shortly. Our twentieth birthday was great, but this spring, the congregation will be of legal age! Let's celebrate with EVERYONE!

I hope you had a wonderful Hanukkah (however you spell it) and that the new year ahead will be filled with health, community, justice, and shalom (and Chalom, too).

Whether it is on Zoom or in person at Sunday School, service, or event, I hope to see you soon,

David Hirsch
Development Committee Chair

Save the Date

Kol Hadash's Twenty-one'derful Birthday Bash

Saturday, May 14, 2022



Mazel Tov!

Mazel tov to Ethan Polonsky on a wonderful Bar Mitzvah! A great speech jumping off from laws in Deuteronomy to explore homelessness (or “houselessness”) and belonging. And congratulations to Ethan's parents Ami and Dan in the front row!

To learn more about our B Mitzvah program please [visit our website](#).



Shabbat Services

All are welcome to join us, contact Jeremy at info@KolHadash for more information on how to attend.

Shabbat Service: Year in Review

Friday, January 7, 7:30pm • Zoom Only

Does time go faster or slower during a pandemic? It certainly does not stand still! What were the most important events of 2021 that will continue to resonate in 2022, and what will fade into the background? Join Rabbi Chalom for his always-fascinating Year in Review and prophecies for the New Year just begun!

Shabbat Service: "Words From the Heart" - Jewish Ethical Wills

Friday, January 21, 7:30pm • Zoom Only

(January Yahrtzeit Service)

What legacy do we leave behind us in the values we lived by? How can we define what matters most? Consultant, speaker and therapist Dr. Eric Weiner will join us via Zoom to discuss his award-winning book [*Words from the HEART: A Practical Guide to Writing an Ethical Will*](#). His passion is to help families define a legacy that preserves both physical assets and family relationships over time.

Shabbat Service: Jews of Color in the United States

Friday, February 4, 7:30pm • Zoom Only

Attention on Jews of Color in the United States has exploded over the past few years. Intense debates about numbers, degree of acceptance, and legitimacy continue to simmer. What should we know about the experiences of Black Jews, Latinx Jews, "JewAsians" and other Jews of Color, and what does that say about Jewish identity in the 21st Century?

Shabbat Service: Inspiration from Evolution

Friday, February 11, 7:30pm • Zoom Only

Every February, both secular and religious organizations mark Charles Darwin's birthday by exploring implications of the Theory of Evolution. More conventionally religious organizations try to harmonize any contradictions between Genesis and *The Origin of Species*, but we find no such difficulties. Rather, we see opportunities for inspiration from the real answer to "where do I come from?"

Shabbat Service: Evaluating the Enlightenment

Friday, February 25, 7:30pm • Zoom Only

(February Yahrtzeit Service)

Our diverse modern Judaisms, and Humanistic Judaism specifically, are impossible to imagine without the Enlightenment. Yet the moral and practical shortcomings of 18-19th century science, geopolitics and culture exposed by today's historical study raise serious questions about the Enlightenment's legacy. Harvard professor Steven Pinker's [*Enlightenment Now: The Case for Reason, Science, Humanism and Progress*](#) is a robust defense of "Enlightenment values" of reason, science and humanism. How should we evaluate the core ideology of modernism in a post-modern era?

Adult Education

[Please click here for videos of previous sessions](#), and [click this link for an online shared folder with class outlines and readings](#). All are welcome, contact Jeremy at info@KolHadash for more information on how to attend.

Bar/Bat Mitzvah

Tuesday, January 11, 7:30pm • in-person & on Zoom

The Jewish "coming of age" ceremony began more as a legal concept than a formal event. Today it sometimes marks the peak of a young person's Jewish education and identification (at age13!). How do we approach this milestone?

Wedding

Tuesday, January 18, 7:30pm • in-person & on Zoom

Marriage has evolved from a question of property and procreation to one of love and happiness, for Jews and for everyone else. How has the Jewish wedding changed in response to the times?

Funeral

Tuesday, January 25, 7:30pm • in-person & on Zoom

If this life is the only life we know, then how we say goodbye and begin the rest of our lives may be different from those who believe in ha-olam ha-ba ["the World to Come"]. Yet some rituals of Jewish tradition may still provide Humanistic comfort.

Torah

Tuesday, February 1, 7:30pm • in-person & on Zoom

The earliest substantial Jewish literature we possess, the Torah includes literature, law, theology and ethics – some still inspire, while we have evolved beyond others. How do Humanistic Jews study Torah as the product of centuries of Jewish writing and editing?

Tanakh/Hebrew Bible

Tuesday, February 8, 7:30pm • in-person & on Zoom

The religious authorities who defined the holidays, life cycle events and Judaism we inherited emerged around 2000 years ago. They expressed their beliefs and values in the texts they established as a new Jewish canon after the Bible. What do we keep, and what have we gone beyond, from this literary collection?

Rabbinic Literature

Tuesday, February 15, 7:30pm • in-person & on Zoom

The religious authorities who defined the holidays, life cycle events and Judaism we inherited emerged around 2000 years ago. They expressed their beliefs and values in the texts they established as a new Jewish canon after the Bible. What do we keep, and what have we gone beyond, from this literary collection?

Activities

Steering Committee Meetings

Thursday, January 6, 7:30pm

Thursday, February 3, 7:0pm

In the Zoom age, it's now easy to check out the work of Kol Hadash's committees. The Steering Committee meets monthly and all members are very welcome to attend. There's no commitment to join the committee or attend future meetings! Contact Chair, Victoria Ratnaswamy if you have questions or wish to attend. scchair@kolhadash.com.

Kol Hadash Women's Group

Mondays @ 1:30pm

Our canasta group has grown to 8-10 women—and we're looking for a few more. Don't play? Don't worry. We'll teach you. We also welcome kibitzers. Come as a kibitzer, leave as a player! So if you just want to come for community, that works, too. We meet every other Monday afternoon at a member's home. Contact Joyce Hirsch for more information at jah231@comcast.net

SciFi Book Club: *Calculating God* by Robert J. Sawyer

Monday, January 3, 7:30pm • Zoom

This month's book selection is [Calculating God by Robert J. Sawyer](#).

All are welcome to join us even if you didn't finish or read the book. Everyone is welcome - always.

Questions? Contact David Hirsch at scifibookclub@KolHadash.com

String Theory

Tuesday, January 4, 7:30-9:00pm

Sunday, January 23, 10:00-11:30am • in-person at Deerfield High School

String Theory gathers all types of crafty stringers & fiber fans -- knitting, crocheting, felting, embroidery, needlepoint, you name it. All skill levels are welcome, and, we're happy to help with a new or existing project. All genders are welcome to join us. Questions? Contact Victoria Ratnaswamy (knitters@KolHadash.com)

Nonfiction Book Club: *The Dawn of Everything* by David Graeber

Monday, January 10, 7:30pm • Zoom

This month's book selection is [The Dawn of Everything: A New History of Humanity](#) by David Graeber.

All are welcome to join us. Questions? Contact Ilya at nonfictionbookclub@KolHadash.com

Book Club & Movie Club: *This is Where I Leave You* by Jonathan Tropper

Wednesday, January 12, 7:00pm • Zoom

The Book and Movie Club are now joined at the hip. We are reading books, and then watching their corresponding movies and comparing them. **This month Rabbi Adam will lead our discussion** of [This is Where I Leave You](#) by Jonathan Tropper. All are welcome. Having read the book and/or seen the movie is not a requirement for participation in this event. Questions? Contact bookclub@KolHadash.com

Rise Up: Stonewall and the LGBTQ Rights Movement – Virtual Visit to the IL Holocaust Museum

Sunday, January 23, 4:00-5:00pm • Online Program

Rise Up: Stonewall and the LGBTQ Rights Movement explores the June 1969 police raid of the Stonewall Inn as the flashpoint that ignited the modern gay rights movement in the United States. Blending together historic images and artifacts of the LGBTQ+ rights movement, the 85 artifacts on display in Rise Up include posters from Harvey Milk's campaign for public office in San Francisco, an original rainbow flag signed by its creator Gilbert Baker, and early LGBTQ magazines and publications. **All are welcome, follow [this link to register to attend](#).**

Adult Challah Making Class

February 6, 9:30-11:30am • Our Sunday School at Deerfield High School

Have you wanted to make challah (traditional braided egg bread for Shabbat) yet were hesitant to do so on your own? Join with other adults at Kol Hadash as we learn and make challah together. At the end of this class, you'll bring your challah home to bake it. All are welcome to join this free program. Please register so we can have supplies for everyone. [click here to register](#)

Stones from the Soil: Discussion of the documentary with filmmaker Michael Caplan

Thursday, February 24, 7:00pm • Online Program

Stones from the Soil tells the story of a unique school in 1930s Germany where a small group of Jewish teenagers was trained to become the vanguard of a new society. The school, situated on a farm, was called Gross Breesen, and it would eventually save the lives of Rudi and 150 other students. Stones from the Soil aired on 150 PBS stations 15 years ago. Michael Caplan is an associate professor at Columbia College. **The documentary is viewable for free at <https://vimeo.com/411182921>.**

Youth Education

Questions to Youth Education Director Ilana Shaffer at youthed@KolHadash.com or 773-209-8266
Masks are required at all family and youth programs (regardless of vaccination status)

Preschool Jewish Discovery

January 16 (10:00-10:45am): Tu B'Shevat

[click here to register](#)

Free monthly enrichment class! Open to everyone!

Children ages 2-6 with a grown-up join Rabbi Adam Chalom and veteran preschool teacher Lynn Miller as they explore a Jewish holiday or cultural value along with interactive songs, books, and hands-on activities. There is time for the children and parents to socialize, too. At-home resources will also be provided.

Tu B'Shevat Family Plarn Project

January 16, 10:45-11:30am

Tu B'Shevat has evolved from a New Year for Trees to a seder meal of fruits and nuts to a Jewish Earth Day of environmental awareness. This Tu B'Shevat, we'll be working together on "upcycling" plastic grocery bags to make plarn. Not sure what plarn is, or what you can make out of it that can be useful? Join us to find out!

Adult Challah Making Class

February 6, 9:30-11:30am

[click here to register](#)

Have you wanted to make challah (traditional braided egg bread for Shabbat) yet were hesitant to do so on your own? Join with other adults at Kol Hadash as we learn and make challah together. At the end of this class, you'll bring your challah home to bake it. All are welcome to join this free program. Please register so we can have supplies for everyone.

Youth Education Committee

February 13, 9:30-11:30am

Kol Hadash's Youth Education Committee (YEC) is like a PTO for our Youth Education program. We meet about every six weeks during Sunday School while our children are in class. Come to one or all the meetings -- and, get to know other parents, too.

Sunday School Try Out

Every Sunday — 9:30-11:30am

[click here to register](#)

Are you thinking about how to expose your children to Jewish culture and identity? Your family is welcome to 'try out' our Sunday School by visiting their grade's class for the day. Kol Hadash Humanistic Congregation holds weekly Sunday School classes for students in Kindergarten through Confirmation. Each class has a well-defined curriculum, covering topics in Jewish history, literature and culture. We welcome non-members to join us - there is no expectation of a commitment by coming to this program.

Humanistic Parenting & Ask Rabbi Adam Anything

Sunday, January 9, 9:30-10:30am

One of the benefits of Kol Hadash is having a rabbi "on retainer" to ask important questions about life, Judaism, and their challenges. This Sunday morning, join Rabbi Adam Chalom of Kol Hadash to hear some ideas about how our philosophy can influence our parenting, and also to "ask Adam anything". Participate via Zoom or in person!

B Mitzvah FAQ Session

Sunday, January 30, 9:30-10:30am

[click here to register](#)

Members and interested families learn about our unique B Mitzvah. Get your questions answered by Rabbi Adam Chalom, Youth Education Director Ilana Shaffer, and B Mitzvah Coordinator Leah Sosewitz!

Family Education:

A Jewish Home: Make Your Own Mezuzah Family Learning

February 27, 10:45-11:30am

What makes a home Jewish? Is it the people, or the experiences, or the foods, or the symbols you can find there? Or is it all of the above? Many Jewish homes have a mezuzah on the doorpost to mark their identity. At this program, we will be able to create our own, including choosing what we put inside!

All of our Youth Education programs are at our Sunday School at Deerfield High School

We are following health and safety 'best practices': temperature checks and hand sanitizer upon arrival, mandatory masks (regardless of vaccination status), no food, no sharing of materials, and maintaining distance.



Meet Some of Our New Members



Meet Taryn Nobil & Adrian Bekhrad

Within two months of moving to Chicago from Florida, Taryn and Adrian, both 25 years old, have fallen in love with the city and found a home at Kol Hadash.

Taryn was raised Jewish but hasn't belonged to a congregation since her Bat Mitzvah. She refers to herself as Jew-ish. She doesn't miss the synagogue she grew up in, but does miss engaging with her Jewish culture and community. "Kol Hadash seems like a wonderful way to reconnect with my personal values through the lens of humanistic Judaism."

Adrian was born in Windsor, Ontario, raised in Florida, comes from a Mexican background, and was raised Catholic. "Judaism is new to me and I still have

much to learn. What most captivates me is so far is when the historical aspects are analyzed without the limiting lens of monotheism."

Taryn works as a Youth Enrichment Instructor and mentors K-8th grade students in Chicago's Edgewater neighborhood where they live. "We are learning a lot as volunteers with the kind folks at Chicagoland Pig Rescue." She is a vegan and hopes to have an animal sanctuary with Adrian someday! She enjoys writing, comedy, and baking.

Adrian worked at CACH UPS, one of the largest ground consolidation hubs in the country, until a recent injury. "Other than athletic activities I've recently found interest in city planning and use a city rendering computer game called City Skylines, I also whole heartedly enjoy and nerd out for Star Wars."

They attended Yom Kippur services (online), the Sukkot celebration (in person) and several Shabbat services and Adult Ed classes. Adrian is looking forward to learning more at these events and potentially joining the women's group or a book club as well! Taryn is excited to have found Kol Hadash and can't wait to meet more members of the community. "I look forward to growing as a humanistic Jew with you all."

Meet Stephanie and Patrick Marino

Did you know there are two Kol Hadash humanistic congregations? Ours and Kol Hadash Northern California Community. Stephanie and Patrick live in the Bay Area. A couple of years ago they joined the other Kol Hadash. Stephanie became aware of our Kol Hadash community through podcasts and YouTube and found she connects closely with Rabbi Chalom's perspectives, teachings and messaging. They joined in 2021.

Patrick is an accountant and Stephanie is a public servant. With three children most of Stephanie's spare time is spent "keeping them alive and well" but hopes one day to take dance lessons with her partner and travel to new places with her family.

Oddly enough, she came to understand that one could be both Jewish and not believe in a deity from the original PBS Cosmos program and from learning more about the life of Carl Sagan.

"There is something distinct about being culturally Jewish but also being an atheist. Before I was aware that there was a community of Jews who shared my views in an organized fashion, I had to keep these thoughts and views to myself."

Meet Jennifer Lissner and Mitch Kranitz

Jennifer and Mitch moved from the city to Riverwoods in August 2020. The move was prompted by the pandemic. Moving to the suburbs was never on the table prior, but they are glad they are here. They enjoy being more connected to nature and are grateful to be surrounded by trees and have such easy access to the outdoors. Jenny grew up in a high-rise off Michigan Avenue, in downtown Chicago and has never lived in a suburban environment before. Mitch grew up in Akron, Ohio.

Mitch teaches tech sales and enjoys daily meditation practice, Wim Hof and breathwork. Jennifer is an interior designer and just left her firm of 11 years to launch her own business, Set Setting Studio. Their son Milo (10) loves music and plays electric guitar in a local band—the Riverwood Coyotes. He also plays piano and violin and is an expert at Minecraft. Liv (8) is an artist and Barbie expert.

They found Kol Hadash through a Google search. “We were looking for a progressive community to teach our children about their Jewish heritage. They both enjoy Sunday School and we look forward to the B Mitzvah process.”

Fun fact: They still get their dog’s hair done in the city and dye him seasonally with different looks—zebra stripes, leopard prints, rainbow, etc. “We’re taking suggestions for his next look!”



Meet Renee and Noah Levine

Renee and Noah live on the Northwest side of Chicago, near LaBaugh Woods. Noah is the Editorial Director of a dental magazine and loves to play Ultimate Frisbee. Renee is a Doula, teaches yoga and does Thai Massage. She also plays the violin with the Lakeview Orchestra.

Their children, Asa (12) and Hattie (9) have the same birthday, December 13. Asa recently picked up the clarinet and is a video gamer. Hattie loves dogs, baking and cheerleading.

They joined Kol Hadash in August, 2021. “We were looking for a community that we could have our kids’ education and B Mitzvahs and the Humanistic lens seems to be a comfortable fit for us. Asa and Hattie are attending Sunday School and are really enjoying their teachers.”

Fun fact: The family adopted a dog from PAWS in May, 2020 named Midnight Star. They also foster puppies.



January Yahrzeits

The following names will be read at the **January 21** Shabbat service.

Bill Brinkman	Joseph Eisenberg	Harold Kirsner	Marilyn Muroff	Morris Shlensky	Diane Teich
Sheldon Brottman	Roland Finkelman	Golda Lippitz	Bobbye Sarasohn	Mary Smiley	Charles Weigley
Helen Chase	Edward Freund	Holly Lively	William Sheck	Bertha Sonshine	Lois Wolens
Jerry Cole	Miriam Gurewitz	Ben Meisenberg	Sharon Shepard	Sol Spiegel	Robert Zeleny
Richard Crane	Shepard Kass	Fannie Moses	Bessie Shlensky	Mary Spiegel	

February Yahrzeits

The following names will be read at the **February 25** Shabbat service.

Joseph Aaron	Steven Croft	Allen Goldstein	Terry Lason	Laura Morgan	Lena Miller Simon
Jan Baxter	Charlotte Dantico	Ann Jerris	Sheila Lieb	Eve Niport	Anna Tenenbaum
Joan Berger	Alfred Eichner	Helen Kass	Samuel Mayer	June Rothstein	Catherine Vanderbeck
Moshek Biniamin Podrobnik	Betty Fishkin	Nina Kroft	Jerome Miller	Jacqueline Schechner	Norman Wauldron
Joseph Birnbaum	Harry Goldman	Louis Lason	Milton Miller	Isadore Sheinbein	George White

Tributes

Ellen & Mitch Apley, Youth Group Fund, in honor of our amazing Mitzvah Program

Marilyn Litz & Miki Field, General Fund, in memory of Marcello Mejias

Michelle Fishman, Rabbis Discretionary Fund

Andrea & Mark Friedlander, General Fund, in memory of Matthew Passen

Dawn & Mark Friedman, General Fund, in memory of Matthew Passen

Dawn & Mark Friedman, General Fund, in memory of Margaret Wittlinger, Sidney Klein, and Betty Weinberger.

Happy Stone & Rick Henriksen, Youth Group Fund

Happy Stone & Rick Henriksen, Friedman Family Fund

Marla Davis & Fred Henry, General Fund Donation

Glynis & David Hirsch, Annual Appeal Fund, in memory of Matthew Passen

Glynis & David Hirsch, Annual Appeal Fund, in memory of Sidney Klein

Glynis & David Hirsch, Annual Appeal Fund, in honor of Joyce & Rich Hirsch

Karen Jackson, Rabbis Discretionary Fund

Terry & Geoff Kass, Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Jeff Kawalsky, General Fund

Janene & Lee Kessler, General Fund

Susan Wagner & Mike Lippitz, General Fund, in memory of Matthew Passen

Andrea & Gary Malis, General Fund, in memory of Sherwin Malis

Hope Malis, Annual Appeal Fund, in honor of my sons, to celebrate the fine young men they have become

Judy & Steve Rosenzweig, General Fund, wishing a speedy recovery to Joyce Hirsch

Judy & Steve Rosenzweig, in honor of Irene & Al Dorfman's new grandbaby

Cathy Weigley & Laurie Schiller, Tzedakah Fund

Nancy Sohn & Mike Simon, with thanks for all that has been done to bring events to us virtually during Covid

Nancy Sohn & Mike Simon, Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, in memory of Betty Weinberger

Bron Vadahavet, General Fund

Annual Appeal Donations

Susan & Roger Addelson, Ellen & Mitch Apley, AJ & Rabbi Adam Chalom, Suzanna & Larry Dworsky, Suzie Garfield, Irene Chase & Jeremy Gibson, Joyce & William Goldman, Peggy Bartelstein & Bill Gurolnick, Paula & David Harris, Rhonda & Robert Hart, Glynis & David Hirsch, Alan H. Klein, Susan & Andrew Kramer, Nina & K. Michael Lipkin, Susan Wagner & Mike Lippitz, Hope Malis, Stephanie & Patrick Marino, Lynn & Elliot Miller, Dori Rosenbloom-Mirman & Chet Mirman, Louise Neidorf, Mary Vanderbeck Parker & Dan Parker, Lita Passen, Judith Perlman, Judy & Steve Rosenzweig, Michele & Joel Shoolin, Tamar & Ron Schwartz, Sheila & Ron Sebor

Family News/Thank You

- Wishing a swift recovery to Joyce Hirsch from recent medical treatment
- Wishing a complete recovery to Rhita Lippitz from ongoing medical treatment.
- Wishing a swift recovery to Susan Wagner from recent medical treatment.
- Wishing a complete recovery to Varda Holland-Witter from ongoing medical treatment
- Wishing Tamar Schwartz a swift recovery from recent medical treatment.
- Thank you to our Sunday School students, teachers and class aides — we appreciate everyone following Covid health guidelines. Our first half of this school year being indoors, masked and distanced has been smooth!
- Thank you to the parents who joined our recent Youth Education Committee (YEC) meeting; and, also to those parents who give verbal and email feedback regularly. It is your involvement and sharing of ideas which strengthens our Sunday School and family programs.

Join Helping Hands

Under Values In Action we also have a group called Helping Hands. We need members to join this group and help fellow Congregants. Our vision is to be available to those in need of visitors, grocery shopping, help with chores. Just helping with everyday necessities! Please contact Lynn Miller (valuesinaction@KolHadash.com) if you're available to volunteer to help others in the congregation.

Also — if you're a person in need of visitors, grocery shopping, help with chores or other tasks, please reach out to either Lynn Miller or Rabbi Chalom to let us know.

January 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 New Year's Day
2 No Sunday School	3 Women's Group: Canasta 1:30pm SciFi Book Club: <i>Calculationg God</i> by Robert J. Sawyer 7:30pm	4 String Theory 7:30pm	5	6 Steering Committee 7:30pm	7 Shabbat Service: Year in Review Zoom Only 7:30pm	8
9 Sunday School 9:30am Sunday School Try-Out & Open House 9:30am Parent Education: Humanistic Parenting & Ask Adam Anything 9:30am Bring Your Parent to Sunday School 8th/9th/10th Grades 10:30am Bring Your Parent to Sunday School 6th/7th Grades 11:00am	10 Women's Group: Online Chat 1:30pm Nonfiction Book Club: <i>Dawn of Everything</i> by David Graeber 7:30pm	11 Adult Education: Bar/Bat Mitzvah 7:30pm	12 Book & Movie Club: <i>This is Where I Leave You</i> By Jonathan Tropper 7:00pm	13	14	15
16 Sunday School 9:30am Bring Your Parent to Sunday School 3rd/4th/5th Grades 9:30am Bring Your Parent to Sunday School K/1st/2nd Grades 10:00am Preschool Jewish Discovery: Tu B'Shevat 10:00am Tu B'Shevat Family Plarn Project 10:45am	17 Martin Luther King Day Women's Group: Canasta 1:30pm	18 Adult Education: Wedding 7:30pm	19	20 One Family, Two Traditions (or more): Doing Jewish in Interfaith and Intercultural Families for jBaby Parents 7:30pm	21 Shabbat Guest Speaker: Ethical Wills: Words From the Jewish Heart with Dr. Eric Weiner Zoom Only 7:30pm	22
23 Confirmation Field Trip 7:45am Holocaust Museum Field Trip 6th/7th Grade 9:20am Sunday School 9:30am String Theory 10:00am Rise Up: Stonewall and the LGBRQ Rights Movement Virtual Holocaust Tour 4:00pm	24 Women's Group: Online Chat 1:30pm	25 Adult Education: Funeral 7:30pm	26	27 One Family, Two Traditions (or more): Doing Jewish in Interfaith and Intercultural Families for jBaby Parents 7:30pm	28	29
30 Sunday School 9:30am B Mitzvah FAQ Session 9:30am	31 Women's Group: Canasta 1:30pm					

February 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Adult Education: Torah 7:30pm	2	3 Steering Committee 7:30pm	4 Shabbat Service: Jews of Color in the United States 7:30pm	5
6 Sunday School, 9:30am Adult Challah Making Class 9:30am	7 Women's Group: Online Chat 1:30pm	8 Adult Education: Tanakh/Hebrew Bible 7:30pm	9	10	12 Shabbat Service: Inspiration from Evolution 7:30pm	12
13 Sunday School, 9:30am Youth Education Committee Meeting 9:30am	14 Women's Group: Canasta 1:30pm	15 Adult Education: Rabbinic Literature 7:30pm	16	17	18	19
20 Sunday School 9:30am K/1st/2nd Grade Class Shabbat 11:00am Confirmation Class Field Trip 12:00pm	21 Women's Group: Online Chat 1:30pm	22	23	24 Stones from the Soil: Discussion of the documentary with filmmaker Michael Caplan 7:00pm	25 Shabbat Service: Evaluating the Enlightenment 7:30pm	26
27 Sunday School 9:30am Family Education: A Jewish Home – Make Your Own Mezzuzah Family Learning 10:45am	28 Women's Group: Canasta 1:30pm					



Humanistic Parenting & Ask Rabbi Adam Anything

Sunday, January 9, 9:30-10:30am

at our Sunday School at Deerfield High School & Zoom

One of the benefits of Kol Hadash is having a rabbi "on retainer" to ask important questions about life, Judaism, and their challenges. This Sunday morning join Rabbi Adam Chalom of Kol Hadash to hear some ideas about how our philosophy can influence our parenting, and also to "ask Adam anything". Participate via Zoom or in person! See weekly email for Zoom info.

ADULT CHALLAH MAKING CLASS

Sunday, February 6, 9:30-11:30am

at our Sunday School at Deerfield High School

Have you wanted to make challah (traditional braided egg bread for Shabbat) yet were hesitant to do so on your own? Join with other adults at Kol Hadash as we learn and make challah together. At the end of this class, you'll bring your challah home to bake it. All are welcome to join this free program. Please register so we can have supplies for everyone.

[Register on Kol Hadash website calendar.](#)

Family Education: A Jewish Home: Make Your Own Mezuzah Family Learning

Sunday, February 27, 10:45-11:30am

at our Sunday School at Deerfield High School

What makes a home Jewish? Is it the people, or the experiences, or the foods, or the symbols you can find there? Or is it all of the above? Many Jewish homes have a mezuzah on the doorpost to mark their identity. At this program, we will be able to create our own, including choosing what we put inside!

Questions to Ilana Shaffer at youthed@kolhadash.com or 773-209-8266

Members choose financial commitment – Trial Memberships offered – Jewish and Interfaith families fully participate



Bring Your Parent to Sunday School

Kol Hadash Sunday School at Deerfield High School

It is time for parents to go back to school! It is Bring Your Parent to Sunday School!

Each of our classes welcomes parents to join for a bit (students attend class from 9:30-11:30am). Teachers expect lively discussions and participatory activities!

January 9 — 6th-10th Grade Classes

-8th/9th/10th Grade - 10:30-11:00am

-6th/7th Grade - 11:00-11:30am

January 16— K-5th Grade Classes

-3rd/4th/5th Grade - 9:30-10:00am

-K/1st/2nd Grade - 10:00-10:30am

Open House & Sunday School Try Out

For families interested in our weekly education program (from Kindergarten through confirmation), your child can join their grade's class for the day.

There is no expectation of a commitment by attending.

[Please register at KolHadash.com](http://KolHadash.com)

Questions to Ilana Shaffer at youthed@kolhadash.com or 773-209-8266

Members choose financial commitment – Trial Memberships offered – Jewish and Interfaith families fully participate

FAMILY CELEBRATIONS

Open to everyone! Free!

For all major Jewish holidays, we have fun events for families that give children an understanding of Jewish culture, literature, history, values and ethics, and help them explore what "Being Jewish" and "Doing Jewish" mean to them.

Monthly during Sunday School, our whole school -- students, teachers, families and guests — come together to celebrate Jewish holidays as well as for special programs on Jewish culture, community service activities and more.



Monthly at Kol Hadash Sunday School at Deerfield High School

Please register on our website calendar at KolHadash.com

Come once, or come to them all!

High Holidays for Tots
Sunday, September 12, 10:30-11:15am

Sukkot Family Service
Sunday, September 26, 4:00-5:30pm

Family Education: Jewish Time
Sunday, November 7, 10:45-11:30am

Hanukkah Family Celebration
Sunday, December 5, 10:45-11:30

Family Education: Humanistic Parenting
Sunday, January 9, 9:30-10:30am

Tu B'Shevat Family Plarn Project
Sunday, January 16, 10:45-11:30am

Family Education: Jewish Home
Sunday, February 27, 10:45-11:30

Purim Family Celebration
Sunday, March 13, 11:00-12:00

Passover Family Celebration
Sunday, April 10, 10:30-11:30am

Taste of Kol Hadash: Jewish Holidays
Sunday, May 1, 10:45-11:30am

Sunday School Try Out

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Preschool Jewish Discovery

Free monthly enrichment class open to everyone

Children ages 2-6 with a grown-up join Rabbi Adam Chalom and veteran preschool teacher Lynn Miller as they explore a Jewish holiday or cultural value along with interactive songs, books and hands-on activities. There is time for the children and parents to socialize, too. At-home resources will also be provided.

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Come once, or come to them all!



High Holidays

Sunday, August 29

10:00-10:45am

High Holidays for Tots

***for children up to age 6**

Sunday, September 12

10:30-11:15am



Simchat Torah

Sunday, October 3

10:45-11:30am



Tikkun Olam

Sunday, November 14

10:45-11:30am



Hanukkah

Sunday, December 5

10:00-10:45am



Tu B'Shevat

Sunday, January 16

10:00-10:45am



Purim

Sunday, March 6

10:45-11:30am



Passover

Sunday, April 10

9:45-10:30am

Sunday School Try Out

For families interested in our weekly education program (from Kindergarten through confirmation), your child can join their grade's class for the day.

There is no expectation of a commitment by attending. **Please register at KolHadash.com**

Please note: Proof of Covid vaccination is required for all adults attending our adult-tot preschool program since the children are not yet eligible for vaccination. Please contact Youth Education Director Ilana Shaffer at youthed@kolhadash.com or 773-209-8266 with questions.

Questions to Ilana Shaffer at youthed@kolhadash.com or 773-209-8266

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B Mitzvah FAQ Session

For parents of students up to 6th grade

Sunday, January 30

9:30–10:30am • at Kol Hadash Sunday School at Deerfield High School

Open to everyone! Free!

- Are you debating how (or whether) to have a Bar or Bat Mitzvah for your child?
- Are you feeling pressure because “how it’s supposed to be” and “how it’s always been done” isn’t a good fit for your family?
- Are you concerned that non-Jewish family members might not be allowed to participate fully?
- Are you looking for a custom celebration that will be both personal and meaningful, balancing Jewish traditions and your unique family heritage?

**Explore your options during this free, informal FAQ session
with Rabbi Adam Chalom, our Youth Education Director, and our B Mitzvah Coordinator**

You may also schedule a one-on-one information session with Rabbi Chalom, our Youth Education director, or our B Mitzvah Coordinator.

Sunday School Try Out

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How is Our B Mitzvah Different from All Other B Mitzvahs?

The Kol Hadash B Mitzvah program (gender-neutral, non-binary term for "Bar Mitzvah" and/or "Bat Mitzvah") is unique, meaningful, and personal to the student in many ways:

1. Our B Mitzvah preparation fits into the busy lives of today's middle-schoolers and their families. Students learn Hebrew through one-on-one tutoring sessions.
2. Our Hebrew curriculum balances the need for Hebrew reading skills with an understanding of Hebrew as a modern, living language.
3. Rather than be automatically assigned the Torah or Haftorah portion coinciding with their B Mitzvah service date, our students choose their own Torah portion, whichever one they find to be most inspirational or meaningful.
4. Students have the choice to read from other Jewish literature or do a Jewish-related research project instead of reading from the Torah.
5. All the readings and music celebrate the milestone of becoming a B Mitzvah. The B Mitzvah is the only reason for the gathering.
6. Every B Mitzvah service is devoted to only one student.
7. Families can customize their B Mitzvah celebration service by choosing their favorite readings and music from an array of options.
8. All parents of B Mitzvah students participate fully in our ceremonies. We are fully welcoming and inclusive of modern families in all their diversity.
9. Following the B Mitzvah presentation, the parents have the opportunity to share their feelings about the occasion in a short but meaningful address to their child.
10. Families may honor other family members and friends by having them read selections from the service, hold the Torah, or light candles on our congregational menorah.
11. Service readings are in English and sensitive to a diverse audience, enabling all family members (of all ethnic and religious backgrounds) to equally and meaningfully participate.
12. Our families almost always get their first choice of date. Ceremonies can be held on a Friday evening, Saturday morning or Saturday evening.