



SHOFAR

December 2020

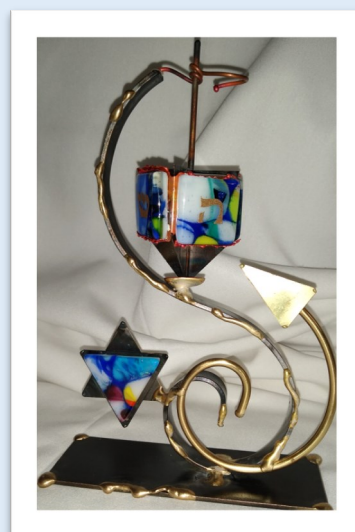
Kislev-Tevet 5781

**The Temple Sinai Judaica
Gift Shop is ready for
Chanukah!**



**Gifts
Cards**

Decorations



Wrapping paper

Menorahs

Draydels



We have what you need!

For all of our safety, the temple building is closed. To make an appointment to shop, please call Lynn Zaifert at 818-439-6505.

From the Rabbi

Tom Lehrer famous song lyrics are rolling through my head: “I’m spending Chanukah in Santa Monica.” While we’re not on the coast, I am looking forward to my first Chanukah with Temple Sinai in the desert.

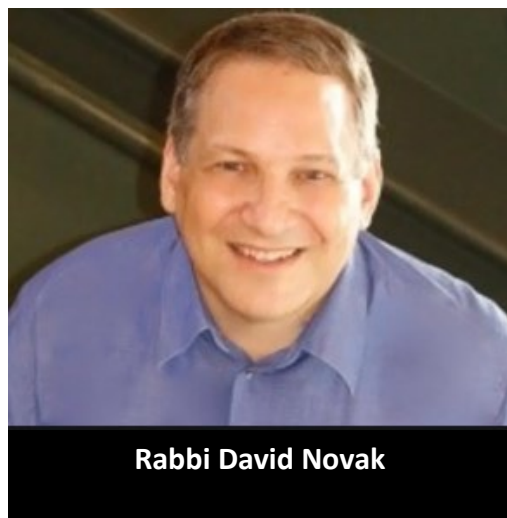
In thinking about how we are innovating and building connections among ourselves. I am pleased to share that each night of Chanukah, beginning December 10th at 5:30, we will gather on Zoom to light our chanukiot, what you might know as a menorah, together.

Put our Chanukah Community Celebration on your calendar for Sunday, December 13th at 5:00 when Wayne Abravenel leads us for a half-hour’s worth of Chanukah music before we light. Be prepared to sing some of your favorite songs!

The Chanukah story is well-known—a civil war between Jews committed to restoring Jewish practice at a time when the Greek culture was more appealing to the Jewish population. The Maccabees regained control of the defiled Holy Temple. About 500 years after this conflict, the rabbis were commenting about lighting Shabbat candles when one asked: Chanukah—what is it? It is there that the story we all love came into being, about the cruse of pure oil, enough only for one day, once lit, burned for eight days. A miracle! It is why the dreidel has four Hebrew letters on it: nun, gimel, hey, and shin: “Nes gadol hayah sham: a great miracle happened there.” If you happen to be in Israel and see an Israeli dreidel, it will replace the shin with a peh: “A great miracle happened here.”

I look forward to celebrating Chanukah with you. Chag Urim Sameach—a joyous Festival of Lights!

Rabbi David Novak



President's Message

On behalf of Temple Sinai I want to thank Women of Sinai, Brotherhood and PTO for coming together to offer programs to our community during this time of isolation. WOS President, Nancy Singer, Brotherhood President, Gary Kreger and PTO President Whitney Rosam with guidance from Sanford Friedman, 1st Vice President of Temple Sinai met and agreed to work together to develop programming. I hope you were able to participate in Cocktails and Conversation on November 29th and hopefully you participated in the Toys for Kids Drive on December 1st. Special thanks go to Michael Zaifert who has involved the Jewish Men's group from Sun City in some of these activities. Michael's leadership will help all of these groups and helps build community. Thanks.



Bob Glast, President

Do not miss Chanukah Sing Along with Wayne. on December 13th. Wayne Abravanel has continued expanding his repertoire of music for Friday night services. I want to thank Wayne for adding so much to our services.

Ann Loeb, Board of Trustee member has agreed to chair the Nominating Committee. An email will go out shortly explaining the procedure to follow to be considered for a Board of Trustee position beginning July 1, 2021.

Sanford Friedman, 1st Vice President has agreed to chair the By-Laws committee. The current By-Laws were adopted in 2017 and need clarification on several items.

Special thanks go to Sandy Schacter for leading services at the end of November as Rabbi Novak took a few days off. Sandy does a wonderful job of letting zoom participants know where we are and coordinates well with Wayne to present a professional service for all to enjoy. Thank you, Sandy.

Thanks to Sanford Friedman and Jerry Hipps for handling zoom broadcast at the end of November while Toni Robinson was on vacation.

Most of all, THANK YOU to the congregants of Temple Sinai for helping us get through this pandemic together for a brighter future.

L'Shalom,
Bob Glast, President

Temple Leadership

Executive Committee

Bob Glast	President
Sanford Friedman	1st Vice President
Michael Sonduck	2nd Vice President
Rosanne Ezer	Treasurer
Ann Loeb	Corporate Secretary
Jack Olshansky	Past President

Trustees:

Ann Miller	Membership
Micki Greenspan	Ambassador
Fred Fabricant	Ritual Committee
Terrie Turner	Chavurot
Nancy Pierce	Social Action
Gary Levin	Education Liaison
Joe Weiss	House and Grounds

Auxiliaries:

Nancy Singer	President, Women of Sinai
Gary Kreger	President, Brotherhood
Whitney Rosam	President, PTO

President's Circle

Picce & Bob Glast
Mitzie & Jack Olshansky

Patron

Barbara & Ron Borden
Jessica and James Greene
Leslie & Joel Hirschberg

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
Sally Frank
Shirley Greenwall
Gladys Layne
Reesa Manning
Alicia Rodriguez
Nancy Singer



**Congregation-wide Zoom
Chanukah Sing-Along with
Wayne Abravanel
Sunday, December 13 at 5:00**

**Nightly Community Candle-
lighting at 5:30**

(See the front page of our website for Zoom link)

www.templesinaipd.org

Torah Portions December 2020

December 5—19 Kislev

Vayishlach (And He Sent)

Genesis 32:4-36:43

God tells Jacob to return home. Jacob, worried that his brother Esav will kill him, sleeps alone in the desert. He is awoken by an angel who wrestles with him through the night. Jacob survives, is blessed by the angel, and his name is changed to Israel. Jacob is welcomed by his brother. Dinah, Jacob's daughter is raped by Schekhem, who then proposes that he marry her. Shimeon and Levi brutally murder Schekhem and his clan. Rachel has another son, whom they name Benjamin.

December 12—26 Kislev

Vayeshev (And He Settled)

Genesis 37:1-40:23

Jacob favors Joseph, and this angers Joseph's brothers. Joseph has dreams in which he predicts reigning over his brothers, provoking them further. They decide to sell Joseph into slavery in Egypt. In Egypt, the wife of Joseph's owner tries to seduce him, and when he rejects her, has him sent to prison. In prison, Pharaoh's baker and butler have dreams, which Joseph interprets correctly.

December 19—4 Tevet

Miketz (At The End Of)

Genesis 41:1-44:17

Pharaoh has troubling dreams, and at the suggestion of his servant, who remembers Joseph in prison, brings Joseph in to interpret them. Pharaoh is so impressed by Joseph, that he makes him his advisor. There is a famine, and Jacob sends his sons, minus Benjamin, to Egypt to buy food. The brothers don't recognize Joseph when they meet him, and he tests them by accusing them of being spies. Joseph arrests Simeon, and demands the brothers bring Benjamin to Egypt to prove they are not spies. When Benjamin arrives, Joseph puts a goblet in Benjamin's bag, and accuses him of stealing it.

December 26—11 Tevet

Vayigash (And He Approached)

Genesis 44:18-47:27

Joseph's brothers refuse to return to Canaan without Benjamin. Joseph reveals his true identity and invites his brothers to return for their father Jacob, and bring their families to Egypt to live. Joseph introduces his father to Pharaoh, and the families settle in Goshen, a particularly fertile region of Egypt.

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICES

December 4 5:30 PM

December 11 5:30 PM
Chanukah, 2nd Candle

December 18 5:30 PM

December 15 5:30 PM

To participate in Erev Shabbat services, Torah Study, and Shabbat Morning, please click on the link on the front page of our website:

www.templesinaipd.org

If you are using a mobile device, you may have to go to your app store and download *Zoom*.

SATURDAY MORNINGS

Torah Study at 8:45

December 5 10:00 AM

December 12 10:00 AM

December 19 10:00 AM

December 26 10:00 AM

From the Temple Manager



Temple Manager Toni Robinson



By the time you read this, the Jewish Men's Outreach of the Desert and Temple Sinai Brotherhood Toy Drive will be history. As you can see from the picture, it was a huge success. It was so nice to see people, albeit masked and socially distanced. There was ample coffee, tons of food, and ebullient camaraderie. It reminded me how much we all miss being able to gather, but we follow the guidelines so that when we can gather, no one is missing. My thanks go our Brotherhood and Jewish Men's Outreach for organizing this event.

The Ralphs logo, featuring the word "Ralphs" in a white, cursive script font inside a red oval.The Amazon Smile logo, featuring the word "amazon" in black and "smile" in orange, with a yellow arrow pointing from the 'a' to the 'e'.

Have you linked your
Ralph's card and Amazon
Smile to Temple Sinai yet?
Painless way to support
the temple!

GENEROUS DONATIONS

GENERAL FUND

Yahrzeit

Harold Solomon

By: Jerome Solomon

Frances Radding

By: Sharon Kaplan

Dr. Samuel Rosenthal

By: Brad Rosenthal

Ilene Siebel Jaspan

By: Susan Jaspan

Mathilde & Tobias Korytowski

By: Jerry Moses

Irving Feffer

Shirley Olshansky

Jack Krieger

Esther Krieger

By: Mitzie & Jack Olshansky

Benjamin Jackoway

By: Herb & Lorraine Pregozen

Herman Lew

By: Annette Lew

IN MEMORY OF

Linda Valfer

By: Ann & Glynne Miller

Mitzie & Jack Olshansky

Nancy & Arthur Shorr

IN HONOR OF

The speedy recovery of Fran Lubens

By: Leah & Norman Schweitzer

Sharyn McKee for leading the book club

By: Laurie Pregozen Wilcox

Rabbi David Novak

By: Roberta Neustel

TZEDAKAH

Lisa & Brian Gottlieb

Anne & Andrew Kaplan

Rose Wolf

IN MEMORY OF

Shelly Rosenberg

By: Ann & Glynne Miller

Toni Robinson

Gary Levin

Mitzie & Jack Olshansky

Bob & Betty Denebeim

Laura Wine Paster

Debra & Gabe Canto

Lisa Bithell

Rosemarie Habas

Rosanne & Steve Ezer

Susan Kross

Bruce & Laurie Wilcox

Alan & Carole Kushnir

SAMSON ZIMRA FUND

Yahrzeit

Sylvia Schrager

Samuel W. Fogel

By: Gloria & Ed Rudetsky

RABBI AVI LEVINE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

IN MEMORY OF

Shelly Rosenberg

By: Nancy Singer

Fran & Mark Kaufman

Fred Fabricant

Samuel Moses

By: Gary Levin

Yahrzeit

Rabbi Scott Corngold

Carole & Jerome Corngold

IN HONOR OF

The Bat Mitzvah of Sabrina Mazet

By: Dr. Paul & Stephanie Ross

MITZVAH FOOD BANK FUND

IN MEMORY OF

Shelly Rosenberg

By: Renee & Ron Partelow

Gail & Saul Jacobs

IN HONOR OF

Rabbi David Novak

By: Dr. Paul & Stephanie Ross

Gail & Saul Jacobs

By: Dr. Paul & Stephanie Ross

Gail & Saul Jacobs & Dr. Jeffrey Kahn

Renee & Ron Partelow

TZEDAKAH

Hannah & Jerome Solomon

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

IN MEMORY OF

Shelly Rosenberg

By: Nancy & Arthur Shorr

Shirley Arnold

By: Lynn Hannan

IN HONOR OF

Rabbi David Novak

By: Andrea C. Gero

Renee & Ron Partelow

From the Melamedet

From some of our students:

“I realize I have a lot of good in my life. One example is who I am surrounded by. I am surrounded by great people, my loving family, and although not physically right now, I am surrounded by my friends and amazing teachers. Finally, I am virtually surrounded by the beautiful people at Temple Sinai.” *Lucas*

“The good I see in my life is having a family that loves and cares for me and will also always care for others. I am also grateful for my friends and other family members who will always be there when I need them.” *Esteban*

“Some of the good things in my life are family and friends that love and care about me. Also, having pets that will always love me. I am grateful for my home and the food I eat and that I am able to see. Most days I am just thankful for the ability to be alive and breathe.” *Jessica*

During this time when we could easily focus on what we are not able to do, I am so proud and inspired by our students and their ability to focus on the blessings they do have.

In our school T’filah every Sunday at 9:30am, our students sing the *Modim* prayer with the following words in English that remind us to recognize the good that surrounds us.

With love and gratitude we praise your name forever

For what we have and are our lives are blessed by you.

We sing this song of thanks

We praise our ancestors

We live each day with joy,

Knowing that we are loved.



Our religious school, in coordination with our wonderful PTO, will be celebrating Chanukah, our festival of lights, both in our Virtual School T’filah on December 13th, and with gift bags for our families and a special nightly lighting of the Chanukiah with Rabbi Novak.

During the darkest time of year, we seek the light and remember that there is always a blessing around the next corner. Chag Sameach

Adult Education is Happening!

It's not too late to sign up

TUESDAYS

Know Your Siddur: Working the Journal Edition of Mishkan T'Filah

Instructor: Rabbi David Novak

Description: Using Mishkan T'filah: The Journal Edition, we will learn about the structure of the services, how the siddur (prayer book) is put together, and facilitate a greater comfort level with this in-depth dive into the Jewish prayer experience.

4 to 5 PM

Reading the Literary Torah: Uncovering Hebrew, Translations, and Themes

Instructor: Rabbi David Novak

Description: Beginning with Genesis, reading the Torah weekly to appreciate its literary qualities.

7 to 8 PM

WEDNESDAYS

Adult B'nai Mitzvah

Instructor: Arava Talve

Description: It is never too late to learn Hebrew and be called to the Torah as a Bar or Bat Mitzvah. Join other adults online and eventually in the Sinai chapel to explore Judaism and study Torah in a meaningful pursuit.

10 to 11 AM

Introduction to Judaism

Instructor: Arava Talve

Description: Whether you are searching or just feel like it is time to explore your Judaism, this class is for anyone who desires to know more.

11 to 12 AM

Lunch with the Rabbi

Instructor: Rabbi David Novak

Description: Discussions on a variety of subjects

12 to 1 PM

Saturdays

Torah Study with Rabbi Novak

Description: Experience the cycle of Torah every Shabbat morning with our rabbi.

8:45 to 9:45 AM

More courses coming later in the year. For more information: www.templesinaipd.org

Women of Sinai

I am so pleased to announce that, while I am the scribe, this article this month is also from our Brotherhood and our Parent Teacher Organization (PTO). The three auxiliaries are working together to foster a community spirit while giving you, our members, some enjoyable programs.

Upcoming in December is a fun Chanukah Hoopla.....a sing-a-long with Wayne Abravanel followed by Rabbi Novak leading us in lighting our Chanukah candles that night. It is on Sunday, December 13, beginning at 5:00 pm, on Zoom of course. Watch for an announcement that will include the Zoom link to use that evening.

Also in celebration of Chanukah, the three auxiliaries are funding Chanukah bags to be put together by the PTO and distributed to each religious school child. And, to make the holiday even more inclusive and special, the religious school children will be lighting their menorahs online at 5:30 each evening.

More programs are in various stages of development. All three auxiliaries provide support for our Temple and welcome and encourage all Temple members to join them. For Brotherhood membership, contact Joe Weiss, Vice-President, at bbqjoey@gmail.com. For Women of Sinai membership, contact Carol Woodward, Membership Chair, at carol.woodward@yahoo.com or just send your membership check to Gladys Layne, Treasurer, at 78328 Links Drive, Palm Desert CA 92211. For PTO membership, contact Whitney Rosam, President, at whitney.rosam2@gmail.com.

We hope to see you soon!



Nancy Singer, President
Women of Sinai



Have you tried logging in to your Temple Sinai account?

Just hover your mouse over MY ACCOUNT on the Temple Sinai homepage and click on *How do I login to Shulcloud?*



How do I login?

We're excited to give you access to the Temple Sinai Member Portal, powered by ShulCloud and accessible via the [Temple Sinai website](#). Through the Member Portal, you can connect with other members through the online directory and manage your own account information (e.g., your address, yahrzeit dates). ShulCloud is designed to provide a secure and private way to view your transaction history, enter payment methods, set up recurring payments and make donations. *There is so much you can do when you use your account!*

Women's Philanthropy
**6th ANNUAL WOMEN'S
(VIRTUAL) CARD DAY**

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2020

Join Our Virtual Ladies' Day Out!

Entry Fee: \$54 per person

Our annual card day has a new "look" this year. As with our past years' Women's Card Days, your entry fee supports Federation's **Special Tzedakah Fund and Annual Campaign**. We cannot play cards/mahj or enjoy lunch together, but you will be part of our season's kickoff event, a fascinating presentation by Dr. Sherri Wise at 4:30 pm.



You don't need to be a foursome to participate

but if you are, please ask your card/mahj mates to join us and hear our outstanding speaker ... then play when you regularly play.

Of course you do not need to be a card/mahj player to "attend" this special program. We'd love to have everyone join us.

Call Leslie Pepper, Women's Philanthropy Coordinator, at 760-324-4737 or email Leslie.pepper@jfedps.org, to register for this exciting program; or mail your check, payable to "Jewish Federation" to 69-710 Highway 111, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270.





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Total:

\$ _____

Please return this form with check to "Temple Sinai" to:

Temple Sinai Palm Desert ~ 73251 Hovley Lane W. ~ Palm Desert, CA 92260



Anniversaries

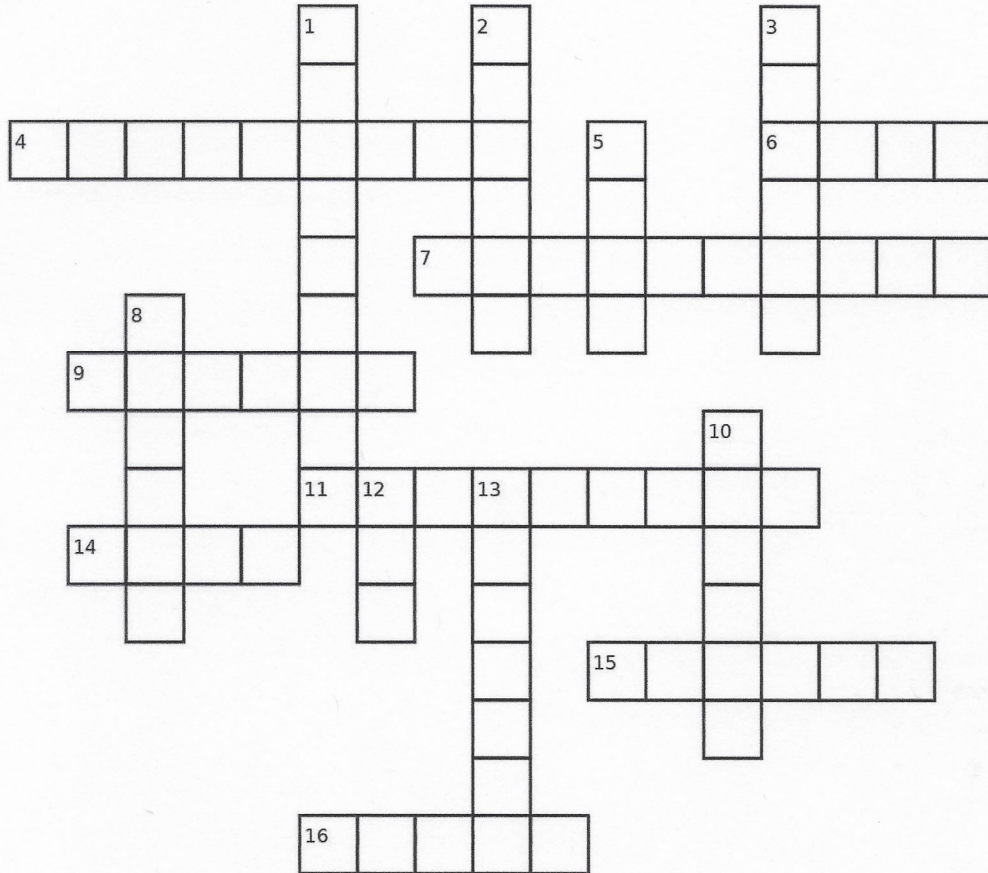
Evelyn & Steven Alden
 Sherry & Fred Fern
 Mindy & Robert Rose
 Stephanie & Paul Ross
 Nancy & Arthur Shorr
 Hannah & Jerome Solomon
 Nona Solowitz & Mike Cheley

Birthdays

Steve Damashek
 James Loeb
 Hana Weiss
 Sydney Presser
 Nancy Kibrick
 Jane Hanna
 Robert Adelstein
 Jerry Moses
 Eve Kramer
 Shane Levy
 Judy Weissman
 Ilene Harris
 Rena Magged
 Jane Krubiner
 Milford Ardell
 Sharon Kaplan
 Elizabeth Kreger
 Jake Presser
 Ken Eldred
 Ryan Holman
 Rabbi David Novak
 Michael Zaifert
 Susan Ardell
 Gloria Vann

Hanukkah Fun

A crossword puzzle challenge, for kids from 5 to 125!

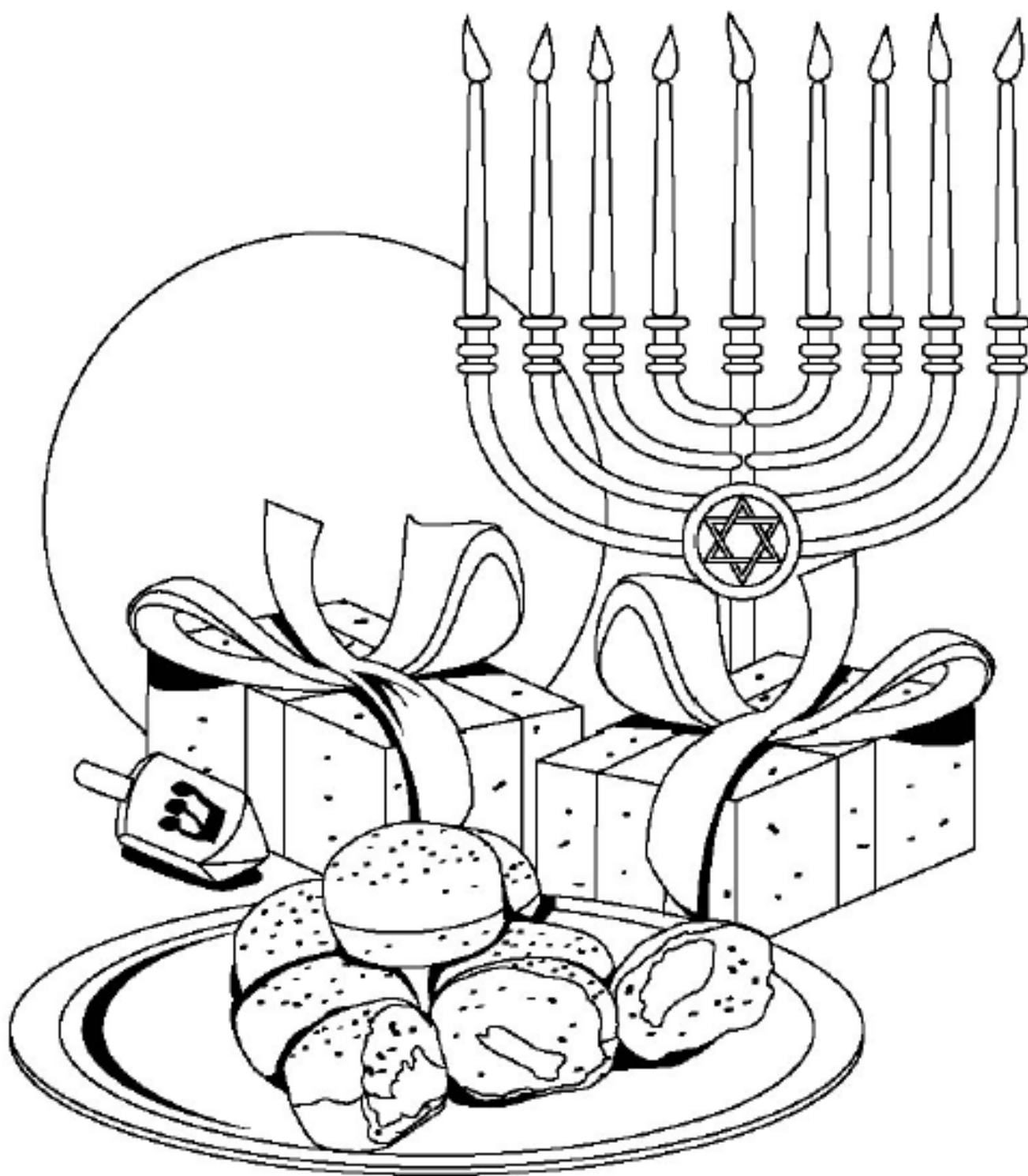


Across

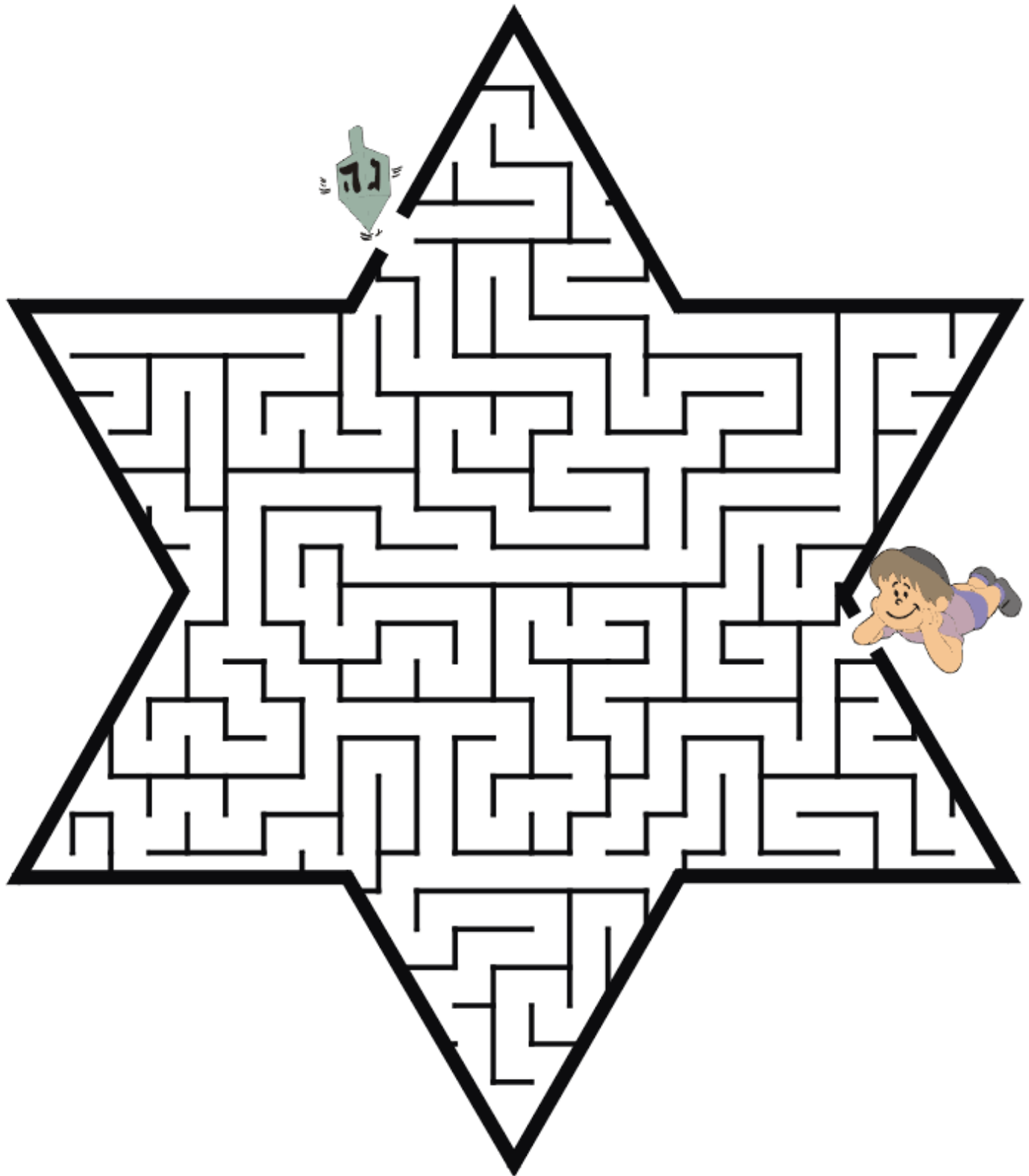
4. The tyrant in the Hanukkah story.
6. Chocolate-covered coins.
7. What the word "Hanukkah" actually means.
9. The best letter to get when you spin the dreidel.
11. Sivivon, _____.
14. _____ of ages, hear our song.
15. A food we eat to celebrate Hanukkah.
16. The number of nights of Hanukkah.

Down

1. The family of Hanukkah heroes.
2. The Hebrew month in which Hanukkah is celebrated.
3. Hanukkah is the festival of _____.
5. When the dreidel lands on _____, you "put one in."
8. Where we display the *hanukkiyah* (Hanukkah menorah).
10. What are sufganiyot?
12. Hanukkah celebrates the miracle of the _____.
13. The helper candle.



Spin the draidel through the Star of David to find the boy



Potato and Zucchini Latkes

Ingredients

3 medium/large potatoes, peeled
1 zucchini (or substitute a zucchini
for potato)
2 small/medium onions
1 small carrot
4 egg whites
3 tsp. baking powder
8 Tbs. flour
Pinch of celery seed
.5 tsp. black pepper



Directions

Grate the potatoes alternately with onion, zucchini, and carrot. Drain the liquid. Mix with the remaining ingredients. Spray a good amount of Pam or another spray on a frying pan. Drop mixture by tablespoons into hot pan and flatten with fork to make the latkes thin. Fry on medium heat until brown. Flip over and brown the other side as well.

Best eaten right away with any kind of applesauce.

If you want to make more latkes, make them thin. Enjoy!

Number of Servings: 20

Recipe submitted by SparkPeople user AIDELADE27.

Across answers: 4. ANTIOCHUS 6. GELT 7. DEDICATION 9. GIMMEL 11. SOVSOVSOV 14. ROCK 14. LATKES 16. EIGHT
Down answers: 1. MACCABEES 2. KISLEV 3. LIGHTS 5. SHIN 8. WINDOW 10. DONUTS 12. OIL 13. SHAMASH

December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Beit Sefer 4:00 Know Your Sid-dur 4:00 Literary Mishkan T'filah 7:00	2 Adult B'nai Mitzvah 10:00 Intro to Judaism 11:00 Lunch with the Rabbi 12:00	3	4 Erev Shabbat (Zoom) 5:30	5 Zoom Torah Study 8:45 AM Shabbat Morning Service (Zoom) 10 AM
6 Beit Sefer 9:30 Confirmation/ Midrasha 12:00	7 Office Closed	8 Beit Sefer 4:00 Know Your Sid-dur 4:00 Literary Mishkan T'filah 7:00	9 Adult B'nai Mitzvah 10:00 Intro to Judaism 11:00 Lunch with the Rabbi 12:00	10 Erev Chanukah: 1 Candle	11 Erev Shabbat (Zoom) 5:30 Chanukah: 2 Candles	12 Zoom Torah Study 8:45 AM Shabbat Morning Service (Zoom) 10 AM Chanukah: 3
13 Beit Sefer: 9:30 Conf/Midr 12:00 5:00 Sing-along With Wayne Chanukah: 4 Candles	14 Office Closed Chanukah: 5 Candles	15 Beit Sefer 4:00 Know Your Sid-dur 4:00 Literary M/T 7:00 Chanukah: 6 Candles	16 Adult B'nai Mitzvah 10:00 Intro to Judaism 11:00 Lunch with the Rabbi 12:00 Chanukah: 7 Candles	17 Chanukah: 8 Candles	18 Erev Shabbat (Zoom) 5:30 Chanukah: 8th day	19 Zoom Torah Study 8:45 AM Shabbat Morning Service (Zoom) 10 AM
20 Winter Break No Beit Sefer	21 Office Closed	22 Winter Break No Beit Sefer No Adult Ed	23 Winter Break No Adult Ed	24 Office Closes Early	25 Office Closed Erev Shabbat (Zoom) 5:30	26 Zoom Torah Study 8:45 AM Shabbat Morning Service (Zoom) 10 AM
27 Winter Break No Beit Sefer	28 Office Closed	29 Winter Break No Beit Sefer No Adult Ed	30 Winter Break No Adult Ed	31 Office Closes Early		



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