

# **HAKAFA WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **WEEK OF MARCH 27, 2024**

### **Hakafa's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Weekend! – April 12-14**

40 years together - and forward! Our celebration weekend is just around the corner - be part of the fun!

The **Saturday Celebration** - Friends, food, Havdalah, art and music! There is still time to RSVP: [www.tinyurl.com/Hakafa40](http://www.tinyurl.com/Hakafa40). **Your response is needed by April 1st.**

Let's all be part of **Social Action Sunday** – there are opportunities for all ages and interests. Find the activity that matches you and your schedule: [www.tinyurl.com/HakafaAction40](http://www.tinyurl.com/HakafaAction40).

And – you can help with the collection for **Moraine Township Food Pantry** by bringing items from the following list to any anniversary weekend event Friday, Saturday, or to Takiff Center on Sunday before 12:15 pm: **canned chicken/salmon/sardines, mayonnaise, instant rice, jam/jelly, crackers, salad dressing**

Share your Hakafa photos for the 40th Anniversary Slide Show - Please submit photos of any resolution by email this week to **David Joel** ([david@davidjoel.com](mailto:david@davidjoel.com)).

Questions? Want to help make the magic happen? Send an email - [40Hakafa@gmail.com](mailto:40Hakafa@gmail.com).

### **Bakers Needed – Friday, April 12**

Calling all bakers, cheese and fruit platter makers! Hakafa's 40th anniversary Shabbat service is Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. We will have a lovely Oneg following the service. Here's your chance to give your best efforts to help make it a beautiful evening. We will need help with baked goods (Gluten as well as Gluten Free and Vegan are appreciated), drinks, fruit, cheese and crackers, and paper goods. Please reach out with your choice to Sara Hoffman ([saramax58@gmail.com](mailto:saramax58@gmail.com)).

### **Shabbat – March 29-30**

**Shabbat Tzav**

**Torah Portion: Leviticus 6:1 – 8:36**

**Haftarah: Ezekiel 36:16 – 38**

**EARLY Shabbat Service – IN-PERSON & VIA ZOOM**  
**Friday, March 29, 5:30 PM – NOTE EARLY START TIME**  
**Winnetka Community House**  
**Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/292137266>**

**Meeting ID: 292 137 266**

**To Dial-In (no video): 312-626-6799**

Please join us either in-person or via Zoom for our “**bedtime-friendly**” **Shabbat service** which takes place on the last Friday of every month! This is a regular service **for all ages**, but it enables families with young children to have a Friday night Shabbat experience with the rest of our congregational community. A rug with toddler toys will be available, and an oneg will follow. **Please note: This is in place of our regular 7:30 PM service. We hope you will be there!**

**If you will be joining us via Zoom, please go to this link for a copy of our Friday Evening Siddur (prayer book):**

[https://images.shulcloud.com/13470/uploads/uploaded\\_files/pdfs/ErevShabbatService.pdf](https://images.shulcloud.com/13470/uploads/uploaded_files/pdfs/ErevShabbatService.pdf). You should either print it out ahead of time or have it up on another screen during our service.

### **Send a Passover Care Package to Your Undergrad**

#### **ORDER DEADLINE IS THIS MONDAY 4/1/24**

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 THIS MONDAY, April 1. To order, click here:**

**<https://tinyurl.com/HakafaPassoverBox24>.**

If you have any questions, please contact Hakafa member, Karen Berman ([kberman0501@gmail.com](mailto:kberman0501@gmail.com)).

### **Yiddish Class – IN-PERSON & VIA ZOOM**

**Monday, April 1, 7:00 PM**

**Home of Ellen & Henry Criz**

**Zoom Link:**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86364215324?pwd=RlR6MjBGQm1VRXp3QWxDRnR4ZmNyUT09>**

**Meeting ID: 863 6421 5324**

**To Dial-In (no video): 312-626-6799**

Yiddish Class continues this Monday both in-person and via Zoom! **Students of all ages are welcome - no prior knowledge of Yiddish is necessary.** Each class is a self-contained unit, and anyone can join at any time and have fun and learn. If you have any questions, please contact Betsy Hersher ([betsyhersher@gmail.com](mailto:betsyhersher@gmail.com)), Sharon Gutan ([gutan627@comcast.net](mailto:gutan627@comcast.net)), or Ellen Criz ([hecruz@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hecruz@sbcglobal.net)).

### **Midrash Class – VIA ZOOM ONLY**

**Tuesday, April 2, 10:00-11:00 AM**

**Zoom Link:**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86555716045?pwd=QnE4TWFRMmg5UGt5MXAwZVVZMldoZz09>**

**Meeting ID: 865 5571 6045**

**To Dial-In (no video): 312-626-6799**

Join us via Zoom to study *midrash* with Rabbi Calamaro. Midrash is the creative, interpretative process of the rabbis over generations.

### **Hebrew School**

**Tuesday, April 2, 4:15-5:30 PM**

Hebrew School resumes after Spring Break this Tuesday. Please contact Bibi ([education@hakafa.org](mailto:education@hakafa.org)) or Rona ([admin@hakafa.org](mailto:admin@hakafa.org)) with any questions.

### **Tuesday Evening Tanach – IN-PERSON & VIA ZOOM**

**Tuesday, April 2, 7:30-8:45 PM**

**North Shore United Methodist Church**

**Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/662730822>**

**Meeting ID: 662 730 822**

### **To Dial-In (no video): 312-626-6799**

Join us either **in-person or via Zoom** for weekly Tanach Study! Each Tuesday evening, we proceed through the Bible, verse by verse, discussing its content and various interpretations with Rabbi Elder.

### **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 PM from April 3 through May 1**. Registration is required. **Click here for more details and to register (<https://forms.gle/nuvQZNwjTP3YGP3A>)**.

### **Rabbi 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 open for funding of social justice projects. The Fund is dedicated to justice reflective of the Rabbi's 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](mailto: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](http://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**

### **Hakafa Book Group**

**Sunday, April 7, 1:30 PM**

**Northbrook Public Library**

All are welcome to join Hakafa's Book Group! We meet bimonthly in alternate months. At this gathering we will be discussing ***The Seven Good Years* by Etgar Keret**. We hope you'll join us! Please contact Allison Blakley ([4everblakley@gmail.com](mailto:4everblakley@gmail.com)) or David Levinson ([levinson@lakeforest.edu](mailto:levinson@lakeforest.edu)) with any questions.

### **Congregational Second-Night Passover Seder – **RSVP DEADLINE IS 4/10****

**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 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, click here by make your reservation online (<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](mailto:jacri3@comcast.net)) or Judy Rose-Epstein ([missyepstein@att.net](mailto:missyepstein@att.net)).

### **Rosh Chodesh Gathering** **Thursday, April 11, 7:30 PM** **Yogaview**

Join us for our **Rosh Chodesh Nisan** gathering. **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED! To participate, sign up at this link** (<https://forms.gle/oZcjkucQvPDADYVi6>).

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. Become grounded in the spiritual energy of the month, gain insight into how the themes of the month are shaping your life, and enjoy the intimacy of a candlelit space where you will be seen and heard with compassion.

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.

### **Hakafa is heading to Morocco!**

Due to the attacks on October 7 last year, our trip to Morocco had to be postponed. **It has 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 through Morocco! While exploring its four imperial cities, we will be immersed in Jewish culture both past and present, will learn about Morocco's rich Jewish heritage, and will enjoy Shabbat services with local families at synagogues in both Marrakech and Casablanca. We will also experience the essence of Morocco's local cuisine, get lost in the exotic souks (markets), and have time to enjoy excursions to the picturesque Atlas Mountains and the famous blue city of Chefchaouen. **Click here for all trip details, pricing, and to sign up** (<https://secure.ayelet.com/HakafaMorocco2024.aspx>)! If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to Rabbi Elder ([rabbi@hakafa.org](mailto:rabbi@hakafa.org)) or Rona ([admin@hakafa.org](mailto:admin@hakafa.org)).

### **OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP/VOLUNTEER:**

#### **RAC-IL 2024 Advocacy Issues**

The RAC-IL (Illinois Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism) has selected 2 issues for its advocacy campaign in Illinois in 2024, and we welcome your involvement. The issues, **Gun Violence Prevention and Barriers to Affordable Housing**, were selected through a listening campaign (some Hakafa members participated). You can learn more about partners for this work and the issues themselves during a "launch" meeting on **Tuesday, March 26 at 7:00 PM**. Please register here: [www.rac.org/racil2024launch](http://www.rac.org/racil2024launch).

There are 2 bills that will be the focus for the 2024 work:

1. Gun Violence Prevention: Karina's Bill, which requires firearm removal to occur during service of an emergency order of protection when granted by a judge.
2. Barriers to Affordable Housing: Build Illinois Homes Tax Credit, which creates an additional funding source to build more affordable housing in Illinois. The state would offer an income tax credit to businesses or individuals who build affordable housing.

**For more information, please contact Donna Fishman**  
([donnafishman16@gmail.com](mailto:donnafishman16@gmail.com)).

### **Volunteer Mentor Needed**

Our Second Nurture ([www.2nurture.org](http://www.2nurture.org)) Cohort has a couple of families who expressed an interest in finding a mentor-like-person for their boys. They have been unsuccessful in connecting with any organization that works in this space and asked if we could explore this request and need through our host communities. Currently, these boys do not have a lot of male role models in their lives. Our cohort families were looking to have someone spend a couple of times during the month with their foster sons doing a variety of activities like going to the library, the park, the movies, playing catch, legos, etc... If you are interested in finding out more about what this might entail, please reach out to Hakafa member, Beth McCullough ([beth@2nurture.org](mailto:beth@2nurture.org)).

### **Maot Chitim Packing Volunteers Needed March 31**

Please join Hakafa members and others in the Chicagoland Jewish community to help **Maot Chitim** in packing boxes of Passover food and other holiday necessities for Jewish families and individuals who are struggling with food insecurity. Volunteers are needed on **Sunday, March 31** to assemble boxes and to put non-perishable food items in them at the **Maot Chitim Warehouse (1610 Deerfield Road, Highland Park – at the old Toys R Us)**. There are shifts at 9:15 AM and 11:45 AM. *Volunteers must be at least 12 years old and wear closed toe shoes.* **Click here to sign up for a packing shift on 3/31: <https://form.jotform.com/240325053955151>.**

If you have any questions, please contact Maot Chitim at [info@maotchitim.org](mailto:info@maotchitim.org) or 847-674-3224.

*The mission of Maot Chitim of Greater Chicago ([www.maotchitim.org](http://www.maotchitim.org)) is to provide food and other necessities at Passover and the High Holidays to members of the Chicagoland Jewish community who are in need so they may observe the holidays in a traditional and dignified manner.*

### **NSUMC Stitchers Group – A Common Thread**

**A Common Thread**, a stitchers group created by members of the North Shore United Methodist Church, meets monthly on the first Saturday of each month, and Hakafa members are invited.

Their next gathering will be on **Saturday, April 6 at 1:30 PM** at the **North Shore United Methodist Church (NSUMC)** (213 Hazel Avenue, Glencoe). **They are currently prepping and crocheting sleep mats for distribution to people who are unhoused** through a Deerfield agency. They use grocery store plastic bags which are then cut into

strips and knotted together to make the "plarn" (plastic yarn) that is crocheted into the sleep mat. If you'd like to participate, please contact Marjorie Kemp at the NSUMC ([mkemp@northshoreumc.com](mailto:mkemp@northshoreumc.com)). If you don't know how to knit (or crochet), but would like to learn, call Marjorie at 847-308-1947 or Marj Passini at 630-802-7339, and they can provide materials. You are more than welcome to bring your own project and relax with other stitchers as well.

IN ADDITION, A Common Thread organizers are meeting with other local faith communities to put together a larger more focused group and are polling people about days and times that work for meeting. They would rotate around the community, and their first project will be knitted hats for refugees.

### **Oneg Hosts Needed for Friday Evening Shabbat Services**

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 through May!** Click here for all of the details/instructions needed to host: [www.tinyurl.com/HakafaOnegInstructions23](http://www.tinyurl.com/HakafaOnegInstructions23).

**To volunteer to host, sign up online at this link ([www.tinyurl.com/oneg-hosting](http://www.tinyurl.com/oneg-hosting)) or by contacting Gayle Inbinder and Jill Mihailovic-Sternberg ([oneg@hakafa.org](mailto:oneg@hakafa.org)).** You can also contact Gayle and Jill for more details.

### **HAKAFA CONTACT INFORMATION:**

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 409, Glencoe, IL 60022|

**Phone:** 847-242-0687

**Hakafa Website:** [www.hakafa.org](http://www.hakafa.org)

**Congregation Email:** [conghakafa@hakafa.org](mailto:conghakafa@hakafa.org)

**Rabbi Bruce Elder:** [rabbi@hakafa.org](mailto:rabbi@hakafa.org)

**Rabbi Anna Calamaro:** [rabbiana@hakafa.org](mailto:rabbiana@hakafa.org)

**Bibi Patt, Director of Education:** [education@hakafa.org](mailto:education@hakafa.org)

**Rona Elder, Administrator:** [admin@hakafa.org](mailto:admin@hakafa.org)

**Barbara Miller, Congregation President:** [president@hakafa.org](mailto:president@hakafa.org)

**Lori Wilansky, Newsletter Editor:** [wilanskyl@comcast.net](mailto:wilanskyl@comcast.net)

\* If you would like an announcement included in this weekly update, please email your announcement to Rona Elder ([admin@hakafa.org](mailto:admin@hakafa.org)) by Tuesday afternoon.

\* If you would like an article included in the monthly newsletter, please contact Lori Wilansky ([wilanskyl@comcast.net](mailto:wilanskyl@comcast.net)), our volunteer newsletter editor. Articles must be *submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the newsletter's publication.*

### **Spoofed Emails**

*Please continue to be careful about the potential of receiving spoofing emails and texts from Rabbi Elder and/or Rabbi Calamaro. If you receive a text or email from anyone at Hakafa that looks suspicious in any way, that asks that you reply to the message because they have a favor for you, or that asks you to purchase gift cards or send money, please **do not** respond to it. We will never ask you to do any of these things.*

*Our Hakafa email addresses and phone numbers can be found at the end of these*

*announcements. The spoofed emails/texts are coming from some other email address or phone number that looks like it could be from Hakafa but is not. If you are not sure if a message you received from us is safe to respond to, feel free to reach out to us separately from that message.*

*We apologize for any problems or inconvenience this unfortunate situation may have caused.*