

SKOKIE VALLEY

Welcomes you!



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Shabbat Mevarchim Parshat Vaera 28 Tevet 5780

Shabbat Shalom!

Friday, January 24

Shacharit: 7:15 am
Mincha, Kabbalat Shabbat, Maariv: 4:45 pm
Candle lighting: 4:35 pm

Shabbat January 25

Shacharit: 9:00 am
Drasha: "The Blessing of the Plagues?"
Mincha/Maariv: 4:20 pm
4:45 pm: Seudah Shlishit: Tim Youkana, President
Assyrian Family Health Alliance
Havdallah: 5:39 pm

Sunday, January 26

Shacharit: 9:00 am
10 am: Following Shacharit: Shiur by Rabbi Dr. Daniel Sinclair: "When Human Dignity Clashes with Halachic Norms: Revealed and Concealed Solutions" (see info below)
Mincha/Maariv: 4:50 pm

Daily Shacharit

Monday & Thursday: 7:00 am
Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday: 7:15 am

Daily Maariv

Monday through Thursday: 8:00 pm

Mazal Tov

Mazal tov to **Jed Abraham, long time Skokie Valley Teacher of Torah**, on the publishing of his book *The Book Within the Book of Books: A Modern Jewish Contextual Commentary* לפי הפשטות המתחדשים בכל יום: *Genesis Preliminary E-Book Monograph: Simeon and Levi - and Joseph - are Brothers (Draft 1)*. The book can be ordered in Kindle format on Amazon by searching for Jed Abraham or by [clicking here](#).

Mazal tov to **Sharon & Yosie Goldberger** on the birth of their granddaughter to Adina & Andy Kern-Goldberger in Philadelphia.

Todah Rabah

Kiddush is sponsored this week by **Toby & Sherwin Pogrund** in honor of the blessings bestowed upon the family with the birth of two new great-grandchildren, Kira Ida Pogrund and Eitan Samuel Safier.

Seudah shlishit is sponsored this week by **Georges & Sol Elgrably** on the yahrzeit of Georges' mother, Freha Elgrably; and by **Miriam & Shlomo Latinik** on the yahrzeit of Miriam's mother, Helen Stern.

Welcome to Skokie Women's Tefillah Group who are davening at Skokie Valley this Shabbat.

Are you new or newish to our shul? Please make sure to take a colored cup at kiddush for your drink so we can give you a warm Skokie Valley welcome!

We are so thrilled that we continue to grow as a community! Thank you for warmly welcoming our new members. To host a new family for a Shabbat meal please contact Rachel Stein simesstein@gmail.com

Please note: The office will have limited hours from Monday 1-27 to Friday 1-31. Please call before you come to make sure the office is open.

*******Upcoming Events at Skokie Valley*******

Shabbat, January 25 and February 1 during Seudah Shlishit at 4:45 pm: Come meet our Assyrian and Kurdish Neighbors! On Shabbat 1/25, Tim Youkhana, President of Assyrian Family Health Alliance, and on Shabbat 2/1, Osman Cen, President of Kurdish Cultural Center of Illinois.

Sunday, January 26 following Shacharit @ 10:00-11:30 am at Skokie Valley: The Decalogue Society of Lawyers & The Decalogue Foundation presents 2020 Jewish Legal Lecture Series, co-sponsored by Skokie Valley. Rabbi Dr. Daniel Sinclair will speak about "When Human Dignity Clashes with Halachic Norms: Revealed and Concealed Solutions". 1.25 hours of CLE credit for all attorneys. Register for this class by January 23 at www.decaloguesociety.org/current-decalogue-events

Friday night, January 31 @5:30 pm: Family Friendly Kabbalat Shabbat and dinner. See flyer for details. RSVP at <https://www.svaj.org/family-dinner-1-31> by January 28! All ages are welcome!

Shabbat January 31-February 1: Yeshivat Maharat Intern Dr. Liz Shayne. Dr. Shayne has undergraduate degrees in English and Psychology from the University of Pennsylvania, and a master's degree and doctorate from UC Santa Barbara in English Literature, and is currently a 4th year student at Yeshivat Maharat.

Friday night, February 7: Pre Tu B'shvat Seder/ Oneg with Green Team and Kol Sasson. More details soon!

Sunday night, February 9: Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, February 11: 7-8:30 pm Simon Weisenthal Center co sponsored event with TM Garrett, former white supremacist leader turned human rights activist and founder of C.H.A.N.G.E, a Memphis-based non-profit organization which engages in community outreach programs, food drives, seminars, anti-racism campaigns and anti-violence campaigns.

Shabbat, February 21-22: Scholar-in-Residence Rabbi Dr. Devorah Schoenfeld. Rabbi Schoenfeld is Associate Professor of Judaism at Loyola University Chicago, where she teaches Judaism, Bible, Comparative Religion and Jewish-Christian relations. Rabbi Schoenfeld will be speaking at Friday night dinner, on Shabbat after Musaf and before Mincha. Dinner reservations at <https://www.svaj.org/dinner-with-devorah-schoenfeld>

Sunday, February 23: Mirele Goldsmith from the Jewish Earth Alliance at 1:30. Event co-sponsored with Kol Sasson, Orot and Hazon.

Saturday, February 29 @ 8:40 pm: Broomball is back! Put on your padding and prepare for an evening of slipping, sliding and fun! RSVP and details at svaj.org/broomball-2020! Adults only.

Tuesday, March 10: Save the date for Purim Palooza! Sponsors are needed now to determine how awesome the event will be. Go to <https://www.svaj.org/purim-palooza-2020-sponsors> to sponsor!

Shabbat, March 13-14: Artist in Residence Jordan Gorfinkel. "Gorf" is a cartoonist, musician, producer and director and the creator of the Passover Haggadah Graphic Novel. He also runs the Jewish Cartoon Workshop for schools, camps and family programs. Stay tuned for details of what promises to be an amazing shabbat!

Shabbat, March 20-21: JOFA Shabbaton at Skokie Valley. Details soon.

We will have a link to committee reports presented at the annual meeting in the next few weeks.

This Week's Classes at Skokie Valley

Shabbat @ 12:00 pm: Parashat Hashavuah with Jed Abraham.

Monday @ 7:15 pm before Maariv: Gemara Megillah with Rabbi Steve Mandel, Berger Beit Midrash

Tuesday @ 2:00 pm: Bereshit with Rav Ari, Israel Hall

Thursday @ 10:00 am: BYOK (Bring Your Own Kid) with Rav Ari. Learning for parents with children in the playroom at the end of the school wing (Multi-purpose Room). Children are welcome to come play with our toys while parents learn with Rav Ari! We are studying Hilchot Deot of the Rambam.

*****Hakarat Hatov – Recognizing the Good*****

Hakarat Hatov to our new board members who were voted in last Sunday, a thank you to those whose terms are continuing and our deep appreciation to those stepping down. Special thank you to Leah Reicin for her tribute and acknowledgement of the contributions of our past presidents.

If there is someone whom you would like to recognize, please submit their name and a short paragraph on the positive impact they are having to office@svaj.org. Submissions may be anonymous.

Mishebeirach for Cholim: In order to ensure that we are offering a mishebeirach for members of our community in need of physical, emotional and/or spiritual healing, we will be sending a monthly link to a form where you can enter the names of those for whom you wish a prayer to be said. All names on this list will be personally recited by a gabbai or gabbait every day when Torah is recited, in addition to being included in the prayers of individuals in our community. If you enter a name on the list, we request that you renew it each month the person is in need of healing. The list will be cleared on Shabbat Mevarchim each month. You may find the form at <https://www.svaj.org/misheberach>. You may also call the office with the information at 847-674-3473.

*****Youth News*****

Tot Shabbat! We'll meet this week on the Social Hall Stage from 10:30-11:15 am. Tot Shabbat is for children between the ages of 0-4. Each child must be accompanied by an adult. For children already in groups, please pick up your child and head upstairs **for songs, tefillah, and fun!**

We need parents to help lead Tot Shabbat! [Click here to sign up!](#)

For the safety and security of our kids, children should be in groups or in shul with a caretaker. If children are found wandering the building, they will be brought directly to you. Thank you for your partnership in helping keep our children and community safe. For questions, contact Youth Director Sara Price children@svaj.org

Children's Groups begin at 9:30 am in four separate classrooms, with early babysitting available starting at 9:15 am. To keep our rooms safe and clean, please do not bring lollipops or sticky candy into groups.

We'd love to include YOU in a future member spotlight. If you haven't shared anything about yourself yet (and you're comfortable doing so), please email the office at office@svaj.org!



Get to Know...Rachel Karp-Finkle and James Finkle!!

Rachel:

Hometown: Skevanston.

Favorite Jewish Food: Raspberry or apricot hamentaschen. I can't be trusted around them.

Something that we don't know about you: I have a BA and an MA in International Studies with minors in Spanish and Arabic.

How Long Have You Been at Skokie Valley: 1.5 year.

The Last Book Read or Movie You've Seen: *The Testaments* by Margaret Atwood.

Latkes or Hamentaschen: I like both, they're very different!

Profession: Risk Analyst at the US Department of Housing and Urban Development

Favorite Guilty Pleasure: I knit. A lot. Way too much. It's a problem.

What foreign country would you like to visit that you haven't been to yet? Israel!

James:

Hometown: Mount Prospect

Favorite Jewish Food: Brisket. Nothing beats a good brisket.

Something that we don't know about you: I was briefly a local DJ playing Industrial music from 2-5 am on Tuesday nights in college.

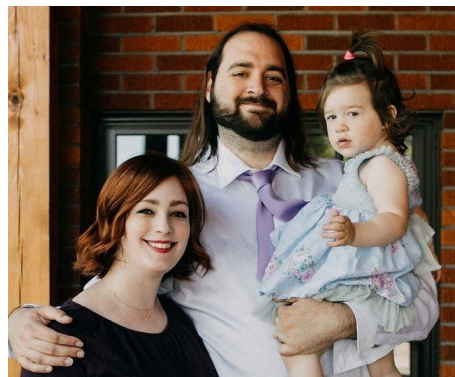
The last Book Read or Movie You've Seen: *Cold Days* by Jim Butcher

Latkes or Hamentaschen: Tough call, I'd say latkes

Profession: Software Developer

Favorite Guilty Pleasure: Spicy fried chicken in its various forms

What foreign country would you like to visit that you haven't been to yet? Israel



*****Beyond Skokie Valley*****

Saturday, February 15 @ 8pm: Or Torah Bashert presents Meat! Meet! Mingle! a speed dating event for singles 25-40 at Evita's Steakhouse. RSVP online at www.OrTorah.org/evita.

FAMILY FRIENDLY SHABBAT DINNER!

JAN 31ST



DETAILS

Family Kabbalat Shabbat @ 5:30pm
Lively Shabbat songs
Open Space for kids to run around and play during davening

Dinner @ 6:00pm
Hemishe, Child Friendly Fare!
Pricing Members:
\$15 per adult
\$7 per child under 12
See form for non-member pricing
Kids under 4: Free
BYOB

Questions?
Rachael - Morahgr@gmail.com
Nancy - nancyschwartz46@gmail.com
Melody - melody.coven@gmail.com

Sign up at <https://www.svaj.org/family-dinner-1-31>



Rabbi Dr. Devorah Schoenfeld



Skokie Valley Agudath Jacob's
Scholar in Residence Presents

Rabbi Dr. Devorah Schoenfeld
February 21-22, 2020

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Friday Night, Feb 21 • 5:20PM
Mincha/Kabbalat Shabbat/Maariv,
followed by dinner and speaker:
A Jewish Reading of Paul.

Shabbat Morning, Feb 22
Following Musaf:
**Interpretations of
Songs of Songs**

Shabbat Afternoon, Feb 22
Before Mincha • 4:55 pm:
**Teaching Judaism in a
Catholic University**

Please RSVP for the dinner:
<https://www.svaj.org/dinner-with-devorah-schoenfeld>

