

Bruce Elder, Rabbi
Anna Calamaro, Rabbi

Robert J. Marx z"l, Founding Rabbi

D'varim

The World's First Jewish Vending Machine

When I imagine a vending machine, a few things come to mind. The heartbreak of watching, nearly in slow motion, as my favorite snack gets lodged between the flap and dispenser door. The guilty pleasure of choosing between 20+ blissfully unhealthy snacks. The frustration of the machine eating your cash and giving you nothing in return. The blind joy of biting into a chocolate bar that might be older than you dare to imagine.

The first time I saw a vending machine filled with items that weren't perishables was in a mall in Netanya, Israel in 2014. The machine was filled with bow ties! It felt like such a revolutionary discovery that I snapped a photo beside it.

Last month, a synagogue on the east coast revealed that it had invented "The World's First Jewish Vending Machine," and it would be located at various areas around town in addition to their synagogue. But instead of Kosher snacks (which is old news apparently), this would contain "everything you need to live a Jewish life and will put all of Jewish tradition and practice within easy reach." Items inside the machine include: Shabbat candles, Havdalah candles, yahrzeit candles, single-serve bottles of grape juice, kipot, mezuzot, Star of David necklaces, Chai bracelets, tallitot, Bamba, Bisli, and even a yad. Everything shy of Tums, therapist business cards, and shooters of Matzo Ball Soup.

Now, I am all for accessibility. I believe that if we want to continue the chain of thousands of years of Jewish tradition, we need to occasionally evolve, expand, and use creativity to meld our ancient practices with modern living. This is where Reform Judaism shines. But... a Jewish vending machine? Seriously??

What happens when we reduce the purchase of a mezuzah to pressing "F7?" What might we lose when a Torah yad can be dropped through a dispenser door in the blink of an eye? Does living a Jewish life mean having easy access to these objects, or is it about something that cannot be vended?

As we approach the holiday of Passover this month, we are reminded, yet again, that Judaism is not supposed to be easy. Being a Jew can sometimes be extremely difficult... particularly in today's climate. The seder, which I feel is the most sacred and successful model of experiential education known to humankind (can you tell I like Passover a little bit?!), teaches us that it is not enough to retell the story of slavery and redemption each year. We must relive it. With that reliving, we smell and taste the bitterness of slavery, we feel the lash of the whip on our skin, we hear the cries of our people, we see the plagues in our world. A Passover seder is no walk in the park. And neither is the essence of what it means to be an Israelite, to be... as our patriarch, Jacob, always "wrestling."

I enjoy vending machines. They make life a bit more convenient, and perhaps a bit more tempting too. After all, it would have saved me a lot of late nights if I could have obtained my rabbinic ordination through the click of a plastic button! But I wouldn't trade the struggle of being a Jew for all the vending-machine-Havdalah-candles in the world. And though The World's First (and only) Jewish Vending Machine was just invented, you can be certain it won't be the last.

So I hope that when you happen upon it someday, and you have the opportunity to buy a tallit with the simple press of "B10," that you will pause. That you will remember what it truly means to be a Jew. That you will ask yourself if having that tallit is what makes a life Jewish. And instead of that instant dispenser, you will choose to build community with others, engage in conversation, connect meaningfully, learn with study partners, experience the Divine, and allow yourself to be lovingly wrapped in the embrace of a tallit held by those on whose shoulders we stand.

And that is something you cannot obtain from a vending machine.

*Ken Yehi Ratzon.
Rabbi Anna Calamaro*



Shabbat Shalom, Friday April 12

7:00 pm, Winnetka Community House

*Memories, torah and music from four decades of encirclement,
services led by our students, and a celebration oneg!*

Celebration Saturday, April 13

5:30 pm, Winnetka Congregational Church

RSVP's needed by April 1! Go to tinyurl.com/Hakafa40

*An evening with friends! Appetizers, libations, desserts, Havdalah,
music and art created by Hakafa members.*

Social Action Sunday, April 14

12:15 pm, Takiff Center & nearby locations

Learn more and sign up! Go to: tinyurl.com/HakafaAction40

*Move Hakafa's tradition of social action forward!
Choose from a variety of activities for all ages.*

Please remember the food drive for the Moraine Township Food Pantry!

*Bring items from the following list to any of the weekend events: canned
chicken/salmon/sardines, mayonnaise, instant rice, jam/jelly, crackers, salad dressing*

Questions? Send an email to 40Hakafa@gmail.com

Prayer and Celebration

Friday Evening Services



Zoom Meeting ID: 292 137 266

*All are invited to join us for our weekly Friday Evening Kabbalat Shabbat Service. All services take place in **Room 101 at the Winnetka Community House** (620 Lincoln Avenue, Winnetka) **AND via Zoom** (Meeting ID: 292 137 266) unless otherwise noted below.*

April 5 **Shabbat HaChodesh – Parshat Shmini**
7:30 p.m. Torah Portion: Leviticus 9:1 – 11:47
 Haftarah: Ezekiel 45:16 – 25

Guest Speakers: Shahira Shalaby
and Ruth Lewis-Chen of The Abraham Initiatives

April 12 **Shabbat Tazria**
7:00 p.m. Torah Portion: Leviticus 12:1 – 13:59
 Haftarah: II Kings 4:42 – 5:19

40th Anniversary Shabbat Service
Note Early Start Time

April 19 **Shabbat HaGadol – Parshat M'tzora**
7:30 p.m. Torah Portion: Leviticus 14:1 – 15:33
 Haftarah: Malachi 3:4 – 24

April 26 **Shabbat Chol HaMo-eid Pesach**
5:30 p.m. Torah Portion: Exodus 33:12 – 34:26
 Haftarah: Ezekiel 37:1- 14

Note Early Start Time: Last Friday of the Month

Hakafa Rosh Chodesh Gathering

Join us for our **Rosh Chodesh Nisan** gathering on **Thursday, April 11 at 7:30 p.m.** at **Yogaview** (1231 Green Bay Road, Wilmette). Inspired by the Jewish ritual of Rosh Chodesh (literally "head/start of the month"), a celebration marking the start of a new lunar month, this gathering offers a space for us to come together each new moon to reset, reflect, and connect in a restorative evening steeped in the loving power of community. While this gathering is focused on those 18 years old and beyond who identify as women or nonbinary, people of all gender expressions are welcome to come learn and help elevate these voices. **Registration is required to participate at: <https://forms.gle/oZcjkUCQvPDADYV16>.**

40th Anniversary Shabbat Service

Join us at Shabbat Services on **Friday, April 12 at 7:00 p.m.** in the **Garden Rooms at the Winnetka Community House** (620 Lincoln Avenue) for music, memories, and Torah! Our Religious School and Hebrew School students will help lead the service that will kick-off our 40th anniversary celebration weekend! **Bibi Patt, Sara Goodman, and Tory May** will lead us in prayerful melodies we have sung over the decades, members will share short memories they have from over the years, and the service will be followed by a **celebration oneg!** We hope you will be there!

Shabbat Morning Minyan

Zoom Meeting ID: 847 8216 0504

Please join us on **Saturdays, April 6 and 20 at 9:00 a.m.** at the **North Shore United Methodist Church** (213 Hazel Avenue, Glencoe) for this hour-long service and study. The service will also be accessible **via Zoom** for those who are not able to participate in-person. Our Shabbat Morning Minyan is a wonderful opportunity to enhance your celebration of Shabbat.

Hosts Needed for Friday Night Onegs

Hosting a Friday evening Oneg Shabbat is a wonderful way to honor the memory of a loved one on his/her **yahrzeit** or to celebrate a **b'nai mitzvah, birthday, anniversary, or other special occasion** with the congregation. **To volunteer to host, sign up online at this link (<http://tinyurl.com/oneg-hosting>)** or by contacting **Gayle Inbinder** and **Jill Mihailovic-Sternberg** (oneg@hakafa.org).

Hakafa Welcomes Guest Speakers

Shahira Shalaby and
Ruth Lewis-Chen on April 5

Join us on **Friday, April 5 at 7:30 p.m.** at the **Winnetka Community House** (620 Lincoln Avenue, Winnetka) as we welcome **Shahira Shalaby and Ruth Lewis-Chen**, Co-Deputy CEOs of **The Abraham Initiatives**, to speak at Shabbat services. The Abraham Initiatives is a Jewish- and Palestinian-Israeli organization that advances social inclusion and equal rights for Israel's Arab citizens by influencing public policy, shaping public opinion and demonstrating practical models for a shared society. We are fortunate to have them with us as they discuss the situation on the ground and their response to it.

Shahira Shalaby is the former Deputy Mayor of Haifa. She was among the founders of the **Palestinian Feminist Movement** in Israel and has established several initiatives and organizations working to improve the status of Arab women there.

Ruth Lewis-Chen has rich experience directing conflict resolution programs and facilitating dialogue groups for Arab and Jewish youth with **Seeds of Peace, Givat Haviva, YMCA International** in Jerusalem, and more.

Monthly Early Shabbat Service

Join us on **Friday, April 26** for our "bedtime-friendly" Shabbat service. **This is in place of our regular 7:30 p.m. service**, and it enables families with young children to have a Friday night Shabbat experience with our congregational community.

PASSOVER 5784

This year, Passover begins at sundown on Monday, April 22
and ends at sundown on Monday, April 29
(or at sundown on Tuesday, April 30 for those who observe eight days).

Celebrate Passover with Hakafa by
participating in any/all of the following:

CONGREGATIONAL SECOND-NIGHT SEDER

Celebrate the second night of Passover with Hakafa!



Our congregation will be hosting its annual Second-Night Passover Seder on Tuesday, April 23 at 6:00 PM at the **Winnetka Community House** (620 Lincoln Ave, Winnetka) and via **Zoom** (Meeting ID: 818 0003 5488). Members and their guests are cordially invited to attend this very festive and always memorable event. Expect a traditional seder service, lively music, and wonderful companionship. *(The in-person meal is catered, and there is a fee to participate. Scholarships are available.)*

Reservations for the in-person seder are due by April 10.

To reserve your spot, make your reservation online at:
<https://tinyurl.com/HakafaSeder24>

No reservation or fee is needed to participate via Zoom.

If you have any questions, or if you prefer to make your reservation over the phone, please contact Amy Acri (jacri3@comcast.net or 847-875-4976) or Judy Rose-Epstein (missyepstein@att.net or 847-814-2856).



PASSOVER CARE PACKAGES FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

If your undergrad is away from home and on campus this term, send them a Passover care package! Hakafa member, Karen Berman, will prepare and mail care packages (which will include items like matzah, candy, snacks, a letter from Rabbi Elder, etc.) to remind our college undergrads who are away from home that they are an important part of our Hakafa family and that we are thinking of them. *Scholarships are available.*

Orders must be placed by April 1.

To order a care package, place your order online at:
<https://tinyurl.com/HakafaPassoverBox24>

If you have any questions, please contact Hakafa member,
Karen Berman (kberman0501@gmail.com or 847-420-8906).

MAOT CHITIM

In preparation for Passover, join Chicago's Jewish Community in fulfilling the mitzvah of *Maot Chitim* by packing and/or delivering boxes of food and other holiday necessities to Jewish families and individuals who are struggling with food insecurity.



There are three different volunteering options, and pre-registration is required:

- **Pre-Packing Boxes - Sunday, March 31**

Volunteers are needed to assemble boxes and to put non-perishable food items in the packages at the warehouse*. There are shifts at 9:15 AM and 11:45 AM. **Volunteers must be at least 12 years old.**

To sign up for pre-packing on 3/31, please go to: <https://form.jotform.com/240325053955151>

- **Packing and Loading Boxes on Delivery Day – Sunday, April 14**

On the day the packages are delivered, volunteers are needed to help complete the packaging by putting perishable food items into the packages and loading the packages into cars at the warehouse*. **Volunteers must be at least 12 years old and are needed as early as 6:00 AM.**

To sign up to pack/load on 4/14, go to: <https://form.jotform.com/240325112251136>

- **Delivering Boxes - Sunday, April 14**

Help is needed to deliver the packed boxes of food and other holiday necessities to Jewish homes. **Pick-up times at the warehouse* run every 15 minutes from 9:00 to 10:30 AM.** Come with your car (especially large cars and vans) and families – and make sure to empty out your trunk! **Children of all ages are welcome to participate.**

To sign up to make deliveries on 4/14, go to: <https://form.jotform.com/240324955812153>

If you have any questions, please contact Maot Chitim at info@maotchitim.org or 847-674-3224.

*** The warehouse located at the former Toys R Us in Highland Park (1610 Deerfield Road).**

Maot Chitim refers to the custom of gathering wheat which was then given to people in need for making matzo for Passover. Maot Chitim of Greater Chicago (www.maotchitim.org) started over a century ago when Rabbis set up card tables in front of their synagogues and distributed a few dollars to those in need for holiday day meals. Today, Maot Chitim of Greater Chicago has evolved into a year-round volunteer effort searching for the best and most reasonably priced Kosher products, organizing an army of volunteers, setting up a warehouse, locating recipients through the ARK and other social service agencies, packing the products, coordinating an orderly delivery system, delivering the packages, and finally closing up and beginning the plans for the next holiday.



YIZKOR SERVICE - LAST DAY OF PASSOVER

Jewish tradition tells us that four times during the year, in addition to the anniversary of the death of a loved one, we are to recall the memories of those who have died. These four times, known as *yizkor* (remembrance), coincide with major holidays on the Jewish calendar. The last day of Pesach is a day on which *yizkor* is recited.

Please join us either in-person in the Community Hall at the Takiff Center (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe) or via Zoom (Meeting ID: 852 3252 0986) on Monday, April 29 at 10:00 a.m. as we host Yizkor services that we will be sharing with Makom Solel Lakeside. The service will be followed by a short Kiddush.

Congregation Hakafa presents...

The Prince of Egypt for Tots!

Sunday, April 28 ✨ 10:00-11:15 AM



HAPPY
PASSOVER

**Celebrate Passover with your tot (0-4),
and join us for matzah, music, and more!**

Professional actors from "Stages Chicago" will lead us through a musical,
interactive tot performance of the Dreamworks hit "The Prince of Egypt."

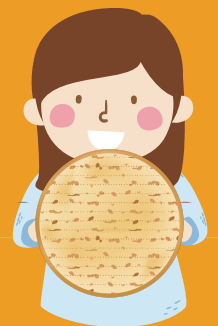
\$36 per family (free for Hakafa Chai families).

Advance registration is required, and space is limited.

To register, go to:

www.tinyurl.com/HakafaTotPassover

**Northbrook location will be
provided after registration.**



www.hakafa.org

הַכָּפָה

Member News

Congregation Meeting

Zoom Meeting ID: 850 3496 3619

All Hakafa members are invited and encouraged to attend our next Congregation Meeting in person in **Community Room 1 at the Takiff Center** (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe) **or via Zoom on Sunday, April 7 at 10:30 a.m.** Please contact our President, **Barbara Miller** (president@hakafa.org) with questions.

Hakafa is Heading to Morocco

Due to the attacks on October 7 last year, our trip to Morocco had to be postponed. It has now been **rescheduled for October 30-November 9, 2024, and all Hakafa members are invited to join our already amazing group of 28!** Get ready for a meaningful Jewish journey exploring Morocco's four imperial cities while immersing ourselves in Jewish culture both past and present, learning about the rich Jewish heritage, and enjoying Shabbat services with local families at synagogues in Marrakech and Casablanca. We will also experience the essence of Morocco's local cuisine, get lost in the exotic souks (markets), and enjoy excursions to the picturesque Atlas Mountains and the famous blue city of Chefchaoen.

Contact Rabbi Elder (rabbi@hakafa.org) or Rona (admin@hakafa.org) with questions.

Go to this link for all trip details, pricing, and to sign up:
<https://secure.ayelet.com/HakafaMorocco2024.aspx>!

Chesed

The Chesed Committee at Hakafa works to respond to a wide range of situations and events that occur in the lives of our members. Please take a moment to see the volunteer opportunities that are available and to sign up to help at:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfYe8OGJYjguZGn_LgSZXyM6vVSoCtJtMJmrqyxH0zuGcs4pg/viewform.

Contact **Camille De Frank** (camilledefrank@gmail.com) or **Beth McCullough** (mikeandbeth_60089@yahoo.com) for more information.

Volunteers Needed to Help with Shmira

When a family member has died, Hakafa's Chevra Kadisha has been providing *shmira* – a way of honoring the deceased by reading texts from the time the body has been prepared for burial until the funeral – in their presence or from home.

Contact **Deborah Brown** (dmb9476@gmail.com) or **Linda Gordon** (lrgordon@gmail.com) if you would like to participate and for more information.

Willow Lawn Cemetery Plots

Information regarding Hakafa's green cemetery section at Willow Lawn is available on our website (www.hakafa.org/worship-ritual/life-cycle-events/death/endlife-resources/cemetery-options). Green burial is more environmentally friendly than standard burial.

We have very few available full plots within our section, plus several plots for the burial of cremains. Please contact **Deborah Brown** (dmb9476@gmail.com) with any questions.

Mazal Tov to:

Stu and Janet Hersh on the birth of their grandchild, Gabriel, to Sarah Hersh and Tony Chang

Barry and Jackie Spector on the marriage of their daughter, Carolyn, to Herb Mueller

Condolences to:

Bob Rifkin on the loss of his wife and Hakafa member, Marilyn Morrill

Jim Schatz and family on the loss of his cousin, Marcia Hergott Cohen Hoffman

Jewish Postpartum Support Circle

Join **Bara: The Jewish Birthing Network, Partum Health**, and **Congregation Hakafa** for this **5-part virtual series** that will offer a space for you to explore your postpartum experiences through a Jewish lens. Through these workshops, you will have the opportunity to learn from experts in the field, build meaningful relationships with other people who have recently given birth, reflect on your personal postpartum journey, empower your self-care skills, learn about Jewish postpartum rituals and customs, and much more.

This support circle is **open to all expectant or postpartum Jewish birthers, anywhere in the nation**, though there may be an in-person opportunity in the Chicagoland area at the conclusion of the series. We will meet **via Zoom on Wednesdays from 8:00-9:00 p.m. CST from April 3 through May 1.**

Registration is required. **For more details and to register, go to:** <https://forms.gle/nuvQZNwjTP3YGPs3A>.

Chadashot

Hakafa Youth News
April 2024

Note from the Director of Education

Happy spring and welcome back! We are quickly approaching the end of our school year with only two months left!

This month we begin with Hebrew School on Tuesday, April 2 and resume Religious School on Sunday, April 7. Our last High School class time with our 9th-11th graders will be on the afternoon of Sunday, April 7.

We will be celebrating the monumental occasion of Hakafa turning 40! I remember coming to this building in 1989, long before it was known as the Takiff Center, and watching all of the volunteer teachers teach their classes and sing along with me as I led music for the school. I saw immediately how special this place was and never looked back as I accepted the role of Director of Education in 1999. What a privilege it has been, and continues to be, working with the best families and staff a Director could hope for! We will be celebrating all together the weekend of April 12-14, beginning with Shabbat Services that our students will lead on April 12. The festivities will continue on Saturday, April 13 in the evening with music, art, and, of course, food! On Sunday, April 14 we will have Religious School and a special program before bagels. Families will also have the opportunity to sign up for Social Action projects that will take place immediately following Religious School. It promises to be a great weekend! *Mazal Tov* to our beloved Congregation Hakafa!

Please note that we will not have Religious School on the last Sunday of this month - April 28.

In addition to everything that is happening this month, we will also be celebrating Passover! On behalf of our Religious School, I would like to wish all of you a *Chag Pesach Sameach* and hope all of you enjoy celebrating with your families or chosen families at a seder.

L'shalom, Bibi

Student-Led Friday Evening Shabbat Service



Please join us on **Friday, April 12 at 7:00 PM** at the **Winnetka Community House** (620 Lincoln Avenue, Winnetka) when our Religious School and Hebrew School students will help lead Hakafa's Shabbat Service as we kick off our 40th Anniversary Weekend celebration. We look forward to sharing a wonderful evening together.



B'nai Mitzvah Workshop Shabbat Service

As part of the B'nai Mitzvah Workshop series that Rabbi Elder is teaching this year, students and families whose b'nai mitzvah ceremonies will be taking place in the next year are encouraged to attend our Shabbat workshop-service of the year on **Saturday, April 6** at the **North Shore United Methodist Church** (213 Hazel Avenue, Glencoe). The Workshop Service is designed to give b'nai mitzvah candidates and their families the opportunity to have hands-on practice and experience with all that is learned in the workshops. It will also help the students to become familiar and comfortable with the service. **There will be two services: The 11:00 AM service is for those who are having morning ceremonies. The 12:00 PM service is for those who are having evening ceremonies.** The setting will be informal and educational.



Adult Education

Sunday Morning Adult Education

Zoom Meeting ID: 871 3067 5137

All Hakafa adults are invited to participate in our Sunday Morning Adult Education classes led by both congregational and community scholars who will delve into a variety of topics of special interest and expertise. Class meets on **Sunday mornings from 10:30 a.m.-12:00 noon**. We will meet **both in-person in Community Room 1 at the Takiff Center** (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe) **and via Zoom**. Come early for a cup of coffee and to schmooze, and grab a bagel at noon before leaving.

April 14: Join **Dr. David Shyovitz** for a third session exploring “**What is Antisemitism?**” This three-session mini course explores the historical trajectory of anti-Jewish rhetoric, violence, and discrimination, using case studies drawn from antiquity through the present. We will pay particular attention to the analytical concepts that historians have developed and deployed—including anti-Semitism, antisemitism, anti-Judaism, and Judeophobia.

David Shyovitz is an Associate Professor of History at Northwestern University and Director of the Crown Family Center for Jewish and Israel Studies. His research and teaching focus on pre-modern Jewish cultural and intellectual history, particularly Jewish-Christian relations. He is the author of A Remembrance of His Wonders: Nature and the Supernatural in Medieval Ashkenaz.

April 21 and May 5: Join **David Rieser** for two sessions on “**By the Rivers of Babylon: Exile, Return, and the Birth of Judaism.**” The trauma of the destruction of the Kingdom of Judea by the Babylonians in 586 BCE and the deportation of a large swath of the Judean elite still resonate in the literature of the prophets as they sought to explain the tragedy. Some of that literature began to be crafted while these Judeans were still in captivity and some written or redacted upon the return to Judea 70 years later. Within those explanations lay the seeds of a new religious approach based on the lessons learned in Babylon and recognizing that the returnees to Judea constituted still constituted an elite best suited to teach those lessons to the people who remained behind. Later prophets such as Ezra and Nehemiah explicitly laid out this new course which informed not only the prophetic literature but the various redactions of the Bible that followed the return, and created the Judaism with which we are familiar. Our discussion will focus on the historical record for these events, (such as it is), the literature and how the resulting conflicts within the Judean community still affect the Jewish community today.

Hakafa member David Rieser is a lawyer by profession, and while he was always a history buff, his Bar Mitzvah at Hakafa sixteen years ago sparked an apparently insatiable interest in Jewish history. He made the mistake of telling Rabbi Elder about some of his reading, so this is now his fifteenth adult education discussion.

Musar Class

Zoom Meeting ID: 242 631 590

Musar is a long-standing tradition of exploring Jewish ethics with a particular focus on character formation. Join Rabbi Elder via **Zoom on Wednesday mornings from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.** to delve into selections from the Musar tradition, in text and in practice. The goal of the class is to not only take a more academic approach to Jewish ethics and ethical literature, but also to use some of the techniques of the Musar Movement (*chevruta* study, personal reflection time, and others) to deepen our own understanding of ourselves and push to live up to the best that is within each one of us. **Class will NOT meet on April 24.**

Lattes & Limmud Class

Zoom Meeting ID: 883 3216 9148

All are invited to join Rabbi Calamaro once each month (usually on the second Thursday of the month) for lively discussion on a variety of topics. We will meet this month on **Thursday, April 11 from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.** both **in-person at the home of Cookie and Ned Robertson (211 Dennis Lane, Glencoe) and via Zoom.**

Wednesday Afternoon Tanach Study

Zoom Meeting ID: 813 358 443

All are invited to join Rabbi Elder **either in-person** at the **North Shore United Methodist Church** (213 Hazel Avenue, Glencoe) **OR via Zoom** for weekly Tanach study on **Wednesday afternoons from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.** Each week, we proceed through the Bible, verse by verse, discussing its content and various interpretations. New participants are always welcome. **Please Note: Class will NOT meet on March 27.**

Tuesday Evening Tanach Study

Zoom Meeting ID: 662 730 822

All are invited to join Rabbi Elder **via Zoom** for weekly Tanach study on **Tuesday evenings, from 7:30 to 8:45 p.m.** Each week, we proceed through the Bible, verse by verse, discussing its content and various interpretations. **Class on the first Tuesday of each month (April 2) will meet in-person at the North Shore United Methodist Church (213 Hazel Avenue, Glencoe) and via Zoom. Class will NOT meet on April 23.**

Adult Education (continued)

Yiddish Class

Zoom Meeting ID: 863 6421 5324

Our Yiddish Class continues to meet both in-person and via Zoom at **7:00 p.m. on Monday evenings**. We will meet at the **home of Ellen and Henry Criz** (545 Green Bay Road, Highland Park) on **April 1, 8, and 15**. **Class will NOT meet on April 22 and 29.** Contact **Sharon Gutan** (gutan627@comcast.net), **Betsy Hersher** (betsyhersher@gmail.com) or **Ellen Criz** (hecruz@sbcglobal.net) for more information.

Midrash Class

Zoom Meeting ID: 865 5571 6045

Join us **via Zoom** on **Tuesday mornings** from **10:00 to 11:00 a.m.** to study *midrash* with Rabbi Calamaro. Midrash is the creative, interpretative process of the rabbis over generations. Through midrash, we see how the rabbis saw the text of the Bible - its lessons, its messages, its practical applications, and its relevance to them throughout time. **Class will not meet on April 23.**

Hakafa Book Group

All are welcome to join Hakafa's Book Group! We meet at **1:30 p.m.** at the **Northbrook Public Library** bimonthly in alternate months. Our next gathering will take place on **Sunday, April 7** when we will be discussing ***The Seven Good Years* by Etgar Keret**. We hope you'll join us! Contact **Allison Blakley** (4everblakley@gmail.com) or **David Levinson** (levinson@lakeforest.edu) with questions.

Social Action

NSUMC Stitchers Group – A Common Thread

A Common Thread stitchers group, created by members of the North Shore United Methodist Church, meets **on the first Saturday each month**, and welcomes Hakafa members to attend. The next gathering is on **Saturday, April 6 at 1:30 p.m.** at the **North Shore United Methodist Church** (213 Hazel Avenue, Glencoe). They are currently making sleep mats for the unhoused and hats for refugees. If you are interested, even if you need to learn to knit or crochet, contact **Marjorie Kemp** (847-308-1947). Feel free to bring your own project, too!

Second Nurture: Volunteer Mentors Needed

Our Second Nurture (www.2nurture.org) Cohort has families seeking mentors for their foster sons who lack male role models to spend a few times a month participating in activities such as library visits, park outings, movies, and games. If you are interested please contact Hakafa member, **Beth McCullough** (beth@2nurture.org).

Robert J. Marx Social Justice Fund: Grant Applications Now Available

The trustees of the Rabbi Robert J. Marx Social Justice Fund at Congregation Hakafa are pleased to announce the opening of applications are open for social justice project funding. Established in honor of Rabbi Marx's commitment to justice, the Fund aims to support projects that reflect his legacy. We have already provided funds for 4 projects (for legal aid, support for foster parents, aid to refugees, and congregational efforts at the border), and the trustees are eager to provide funding for additional projects that include active involvement from Hakafa member(s), that work towards authentic justice, and that build shared and sustained justice.

Eligible projects include existing Hakafa social justice projects, existing projects led by other organizations, or new projects you'd like to start. We are eager to fund projects that engage members of the Congregation in volunteering, advocacy, or education, and that help to "move" justice work on topics of interest to the congregation. We are especially interested in projects led by youth and young adult members.

The trustees are happy to speak with you about your idea, budgeting, and how to apply (please email us at rjmfund@hakafa.org). Additionally, once you apply, the trustees will meet with you to discuss your project.

Please visit the **web page for the Rabbi Robert J. Marx Social Justice Fund** (www.hakafa.org/rabbi-robert-j.-marx-social-justice-fund.html) for more information, application details, and contact information for the trustees. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis. The Trustees meet twice a year to consider applications, or more often if needed.

To be considered at the April 2024 Fund Meeting, please apply by April 5, 2024.

Congregation Hakafa Calendar

April 2024 – Adar II / Nisan 5784

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 7:00 pm Yiddish Class (Home of Ellen & Henry Criz & Zoom)	2 10:00 am Midrash Class (Zoom) 4:15-5:30 pm Hebrew School Resumes (TC) 7:30 pm Tanach Study (NSUMC & Zoom)	3 10:00 am Musar Class (Zoom) 1:00 pm Tanach Study (NSUMC & Zoom)	4	5 7:30 pm Shabbat Service – Guest Speakers: Shahira Shalaby and Ruth Lewis-Chen of The Abraham Initiatives (WCH & Zoom)	6 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Minyan (NSUMC & Zoom) 11:00 am B'nai Mitzvah Workshop Service for AM Ceremonies (NSUMC) 12:00 pm B'nai Mitzvah Workshop Service for PM Ceremonies (NSUMC)
7 10:00 am–12:00 pm Religious School 10:30 am–12:00 pm Congregation Meeting (TC) 1:30 pm Book Group (Northbrook Public Library) 4:00-6:00 9 th -11 th Grade Class Session IV	8 7:00 pm Yiddish Class (Home of Ellen & Henry Criz & Zoom)	9 10:00 am Midrash Class (Zoom) 4:15-5:30 pm Hebrew School (TC) 7:30 pm Tanach Study (Zoom)	10 10:00 am Musar Class (Zoom) 1:00 pm Tanach Study (NSUMC & Zoom)	11 9:00-10:00 am Lattes & Limmud (Home of Cookie and Ned Robertson) 7:30 pm Rosh Chodesh Gathering (Yogaview)	12 40th Anniversary Weekend! 7:00 pm 40th Anniversary Shabbat Service & Special Oneg (WCH & Zoom)	13 40th Anniversary Weekend! 5:30 pm 40th Anniversary Celebration
14 40th Anniversary Weekend! 10:00 am–12:00 pm Religious School w/ 40 th Celebration 10:30 am–12:00 pm Adult Education (TC) – Dr. David Shyovitz: <i>What is Antisemitism? Part III</i> 40th Anniversary Social Action Sunday throughout the afternoon	15 Newsletter Articles Due 7:00 pm Yiddish Class (Home of Ellen & Henry Criz & Zoom)	16 10:00 am Midrash Class (Zoom) 4:15-5:30 pm Hebrew School (TC) 7:30 pm Tanach Study (Zoom)	17 10:00 am Musar Class (Zoom) 1:00 pm Tanach Study (NSUMC & Zoom)	18	19 7:30 pm Shabbat Service (WCH & Zoom)	20 Shabbat HaGadol 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Minyan (NSUMC & Zoom)
21 10:00 am–12:00 pm Religious School 10:30 am–12:00 pm Adult Education (TC) – David Rieser: <i>By the Rivers of Babylon: Exile, Return, and the Birth of Judaism</i> 3:00-4:00 pm Confirmation Class Parent Meeting & Student Prep Session (NSUMC)	22 Erev Pesach 1st Passover Seder	23 Passover I 6:00 pm Congregational Passover Seder (WCH & Zoom) 2nd Passover Seder	24 Passover 2	25 Passover 3	26 Passover 4 5:30 pm (NOTE EARLY START TIME) Shabbat Service (WCH & Zoom)	27 Passover 5
28 Passover 6 10:00-11:15 am The Prince of Egypt for Tots	29 Passover 7 10:00 am Yizkor Service (TC & Zoom)	30 (8th Day of Passover) 10:00 am Midrash Class (Zoom) 4:15-5:30 pm Hebrew School (TC) 7:30 pm Tanach Study (Zoom)	<div> TC = Glencoe Park District Takiff Center (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe) WCH = Winnetka Community House (620 Lincoln Avenue, Winnetka) NSUMC = North Shore United Methodist Church (213 Hazel Avenue, </div>			



Congregation Hakafa

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The information in this newsletter is provided to Hakafa members for use in connection with Hakafa activities. Use for any other purposes is strictly prohibited.

The Circle



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