

BRUCE ELDER, RABBI

ROBERT J. MARX, RABBI EMERITUS

D'varim

Victims

Ezra Schwartz was an eighteen-year-old, American Jew spending a gap year in Israel. Last week, while volunteering in Gush Etzion, a settlement bloc in the Occupied Territories, he was murdered by a Palestinian. His death marks another tragic loss in the never-ending body count that is the Israel/Palestinian conflict.

As tragic as Ezra Schwartz's death is, the American Jewish community's reaction to his death makes it even more so. A hysterical, unfounded, politically-motivated narrative continues to spread at an alarming rate among us, one that insists that President Obama, the *New York Times*, and other "liberal," American entities are now biased agents seeking to delegitimize or support the destruction of Israel. Those who buy into this narrative look to things the president has said or not said, or articles the *New York Times* has or has not published, and draw conclusions that fit their theory. Their seizing upon Ezra's death in this capacity is as tragic as it is expected.

I am dismayed at the alacrity with which members of our community were willing to harangue the president when he did not immediately condemn Ezra Schwartz's death. That he was preoccupied with the events of Paris does not seem to matter. That he was at an economic summit in the Philippines does not seem to matter. That he did release a statement of condolence a few days later does not seem to matter. Nothing seems to matter.

In addition, I am distressed that a "New York Times Watch" mentality has gripped so many of us. Members of the Jewish community are incensed that the beating of eighteen-year-old, American-Palestinian Tariq Abu Khdeir by an Israeli soldier received front page coverage in the *Times* last year, while Ezra Schwartz's death was "buried" on page 6 the day after his murder. They did not seem to consider what else might have been in the news on the days each terrible act was reported. Nor do they seem particularly interested in finding out why the decision was made for the location of each story. They insist that this proves the *Times'* partiality. And, in insisting on this, they appear to be more concerned with the slight they perceive toward Israel than how horrible it is that one boy was beaten, another was killed, and neither changed anything over there at all.

We Jews complain when we are always on the front page of the news, and we complain when we are never on the front page of the news. We can't have it both ways.

The truth is, President Obama's administration has been a good friend to Israel, regardless of what CAMERA or other Israel media watchdogs might want us to believe.¹

The truth is, the *New York Times* has finally become more balanced in its treatment of the Israel/Palestinian conflict.²

The truth is, we need to be vigilant and vocal about our concerns for Israel, to be sure. At the same time, we need to be careful not to allow the growing narrative to color our reality. Social media feeds its own frenzy. And, when you are convinced you are a victim, you see your victimization everywhere.

Because, in the end, the only real victims in this recent tragedy - both in his death and in the way his death is being used - are Ezra Schwartz, his family, and those who knew him and loved him.

Ezra was eighteen years old. He was on a gap year in Israel. He was, by all accounts, a fine, young man. And, now he's dead.

Zichrono livracha - may his memory be for a blessing.

—Rabbi Bruce Elder

¹ See <http://matzav.com/rabbi-shafran-barack-obama-is-a-friend-of-israel/>, <http://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/.premium-1.535064>, and others.

² See http://www.cjr.org/feature/the_times_and_the_jews.php

Prayer and Celebration

Friday Night Services



The congregation is cordially invited to attend services at the Winnetka Community House (unless noted) on the following evenings:

December 4 Shabbat Vayeishev
7:00 p.m. Torah Portion: Genesis 37:1-40:23
 Haftarah: Amos 2:6-3:8

Note Early Start Time
1st and 2nd Graders Help Lead Service

December 11 Shabbat Mikeitz
7:30 p.m. Torah Portion: Genesis 41:1-44:17
 Haftarah: 1 Zechariah 4:1-7

Shabbat Service and Hanukkah Celebration

December 18 Shabbat Vayigash
7:30 p.m. Torah Portion: Genesis 44:18-47:27
 Haftarah: Ezekiel 37:15-28

December 25 Shabbat Va-y'chi
5:00 p.m. Torah Portion: Genesis 47:50-26
 Haftarah: I Kings 2:1-12

Note Different Time and Location
Home of Leanne Star (314 Park Avenue, Wilmette)

Shabbat Morning Minyan

Please join us on **Saturday, December 12** at the **home of Barbara and Allen Anderson (849 Oak Drive, Glencoe)** at **8:30 a.m.** for our December Shabbat morning *minyan*. This hour-long service and study is a wonderful opportunity to enhance your celebration of Shabbat. People of all ages are encouraged and welcome to join us.

Share Your Holidays

On occasion, there are Hakafa members who would like to share holidays with fellow congregants and do not have the opportunity to do so. If you would like to host a fellow congregant for a holiday meal, or if you need or want a place to go for the holidays, please contact **Sylvia Dresser (847-945-6095)**.

Oneg Hosts Needed

We are looking for hosts for Friday evening onegs beginning in February through the summer! Hosting a Friday evening oneg is a wonderful way to help support Hakafa and is also a nice way to celebrate a bar/bat mitzvah, birthday, anniversary, or other special occasion with the congregation. Many people have traditionally honored the memory of a loved one on his/her *yahrzeit* by hosting an oneg.

If you would be willing to host an oneg, please contact our Volunteer Oneg Coordinator, **Sally Nador (nadorsally@gmail.com or 847-727-4357)**, to reserve a date.

Congregational Shabbat/Hanukkah Service and Celebration



Please join us at Shabbat services on **Friday evening, December 11 at 7:30 p.m.** at the **Winnetka Community House (620 Lincoln Avenue, Winnetka)** for a beautiful Hakafa tradition as we celebrate Hanukkah and Shabbat. Bring your *chanaukiot* (Hanukkah menorahs), candles, and matches, and help us celebrate Hanukkah as a community. A special Hanukkah oneg will follow.

Chesed

Chesed is our congregation's attempt to reach out to one another. If you know of anyone in our congregation who is in crisis from an illness, death in the family, or personal stress, who could benefit from support, such as a visit, delivery and/or preparation of meals, or a ride to a health care appointment, please contact **Jill Pam (mccpam@comcast.net or 847-242-0864)**. You can also contact Jill to volunteer.

Shabbat Services Now Being Live Streamed

If you are unable to make it to Friday night services, but would like to participate from your home, you may now live stream them through our website. Go to hakafa.org and click on the listen now icon on the left side of the screen for instructions. You may also view archived events using this link. *Please note: For optimal audio output, you must have the volume turned up on both your computer and on the live stream screen itself.*



HANUKKAH

The Hanukkah Menorah (or *Chanukiah* in Hebrew) is a candlestick that holds nine candles, specifically for Hanukkah. Eight of the candles each represent one of the eight days of Hanukkah. The ninth candle is raised above the others and is called the **Shamash**, meaning helper-candle. It is used to light all the other candles.

If possible, candles should be lit immediately after sunset and should be allowed to burn completely. One family member may light the candles on behalf of the whole family, but it is fun to have each family member light his/her own *Chanukiah*.

The first candle is lit (using the *shamash*) on the first night. On the next night, two candles are lit, and one more added each night up through the eighth night. The candles are placed in the *Chanukiah* from right to left (facing you); but, when lighting them, first kindle the “new” candle added that evening (using the *shamash*) and then proceed from left to right.

On the first night, all three of the blessings below are said. On all other nights, only the first two blessings are recited.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר שֶׁל חֲנֻכָּה.

*Ba-rooch a-ta A-do-nai, E-lo-hay-noo me-lech ha-o-lam, a-sheer keed-sha-noo
b'meetz-vo-tav v'tzee-va-noo l'had-leek nayr shel cha-noo-kah.*

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe,
Who makes us holy with commandments, and commands us to light the Hanukkah candles.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁעָשָׂה נִסִּים לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ בַּיָּמִים הָהֵם בְּזִמְנֵי הַזֶּה.

*Ba-rooch a-ta A-do-nai, E-lo-hay-noo me-lech ha-o-lam, she-a-saw nee-seem
la-a-vo-tay-noo ba-ya-meem ha-hem baz-man ha-zeh.*

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe,
Who made miracles for our ancestors in those days, at this season.

Only on the first night:

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, שֶׁהֵחֵיָנוּ וְקִיְּמָנוּ וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזִמְנֵי הַזֶּה.

*Ba-rooch a-ta A-do-nai, E-lo-hay-noo me-lech ha-o-lam, she-he-che-ya-noo
v'kee-y-ma-noo v'hee-gee-a-noo, laz-man ha-zeh.*

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe,
Who gives us life and sustains us, and brings us to this season.

Member News

Congregation Meeting

Our next congregation meeting will take place on **Sunday, December 6 at 10:35 a.m.** in **Community Room 1 at the Takiff Center** (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe). All members are welcome to attend. Contact our president, Jeff Rosenberg (847-853-0121 or president@hakafa.org), with questions

Congregational Directory

The 2015-2016 Congregation Hakafa Directory is in the process of being updated and will be delivered in January. Please contact **Rona** (admin@hakafa.org or 847-242-0687) with any changes and/or updates.

Thank You to:

Dottie Hammel for so graciously hosting our Scholar-in-Residence Evening Program.

Mazal Tov to...

If you are having a simcha – a birth, wedding, or the like – please let us know (conghakafa@hakafa.org) so that we can share your joy with our congregational community

Hakafa Endowment Fund

The Congregation Hakafa Endowment Fund was established to support special programs and activities. In addition to making a contribution to Hakafa's general fund, supporting the Endowment is one of several ways, along with paying an enhanced dues amount and donating to Rabbi Elder's Discretionary Fund, that members can support Hakafa.

The Endowment's trustees, **Scott Lowtwait**, **Jeff Rosenberg**, and **Leanne Star** meet periodically and congregants are encouraged to suggest programming ideas that fall outside the Congregation's regular budgeted operations for these meetings. The next meeting will be **Sunday December 6 at 12:15 p.m.** at the **Takiff Center** (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe).

All congregants are welcome to join the trustees' discussions. Please contact **Jeff Rosenberg** (president@hakafa.org) with any questions.

Condolences to...

Mark Weisbard and family on the loss of his brother, Jon.

Jack Bierig and family on the loss of his mother, Helga

Hakafa Annual Canoe Trip: July 28 - 31

This year's trip will feature a change of venue, a confirmed campsite, hot showers and flush toilets! The plan is to establish a base camp at the Pine River Paddle Sports Center (PRPSC) in Wellston, MI. PRPSC is privately owned and extremely well maintained. We have reserved a wooded site that provides ample space for a large group. We will have potable water available in the site. A short walk from our campsite are bathrooms equipped with sinks, flush toilets and hot showers.

We have scheduled a planning meeting for **Sunday January 24 at 3:00 p.m. at a location to be determined.** Contact **John Wolfson** (johnwolfson@comcast.net or 847-344-9323) or **Rick Prohov** (rprohov@paalaw.com or 312-925-5444) with ideas or questions.

Outwitting History: Our One Congregation, One Book Selection

Outwitting History, by Aaron Lansky, is a delightful book about the author and his book-saving adventures. At age 23, Lansky read that thousands of the few remaining Yiddish books in North America were being discarded by the children of the books' original Yiddish-speaking owners. The books meant nothing to many of those who had inherited them, as they had no knowledge of Yiddish. Lansky felt compelled to preserve the language and issued a public appeal for unwanted Yiddish books. He received a very large number of responses and set out, with a team of volunteers, to retrieve and store the remaining Yiddish books.

We will be gathering on **Sunday morning, February 7** to discuss the book. Please, contact **Jonah Orlofsky** (847-835-3816 or jorlofsky@yahoo.com) with questions.

Accessibility at Hakafa

If you become aware of any accessibility issues within the congregation, we hope you will share them with us by speaking confidentially with one of our Chesed Committee Chairs, Jill Pam (mccpam@comcast.net or 847-242-0864) or Audrey Pam (arpam@yahoo.com or 847-374-9887). We thank you for your help in making our congregation welcoming and accessible to all.

Member News (continued)

Hakafa Location Accessibility Guide

The information provided below is designed to give general information about accessibility at the locations where we hold services, classes, programs, and events. For specific questions, please contact our office (admin@hakafa.org or 847-242-0687) or the actual location.

A Just Harvest (<http://www.ajustharvest.org/>): Accessible building with street parking.

Anderson Household (caabaa@sbcglobal.net): Ranch house with no steps.

Davis Household (ablakleydavis@gmail.com): Small step into accessible ranch house.

DeFrank/Chez Household (camilledefrank@gmail.com): Fully accessible ranch house with no steps. There is a ramp at the back of the house with parking nearby.

Home of Leanne Star: short step into accessible first floor

Home of Linda Weinstein: one step into front door and one step into an otherwise accessible house

North Shore United Methodist Church (<http://nsumcglencoe.org/>): No steps into the building; two-step stairway inside building for Torah study (ramp available); elevator available (with help for the door) to second floor for movie night.

Office of Brad Reiff (breiff@compasslexecon.com): 13th floor of accessible building.

Office of Bob Rifkin (455 N. Cityfront Plaza Drive, Suite 1500 - NBC Tower behind the Tribune Tower): 15th floor of accessible building

Robertson Household (mrobertson595@gmail.com): No steps into the house.

Takiff Center (<http://www.glencoeParkDistrict.com/Facilities/Takiff-Center>): Accessible building; programs that take place on the second floor accessible by elevator – a short walk on the second level to classrooms.

Winnetka Community House (<http://www.winnetkacommunityhouse.org/>): Ramp into building.

Winnetka Library (<http://www.winnetkalibrary.org/>): accessible building

Art Fest III: April 17, 2016

Hakafa's third Art Fest will take place on **April 17** from **3:00-5:30 p.m.**, at the **Winnetka Community House**. It will consist of a presentation of both visual and performing artists from within the Hakafa community, plus a short presentation from an organization that helps struggling artists. If you are interested in being a performer, please contact **Jonah Orlofsky** (jorlofsky@yahoo.com or 847-835-3816). If you are a visual artist, or would like to volunteer to help put the Fest together, please contact **Betsy Hersher** (hersherb@hersher.com or 847-945-5974).

Chevra Kadisha (Jewish Burial Society)

Hakafa's Chevra Kadisha will be meeting at **2:00 p.m.** on **Sunday, December 13 at the home of Linda Weinstein** (719 Harvard in Wilmette). Anyone who is interested in learning more about our Chevra Kadisha is welcome to join us.

Please contact **Deborah Brown** (dmb9476@gmail.com) if you plan to attend.

On Facebook

Go to https://www.facebook.com/CongregationHakafa?ref_type=bookmark and click "Like". The Facebook page allows us to communicate with you. We use it to update you on information about the congregation, to give you announcements on events that are new and immediate to the calendar, and to show off a bit with pictures of some of the places we have been, the events we have had, and the people that we are. Find us on Facebook and stay up-to-date with your congregation!

Adult Education

Nosh & Know on the North Shore

"Nosh & Know on the North Shore" will take place on **Thursday, December 17** at **9:00 a.m.** at the **Home of Cookie Robertson** (211 Dennis Lane, Glencoe). Join us for lively conversations with Rabbi Elder! New participants are always welcome.

Lunch and Learn in the Loop

Lunch & Learn in the Loop will take place at **noon** on **Thursday, December 3** at the **office of Bob Rifkin** (455 N. Cityfront Plaza Drive, Suite 1500 - NBC Tower behind the Tribune Tower, Chicago). Bring your own lunch and prepare to participate in a lively discussion with Rabbi Elder! New participants are always welcome.

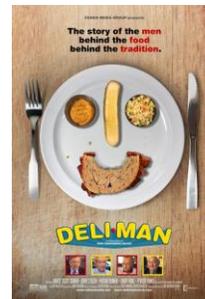
Hebrew Circle

If you are a Hebrew speaker (beginners welcome!) looking to practice your Hebrew with other Hebrew speaking Hakafa members, please join us on **Tuesday, December 15** at **noon** at the **office of Brad Reiff** (332 S. Michigan Avenue, 13th floor, Chicago) for an hour of lunch and conversation – all in Hebrew!

Movie Group

Join our screening of ***Deliman*** on **Saturday, December 19** at **7:00 p.m.** at our offices at the **North Shore United Methodist Church** (213 Hazel Avenue, Glencoe). Arriving in the United States with 19th-century German and then Eastern European Jewish immigrants, deli cuisine quickly found its way into the nation's mainstream appetite. This recently-released affectionate documentary celebrates the history of Jewish delicatessens and highlights their place in American Culture.

Join us for dinner at 6:00 p.m. at our office. We'll be ordering pizza from Little Red Hen. Please contact **Mike Solomon** (872-222-1722 or mcsolomon@comcast.net) by noon on the 19th to RSVP for dinner (\$5 per person). Or, simply come for the movie at 7:00. Feel free to bring friends, family, beverages, or a nosh.



Sunday Morning Adult Learning Opportunities: December 13, 2015 Takiff Center (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe), 10:35 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Discussion:

The Refugee Crisis and the Process for Coming to the United States

Kim Snoddy, Assistant Director of Development at RefugeeOne, will be joining us to discuss the current refugee crisis. Our discussion will include an introduction to the refugee situation worldwide, options for refugees, and overseas processing. She will also explain the U.S. Refugee Resettlement Program, RefugeeOne's programs and services, and how our congregation can help welcome a refugee family to the Chicagoland area along with what to expect.

Founded in 1980 and incorporated as an independent not-for-profit in 1992, RefugeeOne (www.refugeeone.org) is a refugee resettlement agency that provides a full range of services to refugees resettled in the Chicago area. Their primary focus is to assist the refugee in becoming an independent, self-supporting member of the new community as soon as possible.

Study:

Hakafa member **Susan Bandes** will speak on the role emotion plays in legal reasoning. She refers to the recent article in the *National Geographic* blog, "Phenomena" (<http://phenomena.nationalgeographic.com/2014/09/18/emotion-is-not-the-enemy-of-reason/>). The article discusses the case of a murder conviction which was reversed because an appeals court found that the jury was unduly swayed by emotionally explosive autopsy photos. In addition, she will also talk about remorse. Remorse plays an important role in Judaism. It also exerts a powerful influence on decisions about criminal punishment. Should—and can—the law take remorse into account in judging punishment?

Susan Bandes is Centennial Distinguished Professor of Law at DePaul University. She is widely known as a scholar in the areas of federal jurisdiction, criminal procedure and civil rights, and more recently, as a pioneer in the emerging study of the role of emotion in law.

Chadashot

Hakafa Youth News
December 2015

Note from the Director of Education

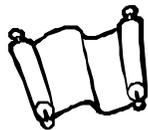
The first half of our school year is almost over! We have accomplished so much already. Our short but busy month kicks off with our 1st and 2nd graders hosting a Shabbat Service on Friday night, December 4 at 7:00 p.m. On Sunday, December 6, our 3rd and 4th graders, with their parents, will be visiting The Ark and working in its food pantry as part of their educational program. Our 7th grade will be visiting Highland Park Hospital as part of their Mitzvah Curriculum. And, also on that day, we will be having our Teen Pizza Sunday at noon. Teens should RSVP for pizza using the link in the article on the right or by contacting Bibi or Rona if you have not done so already.

Please make a note that our last Sunday before Winter Break is December 13, and our last Tuesday is December 15. In the meantime, I would like to wish everyone a *Chag Chanukah Sameach* and a great Winter Break! Stay warm and safe! See you in January!



L'shalom,
Bibi

B'nai Mitzvah Workshops



Rabbi Elder's "Walk through the Shabbat Service" b'nai mitzvah workshop series will continue on Sunday, December 6 at the Takiff Center (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe). **Families with morning services will meet from 1:45 to 2:45 p.m., and families with evening services will meet from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.** This series is designed for families of students whose b'nai mitzvah celebrations will be taking place in the year after May 2016. Students and their parents should attend. All b'nai mitzvah candidates and families are welcome, even if you missed the first one. If you have any questions, please contact Rabbi Elder (847-266-8854 or rabbi@hakafa.org).



Teen Pizza and Hanukkah Sunday

All Hakafa 8th-12th graders are invited to join us for **FREE PIZZA, HANUKKAH TREATS, and SCHMOOZING** right after Religious School on **Sunday, December 6** from **12:00-12:30 p.m.** in the **Staff Lounge at the Takiff Center** (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe).

RSVPs are needed so that we know how much pizza to order. Please RSVP by going to this link and filling out the Google Form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/13zb7Qt1p23slySfftjdxdsnS94UIB7L3O0W9X5Jhuzw/viewform>



1st and 2nd Grade Shabbat Service and Oneg

Please join us on Friday, December 4 at 7:00 p.m. at the Winnetka Community House (620 Lincoln Avenue, Winnetka) for Shabbat Services at which our 1st and 2nd Grade Religious School students will help lead the service. Services will be followed by a special oneg in their honor, hosted by the families of our 1st and 2nd grade students! We look forward to sharing a wonderful evening together.

Dates to Note...



December 6 – First Night of Hanukkah

* Teen Pizza Sunday, 12:00-12:30 p.m. (TC)

* B'nai Mitzvah Workshops, 1:45 OR 3:00 (TC)

December 13 – Last Night of Hanukkah

December 16 through January 4 - No Religious School or Hebrew School (Winter Break)

January 5 – Hebrew School Resumes

January 10 – Religious School Resumes

Adult Education (continued)

Three Opportunities for Torah Study

We now have three weekly opportunities to learn Torah at Hakafa

Wednesday Afternoons: 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.
Home of Camille DeFrank (574 Woodlawn Avenue, Glencoe)

*****Class will not meet on December 23 and 30.**

Tuesday Evening Torah Class: 7:30 to 8:45 p.m.
North Shore United Methodist Church (213 Hazel Avenue, Glencoe)

*****Our December 8 class will meet on MONDAY, December 7.**

*****Our December 15 class will meet on MONDAY, December 14.**

*****Class will NOT meet on December 22 and 29.**

Weekly Parshanut: Friday mornings, 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
The Lloyd Room at the Winnetka Public Library (768 Oak Street, Winnetka)

Get a taste of the weekly Torah portion in time for Shabbat! We will discuss themes of the week's portion using *midrash* (rabbinic parables) and rabbinic commentary.

*****Class will not meet on December 18 and 25.**

Mishneh Torah

Are you interested in studying Jewish law? Our December session of Mishneh Torah (Jewish law) class will be held on **Tuesday, December 8 at 10:00 a.m.** at the home of **Allison and Ken Davis** (2940 Moon Hill Drive, Northbrook). Come join us and Rabbi Elder to learn more about what *halacha* has to say on almost every aspect of life.

Adult Hebrew Class

Our Adult Hebrew class is meeting this fall on **Wednesdays from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.** at the **Hakafa offices at the North Shore United Methodist Church** (213 Hazel Avenue, Glencoe). The class has been meeting since the middle of March, but new participants and beginners are welcome to join in. Our wonderful instructor, Helen Melnick, is happy to catch up new students. Helen has been teaching Hebrew for twenty years at a variety of congregations across the north shore. If interested, please contact Rona Elder (admin@hakafa.org or 847-242-0687).

Class will not meet on December 23 and 30.

Israel Trip - Summer 2016

Are you looking to see Israel in a new and different way? Whether you have been to Israel before or not, this trip just might be for you. Join us and members of Lakeside Congregation June 18-July 3, 2016!

Once again, we are offering a two-track trip to Israel. One will be a hiking and learning experience – We will walk the country, visit sites, and study texts that bring the historical significance of the places we visit to life. If you are good for 5-10 miles a day, if you like to hike lush hills and rugged desert mountains, and if you would rather explore cities on foot than by bus, you will not want to miss this trip!

Our other track will be a more traditional trip. We will visit sites of Israel both on and off the beaten path. Jeep and camel rides in the Negev, dinner in a Bedouin tent, a canoe ride down the Jordan River, wine tasting in the Negev, swimming in the Mediterranean, and a walk through the beautiful grottos of Rosh HaNikra will be combined with time in Tel Aviv, Haifa, Jerusalem, and more!

Please note that while the tracks do different things during each day, everyone from both tracks is together each night. And, sometimes the tracks tour together as well. New to the trip this year will be an opportunity to visit Petra, Jordan and possibly Ramallah in the West Bank as well.

Go to: <http://hakafa.org/content/israel-trip-summer-2016> to register and for more information including general trip information, pricing, and a detailed itinerary.

Contact Rabbi Elder (847-266-8854 or rabbi@hakafa.org) with questions.

Social Action

Flowers, Vases, Smiles!!!

Random Acts of Flowers (RAF) is a wonderful national organization, with 4 locations, one in Evanston. Flowers are donated by wholesalers, florists, grocery stores, and events such as weddings, funerals, parties, etc. The flowers are processed, rearranged into vases and delivered to residents of senior homes, hospitals, health care facilities and to others who just need a lift. All phases of the process are volunteer driven. You can help in many ways.

Contact Hakafa member **Laurie Rubin** (lrubin56@gmail.com or 847 441 0432) or **Andrea Lutz** (andrea@rafchicago.org or 847 430 4751) for more information.

Winter Coat Drive

Hakafa member, Barbara Scott, is collecting **CLEAN and gently used OR new coats, hats, mittens, and boots for children in grades K-8** at various Chicago Public Schools on the west side.

Please take some time to look through your winter items and bring them to the box that is in the **lobby at the Takiff Center** (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe) **through Friday, December 18.**

For more information, please contact **Barbara Scott** (bams4@comcast.net or 847-707-5795). Thank you for your generosity!

Volunteers Needed at A Just Harvest Feeding People who are Hungry and Working to Reduce Hunger!

Hakafa is committed to providing and serving food at A Just Harvest on the second Sunday of every month. The kitchen is located on the far north side of Chicago, and each month four families from Hakafa share this meaningful experience. **The volunteer roster still has many openings.** Even if you won't be available to serve at the kitchen, you can participate by purchasing food or simply by contributing financially, a critical need.

If you would like to help, please contact **Judy Rose-Epstein** (missyepstein@att.net or 847-501-2856) or **Joan Fishman** (847-853-1766 or j.fishman@sbcglobal.net).

Syrian Refugees

We would like to gauge the interest in our congregation helping a Syrian refugee family settle in the U.S. As refugees enter the U.S., certain organizations are assisting families with housing, food, mentoring, and care. They can use our help.

If you would like be part of Hakafa's new refugee initiative, to find out more, please email Hakafa member, **Robert Turner** (Turner.r@comcast.net).

Jewish Community Resources

CJE Senior Life (cje.net, 773.508.1000) – Since 1972, CJE SeniorLife has enhanced the lives of older adults and their families through a comprehensive network that includes housing, health care, community services, health and wellness education, life enrichment programs and applied research.

Jewish Center for Addiction (jcfs.org/Jewish-addiction, 847-745-5422) – The Jewish Center for Addiction (a program of Jewish Child and Family Service) was created to build a caring community that is aware of and responsive to the problem of addiction and to support individuals and families who struggle with addiction.

Jewish Child and Family Service (jcfs.org, 855-275-5237) - Jewish Child & Family Services (JCFS) provides caring and healing services to children, teens, adults, older adults and families for help with autism, support with advanced illness, special education, individual and family counseling, and more.

Jewish Healing Network (847.745.5404) – A program of JCFS, the Network's staff provides information about social services, medical resources, and spiritual resources for people who are ill, grieving, or serving as care-givers to help in their difficult times.

Shalva (shalvaonline.org, 773-583-4673) - SHALVA offers free, confidential, domestic abuse counseling services to the Chicago Jewish Community.

Congregation Hakafa Calendar

December 2015 – Kislev/Tevet 5776

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 4:15-6:00 p.m. Hebrew School (TC) 7:30 p.m. Torah Study (NSUMC)	2 1:00 p.m. Torah Study (Home of Camille DeFrank) 4:30 p.m. Adult Hebrew Class (NSUMC)	3 12:00 p.m. Lunch & Learn in the Loop (Office of Bob Rifkin)	4 9:30 a.m. Weekly Parshanut 7:00 p.m. Shabbat Service – 1 st and 2 nd Grade Service (WCH) NOTE EARLY START TIME	5
6 9:45 am-12:00 pm Religious School (TC) 10:35 am-12:00 pm Congregation Meeting (TC) 12:00-12:30 p.m. Teen Pizza & Hanukkah Sunday (TC) 12:30-1:30 pm 10 th /11 th Grade Class Meets (TC) 1:45 p.m. <u>OR</u> 3:00 p.m. 2 nd B'nai Mitzvah Workshop (TC) 1st Night of Hanukkah	7 7:30 p.m. Torah Study (NSUMC) NOTE DIFFERENT NIGHT 2nd Night of Hanukkah	8 10:00 a.m. Mishneh Torah Class (Home of Allison and Ken Davis) 4:15-6:00 p.m. Hebrew School (TC) 3rd Night of Hanukkah	9 1:00 p.m. Torah Study (Home of Camille DeFrank) 4:30 p.m. Adult Hebrew Class (NSUMC) 4th Night of Hanukkah	10 5th Night of Hanukkah	11 9:30 a.m. Weekly Parshanut 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service & Congregational Hanukkah Celebration (WCH) 6th Night of Hanukkah	12 8:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Minyan (Home of Barbara & Allen Anderson) 7th Night of Hanukkah
13 9:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Religious School (TC) 10:35 am-12:00 pm - Adult Ed (TC) Study – Susan Bandes Discussion – The Refugee Crisis and the Process for Coming to the U.S. 2:00 p.m. – Chevra Kadisha Meeting (Home of Linda Weinstein) Last Night of Hanukkah	14 7:30 p.m. Torah Study (NSUMC) NOTE DIFFERENT NIGHT	15 Newsletter Articles Due 12:00 p.m. Hebrew Circle (Office of Brad Reiff) 4:15-6:00 p.m. Hebrew School (TC)	16 1:00 p.m. Torah Study (Home of Camille DeFrank) 4:30 p.m. Adult Hebrew Class (NSUMC)	17 9:00 a.m. Nosh & Know on the North Shore (Home of Cookie Robertson)	18 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service (WCH)	19 7:00 p.m. Film Group (NSUMC)
20	21	22	23	24	25 5:00 p.m. Shabbat Service (Home of Leanne Star) PLEASE NOTE SPECIAL LOCATION AND EARLY START TIME	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Congregation Hakafa Calendar

January 2016 – Tevet/Sh'vat 5776

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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, Glencoe)					1 New Year's Day 5:00 p.m. Singing Shabbat Service (Home of Leanne Star) PLEASE NOTE SPECIAL LOCATION AND EARLY START TIME	2
3	4	5 10:00 a.m. Mishneh Torah 4:15-6:00 p.m. Hebrew School Resumes (TC) 7:30 p.m. Torah Study (NSUMC)	6 1:00 p.m. Torah Study	7 12:00 p.m. Lunch & Learn in the Loop	8 9:30 a.m. Weekly Parshanut 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service (WCH)	9 8:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Minyan (Home of Barbara and Allen Anderson) 10:30 p.m. <u>OR</u> 11:45 p.m. B'nai Mitzvah Workshop Service (NSUMC) 7:00 p.m. Kumzits
10 9:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Religious School Resumes (TC) 10:35 am-12:00 pm – Adult Ed (TC) Study – Dr. David Shyovitz Discussion – The Universal Ideal in the Home: Part II 12:00-12:30 p.m. Teen Pizza Sunday (TC) 12:30-1:30 pm 10 th /11 th Grade Class Meets (TC)	11	12 4:15-6:00 p.m. Hebrew School (TC) 7:30 p.m. Torah Study (NSUMC)	13 1:00 p.m. Torah Study	14	15 Newsletter Articles Due 9:30 a.m. Weekly Parshanut 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service (WCH)	16
17 9:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Religious School (TC) 10:35 am-12:00 pm – Adult Ed (TC) Study – Dr. David Shyovitz Discussion – Jewish Insights on Mental Illness	18 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	19 10:00 a.m. Mishneh Torah 12:00 p.m. Hebrew Circle (Office of Brad Reiff) 4:15-6:00 p.m. Hebrew School (TC) 7:30 p.m. Torah Study (NSUMC)	20 1:00 p.m. Torah Study 4:30 p.m. Adult Hebrew Class (NSUMC)	21 9:00 a.m. Nosh & Know on the North Shore (Home of Cookie Robertson)	22 9:30 a.m. Weekly Parshanut 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service and Congregational Tu B'Shevat Seder (WCH)	23 8:30 a.m. Shabbat Morning Minyan (Home of Barbara and Allen Anderson) 7:00 p.m. Film Group (NSUMC)
24 9:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Religious School (TC) 10:35 am-12:00 pm – Adult Ed (TC) Study – Dr. David Shyovitz Discussion – Jewish Art Today (Jews & Tattoos)	25 Tu B'Shevat	26 4:15-6:00 p.m. Hebrew School (TC) 7:30 p.m. Torah Study (NSUMC)	27 1:00 p.m. Torah Study 4:30 p.m. Adult Hebrew Class (NSUMC)	28	29 10 th /11 th Grade Trip to the Jewish South 9:30 a.m. Weekly Parshanut 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service (WCH)	30 10 th /11 th Grade Trip to the Jewish South
31 10 th /11 th Grade Trip to the Jewish South 9:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Religious School (TC) 10:35 am-12:00 pm - Adult Ed (TC) Study – Dr. Carrie Jones Discussion – Jewish Jazz						



Congregation Hakafa

Address: P.O. Box 409, Glencoe, IL 60022

Phone: 847-242-0687

Congregation Email: conghakafa@hakafa.org

Hakafa Website: www.hakafa.org

Jeff Rosenberg.....President
John Thomason.....Vice President
Steve Varick.....Operations Treasurer
Nancy Goodman.....Dues Treasurer
Lori Wilansky.....Secretary
Leanne Star and Scott Lowtwait.....Endowment Trustees

Bruce Elder.....Rabbi (847-266-8854 or rabbi@hakafa.org)
Robert J. Marx.....Rabbi Emeritus
Rona Elder.....Administrator (847-242-0687 or admin@hakafa.org)
Bibi Patt..... Director of Education (847-955-9980 or education@hakafa.org)
Sara Goodman.....Music Director (847-274-7166 or music@hakafa.org)
Lori Wilansky.....Editor: *The Circle* (847-444-1488 or wilansky1@comcast.net)

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The Circle

December 2015

Table of Contents

D'varim.....1
Prayer and Celebration.....2
Hanukkah Blessing.....Insert
Member News.....3
Adult Education.....5
Chadashot.....Insert
Israel Trip.....6
Social Action.....7
December Calendar.....8
January Calendar.....9