



Bruce Elder, Rabbi

Robert J. Marx z"l, Founding Rabbi

D'varim

Visitor Parking

It is 6:45 a.m. on Christmas Day. I am out with Louise for our morning walk, the faint colors of a vivid morning peaking over the horizon just above Ravinia Park. The wind chill is hovering around -15°F though, surprisingly, neither of us is too cold. We are the only ones who seem to be awake as of yet; even the dull din of Edens Expressway traffic has faded away. Neither of us is moving, and it is as quiet as I have ever heard it in the Chicago area, as quiet as the quiet I experience atop the Blue Ridge Mountains of Tennessee or in the middle of the Negev Desert. *Oseh shalom bimromav*, I think to myself. This is what it must be like to experience a moment of peace.

Wouldn't peace be nice? Disruption and outrage, it seems, continue to define the status quo nowadays, the given with which we live instead of the exception that should attract our attention only when truly warranted. Our society is a constant reel of angry tweets, absurd Tik Tok videos, and "Breaking News" banners flashing across our television screens in bright, intrusive red. We seem more ready to react with suspicion than to accept with equanimity. When cancel culture trumps civil discourse, and when it is not trust that binds us, but mistrust in those whom we have defined as the "other," we know we are in trouble. Why do we continue to do this to ourselves and to each other?

My mind hovers over the past year, and I realize it's no wonder that we are as exhausted and resigned as we are. Trauma upon trauma upon trauma, year after year after year ... it is remarkable that we all continue to be as resilient as we are. Somehow, we are picking up the pieces of our lives after Uvalde and Buffalo and Highland Park and Chesapeake and Colorado Springs and Milwaukee and Sacramento and Colorado Springs and Charlottesville and all the other towns that experienced mass shootings in 2022, more than 610 in all as of today. Somehow, we are picking up our lives after the more than 250,000 people who died from COVID-19 this year in the United States. Somehow, we are moving forward despite war in Ukraine and war against the bodies of all people with uteruses. Somehow, we are moving forward despite weather swings that speak to an environment begging us to change our ways. Somehow, we are still going on. Somehow.

There are no visitor parking spots outside the memory care unit where my sister lives; there are only spaces with signs that read, "Future Resident Parking." I was in Phoenix visiting her last week, and as I pulled into one of those spaces each day, those signs forced me to contemplate the inescapable truth of their prognostication. Is this really what all of life leads to? Are we all destined to forget who we are, what we can be?

I share this blessing once offered by Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson: "...[May] you retain the ability to know what is best forgotten, and what is best remembered, and that you train yourselves in the ability of careful neglect of those unintended, and sometimes intended, insults, that simply, in the scheme of God's plan, don't matter. And that you know that there is no burden too heavy if it can be shared, and that you have been called by God...through this community, to be the lifter of burdens, the holder of hands, the keeper of memories."¹

Wishing us all a 2023 of serenity and calm, one in which the diminution of others' outrage is eclipsed only by the attenuation of our own; the fear of disruption is replaced with a collective attempt to lighten the burdens of all those in pain and in need; and, the acceptance of our collective endeavor becomes the norm, relegating resentment and anger to their rightful place of exception.

It is going to be a beautiful day today.

Amen.

-Rabbi Bruce Elder

¹ *Holy Forgetting: Shlach*, by Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson; posted on May 30, 2013 - <https://www.aju.edu/ziegler-school-rabbinic-studies/our-torah/back-issues/holy-forgetting>.

Prayer and Celebration

Please note these updated COVID-19 protocols adopted at the Congregation Annual Meeting on May 15, 2022:

Everyone age 5 and older must be fully up-to-date on their COVID-19 vaccination to attend in-person services/classes/events. Hakafa's vaccination requirement is the CDC's definition of "up to date" on COVID-19 vaccination. This means that an individual must have the full initial vaccination (one dose of J&J or two doses of Pfizer or Moderna) and one booster.

Hakafa is now mask optional for indoor and outdoor events, including Friday Evening Shabbat Services.

- Specific Hakafa groups/classes may require additional COVID mitigation efforts as decided by that group and its leaders.
- For any events that are hosted at a member's home, that member can establish the COVID mitigation rules for attendance (but at a minimum everyone must be fully vaccinated as described above).
- Service officiants, Hakafa's President, the Task Force chair, and/or Rona (individually or collectively) are authorized to make changes as necessary for a specific Service or event.

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) except for the last Friday of each month which takes place via Zoom only (not in-person).

January 6 **Shabbat Vayechi**
7:30 p.m. Torah Portion: Genesis 47:28-50:26
 Haftarah: I Kings 2:1-12

*Shabbat Service in-person and via Zoom
 Rescheduled Latke Oneg*

January 13 **Shabbat Sh'mot**
7:30 p.m. Torah Portion: Exodus 1:1-6:1
 Haftarah: Isaiah 27:6-28:13

*Shabbat Service in-person and via Zoom
 Musical Guest: Tory May*

January 20 **Shabbat Va-eira**
7:30 p.m. Torah Portion: Exodus 6:2-9:35
 Haftarah: Ezekiel 28:25-29:21

*Shabbat Service in-person and via Zoom
 Musical Guest: Tory May
 Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Barbara Javore*

January 27 **Shabbat Bo**
7:30 p.m. Torah Portion: Exodus 10:1-13:16
 Haftarah: Jeremiah 46:13-28

Shabbat Service via Zoom only

Rescheduled Latke Oneg: January 6

Because our in-person Hanukkah Celebration and Shabbat Service was moved to Zoom due to the extreme weather at the end of December, we have rescheduled our special Latke Oneg, sponsored by Kadima, to **Friday, January 6 following our 7:30 p.m. Shabbat Service.**

We hope you will join us for our Shabbat Service and some delicious post-Hanukkah treats!

Shabbat Morning Minyan

Zoom Meeting ID: 847 8216 0504

Please join us on **Saturdays, January 7 and 21 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.

Rev. Dr. Barbara Javore to Speak at Shabbat Services on January 20

Join us as we welcome Rev. Dr. Javore at our Friday night service. She is a deacon at the North Shore United Methodist Church and has been a dear friend of Hakafa's for decades. We look forward to hearing her insightful words and ideas.

Rev. Dr. Barbara Javore is a Deacon in Full Connection in the United Methodist Church. She holds a Master of Divinity and a PhD in Christian Education from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. She also holds a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in music education from the University of Illinois. Her PhD incorporated her interest in the arts, aesthetics, and creativity with its focus on incorporating creativity into the practice of religious education. She has been an adjunct professor at Garrett-Evangelical for over a decade. She is an avid supporter of Pan-African Rural Health and Social Services in Sierra Leone. She lives in Glencoe with her husband, Scott.

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.

Volunteers are needed to host our weekly Onegs!
 Go to the following link for all of the details/instructions needed to host:

www.tinyurl.com/HakafaOnegInstructions

To volunteer to host, sign up online at this link (<http://tinyurl.com/oneg-hosting>) or by contacting **Gayle Inbinder** (oneg@hakafa.org or 847-951-0380) and **Jill Mihailovic-Sternberg** (oneg@hakafa.org or 773-710-4436). You can also contact Gayle and Jill for more details.

Member News

Chevra Kadisha Meeting

Hakafa's Chevra Kadisha will meet on **Thursday, January 5 at 7:15 p.m.** at the **home of Linda and David Weinstein** (719 Harvard Street, Wilmette). The meeting will also be available via Zoom. *Everyone attending in person must wear an N95 or KN95 mask, and the latter can be provided if needed that evening.* This meeting and membership in the Chevra are open to all members of Hakafa, who will be warmly welcomed! Our chevra provides, on request, the ritual preparation for burial of the deceased, known as *taharah*, as well as a prayerful presence between *taharah* and burial, known as *shmira*. If you would like more information about the chevra, come to the meeting or contact **Linda Gordon** (lhrigordon@gmail.com or 847-347-0015) or **Deborah Brown** (dmb9476@gmail.com or 847-421-3985).

Congregation Directory

The 2022-2023 Congregation Hakafa Directory is currently being updated and will be delivered later this month. Please contact Rona (admin@hakafa.org or 847-242-0687) with any changes and/or updates.

Condolences to:

Allison Blakley on the loss of her brother, Richard Ewen Blakley

Mark Kaufmann and family on the loss of his father, Ralph Kaufmann

David Levinson and family on the loss of his brother, Gilbert Levinson

Thank you to:

Sharon Gutan, Betsy Hersher, and all of the volunteers who were so flexible when we needed to reschedule our Latke Oneg to January and will, once again, coordinate and provide a delicious congregational Hanukkah celebration

Janet Lubetkin, David Millman, and all of the volunteers who prepared and made special Hanukkah deliveries to some of our members.

Mazal Tov to the Following Bar Mitzvah:

Mason Hartstein on January 28

Please Help Us in Welcoming our New Members:

Edward and Barbara Olinger

Kesher* Game Night – Take 2!

Due to a mix-up last month we rescheduled our game night for **Wednesday, January 18 at 7:00 p.m.** at **Curt's Café in Highland Park** (1766 Second Street). Bring your own board game, or play one of the many games we will have there. And, whoever beats Rabbi Elder at Scrabble gets a donation to the organization of their choice. See you there!

**Many Hakafa members have been living their congregation experience through their children. As their children move away, they are beginning to ask how to engage in our community for themselves. Kesher (Hebrew for "Connection") allows members in this demography to get to know one another, share ideas, and create new and deep relationships. Though geared toward new, recent, or soon-to-be empty nesters, all Hakafa members are invited to join us.*

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 that applications are available for funding of social justice projects. The Fund is dedicated to justice reflective of the Rabbi's legacy. We are eager to provide funding for projects that include active involvement from Hakafa member(s), that work towards authentic justice, that build shared and sustained justice, and that engage members of the Congregation in volunteering, advocacy, or education. Eligible projects include existing Hakafa social justice projects, existing projects led by other organizations, or new projects you'd like to start. We are especially interested in projects led by youth and young adult members. The trustees are happy to speak with you (rjmfund@hakafa.org) about your idea, budgeting, and how to apply. 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** (<https://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. **To be considered at the March 2023 Fund Meeting, please apply by February 28, 2023.**

Member News (continued)

Growing Our Circle

Has being a part of Hakafa's encirclement been meaningful to you? Can you spare a few minutes once a month? Would you be willing to spread the word about Hakafa? If you've answered "yes" to any of these questions, you're invited to participate in the formation of Hakafa's new Growing Our Circle Committee, led by **Lynn Sanders**. Our goal is to attract new members through online media. After the High Holidays, Lynn will be holding an initial meeting via Zoom so you can learn more about our strategy and offer your input. Your involvement can be as simple as sharing a post once or twice a month. If you're interested, please contact **Lynn** (Lynn@DifferenceMakersMedia.com).

Chesed

The Hebrew word for loving kindness is 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. It is our attempt to reach out to one another. If you or anyone you know of in our congregation is in crisis from an illness, death in the family, or personal stress, and could benefit from support, such as a visit, delivery / preparation of meals, or a ride to a health care appointment, please contact **Camille DeFrank** (847-997-8085 /camilledefrank@gmail.com) or **Beth McCullough** (847-722-5430/mikeandbeth_60089@yahoo.com).

Relief from COVID-19 Financial Stress

If you are suffering from economic hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic and could use a little help, please reach out to Rabbi Elder (rabbi@hakafa.org, 847-266-8854). We have funds available.

Accessing Zoom Video Conferencing

Virtual Name Tags: In order that we might better know each other, please log into Zoom events with your name.

To Access Zoom with a computer/laptop: Go to www.zoom.us/join and enter the Meeting ID for the specific gathering. PLEASE NOTE THAT EACH HAKAFA EVENT HAS A DIFFERENT MEETING ID. If it asks you if you want to use the computer's audio, say yes. The same for the video. If your video doesn't come up automatically, you can turn it on by clicking on the video icon at the bottom, left side of your screen.

To Access Zoom on an iPad or smartphone: Go to www.zoom.us. If you have not already done so, you will be directed to download the Zoom app. Please download it. Then, click on "Join a Meeting" and enter the Meeting ID for the specific gathering. PLEASE NOTE THAT EACH HAKAFA EVENT HAS A DIFFERENT MEETING ID.

To Access Zoom by Phone (no video): Call 312-626-6799. When you hear a recording, it will instruct you to type in the Meeting ID number, followed by the # sign. PLEASE NOTE THAT EACH HAKAFA EVENT HAS A DIFFERENT MEETING ID. You will be able to hear clearly and participate like everyone else.

Making Contributions to Hakafa

Throughout the year, people ask how they can make a contribution to Hakafa. We have three funds that accept donations, and we always value your support:

- Our **General Fund** supports the day-to-day operations of the synagogue. Please make your check payable to "Congregation Hakafa."
- **Rabbi Elder's Discretionary Fund** directly supports those in need in and around our community. Rabbi Elder directs the usage of these funds. Please make your check payable to "Congregation Hakafa" and write "Rabbi Elder's Discretionary Fund" on the memo line.
- Our **Endowment Fund** supports special programming not covered by the budget. Endowment Trustees direct the usage of these funds. Please make your check payable to "Congregation Hakafa" and write "Endowment Fund" on the memo line.
- **The Rabbi Robert J. Marx Social Justice Fund** supports new justice initiatives proposed by congregants that reflect the values and life of our founding rabbi. Please make your check payable to "Congregation Hakafa" and write "RJM Fund" on the memo line.

If you would like to make your donation in honor or in memory of someone, please be sure to include a note in your envelope with the appropriate information so that a card can be sent to the honoree to let that person know about your donation.

All donations can be mailed to: **Congregation Hakafa, P.O. Box 409, Glencoe, IL 60022**. It is also possible to make donations with a credit card. Please contact Rona Elder (admin@hakafa.org) for assistance with that. If you are interested in a legacy giving plan, please let us know and arrangements can be made. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Rona.

Adult Education

Yiddish Class

Zoom Meeting ID: 863 6421 5324

Our Yiddish Class continues to meet at **7:00 p.m. on Monday evenings**, and it's not too late to join! Classes in January will meet on **January 9, 16, 23, and 30** (*Class will NOT meet on January 2*) **in-person at the home of Ellen and Henry Criz** (545 Green Bay Road, Highland Park) **AND via Zoom**.

Please be sure to check the Hakafa weekly email announcements and/or website (www.hakafa.org) for any location or schedule changes. If you have any questions, please contact **Sharon Gutan** (gutan627@comcast.net) or **Betsy Hersher** (hersherb@hersher.com).

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 January 25.

Hakafa Book Club

January's read is *Making History* by Stephen Fry

A few Hakafa members have started an informal book group dedicated to reading Jewish and Jew-adjacent works of fiction and nonfiction. Hakafa member and librarian, **Rose Waldman**, facilitates the discussions, and the group meets on the **second Sunday of each month via Zoom**, at **4:15 PM**. Anyone who is interested is welcome to reach out to Rose (roza37@gmail.com) to be added to the email list.



Midrash Class

Zoom Meeting ID: 696 226 468

Join us **either in-person at the North Shore United Methodist Church (213 Hazel Avenue, Glencoe) OR via Zoom** on **Tuesday mornings** at **10:00 a.m.** to study *midrash*. 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. Through the study of midrash, we will see how much of our understanding of the biblical text has been influenced by theirs.

Please Note: Class will NOT meet on January 24.

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.

Please Note: Class will NOT meet on January 25.

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. New participants are always welcome.

Please Note:

- Class on the **first Tuesday of each month** (January 3 this month) will meet **in-person** at the North Shore United Methodist Church (213 Hazel Avenue, Glencoe) **IN ADDITION TO via Zoom**.
- Class will NOT meet on January 24.

Nosh and Know

Zoom Meeting ID: 863 2720 5788

Please join us **either in-person at the home of Cookie and Ned Robertson** (211 Dennis Lane, Glencoe) **or via Zoom** on **Thursday, January 12 at 9:00 a.m.** for a lively conversation with Rabbi Elder! New participants are always welcome.

Adult Education (continued)

Sunday Morning Adult Education

Zoom Meeting ID: 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 **10:15-11:45 a.m.** Feel free to come for one session or for all of them! We will now be meeting **via Zoom only through March**. The plan is to return to both in-person at the Takiff Center and Zoom in April.

January 15 and 22 – via Zoom only

During **these two sessions**, **Dr. Claire Sufrin** will discuss **Why Israel Now?** Over the last decade, surveys suggest a growing divide between younger and older generations of Jews when it comes to Israel. Where once most American Jews were committed Zionist and firm supporters of the Jewish state, Millennial and Gen Z Jews are more likely to be critical of Israel and to question the relevance or necessity of Zionism. At the same time, however, political trends in Israel have strained the relationship between the state and American Jews of all generations. The success of far-right political parties in the most recent Israeli elections have been particularly troubling for many American Jews (and for many Israelis). In short, Israel-diaspora relations are as complicated now as they have ever been, making this a moment that demands meaningful reflection and thought on Zionism and the very idea of Jewish state.

In these two classes, we will examine and discuss articles recently published in the journal *Sources*, each of them written as an answer to the question "Why Israel Now?" Articles may be found at www.sourcesjournal.org; reading ahead of time is encouraged but not required.

- **January 15:** "Liberal Zionism & the Idea of the Idea" by Yehuda Kurtzer and "Reclaiming *Mamlakhtiyut*: The Road to an Inclusive Israeli Identity" by Masua Sagiv
- **January 22:** "Zionism and Power: The Challenge of Today" by Donniel Hartman and "Ne'emanut: Placing Relationships at the Center" by Mijal Bitton

Dr. Claire Sufrin is Senior Editor at the Shalom Hartman Institute of North America and Editor of "Sources: A Journal of Jewish Ideas." Previously, she was Associate Professor of Instruction in Jewish Studies at Northwestern University. Claire lives in Evanston with her husband Michael Simon and their two children.

January 29 and February 5 – via Zoom only

During **these two sessions**, **Professor Yohanan Petrovsky-Shtern** will give us an **update on Ukraine**. His topics for each session will be:

- **January 29:** **Rediscovered Jewish Treasures in Lviv: How to Build a Museum at War**
- **February 5:** **Ukrainian Responses to Invasion and Occupation**

Yohanan Petrovsky-Shtern (Ph.D., Brandeis University, 2001, Ph.D. Moscow University, 1988) is the Crown Family Professor of Jewish Studies and a Professor of Jewish History in History Department at Northwestern University. For his teaching, Petrovsky-Shtern won a Northwestern University Distinguished Teaching Award. He has been a visiting professor at the universities in Toronto, Paris, Kyiv, Lviv, Warsaw, Krakow, Munich, and Jerusalem. He has been appointed a Fulbright Specialist on Eastern Europe; a Fellow at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute; a Visiting Professor at the Free Ukrainian University in Munich; and, an honorary doctor of the National University Kyiv Mohyla academy in Kyiv. He has published more than a hundred articles and six books, including most recently The Golden-Age Shtetl: A New History of Jewish Life in East Europe that appeared in paperback with Princeton University Press, 2015.

Chadashot

Hakafa Youth News
January 2023

Note from the Director of Education

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We are so excited to begin this month with Hebrew School on January 10 and Religious School on January 15.

Our 2nd-6th graders will be beginning a new round of Chugim (special interest workshops). Our Kindergarteners will meet on Sunday, January 22 and join our whole school for Israeli dancing fun! And, our 7th/8th graders will continue their hot topic discussions with Sarah Chiren and dynamic lessons with Emma Davis.

Our Hebrew School schedule will be as follows: Class will meet on January 10, 17, 24, and 31.

We have changed our Service Project date for our High School program to Saturday, January 21 when we will be packing books at Bernie's Book Bank.

We have a very busy month planned! Stay warm and healthy!

L'shalom,
Bibi



Early Tu B'Shevat in the Woods with Tayalim

Tu B'Shevat is the Jewish "New Year of the Trees," when we celebrate trees, nature, and the things that trees provide to us. Although Tu B'Shevat is not until early February this year, make plans to join Hakafa's Tayalim (trekkers) in the woods for an early Tu B'Shevat celebration!

We'll meet on **Sunday, January 22** from **12:45 to 2:45 pm** at **River Trail Nature Center** (3120 Milwaukee Avenue, Northbrook) for a ranger-led hike to learn about our local ecosystem.

If there are 4+ inches of snow on the ground, it will be a snowshoe hike (snowshoes provided)! If there is not that much snow on the ground, it will be a regular hike. Be sure to wear snow boots and dress for the weather!

We'll also have a unique Tu B'Shevat seder (outdoors) where we enjoy the many treats that we get from trees!

This event is free and is aimed toward children in elementary school, but everyone is welcome! Parents are expected to attend with their child/ren.

REGISTRATION is required, as we need to reserve spaces for the ranger-led hike/snowshoeing.

To register, go to:
<https://tinyurl.com/TuBShevat23>

If you have any questions,
please contact tayalim@hakafa.org.

Dates to Note:



- January 10: ▪ Hebrew School Resumes
- January 15: ▪ Religious School Resumes
- January 17: ▪ Hebrew School
- January 21: ▪ High School Service Project (2:15-6:00 pm)
- January 22: ▪ Religious School
▪ Tayalim Early Tu B'Shevat in the Woods Event (12:45-2:45 pm)
- January 24: ▪ Hebrew School
- January 29: ▪ Religious School
▪ Confirmation Class (2:00-3:30 pm)
- January 31: ▪ Hebrew School

Social Action

Supporting Foster Families: Second Nurture Chicago-Area Kick-Off Party with Comfort Cases: February 12

My personal reflection during the High Holidays was an assessment of how I did as a parent for my three now-grown children. I also spoke about my desire to begin new work with Hakafa improving the lives of children in the foster care system in our local area. Did you know that over 700 children enter the foster care system every day? These children are removed from their homes carrying only a garbage bag filled with their personal belongings.

I am spearheading this new social justice initiative and have been at work these last few months building a passionate group about this cause. Second Nurture, a national foster care support organization, is helping us with this effort. We have had initial conversations with Temple Jeremiah in Northfield and are excited to work with them to make a difference in children's lives.

Our Hakafa/Jeremiah team is working towards establishing a group of families interested in fostering, fostering to adopt, and congregants helping to support these families through professional and emotional means. Our kick-off program is set for **February 12 from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. at Temple Jeremiah** (937 Happ Road, Northfield), when we will fill 200-250 bags with books, personal hygiene items, pajamas, blankets, and notes for children from foster care in Cook and Lake Counties. Comfort Cases, an international organization that works to bring dignity to children in foster care, will lead us. Rob Scheer, founder of Comfort Cases, and Rabbi Susan Silverman, founder of Second Nurture, will be there to help and answer questions. We will also have pre-Super Bowl treats! **We need volunteers to help with this event.**

Please contact me (mikeandbeth_60089@yahoo.com or 847-722-5430) if you can volunteer or have questions.

Thanks for your support!
Beth McCullough

For more information please visit:

- **Comfort Cases** (www.comfortcases.org): whose mission is to inspire communities to bring dignity and hope to youth in foster care through Comfort, Community, Character, and Compassion.
- **Second Nurture** (www.2nurture.org): whose mission is to partner with communities to prioritize foster care and adoption.
- **Fostering Change:** A podcast hosted by Rob Scheer

The Night Ministry Needs Winter Items

The Night Ministry (www.thenightministry.org), an organization that serves people experiencing poverty, isolation, and homelessness needs winter clothing. **Starting December 1 and running through February** there will be bins in the **main lobby of the Takiff Center** (999 Green Bay Road, Glencoe). Contact Hakafa member, **Janet Lubetkin** (janetlubetkin@gmail.com) with questions.

These items are needed:

- Hats in adult sizes (NEW ONLY)
- Gloves in adult sizes (NEW ONLY),
- Scarves in adult sizes (NEW ONLY)
- Thermal Socks in adult sizes
- Men's Coats in Size L to XXL--water repellant preferred
- Men's Boots, Sizes 10-13+
- Women's Boots, Sizes 8-10
- Hand and Toe Warmers
- Rain Ponchos

The Night Ministry compassionately provides housing, health care, outreach, spiritual care, and social services to adults and youth who struggle with homelessness, poverty, and loneliness. We accept individuals as they are and offer support as they seek to improve their lives. We invite others to join this hope-filled work.

Social Action (continued)



A Just Harvest: Help Feed People Who are Hungry (Once again serving meals in person!)

Continuing our commitment for more than 20 years, on the 2nd Sunday of every month, Hakafa members bring and serve lunch to more than 150 people at A Just Harvest's Community Kitchen (7649 N. Paulina St, Chicago).

Volunteers are needed to sign up to help! You can sign up to provide food, help serve, or both! Plan to arrive to help/deliver food at 11:00 a.m. Lunch will be served from 12:00-2:00 p.m. Hakafa's tzedakah fund can reimburse you for expenses, if needed. Click here for more details and to sign up to volunteer: <http://tinyurl.com/a-just-harvest>.

Contact Hakafa member, **Monique Parsons** (monique.parsons@gmail.com), with questions.

A Just Harvest's (www.ajustharvest.org) mission is to fight poverty and hunger in the Rogers Park and greater Chicago community by providing nutritious meals daily while cultivating community and economic development and organizing across racial, cultural and socioeconomic lines in order to create a more just society.

JCUA's 2023 ICIRR Platform Launch and Training



Are you ready to take action for immigration justice? Join the Jewish Council on Urban Affairs (JCUA) and their congregation partners on **Wednesday, January 11 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom** to learn about the **Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights 2023 Platform!**

By the end of this training, you'll be ready to join JCUA's constituent meetings with your representatives to help us win healthcare access, safety from the deportation pipeline, and other critical resources so immigrant families in our state can thrive.

To register, go to: https://secure.everyaction.com/YbGJ-hKU8EC_BD-PP6LqfQ2.

Community Resources

The greater Chicago area Jewish community has many organizations to which you can turn should you need support. Here are a few of them:

CJE SeniorLife (www.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.

JCFS Chicago (www.jcfs.org, 855-275-5237) – JCFS Chicago 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.

JCFS Chicago Addiction Services (www.jcfs.org/our-services/jewish-community-programs/addiction-services, 847-745-5422) – JCFS Chicago Addiction Services 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.

JCFS Chicago Illness, Loss and Spiritual Support Services (www.jcfs.org/our-services/jewish-community-programs/illness-loss-grief, 847-745-5404) – The staff at JCFS Chicago Illness, Loss and Spiritual Support Services provides information about social services, medical resources, and spiritual resources for people who are ill, grieving, or serving as caregivers to help in their difficult times.

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

Congregation Hakafa Calendar

January 2023 – Tevet / Sh'vat 5783

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Year's Day	2	3 10:00 am Midrash Class (NSUMC & Zoom) 7:30 pm Tanach Study (NSUMC & Zoom)	4 10:00 am Musar Class (Zoom) 1:00 pm Tanach Study (NSUMC & Zoom)	5 7:15 pm Chevra Kadisha Meeting (Home of Linda & David Weinstein)	6 7:30 pm Shabbat Service and Rescheduled Latke Oneg (WCH & Zoom)	7 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Minyan (NSUMC & Zoom)
8 4:15 pm Book Club (Zoom)	9 7:00 pm Yiddish Class (Home of Ellen & Henry Criz and Zoom)	10 10:00 am Midrash Class (NSUMC & Zoom) 4:15-5:30 pm Hebrew School Resumes (TC) 7:30 pm Tanach Study (Zoom)	11 10:00 am Musar Class (Zoom) 1:00 pm Tanach Study (NSUMC & Zoom)	12 9:00 am Nosh & Know (Home of Cookie & Ned Robertson and via Zoom)	13 7:30 pm Shabbat Service (WCH & Zoom)	14
15 Newsletter Articles Due 10:00-11:45 am Religious School Resumes (TC) 10:15 am Adult Education (Zoom only) – Dr. Claire Sufrin: <i>Why Israel Now? - Part I</i>	16 MLK Jr. Day 7:00 pm Yiddish Class (Home of Ellen & Henry Criz and Zoom)	17 10:00 am Midrash Class (NSUMC & Zoom) 4:15-5:30 pm Hebrew School (TC) 7:30 pm Tanach Study (Zoom)	18 10:00 am Musar Class (Zoom) 1:00 pm Tanach Study (NSUMC & Zoom) 7:00 pm Keshet Game Night (Curt's Café in Highland Park)	19	20 7:30 pm Shabbat Service Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Barbara Javore (WCH & Zoom)	21 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Minyan (NSUMC & Zoom) 2:15-6:00 pm High School Program Service Project
22 10:00-11:45 am Religious School (TC) 10:15 am Adult Education (Zoom only) – Dr. Claire Sufrin: <i>Why Israel Now? - Part II</i> 12:45-2:45 pm Tayalim Early Tu B'Shevat in the Woods Event	23 7:00 pm Yiddish Class (Home of Ellen & Henry Criz and Zoom)	24 4:15-5:30 pm Hebrew School (TC)	25	26	27 7:30 pm Shabbat Service (Zoom only)	28 Bar Mitzvah Service of Mason Hartstein
29 10:00-11:45 am Religious School (TC) 10:15 am Adult Education (Zoom only) – Dr. Yohanan Petrovsky-Shtern: <i>Rediscovered Jewish Treasures in Lviv: How to Build a Museum at War</i> 2:00-3:30 pm Confirmation Class	30 7:00 pm Yiddish Class (Home of Ellen & Henry Criz and Zoom)	31 10:00 am Midrash Class (NSUMC & 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, Glencoe) </div>			

Congregation Hakafa Calendar

February 2023 – Sh’vat / Adar 5783

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:00 am Musar Class (Zoom) 1:00 pm Tanach Study (NSUMC & Zoom)	2	3 7:30 pm Shabbat Service and Congregation Tu B'Shevat Seder (WCH & Zoom)	4 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Minyan (NSUMC & Zoom)
5 9:45 am 11 th Grade Comparative Religions Field Trip 10:00-11:45 am Religious School (TC) 10:15 am Adult Education (Zoom only) – Dr. Yohanan Petrovsky-Shtern: <i>Ukrainian Responses to Invasion and Occupation</i> 12:00 pm OR 1:00 pm 3rd B'nai Mitzvah Workshop (TC)	6 Tu B'Shevat 7:00 pm Yiddish Class	7 10:00 am Midrash Class (NSUMC & Zoom) 4:15-5:30 pm Hebrew School (TC) 7:30 pm Tanach Study (NSUMC & Zoom)	8 10:00 am Musar Class (Zoom) 1:00 pm Tanach Study (NSUMC & Zoom)	9 12:00 pm Lunch & Learn (Zoom)	10 7:30 pm Shabbat Service (WCH & Zoom)	11
12 10:00-11:45 am Religious School (TC) 10:30 am Congregation Meeting (Zoom) 1:30-3:30 pm Supporting Foster Families Kick-off Event: Comfort Cases Packing Party 4:00-6:15 pm 9th-11th Grade Class Session III 4:15 pm Book Club (Zoom)	13 7:00 pm Yiddish Class	14 10:00 am Midrash Class (NSUMC & Zoom) 4:15-5:30 pm Hebrew School (TC) 7:30 pm Tanach Study (Zoom)	15 Newsletter Articles Due 10:00 am Musar Class (Zoom) 1:00 pm Tanach Study (NSUMC & Zoom)	16	17 7:30 pm Shabbat Service (WCH & Zoom)	18 9:00 am Shabbat Morning Minyan (NSUMC & Zoom)
19	20 Presidents' Day 7:00 pm Yiddish Class	21 4:15-5:30 pm Hebrew School (TC)	22	23	24 High School L'Taken Trip to Washington, DC 7:30 pm Shabbat Service (Zoom only)	25 High School L'Taken Trip to Washington, DC
26 High School L'Taken Trip to Washington, DC 10:00-11:45 am Religious School (TC) 10:15 am Adult Education (Zoom only) – Marisa Baggett	27 High School L'Taken Trip to Washington, DC 7:00 pm Yiddish Class	28 10:00 am Midrash Class (NSUMC & 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, Glencoe) </div>			



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The Circle

January 2023

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