

Kol K.I.

learn. inspire. grow. together.



16 Colt Road | Pittsfield, Massachusetts 01201 | 413.445.4872 | knessetisrael.org • Rabbi David Weiner | Jesse Cook-Dubin, President

Sending Messages of Support to Israel



During the October Families Together event, students made artful cards to send to Israel to help bring a smile to those who are having a hard time. The students wrote very compassionate messages.

For more photos from Families Together and Hebrew School events, turn to page 16.

A Thriving Hebrew School

A chance to discover Judaism and Jewish life

— by Rabbi David Weiner

It's hard to believe that we have reached the halfway point of the Hebrew School year! After the changes we made to the funding and structure of the program this summer, it is important to share with the congregation some of what has been happening in our classrooms.

Enrollment

Enrollment is up, and attendance is consistently high. When Knesset Israel changed its policies to incorporate Jewish education as a privilege of synagogue membership, rather than requiring a separate tuition payment, it opened the doors of the school and the synagogue.

continued on page 2

In This Issue

From the Rabbi	. 1-3
Service Schedule	4
Classes & Events	. 4-5
Member Mitzvahs & Mazel Tovs	6
Hamantashen	. 6-7
Advertisers	8
Yahrzeits	9-11
Funds & Endowments1	2-15
Student activity photos	16

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KNESSET ISRAEL

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continued from page 1

With the financial barriers removed, several families joined or rejoined KI and began sending their children to the program. Also a few students from Temple Anshe Amunim are participating in elements of the school program, especially our Shabbat morning Jewish Studies classes.

A vibrant Saturday

A typical Shabbat morning at Knesset Israel's Hebrew School is guite vibrant. The morning often begins with inspiring, energetic singing for all students led by Mike Duffy, a new teacher who is a lay leader at Temple Anshe Amunim. Dana Siegel teaches a small group of kindergarten students about Hebrew letter recognition, Shabbat, holidays, and Jewish values. Amy Abramovich and Ellen Masters lead the Jewish Studies program for elementary school students; both of them are teaching selections from the prophets and, in an age-appropriate way, biographies of Jewish people of significance. Rebecca Cook-Dubin is facilitating an energetic Junior Congregation, where students learn the words, melodies and practice of prayer. Rebecca has initiated family-focused mornings, when parents join in the program, and intergenerational days that encourage conversation between the students and senior members of the synagogue. Occasionally our fifth grade students read Torah. Meanwhile, Jilly Lederman, Elisa Snowise, Jeff Cook, and Ari Weiner teach our bar/bat/brit mitzvah program, where four students are learning to lead services, read Torah and Haftarah, and prepare Divrei Torah, while also studying ancient Jewish history. New this year is Tot Shabbat, when the youngest congregants of KI and Temple Anshe Amunim gather with their parents for an adorable early childhood mini-service and program, led by Mike Duffy and Dana Siegel.

I am looking forward to our students' continued learning and discovery of Judaism, Jewish community, and lewish life.

Learning Hebrew and more

Renewed programming on Wednesday afternoons has been drawing consistent participation. While bar/bat/brit mitzvah classes are taking place in the library, the classrooms downstairs are buzzing with activity. Students begin the afternoon with a one-hour Hebrew lesson, in very small groups led by Molly Souede, Rabbi Becca Walker, Amy Abramovich, Elisa Snowise, and Joe Weiner. Everyone is moving forward, and we are especially pleased with the brisk progress of the "Hebrew Reading from Scratch" class, which has already mastered half the alphabet! In the second hour of the program, students have been engaged in arts projects and experiential activities related to holiday themes, led by Rabbi Becca, often in partnership with Molly. Highlights have included tashlich, banana breads and gratitude jars for Thanksgiving, and hanukiyot for Hannuka; we are looking forward to a tallit-making project and dramatics in the winter and spring.

A vibrant community

Add congregational programming — Shirei Shabbat, Community Shabbat Dinners, Families Together, Simchat Torah, Purim, our new Board Games Shabbat — and the Jewish education experience for children and families at Knesset Israel is embracing and energizing. I am looking forward to our students' continued learning and discovery of Judaism, Jewish community, and Jewish life.

Standing in Solidarity with Israel

Excerpts from Rabbi Weiner's email updates

Below are two brief excerpts from Rabbi Weiner's very informative December 1 email to the congregation: Standing In Solidarity with Israel.

Israeli Rabbinical Assembly solidarity mission

Rabbi Weiner signed up to travel to Israel with a group of about 20 North American Conservative rabbis for a 5-day mission of solidarity and pastoral care in mid-December. Invited by their colleagues in Israel, they traveled as rabbis, intending to provide much-needed support to our overwhelmed Israeli counterparts and to offer a listening ear to families displaced from their homes in northern and southern Israel.

From Rabbi Weiner: It doesn't matter which rabbis go, but some of us need to show up. I feel blessed to be in a position to say "Hineni" to this important mitzvah. The sense of isolation and abandonment among Israelis is palpable, even across the ocean, and I get the sense that a compassionate presence and listening ear will make a difference. On Shabbat morning, January 6, Rabbi Weiner hopes to offer a more organized message reflecting on what he heard, learned, and experienced in Israel. Watch K.I.'s E-news for any date change and details.

Jewish Perspectives on this Moment

If you choose one thing to watch/listen to, Jewish Perspectives on this Moment, (hartman.org.il/jewish-perspectives-on-thismoment/) a Zoom webinar from the Hartman Institute was especially moving. Two gifted scholars of Judaism — both women of color, both peace activists, one a rabbi and poet/philosopher in Israel and the other a community leader in New York—pour out their hearts in pursuit of understanding and compassion.

KOL K.I. PUBLICATION NOTES

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DEADLINE • JANUARY 1 for the MARCH ISSUE



Submit weekly announcements to the K.I. E-News.

To submit, write a short paragraph with the what, where, and when and email it to Diana at office@knessetisrael.org. Include an image if you have one. Deadline: Tuesdays for Thursday E-News.

Prayers for Healing. Submit prayer requests to Diana by email at office@knessetisrael.org before 11:00 a.m. Friday mornings.

The Book of Life. K.I.'s guide to everything, including burial and lifecycle policies, is on the K.I. website: knessetisrael.org.

In compliance with United Synagogue standards,

it is requested that you refrain from conducting synagogue business via email, text, and/or phone calls on Shabbat. Thank you.

Did you know that Knesset Israel has a Facebook page?

If you are on Facebook please "friend" our page and comment on, like, and share our posts.

A summary of the weekly parsha

appears at the bottom of the weekly K.I. E-News.

K.I. Cares

If you or another K.I. member you know is experiencing serious illness requiring support, please contact the Care Committee by emailing Diana at office@knessetisrael.com. We will be in touch with you.

Shabbat Cardle Lighting

JANUARY

Friday, January 5	4:16 p.m.
Friday, January 12	4:23 p.m.
Friday, January 19	4:32 p.m.
Friday, January 26	4:40 p.m.
•	•

FEBRUARY

Friday, February 2	4:50 p.m.
Friday, February 9	4:59 p.m.
Friday, February 16	5:08 p.m.
Friday, February 23	5:17 p.m.

Weekly Services

■ SUNDAY MORNING MINYAN

IN PERSON8:4	15 a.m.
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■ TUESDAY EVENING DAVENING

■ THURSDAY EVENING DAVENING

ON ZOOM	7:00 p.m.
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■ FRIDAY KABBALAT SHABBAT

IN PERSON AND LIVESTREAM.	5.45 n m
IN PERSON AND LIVES I REAM.	

- January 5 (snow date January 12) Shirei Shabbat, followed by dinner at 6:45 p.m.
- January 19 Musical Minyan (no dinner)
- February 2 Musical Minyan (no dinner)
- February 9 (snow date February 16) Shirei Shabbat, followed by dinner at 6:45 p.m.

■ SATURDAY SHABBAT SERVICE

IN PERSON AND LIVESTREAM...... 9:30 a.m.

LIVESTREAM: www.knessetisrael.org/livestream **ZOOM:** https://us02web.zoom.us/j/934910554

MEETING ID: 934 910 554

Special Services

■ TOT SHABBAT

Saturdays, January 6 and February 3 10-10:45 a.m. in the K.I. Chapel

Mike Duffy, a song leader and a Jewish educator at Temple Anshe Amunim will lead the morning. Gather for singing and fun, and maybe stay for a snack after. This program is geared for children K-1 and younger who are accompanied by parents, grandparents, or guardians. All are welcome. We hope you will attend to celebrate Shabbat with us!

■ SPECIAL JUNIOR CONGREGATION SERVICES

Saturday, January 6 — Shabbat with Parents Saturday, February 3 — Intergenerational Shabbat In the K.I. Chapel

Junior Congregation extends an invitation to share these special Shabbat services with us. We hope you will attend.

Families Together

■ FAMILIES TOGETHER MUSIC & PAJAMAS HAVDALAH

Saturday, January 20 5:30 p.m. in the Social Hall

The end of Shabbat is a sweet opportunity for us all to connect and welcome the new week. Parents and children will gather for a musical Havdalah complete with hot chocolate. Feel free to wear your coziest PJs, too! There will be stories and activities related to Havdalah. Whether Havdalah is your regular practice — or this will be your first — you will enjoy this evening.

■ FAMILIES TOGETHER DINNER

Wednesday, February 7 5:15 p.m. in the Social Hall

Join Families together for a cooking event for all ages. We will learn about and cook some traditional Jewish foods (and maybe even one you haven't heard of!). Families Together is generously funded by the Harold Grinspoon Foundation.

Emergency Contacts

PASTORAL CARE

If you need emergency pastoral care for any reason, please contact Rabbi Weiner. 413-445-4872, ext. 10.

FUNERALS

Knesset Israel's arrangements are handled with Flynn-Dagnoli Funeral Home. Please call 413-663-6523 or 413-442-1733. You can also email flynndagnoli@albany.twbc.com.

Adult Education

■ NEW THURSDAY MORNING **ADULT EDUCATION CLASS: DEATH PENALTY IN THE TALMUD**

with Rabbi David Weiner

Thursdays, January 4 through March 21 10:45 a.m.-noon in the K.I. Library, with a Zoom option.

KI's Thursday Morning Adult Education class continues with a new topic in 2024: The Death Penalty in the Talmud. This class, developed by Rabbi Miriam-Simma Walfish for Project Zug (projectzug.org), will be facilitated by Rabbi David Weiner. Sessions

will incorporate small group discussions and text study, and course participants will be able to watch Rabbi Walfish's lectures online.

Rabbi Walfish describes the course as follows: "At times, modern death penalty discourse can seem black and white and simplistic. Those who support it cite deterrence and retribution as the primary reasons for this punishment, while those against often cite the possibility of wrongful conviction and the sanctity of human life as reasons against.

"What often gets neglected, however, is any discussion of the intricacies of the death penalty process itself. As

Beth Berkowitz states in her book Execution and Invention: Death Penalty Discourse in Early Rabbinic and Christian Cultures (which inspired this course), we will examine rabbinic discussions of the death penalty, "...in order to better understand the nexus between violence and authority in the cultures of ancient Judaism and, ultimately, in our own."

"Together we will explore questions such as "is a 'good death' ever possible?" What is the role of retribution in the criminal justice system then and now? How do the rituals of death empower or remove agency from the various actors involved? We will pair rabbinic texts with more modern takes on the death penalty and allow both types of sources to draw out aspects in the other we may not have seen otherwise."

New participants are welcome, and advance registration is required. Please email office@knessetisrael.org to sign up. Current participants in Rabbi Weiner's Psalms class will have their registration rolled over automatically.

There is no charge. Donations to support adult education at Knesset Israel are always welcome.

■ ANOTHER ANGLE: EXODUS

with Rabbi Becca Walker

Wednesdays, January 3, 10, 17 and 24; February 7 and 14 10:45-11:45 a.m. (new time!)

This interactive class will study the Torah portion with a twist. Each week we will look at a text from rabbinic literature (like the Talmud or midrash) that relates back to the Torah portion from the book of Exodus. Each class we will do a deep dive into a few verses and appreciate the different viewpoints across texts and commentaries, and even add our own. The class is discussion-based and appropriate for all levels. This is a drop-in class, so come when your schedule allows. It will run for 6 sessions starting January 3. Register at knessetisrael.org/RSVP



Shabbat Sha-basics will look into the origins of Shabbat customs and traditons, like the Challah cover.

■ SHABBAT SHA-BASICS

with Rabbi Becca Walker

Wednesdays, February 14 and 28; March 6 7:30-8:45 p.m. in the K.I. Library and on Zoom

This 3-session class is a great way to explore Shabbat practice, and to gain tools to deepen your Shabbat experience. We will cover the how(s) and why(s) of Shabbat. Together we will learn/refresh how to set the table, do the blessings (candles, kiddush, etc.), and discover what they mean. We will look into the origins of the different Shabbat customs and traditions, and

so much more! This is a judgment-free class—come with your questions. This class is great for those are Shabbat beginners, or others who would appreciate a refresher — all are welcome!

■ WANT TO VISIT THE YIDDISH BOOK CENTER?

Gauging interest for a winter excursion

The Adult Education Committee is planning a trip to see the new permanent exhibit at the Yiddish Book Center in Amherst this winter. We are trying to get an idea of how many people would be interested in going. We would aim for a Sunday visit, and depending on cost, may either secure a small bus and driver or organize a carpool — all weather-permitting. If you are interested please let Sheila Goldlust know at the email below. This is not a commitment on your part, we are simply trying to determine the level of interest from K.I. Contact sigoldlust@gmail.com.

Member Mitzvahs & Mazel Tovs

- Nathan Asher Promisel, grandson of Myra and Larry Promisel, celebrated his Bar Mitzvah on September 30, 2023, at Temple B'nai Jeshurun in Short Hills, New Jersey. Nathan is the son of Seth and Amy Promisel. Mazel Tov!
- Joseph Weiner, son of Rabbi David and Judith Weiner, was honored with the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents' Certificate of Academic Excellence. The annual award is given to students who excell in both academic achievement and community involvement. "One of his teachers describes him as a 'driven and passionate young man who rises up to the challenge each time with a positive attitude."' 1

Joe was nominated by school counselor Ann Marie Mutz, who commented: "One personal asset that Joe exhibits is helping others. This is seen most often in math class but does continue into his Sharing joy is one way to build the bonds of community. KOL K.I. is here to print any good news you have — babies born, special birthdays, anniversaries, awards, teen accomplishments, anything uplifts us.

If you hear or know of any nachas, just email the "Mitzvah Maven" at chama2194@gmail.com. Anvthina retroactive is welcome — photos too. Wishing you joy to send so that all can share.

musical experiences with others as well as his Synagogue."1

You make us all proud, Joe.

¹ iBerkshires, October 15: "Two Pittsfield Upperclassmen Given Academic Excellence Award."

- A little late, but we wanted to acknowledge that this past November, our talented member Steve Miller performed in the Oldies but Goodies show at Wahconah Regional High School in Dalton. Applause, applause!
- Todah Rabah to all the members of K.I. who participated in the "Stand with Israel" rally in Washington, D.C. Demonstrators gathered at the National Mall on November 14 in support of Israel and against the antisemitic incidents that have resulted in the U.S. since the start of the Hamas war. Thank you for representing us among the tens of thousands of Jewish people and supporters. Am Yisrael Chai.
- We would like to recognize Fred Landes, who recently volunteered at a branch of Wolfson Hospital in Tel Aviv, Israel, and offered some reflections on his experience as a guest d'var torah at K.I.'s December 30 Shabbat services.

Want to Make Some Hamantashen?

Volunteers needed for all steps of process

— by Cindy Helitzer

This year we are continuing the K.I. tradition of baking hamantashen for the Purim holiday. Of course, we need volunteers to help with rolling the dough, filling, pinching the shapes, watching the ovens and packing the cookies.

Baking happens on Sunday mornings, 9 a.m. to noon, starting January 14 through February 25. Two baking Sundays will be added if needed due to weather conditions. If you would like to volunteer to help with this fun project, contact Cindy Helitzer at chelitzer2012@gmail. com. Then rollup your sleeves, tie back your hair, put on your gloves ... and bake!

This winter's Purim fundraiser will raise money to support Knesset Israel. The form to order your hamantashen is on the next page.



Cindy Helitzer and Susan Gorden heading up the hamantashen baking crew in 2022.

NO PHONE ORDERS

Share the Joy of Purim by giving Mishloach Manot gift bags filled with delicious hamantashen made by Knesset Israel volunteers! Mishloach Manot describes the mitzvah of exchanging gifts of food during the holiday of Purim.

You may also purchase **Hamantashen by the Dozens – see below**.

	Mishloach Manot Gift Bags		
nant	On the included list of KI congregants/staff, please check off to whom you wish to give a gift of hamantashen. Please send this list back with your order.		
	\$300 to give Mishloach Manot to every KI member/staff		
	\$200 to reciprocate to those who give to you (choose up to 13 names)		
	Choose 1-12 names - each bag of hamantashen is \$16. Number of bags X \$16 =		
	Mishlo	ach Manot Total =\$	
	Hamantashen by the Dozens!		
	How many dozen of each flavor:		
	ApricotRaspberry	_Mixed (6 apricot/6 raspberry)	
	# of dozens x	\$16 per dozen =	
Your name	:: A	mount enclosed:	
Your emai	: PI	none:	
How would	d you like your name to be signed on Mishloach Manot letter	?	
Please print o	early		

Make check payable to Knesset Israel with "hamantashen" in the memo Return your orders by February 16th to Knesset Israel, 16 Colt Rd., Pittsfield, MA 01201



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20 TEVET - JAN. 1

Irving Model Lillian Strul Vera Ganter Pauline Israel **Arnold Lobovits** Morton Safran

21 TEVET - JAN. 2

Ronnie Schlichter Bacall Regina Becker Stanley Kaufman Robert S. Braun Harry Weltman

22 TEVET - JAN. 3

Aranka Molnar Harry Aranove William Weltman William Waller Siegfried Servos

23 TEVET - JAN. 4

Elissa Landes Joyce Schiller William Taubin Abraham Arthur Geller Leonard Bleetstein Hilda Buckheim Jacob Klein Zipporah Buckheim Herman Garbowit Louis Shainblum **Bessie Samek**

24 TEVET - JAN. 5

Doris Sobin Zelda Karlin Maurice Solomon Lipschitz Lena Skoletsky Sylvia Lippman Zuckerman

25 TEVET - JAN. 6

Benjamin Cohen Harriette Wax Esther Leah Starkman **Howard Samel** Magda Winter Isadore Starkman Leonard Hazen Matthew Zachary Lipman Sidney Novick Abraham Green

26 TEVET - JAN. 7

Sheldon Rothberg Max Mostofsky Pauline Greenapple Barry Siegel Mildred Azer Mollie Heller

27 TEVET - JAN. 8

Hy Radin Mary Spellman Sidney Rosenthal Alice Kravetz Deutch Alexander Kurk Rose Raser Benjamin Zlotnick Janette A. T. **Berkwitz**

28 TEVET - JAN. 9

Jerome Silverman Sophie Apkin Katz Charles Skolnick Arthur I. Samel Shirley Metzger

29 TEVET - JAN. 10

Ellen Simon Max Gruberg Elizabeth Cohen Elizabeth Cohen Chainman

Ner Adonai Nishmat Adam God's light is the soul of every person.

1 SHEVAT - JAN. 11

Julius Silverman Stanley Halperin Samuel Rivlin **Shirley Evans** Sam Samel Jeffrey A. Goldberg Gabriel Rosenthal Selma Sussman Leonard Lerner **Rose Weiss** Morris Rispler

2 SHEVAT - JAN. 12

Seymour Yanofski Solomon Brochin Hyman Cohn Charles Goldstein Sidney Temple Betty Jo "Tina" Schreiber

3 SHEVAT - JAN. 13

Max Bookless Ann L. Klein Morris Weiss Seymour Bernstein Anna Brand Phila Kriger

4 SHEVAT - JAN. 14

Idele R. Huff Ida Golda Badanes Morris Metropole Gracia Negrin Ludwig Sussman Frank Tigges **Moses Tobias**

5 SHEVAT - JAN. 15

Abraham Goldstein Marilyn Katz Samuel Schwartz George Secunda Herbert Goldberg Dr. Harry Selig Richard I. Grossman William Martin Albert Nekrutman Helene S. Abkowitz Bell Ida Akresh

6 SHEVAT - JAN. 16

Sarah Udel Max J. Solomon Jeffrey W. Samek Robert Shindler Bella Alimansky Edgar Feldman Edwin E. Reder Lea Kowler

7 SHEVAT - JAN. 17

Zachary Lebwohl Rachel Schwartz Mort Cohen Sarah Deutch Rose Levine

8 SHEVAT - JAN. 18

Nathan Schwartz Mary S. Hurewitz **Esther Levy** Louis Sumberg **David Jacob Oransky**

9 SHEVAT - JAN. 19

Bert Smokler Bernard Snyder Philip Steinman Murray Felds

10 SHEVAT - JAN. 20

Phyllis Rossomando Julius G. Leavitt Barnet Lightman

11 SHEVAT - JAN. 21

Abraham Novick Patrick Leonard Anna Novick Morris Goldner **Ethel Sukel** Simon Lipton Gordon Adelson Ida Rosenthal Abraham Schwartz Minnie Cohen June Rosenbaum

12 SHEVAT - JAN. 22

Esther Schuman Khinka Kogan Lillian Frost Stephen Franklin Weltman Isidore Lerner Lillian Sacks Max Chesney Louis Esterman

13 SHEVAT - JAN. 23

Bessie Katz Sadie Secunda Harold Gitelson Rebecca Hirsch Phillip Gibson Bayla Mack

14 SHEVAT - JAN. 24

Miriam Shusterman Sidney J. Buckheim Samuel Ganter David Jaffee Iza Ritz Irving Moskowitz

continued on page 10

Yahrzeits • January / February 2024 • Shevat / Adar I 5784

continued from page 9

15 SHEVAT - JAN. 25

Abraham Michelman Harry Skoletsky Alan Bildner Teresa Stern Bressler

16 SHEVAT - JAN. 26

Paul Rosenthal Rebecca Wolfe Emily Greenapple Cohen Dinah Katzman Leizer Tryster Philip Cohen Rebekah Susser Dubin

17 SHEVAT - JAN. 27

Leslie May Osterman Nancy Bernice Raser Helene Coleman Jerome Geller Lynn Stark Evelyn Azer Helen Seaman Edith Glodt Weisbuch

18 SHEVAT - JAN. 28

Ella Blankstein Keve Grunin Bruce Leavitt

19 SHEVAT - JAN. 29

Selma Black Levine Henry Katz David Ferber Sylvia Gottlieb Dr. Peter Cukor Harry D. Marks Pearl Brown Harry Cohen

20 SHEVAT - JAN. 30

Jacob Smicker Manuel Weisbuch

► Need to Say Kaddish?

We encourage people who want to say Kaddish to:

- (a) attend services in person.
- (b) watch a livestream service and say Kaddish along with the assembled minyan that can be seen and heard on screen.
- (c) participate in our Zoom services Tuesday or Thursday evenings on a day close to the Yahrzeit and say Kaddish.

Please keep in mind that if there is no minyan in the sanctuary for a livestream service, Mourner's Kaddish will not be recited.

21 SHEVAT - JAN. 31

Martin Perlmutter Harry Rich Joseph Feller Mildred Rubinger Sally Ann Sipser

22 SHEVAT - FEB. 1

Lucy Kronick
Nathan Geller
Jack Dunaieff
Pearl Sherman
Florence Udel
Herman Zuckerman
Miriam Kende

23 SHEVAT - FEB. 2

Muriel Medney Ruth Cohen George Horn Dora Mendis Martha Blumsack Mindlin Gertrude Blank Benjamin Kriger

24 SHEVAT - FEB. 3

Sara Bass Lazerus Florence Speyer Joan S. Kass Samuel C. Azer

25 SHEVAT - FEB. 4

Morris Leibowitz Irving Rosenfeld

26 SHEVAT - FEB. 5

Gita Roback
Estelle A. Landes
Arline Levine
Roger Goldin
Sylvia Klarik Kahn Hillson
Ruth Cushing Fishman
William Lipton

27 SHEVAT - FEB. 6

Lawrence Berke
Ronald Haft
Louis Lebowitz
Helen Weiss
Ruth Schwartz
Fanny Berkwitz
Robert Meirowitz
Martin Friedland
Delia Capriles Levi
Maduro

28 SHEVAT - FEB. 7

Bernard J. Korman Bessie Silver Harry Lefkowitz Dina Minsky Dr. Harry Minsky Margaret Fleet

29 SHEVAT - FEB. 8

Harry Palefsky Abram J. Berkwitz Morris Reder William Bashevkin

30 SHEVAT - FEB. 9

Augusta Leibowitz Isidor Rabinovitz Martin Gelber David Sacks Ben Zion Cohen Herman B. Perlman Sidney Solomon

1 ADAR I - FEB. 10

Isodore Goodman
Zelda Toler
Nellie Hiller
Geneveive Goldblum
Barnett
Solomon Genn
Sarah Wildman

2 ADAR I - FEB. 11

Iris Cohen
Ida Adelson
Rebecca Chesney
Sara Cohen
Rabbi Morris Fuhrman
Joseph Yurfest
Morduch Kirshteyn

3 ADAR I - FEB. 12

Shlomo Meirson
Rebecca Borke
Leavitt
William Levin
Etta Cusick
Joel Ziegler
Sofie Servos
Abraham Goodman
Alex M. Kolodkin

4 ADAR I - FEB. 13

Joel Mintz Harriet Rivlin Schwartz

5 ADAR I - FEB. 14

Norman Rosenthal Jeff Kahn Ruth Brenner Sally Moskowitz Moysey Kirshteyn Sally Galler Alfred Davidson

6 ADAR I - FEB. 15

David Rosenthal Hyman Silver Pauline Brecher Ada Klein Reba Geller Melvin Schwartz Stanley R. Weiss Rebekka Kirshteyn

7 ADAR I - FEB. 16

Eric Lezberg Myron Marvin Dora Ptashkin Frances Eizenstat Frank Skolnick Emma Mainker Graubard

8 ADAR I - FEB. 17

Matthew Rich Jack Mahran Judith Nishman Sheila Greenfield Sidney Greenberg Libby Nash

9 ADAR I - FEB. 18

Esther Markowitz Dora E. Grubera Gertrude Budnick Sam Shusterman Manefa Shelomentseva Jennie Udel

10 ADAR I - FEB. 19

Rene Janofsky Itshak Berman Hinda Katz Hyman Reder

11 ADAR I - FEB. 20

Ernest Waller Sanford Bookless Robert Staskin Iris Katz

12 ADAR I - FEB. 21

Rose Freedman Reta Less

13 ADAR I - FEB. 22

Jane Widitor Erma Raflowitz Isaac Weiner Rachel Lena Cutler Semyon Zaslavsky

14 ADAR I - FEB. 23

Anna Lebowitz Leo Gilbert Leonard Kosberg Sydney Kopfstein Morris Goldstein

15 ADAR I - FEB. 24

Rabbi Naftali Halpern Chava Halpern Harriet Leavitt Chana Malka Halpern Sol Gallant Iva Kaplan Ashner Lena Brunell Bass

16 ADAR I - FEB. 25

Jerome Goldman Bernard Helitzer Rose Zuckerman Jacob Aronstein Phyllis Gilner Alexander Lipman Samuel Tauber Beatrice Cohen Kobritz **Shiman Weiss** Sofiya Plotkina

17 ADAR I - FEB. 26

August Rossomando Ruth Nulman Lillian Cohen

18 ADAR I - FEB. 27

Dorothy Klein Harab Eva Metropole

19 ADAR I - FEB. 28

Paul Rich Max Goodman Zipora Bril Peter Marvin

20 ADAR I - FEB. 29

Esta Gallant Kornfield Bessie F. Lippman Benjamin Novick Samuel Teitelbaum Ruth Goldin

Tikkun Olam • Heal the World

K.I. Cares

Volunteer with the K.I. Cares Committee. Members rally around others in our congregation who are experiencing lonliness or illness and help when they can. If interested, contact Fran Wolk at fwolk@att.net.

Become a Shomer

Shomrim, 'watchers,' fulfill an important Jewish burial tradition by sitting with a person's aron (coffin) until the funeral. Shomrim work in shifts. Please call Alexandra Warshaw at 413-443-1434.

Feed the Hungry

Donate to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund for the South Community Food Pantry. You may donate online at knessetisrael.org or send a check to the K.I. office. Designate the church food pantry in the memo.

Make Food Deliveries / Pack Cartons

Members of the K.I. Food Pantry Team are currently distributing food cartons to families in Pittsfield. Volunteer drivers and carton packers are needed. For information, email Nancy Cook at splynter100@gmail.com.

Drive People to Health Care Appointments

One of the great injustices in our community is widely unequal access to transportation. Wheels for Wellness connects volunteer drivers with neighbors who need a ride to health-related activities, including vaccination. Please call Wheels for Wellness at 413-395-0109 to learn more or to sign up.

Donate to Knesset Israel

Supporting our synagogue financially is an act of tzedakah. These donations are the foundation of all that K.I. can offer, including unforeseen expenses for security and service options. Donate to a Fund or Endowment in honor or memory of family, friends, and occasions. These donations sustain us all.

Create a Legacy Gift

Consider including a legacy gift to K.I. in your estate plan. If you would like to know more about how you might make such a commitment, email Arlene Schiff at arlenedschiff@icloud.com.

Adopt an "Orphan" Headstone

Many of the older headstones in the K.I. cemetery need cleaning but have no descendants to arrange it. By donating to the Cemetery Maintence Fund, you can have one cleaned. Contact Diana Macfarlane at office@knessetisrael.org.

Funds & Endowments

2023 HIGH HOLIDAY APPEAL

David and Kyneret Albert

Michael and Susan Albert

Helene Berger

Maxine Bookless

Nan Bookless

Richard and

Dale Charkow

Gail Cohen

Michael and Roberta Cohn

Philip Coleman and Robin Fleet

Adele Cukor

Lynette Dukehart

Elaine Epstein

Bruce and Terri Ettinger

Stephen Feingold

Merle Ferber

David and

Leatrice Finck

Joseph and

Patricia Finkelstein

Robert Fried and

Karen Kowajos

Michael and

Eleanor Geller

Eric and Joyce

Glaberson

Sheila Goldlust and William Rota

Marjorie Goldstein

Susan Gordon

Barry and

Sheila Halpern

Richard Holland

Sharon Karlin

Vivian Kasen

William P. Klein

Edwin and

Roselyn Kolodny

Susan Kosowitz and Richard Gertner

Earl and Janet Kramer

Ann and Dave Krawet

Alexander Kutik and Alla Zernitskaya

Lucille Landa

David Leavitt

Harvey and

Susan Frisch Lehrer

Cecily Levine

Kenneth and

Robin Lieblein

Barbara Mandler

Arnold and

Tanya Mazurenko

Judy Moss

Mildred Novick

David Pill

Joel and Beth Radsken

Allen and

Ellen Rosenblatt

Laura Rosenthal

Michael and

Allison Rosenthal

Herman and

Gayle Rotenberg

David and Janet

Rothstein

Fredric Rutberg and

Judith Monachina

Boris and

Inna Saltanovich

Leonard and

Alice Schiller

Bruce Schreiber and

Ronney Rosenberg

Harold and

Harriet Shair

Jeffrey and Dana Siegel

Carol Silverman and

Shlomo Silman

Peter Simkin

Galina Sirota

Elisa and Mark Snowise

Susan Staskin

Howie Stier

Phoebe Sugarman

Laurie Sukel

Kara Thornton

Minimum donation to funds is \$5. Endowment fund minimum is \$10.

We welcome contributions in any amount. Contributions of less than \$5 are not publicized.

Gary and

Bernice Turetsky

Chester and

Madeline Vogel

Robert and

Ruth Waldheim

Rabbi Pamela Wax

Diane Weinstein

Ellen and

Steven Weitzler

Richard Woller and

Nancy Stoll

Jill Wollins

Seraev and

Natalya Yantovsky

Susan Zuckerman

In appreciation of being welcomed to your High Holy Day services

Zev and Gail Cohen

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

Louise Penney

In memory of Georgiy Rabinovich

Galina Sirota

BOBBY BRAUN MEMORIAL GARDEN

In memory of Lillian Strul

Ev Bastow

In memory of

Joel Bastow

Ev Bastow

Jillco-Zander

Charitable Trust

BOBBI COHN REVITALIZATION ENDOWMENT

In memory of Marian Raser

> Bobbi and Mike Cohn

BOOKLESS FAMILY ENDOWMENT

In memory of Munish Samuels

Maxine Bookless and Nan Bookless

CEMETERY FUND

In memory of Vera Ganter

Gary and

Bernice Turetsky

In memory of

Marian Raser Judy Moss

In memory of

Jan Whitcomb

Joan Kaiser

Mordy Lapin

Morton Goldberg **Ruth Goldberg Lipton**

Nan and Allan Lipton

In memory of

Anna Yantovsky

Sergey and

Natalya Yantovsky

In memory of

Etta Kornbluth

Louis Jacobs Pauline Landa

The Landa Family

CHESED FUND

In memory of Esther Leah Starkman Isadore Starkman Matthew Zachary Lipman

> Pattie Lipman and John Huffaker

JOEL AND PHYLLIS CURRAN ENDOWMENT

In memory of Pearl Curran Joel Curran

FLOWER FUND

In memory of Arthur Zachary Samel Naomi Schwartz

HARRY, ENID & HOWIE FUHRMAN ACCESSIBILITY FUND

In memory of Arthur Zachary Samel Richard and Meryl Cooper Richard Fuhrman

MADELINE GALANTER ENDOWMENT

In memory of Marian Raser Beth and Joel Radsken

In honor of Cindy Bell-Deane in celebration of her retirement Beth and Joel Radsken

GENERAL DONATION FUND

Av Kadish and Goldy Fried Ellie and Mike Geller

In memory of Charlotte Shanblatt Abe Stone

In memory of Anna Yantovsky

Alec and Anna Yantovsky

In memory of Marian Raser

Arlene and Gary Schiff Berkshire Retirement Home Beth and Bernie Abramson Catherine Gamberoni David Wasser and Susan Abbotson Don and Jean Bolio

Fran and Joel Wolk

James and

Patricia Fingeroth

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Johanna Sisselman

John, Luisa and

Katrina Economou

Judy and Jeff Cook Marilyn Engelman

Meg and Steven Raser

Peter and Nancy Finn

The Hodgkins Family and everyone at WBRK

William and

Rose Ann Sturgeon

David and Lea Finck

In memory of Vera Gangel

Barbara Gershen Swartz

In memory of **Howard Siegal**

Bonnie and Jeff Stevens

Remember a loved one, honor a special occasion, a friend, or family to the Bima Flower Fund. Call Naomi Schwartz at 413-841-0006.

In memory of Celia Palefsky

Jean Mandel

Charles and Marcia Mandel

In memory of Albert Finck **Ruth Finck**

David and Lea Finck

In memory of George Gitlitz

Fran and Joel Wolk

In memory of William Schifrin

Gayle and

Herman Rotenberg

Mazel Tov to Ed and Cindy Helitzer on the birth of their grandson, Robert Berniche

Gerry and Barbara Hayden

In memory of Arthur Maislen Helen Maislen Rose Cook

Judy and Jeff Cook

In memory of Benjamin Weinberger Michael and Susan Abert

In honor of

Goldy Fried and Av Kadish Paula Stern and

Heidi Gold

In memory of **Charles Robbins**

Stephen Kronick

In memory of **Gladys Warhit**

Marjorie Goldstein

In memory of Isidore Rosner

Miriam Cohen

In honor of Jeff Siegel's chanting of the Jonah Haftorah Terry and Art Wasser

MARCIE GREENFIELD SIMONS ENDOWMENT

In memory of Jordan B. Greenfield Richard and Marcie **Greenfield Simons**

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In memory of **Rachel Harris**

Joanna and Ellis Fribush

HEBREW SCHOOL FUND

In honor of Jacob Herzberg's Bar Mitzvah Amy Simons Abramovich

In memory of Leslie Sue Gelber

Beth and Roaer Kruvant

In appreciation of Stu and Ellen Masters for being such dear and caring friends

Ellen and Allen Rosenblatt

In memory of Sam Rothstein

Janet and David Rothstein

In memory of Arthur Zachary Samel Laurie Sukel

In memory of Marian Raser

> Susan Lipton and **Buddy Lewis**

MILTON KOLODKIN **ENDOWMENT**

In memory of Gisela Ziskind

Barbara Kolodkin

MURRAY AND CECILY LEVINE ENDOWMENT

In memory of Murray Levine Sally Lenhoff

Cecily Levine and Amy Levine

continued on page 14



member with a donation

Knesset Israel Statement of Purpose

Welcome.

We are here to nourish mind, heart, and soul. We are here to inspire through word and deed. We are here to accompany each other on life's journey. We are here to celebrate in community.

We are here to bring life to the wisdom and values of Torah. We are here to transform our world.

KIDDUSH FUND

In memory of Michael Mass Shirley Metzger

Alan and Margery Metzger

In memory of Sheila Gitlitz

Jenny Gitlitz

In memory of Marian Raser

Len and Alice Schiller

In memory of Mordy Lapin

Regina Karas In memory of **Shirley Goldlust**

Shelia Goldlust

LIBRARY BOOK RESERVE

In memory of George Gitlitz Mordy Lapin Carole Siegel

In memory of **David Granoff**

> Peter and Rosy Granoff

LEV SHALEM PRAYERBOOK FOR SANCTUARY

In memory of Arthur Zachary Samel Molly Novick Susan Zuckerman

PRAYERBOOK FUND

In memory of Florence Lebovitz

Ruth Lebovitz Markovits

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY **FUND**

Av Kadish and Goldy Fried Carolyn Newman Donald Zaentz

In appreciation of the beautiful eulogy for Mordy Lapin

Adele Cukor

In memory of Marian Raser

> Allen and Fllen Rosenblatt Amy Simons Abramovich Bob and Gayle Tardif-Raser

Carole Siegel Diane Weinstein Ellen Fieldstein

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Joan Libby and David Hawk Joanna and Ellis Fribush

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Maxine Bookless and Nan Bookless

Richard and Marcie **Greenfield Simons**

Sergey and

Natalya Yantovsky

In memory of Geraldine Hantman

> Brenda and Fred Landes Diane Weinstein

> Jan and Harvey Zimbler

In memory of Arthur Zachary Samel

Amy Simons Abramovich

Cecily Levine and Amy Levine

Diane Weinstein

Louis Skoletsky

Marcia and Charles Mandel

In memory of

Benjamin Weinberger

Brenda and Fred Landes

Carole Siegel Diane Weinstein

Maxine Bookless

Pattie Lipman and John Huffaker

Ruth and Steve Rosenthal

In memory of Mordy Lapin

Diane Weinstein

Ellie and Mike Geller

Jenny Gitlitz Monica Lapin

Pattie Lipman and John Huffaker

In memory of **Charlotte Shanblatt**

> Carole Siegel Joanna and Fllis Fribush

Joel Curran

In appreciation of Rabbi Weiner

Amy Simons Abramovich

In memory of **Jack Krawet**

Ann and Dave Krawet

In memory of **Bernard Charkow**

Dale and Richard Charkow In memory of Rose Hayden

> Gerald and Barbara Hayden

In honor of David Pill

Diane Weinstein

In memory of Feiga Drate

Ellen and Allen Rosenblatt

In memory of Hazel Weinberger

Ellie and Mike Geller

In memory of Elizabeth Weitzen

Gail Weis

In appreciation of being welcomed to lovely and inclusive **Shabbat Services**

Jackie Mills

In honor of

Joe Weiner for his award for Academic Excellence

Jane Rosen

In memory of Barbara Lovely George Gitlitz

Jeff and Dana Siegel

In memory of **Harold Landes** Jenny Gitlitz

In memory of Anne Rich **Betty Rich** Harry Rich Isador Secunda Matthew Rich Paul Rich Sadie Secunda

Warren Rich

Joseph Rich and Skip Paynter

In memory of Harry Aranove Joseph Sukel Laurie Sukel

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY **FUND, CONTINUED**

In memory of Anne Kirsch Florence Winter

Loretta and Joel Prives

In memory of **Shirley Solomon**

Marcia and Charles Mandel

In memory of **Ruth Lubin** Sidney Novick Molly Novick

In honor of Cindy Bell-Deane for her many years of service to this community Nan and Allan Lipton

In memory of Rose Silinsky Cook Nancy Cook

In memory of George Gitlitz

> Pattie Lipman and John Huffaker

Congratulations to the Helitzer's on the birth of their grandson Joe Weiner on his award for Academic Excellence

> Pattie Lipman and John Huffaker

In appreciation of Rabbi Jan Kaufman's Rosh Hashana hospitality

Regina Karas

In memory of Morris Geller

Robert and Patricia Geller

In memory of Anna Bass Archie Snyder Ruth and

Robert Waldheim

In memory of Leonard Gottlieb Suellen Havsv

In support of Israel

> Simon and Luba Peimer Virginia Wisnowski Cherylene Czaja-Hillard

ARTHUR SAMEL **ENDOWMENT**

In memory of **Arthur Zachary Samel** Elaine Epstein Carole Siegel In memory of Arthur A. Samel Benjamin Novick **Howard Samel** Jacob Klein Elaine Epstein

RABBI SANFORD AND CHARLOTTE SHANBLATT ENDOWMENT

In memory of **Charlotte Shanblatt** Amy Helfman Amy Simons Abramovich Joy Fish Laurie Sukel Miriam and Barry Gesserman

SHIREI SHABBAT MUSIC **EQUIPMENT FUND**

In memory of Arthur Zachary Samel Benjamin Weinberger Geraldine Hantman Marian Raser Mordy Lapin Diana Geller and Andy Geller

In memory of Lillian Strul

Fv Bastow

EDWARD AND LORETTA SKOLETSKY ENDOWMENT

Get well wishes to Elaine Shindler Louis Skoletsky

JOSEPH AND PAULINE SIEGEL ENDOWMENT

In memory of Edie Karlin Norma Siegel Sam Karlin Sylvia Karlin Kaiman Sharon, Joel and Eric Karlin

In memory of **Edith Karlin** Samuel Karlin Sherry Kaiman

WILLIAM AND MARILYN SIMONS ENDOWMENT

In memory of Marilyn Simons Amy Simons Abramovich Richard and Marcie **Greenfield Simons**

In memory of William Simons Amy Simons Abramovich Richard and Marcie Greenfield Simons

SOUTH COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

In memory of Marian Raser Nan Bookless and Maxine Bookless

ARTHUR AND SYLIVA STEIN ENDOWMENT

In memory of **Arthur Stein** Sylvia Stein Mindy Stein

THANKSGIVING ANGELS

Bernie and Beth Abramson Joel Curran Marc Rudoltz and Lisa Hochman

Thank you for your generosity



learn. inspire. grow. together.

learn.

Lifelong learning at KI Hebrew School for our children Stimulating classes and programs for adults

inspire.

Connect with each generation Share through leadership Tikkun Olam...repair the world

grow.

Start where you are **Cultivate new insights** Seek guides to the unfamiliar Nourish mind, heart, and soul

together.

Accompany through lifecycle KI Cares to help during illness Make a minyan

visit

knessetisrael.org for opportunities





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16 Colt Road | Pittsfield, MA 01201





Gratitude and Hope at Student Activities

Left: In preparation for Thanksgiving, students considered the connections of gratitude with Judaism's values.
They then made gratitude jars.

Below right: At Wednesday Hebrew School, students made menorahs for Hanukkah.

Right: During the October Families Together event, students made artful cards to send to Israel to help bring a smile to those who are having a hard time. The students wrote very compassionate messages.

This message reads
"Am Yisrael Chai!!," then:
"Shalom from the United States.
We are wishing for Israel's peace.
I'm so sorry this is happening right
now. It will get better. Stay Strong!!
From your friends at Knesset Israel
Hebrew School."



