



SHOFAR

December 2019

Kislev-Tevet 5780

Torah Portions December 2019

December 7 — 9 Kislev

Vayetze (And he Went Out)

Genesis 28:10—32:3

Jacob has a dream in which angels go up and down a ladder connecting earth to heaven. Jacob has many sons with Leah, and finally has a son, Joseph, with Rachel.

December 14 — 16 Kislev

Vayishlach (And He Sent)

Genesis 32:4—36:43

G-d tells Jacob to return home. Jacob sleeps alone in the desert, and is awoken by an angel who wrestles with him through the night. He is renamed Israel. Jacob's daughter Dina is raped by Shekhem. Shimon and Levi brutally murder Shekhem and his clan. Rachel has another son, Benjamin.

December 21 — 23 Kislev

Vayeshev (And He Settled)

Genesis 37:1—40:23

Jacob favors Joseph, which angers his brothers, and they sell him off to slavery in Egypt. The wife of Joseph's owner has him sent to prison, where he correctly interprets the dreams of the Pharaoh's baker and butler.

December 28 — 30 Kislev

Miketz (At the End Of)

Genesis 41:1—44:17

The Pharaoh has troubling dreams. The baker brings Joseph to interpret them. Pharaoh is so impressed, he makes Joseph an advisor. There is a famine, and Jacob sends his sons, minus Benjamin, to Egypt to buy food. They do not recognize Joseph, and he tests them, accusing them of being spies and thieves.

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES

December 6 5:30 PM

December 13 5:30 PM

December 20 5:30 PM

December 27 5:30 PM

Nash Sanctuary

SATURDAY MORNINGS

Torah Study

Every Saturday 8:45 am

Samson Social Hall

Saturday Shabbat Services

10:00 am in the Nash Sanctuary

December 7

December 14

December 21

December 28

Temple Leadership

Bob Glast	President
Beatrice Eslamboly	Past President
Sanford Friedman	1st VP
Rosanne Ezer	Treasurer
Fred Fabricant	Ritual Chair
Bobbie Rosenberg	Corporate Secretary
Terrie Turner	Chavurah Chair
Ann Miller	Membership Chair
Micki Greenspan	Ambassador
Nancy Singer	Women of Sinai
Gary Kreger	Brotherhood
Lily Mazet	Parent Teacher Organization
Marvin Paul	House & Grounds
Brian Harnik	Member at Large

President's Circle

Picce & Bob Glast
 Vernon Kozlen
 Mitzie & Jack Olshansky

Patron

Leslie & Joel Hirschberg
 Jessica and James Greene

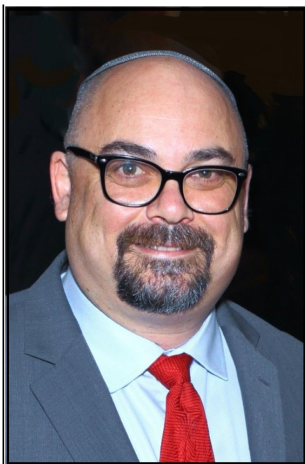
Patron Mitzvah

Ruth & Morris Beschloss
 Marion Cowle
 Sharon & Rod Hill
 Ann & Glynne Miller
 Ruth & Jerry Newman
 Nancy & Arthur Shorr
 Marcia & Rick Stein

Single Patron

Janet Ball
 Sandie Eichberg
 Fred Fabricant
 Lillian Fox
 Sally Frank
 Shirley Greenwall
 Kathy Kapler z"l
 Gladys Layne
 Reesa Manning
 Alicia Rodriguez
 Nancy Singer

Toldot 2019-The Politics of Family



**Rabbi Andrew
Bentley**

One of the most difficult stories to reconcile in the book of Genesis is the struggle between Isaac and Rebecca's twin boys, Jacob and Esau.

"Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples from within you will be separated; one people will be stronger than the other, and the older will serve the younger." (Genesis 25:23).

This situation represents on a micro level, how parental favoritism can tear a family apart, and on a macro level, the historic and continuing struggle between Israel and her neighbors.

By exploring the former, we see two viewpoints: First being Rebecca and her realization that her younger son, Jacob, was more representative of Abraham's legacy. Second being Isaac, whose love of his eldest son, Esau, blinded him to his true nature.

Digging deeper, there is evidence that a distance existed between husband and wife, so much so that Rebecca felt it necessary to convince Jacob, who epitomized honesty and integrity, to deceive his father into receiving the birthright that Isaac wished to bestow on Esau.

It is this detachment between Rebecca and Isaac that explains the deception. Unlike Abraham and Sarah, who were childhood sweethearts, Rebecca was chosen for Isaac by Abraham's servant. The Torah recollects that at their very first meeting, Isaac was in the "field meditating" when he saw Rebecca, whose notion to cover herself with a veil may have contributed to this indifference.

Furthermore, of all the patriarchs, Isaac is the most withdrawn and restrained, perhaps because of the trauma from almost being sacrificed. This may be the reason Isaac showed unconditional love to Esau, despite the fact that, in many ways, he represented the opposite of Abraham's ideology.

It is this lack of communication between husband and wife, father and son that led to this conflict between brothers. Perhaps history would have turned out differently if there had been more open communication.

As we try to understand and learn from these events, it is important to recognize that even though the Jewish patriarchs and matriarchs serve as our role models, they were imperfect. So, as we strive to improve ourselves, we can learn as much from their human failings and flaws as their successes and triumphs.

Rabbi Andrew Bentley

President's Message



I want to thank the members of the Rabbinical search committee: Chair, Fred Fabricant; members, Sanford Friedman, Gary Levin, Ann Loeb, Jack Olshansky, Alicia Paoletta, Sandy Schachter, Terrie Turner and Harris Weinstein. The committee has met four times in November. They have developed a mission statement and a job description. The committee represents a diverse and representative cross section of our congregation. Thanks to all of them for serving.

I want to congratulate Brotherhood for their sponsorship, along with the Tolerance Education Center, for sponsoring the program "Beneath A Scarlet Sky." There were over 200 attendees. Thanks.

The David Syme concert had over 140 attendees, which provided funds for our Temple. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped Patti Green put on an excellent event.

We have several active Chavurot, but there is always an opportunity to start additional groups. Please contact Terrie Turner if you would like to become part of a group.

I want to thank Arava Talve, principal of our Avi Levine Religious School for doing an outstanding job of moving the school forward. In addition, she is helping educate those of us who don't have children in the school about all the pieces necessary to keep the school functioning. Thanks to the assistant principal, all the teachers, and all the Madrachim who support the teaching and administrative staff during religious school hours.

Please go to www.templesinaipd.org, our website and explore all of the categories.

Thanks for your support,
Bob Glast

Come Join our Shabbat Morning Play Group!

ATTENTION PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS OF CHILDREN AGES 0-5

Join us one Saturday morning every month ❖ Meet other parents ❖ Stories, play, and crafts for the children!

Next meeting is Saturday, December 7

Meet at 9:30 AM in the Foyer

The theme is Chanukah!

Siblings are welcome



Suggested \$5.00 donation for non temple members

Please RSVP to Marjorie Lander Lander.Marjorie@gmail.com

From the Principal / Melamedet:

In this time of year, as we experience celebrations of both secular and religious holidays, we are thankful especially for our Temple Sinai Parent Teacher Organization.

What is the role of the PTO at Sinai?

Natalia Levy, one of the leaders of the organization, says our PTO “is comprised of a group of vibrant parent volunteers who work closely with the temple staff to plan all of the religious school’s festivities year-round. The PTO works diligently to ensure that our children and families experience wonderful memories through these planned events.”



Arava Talve, Principal

In the 11 years I’ve been associated with the Avi Levine Religious School, the support of our PTO has been a constant. This year, our PTO is led by Lily Mazet, President, with the support of V..P Natalia Levy, Treasurer Alicia Paoletta, Secretary Clara Horne, and members-at-large Deb Trudeau, Whitney Rosum and Elizabeth Meyerhoff.

“Each year,” Natalia says, “the PTO grows as we welcome new parent volunteers that also share the passion of watching our children flourish.”

Already this year, the PTO sponsored a wonderful opening day school brunch and Sukkot celebration, where we all shared in a tasty fruit harvest salad.

Coming up, the PTO is helping plan our pre-Hanukkah school celebration on December 15th that will include music, latkes and art projects. That Sunday, each class will also present a teaching or song while the rabbi leads us in some music to get us ready for our Festival of Lights which begins Sunday evening, December 22nd. During the darkest time of the year, we all seek the light. May this Festival of Lights bring our families blessings of gratitude, connection and love! Happy Hanukkah!

Ahead in 2020, the Sinai PTO will help organize a Tu b’shevat (celebration of trees) seder in February, a very special Yom Ha’atzmaut honoring Israeli Independence Day in April, and our teacher appreciation and end of the school year brunch, Sunday, May 31.

On behalf of the entire congregation, I would like to express the gratitude of the school administration and educators for all the PTO does to make our school strong! If you’re interested in joining the PTO, please call the temple office and leave a message for Lily. We’d love to have you be a part of the parent leadership.

May we go from strength to strength. Chag Sameach.

Arava



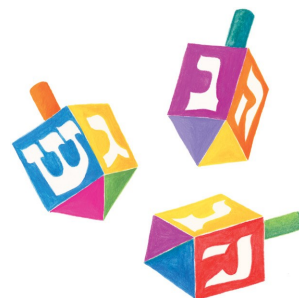
Friday night, December 6 will be the consecration ceremony for the kindergarten and first grade class in the Rabbi Avi Levine Religious School. Please join us for services at 5:30 P.M. to help welcome them to the beginning of their Jewish education.

Celebrate Chanukah with the Religious School on Sunday, December 15 at 11:00 AM

Every class will present a Chanukah teaching, followed by songs, activities, and latkes for all.



Many thanks to the PTO for organizing this event!



Join us in celebrating our B'not Mitzvah

Jessica Hillier-Davidson

Linda Jacobs

Nancy Pierce

Stephanie Ross

The B'not Mitzvah will be lighting the Shabbat candles at the Zimra Shabbat service on **Friday, December 13.**



After two years of dedicated study, the Adult B'nai Mitzvah class of 5780 will be called to the Torah on **Saturday, December 14.**

“Torah study is best done in the company of others, with a **'hevruta'** and with a teacher....Although in our day we have books and one can learn Torah without a hevruta, it is still far more effective to learn with a hevruta.”

Pirkei Avot 4:14:2

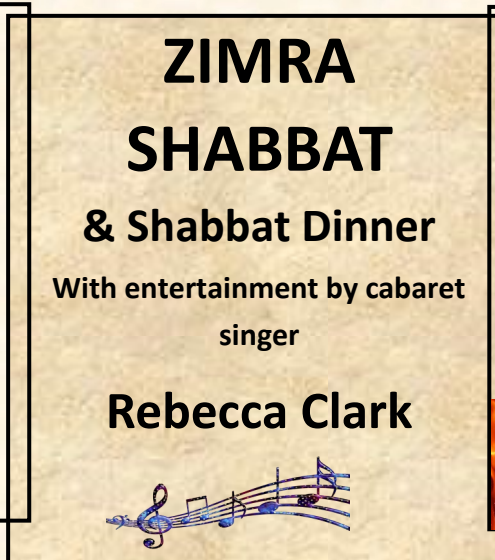
From *Mishnah Yomit* by Dr. Joshua Kulp

Temple Sinai Community-Wide Event

פלנו יחד בשמחה הזאת

Kulanu Yachad B'Simcha Ha'Zot

We Are All together in this Celebration



Friday, December 13, 2019 5:30 PM Nash Sanctuary

Paid dinner reservations strictly required by December 10. \$30 Per Person.

Call Temple Sinai office 760-568-9699

Name(s) _____

Number in party _____ Pay by Check _____

Credit Card # _____

Expiration: _____ CCV _____ Phone _____

Billing Address _____

Wish to be seated with _____

Zimra Dinner Menu

Friday, December 13

Dinner Immediately Following Services



Spaghetti with Meat Sauce

Chicken Marsala

Mushroom Ravioli with Marinara

Tossed Green Salad

Cannoli



Nancy Singer, President
Women of Sinai



I am sad to report that we had to CANCEL the Tai Chi fun experience and luncheon scheduled for December 2 due to lack of sign-ups.

Each event we plan includes some degree of fundraising to help us support the Rabbi Avi Levine Religious School. We are appreciative of your membership donations but also want to have activities that would interest you to participate.

We NEED your support!

Please send me an email at NancyS827@aol.com and tell me what kind of program you'd be interested in, what days and time work for you, and any other pertinent thoughts you'd like to share. If you're not interested in participating, please tell me why. Our Board greatly appreciates your input.

Looking ahead, please mark your calendars for February 3, and plan to attend our annual Fashion Show and Luncheon. This year, the fashions are from Gaby L's Boutique which is in the center on Country Club at Cook.

I and my Board members hope you had a lovely Thanksgiving and that you will experience an enlightening Chanukah.



Calling All Gift Wrappers!!!

Women of Sinai has secured a spot to do gift wrapping at Barnes and Noble at the Westfield Mall. We need your help to "staff" the table and accept the donations made by shoppers to support our religious school.

Please email Sharyn McKee at sharynmck@aol.com to sign up for a 3-hour shift on Tuesday, December 24.

We appreciate your support.





Many thanks to Michael Lella for coming to speak about his father Pino, whose acts of heroism and sacrifice saved the lives of countless Jews during the last years of WW II in Italy.

Mazal Tov to the Temple Sinai Brotherhood for their biggest event in a very long time! More than 200 people came to hear Mr. Lella speak, and to enjoy a deli feast from Sherman's Deli.

Learn Conversational Hebrew



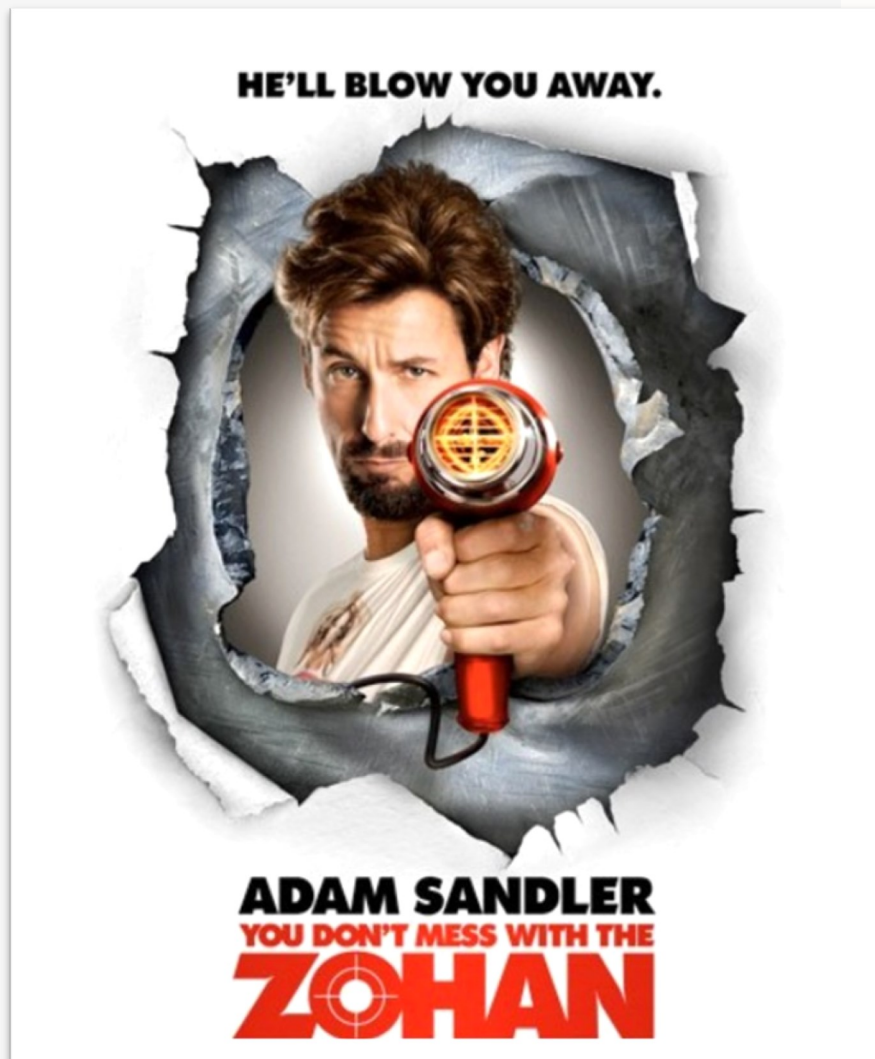
Tuesday Afternoons, 2—3 PM

\$36.00 Members—\$72.00 Non-Members

Registration Required

Temple Sinai Brotherhood Presents:

DINNER
And A
MOVIE



Thursday, December 12

**Deli dinner from Sherman's Deli at 5:30 P.M.,
Movie at 6:00 P.M. \$15.00 Per Person**



**The holidays are coming, so be prepared for a
happy Hanukkah!**

**TEMPLE SINAI JUDAICA SHOP HAS NEW:
MENORAHS, MEZUZZAHS, DREIDELS,
CHILDREN'S GAMES, CANDLES, DECORATIONS,
AND A LARGE SELECTION OF HOLIDAY GIFT
ITEMS.**

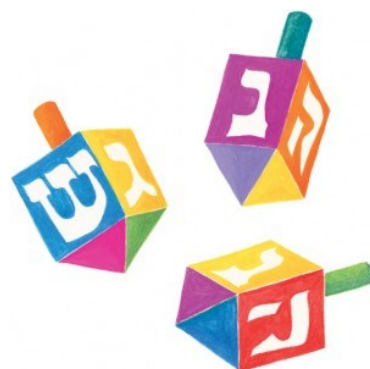
**COME VISIT OUR BEAUTIFUL JUDAICA GIFT
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HELP SUPPORT OUR TEMPLE.**



For special orders, please call Lynn
Zaifert at the temple.

(760-568-9699)

May you and your family enjoy
peace this Hanukkah season of
miracles.



GENEROUS DONATIONS

GENERAL FUND

Yahrzeit

Jenda Etta Epstein

By: Paul Epstein

IN HONOR OF

Nancy Pierce Bat Mitzvah

By: Sheryl Goodreau

Rena Magged's 90th Birthday

By: Reesa Manning

Tzedakah

Sandy Banner

Deborah Teplitzky

MEMORIAL

James Stets

By: Rosanne and Steve Ezer

Arlan Andelson

By: Fran Lubens

Kathy Kapler

By: Nancy and Arthur Shorr

By Ron and Renee Partelow

By: Leone and Buzz Zendlie

DAVID SYME CONCERT

In honor of my friend, Michelle Wiznitzer's birthday

By: Jody Spilberg

RABBI AVI LEVINE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

MEMORIAL

Kathy Kapler

By: Women of Sinai

By: Mitzie and Jack Olshansky

Lee Sommer

By: Marion Cowle

IN HONOR OF

Rena Magged's 90th Birthday

By: Marion Cowle

Nancy Singer

Four Ladies Celebrating Adult B'nai Mitzvah

By: Nancy Singer

MITZVAH FOOD BANK FUND

IN HONOR OF

Hannah Kaplan Solomon

By: Jerome Solomon in honor of their anniversary

"Tzedakah and acts of kindness are the equivalent of all the mitzvot of the Torah"

Jerusalem Talmud, Pe'ah 1:1.

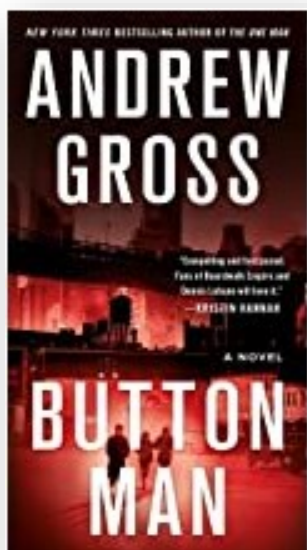


Mah Jongg meets in
December:

Learners: Wednesday,
December 4 & 18 at 4:00 PM
Advanced: Thursdays at 1:00
PM

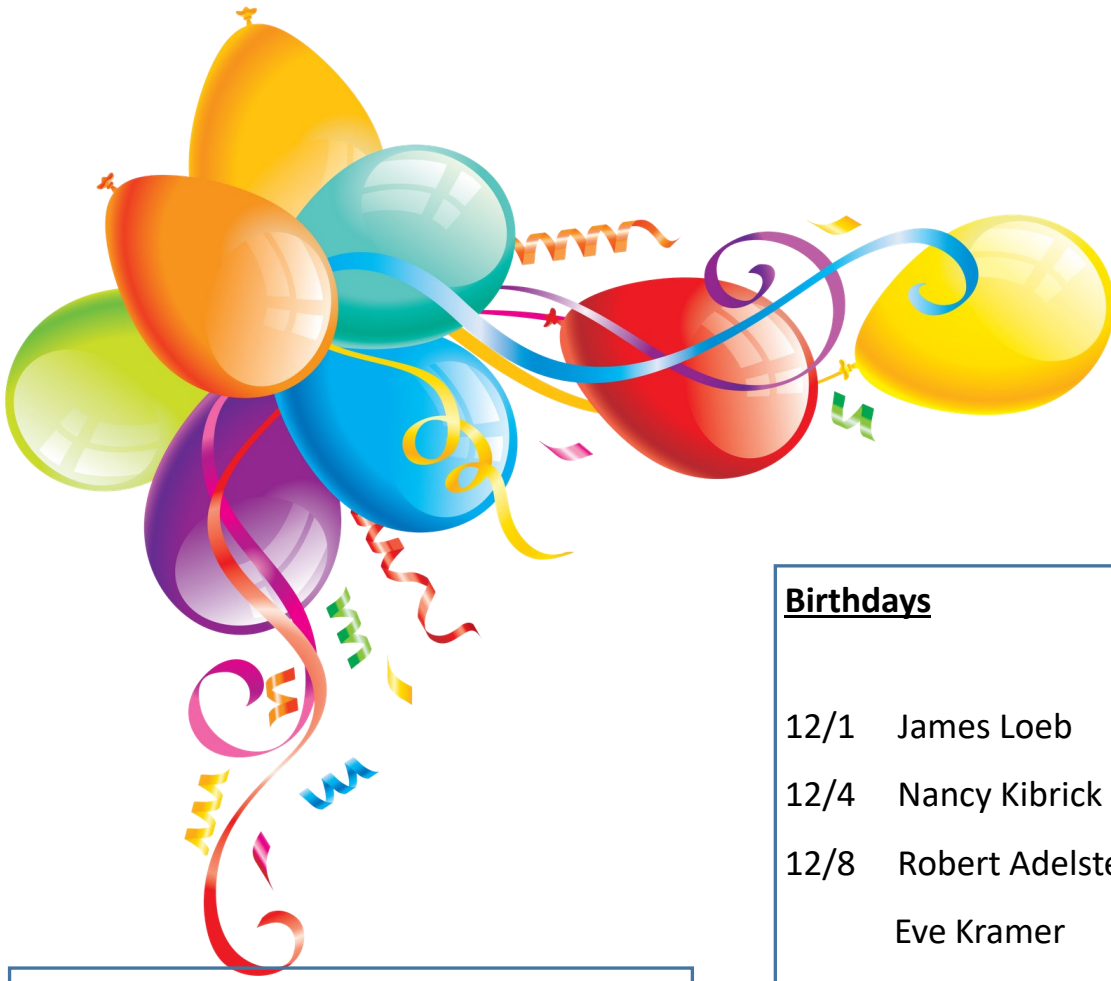


The Yiddish group will
meet on the first
Tuesday of the month,
beginning December 3,
at 10:00 AM



Book Club meets on Wednesday,
December 18, at 10:00 A.M.

The featured book is “Button Man” by
Andrew Gross, an historical thriller set
in the Lower East Side at the dawn of
the women’s garment industry.



Anniversaries

12/3 Nona Solowitz & Michael Cheley
 12/7 Robert & Mindy Rose
 Jerome & Hannah Solomon
 12/17 Fred & Sherry Fern
 Gordon & Eve Kramer
 12/20 Arthur & Nancy Shorr
 12/21 Paul & Stephanie Ross
 12/25 Robert & Joan Kapell
 12/29 Joel & JoAnn Kocen
 12/31 Steven & Evelyn Alden

Birthdays

12/1 James Loeb
 12/4 Nancy Kibrick
 12/8 Robert Adelstein
 Eve Kramer
 Jerry Moses
 12/10 Rena Magged
 12/11 Nancy Paull
 12/12 Milford Ardell
 Sharon Kaplan
 Elizabeth Kreger
 12/14 Ken Eldred

 12/18 Judith Israel
 12/21 Sherman Kramer
 12/24 Michael Zaifert
 12/26 Susan Ardell
 12/28 Elizabeth Meyerhoff
 12/30 Gloria Vann

DECEMBER 2019 • KISLEV/TEVET 5780						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Kislev 3	2 Kislev 4 <u>Office Closed</u> 12:00p Women of Sinai Luncheon 1:00p NO Desert Cities Bridge	3 Kislev 5 11:00a Desert Cities Bridge	4 Kislev 6 4:00p Mah Jongg	5 Kislev 7 11:00a Desert Cities Bridge 1:00p Advanced Mah Jongg	6 Kislev 8 10:00a Desert Cities Bridge 4:19p Candle Lighting 5:30p Shabbat Service	7 Kislev 9 8:45a Torah Study 10:00a Shabbat Service 11:00a Desert Cities Bridge
8 Kislev 10	9 Kislev 11 <u>Office Closed</u> 1:00p Desert Cities Bridge	10 Kislev 12 11:00a Desert Cities Bridge	11 Kislev 13 4:00p Mah Jongg	12 Kislev 14 11:00a Desert Cities Bridge 1:00p Advanced Mah Jongg	13 Kislev 15 10:00a Desert Cities Bridge 4:20p Candle Lighting 5:30p Shabbat Service 6:00p "Burn the Mortgage"	14 Kislev 16 8:45a Torah Study 10:00a Shabbat Service 11:00a Desert Cities Bridge
15 Kislev 17 11:00a PRIVATE EVENT	16 Kislev 18 <u>Office Closed</u> 1:00p Desert Cities Bridge	17 Kislev 19 11:00a Desert Cities Bridge	18 Kislev 20 4:00p Mah Jongg	19 Kislev 21 11:00a Desert Cities Bridge 1:00p Advanced Mah Jongg	20 Kislev 22 10:00a Desert Cities Bridge 4:23p Candle Lighting 5:30p Shabbat Service	21 Kislev 23 8:45a Torah Study 10:00a Shabbat Service 11:00a Desert Cities Bridge
22 Kislev 24	23 Kislev 25 Hanukkah <u>Office Closed</u> 1:00p Desert Cities Bridge	24 Kislev 26 Hanukkah 11:00a Desert Cities Bridge 4:00p PRIVATE EVENT	25 Kislev 27 Hanukkah 4:00p Mah Jongg	26 Kislev 28 Hanukkah 11:00a Desert Cities Bridge 1:00p Advanced Mah Jongg	27 Kislev 29 Hanukkah 10:00a Desert Cities Bridge 4:26p Candle Lighting 5:30p Shabbat Service	28 Kislev 30 Hanukkah 8:45a Torah Study 10:00a Shabbat Service 11:00a Desert Cities Bridge
29 Tevet 1 Hanukkah	30 Tevet 2 Hanukkah <u>Office Closed</u> 1:00p Desert Cities Bridge	31 Tevet 3 11:00a Desert Cities Bridge	1 Tevet 4 4:00p Mah Jongg	2 Tevet 5 11:00a Desert Cities Bridge 1:00p Advanced Mah Jongg	3 Tevet 6 10:00a Desert Cities Bridge 4:32p Candle Lighting 5:30p Shabbat Service	4 Tevet 7 8:45a Torah Study 10:00a Shabbat Service 11:00a Desert Cities Bridge

Hands-On Hebrew Letters! with Dr. Nesa Bland, Scribe

This February miniseries explores Jewish lore and mythology in Hebrew letters.

Take-home projects at each class.

Feb 9, 16, 23, 2020 (Sundays)

\$54.00 for all

10:00–11:30 AM in the Cruvant Library





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