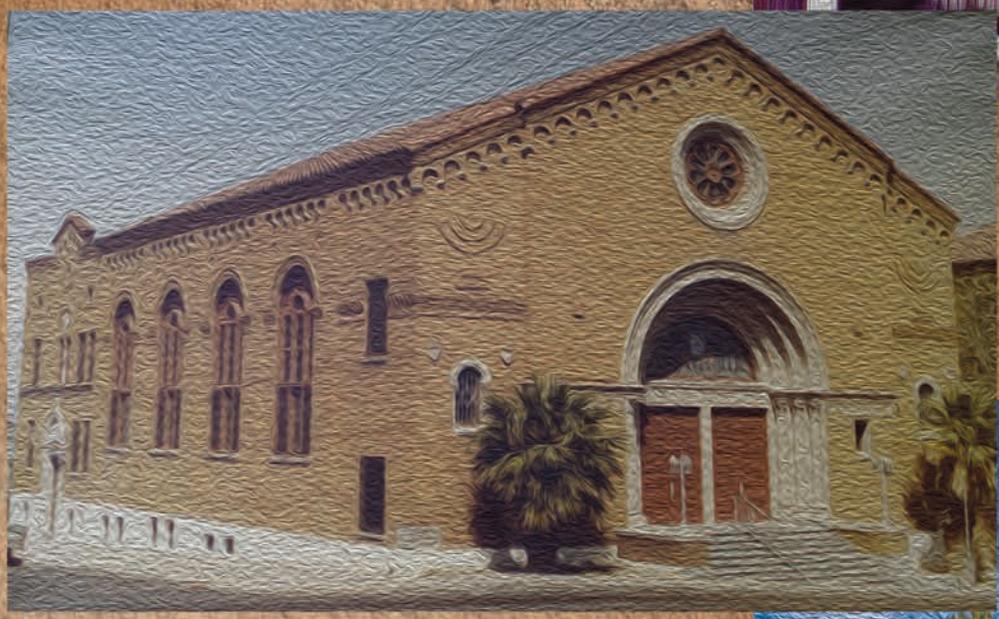


Tevet - Shevat 5780 January 2020

# The Messenger

Congregation B'nai Zion

## Our Path



to

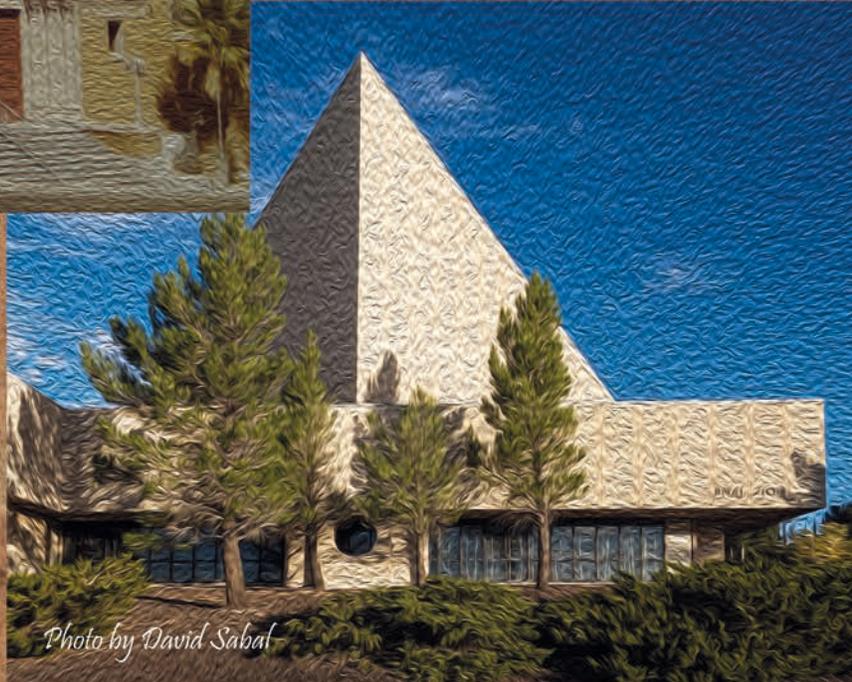


Photo by David Sabat

## 120 years

## Inside this issue...

Rabbi's Message	3
President's Message	4
Executive Director's Message	5
Of Note	9
Donations	9
Simchas	10
Yahrzeits	11
Calendar	12



### B'nai Zion Officers & Staff

Head Rabbi	Scott Rosenberg
Rabbi Emeritus	Stephen A. Leon
Executive Director	Debra Pazos
Program Manager	Denise Tolentino
President	Edward Dubowitz
1st Vice President	David Sabal
2nd Vice President	Samuel Cohen
3rd Vice President	Felicia Rubin
Treasurer	Mike Batkin
Secretary	Dora Roe
USY President	Julian Cohen
Sisterhood Co-Presidents	Sarah Williams Debbie Cohen

The Messenger is published monthly.

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT  
ISSUE OF THE MESSENGER IS**

**January 15th**

Articles and photos should be  
emailed to the synagogue office at:  
[programs@cbzep.org](mailto:programs@cbzep.org)

**Congregation B'nai Zion**

**805 Cherry Hill  
El Paso, TX 79912  
915-833-2222**

[www.congregationbnaizion.org](http://www.congregationbnaizion.org)

## Synagogue Services:

### Weekday Services:

**Monday - Friday 7:00 am  
Monday - Thursday 6:30 pm**

**Friday Kabbalat Services:  
Kabbalat Service 6:15 pm**

**Saturday Shabbat Services:  
Torah Study 9:00 am  
Shabbat Service 9:30 am**

**Jr. Congregation  
January 4 and 18 10:30 a.m.**

**Saturday Mincha followed by  
Seudah Shlesheet, Ma'ariv,  
Havdalah**

**January 4, 11, 18 5:00 pm  
January 25 5:15 pm**

**Sunday Services:  
8:30 am**

**By request only: 5:00 pm  
(contact the office by the  
Monday before)**

**Please Join us For Services**

**The office will be closed on  
January 1st  
January 20th**



# Rabbi's Message

Exactly one week after Chanukah ends, Jews around the world observe the Fast of Tevet. On the 10th day of the month of Tevet in the year 588 BCE, Nebuchadnezzar II, King of Babylonia, laid siege on Jerusalem, which ultimately led to the destruction of Solomon's temple, 18 months later, on the 9th day of Av. Since the Rabbinic period, the 10th of Tevet has been a fast day. Like all minor fast days, the fast begins just before dawn and is observed until nightfall.

Since the establishment of the State of Israel, the Israeli Chief Rabbinate additionally selected this day as the day for the recitation of Kaddish for all those who perished in the Holocaust and whose date of death remains unknown. Interestingly, yet not surprisingly, this date assignment became a matter of controversy and debate.

When the Knesset, Israel's Parliament, discussed official recognition of a day to remember the victims and heroes of the Holocaust, the 10th of Tevet was considered and rejected. Instead, the Knesset chose the 27th of Nissan, one week after Passover to mark this tragedy and to honor and remember its victims.

While official sources insist that there was no effort to link either date with the holiday that preceded it, the temporal relationship between each of the proposed dates and the preceding festival cannot be ignored. Chanukah celebrates a period of Jewish self-rule during the Hasmonean era. Passover celebrates the broad concept of freedom and specifically freedom from tyrannical rule and oppression. When I think about the differences between the underlying relevance of each of these holidays, I see a greater connection between Yom HaShoah and Passover than I do with the Tenth of Tevet.

To my thinking, the general day to recite Kaddish for those who perished during the Holocaust but whose dates of death remain unknown, is Yom HaShoah, the 27th of Nissan. The Tenth of Tevet, therefore, is solely about the events that led to the destruction of Solomon's Temple and the realities of persecution and the attack Jewish communities have faced ever since.

***Rabbi Scott Rosenberg***



## President's Message

As 2020 begins, most of us will take a moment to reflect on 2019, look forward to 2020, and make plans or commitments to make the most of this year.

As we look back as a community, we can see how much better our congregation is. We look back fondly at all the great times we had at various community meals, events, and services. We also look back and remember all the wonderful people that we lost.

Looking towards this new year and new decade, some of us will make commitments to better our health, our lives, and the lives of those around us. Let us also make a commitment this year to improve our religious and communal health. Our congregation needs your help! Two areas are in desperate need of improvement. We need people to attend services. As a conservative synagogue, we have daily morning and evening services, yet we have members that attend, only to find themselves davening silently because there is no minyan. It has been recommended that daily evening services be canceled due to a lack of interest. Many of you have said that you don't want to see this practice fade away, but fewer and fewer are participating. Let's make the commitment to attend and give our community the support it deserves. The second area that needs a dedicated commitment is the financial health of the Synagogue. We are over \$100,000 shy of our budget, we have no reserved funds to fall back on, and it goes without saying that without some strong fundraising and donations, we will not be able to continue like this. Please help us with our fundraising events, give us ideas for fundraising, spread the word and invite as many people as you know to our events. Without you, we have no community, we have no congregation, we have no future. Let us ensure that future generations have a Synagogue.

I am CBZ! (Are you?)

***-Edward "Doobie" Dubowitz***

*Please fill this out and mail it to me at:  
9431 Carnegie Ave.  
El Paso, TX 79925*

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I would like to pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help CBZ meet its budget goal!**

**I would like to volunteer to help with fundraising events.**

**I support the cancelling of evening services due to a lack of interest.**

**I don't want you to cancel evening services and will help make minyan.**



## Executive Director's Message

Many thanks to Stanlee and Jerry Rubin who once again sponsored an outstanding Chanukah dinner for the congregation. Nearly 200 people enjoyed a fabulous meal and a wonderful evening with friends and family on December 18 just ahead of and setting the tone for Chanukah which began December 22. After Rabbi Rosenberg welcomed our new members, we sang traditional Chanukah songs. Then the scrumptious dinner was served and, weather crisis notwithstanding, Steve Katz intrigued us as he spoke about his recent autobiography and entertained us with his music.

We are grateful to Felicia Rubin who prepared the delicious brisket and cucumber salad (back by popular demand following her Homemade Shabbat); to Felipa Solis and Pro Musica for providing the dinner music and donating the Zuill Bailey CDs given to each family in attendance, to Erin Pazos who went on a marathon run to Phoenix and back to bring the kosher meat to El Paso, to the Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso for the Book Zone grant that enabled us to invite Steve Katz and to the B'nai Zion staff for coordinating and managing every aspect of the event.

As 2020 begins, we are calling upon our Board of Directors and our membership to work together to meet our immediate needs, while concurrently we continue working on projects focused on our long-range vision. During the last year, we made great strides in improving member services, we brought a variety of programs to our congregation and we partnered with several other organizations to provide quality programming to the community. We've also addressed facilities concerns, the greatest of which was added security, and we found creative ways to share our space with outside organizations who brought life to otherwise empty rooms and provided a small, but still real, revenue stream.

Our success in both day-to-day activities and long-range goals is dependent on you, our members, stepping up. We're dependent on volunteers for virtually everything that happens at B'nai Zion. And everyone has a talent that we need. Felicia Rubin unintentionally set a superb example when she took a hobby, cooking, to a new level and brought us her Homemade Shabbat dinner in November. Though slightly daunted by the need to adjust her recipes to serve 100, rather than 10, she dove in, worked hard, solicited helpers and presented a delicious and very well received fundraiser dinner. I encourage each of you to take your talent and your hobbies to that next level to help your synagogue. The fun and rewards are boundless.

May your 2020 be filled with love, family, good health and happiness.

Wishing you a Happy Chanukah and a Happy New Year,  
**-Debra Pazos**

# Homemade Shabbat Dinner and Fundraiser

Kudos to Felicia Rubin for the fabulous Shabbat dinner-fundraiser she orchestrated for our congregation on Friday, November 22nd.

Felicia thought it would be wonderful to bring our community together for a delicious dinner and, at the same time, raise some money for the Shul. She did the planning, the shopping and made a gazillion phone calls and she, supported by every member of our staff, did the cooking. Events like this are not only enjoyable to attend, but they help us bridge our budget deficit.

Thank you, Felicia, for doing everything that was necessary to make this event the great success that it was. You are an inspiration to us and set a stunning example for those among us who care deeply about our shul but hadn't found a way to make our passion work for the shul.

B'nai Zion needs to raise \$100,000 before the end of our fiscal year in June in order to meet our budgeted commitments. Let's follow Felicia's lead and help our shul close the budget gap. Your shul needs you. We can raise the money we need if each of us participates in our fundraising efforts. We welcome your ideas and encourage your involvement.



# Chanukah Dinner and Celebration

B'nai Zion set the mood for Chanukah on December 18, 2019, just ahead of the start of Chanukah, with our annual Chanukah dinner. Close to 200 members of the Jewish community were in attendance. The evening commenced with the presenting of appreciation plaques, welcoming of new members, and a few words from Rabbi Rosenberg. We sang some of our favorite Chanukah songs together and then enjoyed a delightful dinner, highlighted by some of Felicia Rubin's secret family recipes. The evening ended with a FaceTime call to Steve Katz, author and founding member of Blood, Sweat and Tears, who was unable to join us in person due to the weather up North, but entertained us nevertheless with an intimate conversation and his music.

A special thanks to Stanlee & Jerry Rubin for generously sponsoring our Chanukah celebration, and to Felicia Rubin for helping to prepare the delicious meal. We also thank Felipa Solis and El Paso Pro Musica for providing background music during dinner and donating a Zuill Bailey CD for every family in attendance. Thank you to the Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso for the CBZ Book Zone grant, to the entire CBZ staff and the volunteers who made this event possible and, last but not least, to all who attended.



# Talmud Torah Shabbat

On Friday night, December 13, 2019, our Talmud Torah students led Kabbalat Shabbat Services. The students joyfully led us in prayers and shared thoughts about what makes Shabbat meaningful to them. The service featured a special early oneg where the students and their families socialized with members of the congregation.

In recognition of the students' participation, Congregation B'nai Zion has placed an engraved tile on the Path to Our History in their honor. Congratulations to Jordyn Paseornek, Marshall Lipson, Ross Lipson, Shalom Sosa, Davna Rosenfield and Miriam Davidoff.

We are so proud of our Talmud Torah students. B'nai Zion thanks our teachers, Rabbi Leon and Renaye Feldt, and parent volunteer Shane Lipson for working with our students and helping them prepare for Talmud Torah Shabbat.

**CONGREGATION B'NAI ZION**  
BOOK ZONE

Presents  
**Rebecca Erbelding**

Rebecca Erbelding's first book, *Rescue Board: The Untold Story of America's Efforts to save the Jews of Europe*, won the JDC-Herbert Katzki National Book Award.

Rebecca Erbelding is a historian, curator, and archivist at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum. Her work has been featured in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The New Yorker*, and on *The History Channel* and *National Geographic*.

**DAY / TIME / LOCATION**  
Thursday, February 13, 2020  
6:30 pm  
El Paso Holocaust Museum  
And Study Center  
715 N Oregon St.  
El Paso, TX 79902

Sponsored by the  
El Paso Holocaust Museum  
And Study Center

Sponsored by a generous grant by the  
Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso

**Jewish Federation**  
OF GREATER EL PASO

**Jewish Book Council**

**CONGREGATION B'NAI ZION**

**HEBREW READING CRASH COURSE**

Learn to read Hebrew with Tanny Berg  
Every Sunday in January, 2020 | 9:30 AM  
THIS PROGRAM IS FREE OF CHARGE AND OPEN TO ALL AGES

CBZ Book Zone is sponsored by a generous grant by the Jewish Federation of Greater El Paso



**Proudly Printed & Mailed By:**

**H&H Marketing Services**  
9431 Carnegie Ave  
El Paso, TX 79925  
www.hnhmailmarketing.com  
915-591-6245

Shop Local,  
Save Time & Money  
El Paso's One Stop Shop  
Direct Mail Marketing  
Printing & Graphic Design  
UV Coating In-House  
Business Cards  
Catalogs & Brochures  
Flyers & Postcards  
Posters & Banners  
Perfect Binding  
Perforated Vinyl  
& So Much More

Contact the Office to advertise in The Messenger and see the results for yourself.

## Of Note

Thank you to the following members for sponsoring:

### Friday Night Oneg

12/06 Julie Chernobond – In loving memory of her mother, Joan Chernobond

### Sunday Bagel Breakfast

12/15 Margie & Guy Hauptman – In loving memory of his mother, Sara Hauptman

*Many thanks to Stanlee and Jerry Rubin for sponsoring our Chanukah Dinner.*

*Thank you to everyone who donated on Giving Tuesday and 2nd Chance Tuesday. Your donations go a long way in supporting B'nai Zion and its mission!*

*Welcome New Members!  
Marie & Dr. Louis Robbins  
Robin & Neil Stemerman*

*We recognize and thank the B'nai Zion staff for this year of hard work and dedication. We would not be where we are today without them. We are most appreciative for their diligence, motivation and attention to quality in order to achieve the best possible results. THANK YOU CBZ STAFF!*

# Donations Page

## BUILDING FUND DONATIONS

### In Honor Of

Ann Goodman Schaechner from Irwin, Beth, Debra, Maurice & Shayna Kurland

## CEMETERY PERPETUAL CARE

### In Memory Of

Elsie Cohen from Bernadine Belkin

Anita Millman from Bernadine Belkin

Milton Cohen from Bernadine Belkin

Esther E. Mintz from Debbie & John Johnson

Ann Schaechner from Stanlee & Gerald Rubin

Ann Schaechner from Elena & Stanley Goldman

## GENERAL DONATION

### In Honor Of

Our children and grandchildren from Eileen & Richard Armour

Dr. Harvey Greenberg from Gloria Davidoff

### In Memory Of

Ninette Altus from Leslie & Robert Beckoff

Ida Epstein from Sharna & Michael Epstein

Herbert Feinberg from Arlene Feinberg

Joan Feinberg from Arlene Feinberg

Ann Schaechner from Cherryll & Lester Lieberman

Larry Peitzer from Harold Peitzer

Rose Rosenberg from Barbara & Ben Rosenberg

Ann Schaechner from Catherine & Dr. Jeffrey Weislow

## MARLA STEIN MEMORIAL FUND

### In Memory Of

Marla Stein from Drs. Margaret & Scott Stein

Marla Rae Stein from Sharon Stein

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

### In Honor Of

Wishing good health to Tanny Berg from Irwin, Beth, Debra, Maurice & Shayna Kurland

Wishing good health to Harold Peitzer from Irwin, Beth, Debra, Maurice & Shayna Kurland

## TALMUD TORAH FUND

### In Memory Of

Ninette Altus from Maurice Kurland

## TEENS TO ISRAEL (EVA WEISER FUND)

### In Honor Of

Joyce Davidoff and Mike White on their wedding from Shirleen Askenazi

## USY FUND

### In Honor Of

Leticia & Parviz Neiman wishing them the best in this new chapter of their lives from Nazanin Shaouli

# January Simchas

## Birthdays

**1/1**  
Judah Lesser  
Vivian Meyers

**1/2**  
Doris Gluck  
Simon Eisenberg

**1/4**  
Judah Eisenberg  
Cherryll Lieberman  
Daniel Paseornek

**1/5**  
Eileen Armour  
David Sabal

**1/6**  
Robert Jacobson

**1/7**  
Wilma Salzman  
Alison Westermann

**1/13**  
Eliseo Pena

**1/14**  
Ilisa Naparstek  
Marvin Rubin  
Bernard Felsen

**1/15**  
Beth Lipson  
Edward Dubowitz

**1/16**  
Beverly Robinson

**1/18**  
David Schonberg

**1/19**  
Mario Aranda  
Sandra Levenson

**1/20**  
Julio Sidransky  
Lenore Kobren

**1/21**  
Benita Neumann

**1/22**  
Lane Frank

**1/23**  
Guadalupe Ramos  
Karen Kaplowitz

**1/24**  
Sam Kobren  
Laura Tolentino

**1/25**  
Mildred Levitt  
Madison Nadler

**1/26**  
Dr. Todd Reiter

**1/27**  
Harvey Plaut

**1/28**  
Arvin Robinson

**1/29**  
Rose Kupfer  
Audrey Lavi

**1/30**  
Alice Kasner

**1/31**  
Emilie Swartz  
Dora M. Roe  
Shaya Holland  
Stephen A. Valdes

## Anniversaries

**1/2**  
Molly & Bernard Goldberg  
Robin & Richard Krasne

**1/4**  
Gail Slater & Mario Aranda

**1/6**  
Joyce & Carl Lieb

**1/8**  
Amy & Allan Goldfarb

**1/9**  
Leslie & Richard Grodin

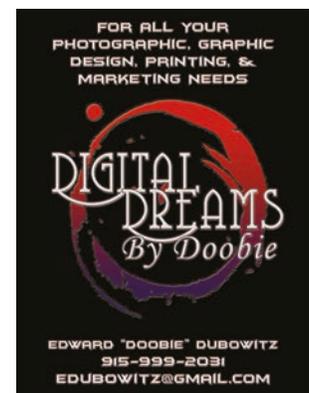
**1/12**  
Peggy & Andrew Feinberg

**1/16**  
Linda & Nat Holzer

**1/22**  
Sara & Robert Shiloff

**1/29**  
Melinda & Meyer Marcus

Designed by:



# January Yahrzeits

1/2 (5 Tevet)

Julio Freifeld  
Mary Koortz  
Sarah Intebi  
Theresa Anastasia Paul

1/3 (6 Tevet)

Dixie Kerr  
Mannie Blaugrund  
Oscar Lozabnick

1/4 (7 Tevet)

Florence Cohen  
Miriam Margolis

1/5 (8 Tevet)

Doris Persky  
Min Spetalnick

1/6 (9 Tevet)

Alexander Schonberg  
Amy Gail Wilson  
Leo Chayes  
Mary Diamond  
Yochel Kofsky

1/7 (10 Tevet)

Sam Holland

1/8 (11 Tevet)

Helen Roth  
Isidore Dockswell  
Rebecca Morgan

1/10 (13 Tevet)

Nell Carvajal

1/12 (15 Tevet)

Anne Weiser  
Irvine (Mokey) Jacobson  
Morris Weiss  
Nathaniel Falber  
Susan Klahr

1/14 (17 Tevet)

Bertha Zditowski  
Ethel Hutman  
Gladys Slater

1/15 (18 Tevet)

Rowena Heller

1/16 (19 Tevet)

Max Schecter  
Philip Yellin

1/17 (20 Tevet)

Cindy Lax Ardell

1/18 (21 Tevet)

Moe Needle  
Ruth Gluck

1/19 (22 Tevet)

Bluma Silverstein  
Karen Licht  
Sidney Zaben

1/20 (23 Tevet)

Carolyn Warach  
Rose Luskey  
Ruth Dula  
Samuel Metzger

1/21 (24 Tevet)

Blanche Felsen  
Daniel Zurio  
Evelynne Belford  
Miriam Suchowiecky  
Rose Wilk  
William Beleck

1/22 (25 Tevet)

Bernard Gluck  
Don Goldman  
Joseph Altus  
Nellie Chernoo  
Rosa Maurer  
Vivian Katz

1/23 (26 Tevet)

Batya Yellin  
Steven Krisel

1/24 (27 Tevet)

Esther Claire Brown  
Molly de Mayo

1/25 (28 Tevet)

Elisa Robinson McKleroy  
Irving Rubin

1/26 (29 Tevet)

Herman Golden  
Julius Feiner  
Mordecai Aaronson

1/27 (1 Shevat)

Idelle Rubin  
Leah Goldberg  
Louis Rubin  
Magda Schaechner

1/28 (2 Shevat)

Bertha Edelman  
Chaye Heller  
Mary Horowitz  
Phyllis Chonoles

1/29 (3 Shevat)

Julius Cohen  
Manuel Corral  
Sara Gluck

1/30 (4 Shevat)

Franklin Slusser  
Michael Zurio

1/31 (5 Shevat)

Albert Nedow  
Joel Kleinfeld  
Rosa Wernicky

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
El Paso, TX  
Permit No. 1421

Congregation B'nai Zion  
805 Cherry Hill Ln.  
El Paso, TX 79912

**B'nai Zion**

**January 2020**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>5:0 Tzeit</b> No Talmud Torah Morning Prayers 8:30a Hebrew Reading Course 9:30a Israeli Dance Class 10:00a Adult Education Course 10:30a	<b>6:0 Tzeit</b> Morning Prayers 7:00a Evening Prayers 6:30p	<b>7:20 Tzeit</b> <b>Fast of Tzeit</b> Morning Prayers 7:00a Evening Prayers 6:30p	<b>8:11 Tzeit</b> Morning Prayers 7:00a Talmud Torah 4:00p Evening Prayers 6:30p	<b>9:12 Tzeit</b> Morning Prayers 7:00a Evening Prayers 6:30p	<b>10:13 Tzeit</b> Morning Prayers 7:00a Candle Lighting 5:02p Family Shabbat 5:45p Mincha 5:00p	<b>11:14 Tzeit Vayechi</b> Torah Study 9:00a Shabbat Services 9:30a Mincha 5:00p
<b>12:15 Tzeit</b> Morning Prayers 8:30a Talmud Torah 9:00a Hebrew Reading Course 9:30a Israeli Dance Class 10:00a Adult Education Course 10:30a	<b>13:16 Tzeit</b> Morning Prayers 7:00a Evening Prayers 6:30p	<b>14:17 Tzeit</b> Morning Prayers 7:00a Evening Prayers 6:30p	<b>15:18 Tzeit</b> Morning Prayers 7:00a Talmud Torah 4:00p Evening Prayers 6:30p	<b>16:19 Tzeit</b> Morning Prayers 7:00a Evening Prayers 6:30p	<b>17:20 Tzeit</b> Morning Prayers 7:00a Candle Lighting 5:09p Kabbalat Shabbat 6:15p Mincha 5:00p	<b>18:21 Tzeit Shekot</b> Torah Study 9:00a Shabbat Services 9:30a Jr. Congregation 10:30a Mincha 5:00p
<b>19:22 Tzeit</b> No Talmud Torah Morning Prayers 8:30a Hebrew Reading Course 9:30a Israeli Dance Class 10:00a Adult Education Course 10:30a	<b>20:23 Tzeit</b> Office Closed Morning Prayers 7:00a Evening Prayers 6:30p	<b>21:24 Tzeit</b> Morning Prayers 7:00a Evening Prayers 6:30p	<b>22:25 Tzeit</b> Morning Prayers 7:00a Talmud Torah 4:00p Evening Prayers 6:30p	<b>23:26 Tzeit</b> Morning Prayers 7:00a Evening Prayers 6:30p	<b>24:27 Tzeit</b> Morning Prayers 7:00a Candle Lighting 5:15p Early Oneg 5:30p Kabbalat Shabbat 6:15p Mincha 5:15p	<b>25:28 Tzeit Vaera</b> <b>Shabbat Mevarchim</b> Torah Study 9:00a Shabbat Services 9:30a Mincha 5:15p
<b>26:29 Tzeit</b> Morning Prayers 8:30a Talmud Torah 9:00a Hebrew Reading Course 9:30a Israeli Dance Class 10:00a Adult Education Course 10:30a	<b>27:1 Shevat</b> <b>Rosh Chodesh Shevat</b> Morning Prayers 7:00a Evening Prayers 6:30p	<b>28:2 Shevat</b> Morning Prayers 7:00a Evening Prayers 6:30p	<b>29:3 Shevat</b> Morning Prayers 7:00a Talmud Torah 4:00p Evening Prayers 6:30p	<b>30:4 Shevat</b> Morning Prayers 7:00a Evening Prayers 6:30p	<b>31:5 Shevat</b> Morning Prayers 7:00a Candle Lighting 5:20p Kabbalat Shabbat 6:15p	