

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
<b>November 5774 - 2013</b>  <b>Office &amp; Gift Shop Hours:</b> Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays 9AM-1PM; unless noted otherwise.	<b>Bar Mitzvah Anniversary 11/2:</b> Adam Snitzer				<b>1</b> 29 Cheshvan  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 6:00pm Services 6:30pm Shabbat Dinner 7:30pm Scholar in Residence, Arthur Kurzweil  6:16m C.L.	<b>2</b> 29 Cheshvan  9:15am Services 9:30am Shabbat School 12:45pm Scholar in Residence, Arthur Kurzweil 7:30pm "Searching for G-d in a Magic Shop" 7:17pm Havdalah  <b>Toldot</b>
<b>3</b> 30 Cheshvan  10:00am Doroteinu Program with Arthur Kurzweil - 'From Generation to Generation: How to Trace Your Jewish Genealogy and Family History"	<b>4</b> 1 Kislev	<b>5</b> 2 Kislev  4:00pm Religious School 4:30pm Havurat No'ar  7:00pm Mishneh Torah	<b>6</b> 3 Kislev  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>7</b> 4 Kislev	<b>8</b> 5 Kislev  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>  6:00pm K.I.S.S.  5:09pm C.L.	<b>9</b> 6 Kislev  9:15am Services 10:00am Shabbat School 12:45pm Torah Class  6:10pm Havdalah  <b>Vayetze</b>
<b>10</b> 7 Kislev	<b>11</b> 8 Kislev  <b>Bar and Bat Mitzvah Anniversaries 11/16:</b> Sindi Pass Jones Keith Groman Samantha Margolis	<b>12</b> 9 Kislev  4:00pm Religious School 4:30pm Havurat No'ar  7:00pm Mishneh Torah	<b>13</b> 10 Kislev  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>14</b> 11 Kislev	<b>15</b> 12 Kislev  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>  5:02pm C.L.	<b>16</b> 13 Kislev  9:15am Services 9:30am Shabbat School 12:45pm Torah Class  6:03pm Havdalah  <b>Vayishlach</b>
<b>17</b> 14 Kislev	<b>18</b> 15 Kislev  <b>Bar and Bat Mitzvah Anniversary 11/23:</b> Alek Bussell Elianna Friedman Matt Lerer Michal Spanjer	<b>19</b> 16 Kislev  4:00pm Religious School 4:30pm Havurat No'ar  7:00pm Mishneh Torah	<b>20</b> 17 Kislev  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>	<b>21</b> 18 Kislev	<b>22</b> 19 Kislev  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>  4:57pm C.L.	<b>23</b> 20 Kislev  9:15am Services Havurat No'ar 9:30am Shabbat School 12:45pm Torah Class  5:59pm Havdalah  <b>Vayeshev</b>
<b>24</b> 21 Kislev	<b>25</b> 22 Kislev	<b>26</b> 23 Kislev  4:00pm Religious School 4:30pm Havurat No'ar  7:00pm Mishneh Torah	<b>27</b> 24 Kislev  <b>EREV HANUKKAH</b>	<b>28</b> 25 Kislev  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>  <b>THANKSGIVING DAY HANUKKAH</b>	<b>29</b> 26 Kislev  <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b>  4:54pm C.L. <b>HANUKKAH</b>	<b>30</b> 27 Kislev  9:15am Services - Rabbi Louis Hirsch, Guest 9:30am Shabbat School 12:45pm Torah Class 5:56pm Havdalah  <b>Miketz HANUKKAH</b>

## ABC's of Chanukah (Hanukkah) by Rabbi Shraga Simmons *(continued from page 4 of November 2013 Bulletin)*

### When to Light

The preferable time to light the menorah is at nightfall. It is best to light in the presence of many people, which maximizes the mitzvah of "publicizing the miracle" and adds to the family atmosphere. The menorah can still be lit (with the blessings) late into the night, as long as people are still awake. The menorah should remain lit for at least 30 minutes after nightfall, during which time no use should be made of its light. On Friday afternoon, the menorah should be lit 18 minutes before sundown. And since the menorah needs to burn for 30 minutes into the night, the candles used on Friday need to be bigger than the regular "colored candles" (which typically don't burn longer than a half-hour).

### How to Light

On the first night, place one candle at the far right, as you face the menorah. This applies whether the menorah is placed next to a doorway or by a window. Another candle is placed for the Shamash (taller helper candle) which is used to light the others. It is not counted as one of the candles.

- First light the Shamash, then recite the blessings, and then use the Shamash to light the Chanukah candle.
- On the second night, place two candles in the two far-right positions — and use the Shamash to light the **left** one first.
- The third night, place three candles in the three far-right positions — and use the Shamash to light them in order, from left to right.
- Follow this same procedure each night of Chanukah... until all the lights are kindled and glowing brightly!

### The Blessings

#### Blessing #1

*Baruch ata Ado-noi Elo-heinu melech ha-olam, Asher kid-shanu bi-mitzvo-sav, Vi-tzee-vanu li-had-leek ner shel Chanukah.*

Blessed are You, the Lord our God, King of the universe, Who sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us to kindle the Chanukah light.

#### Blessing #2

*Baruch ata Ado-noi Elo-heinu melech ha-olam, Shi-asa nee-seem la-avo-seinu, Baya-meem ha-haim baz-man ha-zeh.*

Blessed are You, the Lord our God, King of the universe, Who made miracles for our forefathers, in those days at this season.

#### Blessing #3

This blessing is said on **the first night only**.

*Baruch ata Ado-noi Elo-heinu melech ha-olam, Sheh-he-che-yanu vi-kee-yimanu Vi-hee-gee-yanu laz-man ha-zeh.*

Blessed are You, the Lord our God, King of the universe, Who has kept us alive, sustained us, and brought us to this season.

The following paragraph is said each night, **after the first light has been kindled**:

*Ha-nerot ha-lalu anach-nu mad-likin Al ha-nissim vi-al hanif-laot Al ha-tshu-ot vi-al ha-milchamot She-asita la'avo-teinu Ba-yamim ha-heim, ba-zman ha-zeh Al ye-dey kohan-echa haki-doshim. Vi-chol shmonat ye-mey Chanukah Ha-nerot ha-lalu kodesh heim, Ve-ein lanu reshut li-heesh-tamesh ba-hem Ela leer-otam bilvad Kedai le-hodot u-li-hallel li-shimcha Al ni-secha vi-al niflo-techa vi-al yeshua-techa.*

We kindle these lights for the miracles and the wonders, for the redemption and the battles which You performed for our forefathers in those days at this season through Your holy priests. During all eight days of Chanukah these lights are sacred, and we are not permitted to make ordinary use of them, but only to look at them -- in order to express thanks and praise to Your great Name, for Your miracles, Your wonders, and Your salvations.

### (3) Other Customs

After lighting the Chanukah menorah, families enjoy sitting in the glow, singing and recalling the miracles of yesterday and today. The first song traditionally sung after lighting the candles is *Maoz Tzur (Rock of Ages)*. A number of other customs have developed, including:

- eating "oily" foods like latkes and *sufganiyot* (jelly donuts), in commemoration of the miracle of the oil
- giving gelt (coins) to children
- spinning the dreidel, a four-sided top with a Hebrew letter on each side (*sivivon* in Hebrew)

What is the origin of the dreidel?

In times of persecution when Torah study was forbidden, Jewish children would learn anyway. When soldiers would investigate, the children would pull out a dreidel and pretend to be playing.

The letters on the dreidel are *nun, gimmel, hey, shin* — the first letters of *Nes Gadol Haya Sham* — "A Great Miracle Happened There." (In Israel, the last letter is a *Pey* — "Here.") One way to play dreidel is to see who can keep theirs spinning for the longest time. Or alternatively, to see how many dreidels you can get spinning simultaneously.

Another version of dreidel is where players use pennies, nuts, raisins, or chocolate coins as tokens or chips. Each player puts an equal share into the "pot." The first player takes a turn spinning the dreidel. When the dreidel stops, the letter facing up determines:

- *Nun* — nothing happens; the next player spins the dreidel
- *Gimmel* — the spinner takes the pot
- *Hey* — take half the pot
- *Shin* — add one to the pot

(Alternatively, you can play where everyone spins their own dreidel simultaneously. Anyone who gets *Nun* takes 2 from the pot; *Gimmel* takes 1 from the pot; *Hey* puts 1 into the pot; *Shin* gives 1 to the person on his/her right.)

On Chanukah we add "Al Ha'nisim" — an extra paragraph which describes the Chanukah miracle — to the Amidah prayer, and also to the Grace After Meals.

Happy Chanukah!

(This article can also be read at: <http://www.aish.com/h/c/ht/48969531.html>)