



CONGREGATION NER TAMID

A SPECIAL PLACE TO BELONG

JANUARY/ FEBRUARY 2024 Vol. 39, No. 1 Tevet 20, 5784

**BEATLES
SHABBAT
WITH THE
SHABBATONES
1-12-24**

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CALENDAR OF SERVICES

Roberta Unger,
runger@lvnertamid.org

Friday, January 5, 2024

7:00 p.m. – Friday Night *Shabbat*

Saturday, January 6, 2024

8:45 a.m. – *Torah* Study (In Person/ Zoom)

10:00 a.m. – Zane Michelin's *Bar Mitzvah*

12:00 p.m. – Our Jewish Heritage (Zoom)



Friday, January 12, 2024



6:15 p.m. – Beatles *Shabbat*

with The Shabbatoners



Saturday, January 13, 2024

8:45 a.m. – *Torah* Study (In Person/ Zoom)

10:00 a.m. – Jack Brislin's *Bar Mitzvah*

12:00 p.m. – Our Jewish Heritage (Zoom)



Friday, January 19, 2024

7:00 p.m. – Friday Night *Shabbat*

featuring Birthday Blessings

Saturday, January 20, 2024

8:45 a.m. – *Torah* Study (Zoom)

10:00 a.m. – *Shabbat Minyon* Service –

Tefillah/ Prayer (Zoom)

12:00 p.m. – Our Jewish Heritage (Zoom)



Friday, January 26, 2024

5:30 p.m. – New Member/

Congregant of the Year Dinner

7:00 p.m. – Friday Night Music of *Shabbat* in the
Round/ Congregant of the Year *Shabbat*

8:00 p.m. – NTTY Lounge Night

Saturday, January 27, 2024

8:45 a.m. – *Torah* Study (Zoom)

10:00 a.m. – *Shabbat Minyon* Service –

Tefillah/ Prayer (Zoom)

12:00 p.m. – Our Jewish Heritage (Zoom)

Friday, February 2, 2024

7:00 p.m. – Friday Night *Shabbat*

Saturday, February 3, 2024

8:45 a.m. – *Torah* Study (Zoom)

10:00 a.m. – *Shabbat Minyon* Service –

Tefillah/ Prayer (Zoom)

12:00 p.m. – Our Jewish Heritage (Zoom)



Friday, February 9, 2024

6:15 p.m. – *Shir Shabbat*

featuring Birthday Blessings
and Rabbi Akselrad's address about his
solidarity mission to Israel

Saturday, February 10, 2024

8:45 a.m. – *Torah* Study (Zoom)

10:00 a.m. – *Shabbat Minyon* Service –

Tefillah/ Prayer (Zoom)

12:00 p.m. – Our Jewish Heritage (Zoom)



Friday, February 16, 2024

8:15 p.m. – Blast From The Past *Shabbat*

Saturday, February 17, 2024

8:45 a.m. – *Torah* Study (In Person/ Zoom)

10:00 a.m. – Keaton Schwartz' *Bar Mitzvah*

12:00 p.m. – Our Jewish Heritage (Zoom)



Friday, February 23, 2024

7:00 p.m. – *Shabbat* in the Round

8:00 p.m. – NTTY Lounge Night

Saturday, February 24, 2024

8:45 a.m. – *Torah* Study (Zoom)

10:00 a.m. – *Shabbat Minyon* Service –

Tefillah/ Prayer (Zoom)

12:00 p.m. – Our Jewish Heritage (Zoom)

Vintage
1974

How You Can Help...

CNT's Rabbi Sanford Akselrad will join The Central Conference of American Rabbis' (CCAR) weeklong solidarity mission to Israel from **Saturday, January 27, to Sunday, February 4, 2024**. On the trip, Reform Rabbis from around the country will show support for Israelis in the aftermath of the Hamas terrorist attacks on October 7, 2023. While in Israel, Rabbi Akselrad will meet with top Israeli leaders and visit with kibbutzim directly impacted by the terrorist attacks. What can you do to help support this mission? Donate to our CNT Stands With Israel Fund on our website, bit.ly/47csWul, calendar, or by scanning the QR CODE at right.



Rabbi Akselrad will bring all funds raised to Reform colleagues in Israel who are providing direct assistance to soldiers and their families during this difficult time.

"October 7th changed not only the lives of Israelis but Jews in the diaspora as well," Rabbi Akselrad said. "Our hearts have been broken, and I think about Israel every day. It is both my privilege and my passion to support Israel during this time. I look to the Congregation for support on this special mission so I can share the love of Congregation Ner Tamid with the soldiers and the people of Israel who are fighting for the security of the state of Israel."

When Rabbi Akselrad returns, he will address the Congregation during a special Shabbat Service on **Friday, February 9, 2024**, at 6:15 p.m., and tell everyone how CNT helped the people of Israel.



Jewish Nevada – <https://jewishnevada.app.neoncrm.com/forms/10>

Jewish Federations of North America – Support for victims, rebuild damaged infrastructure, address trauma – <https://form.jotform.com/232792945496978>

Israel Movement for Reform and Progressive Judaism – Humanitarian aid to those directly affected in the Gaza region – <https://reform.org.il/en/donate>

Jewish Agency for Israel North American Council – Assistance to terror victims, long-term rehabilitative support – www.jafina.org/crisis-in-israel

Israeli American Council (IAC) – Humanitarian aid and first response in Israel, hospitals in Israel, the needs of Israeli soldiers, and media advocacy in the U.S. – <https://iac360.org/support-israel-fund>

Pick up a **Blue Ribbon** at our office – www.blueribbonsforisrael.org

CNT's STANDS WITH ISRAEL WEBPAGE: www.lvnertamid.org/help-cnt-support-israel





Happy New Year everyone.

Did everyone come up with their New Year's resolutions?

How many of you have already broken them?

I have never been the type to formulate resolutions that I knew were simply unattainable. But, hoping my family, friends, and the entire Congregation have a healthy 2024 is something I always hope for, not only on New Year's.

We have an exciting year ahead of us as our Congregation turns 50. I thought in recognition of this milestone I would give everyone a summary of what life was like in 1974.

Computers became available for home use, even though practically no one had one, and they were large and heavy, not like the laptops we carry around today.

IP or Internet protocol was invented, therefore the ability to transmit data became possible, therefore, the internet was formed, but not yet in use (what a thought).

It was aftermath of the Yom Kippur War (the War was in 1973), and hopefully, history will repeat itself with the end of the Hamas war this year.

President Richard Nixon resigned after the Watergate scandal. Are there more Presidential scandals in our future? History does repeat itself at times.

The 55 MPH speed limit was imposed – there are days I'm driving that and I don't even realize there is a speed limit.

Elton John was popping out music back then – amazing how long he has performed.

Blazing Saddles was the top movie of 1974.

Gas cost on average \$.53 a gallon.

The Sears Tower in Chicago became the world's tallest building (What is Sears?)

Well, I hope we produce significant memories over the coming year, so when people look back in 50 years to 2024, they will think about how life has changed. Flying cars, shared housing – as it costs too much to buy one on our own – and robots taking care of us (artificial intelligence) might be a few of the things people will be experiencing.

Have a wonderful New Year and bless you all.

Shalom and L'chaim, Michael Levy – President

***For up-to-date information about CNT's 50th Anniversary year,
please go to our website, bit.ly/3to989A, or scan the QR Code.***

***There, you can also sign up to join one of our 50th Anniversary Committees
to help produce our Tikkun Olam Brunch, Annual Meeting, Variety Show,
Time Capsule, and Culminating Celebration Weekend.***



It was in December 1974 that Congregation Ner Tamid officially came into being. This was after many meetings and support from what was then the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. It is hard to believe that this is our “Jubilee year!”

As many of you recall, I came to Congregation Ner Tamid in February 1988. At that time a lot had been accomplished. Several Rabbis had been at the helm – Rabbi Weissberg z”l, Rabbi Hecht, and Rabbi Maline. Each one of them brought leadership and direction to the Synagogue. A building on Emerson was built and that was what I “inherited” when I moved here with my wife Joni and our daughter CJ in tow. I knew that there was a lot of potential for Congregation Ner Tamid to grow. And grow we did. From some sixty families to nearly 600 families.



Over the last 50 years, thousands upon thousands of people have come through our doors for simchas and sorrows. Baby namings, weddings, B’nai Mitzvah, funerals, and celebrations of life. Some have been touched by our worship services and others by our programs and our activities. And still others have found a spiritual home here where they have raised their children with pride.

The other day, I officiated at a baby naming where the father had been my Bar Mitzvah student more than 20 years ago. And of course, our Cantor, Jessica Hutchings, is a product of our Temple. I also officiated at her Bat Mitzvah.

But it isn’t just about my memories. This is a time to share all of our memories and to rejoice in our good fortune! Throughout the year we will have special activities that we will be branded with our 50th Anniversary logo. In the winter of 2024, the year will culminate in a very special weekend of remembrance and celebration. More info on that to come...

It is also a time to take a look at our current facility. It is hard to believe that we have been here since February 2007! As such, we are in need of refurbishing our facility. Yeshiva Day School has been a tenant for many years, and they will be moving out in January 2024. There will be a need to remodel and repair various parts of our building that have seen heavy usage. But, beyond this, we will have a chance to grow our vision of what our campus can and will become. We will recapture the use of our classrooms, and repurpose our open areas adding playground equipment and areas that will enrich the experience of being on the CNT campus. This campaign will be launched soon. If you would like to be a part of this, please contact me or our Executive Director Ed Simon. There will be new naming opportunities and it will be a very exciting time in the history of Congregation Ner Tamid!

As we greet the new secular year of 2024, I want to wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year. May we as a Congregation continue to go “from strength to strength.”

B’shalom,
Rabbi Sanford Akselrad



Have you ever stood with one foot in Nevada and one in California at the same time? At the same time two sets of laws, two opinions, and two possibilities. It's a duality I had never thought about before October 7th, 2023... and now I feel as if my entire being is standing in two places at once every moment of every day. I am not just talking about wholeheartedly loving and supporting Israel in one place and also praying for an end to a brutal war. Mourning the victims, yearning for the safe return of hostages, and also needing to have the presence of mind to celebrate the joys that are right in front of me. Duality. We are all living in duality right now. It brings on a whole new meaning to "If I forget you, Jerusalem, let me forget my right hand."

A couple of weeks ago, I had the honor of sitting down in an intimate setting with the families of the hostages who are still in captivity. Lunch was ordered, people were sharing the events of their days, and there were smiles as we greeted one another. It felt like any other day, except... I could not eat, smile, or think of anything else but these people who had just entered the room. I said to the aunt of one of the hostages, "It feels strange to eat while you are sharing your niece's abduction." She said, "But we have to eat. We have to light the Chanukiah, and we have to live FOR them until they are home."

Duality. Living and yearning. Smiling for our today and crying for theirs. It's exhausting and also necessary.

Two days later, I had another heart-wrenching honor... to speak and sing at the vigil memorializing the victims of the UNLV shooting the week prior. Finding the words and the song to capture the immense sadness we all felt seemed impossible. This moment felt less like standing in two states and more like standing in Arizona, Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico all at the same time. To mourn loss, to feel anxious about our own safety at any given moment in our schools and places of work, to feel a responsibility to bear witness, and to feel glad that we survived were a mixed emotion like none other.

I share these stories to say to you, "shamati." I hear you. I see you. I feel what you feel. You are not alone in feeling everywhere and everything at the same time. If we hold onto hope and each other, we will find strength and gratitude so that we can continue to do our part in making this world a better place.

Duality. I pray for the hostages' safe return, an end to violence, peace for all of us, and also for the ability to be present in this moment and experience joy whenever possible. For if we live life to the fullest, they do not suffer in vain.

Today, let us acknowledge our fears and sadness and also find a reason to genuinely smile.

B'shira,
Cantor Jessica Hutchings



CNT's Rabbi, Cantor, MENSch Club Featured In The News In December

The Las Vegas Israelite published nine articles about CNT in its December 1, 2023, issue. Both Rabbi Akselrad (front page) and Cantor Hutchings wrote inspiring articles about Chanukah and the holiday season, and CNT's MENSch Club was featured in a full page spread, frying latkes.

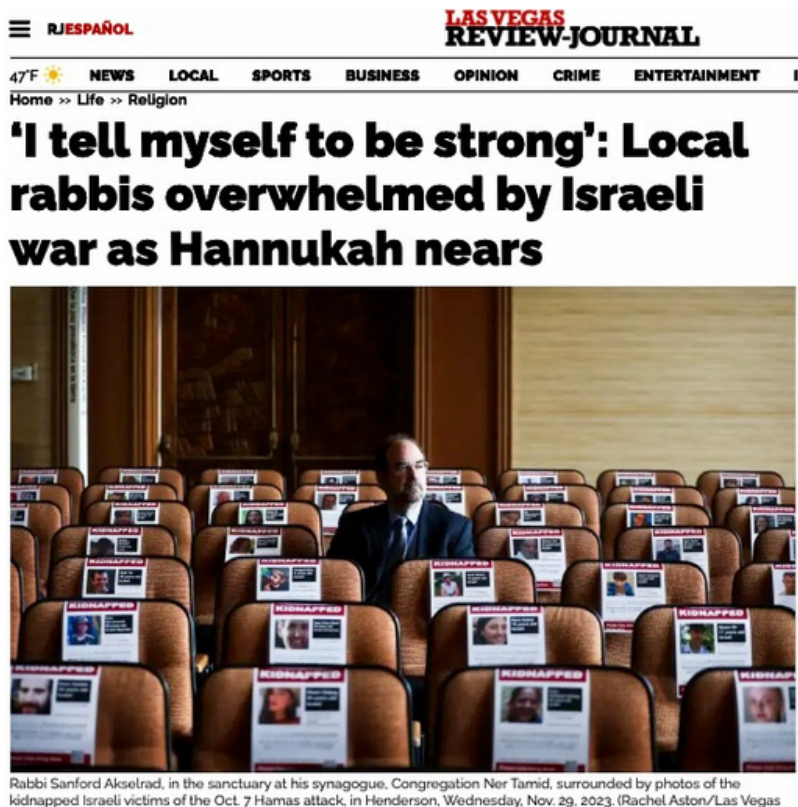
On Thursday, December 7, Rabbi Akselrad was featured in *The Las Vegas Review-Journal* in an article entitled, "I Tell Myself To Be Strong – Local Rabbis Overwhelmed By Israeli War As Hanukkah Nears." The newspaper also published a moving photo of Rabbi Akselrad sitting in the middle of empty seats in CNT's Sanctuary with signage representing the Israeli hostages held by Hamas.

Local Fox News affiliate Fox 5 KVVU-TV featured CNT's Shir Shabbat Chanukah with The Shabbatones, Consecration Ceremony, and Latke Dinner, on the news on Friday, December 8. The station's cameraman shot some exclusive video of CNT's MENSch Club frying latkes in the kitchen!

Both Rabbi Akselrad and Cantor Hutchings attended a memorial vigil at UNLV on Wednesday, December 13, that honored the three faculty members who were killed and one who was left critically injured in the deadly campus shooting that took place a week prior. Rabbi Akselrad was quoted prominently in an article about the vigil published by *The Las Vegas Sun* on Thursday, December 14.

And, on Tuesday, December 19, Rabbi Akselrad gave the invocation at the Clark County Commissioners meeting. It was held at the Clark County Government Center and broadcast on Clark County Television. Rabbi Akselrad was introduced by County Commission Chairman Jim Gibson, and Rabbi's blessing was featured after the Call to Order and before the Pledge of Allegiance.

You can watch Rabbi's blessing on CNT's YouTube Channel.





Kantor ECEC Preschool Presents Chanukah Concert

CNT's Cantor Hutchings and Musical Educator in Residence and Preschool teacher Glori Rosenberger led The Gary & Lynn Kantor Early Childhood Education Center's Preschool children in concert during a Chanukah Show full of holiday songs on Wednesday, December 13. They sang traditional Chanukah favorites including "I Have A Little Dreidel" and "Hanukkah, Oh Hanukkah" with a giant inflatable Menorah as a backdrop on CNT's bimah in the Sanctuary. Cellphones were waving in the air as parents and loved ones tried to capture the cuteness on video. Bravo Kantor ECEC!



The Gary & Lynn Kantor
Early Childhood Education Center

Toddler Class SPACE AVAILABLE

Waitlists Forming Now

Pre Kindergarten

3 Year Old Class

2 Year Old Class

*For 18-month-olds
Beginning January 3, 2024*

Complete an interest
form at lvnertamid.org

Preschool@lvnertamid.org
or **702.632.2250**
FOR MORE INFO

55 N. Valle Verde Dr.
Henderson, NV 89074

Spanish
Speaking
Teachers and
Immersion
Classes



CNT's Religious School Celebrates Mitzvah Day, Chanukah, Looks Forward To Tu B'shvat, Purim

CNT's Religious School had a great kickoff to the winter season with our Mitzvah Day on Sunday, November 19. Students completed a variety of Mitzvot including making dog and cat toys for animal shelters, cleaning used books for Spread the Word, making teddy bears for Children's Heart, and more. Our Teens had the opportunity to participate in a community trash clean up and volunteer at Noah's Animal Shelter. Itty Bitty Ntty and TNT rounded out the day by going ice skating with Family Promise. It was great to see our students so involved in the community! On Sunday, December 10, students enjoyed classroom celebrations for Chanukah. Thanks to our amazing Family Connect Committee, each student was able to nosh on a latke and take home a Chanukah goodie bag. Students enjoyed playing Dreidel and listening to Chanukah music throughout the day. This was a great way to finish the semester, and we can't wait to see everyone after Winter Break!



Coming up this month, we have a school-wide Seder to celebrate Tu B'shvat. This will take place on **Sunday, January 21**, at 11:15 a.m. in the Social Hall. Families are invited to join their kids as we celebrate the birthday of the trees. Students participating in our Purim Spiel are hard at work, preparing to entertain the whole school with a Taylor Swift Purim Spiel. Join us on **Sunday, March 24**, to celebrate Purim with both the Spiel and the annual Purim Carnival!



NTTY Events



January 21	NTTY Lunch 12:30-1:30 pm Meet at Panera At the District	February 11	NTTY Lunch 12:30-1:30 pm Meet at Shake Shack At the District
January 26	NTTY Lounge Night 7 pm Services Pickup at 10 pm Dinner included	February 23	NTTY Lounge Night 7 pm Services Pickup at 10 pm Dinner included

Questions? Email
ntty@cntschoool.org





Zane Silas Michelin – Saturday, January 6, 2024



Zane Silas Michelin will become a Bar Mitzvah on **Saturday, January 6**, at 10:00 a.m., at Congregation Ner Tamid. Zane is the son of Cassandra Michelin and the great-grandson of Rich and Dee Bale. Zane is in the seventh grade. Zane's passion is online gaming. He loves to play with his friends online. Zane also loves the outdoors. This past summer Zane took a cruise to Alaska and loved the sights and the animal life. He also loved all the amenities on the ship. He is looking forward to his next trip.

Zane's Torah portion is the book of Shalmot. The main theme deals with the rise of antisemitism. He is painfully aware of the devastating effects of antisemitism both in history and in today's world.

Zane's Bar Mitzvah project started with wanting to help people who have lost their hair due to chemotherapy. He has been growing his hair to donate, but it hasn't grown very fast and is not long enough yet. For the last year, Zane has been doing chores for an elderly man in his apartment complex. The man has offered to pay Zane for his work, but Zane has never accepted any money. He says it is good work for the soul.

Jack Andrew Brislin – Saturday, January 13, 2024

Jack Andrew Brislin will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on **Saturday, January 13**, at 10:00 a.m., at Congregation Ner Tamid. He will read from the parashat Va'era. Jack is currently a hard-working honor student in the seventh grade at Coral Academy of Science, Cadence Campus. Jack's passion is playing football, which he started playing when he was 7 years old. He has played in many leagues and teams within Henderson over the years and is continuing this winter. His other interests include a love for all sports and for reading, especially (believe it or not) certain books on economics, theology, adventure, philosophy... and how they all relate to football.

Jack's Bar Mitzvah project will be to work with Opportunity Village (www.opportunityvillage.org) to volunteer on the campus and provide sports equipment. Jack's parents Jolie and John, and his sister Hannah, are very proud and excited to watch him lead the Congregation in prayer as he becomes a Bar Mitzvah.



Keaton Schwartz – Saturday, February 17, 2024

Keaton Schwartz will be called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah on **Saturday, February 17**, at 10:00 a.m., at Congregation Ner Tamid. Keaton is a seventh grader at Coral Academy of Science – Nellis, and when not in school he can be found training as a Junior Black Belt in Kenpo Karate, playing video games, and spending time with his family.

For his Bar Mitzvah project, which ties into Keaton's Torah portion – Tromah (meaning donation in Hebrew) – Keaton is helping collect, pack, and distribute food and monetary donations for Aishel Avraham (<https://aishelavraham.com>) a local nonprofit organization that strives to provide basic food and other necessities to Jewish individuals and families in need in the Las Vegas area.

Keaton's parents Blaine and Ronit, his sister Jordyn, grandparents Shirley and Kevin, and Irene and Shmuel are beyond proud of Keaton for his hard work and accomplishments.



MEMBERSHIP

Barney Tabach, barney@tabach.com
Dani McLaughlin, dt.bromberg@gmail.com

CNT's Film Chavurah kicks off a year of special programming, presenting movies featuring Jewish actors and/ or Jewish plot lines. RSVP: barney@tabach.com

<p>Tuesday, January 9, 2024 Meet: 5:30 p.m. Film starts: 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>CNT's Film Chavurah presents WONKA in CNT's Social Hall</p>	<p>RSVP Barney: (702) 303-5649, barney@tabach.com</p>
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<p>Tuesday, February 20, 2024 Meet: 5:30 p.m. Film starts: 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>CNT's Film Chavurah presents Gentleman's Agreement in CNT's Social Hall</p>	<p>RSVP Barney: (702) 303-5649, barney@tabach.com</p>
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David Weinstein 2023 Congregant Of The Year



Self-Portrait

David Weinstein is the Temple's man behind the camera, capturing the moments that make Congregation Ner Tamid a special place to belong.

"I've been lucky to photograph multi-generations of life events for families at Congregation Ner Tamid for more than 40 years," Weinstein said. "Over thousands of pictures, I can't begin to tell you how much fun I've had being able to capture these events. I adore seeing all the successes of the young adults I've photographed over these many years."

You can see Weinstein's credited photos of Shabbat services, B'nai Mitzvahs, birthdays, weddings, galas, fundraisers, and special events on CNT's social media and website, and in eblasts, Bulletins,

and in the *Las Vegas Israelite*.

Weinstein's passion for photography started in high school when he began to shoot concerts in Connecticut. He shot promotional and concert photography for i95 ROCK radio (WRKI-FM) and was the first i95 Moose mascot. The job gave him access to perfect his professional photography at many acclaimed theatrical and music performances of that time.

In 1979, Weinstein took a transformative trip driving across the country to visit a friend who was moving out of his studio apartment near UNLV in Las Vegas. He had two weeks of paid rent remaining. "I needed a new adventure and challenge, and I'm still in Las Vegas," he said.

In the early 80s, Weinstein began photographing B'nai Mitzvahs and weddings at CNT on the Emerson Campus. On February 5, 2007, he photo documented the Torah Walk to CNT's current location on Valle Verde Drive and took photos of the first Bat Mitzvah held in the new Sanctuary. He's still taking photos of special celebrations at CNT today: www.nofujifilm.com.

"We only take pictures for two reasons, good ones and bad ones," Weinstein said. "My advice is to take pictures for good reasons. Don't wait until 'the summer when the weather is warmer' or 'until my hair grows three more inches.' All our family pictures are meaningful and beautiful. Take them now!"

Help us honor Weinstein and his invaluable contribution to Congregation Ner Tamid on **Friday, January 26**, at 7:00 p.m., at a Music of Shabbat in the Round/ Congregant of the Year Shabbat with a special oneg.

There will also be an invitation-only dinner for New Members at 5:30 p.m.



Photos by
Rabbi Sanford Akselrad

Vegas PBS Issues Special Offers To CNT In 2024



Michael Feinstein Concert

Wednesday, February 14, 2024, 7:30 p.m.

Reynolds Hall in The Smith Center

Backed by a sensational big band, Michael Feinstein pays a heartfelt tribute to the legendary Tony Bennett, bringing his iconic songs to life in a symphony of sound. The performance includes hits such as "New York State of Mind," "S Wonderful," and "Steppin' Out With My Baby."

Donate \$115 per person for an orchestra seat.

www.vegaspbs.org/tickets/#feinstein



Benise Concert

Saturday, February 24, 2024,

3:00 p.m. or 7:30 p.m.

Sound Check and Meet Greet Time: 5:00 p.m.

The Space Las Vegas

Enjoy one hot night as Benise, "The Prince of Spanish Guitar," takes you on an unprecedented and epic adventure through Spanish Flamenco, Cuban Salsa, Brazilian Samba, Parisian Waltz, exotic drumming, and more!

Donate \$99 per person for a floor seat including sound check.

www.vegaspbs.org/tickets/#benise



Pavlo Concert

Saturday, March 2, 2024, 8:00 p.m.

The Space Las Vegas

Over the span of his 20-year career, the internationally renowned and award-winning Mediterranean music performer and songwriter has released 15 albums and filmed four PBS TV concert specials. Pavlo returns to play The Space Las Vegas.

Donate \$75 per person for a floor seat/ meet and greet: www.vegaspbs.org/tickets/#pavlo

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Celtic Woman Concert

Tuesday, May 21, 2024, 7:30 p.m.

Meet and Greet Time: 6:30 p.m.

Reynolds Hall in the Smith Center

The Celtic Woman 20th Anniversary Tour will be delighting audiences with its fresh blend of traditional and contemporary Irish music that echoes Ireland's rich musical and cultural heritage while reflecting the vibrant spirit of modern Ireland.

Donate \$195 per person for a front orchestra seat with a meet and greet.

Donate \$125 per person for an orchestra seat.

www.vegaspbs.org/tickets/#celtic

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

CNT Members should contact

Vegas PBS Event Specialist Christina Wood

at (702) 799-1010, ext. 5375,

cwood@vegaspbs.org to reserve,

and say you are with CNT. **Page 13**



50th ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

Congregation Ner Tamid Celebrates Golden Anniversary

In 2024, Congregation Ner Tamid will celebrate its 50th Anniversary all year long by supersizing popular annual events and adding some new ones in honor of this momentous milestone.

In January, CNT's Film Chavurah kicks off a year of special programming, presenting movies at CNT featuring Jewish actors and/ or Jewish plot lines. On **Tuesday, January 9**, at 6:00 p.m., a screening of "Wonka" starring Jewish actor Timothée Chalamet will tell the origin story of the iconic candy maker Willy Wonka. On **Tuesday, February 20**, at 6:00 p.m., CNT's Film Chavurah will present "Gentleman's Agreement." This 1947 American drama is about a journalist, played by Gregory Peck, who poses as a Jew to research an exposé on antisemitism in New York City. It was nominated for eight Academy Awards and won Best Picture, Best Supporting Actress (Celeste Holm), and Best Director (Elia Kazan). In 2017, the film was selected for preservation in the United States National Film Registry by the Library of Congress as being "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant." RSVP: barney@tabach.com

Cantor Hutchings and Morah Pamela Henderson will start instructing the Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class of 2025 on **Tuesday, January 9**, at 6:00 p.m. Call Roberta at (702) 733-6292 if you'd like to join this life-changing class taking place during CNT's 50th Anniversary year.

Beatles Shabbat with The Shabbatones, on **Friday, January 12**, at 6:15 p.m., will be extra groovy in 2024. CNT's iconic Shabbat pairs Beatles songs with Jewish prayers. Coincidentally, 1974 is the same year The Beatles officially broke up, but, their music lives on at CNT. Last year, more than 350 Members

and locals packed CNT's Sanctuary for this "fab" event dressed in tie-dye and and paisley outfits, illuminated headbands, and peace signs.

CNT's Social Action Committee is producing a timely three-part 50th Anniversary series about antisemitism. On **Tuesday, January 16**, at 6:30 p.m., Rabbi Akselrad will present "Genesis of Antisemitism." "What You Don't Know About Antisemitism in America" takes place on **Tuesday, January 23**, at 6:30 p.m., and "Why Do They Hate Jews? Are There Solutions?" takes place **Tuesday, January 30**, at 6:30 p.m. Register: bit.ly/48qdzQx

All new CNT Members of 2023 are invited to a New Member dinner on **Friday, January 26**, at 5:30 p.m., at the Temple, followed by a Music of



50th ANNIVERSARY EVENTS



Shabbat in the Round/ Congregant of the Year Shabbat at 7:00 p.m. to honor 2023 Congregant of the Year David Weinstein.

Rabbi Leigh Lerner will host a free adult education lecture on Zoom called “50 Years of Zionism: A Look at the Early Leaders of Modern Zionism From the Late 1800s to the Creation of the State of Israel in 1948” on **Wednesday, February 7**, from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Register: bit.ly/4aC0N2S

When Rabbi Akselrad returns from his weeklong solidarity mission to Israel he will address the Congregation on **Friday, February 9**, at 6:15 p.m., and talk about how your contributions to the *CNT Stands With Israel Fund* helped Israeli soldiers and their families, and how we can be cognizant of the War in Israel while commemorating CNT’s 50th Anniversary year. Donate to the fund here: bit.ly/47csWul.

On **Friday, February 16**, CNT presents its “Blast From The Past” Shabbat at a special time when the Temple used to hold its Shabbat Services, at 8:15 p.m. “In 1974, what did Shabbat Services look like at Congregation Ner Tamid?” Rabbi Akselrad asks. “What prayer book did we use? What style of language was used? Was it gender inclusive? Turns out Temple Member Melissa (Glovinsky) Lemoine solved that mystery by sharing with us that original prayer book! It was written by the founding Rabbi of our Congregation, Rabbi Steven Weissberg z”l. The rest of the mystery – melodies, clergy garb, style of the sermon – will be pieced together by talking with old-time Members of our Temple.”

Contact Rabbi Akselrad if you have information that will help make this retro Shabbat as authentic as possible. And dress up in the style of the 1970s for this special walk down memory lane.

For up-to-date information about CNT’s 50th Anniversary year, please go to our website, bit.ly/3to989A, or scan the QR Code at right. There, you can also sign up to join one of our 50th Anniversary Committees to help produce our Tikkun Olam Brunch, Annual Meeting, Variety Show, Time Capsule and Culminating Celebration Weekend.



bitly



Rabbi Steven Weissberg z”l



WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM
stronger together

On Sunday, December 10, Sisterhood held its annual Chanukah Party with 52 ladies in attendance including our Little Sisters. The festivities began with our Shir Heart Choir and their beautiful voices singing Chanukah songs. We lit our menorahs together to celebrate the third day of Chanukah and lit the fourth candle. We noshed on latkes and donuts, played games, and sang songs. Thank you to all who helped plan this event and to all who came. There was schmoozing, laughter, and a wonderful afternoon was enjoyed by all.

UPCOMING EVENTS – PLEASE JOIN US

THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 2024 –

ANNUAL TU B'SHVAT CELEBRATION

6:00 p.m. – Gary and Lynn Kantor Hall

Deadline to RSVP – Thursday, January 11, 2024 – Email us for more info.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2024 –

FLOUR POWER – BUILD A BABKA

10:00 a.m. – Gary and Lynn Kantor Hall

See flyer insert for more information and to RSVP.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024 – BINGO AND MORE

1:00 p.m. – Gary and Lynn Kantor Hall

See flyer insert for more information and to RSVP.

SAVE THE DATE – THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2024, 6:00 P.M.

Our Annual Book Review – More information to follow.

You can still order 2024 Mahjong Cards.

Deadline to purchase is Wednesday, January 24, 2024.

For more information and to purchase please email us!

Our Sisterhood Board is always looking for new faces, new ideas, more help, and more involvement in planning our many events each year! We welcome with open arms any Sisterhood member who would like to join our meetings on the second Thursday of each month.

Would love to hear from anyone who is interested!

With love – Michelle Blank, President & Our CNT Sisterhood Board

Questions? Email us CNTSisterhoodlv@gmail.com

Facebook – Like us [@lvcntsisterhood](https://www.facebook.com/lvcntsisterhood)



Mark L. Fine And Family Gift Shop

Congregation Ner Tamid's Sisterhood Mark L. Fine and Family Gift Shop is having a **HUGE SALE** throughout the month of January featuring **20% - 50% off** all Chanukah items, jewelry, and more, including menorahs, candles and drip trays, toys, games, stickers, dreidels, bibs, stuffed animals, kitchen serving trays and utensils, aprons, table runners, mugs, leggings and socks, and chew toys for your fur babies.

And don't forget the gelt –
CHOCOLATE GELT
and **CHOCOLATE MACCABEES!**



The Gift Shop is open Fridays, 45 minutes before Services, and on Sundays from 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. when Sunday School is in session. Or call for a convenient appointment: (702) 755-1737.

Proceeds support our Fay Schoenfeld Fund 4 Youth scholarships for CNT Religious School students.

55 N. Valle Verde Dr., in Henderson

CHESED

Shirley Kouffman,
skouffman@lvnertamid.org

Caring
Helping
Encouraging
Sharing
Empathy
Dependability

The Chessed Committee met to address envelopes for Chanukah cards, and we had an enjoyable meeting discussing ways to try and meet the needs of our Congregation.

Please remember that our Committee can make phone calls or visits to bring cheer or to help combat loneliness. However, we can only do so if we know who to contact. You, a family member, or a friend of yours can let the Temple office know or contact Shirley.

Should you have a college student in your family who we don't know about, there are still two more holidays when the Chessed Committee makes contact: Purim and Pesach.

Let us know about that as well. Shalom!

Shirley Kouffman, Chessed Committee Chairperson

Skouffman@lvnertamid.org, (702) 733-6292



MENSch Club's Souper Bowl Competition Is Heating Up



CNT's MENSch Club is working on its game plan. Members will soon huddle up and tackle the fine art of soup making with the goal of serving up delicious soups and chilis to be sold at the group's Souper Bowl fundraiser on **Saturday, February 10**, in the Temple's Social Hall, from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Held the night before the NFL's Super Bowl, CNT's Souper Bowl will raise money to support the Temple and its activities including sending Religious School teens on educational trips and preparing popular outdoor BBQs.

Soups, including butternut squash, matzah ball, and tomato, and chilis including vegetarian and spicy, will be sold for \$10 a quart.

"Customers that come to the Souper Bowl are offered little tasting cups of soup so they can try before they buy," MENSch Club president Eric Polis said. "We're looking forward to offering a large spread, a fast turnover, and selling out again so every member goes home with an empty pot."

MENSch Club member Jeremy Hutchings earned bragging right all year long as his chili was the first to sell out last year.

Organizers encourage customers to attend the event early because they won't go into overtime. All soups were sold out within the first hour in 2023.

"We all know that everybody loves the Super Bowl, but you will love the Souper Bowl even more,"

Rabbi Akselrad said. "I look forward to the night before the Super Bowl when the MENSch Club provides a wonderful variety of soup that I hope everyone will come to the Temple to purchase to support the MENSch Club. They do wonderful things for our Synagogue. Plus, it turns out they are really good chefs as well."

If you'd like to contribute your favorite homemade soup to the fundraiser, email **MenschPrez@gmail.com**.

MENSch Club organizers will manage variety quotas and sales counter spaces.

For more information:

**[www.lvnertamid.org/community/
community-groups/mensch-club](http://www.lvnertamid.org/community/community-groups/mensch-club)**



**MENSch CLUB'S
SOUPER BOWL**

**4:00 P.M. -
6:00 P.M.**

Saturday, February 10, 2024

Congregation Ner Tamid
55 N. Valle Verde Dr., Henderson
Gary and Lynn Kantor Hall
lvnertamid.org

Butternut Squash
Matzah Ball
Tomato
Vegetarian and Spicy Chilli
And a Lot More...

Purchase quarts of homemade soup packaged to go.
Proceeds support MENSch Club events and initiatives.



Senior Schmoozers Announce Monday Lunch Dates For New Year

Happy 2024! Mark your calendars for our upcoming Senior Schmoozers luncheons on **Mondays, January 22, February 12, March 18, April 15, May 20, and June 10**. We look forward to a Return to the Catskills event, a senior Super Bowl, a Red Carpet afternoon, a Toga party, and more.

We have a solid group of 60 – 70 seniors attending our events each month and they have done such a great job with early registration on CNT's website and calendar so that we always have the right amount of food and tables set up for each event. Remember, you are always encouraged to send suggestions for entertainers and ideas for themes or special food selections to **seniors@lvnertamid.org**.

We ended 2023 with a wonderful Chanukah party. CNT's Musical Educator in Residence and Preschool teacher Glori Rosenberger brought a group of adorable children from Kantor ECEC to sing for us. She then stayed to entertain us all with songs on the guitar. Thank you Glori for all you do!

We lunched on homemade matzah ball soup, Stacey Lewis' amazing lokshen kugel, latkes, and delicious Carl's jelly donuts. We celebrated our December birthdays and sang an interactive Eight Days of Chanukah song. I will forever remember Gwen Leonard singing "Five Matzah Balls." Many Schmoozers were dressed in cheery Chanukah sweaters and the mood was festive. It was definitely something everyone needed in light of all the somber news coming from Israel.

We continue to be grateful to David Mizrahi for his ongoing support of our Schmoozers events. David sponsors CNT's senior program in honor of his father Joseph Mizrahi.

We are also thankful to Karen's Dream Team who volunteers at our lunches each month. Aydie Unger, Nan Spector, Rona Mendelson, Donna Miller, and Stacey Lewis – we couldn't do it without you!

Lunches are open to anyone 65 and older. They are always free to CNT Members and Not-Yet Members pay a nominal fee of \$18 for both food and entertainment. Contact Karen at **seniors@lvnertamid.org** with any questions, suggestions, or comments.

Register at:

www.lvnertamid.org/community/senior-schmoozers

We pray for the people of Israel and the IDF fighting the terrorists. We are hopeful for peace in 2024!

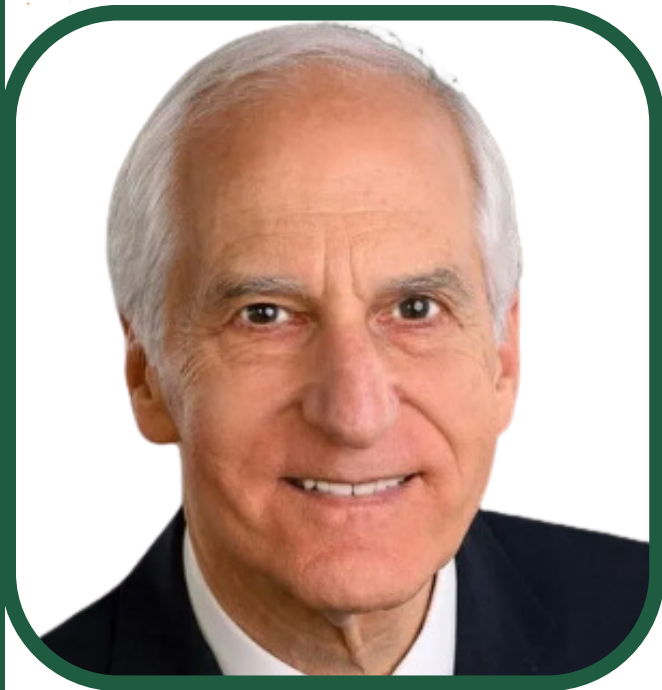


SENIOR SCHMOOZERS
Monday, January 22, 2024 12:00 p.m.
Monday, February 12, 2024 12:00 p.m.
Congregation Ner Tamid
55 N. Valle Verde Dr., Henderson
www.lvnertamid.org





Rabbi Lerner To Host '50 Years Of Zionism' Zoom Lecture



Rabbi Leigh Lerner will host an adult education lecture for CNT Members on **Wednesday, February 7**, from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

"50 Years of Zionism: A Look at the Early Leaders of Modern Zionism From the Late 1800s to the Creation of the State of Israel in 1948" will look at early Zionist leaders such as Theodore Herzl and Ahad Ha'am and the impact that their vision had in the formation of the State of Israel, and the impact their vision has had in guiding Israel today.

The free lecture will also feature a Q&A.

Rabbi Lerner was a Senior Rabbi at Mount Zion Temple, in St. Paul, MN, from 1974 to 1989. He chaired the Jewish Federation campaign, renewed a Black-Jewish

Dialogue, and created an outreach and long-range planning program.

From 1989 he was spiritual leader of Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom, in Montreal, Canada. The Congregation became recognized as an NGO by the U.S. State Department for its work against human trafficking. An extensive outreach program saw the creation of Montreal's first Jewish PFLAG support group for LGBTQ+ persons and their families.

Rabbi Lerner also created a Hebrew/ English/ French siddur and brought art and interactivity into the Congregation's life, becoming Rabbi Emeritus in 2012. For seven years he helped Italy's Reform Jewish Synagogues in Milan, Florence, and Rome and still teaches online there.

His novel, The Mossad Messiah, is available on Amazon.

"I've wintered in Las Vegas from time to time, but now, retired from 23 years of leadership at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom of Montreal, I call Sun City Summerlin home," Rabbi Lerner said. "I'm looking forward to offering my services to teach adult study and discussion at Ner Tamid."

Register on CNT's website, bit.ly/4aC0N2S, calendar or by scanning the QR code at right.



CONGREGATION NER TAMID'S OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED ON:

MONDAY, JANUARY 1, 2024 – NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY

TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2024 – NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY

MONDAY, JANUARY 15, 2024 – MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2024 – PRESIDENTS' DAY

Classes will be taught by
Morah Pamela Henderson and
Cantor Jessica Hutchings.

Join CNT's Adult B'nai Mitzvah Class Of 2025!

Classes begin Tuesday, January 9, 2024.
Hybrid classes meet on Tuesday evenings from
6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Content features Hebrew and Jewish history and culture.
A basic knowledge of Hebrew is highly recommended.
Assignments include short weekly reading assignments
as well as a summer Mitzvah Project and a book report.

The Adult B'nai Mitzvah Service is tentatively
scheduled for Saturday, January 25, 2025.

Contact Roberta at CNT
for more information and to sign up:
(702) 733-6292.
www.lvnertamid.org



Drop your kids. Stay and learn!
JOIN PAMELA HENDERSON AT THE

Starbooks Cafe 2024



"Five Famous Families of Torah"

1/28	2/11	3/3	4/14	4/30
Jacob, his wives and 13 children	Amram, Yocheved, Aaron, Miriam and Moses	Jethro, Tziporah, Moses, Gershom and Eliezar	Sons of Aaron; Daughters of Zelophehad	Joshua, Son of Nun, & Caleb, son of Yefuneh

SUNDAYS | 9:30 am – 11:30 am | CNT Multipurpose Room

Free Classes. Free Coffee.
See you there!

www.LVNerTamid.org



REGISTER NOW FOR A TRIP OF A LIFETIME...

Travel with Congregation Ner Tamid
and immerse yourself in the rich culture, tradition,
and beauty of Argentina,
from Wednesday, November 13 –
Wednesday, November 20, 2024.

On this trip, led by Rabbi Sanford Akselrad,
Cantor Jessica Hutchings,
and Cantor Pablo Duek,
discover Buenos Aires and its historical sites,
including the Jewish neighborhood of "Once" and its
magnificent Synagogues. Journey to the magnificent
Iguazú Falls and take a day tour to a typical
Argentinian ranch –
even become a Gaucho for a day!

Learn more and register now at:
www.lvnertamid.org/travel-with-congregation-ner-tamid-to-argentina



Rabbi Akselrad
Cantor Hutchings



Cantor Pablo Duek





Nevadans For The Common Good

“Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts.” – Winston Churchill

No matter what the obstacles, Nevadans for the Common Good continues to work on issues of importance to the Henderson, Las Vegas, and Southern Nevada community. Presently, after focusing on the affordable housing crisis and supporting legislation that will create sustainable and reasonable housing for residents, NCG is shifting gears.

Mental Health and the Health Care System in Nevada have now become a priority. Our Mental Health Team is working on learning about this System, its provisions and deficits, its shortage of providers, and insurance coverage concerns. We are also continuing to hold trainings for House Meetings – with a few Meetings to be held at Congregation Ner Tamid this coming year. Again, these in-person meetings will primarily focus on Congregants’ concerns regarding issues of importance in our various communities.

Several of our Synagogue NCG core team members – Shirley Kouffman, Jana Pleggenkuhle, and Susie Sernoe – recently participated in NCG’s annual holiday party with the lighting of the Chanukah candles. NCG members attending the party thanked the women for sharing the lighting ceremony with some saying they had never participated in this Jewish holiday tradition before and that it was a very meaningful experience.

Our CNT NCG Core Team will usher in the New Year with an in-person pot-luck dinner meeting at Dorie Kirtman’s in early January.

As always, the Team meets on the third Thursday of the month, and the Mental Health Team on the fourth Tuesday, both at 5:00 p.m. and via Zoom. All are welcome to attend!

CNT’s Trivia Tuesdays

For CNT Members and Non-Members Alike...

Mixed subjects - anything goes!

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

Tuesday, February 27, 2024

7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Virtual Trivia via Zoom on your computer.

**RSVP to mindywadkins@me.com for the Zoom link and
super easy instructions to play.**





CNT's Social Action Committee Presents 50th Anniversary Antisemitism Series



It has been a remarkably busy and rewarding season for Social Action! Through our Mitzvah Menorah program, our Congregants, Sisterhood, and Chanukah Harry brought joy to 60 children with gifts for Chanukah. Their families also received everything they needed for a Chanukah celebration. Thank you for your generosity and thoughtfulness. You made a big difference!

During our Religious School Mitzvah Day, students, under the guidance of parents, built and installed park benches, replaced a fence, and cleaned up a garden where women can visit with their pets, at Noah's Animal House, a full-service pet facility located at a domestic violence shelter. Another group of students organized donations and spent time interacting with the animals housed there.

Students also hosted an ice-skating party and included children from the Family Promise program that assists families without homes. Additionally, they donated lots of pairs of socks to the organization.

At the Mitzvah Day event at CNT, students made adorable bears holding toothbrushes and toothpaste which were given to Children's Heart; helped Spread The Word by cleaning and preparing donated books; arranged charming flowers and flowerpots to brighten the days of others; crafted beautiful cards to let people know they are remembered and cared for, and assembled toys for dogs and cats that were donated to Noah's Animal House and a cat rescue. Parents also joined in by donating blood to help save lives.

As part of CNT's 50th Anniversary celebration, The Social Action Committee is presenting a timely three-part 50th Anniversary series about antisemitism at the Temple. On **Tuesday, January 16**, at 6:30 p.m., Rabbi Akselrad will present "Genesis of Antisemitism." "What You Don't Know About

Antisemitism in America" takes place on **Tuesday, January 23**, at 6:30 p.m., and "Why Do They Hate Jews? Are There Solutions?" takes place **Tuesday, January 30**, at 6:30 p.m.

"I'm especially proud of our Congregation's involvement in Social Justice issues since its founding 50 years ago," Rabbi Akselrad said. "This year's Social Action series will allow us opportunities to reflect back upon the impact of the reform movement as we embrace the concept of Tikkun Olam, the repair of the world. During my lecture, 'Genesis of Antisemitism,' I will talk about the involvement of Jews in civil rights, the rise of antisemitism in America, and the relationship between Jews in America and important Social Justice issues throughout the last 50 years."

Register here: bit.ly/48qdzQx

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SOCIAL ACTION PROGRAM AT CONGREGATION NER TAMID

Tuesday, January 16, 2024 6:30 p.m.
GENESIS OF ANTISEMITISM
Presented By Rabbi Sanford Akselrad

Tuesday, January 23, 2024 6:30 p.m.
**WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW ABOUT
ANTISEMITISM IN AMERICA**

Tuesday, January 30, 2024 6:30 p.m.
**WHY DO THEY HATE JEWS?
ARE THERE SOLUTIONS?**

REGISTER AT [LVNERTAMID.ORG](https://lvnertamid.org)

ALL EVENTS HELD AT CONGREGATION NER TAMID
55 N. Valle Verde Dr., Henderson

SPONSORED BY CNT'S SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE



CALLING ALL
CNT MEMBERS
21-40(ISH)



*Tuesdays,
January 9 and
February 20*

SHAKESPEARE'S
PUB & GRILLE
790 Coronado Center Dr
6:30 PM - 9:00 PM



FREE FOOD!!!
Apps on us, drinks on you!
RSVP using the QR code.



Alcoholics Anonymous®



CONGREGATION NER TAMID
IS HOSTING
ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS (AA) MEETINGS
ON WEDNESDAYS
FROM 12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M.
THESE OPEN MEETINGS WILL BE HELD
IN CNT'S CONFERENCE ROOM.
PLEASE CALL WARREN P. WITH ANY QUESTIONS
AT (530) 320-6633.

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Roberta Unger, (702) 733-6292, runger@lvnertamid.org,
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TRIBUTES

Roberta Unger,
runger@lvnertamid.org

Todah rabah! Thank you to the following who provided contributions to Congregation Ner Tamid between November 9, and December 8, 2023. We appreciate all donations, but in order for a Yahrzeit donation to be listed in the Bulletin, your donation must be a minimum of \$18.

Security Fund

**Thomas Thomas
in Honor of Jerome D. Mack
and E. Parry Thomas**



**Steven Kollins Classroom
Refurbishment Fund
In Memory of Steven Kollins**

**Barbara Cohen
Meredith Fogel
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Deborah Josephson
J. Michael Kelly
Carol Whitelaw**



Rabbi Akselrad's Discretionary Fund

Sandra Mintz



General Fund

**Helene Fleisher
in Memory of Steven Sinert
James Mayfield
in Memory of Al Glickman**



Tributes And Gifts

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Preschool And Religious School Donations

**In Memory of
'Miss Lois' Barbara Steinberg Bergman**

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Nancy Hasani
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Shana and Alex Korman
Donna and David Miller
Illisa and Eric Polis
Terry and Barbara Raben
Caren Yeaman**





IN LOVING MEMORY

REMEMBERED BY

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Rabbi Sanford D. Akselrad
rabbak@lvnertamid.org

Cantor Jessica Hutchings
cantor@lvnertamid.org

Edward Simon, Executive Director
esimon@lvnertamid.org

Roberta Unger, Managing Director
runger@lvnertamid.org

Tanya Urbina, Office and Building Manager
turbina@lvnertamid.org

Farrah Berlin-Tomaro, Director of Kantor ECEC
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hayley@cantschool.org

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Monday – Thursday.....9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Friday.....9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Phone.....(702) 733-6292

FAX.....(702) 733-8553

After Hours.....(702) 733-6292

PRESCHOOL OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Friday.....8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Phone.....(702) 632-2250

www.lvnertamid.org

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*Deceased Page 27



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MARCH 3 – NTTY LUNCH

MARCH 8 – FRIDAY NIGHT SHABBAT WITH THE SHABBATONES

MARCH 9 – GARY & LYNN KANTOR EARLY CHILDHOOD
EDUCATION CENTER'S PRESCHOOL ANNUAL
FUNDRAISER

MARCH 18 – SENIOR SCHMOOZERS

MARCH 19 – HAMANTASCHEN BAKING WITH
THE RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

MARCH 21 – SISTERHOOD'S LITERARY AND LECTURE
SOCIETY SERIES

MARCH 22 – PRESCHOOL PURIM PARADE
TOPSY-TURVY DINNER

MARCH 23 – NTTY HAVDALAH PURIM PARTY

MARCH 24 – PURIM SPIEL AND CARNIVAL

MARCH 26 – TRIVIA TUESDAY