



Kol K.L.

learn. inspire. grow. together.



November / December 2023
Cheshvan / Kislev / Tevet 5784

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

Making Time Holy

Energizing Shabbat at Kneset Israel — by Rabbi David Weiner

On the second day of Rosh Hashana, my message to the congregation celebrated the Torah's creation of the weekend. God blessed the seventh day, and God or we called it Shabbat, and through that day of rest our people found a way to make time holy.

Our ancestors created a revolutionary 25-hour respite from work, a restorative taste of eternity, a palace in time. They set aside one day in seven for family, for prayer, and for community. Our sages created rituals to begin and end the special day by candlelight and prescribed festive meals, accompanied by wine and song. They taught us that by refraining from everyday activities, we create opportunities for the sublime. At the same time, the continuity of Shabbat fosters a strong sense of Jewish identity and peoplehood around the world and throughout time.

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Our ancestors created a revolutionary 25-hour respite from work, a restorative taste of eternity, a palace in time.

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Member Mitzvahs & Mazel Tovs

► Mazel Tov to **Joan Grossman** on the birth of her first grandchild, Leah Avery (Hebrew: Leah Ahava), who is named for Joan's mother. Leah was born in Providence, Rhode Island, on July 19 to Ben Grossman-Ponemon and Rebecca Wolkoff. The family now lives in Pepper Pike, Ohio. According to Joan, "She is without a doubt the cutest baby in the whole wide world!" Everyone is happy and healthy!

■ We are very happy to report that **Ed and Cindy Helitzer** have a new baby grandson, Robert Berniche, born October 11 to Kayla and Bobby Berniche. The family resides in Chesterfield, Massachusetts. All are doing well!

■ K.I. member **Diane Israelite Weinstein**, and Charles Weinstein, are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter, Laura Israelite Weinstein, to Zachary Ordo. The wedding took place on August 26 in Beacon, New York. The newlyweds reside in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Congratulations and much happiness.

■ Yom Huledet Sameach to both **Elaine Epstein** and **Cicley Levine** on their special birthdays. And we also hear **Nan Lipton** had a special birthday in September. Wishing you all good health and happiness.

■ A belated welcome back to **Pattie Lipman**, who participated in a summer art residency offered by ACI Artists, Writers and Scholars Residency. Pattie applied and was accepted to this merit-based international residency program in the Italian countryside next to the more than 2,000-year-old Umbrian hill town of Corciano, Italy. Pattie reports having had a meaningful, inspiring experience both participating in the program and with her fellow artists. Get to the studio, Pattie!

■ Gabriel Wolk, grandson of **Fran and Joel Wolk**, has been accepted to the Technion — Israel Institute of Technology. The Technion is a leading science and technology research university located



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 that uplifts us.

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

in Haifa. He began his studies after Simchat Torah. Gabriel has lived in Israel for 4 years of high school and has made Aliyah. He carries dual citizenship. Fran and Joel have a lot to be proud of!

■ Mazel Tov to **Bern and Lisa Silverman** on the birth of their second grandson, Charles "Charlie" Mark (Aryeh Meir) who is named for his father's grandmother, Charlotte. Charlie was born in Manhattan on August 16 to Rachel and Adam Fufeld and big brother, Jacob. They live in Ridgewood, Queens, New York. Mother and baby are very well!

Making Time Holy

continued from page 1

Everybody is entitled to the dignity of time off from the grind of getting and spending. Shabbat is undoubtedly the primary principle our ancestors sought to teach us and to encourage us to teach our children. Ahad Ha-am, a 20th century secular Zionist author, once wrote that more than the Jewish people have kept Shabbat, Shabbat has preserved the Jewish people.



Rabbi David Weiner

Shabbat morning services with opportunities for song, prayer, study, and shmoozing. Several Friday night services each year feature musical instrumentation in different styles. Throughout the school year, Hebrew School meets on Shabbat mornings, hoping to give our youngest congregants a taste for the holy day. Perhaps you could add one more Friday night or Saturday morning at K.I. each month?

followed by a relaxed afternoon of board and tabletop games — a chance to be together, in person, build relationships, and have a good time, unplugged and unpressured.

The goal is to help each other stay unplugged from our phones for longer and to make connections across the generations. Many synagogues similar to Kneset Israel have experienced success with this sort of program. Perhaps we can teach each other to postpone errands and chores for a few hours because our time together on Shabbat is so precious.

Friday night, December 8, is Shabbat Hanukkah, so K.I. has arranged a Shirei Shabbat service and community Shabbat dinner. RSVP is required for this celebration (knesetisrael.org/rsvp), but you don't want to miss it!

A second facet of K.I.'s planning for Shabbat this year involves home ritual and practice. Creating sacred time is not meant to be only a synagogue experience. So Rabbi Becca and I are preparing a series of classes later this winter to teach the basics of home Shabbat

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Embracing Shabbat

Kneset Israel is here, in part, to help members find vitality through Jewish traditions, and Shabbat is absolutely central to that mission.

The Torah invites us to let Shabbat shape us and to steward Shabbat for the next generation, so that our children and grandchildren will have the chance to let it shape them. In such a small community, that responsibility falls on each of us and on all of us. In the next few months, I hope you will participate as we try a few new ways to help Shabbat grow in our lives and in the life of our community. I'll do my part, and I ask you to join me.

Shabbat at Kneset Israel already includes weekly lay-led Friday night and

Shabbat — Together

Rabbi Becca, our new director of lifelong learning, and I are also working on expanding the Shabbat experience at Kneset Israel. Changes to Junior Congregation, under the leadership of Rebecca Cook-Dubin, will welcome parent participation more often, drawing parents into Shabbat and community — the first of these special services is November 4. The renewed Junior Congregation will also connect other adults in the congregation, such as the women in the Rosh Chodesh group, with our children. The first of these intergenerational Junior Congregations will meet on November 18.

On November 4, we will enjoy a volunteer-prepared Kiddush luncheon,

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DEADLINE • DECEMBER 1 for the JANUARY / FEBRUARY/ ISSUE

Emergency Contacts

PASTORAL CARE

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

FUNERALS

Kneset Israel's funeral 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.



Hatikvah

*Kol od ba'le'vav p'nima,
Nefesh Yehudi ho'miyah.
U'lfa-atei miz-rach kadimah,
Ayin le'Tziyyon tzofiyah;
Od lo avda tikva-teinu,
Ha'tikvah bat sh'not al-payim
Lih-yot am chofshi b'ar-tzeinu
Eretz Tziyyon v'Yerushalayim.*

*As long as within our hearts
The Jewish soul sings,
As long as forward to the East
To Zion, looks the eye –
Our hope is not yet lost,
It is two thousand years old,
To be a free people in our land
The land of Zion and Jerusalem.*

Making Time Holy

continued from page 3

practice — rituals, blessings, traditions, recipes — ways to make Shabbat different, special, and sacred while connecting us to each other and to our heritage.

Shabbat Together — at Home

We are also looking forward to reintroducing home hospitality Friday nights that should help break down barriers, strengthen the bonds of community, and reorient our lives around more frequent, joyous Shabbat dinners — also a typical program for synagogues around the country

Knesset Israel exists in part to preserve Shabbat and to employ Shabbat as a means for encouraging Jewish identity, learning, community, spirituality, and continuity.

that resemble Knesset Israel. Hosts who reside in the Berkshires and are members of Knesset Israel may apply for a Rekindle Shabbat Grant from the Harold Grinspoon Foundation to offset the costs (up to \$18/participant, \$500/year) of hosting Shabbat dinner for eight or more people at a time — hgf.org/grants-awards/rekindle-shabbat. K.I.'s first foray into community-wide, coordinated home hospitality Shabbat dinner in many years will take place on December 12.

Knesset Israel exists in part to preserve Shabbat and to employ Shabbat as a means for encouraging Jewish identity, learning, community, spirituality, and continuity. I became a rabbi to help a community grow into and through Jewish practice, to help us enjoy our tradition and transmit it to the next generation. There is no more powerful way to do that than the practice of Shabbat. I look forward to sharing many joyous Shabbat experiences with you this year.

Exciting News from K.I. Hebrew School

New families, programs and partnerships

— by Rabbi Becca Walker, Director of Lifelong Learning

We have had many exciting developments this year at the Kneset Israel Hebrew School. Through the generosity of this congregation, we have made Hebrew School tuition a benefit of K.I. membership. This has already had a tangible effect as we have had multiple new families join the school this year. We have also partnered with Temple Anshe Amunim (TAA) to offer programming for both Temple and K.I. families. Some TAA students have already participated in Saturday morning Hebrew school, and others have been to weekday sessions and Shabbat services. Personally, I have been enjoying getting to know the students — we have many kind, inquisitive young people each of whom bring something unique to the community.



Rabbi Becca Walker

Experiential Program

During the second hour of Wednesday Hebrew school sessions, we have introduced a new experiential education program. Students come together to learn and discuss different aspects of Jewish practice, culture, and identity. In September and early October (when this is being written) we focused on the Jewish holidays. A few highlights included: an interactive Tashlich walk and ritual, learning about the holiday of Sukkot, making decorations for the K.I. Sukkah (see pictures on page 20), and gathering with families for the holiday.

I want to take this opportunity to extend my immense gratitude to our teachers, almost all of whom have been teaching for years. Even though the work isn't always celebrated, we understand that they are imparting

Jewish knowledge and literacy to the next generation — a huge mitzvah and vital to our future. I have been appreciating the creativity and dedication our teachers show each week.

Families Together

The Families Together program is also off to a great start. During our annual Labor Day

BBQ, many families gathered to celebrate the end of summer, and connect with old friends and new. We are looking forward to a variety of upcoming events, including baking for the Thanksgiving Angels project, "It's A Wrap" day when we gift wrap donated presents the congregation purchases for a less fortunate family in the community, and a winter Havdalah.

Junior Congregation

This November, we are starting a new initiative for Junior Congregation. Once or twice a month, we will have a special Saturday Shabbat service where we invite people from the K.I. community to participate. Parents' Shabbat will be November 4 — a special invite to parents of Hebrew schoolers to join in. November 18 will be the first Intergenerational Junior Congregation service, where we will invite members of different generations to take part. Through this initiative, we hope to build community

and give the students an opportunity to feel more connected to K.I. as a whole. We hope you will mark your calendars and attend the appropriate service. They are shaping up to be a lot of fun.

Imparting Jewish knowledge and literacy to the next generation is a huge mitzvah and vital to our future.



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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
knesetisrael.org
for opportunities

K.I. Services, Classes & Events

Shabbat Candle Lighting

NOVEMBER

Friday, November 3.....	5:25 p.m.
Friday, November 10.....	4:17 p.m.
Friday, November 17.....	4:11 p.m.
Friday, November 24.....	4:06 p.m.

DECEMBER

Friday, December 1.....	4:03 p.m.
Friday, December 8.....	4:02 p.m.
Friday, December 15.....	4:02 p.m.
Friday, December 22.....	4:05 p.m.
Friday, December 29.....	4:10 p.m.

Weekly Services

■ TUESDAY & THURSDAY EVENING DAVENING

ON ZOOM.....7:00 p.m.
ZOOM ID # 934-910-554

■ FRIDAY KABBALAT SHABBAT.....5:45 p.m.

IN PERSON AND LIVESTREAM

- November 10 — Musical Minyan
- November 24 — No Friday night service
- December 1 — Musical Minyan
- December 8 — Shirei Shabbat Musical Hanukkah Service (see details below)

■ SATURDAY SHABBAT MORNING SERVICES

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

■ SUNDAY MORNING MINYAN

IN PERSON.....8:45 a.m.

Shirei Shabbat

■ SHIREI SHABBAT HANUKKAH AND COMMUNITY DINNER

Friday, December 8

Family friendly 5:45 p.m. service; 6:45 p.m. dinner in the sanctuary and social hall

\$20 for Adults, free for under 18

RSVP by December 4 at knessetisrael.org/RSVP

Special Services

■ SPECIAL JUNIOR CONGREGATION SERVICES

Saturday, November 4 — Shabbat with Parents

Saturday, November 18 — Intergenerational Shabbat

A new initiative! Junior Congregation extends an invitation to share Shabbat services with us. We hope you will attend.

■ GAMES SHABBAT

Saturday, November 4

Begins at noon in the social hall

Kiddush lunch in the social hall will be followed by a few hours of Shabbat-friendly board and tabletop games. This event is for the entire community — all ages welcome!

■ TOT SHABBAT

Saturdays, November 18 and December 9

10-10:45 a.m. in the chapel

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

■ HOME HOSPITALITY SHABBAT

Friday, December 16

Shabbat is all about community — we worship and learn together — why not share Shabbat meals together? For this new Home Hospitality Shabbat program, we are encouraging members to host people in their own homes, and to help us match guests with hosts. Or simply host a Shabbat dinner with a group of friends. It's a chance to deepen relationships or meet someone new in a home setting. Meals can range from pizza to potluck to traditional Shabbat meals...hosts' decision. Watch for a sign-up (for both hosts and guests) at knessetisrael.org/RSVP. Never hosted before? We are happy to help support you on this journey. Email any questions to RabbiB@knessetisrael.org.

Hanukkah

Hanukkah begins at sundown on Friday, December 7, and ends at nightfall Friday, December 15.

K.I. Services, Classes & Events

Adult Education

■ THEOLOGY OF THE PSALMS

with Rabbi David Weiner

Thursdays, November 2, 9, 16 and 30; December 7, 14 and 21
10:45 a.m.-noon

Rabbi David Weiner began this ten-session course in October. The curriculum was prepared by Rabbi Shai Held for Project Zug. Rabbi Held writes: "Jews often take great comfort in reciting chapters of Tehillim (psalms), but we rarely study them carefully. In these sessions, we will explore the religious world of the book of Psalms."

This class will not be accepting new students until January.

■ ANOTHER ANGLE: THE PARSHA THROUGH RABBINIC TEXTS

with Rabbi Becca Walker

Wednesdays, November 2, 9, 16 and 30; December 7
1:30-2:30 p.m. in the K.I. Library

Attend for one session or every week as we learn about the Torah portion through the lens of rabbinic texts (Talmud and Midrash). This class is discussion-based and appropriate for all levels of experience.

■ HEBREW AND MIDRASH

with Rabbi David Weiner

Tuesdays, November 7 and 14
11 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Tuesdays, November 21 and 28; December 5, 12 and 19
10-11:15 a.m.

An ongoing class from October, an intermediate Siddur Hebrew and Midrash class. Students are studying Hebrew and looking at some texts from Dirshuni — a modern collection of Midrash composed by Israeli women.

This class is not accepting new students at this time.

■ WHEN DID JEWS BECOME FUNNY?

with Phil Halperin

Sunday, November 19
10:30 a.m.

Phil Halperin will examine the dominant role Jews have played in the world of comedy and enliven the conversation with illustrations and videos. He will give examples of different characteristics of Jewish humor and how they became an integral part of American comedy. Clips of famous comedians like Fanny Brice, Mel Brooks, Jackie Mason, Elaine May, Joan Rivers, and others will be used to create a historical perspective of American Jewish Comedy.



The Taste of Rome

◀ **Leah Koenig**, author of *PORTICO: Cooking and Feasting in Rome's Jewish Kitchen*, gave a live demo of distinctive dishes from her book during a launch event on October 2. Rome is home to one of Europe's oldest Jewish cuisines.

New Members

Introducing New Members

Welcome All Who Come

The K.I. Membership Committee has the pleasure of introducing the following new members who have joined as of August 15. The entire congregation and staff extend a sincere welcome. We look forward to praying, studying, socializing and working together.



Noah Palmer and Hana Askren and family

◀ **Noah Palmer and Hana Askren (Traditional Membership)**

Noah Palmer and Hana Askren reside in East Chatham, New York, with their two children, Lev and Shira. Noah is a musician, and Hana is a firefighter. They are interested in participating in services, chanting Torah and Haftorah, Adult Education, and Families Together programs. We are very excited to welcome Lev and Shira into the Hebrew School.

■ **Zoe Koza (Traditional Membership)**

Zoe lives in Pittsfield and is excited to be joining Knesset Israel.

■ **Jessie Berrick and Dr. Eugene Jura (Traditional Membership)**

Jessie and Eugene are married, are year-round residents, and live in Lenox. They attended and enjoyed many events and meeting new people. They are interested in adult education, cooking, the Jewish film festival, membership committee, music, reading Hebrew, and the Rosh Chodesh group.

■ **Simeon and Natanya Bittman (Traditional Membership)**

Simeon and Natanya live in Pittsfield with their four young boys.

They have attended a couple Family Programs and the New and Prospective Member Brunch in recent months, and are interested in the Hebrew School, family programs, the Rosh Chodesh Group, and adult education, as well as chanting Torah and Haftorah. Simeon is a chef and Natanya is a stay-at-home Mom.

■ **Carol Gould (Chaver Membership)**

Carol splits her time between her home in New York City and Cheshire. She has been attending happenings at K.I. for many years, particularly Kabbalat Shabbat services. She is a professor and author and is interested in social action and justice, political philosophy, vocal and choral music, and Israeli folk dancing.



Gerry and Lynn Denmark

◀ **Gerry and Lynn Denmark (Chaver Membership)**

Gerry and Lynn are retired and long-time members of the Berkshire County Jewish community. They belonged to Temple Anshe Amunim for many years and held many leadership positions there. They raised their boys, one of whom is Jonathan Denmark, in Pittsfield and now split their time between Lenox and Florida. They are interested in adult education, cooking, social action, summer programming, music, and learning Hebrew.

.....

■ **Marjorie Goldstein**
(Chaver Membership)

Marjorie is from Great Neck, New York, but comes to the Berkshires year round for brief periods of time. She has attended a Friday night service and the New and Prospective Member Brunch recently, and felt very comfortable with the service and enjoyed the people she met. She is a widow and a Geriatric Case Manager and Clinical Social Worker. She would like to meet new people and is interested in the Caring Committee.

■ **Adrienne Lazes**
(Traditional Membership)

Adrienne lives in West Stockbridge and has converted to Judaism this summer with Rabbi Weiner. Adrienne is a math teacher and has enjoyed meeting people through the Introduction to Judaism course and attending services. She is interested in the film festival and adult education.

■ **Barbara Orville**
(Chaver Membership)

Barbara is a retired teacher who will be splitting her time between Pittsfield and Delray Beach, Florida. She is interested in adult education, the film festival, summer programming, singing, and learning Hebrew. She has found the congregation to be warm and friendly, and she attended the New and Prospective Member Brunch.

Welcome, all!
We look forward to getting to know you!

Introducing ...

A note from KOL K.I.

Dear Readers,

It's been a few months since I made my comeback to your mailboxes. I hope you are enjoying my return.

As you may have noticed, my team is now publishing me six times a year, covering two months per issue. We are returning to the idea of a basic bulletin, with the content bringing you essential information such as messages from Rabbi Weiner and K.I. president Jesse Cook-Dubin; the monthly services and candle lighting calendar; K.I.'s engaging classes; and community special events — as well as monthly Yahrzeits, Funds and Donations.

I am even more excited to introduce you to my new graphic designer, Evan Berkowitz. Evan moved to Pittsfield in 2018 after studying journalism at the University of Maryland in College Park. He contacted me when he heard that KOL K.I. needed some help. (He just happened to hear it from his parents, K.I. members Karen Peltó and Gene Berkowitz.) While I am just getting to know Evan, I can tell you that he is an accomplished designer.

Designing and producing me is a freelance project for Evan — his day job is page one design editor at *The Berkshire Eagle*. His responsibilities there include being a news designer/copy editor and an opera correspondent, and designing *The Eagle's* front page on all print days — including the specialized Weekender. He also conceptualizes and produces the design for long-term investigative and standalone projects, contributes and proofreads headlines, captions and other copy on tight deadlines, and much more. We are very lucky to have him onboard.

Evan tells me: "The Berkshires has been such a welcoming place, and I'm excited to become more involved in the community as I put down permanent roots here." In his free time, Evan enjoys opera, art history, maps, and railroads.



Evan Berkowitz

I am also very pleased to tell you that K.I. member Ellen Rosenblatt will be my proofreader. Many of you already know Ellen, as she is very active in K.I. life. She is a professional proofreader currently doing the same for my counterpart, *The Berkshire Jewish Voice*.

My old friend Nan Bookless will stay on as a consultant and "happiness liaison," gathering joyous news from all of you to share in my Member Mitzvahs & Mazel Tovs column. She is also assisting me in my search for an editor/coordinator to complete the team. Email Nan at chama.2194@gmail.com for a job description. Use that same email to send her any good news you would like to share in my next issue.

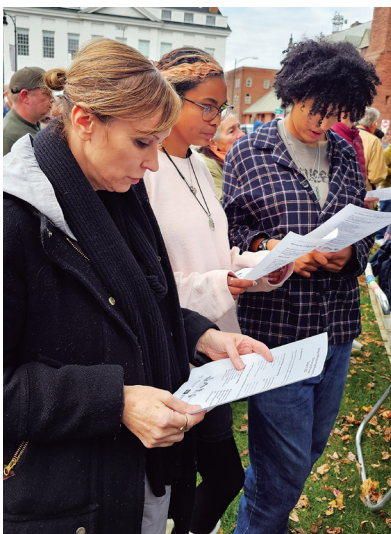
And so, dear readers, I wish you a Chag Hanukkah Sameach. Please participate in Knesset Israel's classes, events, and other volunteer opportunities — you are what makes our community strong. After this issue, I will be headed back to your mailbox with a combined January/February issue.

With hope and help for Israel —
your bulletin,

Kol K.I.

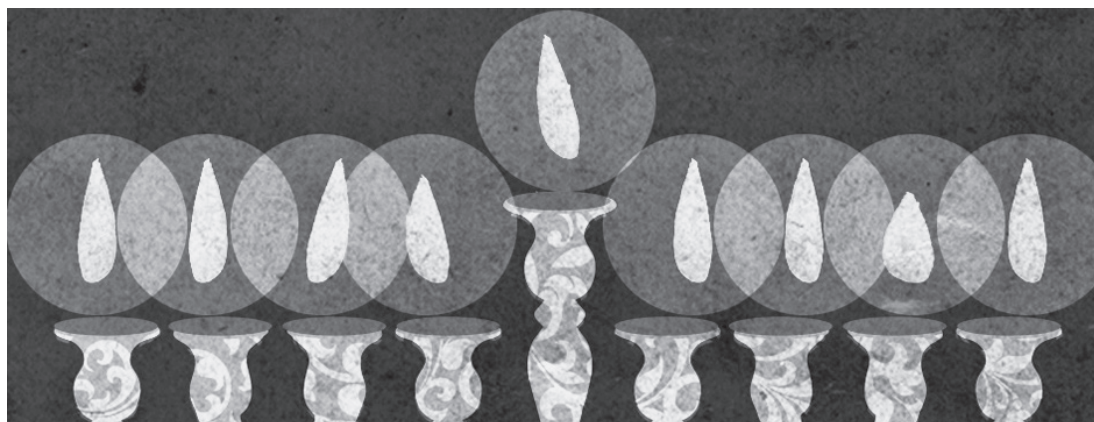


**Community Vigil for Israel
October 11, 2023
Pittsfield, Massachusetts**





8 Illuminating Quotes for Hanukkah ... and one for the Shamash!



Look at how a single candle can both defy and define the darkness.

— *Anne Frank*

There is a crack in everything.
That's how the light gets in.

— *Leonard Cohen*

Is not Hanukkah a symbol of Israel, and
its light a symbol of its immortality?

— *Leo Jung*

Darkness cannot drive out darkness:
only light can do that. Hate cannot drive
out hate: only love can do that.

— *Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Still ours the dance, the feast, the
glorious psalm; the mystic lights of
emblem, and the word.

— *Emma Lazarus*

Blessed is the match consumed
in kindling flame. Blessed is the
flame that burns in the secret
fastness of the heart.

— *Hannah Senesh*

On Hanukkah, the first dark night,
light yourself a candle bright. I'll you,
if you will me invite, to dance within
that gentle light.

— *Nicholas Gordon*

As long as Hanukkah is studied and
remembered, Jews will not surrender
to the night. The proper response, as
Hanukkah teaches, is not to curse the
darkness but to light a candle.

— *Irving Greenberg*

A candle is a small thing.
But one candle can light another.
And see how its own light increases,
as a candle gives its flame to the other.
You are such a light.

— *Moshe Davis*



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17 CHESHVAN - NOV. 1

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Martin Weisberger
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Esther Rosenfeld
Shera Joy Berke

18 CHESHVAN - NOV. 2

Lenore Ferber
Rabbi Max Israel Cohen
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Esther Bunnevitzy
Weiss

19 CHESHVAN - NOV. 3

Jordan B. Greenfield
Rose Broverman
Maefsky
Georgiy Rabinovich
Max Baz
Max Skoletsky
Pauline Landa
Marla Joy Lerner
Sayde Levine

20 CHESHVAN - NOV. 4

Rebecca Baz
Eli Black
Richard Smith
Sylvia Klein Adelson
William Schifrin
Abraham Auslander
Reuben Sandler
Shulamith Auslander
Jacob Baer

21 CHESHVAN - NOV. 5

George Garbowit
Grace Martin

22 CHESHVAN - NOV. 6

Ruth Silverman
Isaac Meyer Abeles
Anna Bass
Rose Gruberg
Herbert Secunda

23 CHESHVAN - NOV. 7

Bessie Morgenstein
Edith Marks
Rosalyn Suskind
Sidney Cohen
Seymour Baer
Alix Kowler
Sally Lenhoff
Harriette Leeper

24 CHESHVAN - NOV. 8

Andrea Lipton Becker
Harry Buckheim
Samuel Cutler
Carrie Hyman
Isadore Green

25 CHESHVAN - NOV. 9

Herbert Fishman
Larry Newmark
Esther E. Altman
Shirley Zuckerman
Everhart
Ruth Katz
Esther Skoletsky

26 CHESHVAN - NOV. 10

Jeffrey May
Philip Katzman

27 CHESHVAN - NOV. 11

Sidney Bassen
Sarah Skoletsky
Sylvia Bender
Debra de Rothschild
Dorothy Silverman
Abraham Rosen
Harry Freadman
Murray Levine
Samuel Lipschitz

29 CHESHVAN - NOV. 13

Harold Novick
Irwin Moiseff
Feyga Kirshteyn
Sheila Goodwin
Feigenbaum
Sarah F. Cohen
Arthur Stein

1 KISLEV - NOV. 14

Sam Rothstein
Violet Adelman
Rachel S. Harris
Gussie Selkowitz

2 KISLEV - NOV. 15

Rose Silinsky Cook
William Sherman
Tillie I. Robbins
Thomas Samuels
Carl Mass
Herbert Pomerantz
Mary Solomon Rose
Frances B. Schiller

3 KISLEV - NOV. 16

Pearl Curran
Lee Bell
Sarah Lubin
Eddie Sam Golos
Oscar Lanzer

4 KISLEV - NOV. 17

Janice Whitcomb
Jacob Bakst
David Krancer

5 KISLEV - NOV. 18

Ruth Goldberg Lipton
Kayla Levine
Sophie Stein
Yale Garber
Nathan Weltman
Emma A. Simonson
Barbara Goldin
David Carr

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

6 KISLEV - NOV. 19

Norman Kantrowitz
Dr. Morris Geller
Sheila R. Gitlitz
John Sebestyen

7 KISLEV - NOV. 20

Frances Abramson
Leslie Gelber
Samuel Brecher
Michael Klein
Hazel Weinberger

8 KISLEV - NOV. 21

Isaac Cohen
Ruth Weinberg Finck

9 KISLEV - NOV. 22

Henry Stier
Joseph Binder
David Margolin
Anna Goldblum
Doris Schifrin

10 KISLEV - NOV. 23

Dora Plotsky
Florence Tirrell
Robert C. Marmorek
Bessie Fleischmann
Albert Finck
Lena Klein Meirowitz

11 KISLEV - NOV. 24

Alan Rosen
Anne Weller Chesney
Lena Raphan

12 KISLEV - NOV. 25

Gertrude Stier
Martha Goldstein
Bella Rife

13 KISLEV - NOV. 26

Morris Landa
Jeffrey Mark
Seelenfreund
Charles Kobritz
Sarah Pinsky

14 KISLEV - NOV. 27

Rachel Smith
Edward Drosnin
Nathan Promisel
Lillian Greenberg
Samuel Geller
Sarah Baron
Kolodkin
Jean Mandel
Brian Kriger

15 KISLEV - NOV. 28

Beate Voremberg
Max Freadman
Henry Lippman
Isidor Rosner

16 KISLEV - NOV. 29

Samuel Karlin
Munish Samuels
Etta Lurie
Raymond Weeks
Jack Novick
Nathan G. Samek
Morton Goldberg

17 KISLEV - NOV. 30

Irving B. Lerner
Rubin Lebenbaum
Louis Fishelson
Harry Kahn
Kenneth Loveman



18 KISLEV - DEC. 1

Marty Bloom
Joel Bastow
Lila Kaplan
Annie Shainblum
Mark Acquisto
Ruth Lubin
Morton Schiff
Peter Selkowitz

19 KISLEV - DEC. 2

Bernice Ortenberg
Arthur Adelman
Jacob Penziner
Philmore Schiff
Helen Maislen
Stewart Wilansky

20 KISLEV - DEC. 3

Shirley Klein
Jennie Lebwohl
Dorothy Lotto
David Meiowitz
Esther Samel
Dr. Monroe Lefkowitz
Morris Leavitt

21 KISLEV - DEC. 4

Jeanette Rosenthal
Rebecca Schlichter
Hyman Shindler
Molly Boxer
Samuel K. Jaffe
Roslyn Rosenblatt
Sol Sutter
Sidney Jaffe
Ruth A. Rubin

22 KISLEV - DEC. 5

Clinton William Edelstein
Anne Kirsch
Stanley Joseph Cohen
Esther Weiss

► 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.

23 KISLEV - DEC. 6

Freda Cohen
Dr. Arthur Maislen
Harold Manson

24 KISLEV - DEC. 7

Harry Fuhrman
Yulie Kutik
Gilda T. Lerner
Sol C. Simonson
Morris Schlingbaum
Murray Freeman

25 KISLEV - DEC. 8

Herbert Wax
Fannie Skolnick
Jules Skoletsky
Josef M. Wildman
Leon Rubin
James Secunda
Joan Kaiser
Loretta Skoletsky
Leo Rubinger

26 KISLEV - DEC. 9

Howard Siegal
Morris Wilansky
Louis Perlman
Hannah Cadden Samuels

27 KISLEV - DEC. 10

Fern Corbett
Anna Yantovsky
Milton Davidson
Rose Hayden
Ethel Tighe
Beatrice Kass

28 KISLEV - DEC. 11

Leon Rosenthal
Jack Moe Wigutow
Pamela Siegel
Stella Schecter

29 KISLEV - DEC. 12

Thelma Speigel
Dorothy Wildman
Isaac Zalutsky
Ishiya Mizikovsky
Reba Pines
Earle Kriger

1 TEVET - DEC. 13

Shirley Solomon
Louis Lurie
Etya Mizikovskaya
Martin Stanley Wolfe
Joseph Bell
Isadore Herman
Lillian Kingsberg
Rhoda Amron

2 TEVET - DEC. 14

Edith Karlin
Howard Udel
Ruth Daniels
Ann R. Bitensky
Joseph Markowitz
Benjamin B. Rife

3 TEVET - DEC. 15

Alvin Schottenfeld
Bernard T. Cohen
Feiga Drate

4 TEVET - DEC. 16

Rosalind Rothman
Mary Widitor

5 TEVET - DEC. 17

Millicent Shocket
Rose Goldfarb
Larry Kronick
Meyer Abeles
Fanny Binder

6 TEVET - DEC. 18

Samuel Heller
Jacob H. Pecker
Joseph Abramowitz
Charles Freadman
Frieda Genn
Pearl Bodin Green

7 TEVET - DEC. 19

Harry Smith
Ernest Ilberg
Rachel Issev
Murray Flashner
David Goldblum
Sidney I. Katz

8 TEVET - DEC. 20

Sheldon Smith
Davis "Jim" Whitcomb
Ida Abramowitz
Robert Markovits
Irving M. Lazerus
Henry Spellman
Judy Ann Weltman
Michael Mass
Nechama Rife
Fanny Freadman
Dr. Carl Wildman
Abraham Shapiro

9 TEVET - DEC. 21

Joseph Sukel
Sylvia (Karlin) Kaiman
Dr. Jason Leavitt
Evelyn Geller Kravitz
Charles Nauert
Ruth M. Cohen
Gertrude Freadman
William Jaffee
Mamie Kerbel

10 TEVET - DEC. 22

Dorothy Karl
Leah Weber
Anni Gutmann
Markus Weis
Dr. Melvin Kramer
Jacob Brown
Ida Kramer
Benjamin Adelson
Albert Irving Marmulstein
Israel Feigenbaum
Solomon Kauderer
Sophie Rosenblum
Gertrude Feldman

11 TEVET - DEC. 23

Celia Weltman Shute
Abe Stein
David Cohen
David Edelman
Julius Katsh
Paul Lipson
Ruth Binder Marmorek

15 TEVET - DEC. 27

Jeanette Gladstone
Betram Weber
Mollie Green
Ben Hayden
William Markovits
Dorothy Weltman
Esther Bashevkin

12 TEVET - DEC. 24

Harry Aranove
Helen Kolman
Ben Samel

16 TEVET - DEC. 28

Isador Secunda
Paul B. Abkowitz
Samuel S. Levine
Ethel Rosen Schortz
Samuel Weltman

13 TEVET - DEC. 25

Eve Goldberg
Archie Snyder
Harold Stern
Dr. Carl Goldblum
Gertrude Wasser
Stanley Zuckerman
Madeline Galanter
Ann Frank Ronberg
Yetta C. Klein

17 TEVET - DEC. 29

Richard Lazerson
Joseph Molnar
Rebecca Galper
Aliza Brown

14 TEVET - DEC. 26

Julius L. Levine
Rebecca Polikoff
Sarah C. Taylor
Kurcias Dorothy
Manuel Weltman
Hyman Cohen
Meyer Zimmel
Nathan E. Kolman
George Ende

18 TEVET - DEC. 30

Bessie Goldenberg
Alan Model
Esther Sattin
Norma Acquisto
James Scherr
Kathleen Weisbuch

19 TEVET - DEC. 31

Mae Goldman
Joseph Sandler
Milton London
Jack Greenapple
Nathan Winter



Remember a loved one, honor a special occasion, a friend, or family member with a donation to the Bima Flower Fund.

Call Naomi Schwartz at 413-841-0006.

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 loneliness 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 knesetisrael.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 Maintenance Fund, you can have one cleaned. Contact Diana at office@knesetisrael.org.

Funds & Endowments

2023 HIGH HOLIDAY APPEAL

Amy Simons Abramovich
Bernard and Beth Abramson
Ev Bastow
Cindy and
David Bell-Deane
Jessie Berrick and
Eugene Jura
Natanya and Simeon
Bittman
Alex Blumin
Pincus and Gloria Boms
Jeffrey and Judith Cook
Nancy Cook
Nancy and Jack Cook
Rebecca and
Jesse Cook-Dubin
Joel Curran
Jonathan and Lara Denmark
Sheila Donath
Michael and Barbara Ende
Heidi and Richard Ferren
Ellis and Joanna Fribush
Robert and Patricia Geller
Sanford Gordon and
Alice Davenport
Paul and Lisa Green
Mitchell Greenwald
Linda and Phil Halpern
Gerald and
Barbara Hayden
Edwin and Cynthia Helitzer
Michael Helitzer
Steven and
Barbara Hertzberg
Av Kadish and Goldy Fried
Michael and Gloria Kaplan
Rabbi Jan Kaufman
Lawrence and Sarah Klein
Yefim Kogan and
Galina Dobrynina
Allen and Rosalind
Kopfstein
Fred and Brenda Landes
Andrew and Jilly Lederman
Judith Levin

Patricia Lipman and
John Huffaker
Charles and Marcia Mandel
Cindy Mann and
Brian Acker
Stuart and Ellen Masters
Noah Palmer and
Hanna Askren
Joel and Loretta Prives
Yaacov and Nina Rone
Jane and Alex Rosen
Lawrence Rosenthal
Roman and
Larisa Rozenblyum
Marc Rudoltz and
Lisa Hochman
Patricia Salkin and
Howard Gross
Robert and Rhonda Sattin
Gary and Arlene Schiff
Lewis Schiller
Naomi Schwartz
Thomas Sebestyen and
Leslie Fishbein
Carole Siegel
Sharon Siegel
Lisa and Bernard Silverman
Richard and Marcie
Greenfield Simons
Nancy Singer
Marvin Smith
Bonnie and Jeffrey Stevens
Ed and Lisa Udel
Alexandra Warshaw
Arthur and Terry Wasser
Gail Weis
Joel and Fran Wolk
Harvey and Jan Zimbler

In appreciation of K.I.'s
warmth and meaningful
services. We often join on
Shabbat via streaming
Adele and Len Lewis
In honor of Jonathan
Denmark and family, "thanks
for bringing me home"
David Rosenthal

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.

ADULT EDUCATION FUND

In appreciation of K.I.
Max and Shirley Berman

BERKSHIRE JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

In honor of Gerry Hayden
Judith Glockner

BOOKLESS FAMILY ENDOWMENT

In memory of
Josh Weinstein
Nathan Bookless
Rebecca Wilansky
Susan Miller
Maxine Bookless and
Nan Bookless
Welcome and thank you to
KOL K.I.'s new graphic
designer, Evan Berkowitz
Yasher koach to all who
participated in Knesset
Israel's meaningful High
Holiday services
Nan Bookless

LILYAN AND JASON BORKE ENDOWMENT

In memory of
Jason and Lilyan Borke
Stanley Borke
Caryn Borke Resnick

BOBBY BRAUN MEMORIAL GARDEN

In memory of Lisa Marcus
Benjamin Weinberg
Ev Bastow
In memory of
Audrey Salzmann
Molly Novick

CEMETERY FUND

In memory of Phillip Turetsky
Gary and Bernice Turetsky
In memory of Martin Moss
Judy Moss
In memory of David Karlin's
two sisters who died in the
Holocaust
Sharon, Joel and Eric Karlin

CEMETERY MAINTENANCE FUND

In memory of
David Goldenberg
Samuel J. Pill
Samuel Pill
Dave Pill

In memory of
Richard Sukel
Sherry Sukel
Laurie Sukel

CHESED FUND

In memory of
Miguel Rosner
Miriam Cohen
In memory of
Daniel Goldlust
Shelia Goldlust
In memory of Riva Kutik
Zina Etkina

BOBBI COHN REVITALIZATION ENDOWMENT

In memory of
Lillian Pincus
Robert Cohn
Bobbi and Mike Cohn

HERBERT AND CELIA FISHMAN ENDOWMENT

In memory of
Herbert Fishman
Celia Fishman
Marcia Fishman
Joel Fishman

continued on page 14

Funds & Endowments continued from page 13

FLOWER FUND

In honor of Elaine Epstein's
95th Birthday!

Naomi Schwartz

GENERAL FUND

Anonymous

Annette Berman

In memory of Sima Berezkina

*Alla Zernitskaya and
Alex Kutik*

In memory of Vera Gangel

Barbara Gershen Swartz

In memory of Rachel Albert

David and Kyneret Albert

In memory of

Albert Finck

Ruth Finck

David and Lea Finck

In honor of the Cook and

Snowise Families

Jill Meland

In memory of Scott Wollins

Jill Wollins

In memory of

Asher Prives

Bonnie Prives

Joel and Loretta Prives

In appreciation of the aliot
we received this summer and
the graciousness of being
included in the rotation of
Torah readers

Joel and Madeleine Policzer

In memory of Elbert Kaplan

Julia Kaplan

In appreciation of everyone's
help with Kaetah's
bat mitzvah

*Kaetah, Lawrence and
Sarah Klein*

In memory of

Bette Sue Rosenthal

Hyman Rosenthal

Lawrence Rosenthal

In honor of Lisa Hochman
and Marc Rudoltz, Mazel Tov
on daughter's wedding

Linda and Phil Halpern

In memory of

Rebecca Solomon

Marcia and Charles Mandel

In appreciation of the
Sunday Minyan

Michael and Susan Albert

In memory of

Rebecca Wilansky

Phoebe Sugarman

In honor of Judaism's bright
light, Stu Masters, in honor of
his 80th birthday

Rochelle Berend

In memory of George Gitlitz

*William and
Linda Ackerman*

HEBREW SCHOOL FUND

In memory of

Rebecca Wilansky

Bobbi and Mike Cohn

Harvey and Jan Zimblor

KIDDUSH FUND

Max and Shirley Berman

Rabbi Ralph and

Brenda Kingsley

In honor of
Rabbi Jan Kaufman, in
gratitude for Shabbat dinner

Laura Rosenthal

In memory of Morris Schiller

Shirley Yanofski

Len and Alice Schiller

In memory of

Vivian Rosenberg

Myra Kressner

In memory of

Benjamin Weinberg

Rabbi Jan Kaufman

MILTON KOLODKIN ENDOWMENT

In memory of

Milton Kolodkin

Barbara Kolodkin

BENJAMIN AND BERNICE ORTENBERG ENDOWMENT

In memory of Amy Miller

Amy and Howard Herman

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Albert Stern

Rabbi Jan Kaufman

Alice Model

In honor of Nan Lipton's
special birthday

*Allan Lipton, Sarah Lipton
and the rest of the family*

In honor of the marriages of
Anna Snyder and
Devorah Sawyer
Ariel Udel and Austen Hartke
Laura Clews and
Zachary Ordo

Amy Abramovich

In appreciation of
Jesse Cook-Dubin for his
dedication and service to
Knesset Israel

Knesset Israel's staff,
Diana Macfarlane, Chris
Goetze and Ken Conlow

*Nan Bookless and
Maxine Bookless*

In honor of
Elaine Epstein's
special birthday

Rabbi Weiner's 15th year at
Knesset Israel. Thank you
for your learned, engaging
teaching, and spiritual
leadership – including,
of course, Judith Weiner for
her ongoing support at K.I.

*Nan Bookless and
Maxine Bookless*

In memory of
Rebecca Wilansky
George Gitlitz

*Nan Bookless and
Maxine Bookless*

Yasher koach to Elisa and
Dr. Mark Snowise for the
beautiful and moving
Erev Yom Kippur

*Nan Bookless and
Maxine Bookless*

In memory of Ron Mandler

Barb Mandler

In honor of
Ariel Udel's marriage to
Austen Hartke

Lindsey Helitzer's marriage
to Zakary Standel

The birth of Bob and
Gayle Raser's grandson,
Davis Harold

The birth of Joan Grossman's
granddaughter, Leah Avery

Brenda and Fred Landes

In memory of George Gitlitz
Michael Hartley

Brenda and Fred Landes

In memory of
Mollye Edelstein

Burton and Linda Edelstein

Mazel Tov to Bea Selig's
100th Birthday!

*Cecily Levine and
Amy Levine*

In appreciation of
Rabbi David Weiner for
hosting the PACC meeting

Colette Hanlon

In honor of Stu Masters 80th
birthday

Edwin and Roselyn Kolodny

In memory of Benjamin Drate
Ellen and Allen Rosenblatt

In honor of Nan Lipton's
special birthday

Ellen and Stu Masters

Funds & Endowments

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND, CONTINUED

In honor of
Bea Selig's 100th Birthday!
Ev Bastow's 90th birthday
and 10th anniversary of her
Bat Mitzvah

The marriage of Ariel Udel
and Austen Hartke

The marriage of Lindsey
Helitzer and Zakary Standel

Diane Weinstein

In memory of
Chip Joffre Halpern
George Gitlitz

Diane Weinstein

In memory of Lisa Marcus
Benjamin Weinberg

Ev Bastow

In memory of Amy Miller
Susan Miller

*Harvey Lehrer and
Susan Frisch Lehrer*

Mazel Tov to Joan Grossman's
new granddaughter

*Harvey Lehrer and
Susan Frisch Lehrer*

In honor of Kaetah Klein
on her bat mitzvah
Stu Masters 80th birthday

*Harvey Lehrer and Susan
Frisch Lehrer*

In memory of Lester Johnson
Jane Rosen

In appreciation of
K.I.'s hospitality

Jerry and Judi Pitkowski

In honor of Bea Selig's
100th Birthday!

Joel Curran

In appreciation of
Rabbi David Weiner for his
leadership of High Holy Day
services, which we attended
via livestream

Maggie and Sam Bittman

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.

Mazel Tov to Laura Clews and
Zachary Ordo on their recent
marriage

Marcie and Richie Simons

In memory of Mila Gersh

Miriam Maduro and Family

In memory of Julius Lubin

Molly Novick

In honor of Steven and
Eleanor Novick on their
50th Anniversary!

Molly Novick

In honor of Elaine Epstein's
95th Birthday!

*Molly Novick and
Susan Zuckerman*

In memory of George Gitlitz

Rabbi Jan Kaufman

In memory of Myron Waller

Rich Woller and Nancy Stoll

In memory of Robert Berend

Rochelle Berend

In memory of Julius Lubin

Ruth and Robert Waldheim

In honor of

Rabbi Jan Caryl Kaufman

Sue and Wayne Bizer

In memory of Isadore Staskin

Susan Staskin

In memory of Isaak Kutik

*Tanya and
Arnold Mazurenko*

In memory of
Abraham Novick
Matilda D Novick

Judith L. Novick

Harold Novick

Gladys Novick

Michelle Novick

*Valerie Beth Novick
Nartowicz*

In honor of Rabbi David
Weiner for his special care
and perfect recitations
of blessing to David Cole
during his final days

*With gratitude, the family
of Debora Cole-Duffy
and James Duffy*

SHIREI SHABBAT MUSIC EQUIPMENT FUND

In memory of Norman Mann

*Cindy Mann and
Brian Acker*

In memory of
Audrey Salzmann
George Gitlitz

*Diana Geller and
Andy Geller*

In honor of Bobbi Cohn and
the wonderful job she did
with the Klezmer Concert

*The Fleet/Coleman and
Singer Families*

In memory of Jack Fleet
George Gitlitz

*The Fleet/Coleman and
Singer Families*

JOSEPH AND PAULINE SIEGEL ENDOWMENT

In memory of Joyce Stein-
Turow Yodefet bas Sybil

Larry Siegel

WILLIAM AND MARILYN SIMONS ENDOWMENT

In memory of
Florence Frankel
Phil M. Frankel

Amy Abramovich

Richard and Marcie

Greenfield Simons

THANKSGIVING ANGELS

Ev Bastow

Nan Bookless

Martin and Alice Jonas

Sharon Karlin

Allen and

Rosalind Kopfstein

Fred and Brenda Landes

Judy Moss

Molly Novick

Yaacov and Nina Rone

David and Janet Rothstein

Gary and Arlene Schiff

Naomi Schwartz

Richard and Marcie

Greenfield Simons

Susan Staskin

Alexandra Warshaw

Joel and Fran Wolk

JANIS AND HARVEY ZIMBLER ENDOWMENT

In honor of
Bernie Abramson on
his special birthday

Joel Curran on
his special birthday!

Jan and Harvey Zimbler

Thank you for
your generosity



learn. inspire. grow. together.

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Decorating the Sukkah

